



Wingbars

A Quarterly Publication of Georgia Audubon

AUGUST 2021



**GEORGIA
AUDUBON**

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Wingbars is the official newsletter of Georgia Audubon and is published four times a year. We feature news, upcoming events, meetings, field trips, and projects. We hope you will join us. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect policies of Georgia Audubon.

Cover photo: Gray Catbird, by Sue McLaren

Building Community One Birder at a Time

By Dottie Head, Director of Communications

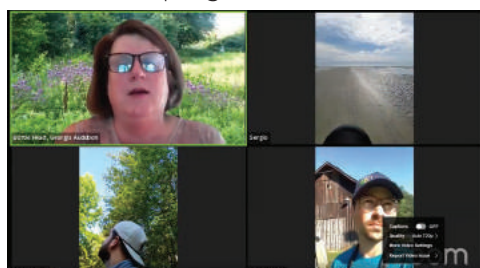
Community engagement is one of the three pillars of Georgia Audubon's work, alongside conservation and education. Through our community engagement efforts, Georgia Audubon strives to engage and collaborate with communities throughout Georgia to connect people with birds. From field trips to monthly meetings to events like Georgia Bird Fest and Georgia Grows Native for Birds Month to our advocacy efforts on behalf of birds, Georgia Audubon works to share the wonder and joy of birds and nature with individuals and communities.



Corina Newsome leading a group from the Refugee Women's Network on a recent birding trip. Photo by Temple Moore, Refugee Women's Network.

But how were we to build and maintain these connections and continue engaging with people during a pandemic? This was the big question in March 2020, when the pandemic struck. At the time, we thought this closure would last a few weeks, maybe a month or two. We had no idea how profoundly the pandemic would change and disrupt our lives, or how it would reshape our organization and the way we engage with our members, partners, and constituents.

Faced with the immediate cancellation of in-person events and postponement of Georgia Bird Fest, we had to reimagine these programs in the digital age. Thanks to a healthy dose of staff creativity and with the help of technology, we launched virtual bird walks, trivia nights, monthly meetings, Birds & Beers panels, and other events via Zoom and Facebook Live. We produced a variety of short videos and even hosted the annual Sanctuary Tour and Holiday Party as virtual events. Meanwhile, educational programs, like Master Birder and Atlanta Urban Ecologists, shifted to



During the pandemic, Georgia Audubon began hosting virtual field trips via Facebook Live and Zoom.

a hybrid format with online classroom sessions followed by masked, socially distanced field trips on weekends. It was a team effort, and people loved it! They could join from anywhere in the state, from the comfort of their own homes, and recordings of the programs allowed them to review content later. On August 1 we made the big announcement that Atlanta Audubon was

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From the Executive Director

Weaving the Tapestry Back Into Community



Jared Teutsch

Georgia Grows Native for Birds Month is just around the corner, and with it comes an exciting opportunity to celebrate the importance of native plants in our gardens, greenspace, and wild places. It's a series of events designed to show how you can build a Georgia Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary in your backyard or influence your community to plant more native plants. Building a green footprint is a tremendous way to connect the dots of conservation, education, and community engagement. And for many of us, this community engagement is the way forward to reconnect us to each other through nature after the pandemic.

In many ways, people are stitching the fabric of our natural world back together, weaving the tapestry of many diverse communities as we build connections to each other. These connections are reinforced through nature, and it's what we need to continually maintain, rebuild, and strengthen. When the stitching becomes frayed or neglected, our neighborhoods suffer along with our ecosystems.

Connecting and reconnecting people to nature through birds is as fundamental as breathing or drinking. The way forward is to build a more inclusive and resilient future with our tapestry of community. We are busier than ever connecting people to birds so that we all can discover the wonder of birds right outside our windows, in our yards, and around our community greenspace. After all, everyone is a birder, they just may not have had the opportunity yet.

Now, more than ever, we are bringing more people back into nature, enhancing their health, well-being, and community impact while increasing representation and access for all communities to appreciate and enjoy nature.

As always, we value your input, insight, and impact as we work to build places where birds and people thrive from the mountains to the coast, and everywhere in between. Keep planting your native plants!

Cheers,
Jared



Purple bee balm (*Monarda*) at Tapestry Community. Photo by Dottie Head.

