

Saturday, January 1st, 2022 08:00am

Sweetwater Wetlands Park and Beyond

Meet trip leader Tim Hardin for the first birding trip of the year. Plan on meeting at the parking lot of Sweetwater Wetlands Park (SWP) to start your year list off with a bang. Although this trip will begin at SWP, participants will have the option to progress to other sites based on input from Tim and the group. Difficulty 3

Saturday and Sunday, January 8th & 9th, 2022 8:00am

St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge

John Hintermister Memorial Field Trip

The late John Hintermister led the St. Marks trip every January for years, so we've named the trip after him in yet another inadequate attempt to honor the memory of a man who served Alachua Audubon for nearly 60 years - literally since its inception. Meet Phil Lapis and Don Morrow who both birded extensively with John, at the St. Marks visitor center off Lighthouse Road on Saturday, January 8, 2022, 8:00 a.m. to begin an all-day visit to one of Florida's premier winter birding spots. Expect birds in great numbers and variety. Bring a lunch and plenty of water, and make motel reservations if you're staying all weekend. Sunday's meeting time and location will be decided on Saturday. There is a limit of 20 people, so call Wild Birds Unlimited (352-381-1997) early to register. Entry fee to St. Marks is \$5 per vehicle. Difficulty: 3

Sunday, January 16th, 2022 8:00 am

Boulware Springs Restoration Area

Meet trip leader Andy Kratter in the Boulware Springs bike trailhead parking lot. Going south on SE 15th Street, make a right turn into the driveway immediately after you pass SE 32nd Place on your left. This 80-acre tract, formerly overgrown with brush, is being restored to longleaf pine sandhill, and in its current condition has shown itself to be particularly attractive to sparrows. They will be our primary quarry, but Red-headed Woodpecker, American Kestrel, and a variety of other winter species are possible. Difficulty: 2

Saturday, January 22nd, 2022 8:00 am

Gum Root Park

Meet trip leader Tim Hardin to search for over-wintering sparrows and songbirds at this often overlooked and quaint City of Gainesville park located just off SR 26 going East from the Pithlachocco Trailhead almost to where 26 connects with 39th Ave (222). Turn at the blinking light at NW27th Ave and the parking/trailhead will be on your immediate right. This city park is home to several different habitats, including forested floodplain swamp, xeric hammock, baygall, pasture/old fields, and remnant flatwoods. Field trip participants should meet at the parking lot for the park at 8:00am. The park address is 7300 NE 27th Avenue. But if using Google Maps enter "Gum Root Park" instead. Difficulty 2

Sunday, January 23rd, 2022 4:00 pm

Camps Canal/Cones Dike at Sunset

Meet trip leader Bubba Scales at the Camps Canal trailhead for an exciting new version of our usual Field Trip routine. Bubba anticipates trip participants will be able to observe the prairie basin as diurnal species come in to roost and crepuscular and nocturnal species begin to forage. We will be returning to

our cars in twilight twilight conditions so plan accordingly & bring a small light. Camps Canal trailhead is located on CR 234. From Gainesville, turn left at the blinking light in Micanopy (intersection of 441 & 234). Park off the side of the road near the bridge. Difficulty 3

Saturday, January 29th, 2022 8:00am

ACT Prairie Creek Lodge Trail

Park near the ACT Prairie Creek Lodge to meet trip leader Ivor Kincaid who will direct us to the trail where we will be on the search for over-wintering sparrows and songbirds. The fields and pastures located on the PCL grounds have been home to the secretive Henslow's sparrow for several years, which will be one of the primary quarries along with other sparrow species such as Grasshopper, Vesper, and Song. Meet at the PCL trail parking area. Difficulty 2

Saturday, February 5th, 2022 8:00am

Alligator Lake Park

We will partner with Four Rivers Audubon's Trip Leader Jerry Krummrich and meet at Alligator Lake Park at the pavilion parking lot. The address off Country Club Road is 420 SE Alligator, NW Silver Glen, Lake City, FL 32025. Trip participants will traverse the wooded berm around this marshy 338-acre lake looking for waterfowl, wading birds, and woodland species. Difficulty: 2

Saturday, February 12th, 2022 8:00am

Hague Dairy (University of Florida Dairy Unit)

Meet our trip leader Tim Hardin at the dairy where we will be on the search for sparrows, blackbirds, and raptors, and western strays. We will hope for water levels conducive to shorebirds and/or waterfowl as well. Park in the usual spot on the western side of the complex, labeled Classroom parking recently. As always, trip participants are asked to respect and defer to the workers and cows in an effort to maintain our amicable relationship with the dairy staff. Difficulty: 2

Sunday, February 20th, 2022 8:00am

La Chua Trail

Meet trip leader Felicia Lee at the trailhead of La Chua Trail on Camp Ranch Rd. La Chua has been one of the most productive birding locations in the county, as it the myriad habitats found within the park support an abundant and diverse bird population including wading birds, waterfowl, raptors, warblers, and others. Difficulty: 2

Friday Evening and Saturday, February 25th and 26th, 2022

Tall Timbers Research Station.

What did Florida look like 200 years ago? Join us at Tall Timbers Research Station (TTRS), near Tallahassee and find out. We'll tour the research station area and learn how important the role of fire plays in Upland ecosystems. Will be looking and listening for White-breasted & Brown-headed Nuthatches, Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, Bachman's, Henslow's and Grasshopper sparrows, to name a few. Adam & Gina Kent and Jim Cox (Director of the Stoddard Bird Lab at TTRS) will be our trip leaders. TTRS has a Lodge available for us with individual rooms at reasonable cost. Staying there will have you in the center of the action Friday night and make Saturday's very early start easier. Staying Saturday night

is an option, in case you want to further bird the area or bird down the coast on the way home. Sign up for the trip and the on site Lodge reservations at WBU. Difficulty 3