

Jackson Audubon
Bird Field Trip and Chapter Program Calendar
JANUARY-DECEMBER 2019
All Events Are Free & Open to the Public
WebSite: JacksonAudubonSociety.org
Phone: 850.232.8219 OR 601.832.6788

Lefleur's Bluff State Park Family Bird Walks: First Sat of the month except January, July and August.
Four Chapter Meetings: February, May, Aug, & Oct on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

JANUARY 2019

NO First Saturday LeFleur's Bluff State Park Family Bird Walk in January

JANUARY 19, 2019

Saturday Field Trip and Special Waterfowl Workshop

Meet at Visitor Station at 7:45; departs at 8am til Noon.

Panther Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, Yazoo County.

LEADER: SETH SWAFFORD, REFUGE MANAGER AND CHRIS KING

LOCATION: Meet at Panther Swamp Refuge Visitor Information Station located at 12595 MS Hwy I-49 (NOT 49E or 49W) 12 miles east of Yazoo City. 1 hr north of Jackson and Vicksburg. Go to Yazoo City, take I-49 toward Louise, MS and go about 12 miles (10 minutes) to Refuge Headquarters. You will pass Erickson Road. Follow refuge signs and refuge road is on the left, if coming from Yazoo City. If coming from Yazoo and you pass Hwy 16 you have gone too far. Google: 12595 MS I-49, Louise, MS for map to refuge. DO NOT GOOGLE "PANTHER SWAMP."

FEBRUARY 2, 2019

Saturday, 8am-10am

First Saturday LeFleur's Bluff State Park Family Bird Walk

Campground Entrance off Lakeland

Meet at Picnic area

LEADER: BB WATKINS

\$4.00 park entrance fee per vehicle

FEBRUARY 23, 2019

Saturday Bird Field Trip 8am-noon

Pearl River Wildlife Management Area (**WMA Permit Required, see website for info**)

Directions: We will meet at the Brown's Landing Boat Launch. Coordinates: 32.520571, -89.971958

We will be searching for waterfowl and over wintering birds at Brown's Landing, the Turcotte blind, and at the Pearl River WMA and Waterfowl Refuge.

LEADER: STEVE PETERSON

FEBRUARY 26, 2019

JAS QUARTERLY CHAPTER MEETING

4th Tuesday

Meet & Greet: 6:00pm

Business Meeting: 6:15pm

(Slate of officers for May election will be presented)

PRESENTER: SARAH WHEELESS HAMMOND, PHD, ORNITHOLOGIST, DIRECTOR, CLINTON COMMUNITY NATURE CENTER

PROGRAM: THE LANGUAGE OF BIRDS: How Birds Communicate with each Other.

LOCATION: Clinton Community Nature Center, 617 Dunton Road, Clinton, MS 39056.

(32.342380, -90.320741) Phone: 601 926-1104

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MARCH 2, 2019

Saturday, 8am-10am

First Saturday LeFleur's Bluff State Park Family Bird Walk

Campground Entrance off Lakeland

Meet at Picnic area

LEADER: CHRIS KING

\$4.00 park entrance fee per vehicle

MARCH 23, 2019 (in case of high water dates : Mar 31 OR APRIL 21 – SEE WEBSITE)

Saturday Bird Field Trip 8am-NOON

Fannye Cook Natural Area, Liberty Rd, Flowood, MS, Rankin County

This urban natural area was recently dedicated in honor of Miss Cook, an avid birder, wildlife conservationist and founder of the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science. The area includes about 2,600 acres of wetlands in Rankin County on the north side of Lakeland Drive between Airport Road and the Barnett Reservoir. It is not open to the public yet but we have obtained permission from Wildlife Mississippi to enter. Beautiful area and should be full of early migrants.

DIRECTIONS: In Flowood at Lakeland Drive and Airport Rd (at stop light), go north on Airport Rd (Liberty Road) (do not go south toward the airport). We will meet at the gate on Liberty Rd and proceed together. There are maintained vehicle roads in the area so we will drive to several areas and stop and bird OR we may walk a few of the trails. EASY.

Lat/Long: Google Maps: 32.341890, -90.091738

LEADERS: BRUCE REID, LIBBY HARTFIELD, MARY & BILL STRIPLING

APRIL 6, 2019

Saturday, 8am-10am

First Saturday LeFleur's Bluff State Park Family Bird Walk

Campground Entrance off Lakeland

Meet at Picnic area

LEADER: WES SHOOP

\$4.00 park entrance fee per vehicle

APRIL 13, 2019

Saturday Bird Field Trip: 7:45-NOON

Annual Spring Migration Field Trip

Vicksburg National Military Park.