Engaging with Intention

By Corina Newsome, Community Engagement Manager

Georgia Audubon's mission, "Building places where birds and people thrive," is inherently intersectional in nature. As a bird scientist who is deeply passionate about making the enjoyment and conservation of birds accessible for everybody and reflective of the diversity of our communities, I align strongly with this mission. Over the course of my time on the Georgia Audubon team, I have been fortunate to find partners, from neighborhood associations to national organizations, to make the work of building our engagement with the public equitable in its foundation. There are three upcoming and ongoing initiatives in our community engagement efforts that have been made possible by such partnerships.

Bird Beyond

Through a partnership with the National Audubon Society, Georgia Audubon co-developed a mapping tool called Bird Beyond, which helps us prioritize geographic locations across the city of Atlanta for engagement around birding and community science. Research has shown that in cities, there is a relationship between the number of eBird checklists in a given area and the income level. This same pattern is true in Atlanta. Neighborhoods with higher median income have an abundance of submitted eBird checklists, while lower income regions have far fewer, despite the fact that they have birds, too.

Using this interactive map, we were able to focus our resources in neighborhoods that have been excluded from engagement in avian community science and conservation, and build relationships to learn how the communities might like to engage with Georgia Audubon. Through conversations and partnerships with community members and organizations, we have begun to lead programming in specific communities to address the inequity regarding who has been engaged around the joy of wildlife viewing and conservation. These efforts include monthly birding trips in local city parks, and eBird challenges to encourage residents to bird their neighborhood. This, of course, also benefits conservation science, as avian species diversity data is being collected in areas where there have historically been gaps in the data due to inequitable engagement. Intersectional solutions for an intersectional mission!

Wildlife Conservation Careers: Birds!

Much of the public engagement around avian conservation tends to be geared toward older adult audiences. Furthermore, the current demographic of avian conservation professionals is overwhelmingly white and does not reflect the diversity of communities across our state or country. In response to this reality,



Adam Betuel instructing students during the Conservation Careers event at Zoo Atlanta. Photo by Corina Newsome.

we partnered with Zoo Atlanta to provide an opportunity for middle and high school students to go inside the world of avian conservation and connect with professionals. Through up-close exposure to the realms of avian animal care, field biology, zoo veterinary medicine, and habitat management, students were able to explore diverse career options and learn how to prepare for them. This program was advertised across many platforms, including

our current connections with teachers in Title I schools. Scholarships were provided to eliminate cost as a barrier for interested students.

Birdability Virtual Accessible Field Trips

The world of birding and outdoor recreation has presented many accessibility barriers to people with disabilities, such that they have been excluded from much of the mainstream engagement around these activities. As part of our efforts to address this inequity, Georgia Audubon has had the distinct pleasure of partnering with Birdability, an organization dedicated to making birding accessible for everybody by addressing the exclusion of people with disabilities and health concerns in outdoor recreation. Together, we lead quarterly virtual accessible field trips that highlight accessible trails, birders who experience accessibility challenges, and birds from around the country! For each trip, we have one representative from Georgia Audubon and Birdability, along with two to three guests. During the virtual trip, they share their insights regarding the accessibility challenges they have faced and how we can all help make birding more accessible: individually, collectively, and institutionally. We also share the incredible resources that Birdability provides on their website, including information on how to craft accessible programming, how to use and contribute to the Birdability Map (an interactive map that allows you to share information about the accessibility of trails), how to advocate for changes to make a location more accessible, and personal stories and insights from birders with disabilities about how they go birding.

In the same way that diverse communities of birds create healthy ecosystems for all who inhabit it, a diverse community of birders is stronger, more resilient, and more capable of creating a culture in which access is equitable, and everyone is truly welcome. For this reason, community engagement remains a central pillar to Georgia Audubon's mission of building places where birds and people thrive.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT On Maureen Carroll

By Steve Phenicie

(This is the 50th in a series on Georgia Audubon volunteers, board members, and staff.)

For some, participation in Project Safe Flight marks the culmination of an interest in birding. For Maureen Carroll, it's been more of an introduction.

Maureen has been birding only since 2017, having gotten started when her brother, a serious birder from Chicago, urged her to take a bird feeder when they were disposing of her mother's household goods. She did not know one bird from another but put up the feeder in her yard. An Eastern Towhee became her "gateway bird" after she mistook it for a robin but knew that it had to be something else.

She learned about Project Safe Flight via Facebook and decided to volunteer. This Georgia Audubon program attempts to determine what species are colliding with buildings, how many birds are affected, what parts of town are problematic, and what can be done to make Atlanta more bird-friendly. Volunteers patrol the streets on several different routes during both spring and fall migrations, looking for birds that have been killed or injured in collisions.

