

Birdsong Nature Center

January - February 2020

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

- Fri. Jan. 3 Center Reopens
- Thurs. Jan. 9 Butterfly Garden Work Day
- Sat. Jan. 11 2020 Land Management Overview for Volunteers
- Sat. Jan. 18 Winter Trail Ride
- Sat. Jan. 25 Red Hills Fire Festival

February

- Sat. Feb. 1 Fire Festival Rain Date
- Thurs. Feb. 6 Butterfly Garden Work Day
- Fri-Sat. Feb. 14-16 Great Backyard Bird Count
- Sat. Feb. 22 Winter Birding at Birdsong
- Sat. Feb. 29 Take a Child Outside in the Wintertime



BIRDSONG NATURE CENTER

WEB SITE: www.birdsongnaturecenter.org

EMAIL: birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org

TWITTER: @BirdsongNatureC

FACEBOOK: Birdsong Nature Center

YOUTUBE: Birdsong Nature Center



BIRD WINDOW AND TRAIL HOURS

Wednesday	9 AM - 5 PM
Friday	9 AM - 5 PM
Saturday	9 AM - 5 PM
Sunday	1 PM - 5 PM

Bird Window and Nature Trails

Welcome to Birdsong! Enjoy the beauty and serenity of the Bird Window and learn to identify resident and visiting birds up close. Walk the Nature Trails to observe wildlife in a variety of habitats and enjoy the sounds of nature at the Listening Place. Before you leave, you may want to visit the Chickadee Corner Gift Shop. We hope you enjoy your stay!

All visitors please sign in at the Registration Center. Trail maps are provided. Pets, trash and fires are not permitted.

Registration

Please register for all programs by calling or emailing: (229) 377-4408, Birdsong Office
Fax line (229)-377-8723, or birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org

Dear Friends,

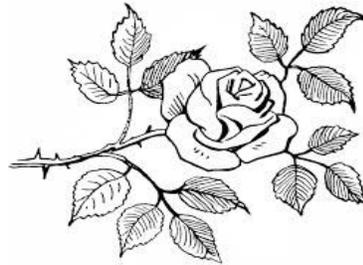
In the previous Birdsong newsletter, we reported on our partnership with Tall Timbers in applying for a grant from the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program (GOSP) for the purpose of funding the placement of 444 acres of Birdsong into a conservation easement with Tall Timbers. We are happy to let you know that the grant application was successfully submitted in late October and it is now in review by GOSP officials, along with those submitted by other organizations. We should know the outcome in February. The grants are awarded on a competitive basis, with the total amount awarded to all successful applicants each year determined by the Board of Trustees of the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund. We will let you know the results, and the next steps in our pursuit of this grant.

I'd like to express our sincere thanks to Dr. Bill Palmer, President & CEO of Tall Timbers, his talented Land Conservation staff - Shane Wellendorf, Kim Sash, Kevin McGorty, and Jessica Coker - as well as our own talented Executive Director, Kathleen Brady, for their outstanding efforts and dedication in completing the grant application. This significant piece of work was exceptionally well done, and we very much appreciate their efforts and great teamwork.

Please mark an important date on your calendar: March 21st, 2020, the third Saturday in March, and make your plans to attend Birdsong's 14th Annual Old Timey Plant Sale! June White and her dedicated team of Plant Sale volunteers have been working all year to make this year's sale the best one yet. If you've not yet taken the opportunity of attending a Plant Sale, please treat yourself to a very special day at join us for this truly iconic Birdsong event. Browse among thousands of beautiful healthy plants and trees especially suited for our area. Helpful horticulturists and knowledgeable volunteers will be available to answer questions and assist with your selections. Please come enjoy the friendly comradery of hundreds of other local gardeners and join us for Birdsong's Old Time Plant Sale on March 21!

Warmest wishes from all of us at Birdsong for a very happy and healthy year in 2020. Please visit soon and let us know of your interesting encounters along the trails. We always love hearing from our visitors.