Meet in Military Park Parking Lot for carpooling

LEADERS: JOAN & DOUG CLARK

We will look for warblers, tanagers, thrushes, orioles, flycatchers and many more. Newly arrived migrants will be singing and setting up nesting territories. This is a great way to update your spring bird songs.

Park fee per vehicle: \$8.00

APRIL 27, 2019

Saturday: 8:00 a.m.-Noon

Saturday Spring Migration Bird Field Trip

LOCATION: TBA – CALL LEADERS AT 601 832 6788 for location information

Meet in parking lot of The Krystal Fast Food Restaurant, 2010 E County Line Rd, Ridgeland, MS 39157 on corner of E. County Line Rd and Old Canton Rd.

LEADERS: CHRIS KING AND MARY STRIPLING

MAY 4, 2019

Saturday, 8am-10am

First Saturday LeFleur's Bluff State Park Family Bird Walk

Campground Entrance off Lakeland

Meet at Picnic area

LEADER: STEVE PETERSON

\$4.00 park entrance fee per vehicle

MAY 18, 2019

RAIN DATE FOR SPRING MIGRATION FIELD TRIP (SEE APRIL 27, 2019 FOR INFORMATION)

MAY 28, 2019

JAS ANNUAL CHAPTER MEETING & POTLUCK SUPPER

4th Tuesday

Meet & Greet: 6:00p

Business Meeting & Election of Officers: 6:15pm

PRESENTER: Jill Mastrototaro, Policy Director, National Audubon

PROGRAM: UPDATE ON ONE LAKE DAM PROJECT ON PEARL RIVER

LOCATION: Clinton Community Nature Center, 617 Dunton Road, Clinton, MS 39056.

(32.342380, -90.320741) Phone: 601 926-1104

JUNE 1, 2019

Saturday, 8am-10am

First Saturday LeFleur's Bluff State Park Family Bird Walk

Campground Entrance off Lakeland

Meet at Picnic area

LEADER: CHRIS KING

\$4.00 park entrance fee per vehicle

JUNE 10-14, 2019

JAS/Millsaps Bird Camp for Kids (see JAS website for more info)

LEADER: Chris King, JAS President and Education Chair

TO REGISTER: Contact Millsaps College Enrichment Series

Call: JAS (601/832-6788) or Millsaps (601) 974-1130 for details or go to

http://www.millsaps.edu/news_events/enrichment_series.php to register online

SPONSORS: Millsaps Community Enrichment Series / Jackson Audubon Society / WildBirds Unlimited / National Audubon Society

JULY 2019

NO First Saturday LeFleur's Bluff State Park Family Bird Walk in July.

AUGUST 2019

NO First Saturday LeFleur's Bluff State Park Family Bird Walk in August.

AUGUST 17, 2019 (Kent will send permit later closer to time. OK)

Saturday : Special Sundowner Field Trip

Roseate Spoonbills/Wood Storks/herons/egrets/Black-necked Stilts/Eagles/Neotropic

Cormorants/White Ibis/dark ibis/shorebirds

St. Catherine Creek National Wildlife Refuge

Time: 4-8pm (Sundown)

Meet: Headquarters Office Parking Lot @4pm

21 Pintail Lane

Sibley, MS 39165 (Natchez, MS)

Refuge #: 601/442-6696

LEADERS: Mary & Bill Stripling, JAS (601 832 6788)

Jackson Audubon Society is sponsoring a special "Sundowner Field Trip" to St. Catherine Creek NWR.

There are lots of birds at St. Cat this time of year. This time last year there were thousands of birds

coming to roost at sundown. We are hoping that this huge birding event will continue, which will

depend on the water levels in the 900 acres of shallow impoundments established for waterfowl,

wading and shorebirds. Possible birds:

- 2,000-3,000 Neotropic Cormorants (high count for Mississippi). These are not the Double-crested that we usually see in abundance.
- 300-500 Roseate Spoonbills
- 3,000-4,000 Wood Storks (as many as 10,000 are dispersed over the Refuge)
- Hundreds and hundreds of long legged waders (Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets, White Ibis, dark ibis, Little Blues, a few night-herons, a few Tri-colored Herons, etc.)
- Bald Eagles

It will be HOT but worth it! Bring a big hat, a folding chair, water, snacks, umbrella (just in case). This will be a great show. Don't miss it!! We look forward to seeing you.

