



2019-2020 Officers

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March/April Meetings

March 5–

There have been some issues with confirming a speaker for this meeting. At this time nothing is definite enough to announce here.

April 2–

There have been some issues with confirming a speaker for this meeting. At this time nothing is definite enough to announce here.

March/April Field Trips & Events

March 14 (Sat.)—Monthly Lagoon Survey (meet at lagoon gate at 7am). Expected length is 4 hours.

March 28 (Sat.)—Big Branch Marsh NWR—LaCombe, LA. Meet behind Ed's Burgers (Hardy Street) at 7:30am to carpool to Big Branch.

April 4 (Sat.) - Monthly Lagoon Survey (meet at lagoon gate at 7am). Expected length is 4 hours.

April 17-19 (Fri.-Sun.)—Spring migration at Dauphin Island, AL. See article in newsletter regarding lodging. If you can't stay the weekend, join us on one of the days for a day's birding during migration.

These, as well as other events, can also be seen (and downloaded) at the PWAS [website](#).

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month (September through May) in the Education Building at the Hattiesburg Zoo. Refreshments at 6:30 pm. Meetings begin at 7:00 pm and are open to the public.

Pine Woods Audubon Society is a chapter of National Audubon Society, Inc.

President's Corner

A big THANK YOU to Kelly & Teresa O'Neal for hosting our Great Backyard Bird Count window watch event. While the bird count was not the highest (reflecting what we have seen throughout this winter), it was a wonderful day for hiking/riding around the farm. And, thanks to all who brought brunch goodies to share. If there is one thing to say for our Chapter, we sure have some good cooks (and good eaters).

Our annual Spring Migration field trip to Dauphin Island, AL is coming up in April. An article on the topic is found on page 3 of this issue. I encourage you to consider joining us for this event (even if you only make it a day trip for Saturday). Seeing the migrants come through DI in their finest breeding plumage is a real treat. And, there is a real possibility you just might see a bird for the first time (a life bird for you).

Larry Basden

Mississippi South Regional Summit—March 20-22

Who: You, your fellow Audubon members, chapters in your area, our new campus chapter leaders, and state and center staff from our National Audubon Society.

What: A Lower Mississippi Flyway regional summit (Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee)

When: March 20th—March 22nd, 2020

Where: Strawberry Plains Audubon Center in Holly Springs, MS

Why: To learn new skills, share resources and ideas, and collaborate to overcome common challenges that all chapters face

The weekend will give us the opportunity to hear from other chapters, teach each other new skills, and of course to do a little birding. Additionally, Strawberry Plains has been gracious enough to offer their native plant stock at cost to participants—so afterwards you can take some hard-to-find native plants home with you too.

A brief summary of events planned:

Friday, March 20—Dinner at 7pm with David Ringer, Chief Network Officer

Saturday, March 21—Birding by Wagon

- Chapter Updates

- Discussion of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

- Strategic Priorities

- Discussion of Campus Programs

- Dinner and Keynote Speaker—Professor Dwayne Estes regarding Southeast Grasslands

Sunday, March 22—Early AM Bird Banding (optional)

- Coffee and Poster Session

- Discussion of Plants for Birds Legislation

- Wrap up and Farewell

To register call Gregorah at 202.600.7978 or visit <https://strawberry.audubon.org/events>

Arrange your own lodging if you choose to stay in the area.

Spring Migration at Dauphin Island—April 17–19

It's here again. Time for my favorite PWAS Field Trip. A weekend at Dauphin Island, AL to see what we might catch during spring migration. I'm always reminded of a favorite quote from Forrest Gump. "Mama always said: Life (*or a trip to DI in the spring*) was like a box of chocolates. You never know what (*species*) you're gonna get." There are just too many variables to be able to predict what the weekend will bring. There is one prediction that is always true—it will be a weekend of birding with friends (some you've never met before) and the possibility to see birds that only pass through during migration.

Since everyone makes their own arrangements if they are going to spend the weekend at DI, here are some suggestions:

Gulf Breeze Motel (older, not fancy, but clean) - (251)-861-7344

Dauphin Island Harbor House B&B - (251)-861-2119

Dauphin Island Campground (not fancy, 137 sites, next to Audubon Sanctuary) - (251)-861-2742

Pelican Nest RV Park (small, 12 sites, close to Gulf Breeze) - (251)-861-2338

Even if you can't stay the weekend, DI is not a difficult drive for a day trip. Come join us for whatever time you can spare. You'll have a good time. And, you just might add a new bird species to your life list.



We're on the Web!

www.pinewoodsaudubon.com

The Pine Warbler

Pine Woods Audubon Society
134 Sweet Bay Trail
Petal, MS 39465

Address Service Requested

Bird Sightings & Field Trips



The MS State/USDA station in Pearl River county again gave participants a look at Barn Owls (2 of them flew out of the abandoned silos). If you have never seen a Barn Owl, join us next year for this annual Sparrow (and Barn Owl) trip.

If you see any “out of the ordinary” sightings, send an email to newsletter@basdenfamily.com or use the contact form on our website www.pinewoodsaudubon.com to let us know so we can include them in this section of the newsletter.