Sincerely,
Joe Peresich
President, Board of Directors



**Put on your
calendar!
Old-Timey
Plant Sale
3rd Saturday
in March**

ROSES ARE BACK!

Any plant sale calling itself "old-timey" should feature the queen of old-timey plants, antique roses. But ever since our dear friend rosarian Tracy Harrington died there has been a sad gap at the sale.

But — at the March 21 2020 sale we will have roses! Birdsong Nature Center has attracted the attention of Cydney Wade at Rose Petals Nursery in Alachua County, Florida. She will be hauling a trailer load of antique, heritage, and old garden roses to the sale and she will be there herself to tell about them.

Look at the website www.rosepetalsnursery.com and you will see how lucky we are to have this participation.

- June White
Plant Sale Chair

WOLF CREEK TROUT LILY PRESERVE

Visit Wolf Creek in February, when the Trout Lilies bloom...

The Wolf Creek Trout Lily Preserve is a biologically diverse 140-acre hardwood forest about 5 miles west of Cairo in Grady County, Georgia. It is home to one of the largest (about 15 acres) and most dense populations (nearly every square inch) of the Trout Lily, *Erythronium umbilicatum*, known to exist anywhere. The beautiful Trout Lily is a threatened species in Florida and rarely found in south Georgia. Also present are several other rare plants: *Trillium maculatum*; *Uvularia floridana*; Bloodroot; Crane Fly, Green Fly and Southern Tway Blade orchids, among others.

Preserve volunteers will be offering field trips to see this amazing site in full bloom in February. The peak bloom dates vary widely depending on the weather. Here is a link to the Wolf Creek website, where you can learn about the upcoming season's bloom, tours, and hours when the site may be open to the public. We urge you to go; Wolf Creek is a precious site and one of the most impressive botanical displays of our area. You will love it! See www.wolfcreektroutlilypreserve.org.



COVEY COUNTS

Thank you to Lane Green for leading our two bobwhite quail covey counts, and thank you to the people who attended and made both mornings memorable. It was well worth getting up in the middle of the night to enjoy these experiences! On both dates, we had good weather, cool and clear with a rising barometric pressure and got out on the property and situated before first light. We selected two places where scouting had indicated quail presence: the longleaf planting site south of the Bay, and the House Pasture behind the Barn. On both occasions, we were able to track and locate a covey by their response to Lane playing the “lost call” on a bird call app. Two coveys were in the vicinity at both sites, and we got as close as possible to one and then Lane went off-trail and flushed them. At the longleaf area, three quail flew straight at our group, and the rest of the covey went flying off where we could not see them; at the House Pasture, a covey flushed and Lane was able to count eleven birds. That time most of us in the group only saw three, as the covey split on flushing and went different directions. So we got to actually see two coveys fly, eleven in one and an undetermined number in the other. It was fun!

After finding our birds we went to the Bird Window for coffee and Lane told us all about quail life cycles, and their historical importance to the fire research right here in our area that led to the current understanding of modern fire ecology.

We plan to offer this opportunity again next year, but will schedule it in October, which is the peak month for quail to be calling. We feel that having done the count late in the season our actual covey numbers were under-represented – we were flushing quail all over the property all late summer. Bobwhites call at dawn to establish territory among all coveys present and once these territories are set, there is no need to call. So we’ll try again next year, a little earlier. We hope you’ll join us, and thank you, Lane!

**2020 LAND MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW
FOR VOLUNTEERS**

Saturday, January 11, 10AM – 12PM

Join us for a trail ride and conversation about Birdsong's land management plans for 2020. All volunteers are welcome. Whether you are a seasoned veteran or a newcomer who has been thinking about volunteering, this overview is designed to give you an understanding of our long-range land management vision, and show you specific projects and ongoing efforts we'll actively engage in this year. This session is important for anyone who wants to help us burn this year, as well as anyone interested in invasive species removal, trail maintenance, and native plant and wildlife habitat enhancement. New folks will get to talk to our dedicated burn crew volunteers who have been helping us for many years and who can tell you all about how our last season went and show you the results of their efforts. We'll spend the morning in the field and return to the house for lunch together. You will get to meet some wonderful people and come away with an understanding of how valuable your role is in Birdsong's management.

