



## **2001 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT DECEMBER 15, 2001**

The Peace River Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count will be held on Saturday, December 15. This will be our 15th annual Christmas bird count. We will be counting the number of birds and species within an area generally defined as a 15-mile diameter circle—the center of which is located at US 41 and Henry Street in Punta Gorda. To facilitate the count, the circle has been divided into ten areas. Although the areas are similar to last year, a few boundary changes have been made to better approximate our circle. Team leaders are now contacting participants with details of where and when to meet. A \$5.00 fee will be collected from each participant at the beginning of the count and will be forwarded to National Audubon to fund the compilation of the results on a national basis and make the results available in published form. Here is a listing of our areas and team captains:

- Area 1: Jones Loop Rd. and areas east of US 41, including the northwest corner of the Babcock/Webb Wildlife Management Area – Jeff Bouton
- Area 2: CHEC, Burnt Store Rd. and areas southwest of US 41 – Gene Christensen
- Area 3: Punta Gorda west of I-75 and north of Alligator Creek – Tony & Judy Licata
- Area 4: Punta Gorda east of I-75 and north from Jones Loop Rd. up to Washington Loop Rd – Randy McCormick
- Area 5: Peace River and Charlotte Harbor by boat – Denise Tomlinson
- Area 6: Port Charlotte, east of Kings Highway, south of Rampart Blvd. and west to the Peace River – Jean Phipps
- Area 7: Deep Creek, east of I-75 and north of Sandhill Blvd. to Desoto County line – Dillys Randall
- Area 8: Port Charlotte, northeast of US 41, west of Kings Highway and south of Veterans Blvd – Bill & Eleanor Marr
- Area 9: Port Charlotte, southwest of US 41, south of Toledo Blade and east of the Como Waterway – Bill Havill
- Area 10: Port Charlotte, east of Kings Highway, south of Sandhill Blvd. and north of Rampart Blvd. to the Peace River – Naz MacDonald

If you would like to help and have not yet been contacted by a team captain, please call George Marks at 255-3318 or call your team captain directly.



**CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT "SOCIAL"**

This year, there will not be a dinner after the count. Instead, we will hold a Christmas Social on Thursday, December 20, with desserts and refreshments. The social will be at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at 7:00 PM (the location and time of our regular meetings). At the social, the team captains will turn in their tally sheets and we will determine the number of species counted. All count participants and interested members are invited to the social. Please bring a dessert; coffee and soft drinks will be provided.

***Birding Identification Class--An Introduction to Birding in Florida***

Here is a great opportunity to learn Florida birding basics. Randy McCormick, our chapter president, will share with us basic birding techniques, how to select and use binoculars and field guides and most of all, how to identify our local birds! The course will be held at the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC), 10941 Burnt Store Road, in the Caniff Visitors Center on Saturday, December 8. It will begin at 9:00 AM and end by 12:00 noon. Coffee, juice and donuts will be provided. The course will be free to Audubon members and Friends of CHEC. For all others, there will be a fee of \$15, which will include a one-year membership in the National Audubon Society and a one-year subscription to the Peace River Audubon Society, White Bird Newsletter. (A good deal all by itself.) To register for the course, please contact Bill Coombs at 639-4961 or email him at [wecoombs@home.com](mailto:wecoombs@home.com).

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- **A BUSINESS NOTE:**
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- The following information must now appear on all solicitation requests:
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- "The Peace River Audubon Society is a 501 ( c )(3) non-profit organization. Our Federal tax ID number is 59-2190872. We do not engage a professional solicitor and 100% of the funds generated by this request will be used to support our Chapter programs. Our registration number with the FDA Division of Consumer Services is SC-040701. "
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- This information will reappear in the White Bird for your use and convenience.
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**SPECIAL FALL GIFT OFFER IS STILL GOOD TILL DECEMBER 15...**

Give a gift and support your Audubon Chapter! Your Chapter receives \$15 for each gift you give!  
An Audubon membership is a wonderful gift for the holidays or any time of the year! Why not share the discovery of Audubon with your friends and family? They will be reminded of your thoughtfulness throughout the year when a new issue of AUDUBON arrives. Use the form from the November issue—make sure you include your name and address and mail that page to the address on the bottom right of the form. Once Audubon receives your gift orders, gift cards will be sent to announce your gifts. Must be received no later than December 15.

