

# Birdsong Nature Center

May-June 2023

TRAILS AND BIRD WINDOW OPEN WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS

*Hours: Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays 9 to 5  
Sundays 1 to 5*

## May

May 4 Butterfly Garden Workday  
May 6 Free Family Day  
May 11 Land Management Workday  
May 13 Spring Migration Bird Walk  
May 14 Mother's Day Walk

## June

June 1 Butterfly Garden Workday  
June 3 Free Family Day  
June 3 Gopher Tortoise Field Day  
June 8 Land Management Workday  
June 10 Take a Child Outside and Get Wet and Muddy!

**BIRDSONG NATURE CENTER**  
**WEB SITE: [www.birdsongnaturecenter.org](http://www.birdsongnaturecenter.org)**  
**EMAIL: [birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org](mailto:birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org)**  
**TWITTER: @BirdsongNatureC**  
**FACEBOOK: Birdsong Nature Center**  
**YOUTUBE: Birdsong Nature Center**  
**PHONE: 229-377-4408**

*Please, no pets on Nature Center property.*

**Admission:** members, free; non-member adults, \$5.00; children 4-12, \$2.50

Dear Friends,

Our plant sale on March 25<sup>th</sup> at Birdsong completed our Spring Plant Sales for 2023. We couldn't be more appreciative of all the patrons and supporters who attended the sales at Metcalfe and at Birdsong. We want to say a very special "thank you" to our Plant Sale Chair, June White, for her outstanding leadership, and to the many dedicated volunteers who made the Birdsong Plant Sales not only possible, but also so enjoyable and successful. We can't thank you all enough for the incredible work that you have done!

We are getting closer to completing the easement project – placing Birdsong's property into a conservation easement with Tall Timbers. The project specifics have at this point been approved by the Tall Timbers Board of Directors and are now being reviewed by Georgia DNR. We will keep you apprised of developments as we progress towards completion.

It has been a beautiful spring at Birdsong with abundant, alternating rain and sunshine these past several weeks. The fields and forests are lush and green with new growth. We have greatly enjoyed the many visitors who have come to walk the peaceful trails that meander through the varied landscapes. We very much hope that you will visit the Nature Center one day soon!

Sincerely and very best wishes,  
Joe Peresich, Board Chair

## TWO EXCEPTIONAL SPRING PLANT SALES!

### Thank you!

We are happy to report that after many anxious days of fretful worrying about impending severe weather we had two great plant sales this Spring.

The first was in Metcalfe on March 11, where Birdsong was a vendor at the lively and very well-attended annual Spring Market. Transporting hundreds of tender plants plus furniture and tents on a bumpy dirt road to Metcalfe's Spring Market is a gargantuan effort! We needed many able-bodied dedicated volunteers and their trucks. Luckily, we had both, plus an indispensable moving van. The festive atmosphere and the thorough planning by the Metcalfe event organizers made this a fun and productive day.

Our second sale took place at Birdsong on March 25<sup>th</sup>. We had saved half of our plants for the second sale and watching the rain forecast go from 80 to 90 to 100% in the days before March 25 was disheartening. What if the sale was rained out and we were left caring for hundreds of plants over the hot dry summer? But the rain held off and people came in droves and bought almost all the plants we had. Dan Miller's informative and inspiring article about wild azaleas in the Tallahassee Democrat clearly made a difference. All the azaleas Dan had hauled in many trips from Mr. Koone's collection in Pine Mountain were sold by 9:45. By noon, we were delighted to have sold almost all of our huge and varied collection of beautiful plants and trees to so many happy customers.

We were also pleased to have several new people donating plants this year. One ongoing worry is that our gardener donors will lose their enthusiasm or the ability to dig, pot up, and bring plants to sell. Birdsong's sales would not be nearly as unique and interesting if we offered only mass-produced nursery stock. We are proud to sell plants with provenance, grown over many years (sometimes over several generations) by local experienced gardeners who know and love the plants they share with us. If you have good weed-free plants that you are thinning or dividing please let us know. Contact us at: [birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org](mailto:birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org) or 229-377-4408.

