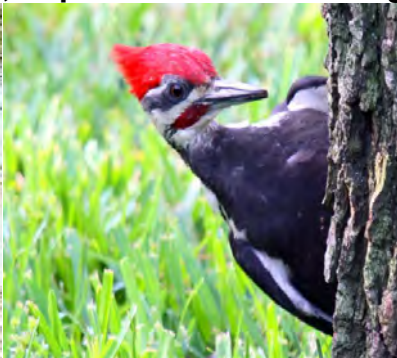


## **Birding Adventures Schedule 2016-2017**

**Paddy Cunningham      Biologist, Expert Guide and Birding Instructor**



**Take a birding adventure to explore the natural areas of Florida, United States, and Tropical destinations-Jamaica, Costa Rica and Bahamas searching for local, rare and seasonal birds. Through a series of field trips, expert guiding, bird classes and instruction, YOU WILL GAIN knowledge, increase identification skills, add life birds, and enjoy touring with friends. My motto is YOU LEARN THE I.D.!!**

**For more info. call Paddy @ (754) 201-1141 or at [birdpaddy@yahoo.com](mailto:birdpaddy@yahoo.com)  
Make checks payable to Patricia Cunningham.**



**FOR FASTEST RESPONSE-contact me [www.birdpaddy@yahoo.com](http://www.birdpaddy@yahoo.com)**

### **Mon. Labor Day, Sept. 5-Flamingo Gardens Native Bird Festival 9:30am to 4:30pm**

Flamingo Gardens is for the birds this Labor Day, September 5th with the 7th Annual Native Bird Festival. Experience the birds that make Florida their home with live bird exhibits, birding classes, aviary tours and special live bird presentations. I will be conducting 2 workshops: 1. Attracting Birds and Butterflies-talk followed by a butterfly walk AND South Florida: A Birder's Paradise talk and a walk through the aviary. Best of all, Labor Day is **HALF PRICE ADMISSION!**

### **Tues. Sept. 6 Audubon of the Everglades Meeting Speaker Paddy Cunningham, Pine Jog Env. Center, Palm Beach Topic-Shorebirds & Warblers-difficult groups made easier \*\*New Program\*\* 7 p.m.**

**Sun., Sept. 11- Ascend to Better Birding-Part I-The Tools of the Trade- Flamingo Gardens-2:00-5:00 p.m. bird class** Learn how to better use your binoculars, bird checklist and bird field guide book including field marks, glossary, and family organization. Learn about some of the latest birding apps such as e-bird, Audubon and Merlin to make identification easier using your smart phone. Find out about of the wonderful benefits of becoming a bird watcher, great local birding hot spots, and wonderful birding opportunities locally, in Florida and tropical adventures abroad. The workshop includes an informative power point presentation, numerous hand outs and a bird walk through the gardens. Bring binoculars, and a field guide (if possible can be provided upon request). Also if you have bird apps on your phone bring them. COST-\$25 per session (\$10 for members) for adults and children over 8 years old. Pre-registration is required. Cost includes admission to Flamingo Gardens, so come early to enjoy gardens and wildlife sanctuary. Please meet at the meeting Room for the classes. Pre-register online or call the Education Department at (954) 473-2955 x115.

**Sun. Sept. 18-Hawks Galore-Raptor bird class Bonnet House-2:00-5:00 p.m.**

Search the skies for the flight of Raptors streaming down our coastline heading for winter destinations. Learn how to identify the main groups of raptors-Buteos, Accipiters, Falcons, Harriers, Osprey, Eagles, Kites and Vultures. Get into the details of the 18 species who can be found here in South Florida. The workshop includes an informative power point presentation, raptor hand outs and a bird walk through the gardens. Bring binoculars and a field guide (if possible can be provided upon request) CONTACT LINDA at (954) 563-5393 EXT 137. Cost \$25.

**Sun., Sept. 25- Ascend to Better Birding-Part II-A 10 step approach to better identification bird class.**

Learn a 10 step approach to increase your ability to identify birds such as family groups, behavior, silhouette, habitat, field marks, commonality, seasonality, birding by ear, plumage, use of checklist and apps. The class will include an informative power point, numerous handouts, workshop activity and a walk around the garden to look for birds. Bring binoculars, and a field guide (if possible can be provided upon request). Also if you have bird apps on your phone bring them. COST-\$25 per session (\$10 for members) for adults and children over 8 years old. Pre-registration is required. Cost includes admission to Flamingo Gardens, so come early to enjoy gardens and wildlife sanctuary. Please meet at the meeting Room for the classes. Pre-register [online](#) or call the Education Department at (954) 473-2955 x115.

**Sept. 29-Oct. 2 -7<sup>th</sup> Annual Bird Festival, Fairchild Tropical Gardens, Coral Gables**

Festival includes a variety of field trips, workshops, keynote speakers, and exhibits.

