

Sea Turtle Patrol Visits HH Audubon in November

Amber Kuehn grew up exploring the May River on a 15' motor boat that she learned to handle by the age of 12. This access to a watery playground planted a seed that would direct her path to complete a master's degree in Marine Biology and obtaining a Master Captain's License to operate a 100-ton ship. These pursuits took her to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and Maui, Hawaii, for a 5-year hiatus from the Lowcountry.



As a scuba instructor and dive boat captain, she educated divers on what they would observe submerged in the Atlantic and later, the Pacific. But soon the Spanish moss, rustling palmettos, and emerald marsh called her home, and she

reacquainted herself with the Lowcountry by guiding eco-tour charters for various companies on Hilton Head and in Bluffton.

Currently, Amber manages Sea Turtle Patrol Hilton



When: November 14, 3:30-4:15 PM

Where: Hilton Head Public Library, Beach City Road, Hilton Head Island

**Speaker: Amber Kuehn
"Turtle Patrol 2019 Season"**

Head Island and immerses herself in field biology on a daily basis.

Sea Turtle Patrol Hilton Head Island monitors HHI's beaches for sea turtle nesting and hatching activity annually, May through October, to promote the existence of these endangered species and to spread awareness of their struggle through public education and outreach.

They do their best to raise awareness for marine turtles nesting on South Carolina's largest barrier island. They are an all-volunteer staff permitted by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and are specially trained to perform all of the daily nest monitoring tasks.

Join us on November 14 as she talks about the results of this year's turtle patrol season.

Welcome New Members

A warm welcome to our new members:

Kathy Armstrong
Nancy Contel
Ken Lechner
Chris Neste
Emily Vairo

We now have an online membership process where you can join, renew or make donations by using Visa, Mastercard or Discover. An email will be sent when your membership is due. You may choose to pay online through our secure portal or mail in a check (the website has a form for you to fill out and mail with your check). Please do not mail in a check without the form. We continually update our records and want to make sure you're receiving our emails and *The Ecobon*.

Prior membership forms are void after September 1, 2019. If you have any questions about membership, please email Marina Bloomfield at hhiAudubon@hiltonheadaudubon.org.

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The Ecobon is a monthly publication (September through May) of Hilton Head Audubon, a chapter of the National Audubon Society.

Subscription is a benefit of membership.

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Hilton Head Island, SC 29938

email: HHIAudubon@gmail.com

President's Message

The other day, when I was talking with a friend about what we were reading, he mentioned that, as of late, he was afraid to receive his *National Geographic*. I felt exactly the same way. When I was 13, I received a Christmas subscription to *National Geographic*. I have spent untold hours reading Nat Geo, delighting in learning about the people, places and animals from both near and far. The pleasure and excitement generated by those articles was the stuff of which dreams are made. My devotion to the magazine, which included reading issues that went as far back as the turn of the last century, paid off when I was allowed to opt out of college sociology after mentioning this fact.



But in the past few years all of that has changed. Excitement has turned to apprehension as headlining articles are devoted to the topics of extinction, the suffering of humans due to climate change, the heating of the Arctic and wildlife tourism, where we are loving animals to death. Thoughts of renaming the magazine National Doom and Gloom crossed my mind. A brief breather happened in the July issue, which was devoted to the anniversary of the first moon landing. I began to think, "Really, can it be this bad?" Alas, it seems it can.

On the heels of the study published in the journal *Science*, which documented the loss of nearly 30 percent – or 2.9 billion – North American birds over the past 50 years, has come National Audubon's new climate report: "Survival by Degrees: 389 Species on the Brink." The full report is available online at www.audubon.org and in National Audubon's magazine. It was also covered extensively by *National Geographic* as well as major newspapers and TV outlets. While much of the report is distressing, giving us, "... less than 12 years to prevent climate change's most consequential effects," it also offers hopes in terms of solutions. Many of these solutions are small ones that we can do just by changing a few habits. Small changes multiplied by many equals major impacts for the planet.

Now that I am in my senior years, it seems another battle is to be added to the one nature has in store for all of us who survive our youth. Not only must we fight the good fight to stay healthy in mind and body, we must also join the battle to save the planet for our children and their children as well. I urge you to read Audubon's report, both the bad news and the steps we can take to help avoid disaster. The earth already has a 1 degree Celsius change from the industrial revolution, and additional degrees will be catastrophic. Right now I am going to make one of the recommended decisions and not take that short car ride to run errands, but save them for a one-time big trip on another day.