No charge. **RESERVATIONS, PLEASE.** Call by Friday, January 10th to reserve your place on the trailer, or for more information. Bring a sandwich; drinks and dessert provided. Dress for the weather.

WINTER TRAIL RIDE

**Saturday, January 18
10:00AM - Noon**

Join Executive Director Kathleen Brady for a winter morning trail ride and enjoy Birdsong in all its winter glory. We will point out gopher tortoise burrows, deer scrapes, winter birds and signs of wildlife as we go. We will make a number of stops to discuss Birdsong's ecology, land management and history, and explore places such as the Star Pasture, Farm Pond, longleaf pine planting, and others. We will also discuss the upcoming conservation easement that will be placed on the property and what that means for our management and long-range plans.

RESERVATIONS, PLEASE. Please call on Friday, January 17th to reserve a space. We will be taking the truck and trailer and there is room for 12 people. Be prepared to be outdoors for several hours; dress for the weather and bring binoculars. We'll have a hot drink at the Bird Window afterwards.

\$6 Friends, \$10 nonmembers, children half-price.

**TAKE A CHILD OUTSIDE
IN THE WINTERTIME!**

**Saturday, February 29
9:30AM - Noon**

Bring your favorite child to Birdsong and let them lead you on a natural adventure in the winter woods with Sandra Sallee. Give an ongoing gift to your child: an appreciation of nature, a better understanding of where they live, and use of all their senses. We will walk the trails to search for evidence of animal homes, sign, and winter behavior. Enjoy the fresh air, some exercise, and time with your child in the great outdoors. We will collect natural materials along the way and create a craft upon returning to the Barn.

\$4 Friends, \$6 nonmembers, children half-price. **RESERVATIONS PLEASE** by Friday February 28th, so we know how many to prepare for. Includes a handout and resource list for year-round outdoor activities with children.



BUTTERFLY GARDEN WORK DAY

**Thursdays, January 9 and February 6
9:00AM to Noon**

Birdsong's Butterfly Gardeners usually meet on the first Thursday of each month at 9am. January is an exception due to the holidays.

Please join this accomplished and active crew of volunteers to tend our beautiful Butterfly Garden! Bring gardening gloves, knee pads, clippers, and lunch if you wish to stay afterwards.

Our gardeners would very much appreciate the donation of bags of clean leaf mulch for the Garden. Please be sure that the mulch does not contain any stray invasive plants that might take hold. Hand raked or purchased leaf mulch is best. Thank you!

For more information call Donna Legare at (850) 386-1148 or Birdsong at (229)377-4408.

WINTER BIRDING AT BIRDSONG

Saturday, February 22

8:30 – 11:30AM

Wintertime at Birdsong is a great time to go birding. Join expert birder Marvin Collins and Executive Director Kathleen Brady for a long, leisurely discovery hike through a variety of excellent bird habitats. If birds are here, Marvin will find them, especially those elusive sparrows and warblers! The hike will wrap up with a visit to the Bird Window, which is typically a very busy place in the winter months. Dress for the weather and for a long walk in the woods. Bring binoculars and field guides.

\$5 Friends, \$9 nonmembers, children half-price. **RESERVATIONS, PLEASE.** Call or email by Friday, February 21 at 4pm to reserve your space.

THANK YOU, HANDS ON THOMAS COUNTY!

Hands On Thomas County's well-planned and well-staffed annual fall Volunteer Work Day was called off because of the hurricane scare we had on October 23rd. Nevertheless, HOTC persisted and the working teams they had set up were encouraged to set a new date with their agency partner. Birdsong was very fortunate to have the help of the VolunSteers from Longhorn Steak House! This was a capable and enthusiastic group who seemed to really enjoy working together! Led by team leader Denise Anderson, these individuals and families cleared an entire garden bed that had gotten grown over with undesirable plants, groomed a palm tree, and carted all the cuttings off to our burn pile. all in just a few hours! The garden bed is now clean and ready for planting in the spring. This kind of big job would have taken us weeks to accomplish. It was all done in the greatest spirit of giving and camaraderie and we are truly grateful and impressed. We can't thank this team enough for their effort and for making it so much fun!

