



# Mobile Bay Audubon Society

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A Chapter of the National Audubon Society Since 1971

## Eighth Annual Alabama Coastal BirdFest is a Success

By D. Fran Morley, "nestkeeper"



Once again, the Alabama Coastal BirdFest attracted birders from near and far. "We had visitors from about 19 states, from as far away as California and New York," said BirdFest nestkeeper Fran Morley. "We are always happy to see so many folks from Baldwin and Mobile counties, and it is also fun to see familiar faces from farther

away, including Al Zomer from the Toronto, Canada area, who was here for his fourth visit."

This year's BirdFest had a couple of new elements that seem to have worked out fine, Morley noted. "The new Meet-the-Bus trips are good for us financially because we don't provide a bus or lunches for those participants. They are also good for people who live near a birding site and don't want to have to drive all the way up to 5 Rivers just to catch a bus." This year's evening reception was held Wednesday night before the first trips. People were able to pick up their registration information in advance and enjoy a delicious light meal provided by MBAS volunteers. The evening also featured a slide show of nature photos by area photographers. "There was a tremendous crowd at 5 Rivers," said Gaye Lindsey, a Mobile Bay Audubon member and volunteer guide. "You



could feel the excitement, and people started making new friends right away." As always, the Bird & Conservation Expo drew big crowds to the Faulkner campus on Saturday. "We thank all our exhibitors from various conservation organizations, the vendors

who brought bird and garden supplies, the artists who shared their talents, the rehab folks from Coosa River Science Center and the Mobile County Environmental Studies Center who brought raptors and other birds, Boy Scouts and leaders from Troop 47 in Fairhope who led the birdhouse build, and all the divisions from the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, especially those from 5 Rivers Delta Center, State Lands, State Parks, and Marine Resources," said John Borom.

Mark your calendar: the 9th annual Alabama Coastal BirdFest is on the books for Oct. 4-6, 2012.

## 2011 Christmas Party!!!

Join us for our annual Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 13, 2011. We will have a reception from 6:30 pm – 7:00 pm, followed by the program at 7:00 pm. We are fortunate to have Bill Summerour speak on Native Orchids of Alabama. Please bring a tray of Christmas goodies to share. Beverages will be provided. Bring a friend!

# MBAS Board Members

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John Porter, Ph.D.

Bob Ridgeway

Elizabeth Williams

## Ex-Officio:

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# Mobile Bay Audubon Society Winter 2012 Calendar

## December 13, 2011

**Christmas Party and General Meeting**, Five Rivers Delta Resource Center, 6:30 p.m. Bring a dish of your special holiday goodies---finger food only. The program is “**Native Orchids of Alabama**“, presented by **Bill Summerour**. Bring a friend.

## January 10, 2012

**General Meeting**, Five Rivers Delta Resource Center, 7:00 p.m. The program is “**Polar Opposites: The Arctic and the Antarctic**“, presented by **Gaye Lindsey**. Bring a friend

## February 14, 2012

**General Meeting**, Five Rivers Delta Resource Center, 7:00 p.m. The program is “**African Animals**“, presented by **John Borom**. Bring a friend.

## March 13, 2012

**General Meeting**, Five Rivers Delta Resource Center, 7:00 pm. Program TBA. Bring a friend.

# 2011 Birdathon Report

*By Elizabeth Williams*

Many thanks to everyone who donated to the 2011 Birdathon! What fun we had looking and listening to reach 94 species. We raised \$1,847.00, and used that to place Audubon Adventures Science Kits in 44 classrooms in Mobile and Baldwin Counties. This program brings wildlife, the environment, and students together in an exciting and enjoyable way with student journals and suggested activities included.

Your donation will help build environmental awareness in students. “Student conservationists today will be adult conservationists tomorrow”. Our generous donors include AKZO Nobel, Inc, Charlie Bailey, Dr. John Borom, Col. Bill Brierly, Rebecca Byrd, Doug Dugat, Dr. Elizabeth French, Kathy Friedline, Ottillie Halstead, Terry Hartley, Nancy Hora, Vince Kilborn, Tom Lawrence, Sirmon Lee, Eleanor Livaudais, Judy Lovell, Nadine Lovell, Amelia May, Chester McConnell, Edwina Mullins, Barbara Perry, Dr. John Porter, Patricia Portier, Peggy Raines, Ralph and Ann Stemp, Ed Waldron, and Erin Wheeler.

Note: Elizabeth Williams has served as coordinator for this educational program for many years. She is now asking for someone else to take over for her. If you are interested, please call Elizabeth at 643-7257.