Take a look at their plan; there is much we all can do. We owe it to ourselves, the birds and future generations.

Jane Hester

2019 Christmas Bird Count

by Susan Murphy
Christmas Bird Count Chair

This is the 120th year of the Audubon Christmas Bird Count! While we are only one of more than 2,500 count circles in the Western Hemisphere, we are one of the largest in terms of participants. In 2017, we had the 6th highest number of participants (292). In 2018, we grew to 320.

Our count area is a 15-mile diameter circle covering Hilton Head, Daufuskie and Pinckney Islands, parts of Bluffton and our waterways. On our one-day count, we identify species and count each bird we see or hear. We are an important part of gathering this data in the largest and longest-running citizen science project in the world.

The CBC had some interesting publicity recently. You probably read the reports of the estimated loss of 3 billion birds in North America since 1970. CBC data was used in the calculation for about 55 of the species. Locally, David Lauderdale's column in the *Island Packet* mentioned the CBC, which you can read [here in his 10 commandments of Hilton Head](#).

We are included in number six: Thou Shalt Protect Wildlife. It's an interesting list.

Count Day: Monday, December 16 for the Hilton Head area

Captains of our 19 areas are putting their teams together. We always welcome more birders; if you are interested in being a part of this international effort, please email me at HHICBC@gmail.com, and I will have a Captain contact you. You do not have to be an accomplished birder. Start out as the recorder or the photographer in a more experienced group. You can also participate from the comfort of home by being one of our feeder watchers. Last December, we had 88 feeder watchers.

December Meeting: Thursday, December 12

The Annual Christmas Bird Count meeting will be held at the First Presbyterian Church, 540 William Hilton Parkway.

We'll gather in Fellowship Hall for refreshments at 7:00 pm. The presentation by Bob Speare begins



at 7:30 pm. Coffee will be provided, and we invite our generous members to bring cookies, cakes and other goodies.

In addition, we will be holding a gift basket raffle for some beautiful gifts. Some items you can look forward to seeing are autographed books by David Sibley, a basket from Wild Birds Unlimited, hand-made bird houses and feeders, and other great gift baskets.

Note for our Sun City-Okatie members: The count for the Sun City-Okatie circle is Tuesday, December 17. If you are interested in helping with that count, please contact Jim Cubie at 843-991-1059 or jimcubie1@gmail.com.



- Bird Seed, Blends & Suit
- Bird Feeders & Houses
- Mounting Hardware
- Birdbaths & Accessories
- Binoculars & Field Guides
- Nature Books & Gifts

Festival Centre at Indigo Park
45 Pembroke Dr., Suite 130
Hilton Head Island, SC 29926
843-802-2010
HiltonHeadWBU@yahoo.com

The Future is Now for Our Birds

by John Bloomfield
Audubon Vice President

In early October, the National Audubon Society released a groundbreaking study showing that two-thirds of North American bird species are at risk of extinction from climate change. The study follows on the heels of equally grim research published in the journal *Science* that found nearly 3 billion fewer birds grace our North American skies than they did just 50 years ago.

In South Carolina, Audubon considers 15 species to be highly vulnerable, including favorites such as the Baltimore Oriole, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Red-headed Woodpecker, Scarlet Tanager and Eastern Towhee. You can learn more about how South Carolina might be affected here: [Species on the brink in South Carolina](#).

The Audubon report predicts that if Earth continues to warm [according to current trends](#) – rising 3 degrees Celsius (5.4 degrees Fahrenheit) by 2100 – more than two-thirds of North America's bird species will be vulnerable to extinction due to range loss. However, if we are able to stabilize carbon emissions and hold the rate of increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit), 76 percent of vulnerable species would be better off and nearly 150 species would no longer be vulnerable to extinction.

When reading reports like this, it is easy to throw up your hands in helplessness. But individual

actions, replicated day-by-day by like-minded individuals, can add up. Everything from the car you drive to the temperature inside your home and even the foods you eat have an impact. Your political voice matters as well: the passage of SC's Energy Freedom Act earlier this year was made possible by voters expressing to conservation-minded legislators that they wanted more choice in how they purchase energy.