Thank you too to Angela Kiminis, Executive Director and Ali Harvey, Programs & Events Director at HOTC; we feel very fortunate to be included in these top-notch volunteer projects. These efforts really do make a difference to us non-profits in the community.

Next time you are thinking about going out for lunch or dinner, consider Longhorn Steakhouse – you'll enjoy a good meal and meet some wonderful people there who are helping make our community better!

23rd ANNUAL GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

Friday through Sunday at Birdsong

February 14 - 16

Self-guided or join a scheduled guided group on
February 14

The 2020 Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC), one of Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's Citizen Science projects, will be held February 14-17, 2020. Please have a look at the GBBC event description on their web page at www.birdsource.org for detailed instructions to create a free GBBC account for entering your observations. You are invited to count birds at bird feeders, in your yard, local parks or other outdoor locations, and then report your findings online at gbbc.birdcount.org or at eBird.

A guided GBBC count will be led by Sharman Franklin and her grandson Gavin Franklin on Friday, February 14th from 8:30 am to noon. If interested, please contact Birdsong to sign up and plan to meet Sharman and Gavin in the Birdsong parking lot at 8:15am.

If you prefer doing your own survey, come out and observe birds anywhere at Birdsong, including the Bird Window, for a minimum of 15 minutes and up to as long as you want, on any or all days of the bird count, and as many times as you want. (Birdsong is open 9 – 5, Friday and Saturday and 1 – 5 on Sunday, closed on Monday.) You can turn in your own results online at gbbc.birdcount.org or pick up a tally sheet at the registration desk, go bird watching, fill the sheet out and leave it here at Birdsong and we will submit your

RED HILLS FIRE FESTIVAL

Saturday, January 25, 2020

11am – 3pm

The Fire Festival is a great chance to get outside and experience, enjoy and learn about the natural role of fire in the Red Hills region. It's a free festival! It's a good time with live music, prescribed fire demos, live wild-life, wagon ride tours of healthy forests, hands-on fire equipment, kids' activities, and food vendors. Rain date is February 1st. See updates on the Tall Timbers facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/386652465216978/>

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT NOTES

December 7, 2019

Weather It finally rained. On October 15 and 16; we got 2.26 inches in two days. It happened quietly, without a lot of fanfare, no big storm, but the impact was profound – within a couple of days the grass started to green up and the wilted leaves lifted. Since then, it has rained, but not a lot: we've had seven infrequent rain events, all with amounts under one inch, including five rains in November with less than half an inch.

The vegetation in the garden, woods and fields is holding its own for now. Even though we are out of the desperate stage, we still need more rain. The ponds and swamp are continuing to shrink, and water levels are approaching the low we had two years ago. The prediction this week is for rain on most days; although welcome, this of course comes the week before the Winter Solstice Celebration, when we'd like it to be dry enough to light a bonfire. We'll take the rain!

Wildflowers The wildflower showing this year was phenomenal. We hadn't seen a bloom like this since 2012. It all started during the drought and then when the rains came, the flowers kept on blooming for weeks. It was absolutely beautiful - wherever you went at Birdsong there were expanses of pink and gold and purple flowers covered with bees and butterflies. Surprisingly, the severe drought didn't hold this bloom back at all. The late season grasses were also stunning with all their copper and bronze seed heads gleaming in the sun – the stems are changing color now as it gets colder and they are still beautiful.

Fall Color We were afraid we would not have any fall color this year. Late in the drought the leaves on many hardwood trees started to dry up and in some cases turn brown and fall off. Then suddenly we had two weeks of very cold weather with near-freezing temperatures and within the week we started to see some color emerge in the woods. This color continued to deepen and now we have a beautiful palette of golds and rusts, dark reds, maroons, and purple throughout the woods. The prevalent greens of the forest have subsided and given way to subtle swaths of color with each leaf showing, a pointillist's dream.