Maureen was assigned a downtown route that takes about two hours to walk, or two and a half if she finds lots of dead birds. The majority of the time she has walked it alone, although sometimes with a partner, Cheryl Hensley. This involves getting up at 5:00 AM to make sure birds are collected before maintenance people can remove them. At first Maureen didn't know any of the species she was finding and sent pictures to Adam Betuel, Audubon's conservation director, so he could identify them. "As time goes on, you

want to learn more. It sucks you in," she says.

She says her interest is mainly in local birds rather than visiting exotic locations. She enjoys birding in Mason Mill Park, Piedmont Park, Lullwater Preserve, and Morgan Falls Park and has taken to drawing and painting birds she sees.



Maureen Carroll, Project Safe Flight Volunteer

Besides birds, Maureen has pursued a second passion as of late—restoration of the Erskine Fountain in the south end of Grant Park. The fountain was originally installed downtown in 1896 and moved to the park in 1912 but was never operational thereafter and had

deteriorated badly in recent years. Thanks to the Friends of Erskine, of which she was a founder, the fountain has been flowing since last December and has become a focal point.

By trade, Maureen is an industrial designer and started her own company, Creature, in 2003. In case you are fuzzy about what an industrial designer does, the Industrial Designers Society of America, in which Maureen is active, describes the occupation as "the professional practice of designing products, devices, objects and services used by millions of people around the world every day." Some of Maureen's better-known clients are Newell Brands, Kimberly-Clark, and Char-Broil.

Maureen and her husband, Eric Davis, and their two dogs live in Grant Park. Eric works in technical sales for a California-based telecom firm. Maureen has been in Atlanta since 1991 and is a native of Pittsburgh. She is a graduate of the Rochester Institute of Technology.

THANK YOU!

A Million Thanks...

... to our superhero field trip leaders who have led incredible, engaging, and safe trips, despite the challenges we have faced this past year – **Anne McCallum, Davis Balsler, Amit Kamma, Phillip Salzinger** (who are both in high school!), **Jay Davis, Stephen Ramsden, Gus Kaufman, Jamie Vidich, Joy Carter, Kevin O'Toole, Rob McDonough, Roseanne Guerra, Josh Jackson, Mike Blakeney, Annalise Kaylor, and Sherry Rosen** ... to **Rebecca Lang, Jim Renner, and the others at Little Cumberland Island** for allowing us to visit during shorebird weekend ... to **John Shewey** for presenting a webinar on his book, *For the Love of Hummingbirds*, for Georgia Audubon ... to **Monday Night Brewing Garage** for allowing us to gather for our Birds & Beers event in July to see the new Chimney Swift tower ... to **Corina Newsome** for presenting her Master's research on Saltmarsh Sparrows for the June Monthly Meeting ... to **Wayne Sentman**, with the Oceanic Society, for presenting on plastic pollution and the Albatross on the Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge at the July Monthly Meeting ... to Project Safe Flight Georgia volunteers **Maureen Carroll, Nancy Kennell, Kelly Bryan, Kelly Daire, Cheryl Hensley, Mary Kimberly, Gavin MacDonald, Cynthia Peng, Michael Zhou, Angie Kaliban, Michelle Wong, Steve Place, Tempel Dingman, Isabella Ragonese, and Kevin Kirsche** ... to Climate Watch volunteers **Wendy Hoback, Sandy Murray, Jay Davis, Mark Pellegrini, Anne Sturtevant, Abby Back, Max Brown, Misty Holm, Peter Followill, Wayne Powell, Lisbet Phillips, Angie Lewis, Brian Campbell, Robert Emond, Thomas Vasas, Jeffrey Holder, Katie Stumpf, Marge Inness, and Russell Titus** ... to **Les Cane, Paula Grad, Margaret Stephens, Georgia LaMar, Annalise Kaylor, Sheryl Berg, Thea Powell, Kelly Plasket, Melinda Langston, Esther Stokes, and Leslie Edwards** for continued support of the Wildlife Sanctuary Program ... to **Philip Prichard, Cathy McGraw, Lisa Hammett, Gavin Allvine, Charlotte Main, Nannette Dooley, Lou Clymore, Hugh Head**, and staff for helping with the Spring Native Plant Sale ... to **Steve Phenicie** for organizing A Million Thanks!