Here's a simple graphic showing seven things you can do to help birds and the places they live. Print it and keep it on your refrigerator door. The Brown-headed Nuthatch in your backyard will be glad you did.



Click on the graphic above to get a full version of the flyer to print

Audubon Newhall Preserve

by Bob Clemens
Audubon Newhall Chairman

We are happy to report the September Rotary workday was a resounding success! A dozen stalwarts carved passage through the fetterbush to the native trees and shrubs which still need watering. In addition, Vice-Chair Rita Kernan and her crew have installed several new "plastic tube sapling protectors" to discourage the deer from nibbling the leaves and the young bucks from rubbing their antlers on our young trees. Vice-Chair Matt Mattoon has widened the trails from the summer overgrowth and corrected the aeration timers, which had been knocked off schedule by power outages during Hurricane Dorian.

Audubon Newhall Preserve free Nature Walks with a Lowcountry Master Naturalist are now by appointment only. Please email brent38@aol.com to schedule a tour.

As of this writing, our 2019 visitor logs reflect visits by 545 families from 47 states and 11 countries and Canadian provinces. Our visitors report sight-

ings which range from "big gator," to very specific bird species, or just to the generic "Very cool!" We heartily agree! Whenever we encounter visitors, they are always complimentary about their experiences at the Preserve. Jack Greenshields would be proud.

Finally, we note that visitors are taking home both our birding brochures and the Coastal Discovery Museum brochures we stock in the Map Box. We restock the maps and brochures two or three times per week just to keep up.



Conservation & Culture: An Evening with Dr. J. Drew Lanham



Join us for a special evening program and book signing featuring renowned conservationist, author and Clemson professor Dr. J. Drew Lanham. A native South Carolinian, Dr. Lanham will reflect on his lifelong love of birds and wildlife and the part they play as connectors across time, place and cultures throughout our history. He persuasively argues that conservation of wildlife can only be successful if it generates a deep appreciation for the cultural ties that link people of all backgrounds to the natural world and its power to unite.

Join Us!

When: Tuesday, November 19

Time: 5 pm Reception, 5:30 pm Presentation

Cost: \$10 per person

Location: Coligny Theatre - 1 N. Forest Beach Drive, Hilton Head Island, SC

Tickets: To purchase tickets online, click [Register Here](#). You may also call the museum directly at 843-689-6767, ext. 223

This special event is being co-sponsored by Hilton Head Audubon, the Coastal Discovery Museum and the Mitchelville Preservation Project.

Books will be available for purchase online or at the Theatre.

You can purchase tickets online with this link: [Register Here](#). You may also call the museum directly at 843-689-6767, ext. 223

Tickets can only be purchased through The Coastal Discovery Museum. If you have any questions, please contact the Museum directly.

Pinckney NWR Nature Tour

Pinckney Island National Wildlife Refuge now has greater accessibility for the elderly, very young, and handicapped.

The nature tour is an hour and a half in a 15-seat electric shuttle. There is a docent that is qualified as a Master Naturalist. The tour is from the parking lot to Ibis Pond and Starr Pond with commentary during the tour.

[Please visit this site for more information and reservations.](#)

Submissions to Ecobon

If you have an item you would like to submit for publication in Ecobon, please send an email to HHI-audubon@hiltonheadaudubon.org. Articles must be received by the 15th of each month for the next month's issue. All editorial decisions are final.

Follow us on Social Media. You can find us on Facebook [here](#). Once there, join our member page, where you can share photos and interact with other local birders. You can also share photos with us on Instagram. Tag your photo #**hiltonheadaudubon** for a chance to be featured on one of our social media platforms.

Notes From The Field

by Bob Speare
Audubon Field Trip Coordinator

More Great Birding Ahead Throughout November

Fall migration surely picked up in October and there were some great opportunities to bird with Hilton Head Audubon to witness all the fun.

Our October Field Trip to the Altamaha Town Heritage Preserve was a wonderful day of birding with 35 species seen, including Ovenbird, a pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers, and three Brown Thrashers. Thank you to Matt Johnson, South Carolina Audubon's Director of Bird Conservation and Engagement, for leading us through this beautiful property featuring both woodland and marsh habitats.