# MBAS Eastern Shore Birding Winter 2012 Calendar

Here is our tentative winter 2012 schedule! About a week before each field trip, Gaye Lindsey will send out an email giving particulars for that week. This includes meeting time and place, lunch plans, details about appropriate clothing, etc. Normally we leave from the Unitarian Fellowship in Fairhope. Most trips leave at 8:00 am, but some of the longer ones (Dauphin Island and Ft. Morgan) may leave at 7:00.

**Trips are subject to change!** The only way to ensure that you know what is going to happen is to get on the email distribution list. To do that, please send an email to Gaye Lindsey ([gplindsey@bellsouth.net](mailto:gplindsey@bellsouth.net)).

**January 11 – Farragut’s Landing, Magnolia Landfill**

**January 25 – Claude Petet Mariculture Center, Gulf Shores Water Treatment Plant**

**February 8 – Blakeley Mudflats, leader Gaye Lindsey**

**February 22 – Daphne Bayfront, Shell Station near Bimini Bob’s**

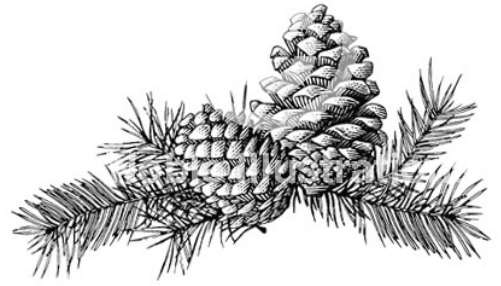
**March 7 – Maeher Park, Battleship**

**March 21 – Blakeley State Park**

**April 4 – Ft. Morgan – Bird Banding**

**April 18 – Dauphin Island**

**May 2 – Fairhope Falls**



**2012  
Calendars  
Available for  
Only \$5.00**

The 2012 calendars have arrived and are beautiful as always. The photographs by Dave and Steve Maslowski are exceptional. Many of the birds shown are common in our area, and each print has an interesting note about the bird and its habitat. If you would like 5 or more calendars, call Nancy Hora at 342-6824 and she will reserve them for you. The calendars will also be for sale at each Mobile Bay Audubon Society meeting. Supply is limited, so get yours early. Thanks to Nancy Hora for taking over this project.

## Audubon Adventures 2011

*By Elizabeth Williams*

The funds raised by the 2011 Birdathon team have placed Audubon Adventure kits in 44 classrooms. Some schools ask for several kits. This program brings wildlife, the environment, and students together in an exciting and enjoyable way with student’s journals and suggested activities included.

Schools participating in 2011 were:

Mobile County: Howard Elementary, Hollingers Island Elementary, Breitling Elementary, Whitley Elementary, Forest Hills Elementary, Dodge Elementary, J. E. Turner, McDavid Jones Elementary, St. Elmo Elementary, Meadowlake Elementary, Ella Grant Elementary, Cottage Hill Christian, Lighthouse Baptist, St. Lukes Episcopal

Baldwin County: Central Christian, Daphne Elementary, Johnson Organic, Gulf Shores Elementary, Summerdale Elementary, Daphne East Elementary, Elberta Elementary, Spanish Fort Elementary, Orange Beach Elementary, Fairhope Intermediate, Foley Elementary

For further information, call Elizabeth Williams at 643-7257.

# Mobile Bay Audubon Wants You!

Every membership supports Audubon's vital efforts to protect birds, wildlife and natural habitats. As a member, you'll become an important part of our dynamic chapter and receive a host of benefits

- A 1-year subscription (3 issues, one per quarter, excluding summer) of our chapter newsletter.
- Automatic membership in National Audubon Society, and a 1-year subscription (4 issues, one per quarter) of Audubon, its award-winning magazine.
- Admission to Audubon Centers across the country.
- A 10% discount on products at select Audubon Nature Stores and more!

**Yes! I want to join Mobile Bay Audubon and National Audubon Society!**  
 \$20 - 1 year Introductory Rate       \$1,000 - Individual Life Membership  
 \$15 - 1 year Student/Senior Rate       \$1,500 - Dual Life Membership  
 \$30 - 2 year Special Rate  
 My check is enclosed       Please bill me  
  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Make check payable to National Audubon Society and mail to: National Audubon Society,  
 Membership Data Center, P O Box 422250, Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250  
Chapter Code: C9ZA010Z

Next Meeting: December 13  
 Christmas Party! Bill Summerour  
 to speak on "Native Orchids of  
 Alabama", Five Rivers Delta  
 Resource Center, 6:30 pm