Morehouse MoreGreen: Inviting People of Color into Nature and Conservation

By Josh Bellamy

Morehouse MoreGreen, a student-led organization based in Morehouse College and a Chapter of Audubon on Campus, has a mission to use its platform to invite more people of color into nature and various forms of conservation. The shared goals of education and advocacy for the conservation of birds prompted collaborative efforts between Morehouse MoreGreen and Georgia Audubon, and we have done exciting work together despite difficulties from COVID-19.

Before the pandemic, MoreGreen and Georgia Audubon met in person on several occasions during club meetings. These programs served to educate MoreGreen's members on bird conservation done at the Audubon level and to expose members to more Black people in the field. As a result, MoreGreen was introduced to amazing conservationists like Corina Newsome, Tyus Williams, and Michela Williams. Georgia Audubon also assisted in MoreGreen's birdhouse program by providing bird boxes and reading material to be used on campus, making them a part of the on-campus education outreach. Right before COVID-19, MoreGreen and Georgia

Audubon were able to host a birding event that included the HBCU schools of the Atlanta University Center (Morehouse College, Spelman College, and Clark Atlanta University). The event was a success, with 20+ individuals in attendance, each of whom received binoculars gifted by Georgia Audubon. This event eventually led to MoreGreen becoming an Audubon Chapter.

The summer and fall months of 2021 for MoreGreen were used for planning and finding redirection within the group. Luckily, MoreGreen found support from the National Audubon Society and Georgia Audubon, which assisted in group meetings by providing advice and materials. It was during this time that MoreGreen created an initiative called Project Aves, which aims to educate communities about birds through do-it-yourself projects, and providing opportunities for members to connect with nature during the pandemic.

This spring, Morehouse MoreGreen debuted their first action for Project Aves in collaboration with Georgia Audubon: Action Hummer. Action Hummer was designed to educate people about the importance of hummingbirds, how to attract hummingbirds to their space, and what they can do to help protect these important birds. Months of planning resulted in educational social media outreach that highlighted pressing conservation issues for hummingbirds. Our primary collaborative event was an Instagram live that featured the Vice President of MoreGreen, Joshua Bellamy, Georgia Audubon's Director of Education, Melanie Furr, and their wonderful ambassador, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Sibley. We held an hour-long dialog about hummingbirds with guests from the MoreGreen club, AUC (Atlanta University Center) community, and other Audubon chapters. Toward the end, MoreGreen shared information on the DIY hummingbird feeders and how members can create one themselves. The cultivated relationship between MoreGreen and Georgia Audubon has been a fine example of the importance of collaboration and educational outreach in engaging communities around the conservation of birds.



Morehouse MoreGreen poses for a photo after a recent event. Photo courtesy Josh Bellamy.

Travel with Georgia Audubon in 2022

Limited space still remains for our upcoming trips to Spain plus Montana and Yellowstone as part of Georgia Audubon's Travel Program. Georgia Audubon offers small-group travel hosted by Georgia Audubon staff and in the company of other bird and nature enthusiasts to regional, domestic, and international destinations.

Registration is currently open:

- Southwestern Spain – April 25 to May 4, 2022 / View full details and register at www.georgiaaudubon.org/spain2022
- Montana and Yellowstone – June 22 to 27, 2022 / View full details and register at www.georgiaaudubon.org/montana

Additionally, registration will open on September 1 for the following trips:

- St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge, FL (February 2022)
- Dauphin Island, AL (April 2022)
- South Florida (May 2022)
- Argentina (September 2022)
- Oregon (Fall 2022)
- New Jersey (Fall/Winter 2022)

For more information, please visit the Travel Program webpage at www.georgiaaudubon.org/travel.

Additional details about future travel opportunities, including dates and itineraries, will be released in an upcoming issue of our bi-monthly e-newsletter, *BirdBuzz*. You can sign up to receive *BirdBuzz* at www.georgiaaudubon.org/newsletters.



European Roller, by Billy Dodson.

Thank You to our 2021 Annual Fund Donors

We are pleased to announce the generous support of our members and friends for the 2021 Annual Fund. This year, 192 donors flocked together to raise more than \$60,000. Gifts of every size combine to support our work to build places where birds and people thrive. Donors shown represent gifts received as of June 30, 2021. If you would like to contribute to the 2021 Annual Fund, please visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/donate to make an online gift or to print a gift form that can be mailed. Thank you for supporting Georgia's birds!

Every attempt has been made to include all donors and to accurately identify them. If you believe there has been an error, please contact Beverly Fooks at beverly.fooks@georgiaaudubon.org or 678-973-2437 so that we can correct our records.