One of our favorite areas this time of year is the Big Bay drain near the wild azalea garden. This entire drain is full of sourwood trees, unremarkable most of the year, but right now they range from gold, peach and salmon to ruby red, and they hold the light differently than other trees; they look illuminated from within. It is worth the short walk down hill from the Barn.

The aforementioned over-populous beautyberry is also turning color – to a bright chartreuse. A plant we also have too much of, winged sumac, is also prevalent in some of the woods alongside the beautyberry, and it has turned a clear bright red. They are about the same height. So as much as we would prefer not to have as much of these species as we

do, they are the stars of the understory in some of our woods: the scarlet winged sumac scattered within a wide expanse of green-gold beauty berry is really quite stunning.

We are delighted to be experiencing such a color-filled fall: between the extraordinary wildflower bloom and now a radiant leaf display, it has been enchanting. We hope you have been able to get outside and enjoy it too.

Land Management Alan has been working on the fire lanes, clearing overhanging or fallen branches and getting ready to harrow. He did the final trail mowing a few weeks ago – the growing season is pretty much over. Next he will be preparing various internal fire lanes for the beginning of the burn season. We plan to get started in January and will begin with a couple of sites we weren't able to get to back at the end of May when it got so dry the Forestry Commission stopped giving out permits. We are offering a Land Management Overview for 2020 on January 11th, so please join us if you would like to learn more about prescribed burning and how we are working long-term to restore this former plantation and cattle ranch land to its more natural state. We also invite you to volunteer to help us with our land management - you'll get to meet some of our burn crew members and learn first-hand what it is like to volunteer here. Please see the full program description on page 4.

This burn season we will be entering our second year of a three-year plan to really get our burning program back on track. Our burn crew did a phenomenal job this past season, burning areas that had not been burned for several years, getting well over 80% of the property burned, and exceeding our first-year goals. We are really looking forward to getting back to work with our great crew in 2020!

Sightings Over the past few months we've been seeing quite a few white-tailed deer out on the place. Over the summer I disturbed a number of them close up, prompting a lot of indignant snorting and galloping away. Lately the deer see me coming from farther away and I only get to see their white tails in the distance, not close up. It is a wonderful thing, walking along the trails thinking one's own thoughts and then suddenly seeing three beautiful creatures bounding away “waving their white handkerchiefs” as Betty called it. Aptly named, white-tailed deer fling their tails up as they flee, so we get to see that white tail waving gracefully from side to side as they leap. With their brown coloring they blend in perfectly to the fall and winter landscape. Once they stop and gaze back at you, the white tails go down and the deer disappear into the scenery. If you have zeroed in well, you can often see their long attentive ears and, if you are close enough or haven't scared them off by using your binoculars, their beautiful faces. They will often watch for a little while then, if you start walking, off they bound. A white-tailed deer is a lovely thing to see.

We are also seeing lots of deer scrapes this fall. During mating season, male deer will mark territory where females are present by scraping on the ground while rubbing their antlers on low-hanging branches. They put a lot of force into

scraping the trail bare with their hooves, scratching away all the grass. These spots are often about 1.5 to 2 feet across, with lots of scratch marks visible. They will sometimes urinate on that spot and also make their mark in the middle of it with one stamp of a foot, like the medieval ring on sealing wax. Next time you are out walking and find a scrape, or several, look carefully for the perfect single hoof print in the middle. That male is making it clear to anyone who comes by that this area is his and so are these females! This is turning out to be a good year for scrapes along the trails; yesterday I counted eight of them. Alan has seen two bucks with large racks in his travels; I have seen mostly does and young males with spikes. If you get to see any deer, let us know.

