

Birding Adventures

Expert Guide & Instructor-Paddy Cunningham

1653 Plunkett St. Hollywood, Fl. 33020 (954) 926-5458 (954) 805-6810

www.birdadventure.com

birdpaddy@yahoo.com



****TIPS FOR SUCCESS** WATERFOWL BEHAVIOR**

Waterfowl are special local "snowbirds" adding a lot of color and birding excitement in the winter. In large concentrations of ducks such that you find at Merrit Island look for behavior clues to increase i.d. success. In flight ducks have VERY RAPID wing beats. **Dabbling ducks** such **Lesser Scaup** and **Blue-winged Teals** feed on vegetation on the surface. **Mergansers** such as **Red-breasted** and **Hooded** can be identified by a lot of splashing on the water surface feeding on fish in groups. **Northern Pintails** feed with their head under the water and tails in the air. **Ruddy Ducks** are stiff tailed ducks with large bills. Learn to identify them at MERRIT ISLAND-FEB-16-18,2010



TRINIDAD ASA WRIGHT
NATURE CENTER-3/27-4/2/2010

One of the top birding and eco-lodges in the world, the Asa Wright Nature Center is a birdwatcher "MUST" destinations. It is famous for it's veranda porches where British tea is serve while you watch humming-birds at the feeders. Trinidad is the place to see the Oilbirds. Other field trips will explore this diverse country. This is an all inclusive trips with all meals, expert local guides, hotel, airport transfers and expert leader-Paddy Cunningham. Plane fare is not included. Cost to soon announced.

FUTURE ADVENTURES

SPECIES TO DATE-168

ADVENTURES MISSED NOVEMBER 2009

NOV. 11-ARCHBOLD, VENUS & LAKE OCH. CENTRAL FLORIDA
It's been a long since we have been to Archbold. We will travel up Snake Road to see Crested Caracara, Turkeys and Sandhill Cranes. Also a quick stop at Fisheating Creek for warblers. At Archbold Biological Station we will walk the trails for Scrub Jay, N. Bobwhite and Red-headed WP. A drive on Venus road can bring any surprise-E. Bluebird, W. Snipe, who knows. Anything else we can squeeze in will be a plus. Late return. Cost_\$50

BONNET HOUSE BIRDING CLASSES
DEC. 5-Backyard Birding-Attracting birds & butterflies to your yard. Also Birding Tips for Success-8:30-11:30



JAN 9-Plantation Preserve-Waterfowl & Wading Birds-learn tips on all wading birds & ducks. Call 954-563-5393 ext. 137

DEC 12-SNAKE WARRIOR ISLAND -8:00 am-12 noon
This natural area has a historical past & a promising future for waterfowl in it's created wetlands. Purple Gallinule, R.T Hummingbirds, Ring necked Ducks, Blue-winged Teals and much more. Another stop? Cost-FREE, with South Fl. & Tropical Audubon Societies. Meet in the parking lot.

FEB-16-18 MERRIT ISLAND ADV.
Merrit Island is some of the best birding of the year. We will visit the wildlife drives to look for rare waterfowl, shorebirds and wading birds. In the central prairies we will look for Sandhill Cranes, Bald Eagles and more. At Forever Florida a special buffet. At 3 Lakes W. M. A. a search for Whooping Cranes, Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, Bachman Sparrow and Brown-headed Nuthatches. This trip should yield more than 100 species. Cost includes 3 days of expert birding, breakfast, hotel dbl. occupancy,-12 passenger van, 2 lunches. Late return on Sunday due to Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Cost TBA

OCTOBER 17, 2009 HAWK WATCH UPPER KEYS, CARD SOUND ROAD-71 species
At Card Sound Road, the rare Cuban Golden Yellow Warbler came right out with a little pishing, along with Yellow-throated, Wilson's, Prairie, N. Parula and Northern Waterthrush warblers. At N.K.L. Botanical State Preserve after a brief rain Yellow-throated, Red-eyed and White-eye Vireos. Peregrine Falcons GALORE with at least 40 seen, including one flying next to our van which we clocked at 33 m.p.h. Ann Wiley tried to save a Dbl.-crst. Commorant who died from it's injuries.



Eastern Shore of Va.-Chesapeake Adventure 121 species

The advancing cold front fulfilled the promise of what we had all come to see-KETTLES OF MIGRATING RAPTORS. In upward rising spirals were hundreds of Red-tailed, Sharp-shinned & Coopers Hawks. Screaming across the skies with rapid wing beats and perilous dives were American Kestrels, Merlins and Peregrine Falcons. According to the Kiptopeke Hawkwatch Station there was a high 58 Peregrines and a total of more than 700 raptors on the first day.

The Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory once again was a favorite of all with many close views of warblers, thrushes, wrens and other songbirds. It is great to see up close the difference between a Grey-cheeked Thrush and Veery, House and Carolina Wren, Common Yellowthroat and Hooded Warblers.

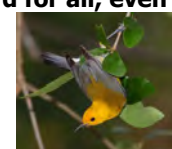
It never fails to amaze you that these tiny birds fly across the ocean and thousands of miles to winter in the tropics. It is such an arduous journey that 70% will not return. Everyone got to hold and release these wonders of nature. So precious. So beautiful.

A visit to Chicoteaque brought lots of shore-birds and waterfowl including Marbled Godwit and Snow Goose. A first for TEAM BIRDING ADVENTURE was to compete in Kiptopeke Birding Challenge to raise money for the CVWO. At the Nature Conservancy's Brownsville Seaside Farm, our team found 49 species in 3 hours including Brown-headed Nuthatch, Whimbrel and Wood Duck. It was a challenge and brought the group to a new level of birding. The mudflats of Wallis Wharf offered a great look at over 20 species. Eyre Hall Plantation was great for dusk fallouts with flocks of Eastern Bluebirds and Pine, Nashville and Palm warblers. Crab Cakes, stuffed Flounder and grilled shrimp filled our plates. Traveling by marshes on country roads filled our days.

Stay tuned for a full write up on the web site www.birdadventure.com

TO THE GOOD LIFE!!

Barry Heimlich was thrilled with his first look at a Prothonotary Warbler, so brilliant yellow by small pond at dusk. Ann Wiley had her first Acadian Flycatcher looking carefully at the long wing projections. Patty Born and her Mom Sue Hagen added a lot of life birds including Whimbrel, Marbled Godwit, and Veery. Jean Trebbi during a frantic warbler flock remarked I must be at the wrong terminal. I just keep seeing the departures, when are the arrivals? A Long-tailed Duck in flight gave us all a puzzle to solve for it's i.d. and it was a life bird for all, even me!!



BECOME A BIRD SEEKER & BIRD BY INTENTION

www.birdadventure.com

birdpaddy@yahoo.com

(954) 805-6810 (954) 926-5458