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Get Ready for Georgia Grows Native for Birds Month in September

This September, Georgia Audubon will celebrate the fourth annual Georgia Grows Native for Birds Month, a celebration of Georgia's native plants and the key role they play for birds and other wildlife. The biggest threat to birds in Georgia is habitat loss. As urbanization increases and natural habitats disappear, native plants can go a long way to restoring the habitat birds need. Fortunately, we can provide birds with high-quality resources simply through thoughtful landscaping utilizing native plants.

The following events are planned for the month of September:

- September 1 to 19 – **Online Fall Native Plant Sale**
- Wednesday, September 8, at 7:00 PM – **Virtual Trivia Night: Plants and Birds Edition**
- Friday, September 10, at 9:00 AM – **Virtual Field Trip at Georgia Audubon Habitat Restoration Sites via Facebook Live and Zoom webinar**
- Thursday, September 16, at 7:00 PM – **Webinar: Native Plants and Natural Communities from a Birds-eye View, with Dr. Leslie Edwards**
- Sunday, September 19, at 3:30 PM – **Virtual Wildlife Sanctuary Tour**
- Saturday, September 25, at 8:00 AM – **Native Plant and Bird Walk with Gus Kaufman and Jamie Vidich**
- **Fall Native Plant Sale Pickup will be on Saturday, September 25 (Athens), and Sunday, September 26 (Atlanta).**

You can learn more or register for these events on our website (www.georgiaaudubon.org/georgia-grows-native-for-birds-month) on August 2.



Ruby-throated Hummingbird on coral honeysuckle, by David Shipper.

Building Community One Birder at a Time *(Continued from Page 1)*

now Georgia Audubon, but, by then, we were already reaching people all across Georgia through our virtual programs.

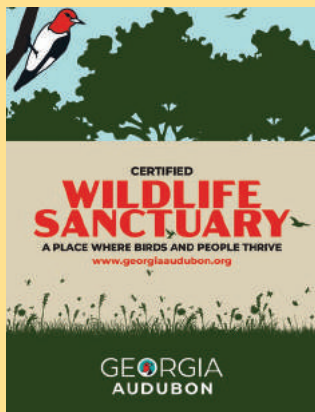
With the hiring of Corina Newsome in the newly-created Community Engagement Manager position late last summer, we were able to expand our community engagement even more and begin reaching out to new groups of people. Corina interviewed, was hired, and onboarded completely virtually while the pandemic raged. She hit the ground running, helping envision and develop innovative new programs and revamping existing programs to help us better engage with people across the state, including many new-to-birding people who discovered birding during the pandemic. Having experienced the hurdles faced by Black, Indigenous, and Peoples of Color (BIPOC) interested in wildlife careers, Corina brought to the job a personal passion for centering the perspectives and leadership of historically marginalized communities in wildlife conservation, environmental education, and exploration of the natural world. With these experiences front-of-mind, Corina quickly spearheaded several new Georgia Audubon initiatives to help us do a better job of engaging BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and other historically excluded populations to share the joy of birds and birding.

The **Bird Beyond** program is helping introduce birds and birding to targeted communities, like Grove Park,

Washington Park, Center Hill, and Anderson Park. We're also collaborating with **Zoo Atlanta, the Amphibian Foundation,** and **Glynn County** on virtual and in-person wildlife conservation careers programs for youth and young adults. In partnership with **Birdability**, Corina helped launch a series of virtual field trips for people with disabilities, using field trip leaders (including many with mobility and other accessibility challenges) from across the U.S. to showcase different ways that people with disabilities can enjoy birding. In collaboration with other organizations, Corina is leading bird walks for groups, like the Refugee Women's Network, Outdoor Afro, and others, that introduce people from under-represented backgrounds to the joy of birding.

Fast forward one year, and our community engagement efforts are having the desired impact. Our membership is increasing, and we're seeing a variety of new, diverse audiences from across the state at our in-person and virtual events. We're also partnering with other Audubon chapters in Georgia to help amplify their good work and offering new and innovative programs that people can participate in no matter where they live. Through partnerships with other organizations, we are amplifying our impact for birds and introducing more Georgians than ever to the wonder and joy of birds. It's an exciting time to be part of Georgia Audubon as we work together to build places where birds and people thrive.

Georgia Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary Program Rolls Out Statewide



Georgia Audubon is now certifying wildlife sanctuaries across the state as part of our effort to create a network of certified sanctuaries from the mountains to the coast and everywhere in between.