Additionally, participants on our Tuesday Morning Walks at the Newhall Preserve continue to witness fall migration with a variety of warblers, vireos, woodpeckers and more. And, with all the reports of birds seen at Jarvis Creek Park, we launched our first HH Audubon Quick Trip there on Saturday, October 12 and the results were terrific – 35 species observed including seven warbler species. It was a great day and a great way to pull together those that can join us at short notice. If you're interested in getting on the Quick Trip List, at the end of this article. September also welcomed our fall Birding 101 series with its first meeting at the Coastal Discovery Center. A great group of 20 participants are learning more about our local birds and how to ID them in the field.

Here's what we have for another exciting month of November Birding!

November Birding Field Trip - SOLD OUT

Where: Fish Haul Creek Park, Hilton Head Island

When: Saturday, November 2; 8:00–10:00 am

Leader: Robert Rommel, past HH Audubon President, Author, and Photographer

Limit: 20 participants

Fees: \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members

December Birding Field Trip by Wagon

Where: Pinckney Island NWR

When: Sunday, December 8; 8:30–11:30 am

Leader: Bob Speare and Aaron Palmieri

Limit: 20 participants

Fees: \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members

Any local birder knows that Pinckney Island National Wildlife Refuge is a birding hotspot any day

of the year. Consisting of over 4000 acres, 10 miles of trails to explore, and 243 bird species on record, it is truly an amazing and important wild space splitting two bustling communities. Join us for an early December exploration by wagon of some of the lesser-traveled areas of Pinckney Island. After stopping to bird around Ibis Pond, we'll continue down the roads and through the woodlands, ponds, and marsh edges to explore a variety of areas such as Dick Point, Bull Point, Shell Point and others. Some of the winter specialties we expect to see include freshwater and saltwater ducks, woodpeckers, sparrows, warblers and the possibility of shorebirds, raptors and more! This promises to be a great day and a terrific warm-up for Christmas Count birding.

Directions and additional details will be sent out a few days prior to the trip.

Preregistration required — to register, [please click here](#).

Tuesday Morning Bird Walks at Audubon Newhall Preserve

Where: Audubon Newhall Preserve, 88 Palmetto Bay Rd, HHI

When: Tuesdays, November 5, 12, 19, and 26; 8:30 - 10:30 am

No registration and no fee — just join us for a leisurely two-hour walk through the native trees and wildflowers to look for migrating and resident bird species that are found on this wonderful 50-acre property. New birders are always welcome!

Quick Bird Trips

Because birds don't always wait around for us to publish the next *Ecobon*, we've created the Hilton Head Audubon Quick Trip List. When we hear about a sudden birding occurrence that we'd

like to view in the next day or two, we'll send an email to folks on the list to see who might be able to join us. If you'd like to be added to the list, just send an email to FieldTrips@hiltonheadaudubon.org, and I'll get you signed up.



Kids in Kayaks

by Lois Lewis
Audubon Education Chair

One of the most reliable ways to positively affect the future is getting children excited about nature. The Outside Foundation's Kids in Kayaks (KIK) program does this by getting local students into kayaks and guiding them through saltmarshes and by the mud flats along the shores of our tidal rivers. Recently, Hilton Head Audubon teamed up with The Outside Foundation during a day of exploring the May River and adjacent ecosystems at Palmetto Bluff.

Our job was to give kids some hands-on experience using binoculars to spot and identify birds, as well as any flora and fauna that crossed within sight and hearing. It was easy to feel the kids' excitement as they exclaimed "Wow!" or "That's cool!" at seeing a tern drop from the sky, and come away with a fish in his bill – or when a stealthy heron won a blue crab for his lunch.

To get a feel for the flow and energy of the day, picture this: the yellow school bus pulls up next to the boat storage warehouse at Wilson Village. The peace and quiet are shattered by 40 middle-schoolers who bound off the bus, lunch bags in hand. They are directed to leave their gear aside and gather around Dr. Jean Fruh, who is the director of the Kids in Kayaks program. She may be diminutive in stature, but she commands their attention by explaining the plan for the day – and the expectations for behavior, learning and safety procedures.

Teachers and parent chaperones help separate the children into two predetermined groups. One group follows the kayak guides to a lawn near the embarkation dock, where they are instructed about paddling, turning and stopping in the kayaks. They spend the morning on the water, two students per kayak, with trained guides who are also naturalists.