- June White  
Plant Sale Chair

### THANK YOU, PLANT SALE VOLUNTEERS!

These spring plant sales, with their extraordinary results, happen because Birdsong has a remarkable group of volunteers who contribute their time, talent, energy, expertise, and good cheer to the cause. We offer our sincere thanks to everyone who has helped us this spring:

Carole Hayes	Yvonne Stinson	Ute Schorn	Dan Miller
Margaret Tyson	Sherry Nichols	Scott Ball	Julia Sawyer
Kristine Dougherty	Ken Kuhl	Lynn Brown	Barbara Jinright Collins
Sharon Kindred	Gunilla Trull	Ken Misner	Carolyn Cohen
Ben White	Lisa Reeves	Sharman Franklin	Betty Esco
Jonae Favors	Karen Berkley	Lynette Hitt	Melissa Rigsby
Janet Ghysi	Britt Martinez	Alan Parker	Phil Williams
Buddy Holshouser	Molly Neely-Burnam	Sue McFadden	Barbara Mason White
Albert Harrison	Beth Grant	Duane Brown	Faith Hazelip
Joe Peresich			

We offer a very special thank you to June White, our Plant Sale creative director, visionary, and expert botanist. June has deep knowledge and appreciation for every wonderful plant we offer, she grows and procures them, and she is the person who designs and writes the interesting and informative plant signs made for each variety. She creates the beautiful sale layouts and is present at each sale to answer questions and advise on growing. June wants to make sure that every customer gets just the right plants and all the information they need to take their new plants home and help them thrive so they can love and enjoy their plants as much as June does. She keeps our volunteer team well-directed and happy and we all appreciate her leadership. Thank you, June!

## RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS Springtime, 2023

March was incredibly busy with our two big plant sale fundraisers, and now in April we are working on getting our burning done. We are enjoying offering programs, trainings, and workdays again, post-Covid. It has been great fun, and we have a lot of people to thank. Here are a few high points:

**Take a Child Outside!** We continue to offer this program bimonthly. Leaders Sandra Sallee and Carolyn Cohen took a large, lively group of families out to explore the woods in late March. Thank you, Sandra and Carolyn!

**Shannon Forest Circle, Tallahassee Garden Club Field Trip and Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Tour** We really enjoyed providing programs for these two groups. In each case, we took the participants for a nature walk and visited the Bird Window. Both were extremely interested in Birdsong's history and fire ecology legacy.

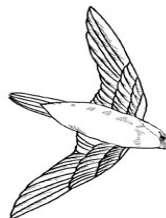
**Sunny Phillips' OLLI Birding Class** Sunny brings her OLLI Birding Class to Birdsong almost every year, part of her springtime series of meetings for her class. She provides a powerpoint program and then takes her group on an extended birding hike through good bird habitat across Birdsong. We are always happy to have her bring her class out!

**The Cabin Fever Tour, Antique Car Club** Birdsong hosted a field trip for a national antique car club that meets annually in the south for its Cabin Fever Tour. Volunteers led this group of 35 people on a tour of the Bird Window and trails and discussed our history, wildlife, and use of fire. They arrived in 10 vintage vehicles, all built in 1919 or earlier! Several of our children's ed leaders assisted with this program and did a great job.

**Small Private Program for Children** Thank you, WILD Ones Faith Hazelip and Kate Taluga, for hosting a small private children's program. This group, leaders included, had a very good time exploring the woods, finding special treasures, making nature crafts and learning wildlife lore. Thanks, Aline!

**Spring Migration Bird Walk** Expert birder Janell Cleveland led a very congenial group of bird enthusiasts on a leisurely birding walk through a variety of good bird habitat on April 8. Janell is an excellent birding leader; she is very experienced and fun to bird with. We listed 46 species that morning, including a Swallow-tailed Kite, a Blue Grosbeak, Brown-headed Nuthatches, and a pair of Summer Tanagers who put on a performance in the south House Pasture. A White-eyed Vireo trailed our group along the north edge of the Gin House and refused to let anyone get a look at him!

**Land Management Work Days** These have been very well-attended and productive events. We are so pleased with the work these teams are doing, clearing around snags, and removing fallen trees off the fire lanes.