**THERE'S NO BETTER GIFT YOU CAN GIVE**

## Peace River Audubon

### Youth Environmental Education Fund

The Peace River Audubon Society has created a new fund to bring educational programs to the youth of Charlotte County. Recent School Board budget cuts have taken away the funding for long-running nature programs at Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC) for Charlotte County's 4<sup>th</sup> graders. Motivated by our interest in bringing wildlife and conservation education to young people, the Peace River Audubon Society will be accepting donations for a newly created fund that will provide a variety of educational programs to area youth and help compensate for the loss. Your donations will sponsor various activities, such as Audubon Adventures and CHEC programs which include:

- Wading trips for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders
- Pontoon boat explorations in Charlotte Harbor for 4<sup>th</sup> graders
- Guided nature walks through CHEC for 4<sup>th</sup> graders

Please support the Peace River Audubon Youth Environmental Education Fund. Our young people are the future conservationists and protectors of the environment. Environmental Education is key to developing a life-long interest and understanding of our delicate ecosystem! All donations are tax-deductible.

Make checks payable to Peace River Audubon Society and please designate "Youth Environmental Education Fund"--send to: Peace River Audubon Society, P.O. Box 510760, Punta Gorda, FL 33951-0760. If you have any questions, please call me at 625-1503 or email me at [kdevries@peoplepc.com](mailto:kdevries@peoplepc.com).

/s/ Kirk DeVries

Kirk DeVries, Chairman  
PRAS Education Committee

Note: The Peace River Audubon Society is a 501 ( c ) ( 3 ) non-profit organization. Our Federal tax ID number is 59-2190872. We do not engage a professional solicitor and 100% of the funds generated by this request will be used to support our Chapter programs. Our registration number with the FDA Division of Consumer Services is SC-040701.

The Peace River Audubon Society  
 PO Box 510760  
 Punta Gorda, FL 33951-0760

Non-profit organization  
 U.S. Postage Paid  
 Punta Gorda, FL 33951  
 Permit No. 100

*White Bird*

Moved? Or Address Corrections? - Let our Membership Chair



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 McCormick (Presently on leave) 863-993-3288  
 Vice President George Marks  
 (Acting President) 941-255-3318  
 Secretary Kitty Rich  
 941-764-8089  
 Treasurer Bill Coombs

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**

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 Conservation Clarke Keller 505-2300  
 Education Kirk DeVries 625-1503  
 Programs/Field Trips Cyndi Marks 255-3318  
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 Kitty Rich 941-764-8089

**2001 CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

12/15 102<sup>nd</sup> Christmas Bird Count -Contact George Marks 225-3318  
 12/20 Christmas Bird Count Tally and Social (Note this change)

**And in 2002:**

1/5 The Celery Fields/Sarasota Field Trip - Leader: Dillys Randall 627-4090  
 1/17 Meeting 7:30 (Refreshments at 7)—"Population and Habitat" with Corry Westbrook, National Audubon Society  
 2/2 Casperson Beach Field Trip- Leader: Charlie Sample, Venice Audubon Society  
 2/21 Meeting 7:30 (Refreshments at 7)—"Oystercatchers" with Nancy Douglass, Nongame Regional Biologist, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
 3/2 Charlotte Harbor Nature Festival  
 3/9 Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary Field Trip - Leaders: Bill & Eleanor Marr 624-4182  
 3/28 Annual Banquet—Celebrate Peace River Audubon's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!  
 4/6 Tippecanoe Scrub Field Trip - Leader: Cathy Olson 613-6753  
 4/18 Meeting 7:30 (Refreshments at 7)—"Warbler Migration" with Lee Snyder, St. Petersburg Audubon Society  
 5/16 Member's Night—Annual meeting, election of officers, and special presentations by our own talented members!

**AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (optional) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please enroll me as a National Audubon Society and Peace River Audubon Society member. I will receive Audubon and The Florida Naturalist magazines as well as the Peace River White Bird newsletter.

One year - \$20 Two years - \$35

Send this completed application with your check to:

The National Audubon Society  
 Membership Data Center  
 P.O. Box 51003 E14  
 Boulder, CO 80323-1003 7XCH

**OR . . .**

Please enroll me for a 1-year White Bird subscription.

Please mail this application with your \$10 check to:  
 The Peace River Audubon Society, PO Box 510760,  
 Punta Gorda, FL 33951-0760.