We've rolled out a new virtual certification process and streamlined our application process to a new online system that will allow our Avian Advocate Volunteers to meet virtually with property owners to "tour" the property prior to certification. For an additional fee, in-person certifications are still available in the metro Atlanta and Athens areas.

Learn more about our new and improved wildlife sanctuary program at www.georgiaaudubon.org/wildlife-sanctuary-program and find a list of resources to help you improve your landscape for birds and other wildlife.

Owners of previously certified properties can also purchase, in our online store, one of our new Georgia Audubon Certified Wildlife Sanctuary signs featuring the Red-headed Woodpecker.

Fall Master Birder Registration Is Now Open

Georgia Audubon is excited to offer our popular Master Birder Program again in fall of 2021. The fall program will consist of virtual webinars on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and in-person Saturday field trips at birding hot spots.

The fall program will begin on Tuesday, October 12, and run through Saturday, November 20, with virtual classes on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and field trips on Saturday, October 16, 23, 30, and November 6, followed by graduation on November 20.

Please note that you must be a current Georgia Audubon member to register for Master Birder.

Course content includes classification and identification of birds, birding equipment, bird songs and calls, attracting birds and backyard wildlife habitat, anatomy and physiology, bird ecology, bird behavior, flight and migration, and bird conservation. Upon graduation, Master Birders are encouraged to complete annual volunteer service for Georgia Audubon or their local Audubon chapter to receive added membership benefits such as early registration opportunities and discounted event fees.

A program fee of \$450 includes lectures and guided walks, a field guide, a comprehensive binder of information, and a graduation luncheon. Throughout the year, Master Birders may be offered early bird or discounted registration for workshops. You will be added to the Georgia Audubon Master Birder ListServ and Facebook group, which act as a means of communication and of sharing knowledge.

Please email Director of Education Melanie Furr at melanie.furr@georgiaaudubon.org if you have questions, or call 678.973.2437.



Registration is now open for the Fall Master Birder class.

Early Birds Book Club

The Early Birds Book Club welcomes all who enjoy reading about birds, birding, and birders. We are a "no commitment" book club—some folks come every time and others occasionally. Until we are able to meet in person prior to the Georgia Audubon monthly meeting, we will continue to meet virtually on Zoom.

Our August book is *A Most Remarkable Creature: The Hidden Life and Epic Journey of the World's Smartest Birds of Prey*, by Jonathan Meiburg. In September, we will celebrate hummingbirds during Georgia Grows Native for Birds Month by reading *The*

Gift of the Hummingbird, by Sy Montgomery, and *The Glitter in the Green: In Search of Hummingbirds*, by Jon Dunn. Feel free to read either one or both. In October, we will visit the birding experiences of J. Drew Lanham with *Sparrow Envy: Field Guide to Birds and Lesser Beasts*, along with Christian Cooper's comic book, *It's a Bird*.

A list of books previously read by the Early Birds as well as contact information to join the email list for updates and reminders, and registration for Zoom meetings is at www.georgiaaudubon.org/early-birds-book-club. Early Birds also has a Facebook Group that may be found by searching for Georgia Audubon Early Birds Book Club.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please check our website or our *Bird Buzz* e-newsletter for additional events that may be scheduled after *Wingbars* goes to press.

AUGUST

Field Trip: Piedmont Park | Leader: Jay Davis
Saturday, August 7, at 8:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips.

Field Trip: Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve | Leader: Stephen Ramsden
Saturday, August 7, at 9:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips.

Field Trip: Reynolds Nature Preserve | Leader: Anne McCallum
Wednesday, August 11, at 8:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips.

Field Trip: Phinizy Swamp (sponsored by Augusta-Aiken Audubon Society) | Leader: Lois Stacy
Saturday, August 14, at 8:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips.

Field Trip: Dunwoody Nature Center | Leader: Shannon Fair
Saturday, August 14, at 8:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips.

Field Trip: Anderson Park (Beginner Focused) | Leader: Corina Newsome
Saturday, August 14, at 9:00 to 10:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips.