The other group of students is further split into smaller sets of 5-8 kids each. These kids rotate among several shore activities during the morn-

ing hours. After our picnic lunch, the groups switch.

The latter is where Hilton Head Audubon provided expertise. We led small groups along the bluff above the river, sighting birds in the trees, lawn, over a freshwater pond and from the dock overlooking the saltmarsh. We heard and saw the usual suspects: Carolina Wrens, Tufted Titmice, Carolina Chickadees, Northern Cardinals, both kinds of Crows and Grackles, gulls, herons, egrets, Anhingas, Double-crested Cormorants, Red-bellied Woodpeckers. But we also

saw Downy Woodpeckers, two Pileated Woodpeckers (one chasing the other), Royal Terns, and an immature Yellow-crowned Night Heron, who performed for all three groups in the afternoon, slurping up fiddler crabs and repeatedly wiping the mud off his bill in the water. The kids were fascinated by two alligators that took to the shallows of the marsh as the tide was receding. Some students were cheering for a couple of large garfish to take on the smallish gators. One group

spotted three young raccoons who scrambled up a Palmetto then peered out at them from behind the fronds.

It was very satisfying to hear children sharing the stories of what they had seen as they boarded the bus to return to school. We were confident that all of them had a deeper understanding of the diversity and unique needs of our local bird populations. However, the feeling imparted to us as instructors was unexpected. Knowing that these youngsters really enjoyed watching and learning about our local birds made us feel fulfilled and connected to a better future for our birds.

At the end of the day, all the students return to school having completed kayaking on the river as well as exercises in water quality testing, investigating the dock fouling community (barnacles, mussels and other creatures) and identifying local birds.

The Board of Hilton Head Audubon encourages you to join us for additional educational programs. Contact me at education@hiltonheadaudubon.org.



Through Our Binoculars

by Jack Colcolough

Our fall migration has been outstanding thus far and is still in progress. This fall, a wonderful 22 warbler species have been reported as well as 17 other transient bird species to date.

Warbler species reported in the last month were:



Cape May Warbler, Carol Tunnicliffe

Rare:

- Tennessee Warbler
- Cape May Warbler
- Hooded Warbler
- Worm-eating Warbler

Uncommon:

- Magnolia Warbler
- Yellow Warbler
- Louisiana and Northern Waterthrushes

Fairly common/common:

- Black-throated Blue Warbler
- Prothonotary Warbler
- Black-and-white Warbler
- Yellow-rumped Warbler
- Yellow-throated Warbler
- Pine Warbler
- Many arriving Palm Warblers as well many migrant American Redstarts.

Other recent transient migrants found:

- Veery (uncommon)
- Swainson's Thrush



Rose-breasted Grosbeak, John Bloomfield

- Rose-breasted Grosbeak
- Baltimore Oriole
- Stilt Sandpiper
- American Robin (common)

Other Rare Finds (not migrant):

- Yellow-breasted Chat



Roseate Spoonbill, Patty Kappmeyer

- Roseate Spoonbill
- Least Flycatcher

Other uncommon sightings:

- Peregrine Falcon, American Kestrel, Sharp-shinned Hawk
- Reddish Egret
- Seaside Sparrow, Sedge/House Wrens, Indigo Bunting, Rusty Blackbird
- American White Pelican

continued from previous page

- Hairy Woodpecker
- Blue Grosbeak

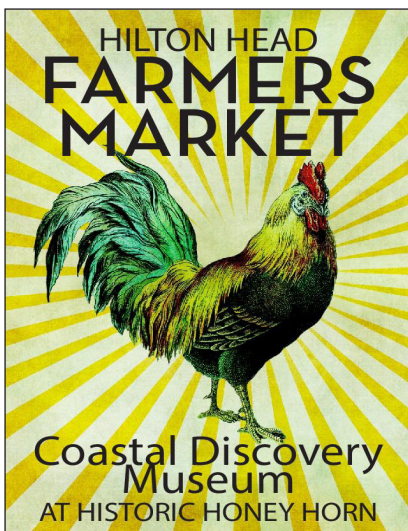
More common or good finds:

- Gray Catbird
- Marbled Godwit
- Northern Flicker, arriving Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
- Bald Eagle
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Many thanks to all reporting your bird sightings: Jane/ Abe Hester, Bob Speare, Dottie Bass, Mary Alice Tartler, Carol Clemens, Carol Tunnicliffe, Fran/Denny Baer, Nan Lloyd, Shelia/Roger Johnson, Kay Grinnell, Alan Biggs, Dick Phillips, Kathy/Grant Greiger, John Bloomfield, Lynn Hodgson, Cherry Underwood, Tom Marko, Diana Churchill, Steve Calver, Russ Wigh, Buddy Campbell, Chris Marsh and many visitors and others.