### SPRING MIGRATION BIRD WALK Saturday, 8am to 11:30am May 13<sup>th</sup>, with Janell Cleveland

Spring migration may be winding down, but our summer nesting migrants have arrived! We will look for Summer Tanagers, Orchard Orioles, Indigo Buntings, Blue Grosbeaks and others. We can also observe Purple Martins and Eastern Bluebirds as they feed their newly hatched young and continue nesting. Please bring binoculars if you have them and be prepared for hiking through the fields and woods around Birdsong. Wear muted colors.

Please save your space and RSVP by emailing [birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org](mailto:birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org) or calling 1(229)377-4408 by noon on Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. The maximum number of participants for these walks is capped at 15. The walk will be led by Janell Cleveland, an avid birder and founder of the Red Hills Birding Club. If you'd like to learn more about the Red Hills Birding Club, you can reach Janell at 229-726-9056.

\$8 members, \$10 non-members. **Reservations required.**

## **GOPHER TORTOISE FIELD DAY**

**Saturday, June 3**

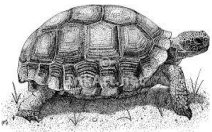
**10am to noon**

The gopher tortoise plays a significant ecological role in longleaf pine and sandhill communities in the southeast. It is classified as a threatened species in the states of Georgia and Florida, but the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently released a decision that federal protection of tortoises under the Endangered Species Act is not warranted. At Birdsong we are fortunate to have a number of active gopher tortoise burrows quite close to our trails where they can be easily observed.

Lora Smith, Ph.D., is a Scientist at Jones Center at Ichauway in Newton, Georgia. She is researching the effects of mammalian predation on gopher tortoises and conducts additional research on upland snake ecology and pond-breeding amphibians. She has provided excellent tortoise programs at Birdsong for many years as a representative of the Gopher Tortoise Council.

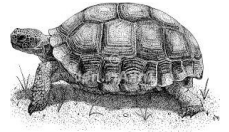
Lora will offer an informative power point presentation on the gopher tortoise's life history and ecology. Our group will then ride out in the field to locate several of our tortoise burrows. Lora will bring her special camera that can be inserted into the burrows so we can monitor any activity below ground, which is always fascinating!

\$10 Friends, \$13 non-members. RESERVATIONS, PLEASE. *This program is intended for adults.* Email [birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org](mailto:birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org) or call 229-377-4408 by noon on Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, to reserve a space on the trailer and learn how you and your family can help protect gopher tortoise habitat near you. You are welcome to bring a picnic lunch if you wish to stay after the program.



### **ROMANCE IN THE AIR... A GOPHER TORTOISE TRYST**

**By Kathie Adams**



My husband, Ace, and I went out into our meadow yesterday about 4:55. About 5 PM we saw a Gopher Tortoise at our closest Gopher burrow. As we watched, we suddenly saw a second Gopher. We were amazed, as seeing two together is exceptionally rare. Actually, seeing one is exceptionally rare!

I ran back to the house to get our binoculars. And what a lovely scene we witnessed. A Gopher Tortoise mating ritual, followed by a Gopher Tortoise mating.

We watched from 5PM to 6:30 pm. Mating went like this. The two Gophers faced off with their noses about 6 inches apart and they stared at each other for several minutes. The romantic in me would say they looked deeply into each other's eyes with yearning. After a few minutes of passionate staring, the male tortoise began bobbing his head up and down and side to side quite vigorously for 2-3 minutes, while the female stared, entranced. Then she proceeded to the edge of her burrow, with her rear end facing up, and the male climbed on board. This lasted for about 5 minutes. This scene was repeated 5 times in an hour and 20 minutes. Between each session, the tortoises would rest a bit, then the staring would begin, and the amazing head bobbing, followed by another round of mating. We were riveted. Ace, of course, kept making hysterical comments through it all, keeping me in stitches. After the 4<sup>th</sup> time, the male and female rested for at least 15 minutes before repeating the staring and head bobbing one last time. This time their coupling lasted about 15 minutes. Ace said things like "Honey, if we do this again, I'm gonna have to spend the night. I'll be too tired to walk all the way home", and "Come on Big Guy, you can do it". You get the picture!