Webinar: Project Safe Flight Georgia: Why Birds Collide with Buildings and How You Can Help Us This Fall
Monday, August 16, 6:00 to 7:00 PM | FREE

Did you know that collisions with buildings and other structures pose a serious threat to birds, claiming the lives of 365 million to one billion individuals annually? That is the third leading cause of bird death in the United States! To better understand this across the state, we at Georgia Audubon created Project Safe Flight Georgia, a program aimed at collecting data on collisions and working toward making our state safer for our birds. During spring and fall migration, Project Safe Flight volunteers monitor for collisions victims, gathering vital data for this initiative. Join us on August 16th as Conservation Director Adam Betuel outlines the ways buildings are a threat to our birds, what can be done to make our state safer for birds, and how you can participate in Project Safe Flight. This webinar is aimed at participants who want to know more about this issue, those interested in volunteering for our collision reduction programming, and for returning volunteers who need a refresher on data collection and correct protocols. Fall migration is rapidly approaching, and we need your help!

To sign up for these virtual field trips with Georgia Audubon, visit <https://www.georgiaaudubon.org/project-safe-flight.html>.

When: Friday, August 20, at 9:00 AM

Where: Georgia Audubon Facebook page and now also available via Zoom Webinar.

(Visit the event listing on our Field Trip calendar to register for the Zoom event.)

Field Trip: Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve | Leader: Stephen Ramsden
Saturday, August 21, at 9:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips.

Webinar: Early Birds Book Club August Meeting
Sunday, August 22, at 2:00 PM | Cost: FREE

The Early Birds welcome all who enjoy reading about birds, birding, and birders. We are a “no commitment” book club—some folks come every time and others occasionally. For August, we will read *A Most Remarkable Creature: The Hidden Life and Epic Journey of the World's Smartest Birds of Prey*, by Jonathan Meiburg. To see our full schedule and book selections or to sign up for this free event, please visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/early-birds-book-club.



Tennessee Warbler injured in building collision.
Photo by Adam Betuel.



AUGUST *(Continued from Page 9)*

Webinar: Georgia Audubon Monthly Meeting - Georgia's Coastal Bird Conservation Sunday, August 22, at 3:30 PM | Cost: FREE

See back page of *Wingbars* for more information or to register.

Field Trip: Center Hill Park (Beginner Focused) | Leader: Corina Newsome Saturday, August 28, at 9:00 to 10:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips.

SEPTEMBER

Georgia Audubon Fall Native Plant Sale | September 1-19 Online Sale

Please check our website for updates and timing of our Fall Native Plant Sale, which will take place during Georgia Grows Native for Birds Month in September.

Fall Native Plant Sale Pickup will be on Saturday, September 25 (Athens, and Sunday, September 26 (Atlanta).

Field Trip: Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve | Leader: Stephen Ramsden Saturday, September 4, at 9:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips.

Field Trip: Reynolds Nature Preserve | Leader: Anne McCallum Wednesday, September 8, at 8:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips.

Virtual Trivia Night with Georgia Audubon: Plants and Birds Edition Wednesday, September 8, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM

Cost: Free, but registration required

Calling all bird nerds! Join us for an evening of bird-brained trivia from the comfort of your own home as we play through four rounds of bird and bird-related facts spanning a variety of topics related to Georgia's native plants and birds. The winning team/person will receive Georgia Audubon shirts or coffee and chocolate lovers pack and the coveted bragging rights. To learn more or register, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/georgia-grows-native-for-birds-month.

Virtual Field Trips with Georgia Audubon | Georgia Grows Native for Birds Month Edition When: Friday, September 10, Facebook page and now also available via Zoom Webinar.

(Visit the event listing on our Field Trip calendar to register for the Zoom event.)

Field Trip: Lover's Lane (sponsored by Augusta-Aiken Audubon Society) | Leader: Lois Stacey Saturday, September 11, at 8:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips

Webinar: Native Plants and Natural Communities from a Birds-eye View, with Dr. Leslie Edwards Thursday, September 16, at 7:00 PM

\$10 for Georgia Audubon members/ \$12 for non-members

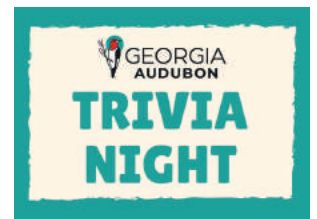
Piney woods, deciduous forests, prairies and marshes...Georgia is home to a variety of natural communities. And each natural community has its own array of native plants that provide the seeds, insect prey, berries, and nesting sites the birds need to survive. Observing the constantly changing, intricate web of relationships among native plants, habitats, and birds greatly enriches our appreciation of birds, and is necessary for effective bird conservation. In this presentation, we will learn about the importance of native plants to birds, and journey through some of the natural communities of north Georgia from a birds-eye view, brought to life by photographs from Georgia Audubon Master Birders and other Audubon photographers. Learn more or purchase tickets at www.georgiaaudubon.org/georgia-grows-native-for-birds-month.

