



The e Hummingbird

The e Hummingbird

WEST VOLUSIA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC., DELAND, FLORIDA
A Chapter of Audubon of Florida and National Audubon Society

West Volusia Audubon is Committed to Ongoing Stewardship and Enjoyment of the Natural World

September 2021

President's Letter



I hope this finds you and your family doing well. We are still meeting by zoom till at least the end of the year and then we will re-evaluate the situation. I have been sorting through old Audubon files and boxes and found some interesting photos and brochures.

In the 1998 to 1999 brochure it mentioned our honors and here are some of them:

National Audubon Rachel Carson chapter of the year in 1998 for The Audubon Lookout.

Florida Audubon Society outstanding chapter award in 1997.

Volusia County Environmental silver award in 1997. (We have plaques for those awards.)

I am including photos from the Festival at Lake Woodruff NWR that we participated. The butterfly release was a big hit with the children. We still support the Refuge and have bird walks in the winter and check on the Eagle Nest near the first parking lot. Our Audubon Lookout is still used a lot and appreciated.



It was fun finding photos that I took of the Whooping Crane that hung out with the Sandhill Crane's at Vic and

Gloria Johnson's home. I got a call that a Whooping Crane was reported in Daytona Park Estates on Lake Daytona. I went and knocked on the door and asked if I could go in their yard and check it out. The Johnsons were very accommodating and ended up joining our group and became board members. We had several luncheon board meetings at their home and we often got distracted because of the birds, especially the hummingbirds.



It was great to observe the Whooper for several months before he left. We kept track of him for awhile because of his transmitter that was replaced thanks to the Johnson's allowing US Fish & Wildlife on their property. They were updated on where he was for awhile. I just talked to Vic and we reminisced about our special time with the Whooping Crane. Gloria passed on but Vic is still enjoying his birds on the lake. It's fun remembering the good old days!

Don't forget it's migration time so check out those birds going through your yard! I will continue to go through our old files and relay to you what I find. Please stay safe.

Arnette Sherman, President

Audubon Campus Ambassadors



Megan Martin



Johny Palacios Suarez

West Volusia Audubon is proud to announce that we are hosting two Audubon Campus Ambassadors, Megan at Stetson University and Johny at Daytona State University.

Audubon Campus Ambassadors are students, who have a passion for conservation. Ambassadors act as liaisons for their academic institutions and the Audubon Network.

[Learn more about the Audubon Ambassadors](#)

**West Volusia Audubon
Zoom Virtual Meeting
September 28, 7pm**



A presentation and discussion of the Borderless Birds video directed and produced by our very own Board member and Stetson Audubon Ambassador, Megan Martin. The film will be 50 minutes long, and will explore both ecological and social themes through interviews and oral history. How can changes in one place influence changes in another? What role do support structures play in resilience?

A comparison of place, this film explores the similarities and differences in bird species in East Central Florida and Puerto Rico, and looks at ways communities can unite around multifaceted solutions to conservation challenges.

Registration is required . To register, click this link.

[**Borderless Birds**](#)

Happy "Forget the Fertilizer" Friday!

Recently, Katie Tripp of Natural Beauty Native Florida Landscapes, LLC installed a new educational garden at the Sandra Stetson Aquatic Center, with funding provided by the West Volusia Audubon Society!



Check out how she transformed a section of boring lawn into a pollinator paradise. This installation is called the "Plant This, Not That" garden. Since native plants don't require any fertilizer to thrive, this garden will demonstrate to homeowners, builders and developers how they can make landscaping choices that protect our natural resources. Thanks, Katie!



Stay tuned-- educational signs coming soon!

[**Follow IWER on FaceBook**](#)

Blue-Green Algae

By Michael O'Shea

While on the City of Deltona's website recently, I noticed an announcement from the Florida Department of Health regarding Blue-Green Algae that was found in Lake Lorraine (West).

Although occurring naturally this time of year Blue-Green Algae blooms can increase from nutrient run off as well as the warmer temperatures due to climate change. The Health Department describes it as a toxin producing bacteria that is harmful to aquatic life and animals, including humans. As

the announcement points out "even boiling the water will not eliminate the toxins".

It seems these days announcements like this are becoming more common. As a child growing up in Florida, I can remember going swimming in a lot of the local lakes that were once but are no longer safe to swim in. In fact, according to Deltona's website swimming is not allowed in the lakes.

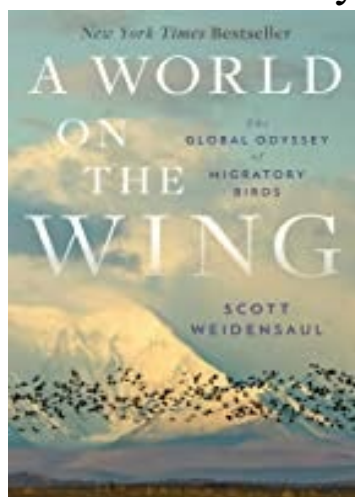


In an article from a 2018 issue of Audubon of Florida's Naturalist, they describe ways in which we can help slow these occurrences of Blue-Green Algae. From limiting fertilizer use to getting involved at the government level. To protect what we still have so that future generations can enjoy what so many take for granted.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has a [Dashboard](#), which shows areas tested and monitored for Algae Blooms. You can also report any occurrences that you come across.

- [City of Deltona announcement from health department](#):
- [City of Deltona regarding swimming](#):
- [Florida Department of Health](#): Harmful Algae Blooms
- [Florida Audubon](#): Now What? Blue-Green Algae and Red Tide Leave Floridians Frustrated

The Book Nest by Martha Rogers



Fall migration is underway. A new book by Scott Weidensaul entitled *A World on the Wing: The Global Odyssey of Migratory Birds* explores this subject.- The book presents a detailed look at global migratory patterns using the latest advances in technology and the challenges of climate change on bird habitats.

[To read reviews click this link](#)

Check your local library system for available copies.
