

FLORIDA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

SPRING MEETING, VERO BEACH, FLORIDA, APRIL 23-25 2010

HOTEL AND FLOCKING LOCATION: [SpringHill Suites by Marriott Vero Beach](#), FL Address: 5115 Indian River Blvd. Vero Beach, FL 32967. Tel: (772) 978-9292 • Fax: (772) 978-9075. Special rate for FOS: room, \$69/night plus tax. **Please mention Florida Ornithological Society when making your reservations.** Rooms must be booked by **April 9, 2010** to obtain the special rate.

PAPER SESSION AND BANQUET LOCATION: The [Heritage Center and Indian River Citrus Museum](#). The Heritage Center is located at 2140 14th Avenue in historic downtown Vero Beach and is approximately 3.5 miles south of the hotel off US 1.

Friday, April 23

- 2:00-5:00 pm – Board of Directors meeting, SpringHill Suites by Marriott – Banquet Room
- 3:00-7:00 pm – Registration in lobby SpringHill Suites by Marriott
- 5:00-6:30 pm – Dinner on your own
- 6:30-9:30 pm – SpringHill Suites by Marriott - Reception, Initial Flocking, and Field Trip announcements. Joanna Webb, Refuge Manager for the Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex will present "Pelican Island: America's First Wildlife Refuge." We encourage FOS members to bring digital images or slides of their recent natural history adventures. We will have available both slide projector and a laptop with LCD projector. Light refreshments and beverages served.

Saturday, April 24

- 6:00 am – Breakfast buffet open at SpringHill Suites by Marriott (complimentary with room reservation)
- 7:00-12:00 – Field trips (see Field Trips below). We encourage all FOS members to attend the annual FOS member’s business meeting and the afternoon paper session beginning at 2:00pm. *Please plan your field trips accordingly.*
- 12:00-2:00 pm – Lunch on your own
- 1:00-2:00 pm – Registration at The Heritage Center and Indian River Citrus Museum
- 1:00-5:00 pm – Skin Quiz, provided by the Florida Museum of Natural History.
- 1:30-2:00 pm – FOS Business Meeting; The Heritage Center and Indian River Citrus Museum
- 2:00-5:00 pm – Afternoon Paper Session, The Heritage Center and Indian River Citrus Museum
The paper session will feature presentations on coastal conservation issues and research (e.g. seabird/shorebird conservation, coastal development, beach nourishment, etc.). Light refreshments served.
- 6:00-8:00 pm – Cash Bar at The Heritage Center and Indian River Citrus Museum
- 7:00-8:00 pm – Banquet Dinner
- 8:00-9:00 pm – Keynote Speaker, Oron "Sonny" L. Bass, Jr., Supervisory Wildlife Biologist for the South Florida Natural Resource Center and Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks will present, “Bird Conservation in Florida’s River of Grass.”

Sunday, April 25

- 6:00 am – Breakfast buffet open at SpringHill Suites by Marriott
- 7:00 am – Field Trips
- 11:00 am – Hotel checkout (luggage storage available)

REGISTRATION FORM FOS SPRING MEETING 2010 APRIL 23-25
Please register in advance. Return this form with your payment to FOS by April 1, 2010. After this date please add \$10 to the registration fee. Make check(s) payable to **Florida Ornithological Society** and mail to: **Elena Sachs – 1239 SW 10th Street Ocala, Florida 34471.**

NAME(S) (for badges): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ **E-MAIL:** _____

Meeting registration @ \$20/person; \$10/student ___ persons x \$20/10 = _____

Meeting registration @ \$30/person (non-member or late) ___ persons x \$30 = _____

Banquet @ \$25 per person: **Chicken Picatta** ___ persons x \$25 = _____

OR

Spinach Lasagna ___ persons x \$25 = _____

TOTAL = _____

FIELD TRIPS -- FOS SPRING 2010

FOS 2010 Spring Meeting. Vero Beach, FL. April 23-25 at the SpringHill Suites by Marriott
All trips leave from the hotel. Please see the [Pelican Island Audubon Society website](http://www.pelicanislandaudubon.org/) (<http://www.pelicanislandaudubon.org/>) for more information on the area.

Friday afternoon April 23:

Sebastian Inlet State Park – We hope to observe seabirds on the Atlantic side of the inlet and migrants in the campground. Park fee is \$8 per vehicle, which may be waived for our group. The inlet spans both Brevard and Indian River counties. Kirtland's Warbler was recorded here May 10-12, 2007, along with many other warbler species and singing Black-whiskered Vireo, even though fall is best for migrants on the east coast. If you are arriving from the north or northwest on I-95, follow directions on the park website, allowing a half-hour from I-95 to the Inlet bridge. If there is time we will bird the maritime hammock of Pelican Island NWR on Jungle Trail 3 miles south of the Inlet, just off A1A, and Captain Forster's hammock. **Meet at the inlet around 2:00PM. Call Billi Wagner (772) 532-8556 or Andy Bankert (321) 258-2353 as you approach the bridge to find out which side of the inlet we are birding.** At the completion of the trip, follow the trip leaders south to your hotel for check-in and flocking.

Only Saturday April 24:

West Wastewater Treatment Plant Wetlands- This area is similar to Viera wetlands except we will not drive the berms around the cells, so there is a considerable amount of walking. We hope to see waders and possible shorebirds, including Least Bittern. Area opens at 7:30 am and is located approximately 12 miles from the hotel. Carpool from the hotel. Time TBA at meeting.

Saturday April 24 and Sunday April 25:

Ft. Drum Conservation Area/Blue Cypress Lake Rd- St. Johns River Water Management District manages the headwaters of the St. John's River 9 miles west of I-95 (20 miles from hotel) on Route 60. Two "islands" are reached by a short hike on a berm and then a boardwalk through a cypress swamp. There are also some pine flatwoods. Trip leader Tim Towles has observed at least 120 species here, including nesting Swallow-tailed Kite,. If there is time we will drive 5 miles north along cattle pasture and flatwoods habitat (bluebird, caracara, turkey and fox squirrel) to pristine Blue Cypress Lake with its large Osprey population. Carpool from the hotel. Time TBA at meeting.

On Sunday, if you have checked out, you can head home from here via I-95 or the Turnpike at Yeehaw Junction, located 5 miles west on Route 60.

Sebastian Inlet and the maritime hammock of Pelican Island NWR – We hope to see migrants here (see Friday afternoon). It is located about 17 miles north of the hotel and will be led by Andy Bankert and/or David Simpson. Carpool from the hotel. Time TBA at meeting.

On Sunday, those who need to can return in time for hotel checkout.

Only Sunday, April 25:

St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park

Known as "the Buffer Preserve," this is a 22,000-acre park straddling two counties. This field trip will leave early in order to observe some of the 6 families of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers. Other highlighted species include Bachman's Sparrows, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Florida Scrub-Jay, and Swallow-tailed Kite. An hour drive from the hotel. *Lunch available nearby at Marsh Landing Restaurant located in the historic Fellsmere Estates Building.* Trip leader and park expert David Simpson will meet you at the park HQ at 5:45 to allow time to set up and get out to the nest sites. Limited to 20 people, high-clearance or 4 wheel drive vehicles needed