



## Peace River Audubon Society 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet & Silent Auction

Thursday, March 28, 2002

Victoria Estates  
24000 Rampart Blvd.  
Port Charlotte

6 PM Cash Bar  
7 PM Buffet Dinner  
\$15 Per Person

Dr. Jerome Jackson of Florida Gulf Coast University will speak to us on the topic of  
“Endangered Birds, Endangered Forests.”

Throughout the evening, you may place bids on such things as theme park tickets, binoculars and birding field guides. Items will be sold at the end of the evening to the highest bidder and may be paid for by cash or check. Proceeds from the Silent Auction this year will go to support our

Youth Environmental Education Fund.

Don't miss this exciting event. Call Kitty Rich at 764-8089 to make reservations. Seating is limited, so call early. Payment

**PRAS Silent Auction**  
**March 28, 2002**  
**Some of the Items for Sale**

**Bushnell Binoculars**

**19" Color Television**

**Disney Theme Park Tickets**

**Birds of North America Field Guide**

**Cypress Gardens Tickets**

**Babcock Wilderness Adventure Tickets**

**The Sibley Guide to Birds**

**Screech Owl Box**

**And more!**

**CURIOUS MINDS WANT TO KNOW...**

**ADJUSTED CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT**

Overall: 30,626 131 species

19 Black-bellied whistling ducks were added

(No Brewer's blackbirds, and no solitary sandpipers)

**MARCH 16, 2002, FIELD TRIP.....**

We will make a trip to see the **Royal Lipizzan Stallions of Austria** perform at 10 AM on March 16. A silver collection is taken. Then we will proceed to Solomon's Castle for our lunch break.

Plan to leave from behind McDonald's Restaurant at the Peachland Mall on Saturday, March 16, 2002 at 8 AM. Bring your binoculars, etc. Norm Leppan 624-3916

## HELP SAVE ALASKA'S NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES!

The towering peaks, abundant wildlife, and vast wilderness of Alaska's 16 national wildlife refuges constitute a cornerstone of wildlife conservation in this country. Alaska is well known for the millions of birds that migrate from four continents to their nesting and staging grounds in Alaska each spring. But despite their scientific, ecological, and spiritual value, Alaska's refuges are continually under attack. Over the past ten years, attempts have been made to allow oil drilling and development on our public lands. And currently, one of Alaska's National Wildlife Refuges is one vote away from devastation! In August, the U.S. House of Representatives - with the full backing of the Bush Administration - voted to open the pristine Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling, thus all its associated industrial development, and the ever-present danger of oil and toxic chemical spills. Now it's up to the U.S. Senate to stop this from happening.

To combat the myriad threats and pursue important conservation strategies, we have created a *Bring Home Alaska & Protect the Arctic* campaign kit. This kit is full of great information and materials to help get Audubon members engaged in the fight to protect Alaska's refuges - particularly the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and the immediate legislative threat that would open this pristine wilderness to oil and gas drilling.

Help us protect the Arctic and all of Alaska's wildlands. Order your *Bring Home Alaska and Protect the Arctic* kit today, and help raise awareness and appreciation for America's Serengeti. To order your free kit, please call 1-800-659-2622 or visit our website at [www.protectthearctic.com](http://www.protectthearctic.com).

### **FIRST OUTING OF THE NEW BIRDING CLUB**

On February 5, nine members of PRAS took a backroads birding trip from Kings Highway to the bridge over the Myakka River on Myakka Road not far past the north entrance to Myakka River State Park.

With sunny weather and cooperative birds the trip was delightful. Along the way, 56 species were seen. The bird of the day was a gorgeous scissor-tailed flycatcher who provided all of us with great views. Other highlights were two juvenile crested caracaras, three limpkins, a small flock of bluebirds, gorgeous meadowlarks, sandhill crane, osprey, bald eagle, white pelican and numerous kestrels and red-shouldered hawks.

Eleanor & Bill Marr



### **HARRY POTTER'S OWL SPARKS KIDS' INTEREST IN THE BIRDS**

With the release of this season's Harry Potter film, the popularity of the young wizard and his adventures has fueled a kids' craze in an unlikely pet bird - the owl. Although it is illegal to own owls, that hasn't dimmed children's interest in finding out all they can about these unique creatures. "Owls are incredible creatures; adults and children have been fascinated with their looks and habits for centuries," Audubon's director of citizen science programs said and, "A food shortage in the north may make this one of the best seasons in recent years for spotting Snowy Owls like Harry Potter's pet Hedwig."

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*

Address Corrections? - please call Betty Coombs, Membership



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 941-764-8089

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**2002 CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

3/28 Annual Banquet 6 PM—Celebrate Peace River Audubon's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!  
 Silent Auction and buffet at Victoria Estates—reservations required.

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!

MANY THANKS TO ALL THE  
 AUDUBON MEMBERS WHO

**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.

The following information must now appear on all solicitation requests:  
 "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. "