After the last time the big male laid flat out for about 10 minutes, before he started walking back to his burrow. He ate all the way home. He was starving after that workout. He sat at the entrance to his burrow, munching for another 10 minutes, before heading down into his burrow, where, as Ace said, he could sleep undisturbed for a week! We'll see. Maybe we'll get another show tonight! Stay tuned.

How blessed are we to have this beautiful piece of property and to have witnessed something so special. And all the while, butterflies were flitting about...

Post note: It has been 11 days, and we have not seen either tortoise since!

## LAND MANAGEMENT WORKDAYS

Thursdays, May 11 and June 8

9am to noon

We have lots of land management projects to work on and could really use your help. Many of these projects are in support of our burn program. If you enjoy working outdoors with good-natured companions, we have opportunities for you. Alan Parker, our land and site expert, will take us out to work on projects such as raking and clearing around trees and snags prior to burning; removing unwanted shortleaf saplings, sweet gums and other hardwoods from the longleaf pine site; clearing the trails and fire lanes of any fallen trees and overhanging limbs, and more! Because it is burn season, if the weather is favorable for burning, we may pivot and do a prescribed burn instead.

Be prepared for the weather and bring work gloves. If you have a favorite pair of loppers, a saw, or other tools, you are welcome to bring them, but we do have tools on site. There will be water and a snack on the truck; bring a sandwich if you want to have lunch together and we'll provide drinks and dessert.

Please let us know you are coming in case we change plans from doing a work day to a burn day, and so we can prepare for lunch, and/or contact us for more information: call 229-377-4408 or email [kathleen@birdsongnaturecenter.org](mailto:kathleen@birdsongnaturecenter.org).

### Thank you!

Thank you very much to the folks who have joined us for the March and April Land Management Workdays: Sandra Sallee, Bill Carroll, Mike Weed, Ken Kuhl, Matthew Andress, Russ Barrett, Karen Berkley, Scott Ball, Gary Mize, and our leader Alan Parker. In March, the team cleared brush away from the base of snags throughout several sections of woods where we will be burning soon, and in April, we switched to a prescribed burn. The team did excellent work in both instances. Please feel welcome to join us – I can promise you will enjoy working with our group and have the satisfaction of a job well done and much appreciated.



### MOTHER'S DAY NATURE WALK

Sunday, May 14

2 - 4PM

Celebrate Mother's Day in beautiful natural surroundings on a leisurely discovery walk with Beth Grant. Beth can remember the first time she herself went for a Mother's Day walk here at Birdsong with her young son Brian 35 years ago! She writes "One of my first memories at Birdsong was in 1988 when my then 13 year old son did the Mother's Day walk with me. It was a wonderful present!"

It is a great time of year for nesting birds, wildflowers and the refreshing green of late spring. Enjoy the trails and then visit the Butterfly Garden and Bird Window.

\$6 Friends, \$9 nonmembers, children half-price.

### TAKE A CHILD OUTSIDE AND GET WET AND MUDDY!

Saturday, June 10

9:30AM - Noon

Celebrate summer at Birdsong with your favorite child or children. Leaders Sandra Sallee and Carolyn Cohen and Executive Director Kathleen Brady will take you to discover the underwater inhabitants of the Farm Pond and Upper Pond. We'll observe the many fascinating adaptations that plants and animals have for living in an aquatic environment.

Please bring a clean dishpan or bucket that has had no chemicals or soap in it, a dip net if you have one, boots, waders or old tennis shoes for wading in, a change of clothes for the ride home, and sun protection. Bring lunch if you want to stay and picnic afterward. Enjoy learning something new and have a special experience with your child in the great, wet outdoors!

**RESERVATIONS, PLEASE**, so we know how many to prepare for. Please sign up by noon, Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup>.

\$6 Friends, \$9 nonmembers, children half-price. Includes a handout and resource list for year-round outdoor activities with children.

## WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT NOTES

April 17, 2023

**Weather** We are enjoying another cool front coming through, with humidities in the 20's! We've had wide ranging temperatures this Spring with some very hot days, but fortunately they have been followed with cycles of cooler weather and we love it. We keep on getting some good soaking rains too, with 5.98 inches since March 1<sup>st</sup> including a few intense storms. On March 14th we got 1.2 inches and on April 4th we got 1.78 inches. The ponds and swamp levels have fluctuated a bit, but we still have water flowing in the creeks and drains and we hope this trend continues. We really like regular rains unless it interferes with our burning plans!