**Oct. 8 & 9- Florida Keys Hawk Watch Weekend Adventure**

A great weekend getaway to see hawk migration at its peak. A focus will be on identifying hawks in flight where wing patterns and silhouette are critical in identification. Scan the sky for Peregrine Falcons that screech through the sky dive-bombing prey. At a stop at Curry Hammock State Park we will visit the Hawkwatch research station to search for up to 10 species of raptors such as Broadwing, Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks. Late fall warblers up to 12 species may be found including Chestnut-sided, Swainson's, Bay-breasted and Indigo Buntings and Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Ft. Zachary Taylor. Keys specialties will be targeted and Shorebirds will be spotted at Anne's and a special beach. With a weather event we can hope for a fallout of the last of the fall songbirds at stops at North Key Largo, Windley Key and Ft. Zachary Taylor State Park. LAST YEAR Western Spindalis. COST-\$325 includes 2 days of expert birding by Paddy Cunningham, informational handouts, transportation, breakfast and 1 lunch. BRING-overnight bag, rain gear, sun protection. For reservation contact Paddy at [birdpaddy@yahoo.com](mailto:birdpaddy@yahoo.com)



**October 23-Ascend to Better Birding-Part I-The Tools of the Trade-bird class**

Learn how to better use your binoculars, bird checklist and bird field guide book including field marks, glossary, and family organization. Learn about some of the latest birding apps such as e-bird, Audubon and Merlin to make identification easier using your smart phone. Find out about of the wonderful benefits of becoming a bird watcher, great local birding hot spots, and wonderful birding opportunities locally, in Florida and tropical adventures abroad. The workshop includes an informative power point presentation, numerous hand outs and a bird walk through the gardens. Bring binoculars, and a field guide (if possible can be provided upon request). Also if you have bird apps on your phone bring them. CONTACT LINDA at (954) 563-5393 EXT 137. Cost \$25.

**November 6-Ascend to Better Birding-Part II-A 10 step approach to better identification bird class.**

Learn a 10 step approach to increase your ability to identify birds such as family groups, behavior, silhouette, habitat, field marks, commonality, seasonality, birding by ear, plumage, use of checklist and apps. The class



will include an informative power point, numerous handouts, workshop activity and a walk around the garden to look for birds. Bring binoculars, and a field guide (if possible can be provided upon request). Also if you have bird apps on your phone bring them. CONTACT LINDA at (954) 563-5393 EXT 137. Cost \$25.

**November 11-13-North Florida Weekend Adventure-St. Mark's NWR, Wakulla S.P., Ponce De Leon Springs S.P., Alligator Point, Sweetwater wetlands, O'Leno S.P.**

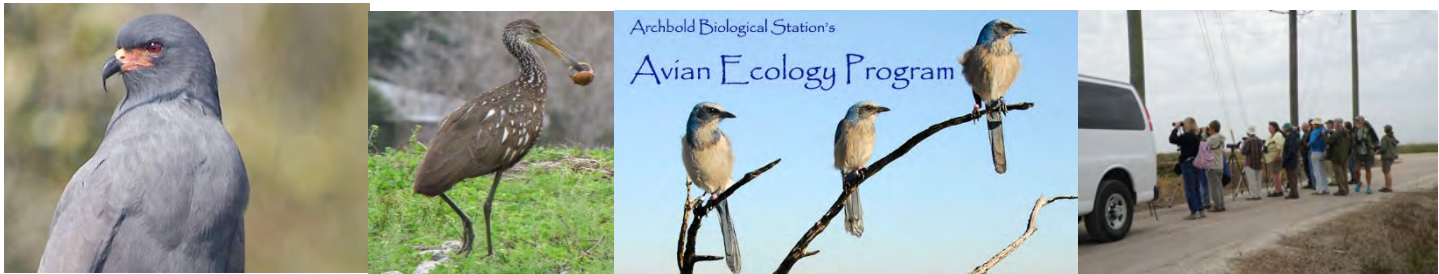
North Florida is a different climate zone and thus attracts many northern species in the fall and winter. We will search numerous natural areas for up to 130 plus species such as Redhead, Common Goldeneye, Canvasback, Brown Creeper, Kinglets, Nuthatches, Rusty Blackbird, American Pipet, Fox, Nelson Sharp-tailed and Seaside Sparrows. A stop at the new Sweetwater wetlands should produce numerous species of ducks. A boat ride on Wakulla Springs might yield Hooded Merganser and Yellow-crowned Night Heron. Step back in time for a special dinner at the Wakula Lodge. At Ponce De Leon Springs S.P. shaded trails hold Brown Creeper, Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets. BUT St. Mark's will be the focus with a great diversity of habitats and chances for great birds. Cost includes-3 days of expert birding, 2 nights dbl. occupancy, transportation for the first 5 birders, 2 breakfasts, 1 lunches, Cost-\$325



**Sun., Nov. 20—Plantation Preserve Birding Audubon FREE walk 1:30-5:30 p.m.** Join South Florida and Tropical Audubon Society's for a tour of Plantation Preserve wetlands. We will still try for Marsh Wren, wintering warblers and waterfowl, but different this year we try for Barn Owl at dusk. The preserve is on Broward Blvd., two miles east of University Drive. Meet Paddy at the trailhead past the playground. No fee.