To report a bird sighting that is accidental, rare, out-of-season, uncommon, first-of-the-year, first-of-the-season or a species that you consider to be a good find, please email: BirdingFriends@yahooogroups.com or call (843) 432-2661. Please state your name, the bird species sighted, date/location of your sighting and other pertinent information. Please keep up the good work of reporting your bird sightings on Birding Friends.

Our wonderful fall migration will soon come to an end. Now, we have to look forward to sighting our arriving winter visitors.



Visit the Hilton Head Farmers Market at the Coastal Discovery Museum every Tuesday from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. Free Parking.

Have your knives sharpened while shopping. Shop local, meet new friends, strengthen our community, and rebuild our local food economy! Closed Jan. 1.

Project Feederwatch

Time to Join or Renew

Attention backyard birders: It's time once again to count your feeder birds for science. Project FeederWatch, the long-running winter bird survey conducted by Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Bird Studies Canada, kicks off November 9.



Bluebirds - Blake Robinson

Many of our members count themselves among the 20,000 people who participate in Project FeederWatch — one member has been counting for more than 30 years.

FeederWatch is a winter-long (November-April) survey of birds that visit feeders at backyards, schools, nature centers, community areas and other locales in North America. Participants periodically count the birds they see at their feeders and send their counts to the project. Your bird counts help you keep track of what is happening in your own backyard and help scientists track long-term trends in bird distribution and abundance. With FeederWatch, your observations become part of something bigger.

Anyone interested in birds can participate. FeederWatch is conducted by people of all skill levels and backgrounds, including children, families, individuals, classrooms, retired persons, youth groups, nature centers, and bird clubs. You can count birds as often as every week, or infrequently as time permits: the schedule is completely flexible.

Participation is easy: all you need is a bird feeder, bird bath, or plantings that attract birds.

[Click here to join or renew.](#)

What's the Best Bird You've Ever Seen on the Christmas Bird Count

As we get ready for the annual Hilton Head Christmas Bird Count, we wanted to know what our readers thought was the best bird they had ever seen on a count. Here is what they told us.



White Pelicans, Carol Clemens

Carol Clemens: In 2012, my team was birding the bluff area of Hilton Head Plantation when a flock of White Pelicans flew above us. The same flock was spotted by other field teams as it crossed the Plantation. I was able to get photos to verify there were at least 49 White Pelicans in the flock. That was a highlight for me!



Great Blue Heron, Blake Robinson

Blake Robinson: This Great Blue Heron – found on my first and only (so far!) bird count last December – is my favorite, because the bird stood still for me and allowed me to slowly approach to within a few feet for several shots. I love the variety of textures and colors in this stately, elegant and graceful beauty.

Jack Colcolough: My best bird ever found on the HHI Christmas BirdCount was a “rare” Eared Grebe in 2008, found swimming in the lake at Jarvis Creek Park. It was in non-breeding plumage with black cheeks and a dusky gray neck that the common near look-alike Horned Grebe does not have.



Red-shouldered Hawk, Mary Alice Tartler

Mary Alice Tartler: On my first Christmas Bird Count in Shipyard Plantation in 2014, our team found this beautiful Red-shouldered Hawk just off the fairway, sitting on a low-lying branch in a tree. We had to drive the golf cart almost directly underneath it to proceed and yet it still didn't fly off. I couldn't pass up the opportunity to get a photo, so I jumped out and got a few shots as it continued to patiently pose. A friend remarked later that he thought the hawk looked like it was sitting in front of a stained-glass window – and it really does!

