

August 2022



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In the Field

Regularly scheduled birding field trips will resume this month! We'll kick off with a full-day trip in the [Everglades Agricultural Area](#) south of Lake Okeechobee in Palm Beach County where flooded fields tend to attract large numbers of wading birds including Roseate Spoonbills (*pictured*) and migrant shorebirds, including American Avocet, Pectoral and Stilt Sandpiper and Wilson's Phalarope. Our second trip of the month will be to [Greynolds Park](#) where we'll look for Eastern Screech-owls and other species. To view our Fall 2022 trip schedule visit our [website calendar](#). Note that [registration](#) is required for all field trips. Share your bird sightings on our [Bird Board](#) and [Facebook Bird Board](#).

Shorebird Stewards Needed Now!

A colony of Least Terns are nesting and chicks are hatching on a Broward County Beach. The Least Tern is listed as Threatened in Florida and is a federally protected seabird. Stewards are needed immediately to help protect these birds and their tiny chicks, and to better educate the public. Morning, evening and late-night hours available. To volunteer, please call Ann Wiley at 954.805.3355.

Banner Photo: Roseate Spoonbill by Martin Pothier

RSVP for an August Field Trip

[Everglades Agricultural Area Birding](#) | Saturday, Aug. 20, 7am-4pm

[Greynolds Park Birding](#) | Saturday, Aug. 27, 7:30-11am



RSVP for an International Field Trip

[Kenya Birding and Wildlife Tour](#) | May 13 - 28, 2023

[Charm of the Colombian Andes - Birding the Coffee Triangle](#) | July 23 - 31, 2023

Photo: Andean Cock-of-the-rock of Peru by Ian Segebarth

Featured Events

Dine-in or Take-out @Whisk Gourmet
Tuesday, August 9, 5-9pm



Make a dinner date at [Whisk Gourmet](#) and, in turn, *Whisk* will feather the proverbial TAS nest with 10 percent of its dinner revenues. The local bastion of Southern-accented American Comfort Food offers a refreshing summer menu, with Indoor Dining or Outdoor Covered Seating options, Take-out or Curbside-pick-up. (Deliveries are not eligible for this promotion.)

No matter how you choose to dine, you'll want to experience the *Whisk* menu authored by sensational Executive Chef Michelle Minotti who infuses generous helpings of New Orleans and Caribbean influences to a beloved menu studded with time-tested house favorites.

Check out the daily fresh fish special, experience the melt-off-the-bone BBQ glazed pork loin ribs, savor the luscious shrimp and avocado salad, and don't miss the famous fried green tomatoes. It's for the Birds!

RESERVATIONS ARE RECOMMENDED for all on-site dining.

This event takes place at [Whisk Gourmet 7382 SW 56 Avenue Miami FL 33143](#)

Limited onsite free parking available [@whiskgourmet](#)

Advocate for the Birds!

Become a Tropical Audubon Ambassador

Register Now for the Fall Program:

"Solutions for South Florida's Future"

Deadline to Register is Friday, August 26



Become a lifelong champion for birds, other wildlife and South Florida's natural places.

Registration is now open for our Tropical Audubon Ambassador Program 2022 Season! Sign up today to learn how to be a more engaged, educated and effective environmental advocate.

Our 2022 program features online sessions, field trips, deep dives with local experts and advocacy campaigns. *Bonus:* This award-winning education series is Free & Virtual!

Join a network of like-minded environmental advocates and participate in deep-dive

Q&As with regional experts in their respective fields. [Learn More.](#)

RSVP

Lights Out Miami!

Volunteers Needed for Bird Collision Data Collection



Fall bird migration is at its peak this month and into early November as millions of birds heading south for the winter pass through South Florida. Because migrating birds generally rest and forage during the day and travel at night using the stars as navigational aids, brightly lit cities impede their night vision, steer them off course, and can confuse and disorient them, often causing deadly collisions. Sadly, millions of birds are lost to building collisions in the U.S. each year.

To lower the mortality rate, Tropical Audubon Society's *Light's Out Miami* initiative urges homeowners and building managers to turn off or block non-essential lights from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. through November 15 to protect migratory birds traveling through our region.

Bird Collision Data Collection volunteers are urgently needed to search for birds who have been injured or killed by colliding with buildings. Data collected anywhere in Miami-Dade County is of value, but most needed are volunteers who are able to monitor the Brickell, Downtown and Biscayne Boulevard corridor, as well as areas such as Aventura, Coconut Grove and Coral Gables business districts, Downtown Dadeland, Miami Beach and any other communities with a concentration of tall buildings where collisions are highly likely.

Take the "Lights Out Homeowners Pledge"

Volunteer to be a "Bird Collision Data Collector"

Bird-Friendly Gardening Day @TAS!

Dig in Saturday, August 20, 8:30-11:30am

New Summer Hours!



Help steward our Bird-Friendly Demonstration Garden and near-native Steinberg Nature Center grounds. Get hands-on experience creating wildlife habitat under the guidance of our resident Master Gardeners. Learn how to establish a bird-friendly garden in your own yard, patio or balcony. [Sign Up!](#)

Photo: Native Wild Coffee attracts birds and butterflies courtesy of Getty Images.

Chirping About

Adopt-A-Net & Help Birds Thrive!

Fall Migration Fundraiser to benefit Cape Florida Banding Station field work



Support crucial migratory bird research and help educate the next generation of local conservationists by participating in the "Adopt-A-Net" Fall Migration fundraising campaign to benefit the Cape Florida Banding Station (CFBS), a community science program under Tropical Audubon Society's wing since 2020!