**Springtime** The rains that started in late winter, now continuing, have resulted in a beautiful green, leafy spring. The emergence of leaves, that lovely early green haze, took its time this year – it wasn't over in just a week or two; it is still going on. It feels so luxurious, to have weeks and weeks of this extended greening and blooming. We get to appreciate the deepening of color every day. Hopefully we have another few weeks of the trees unfurling their fresh new leaves until no branches are visible, then each tree's pale individual green will start to darken and take on that summer look. The woods will have transformed from the gray-brown palette of winter to summer's expanse of all shades of deep green.

**Quite a Year for Wild Azaleas** We have enjoyed a spectacular and lengthy Wild Azalea season. Conditions have been ideal for their blooming since late January when the *R. canescens* outside Lynn's office got started. Wild azaleas are known for their beautiful clusters of very fragrant flowers; bees and butterflies congregate on these plants – they are a significant factor in the springtime ecology of the shady wooded drains all over Birdsong. This year we learned just how extensive our natural population of *R. canescens* really is – we found flowering shrubs in wooded areas where we've not seen them before. It was delightful. This native is typically pale pink, in shades of nearly-white to deeper pink. The Wild Azalea Garden, an area south of the House Pasture at the Big Bay drain is an area where a naturally occurring dense population of *R. canescens* has thrived for years. Dan Miller, excellent plant propagator and wild azalea expert, loves this area and designed a special project to enhance it. He planted a series of patches of differing varieties of azaleas along an adjacent trail. These include a lot of gold to nearly-red cultivated and hybrid varieties of *R. austrinum* and *R. flammeeum*, all with differing shades of color and different scents. This Wild Azalea Garden was glorious this spring – so much fun to visit

and wander among the huge shrubs loaded with colorful fragrant flowers, full of ecstatic butterflies and bees. Thank you, Dan!

**Land Management** In part due to equipment problems, unsuitable weather, and other ongoing nature center activities such as our Plant Sales and programs, we have gotten a late start on our burning, but we'll be making up for lost time soon.

We have a great crew that has already done a huge amount of site preparation, especially the protection of snags, which makes a day's burning much less stressful and often faster. We got started by burning the House Pasture and Squirrel Woods, but the humidity was higher than expected and the burning was a little patchier than we had hoped. We may go back and touch up a few places at some point. We also got set up to burn last week, but the winds were high, which we could have handled, but there were strong gusts of 20+ mph that were coming from all directions, so we switched over to working on fallen trees on the northwest firelane. We have a hard-working, flexible crew and we have a burn planned for tomorrow that we are looking forward to.

**The Bird Window** I had hoped to have good news for you this time. We had expressed our concern in the last newsletter about seeing fewer birds this season at the Window, part of an annual trend over the past few years and were hoping for more migrants to appear by now. This has not happened. We have really missed the Pine Siskins, Chipping Sparrows, Yellow-rumped Warblers, and American Goldfinches that used to arrive in mid-January and stay several months. We are concerned that this is part of a larger trend going on in the bird world – a substantial drop in numbers. Some people think it is related to our recent garden clearing. If that is the case, we'll find out next year after the garden has been replanted.

Meanwhile, we have enjoyed the birds that do come to the Window. Here are the ones we've been seeing since March 1<sup>st</sup>: White-breasted Nuthatch, Northern Parula, Pine Warbler, Mourning Dove, Chipping Sparrow, American Crow, Towhee, Brown Thrasher, White-throated Sparrow (one day there were four at the corn dish at one time!), Black-and-white Warbler, Mockingbird, and quite a few Cedar Waxwings, one of our favorites. Our Gray Catbirds are still here – we always hope they'll stay and nest, but they usually move on at the last minute.

Our year-round residents are nesting now and we see them every day at the Window: Cardinals, Blue Jays, Carolina Wrens, Carolina Chickadees, and Tufted Titmice. The Ruby-throated Hummingbirds came right on schedule before the middle of March. Lynn maintains two feeders for them, and they zip in and out all day long. The other day they had competition from



a large green anole, who had his head down in the little yellow plastic flower, enjoying some nectar!