Lynn Hodgson: Hmm, tough question. On Hilton Head, I'd have to say the flock of Sandhill Cranes that flew over Port Royal in 2017. Best ever, though, was seeing a Peregrine Falcon fly over us on the Waipahu, Hawaii count – this was probably about 2007. How did he get over there? Well, I know he flew, but still!

Nan Lloyd: About 15 years ago on the Daufuskie Island CBC, I found a “yellow” House Finch. They are now mentioned in Nat Geo.

Frank Windler: A Winter Wren. No photo. Great view.

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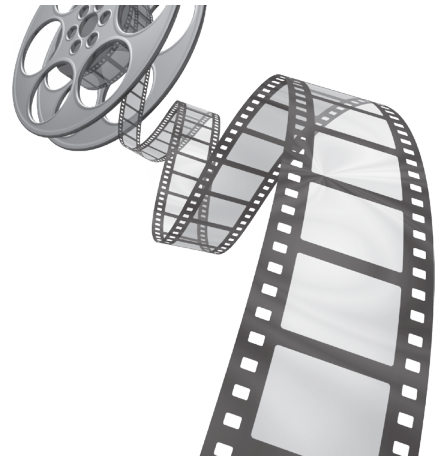


American Robin, Carol Tunnicliffe

Carol Tunnicliffe: I've lived here long enough to participate in two CBCs. My best bird wasn't rare but it was unusual in that there were large flocks of them. American Robins, high up in the trees at the Whooping Crane Conservancy in Hilton Head Plantation, were "first of the season" for everyone in our group and they were a sight to behold.

Did You Miss a Member Meeting?

Hilton Head Audubon understands that some members can't attend our meetings due to schedule conflicts. We are trying a new concept. As of September 2019, our guest speakers are being videotaped, with their permission, and their talks are available online at <https://www.hiltonheadaudubon.org/meetings/hh-audubon-speakers/>. Here you can watch our monthly speakers at your leisure. For future meetings, there may be cases where we will not be able to video the meeting, and we will respect the privacy of those speakers.



Each talk can last from 30-45 minutes. Please take a moment to tune in.

eBird

INTERESTED IN EBIRD BUT NOT SURE HOW TO START?

Log onto

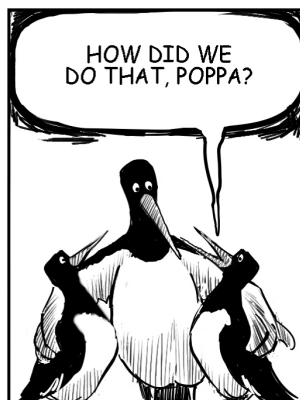
<https://ebird.org>

eBird collaborates with National Audubon and is managed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

Audubon Mots

by: Roger@RogerSchillerstrom.com

Audubon
SOUTH CAROLINA



November – December 2019 Calendar

November

- Saturday, Nov. 2 **November Birding Trip - SOLD OUT** 8 am
Fish Haul Creek Park
- Saturday, Nov. 9 **Birding 101 (3rd of 5 sessions)** 9 am
Coastal Discovery Museum, Discovery Lab
- Thursday, Nov. 14 **HH Audubon Member Meeting** 3:30 pm
Speaker: Amber Kuehn
"Turtle Patrol 2019 Season"
Location: Hilton Head Public Library
- Tuesday, Nov. 19 **Conservation & Culture: An Evening** 5 pm reception
With Dr. J. Drew Lanham 5:30 program
Location: Coligny Theatre
1 N. Forest Beach Drive, HHI, SC
Tickets through the Coastal Discovery Museum
[Purchase Here](#) or call the Museum
directly at 843-689-6767, ext. 223
- Saturday, Nov. 23 **Birding 101 (4th of 5 sessions)** 9 am
Field Trip

December

- Thursday, Dec. 12 **HH Audubon** 7 pm
Pre-Christmas Bird Count Program
Location: First Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall
540 William Hilton Parkway, HHI
- Monday, Dec. 16 **Christmas Bird Count** - Hilton Head Island
- Tuesday, Dec. 17 **Christmas Bird Count** - Sun City-Okatie
- Saturday, Dec. 21 **Birding 101 (last session)** 9 am
Coastal Discovery Museum, Discovery Lab

Monthly meetings of the Hilton Head Island Audubon Society are regularly scheduled at 3:00 pm on the second Thursday of each month, September through May. Members and guests welcome.