The field research conducted by CFBS and its team of skilled volunteers illuminates the importance of protecting native habitat for migrating songbirds, especially within Miami-Dade County's urban core. The CFBS "Adopt-A-Net" effort provides MDC residents with the opportunity to help replace worn "mist nets" essential to station operations. Sponsors will also be helping celebrate the station's 20th Anniversary, and will receive an embroidered badge to mark the notable milestone.

Photo: Northern Parula by Federico Acevedo

[Adopt-A-Net Today!](#)

TAS & Partners file Lawsuit to Protect Critical Habitat for Florida Bonneted Bat



On July 6, 2022, the Center for Biological Diversity, the Miami Blue Chapter of the North American Butterfly Association and Tropical Audubon Society sued the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to push the agency to protect endangered Florida bonneted bats by designating lifesaving critical habitat. The Bonneted bat faces devastating habitat loss from urban sprawl and sea-level rise.

Pesticide use and development nearly drove the species to extinction. The species finally received endangered status under the Endangered Species Act in 2013, thanks largely to the Center for Biological Diversity's litigation.

Subsequently, Center for Biological Diversity, the Miami Blue Chapter of the North American Butterfly Association and Tropical Audubon Society [sued](#) in 2018 to compel the Service to propose critical habitat, but the Service still has not published a final critical habitat determination.

[Read the Media Advisory.](#)

The Villagers GIVE the Doc Thomas House Restoration Project a generous boost





The Villagers President Susan Medina (*far right*) and Preservation Chair Kelley C. Schild (*far left*) presented a \$6,000 grant reimbursement check to TAS President José Francisco Barros (*center right*) and TAS board member and Chapter Historian Dan Jones (*center left*) on July 1 to support the ongoing restoration of the Doc Thomas House.

Miami's oldest historic preservation organization, The Villagers is an all-volunteer group with more than 200 members. The TAS board is deeply grateful to The Villagers grant committee for their generous support of the major restoration our historic 1932 Doc Thomas House headquarters is undergoing due to the multiple effects of heat, humidity, hurricanes and daily use over the decades.

Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, named a Florida Heritage Site and designated a Dade County Historic Site, the Doc Thomas House is a bona fide Old Florida architectural gem. Its entire restoration will take a village!

Tune in!

TAS President José Francisco Barros talks about native plants and the joy of birds with Meditator Meredith Porte

FRIDAYS WITH FRIENDS SPIRITUAL CONVERSATIONS






Photo: Black-throated Blue Warbler on American Beautyberry bush by Will Stuebgen

A bird enthusiast & active member of the Miami Tropical Audubon Society shares his passion for birding, butterflies, plants & other natural wonders



Meredith Porte
Meredith is an Independent Media Producer, also a Host, and has worked at WLRN Public Television for 36 years. She has also been a meditator for 36 years and loves to share her personal experience of benefits from her meditation practice.



Dr. José Francisco Barros
Dr. Barros is an endodontist who is passionate about all things of nature. He has led bird walks, organized plant and butterfly trips and has been active with conservation efforts to protect Biscayne Bay and the Everglades.

SPONSORS NEEDED!

Help TAS stage the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation and the Florida Ornithological Society



TAS is excited to serve as the lead local host for this year's joint international research conference of the [Raptor Research Foundation](#) and the [Florida Ornithological Society](#) taking place in Fort Lauderdale October 4-9. TAS needs sponsors to help keep the conference affordable for student attendees from across the state, the country, and the world. If you or your organization are interested in sponsoring this unique gathering, click [here for more information](#).

Green Things to Do

Visit Florida Keys Hawkwatch
thru November 30



[Florida Keys Hawkwatch](#) is dedicated to promoting the appreciation and conservation of birds by committing to the long-term study of their migration through the Florida Keys. Visitors are welcome, weather allowing, 8am to 4pm daily through November 15; 8am to 3pm November 16-30.

The Birds Thank ...

VEBER'S  Jungle Garden

Silent Native Nursery



The Birds Thank ... **Silent Native Nursery** and **Veber's Jungle Garden** for supplying native plant specimens offered for purchase at our June Native Plant Sale. Each was founded by a passionate environmentalist deeply dedicated to the preservation of South Florida's natural habitats, but we want to give a special shout-out to Veber's Jungle Garden owner **Leslie Veber** (*pictured*), who has been a generous friend to TAS for decades.

Leslie is closing her beloved nursery this summer and getting primed to unwind.

Meanwhile ...

TAS friends and members are invited to the Veber's Jungle Garden Clearance Sale!

All plant inventory (most in 3-, 7- and 15-gallon pots) is being sold at deeply discounted prices. Get your Bahama wild coffee, Black ironwood, Coontie, Pigeon plum, Red stopper, Saw palmetto, Shiny-leaf wild coffee, Soft-leaf wild coffee, Spanish stopper, Thrinax radiata, and White indigo berry. Interested in shopping the sale? Hurry up!

You'll need to call Leslie at 305-242-9500 or text 305-282-6918 for an appointment. You're also welcome to invite your friends and neighbors.

Cash or check only!

Appointments only!

<http://vebersjunglegarden.com/>

Veber's Jungle Garden
24605 SW 197 Avenue
Homestead FL 33031

Supporting our partners who support TAS is an easy way to contribute to our Mission.

The Birds will thank you!

Support Birds

Become a Member

www.tropicalaudubon.org



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