**Purple Martins** We appear to have four nesting pairs of Martins this year and we are really glad they are here, frenetic and flying and, as always, cheerfully loud. They seem to like the new accommodations and have actively chosen specific nests. We have recently observed them gathering mulchy grasses and mud from the ruts in the trail nearby and just the other day got to see a female flying in with a 15-inch long longleaf pine needle in her bill! Now that they are settled in and clearly nesting, we'll be watching closely for any hatchlings to appear in the doorways, and we'll keep you posted.

**A Short Walk** Yesterday I decided to take a break from working on the newsletter and go out for a brief walk. It was a beautiful cool sunny day with clouds here and there. I headed out to make a loop around the Farm Pond, about a 25-minute walk, just to move and get some air and a change in perspective. I headed out down through the woods south of the Barn and entered the Gin House Field. It always impacts me this way – a major sense of relief and spaciousness, walking out into that wide open vista. The field is banded in swaths of palomino broomsedge and gray goldenrod stems, with patches of green, white-blossomed blackberries. I could hear Bluebirds singing. The passing clouds were speeding by, casting long shadows on the field; it looked like rolling waves coming in on the beach. Enjoying this very much, I walked out to the Star Pasture and heard a beautiful bubbling melodic song, the loudest and loveliest song I've hear this spring, coming from a nearby wax myrtle shrub. I couldn't quite recognize the music, but soon out flew a stunning black and copper Orchard Oriole and his golden girl. They perched on a persimmon branch. and he sang his song of love. I was smitten by this fervent display and had to make myself start walking again and get back to work.

I headed across the field and onto the Farm Pond Dam. The pond was open and serene and covered with *Brasenia* and water lilies, many blooming. I flushed up a covey of eight quail that flew chattering off into the slough, and had to take a moment to recover from the pleasant shock. Further on, almost to the old loblolly tree, something caught my eye on the ground and there was a medium-sized cottonmouth, as surprised as I was. He'd been relaxing in a patch of sunlight, and I had come close to stepping on him. We looked at each other for a moment and then he hightailed it into the pond; I heard the little splash. He was very handsome, in beautiful condition, pretty white markings along his jaw. I kept on around the entire pond and up the hill, feeling lucky to have encountered so much wildlife.

Along the north edge of the Gin House Field are four of our Bluebird Trail nest boxes, close to the woods. These typically are used early in the nesting season by our Chickadees and Brown-headed Nuthatches, before the Bluebirds get going. Just as I was passing the last box, I almost collided face-first with a Brown-headed Nuthatch who was flying into the box with a caterpillar in her bill. She must have been so intent on her task that she hadn't noticed me. All I saw was a sudden blur of gray feathers at eye level accompanied by a whole lot of fussing, as she reversed and landed on a nearby branch. The fussing continued as I backed away...Neither of us saw that coming!

Arriving at the edge of the Gin House across the trail from the bench, a little stunned by all these experiences, I happened to look down, my attention caught by something in the grass. I had startled a 20-inch-long glass lizard and got to see the front end of his body go airborne as he noticed me and whipped around in a U-turn and disappeared back in the deep grass, all in a nanosecond. It is rare out here to see a live glass lizard. They are legless lizards that resemble snakes but have that lizard ability to break off or "shatter" their tail if in a dangerous situation, hence the name. They also have a gorgeous opalescent sheen to their scales. In that flash, I did get to see this lizard's tiny black and white checked pattern. I have a glass lizard tail in my office – if you ever want to see it you are welcome to stop by. Do look them up; they are a very interesting if seldom-seen local reptile. Heading back to the office, I got to hear the ardent singing of a White-eyed Vireo, several Eastern Bluebirds, a pair of Summer Tanagers, a Red-headed Woodpecker, and our lively colony of Purple Martins.

I'm still basking in the pure enjoyment and excitement and sensory delight of that short morning walk. Just wish you'd been there to enjoy it too! I know I repeat myself at the end of every Wildlife Notes, encouraging you to come out and visit and explore Bird-song, but I can't recommend it enough: do come out for a short walk. You won't regret it. And please come and tell us what you've seen.