Two unusual sightings have been made in the Gin House Field this fall: Duane and Lynn Brown saw a Loggerhead Shrike on October 20th, and Janelle Cleveland spotted a Dickcissel on November 10th out in the Star Pasture. These are exciting finds – we haven't seen a Loggerhead in a long time and the Dickcissel has not been recorded here that we are aware of and was not mentioned in the *Birds of Grady County* by Herbert Stoddard. Thank you, Duane, Lynn, and Janelle!

The Harrier She's back! Every year we are thrilled when the Northern Harrier comes back to Birdsong. For the last 5 autumns this gorgeous raptor has commanded our attention and admiration as she goes about her day. Harriers are known for their size, their distinctive white rump patch, and their unique flight style. Males are gray, sometimes called "gray ghosts", and females are brown. Ours is a female and the Gin House Field is her hunting ground. Alan started seeing her on a near-daily basis about three weeks ago. If you come out soon and walk out to the Gin House, you may have the good fortune to witness this bird as she cruises the field with deep, slow wingbeats, flying just above the broomsedge, watching for movement. She is fond of rodents. She will move slowly from one end of the field to the other, taking her time, paying close attention. When she spots something interesting, down she drops and disappears from view for a while, then comes back up in the air and cruises again. This Harrier prefers not to be in the vicinity of people. On a recent walk through the Gin House Field heading east, I saw her flying ahead of me, and as I approached she sailed up and over the pines and down into the House Pasture. When I got there, she was flying low along the south tree line, saw me and floated up and over the pines back west to the Gin House. I really hope you get to see her. Take a video.

Bird Window Every year at this time we observe a decline in bird activity at the Bird Window. The birds just don't need us as much as they do the rest of the year, especially when they are feeding babies. Right now there is an abundance of wild berries and seeds for the birds to eat and still lots of insects to be found. It always feels a little strange to feed the birds in the morning and come back mid-afternoon and find suet left in the feeder! It also

feels strange because the Bird Window is usually a fairly busy place most of the year. We look forward to January when the migrants and winter residents arrive and our own year-round resident songbirds come back to supplement their wild diet with seed and suet.

Interesting birds that visitors and volunteers have recorded at the Bird Window since mid-October include: Red-eyed Vireo, Yellowthroat, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Wood Thrush, Catbird, Ground Dove, Pine Warbler, Great Horned Owl, Red-winged Blackbird, three female Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, White-throated Sparrow, Indigo Bunting, the two Black Vultures (their last appearance was on October 25) Black-and-white Warbler, Yellow-throated Vireo, Hermit Thrush, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Blue-headed Vireo, Yellow-throated Warbler, and Eastern Wood Pewee.

Berries It was a very productive year for many fruit-producing plant species that birds love – magnolias, winged sumac, wax myrtle – right now the yaupon holly is loaded with berries. The Mockingbirds are gearing up for the usual winter defense of yaupon territory against other yaupon-lovers such as Robins and Cedar Waxwings. One unusual exception to this typical berry abundance is the American beautyberry. Usually this widespread shrubby plant is loaded with distinctive clusters of bright purple berries in the early fall. We're not sure why, but beautyberry did not have a good fruiting season this year – most plants we've looked at around the property did not produce any fruit. At Birdsong we have too much of a good thing when it comes to beautyberry – the woods are full of this plant. When we burn, we hope to knock it back some every year. So we are curious as to the effects of a poor reproductive season for this over-abundant plant and we'll be watching to see if it helps cut back on the ongoing spread of this plant in our woods. On the other hand, this plant is called turkey berry locally; turkeys are known to reach up and expertly strip all the clusters of berries off a stem in one swipe. I'm not sure how much turkeys actually depend on beautyberry, but if it has been a bad year for the berries we hope the turkeys have found other good alternatives.

The winter solstice is near; soon we will begin a new ride around the sun together on our precious and beleaguered planet. We hope you and your loved ones had a good year; we'll look forward to enjoying the next four seasons with you at Birdsong.