DIRECTIONS:

From Natchez, take US Highway 61 South for 10 miles, then turn right at Sibley, MS (at the Dollar General Store) onto York Road and go 2 miles. You will see the large brown St. Cat sign. Then turn left onto Pintail Lane. Meet at Headquarters office which is the first building on your left. We will then head to "The Swamp," which is marked on the refuge map. We strongly recommend you do not rely on an electronic navigation device to find your way around the refuge. Also, there is very limited phone service after you leave the Headquarters. **Visitor maps are available at the Kiosk at entrance of the refuge as well as the headquarters office. Be sure to grab a map.**

AUGUST 27, 2019

JAS QUARTERLY CHAPTER MEETING

4th Tuesday

Meet & Greet: 6:00pm

Business Meeting: 6:15pm

LOCATION: Clinton Community Nature Center, 617 Dunton Road, Clinton, MS 39056.
(32.342380, -90.320741)

Phone: 601 926-1104

SPEAKER: Will Selman, Professor, Biology Dept, Millsaps College

PROGRAM: Conservation of Coastal Waterbirds and Coastal Habitats: Long and Short-term Insights from Louisiana"

SEPTEMBER 7, 2019

Saturday, 8am-10am

First Saturday LeFleur's Bluff State Park Family Bird Walk

Campground Entrance off Lakeland

Meet at Picnic area

LEADER: CHRIS KING

\$4.00 park entrance fee per vehicle

SEPTEMBER 21, 2019 (TENTATIVE)

Saturday Field Trip: SKY LAKE WMA BOARDWALK TO SEE SOME OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST & OLDEST BALD CYPRESS PLUS DELTA SHOREBIRDING, Belzoni, MS

LEADER: Mary and Bill Stripling and Jason Hoeksema from WindBirds. Phone: 601 832 6788

OCTOBER 5, 2019

Saturday, 8am-10am

First Saturday LeFleur's Bluff State Park Family Bird Walk

Campground Entrance off Lakeland

Meet at Picnic area

LEADER: RYNETTA COETZEE

\$4.00 park entrance fee per vehicle

OCTOBER 29, 2019

JAS QUARTERLY CHAPTER MEETING

4th Tuesday

Meet & Greet: 6:00pm

Business Meeting: 6:15pm

SPEAKER: Audrey Harrison, Research Biologist, US Army Corps of Engineers Research and Development Center, Environmental Lab, Vicksburg

TITLE: If You Build It, They Will Come: Milkweed for Monarchs in Mississippi

PROGRAM: Mississippi is home to eighteen species of native milkweeds (*Asclepias* spp.) present in a variety of habitats. Drawn to the milkweeds twice per year are monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*), as they migrate from the Transvolcanic Mountains of Mexico, across the United States and into Canada and back. Milkweeds are the host plants for monarch caterpillars, and adult females actively search for these plants during oviposition. Monarch populations have been on a steep decline over the last two decades, and loss of milkweeds has been one contributing factor. One way we can help this species is to plant native milkweeds and other native wildflowers, in efforts to feed and sustain monarch caterpillars, butterflies, and other pollinator species. Join us as we discuss Mississippi's native milkweeds, monarch butterflies, and how to help these and other important species.

LOCATION: Clinton Community Nature Center, 617 Dunton Road, Clinton, MS 39056.

(32.342380, -90.320741) Phone: 601 926-1104

NOVEMBER 2, 2019

Saturday, 8am-10am

First Saturday LeFleur's Bluff State Park Family Bird Walk

Campground Entrance off Lakeland

Meet at Picnic area

LEADER: TBA

\$4.00 park entrance fee per vehicle

NOVEMBER 16, 2019

SATURDAY FIELD TRIP

MAHANNAH WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (MDWFP)

Search for winter arrivals including harriers, eagles, ducks plus owls and other surprises.

Meet at Refuge Headquarters at 8am

DIRECTIONS: Take Hwy 20 toward Vicksburg; go north on Hwy 61 for 11-12 miles; Turn left onto Floweree Rd and drive 5-7 minutes and turn left on the road to the WMA Headquarters. You will see large brown WMA signs. **REMEMBER: YOU MUST HAVE A WMA USER PERMIT TO ENTER THE WMA. GO TO JAS WEBSITE FOR INFO.**

LEADER: Mary and Bill Stripling

DECEMBER 7, 2019

Saturday, 8am-10am

First Saturday LeFleur's Bluff State Park Family Bird Walk

Campground Entrance off Lakeland

Meet at Picnic area

LEADER: TBA

\$4.00 park entrance fee per vehicle

December 21, 2019

Vicksburg Annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count

Contact: Mary Stripling at 601 832 6788 or email : stevenswaterbird@bellsouth.net if you would like to participate. (There will be a tally up supper following the count at dusk (about 5pm) at the Bill and Mary Stripling's house. Always fun with good food.)

DECEMBER 28, 2019

CBC – Annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count

Around the Barnett Rez

Compiler: Mary Stripling

Contact Mary at 601-832-6788 (EMAIL: Stevenswaterbird@bellsouth.net) if you would like to participate. (There will be a tally up supper following the count at dusk (about 5pm). **LOCATION : TBA.** Always fun with good food.)