- KDB



## NEW FRIENDS OF BIRDSONG

### *Thomasville*

Victoria Pharis  
Ken and Constance Clineman  
Lindajo Haythorn  
Geraldine Harris

### *Tallahassee*

Mitch Albers and Cindy Abaco  
Thomas and Lisa Jackson  
James Melin  
Alice Abbitt  
Carol Gregg  
Jeri Winkleblack  
Steve Blanton  
Alan Carter  
Austin Carroll  
Wendy Grey  
Susan Davis  
Kelly Craft

### *Other*

Aline and Jim Rundle	Cairo, GA
Shaun and Scott Bell	Havana, FL
Pat Santas	Valdosta, GA
Paula Carney	Cairo, GA
The Slappey Family	Cairo, GA

### **FREE FAMILY DAYS**

**First Saturdays: May 6 and June 3**

On first Saturdays of the month admission is free and we will offer a \$5-off membership special. If you know of any families who have never been to Birdsong, please let them know about this opportunity. This is a nice chance for first-time visitors to enjoy the trails, get to know the property, and visit the Bird Window and Butterfly Garden.

**Admission: free**

## BIRDSONG NATURE CENTER WISHES TO THANK:

### *In Memory of Lane Green:*

Susan Green

### *In Memory of Eleanor Hand Lilly:*

Barbara Mason White

### *In Honor of Janell and Ryan Cleveland:*

Marilyn Henry and Sandra Keller

### *Special Financial Gifts:*

Briarcliff Garden Club  
Mark and Susan Baldino  
Florrie Purcell Crapps  
Donna Legare and Jody Walthall  
Jane Elder  
Alice Abbitt



### **BUTTERFLY GARDEN WORKDAYS**

**Thursdays, May 4 and June 1**

**9:00AM to Noon**

Birdsong's Butterfly Gardeners meet on the first Thursday of each month at 9am.

Please feel welcome to join this accomplished and active crew of volunteers to tend our beautiful Butterfly Garden. Your involvement would be very welcome. Bring gardening gloves, knee pads, clippers, and lunch if you wish to stay afterwards.

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

### **Birdsong Nature Center Board of Directors 2022-2023**

<b>President</b>	Joe Peresich
<b>Treasurer</b>	Bill Preston
<b>Secretary</b>	Margaret Tyson

### **Directors**

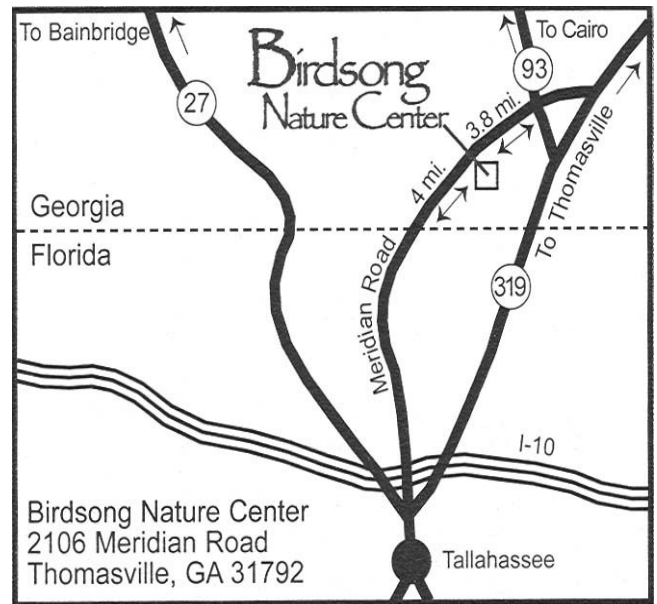
Jim Antista	Ellery Sedgwick
Michael Brezin	Scott Ball

### **BIRDSONG'S CORPORATE SPONSORS**

Native Nurseries  
Trillium Gardens Nursery  
Carroll and Company, CPAs  
Import Authority  
Seminole Alterations  
Chelsea Salon & Spa  
TNB Financial Services  
Target Print and Mail  
Armstrong Tree Service  
Woodleaf Senior Care  
Cowhey & Ward, LLC  
Loblolly Rise  
Blue Bear Farm & Cattle Co. LLC







**DIRECTIONS:**

From Tallahassee: Meridian Road north, 4 miles past FL/ GA border 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*