- KDB

BIRDSONG NATURE CENTER WISHES TO THANK:

Our Very Special Program Leaders:

Sunny Phillips, for bringing her Osher Lifelong Learning Institute birding class to Birdsong
WILD Woman Sharman Franklin with Gavin Franklin and Serena Ernst for leading the Quitman Elementary School 1st grade group and the 5th grad Honeybee Club; Sharman and Gavin for leading a Homeschool Group.
Lane Green, for leading two Covey Counts – those were wonderful experiences and we learned a lot!
Shane Wellendorf, of Tall Timbers, and Birdsong Board members Bill Preston, Margaret Tyson, Jim Antista, and Scott Ball for attending the conservation easement information meeting for members and helping answer questions. Thank you, too, to our attendees.
Beth Grant, for leading the annual Thanksgiving Saturday Super Walk

Special Financial Gifts:

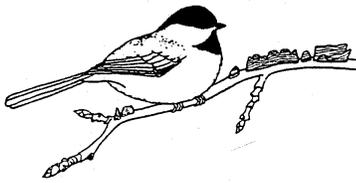
Alice Honea, for her special gift in honor of the volunteer Bluebird Trail Monitors: Bob Bearss, Myles Black, and Dr. David Jones
Wolf and Winnie Adolph

Special Thanks To:

Donna Legare and Jody Walthall of Native Nurseries, for donating a fragrant Fraser fir Christmas wreath. Donna started this nice tradition decades ago, bringing a wreath with its bright red bow for Betty Komarek every year. Betty loved it and we do too!
Thank you, too, Jody and Donna, for repairing and pressure-washing the Butterfly Garden arbor and donating and planting crossvine at each post. Thank you, Jody, for restoring the cedar bough Garden entrance.
Scott Ball, for bringing us more signs and metal frames for the Plant Sale.
Our volunteer construction team has gone back to working on the Barn, and we thank them all: Glen Berman, Buddy Holshouser, Mike Duggar, and Mike Brezin.
Winnie and Wolf Adolph, for getting the Birdsong Gift Shop stocked with interesting gift items for the holidays! You should see some of the beautiful songbird tree ornaments Winnie found. Thank you for making the suet cakes and taking good care of the birds and the Bird Window!
Bob Dunn and Wolf Adolph, for ID and photographic documentation of birds at the Bird Window; thank you Bob for the new portrait of a bathing and soaking wet Indigo Bunting male. Bob’s photos are on display in Mirhi’s office, if you would like to see them.
Phil Gornicki, Bird Window volunteer, for helping visitors on Wednesdays and for his support on days we have a group visiting Birdsong.
Alan Strowd, special thanks for his accounting expertise and support on the Finance Committee, and for volunteering at the Bird Window.
Joe Peresich, for ongoing management of our Facebook page and website.
Tami Tomasello, for managing our Twitter site so expertly.
Butterfly Garden volunteers Donna Legare, Bob Bearss, Beth Grant, Ann Morrow, Connie Lechnar, Yvonne Stinson, Jody Walthall and Jan Blue. Thanks to all for the keeping the Butterfly Garden beautiful!
Birdsong’s Board of Directors, for all its work on the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program grant and conservation easement.

Birdsong Nature Center Board of Directors 2018 - 2019	
President	Joe Peresich
Treasurer	Bill Preston
Directors	
Jim Antista	Margaret Tyson
Woody Search	Michael Brezin
Ellery Sedgwick	Scott Ball

BIRDSONG’S CORPORATE SPONSORS
Hopping, Green & Sams, PA Monrovia Growers of Georgia Native Nurseries Trillium Gardens Carroll and Company, CPA Import Authority South GA Low Cost Spay & Neuter Clinic Seminole Alterations Corporation Service Company Chelsea Salon & Spa TNB Financial Services



Birdsong Nature Center

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date _____

New Renewal

Credit Card Check Cash Paypal

Credit Card Account #

Exp. Date ____/____/____ Amount Authorized \$ _____ Authorization No. _____

Cardholder Signature _____

Name (Please print clearly) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Primary (____) _____ Alt (____) _____ EMAIL _____

Place of Employment: _____ Job Title: _____

Training, experience, interests: _____

How did you learn about Birdsong? From a member of Birdsong, the news media, word of mouth, our newsletter, etc?