Field Trip: Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve | Leader: Stephen Ramsden Saturday, September 18, at 9:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips



*American Robin on elderberry,
by Mick Thompson.*



Purple coneflower, by Dottie Head.

SEPTEMBER *(Continued from Page 10)*

Webinar: Virtual Wildlife Sanctuary Tour | \$10 Georgia Audubon members/\$12 non-members

When: Sunday, September 19, from 3:30 to 5:00 PM

Due to the popularity of last year's Virtual Wildlife Sanctuary tour and ongoing challenges posed by the pandemic, we're going to again offer the 2021 Wildlife Sanctuary Tour as a virtual event. Gabe Andrie, Habitat Conservation Program Manager, will be giving us a virtual tour of some of our great Wildlife Sanctuaries to show how you can transform your yard into a sanctuary for birds and other wildlife. In addition, we have arranged with the property owners to be on the call as well so that our guests may ask them specific questions about their properties and how they went about building their wildlife sanctuaries. Read more about our featured properties or purchase tickets at www.georgiaaudubon.org/georgia-grows-native-for-birds-month.

Field Trip: Native Plant and Bird Walk for Georgia Grows Native for Birds Month

Trip Leaders: Gus Kaufman and Jamie Vidich

Saturday, September 25, at 8:00 AM

\$10 for Georgia Audubon Members/\$12 for non-members

Join Georgia Audubon volunteer field trip leaders Gus Kaufman and Jamie Vidich for a native plant and bird walk at Little Creek Horse Farm, a Georgia Audubon habitat restoration site in DeKalb County. Learn more or purchase tickets at www.georgiaaudubon.org/georgia-grows-native-for-birds-month.

OCTOBER

Field Trip: Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve | Leader: Stephen Ramsden

Saturday, October 2, at 9:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips

Field Trip: Morgan Falls Overlook Park (sponsored by City of Sandy Springs) | Leader: Roseanne Guerra

Saturday, October 9, at 8:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips

Field Trip: Reynolds Nature Preserve | Leader: Anne McCallum

Wednesday, October 13, at 8:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips.

Swift Night Out at Brickworks Gallery

Thursday, October 14, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM

Join us for a fun Swift Night Out at Brickworks Gallery. Enjoy light hors d'oeuvres and beverages while admiring the beautiful artwork of gallery owner Laura Adams and others. At dusk, we'll move outside to hear from Adam Betuel, director of conservation, about Chimney Swifts and Georgia Audubon's conservation efforts and will watch a flock of (hopefully hundreds) swifts descend into the Brickworks chimney. Look for more information and registration information in our *Bird Buzz* e-newsletter.

Field Trip: Lover's Lane (sponsored by Augusta-Aiken Audubon Society) | Leader: Lois Stacey

Saturday, October 16, at 8:00 AM

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips

Field Trip: Jackson Landing Road, Jackson, SC (sponsored by Augusta-Aiken Audubon Society)

Leader: Lois Stacey

Saturday, October 30

To learn more or sign up, visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/field-trips



Greater Sage Grouse, by Ronan Donovan.

Wingbars

GEORGIA AUDUBON

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August Monthly Meeting Webinar: Georgia's Coastal Bird Conservation Sunday, August 22, at 3:30 PM FREE

Join us for a panel on the coastal avian conservation happening in Georgia.

This panel will feature Dr. Abby Sterling, shorebird biologist with Manomet; Tim Keyes, wildlife biologist with the Coastal Resources Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources; Adam Betuel, conservation director for Georgia Audubon; and Sergio Sabat-Bonilla, Georgia Sea Grant Fellow with Georgia Audubon.



Wilson's Plover, by Dan Vickers.

Save the Date for the Annual Georgia Audubon Holiday Party and Annual Meeting

Sunday, December 5 | 3:00 to 5:00 PM

In-Person Event at Manuel's Tavern

We are planning to host our annual Holiday Party and Annual Meeting as an IN-PERSON event at Manuel's Tavern on Sunday, December 5, from 3:00 to 5:00 PM.

We will not be holding an auction this year, but we will be selling raffle tickets for a two-night stay for two at the Lodge on Little St. Simons Island. Look for more information in the November issue of *Wingbars* or in the *BirdBuzz* e-newsletters.