Please be specific: _____

I would like to join the Friends of Birdsong in the following category:

- Individual Friend \$30 Bird Window and Nature Trails free during open hours.
Two free one-time guest passes.
Member discount on scheduled programs.
10% discount on items at the Chickadee Corner Gift Shop.
Bimonthly newsletter. Reciprocal general admission at participating nature centers nationwide (call for list).
- Family/Friends \$45 All of the above benefits for each member of the immediate household. Four free one-time guest passes.
- Friends of the Cardinal \$60 Five free one-time guest passes in addition to above.
- Friends of the Chickadee \$100 Six free one-time guest passes in addition to above.
- Business/Corporate Friend \$100-\$1,000 One free one-time guest pass for each \$10 of membership (ie., 25 passes for \$250) and recognition in newsletter. Call for more information.
- Friends of the Hummingbird \$250 Hummingbird feeder in addition to above.
- Friends of the Bluebird \$500 Bluebird nesting box in addition to above.
- Birdsong Naturalist \$1,000 Personal tour of Birdsong with Executive Director and/or Board Chair for up to 6 people. Call for more information.

I do not wish to receive any (above) benefits with my membership and would like the whole amount tax deductible.

I would like to support Birdsong by volunteering to help as follows:

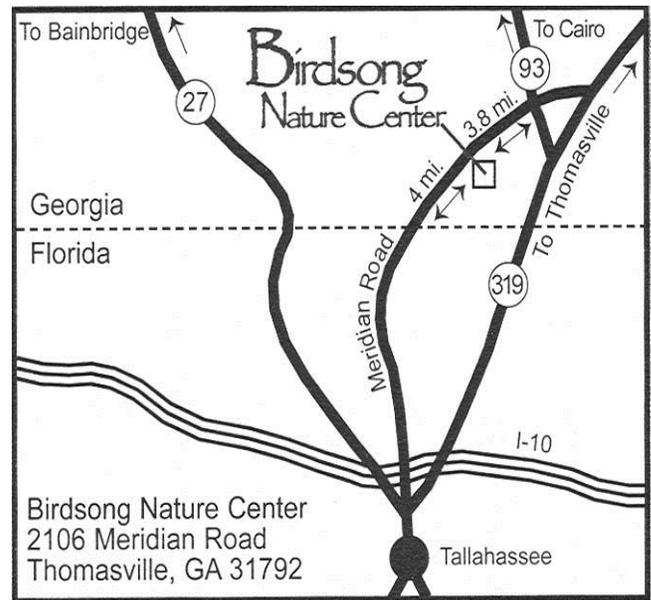
- | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bird Window Instructor | <input type="checkbox"/> Program Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial/legal guidance | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund raising | <input type="checkbox"/> Serve on Board of Directors | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greeter | (please submit resume) | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gift Shop Assistant | <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching (birds, nature walks, stars, etc.) | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Management | | _____ |

Memberships are renewable one year after the sign-up date. Members can upgrade to a higher category membership by sending the balance within the year. Memberships are deductible in part, depending on the value of goods and services received. Please call for information. Receipts stating the value provided and the deductible amount will be sent to those joining at the \$100 or higher level.

NEW FRIENDS OF BIRDSONG

Thomasville

Tammie Wolff



DIRECTIONS:

From Tallahassee: Meridian Road north, 4 miles past FL/ GA border (marked by a blue sign that reads Grady Co.), on right side of road. OR 319 north, turn left onto Rt. 93, then turn left onto Meridian Road, 3.8 miles on left side of road.

From Thomasville: 319 south, turn right at Marathon gas station onto Meridian Road, approximately 5 miles from Marathon or 3.8 miles from stop sign at Rt. 93, on left side of road.

Watch for small sign that reads "Birdsong".

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TALLAHASSEE, FL
Permit No. 660

*Birdsong Nature Center
2106 Meridian Road
Thomasville, GA 31792
Address Service Requested*