**December 3-4 STA 5 and Archbold Biological Station Weekend Adventure**

Stormwater Treatment Area 5 has been named one of the 100 BEST birding place in the U.S. You can see thousands of birds and many species of ducks. It is also one of the best places to see Snail Kite and Limpkin. Along the Deer Fence Road can be Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Western Kingbird and many species of raptors. Heading to Archbold we will make a quick stop at Fisheating Creek for wintering warblers and travel along the Venus Road for Red-headed Woodpecker and Florida Scrub Jay. We will spend the night at the famous Archbold Biological Station home to scientist and students of our unique Florida Scrub on the Lake Wales Ridge. An early morning walk on the refuge and a brief tour of the facility. Along our way home we will make stops along Lake Okeechobee, Harney Canal Pond. Cost-\$225 includes 2 days expert birding, 1 night lodging, 1 lunch and 1 breakfast, Archbold Biological Station fee and STA 5 fee, transportation for first 5 birders.



**December 11-Bird Behavior-A Key to Better I.D. bird class**

Learn how observing bird behavior can be essential to identifying a bird. Gain knowledge about flight and feeding behaviors that are unique to a variety of birds. The class will include an informative power point, numerous hand outs and a walk around the garden to look for birds. Bring binoculars, and a field guide (if possible can be provided upon request). Also if you have bird apps on your phone bring them. CONTACT LINDA at (954) 563-5393 EXT 137. Cost \$25.

### **Sat. Dec. 17-Christmas Bird Count South Florida Audubon Society**

Join a team of birders to count the birds of Broward County on this special day. Join amateur scientists all over the country for this important scientific annual bird count. Meet for dinner to find out the total number of bird species found and which group found them.

### **January 8-Birding by Habitat-bird class**

I say birds are creatures of habitat. One of the best ways to find the birds you seek is know what habitat where they can be found. Some birds are very specific like Scrub Jays and some more general like Northern Mockingbirds. Learn what birds are likely to be found in the incredible variety of Florida's natural habitats. The class will include an informative power point, numerous hand outs and a walk around the garden to look for birds in various habitats. Bring binoculars, and a field guide (if possible can be provided upon request). CONTACT LINDA at (954) 563-5393 EXT 137. Cost \$25

### **Thur. Jan 12-16-EVERGLADES BIRDING FESTIVAL-Co-sponsored by SFAS and Birding Adventures**

Jan 12 a.m.-Plantation Preserve Walk (FREE) with SFAS Steve Kaplan 8-11:30 am

Jan. 12-p.m.-Broward Hot Spots field trip

Jan 12-Joint Meeting SFAS & EBF-Meet & Greet Happy Hour, Light Buffet, LONG KEY NATURE CENTER  
Keynote Famous James Currie of TV's Birding Adventure, topic The Last Tuskers.

Jan 13-Corkscrew, Palm Beach wetlands, South Dade wetlands field trips

Evening program Keynote Paddy Cunningham-Everglades, Unique & Precious, A Natural History Tour of the Everglades and its birds.

Jan. 14-South Dade Exotics, StormwaterTreatment Area 5 field trips

Jan. 15- Everglades National Park field trip

Jan. 16-Upper Keys Natural History Tour



### **January 27, 28, & 29-Space Coast Birding Festival, Titusville, Fl. Birding by Ear & Habitat workshops**

#### **February 12-Birding by Ear bird class-**

Most advanced birders, bird by ear to identify the birds they seek. The good news is that each makes a unique sound to help identify them. That is the bad news too. Learn birding by ear with techniques such as repetition, use of human words, sound type, family groups, habitat and more. The class will include an informative power point, numerous hand outs and a walk around the garden to look for birds. Bring binoculars, and a field guide (if possible can be provided upon request). CONTACT LINDA at (954) 563-5393 EXT 137. Cost \$25

### **March 4-5 Indian River Lagoon Merrit Island NWR, Viera Ponds, Cape Canaveral N.S. Weekend Adv.**

Merrit Island has some of the best birding in Florida. First we visit Viera Ponds for American Bittern, Swamp Sparrow, Crested Caracara and more. At the famous Blackpoint wildlife drives we will look for rare waterfowl, shorebirds and wading birds. Cape Canaveral Seashore and Bio Lab road bring lots for shorebird surprises- Scrub Jay, Northern Gannet, Cost includes 2 days of expert birding, 1 breakfast, hotel dbl., 1 lunch, van transportation for the first 5 people. Cost-\$TBA once boat is booked.





**March 19-Birding by Season-Right Bird, Right Time, Right Place-bird class**

Discovery when and how to find the bird you seek, by learning to Bird by Season. Through the use of checklists, annual graphs, range maps and apps you will learn to find the target and life birds. The class will include an informative power point, numerous hand outs and a walk around the garden to look for birds. Bring binoculars, and a field guide (if possible can be provided upon request). Also if you have bird apps on your phone bring it. CONTACT LINDA at (954) 563-5393 EXT 137. Cost \$25

**March 24-26 Grand Bahamas Tropical Adventure**

Only a 5 hour ferry ride away but a whole different world awaits us with tropical bird species in the Grand Bahamas. Lead by local expert Erika Gates who will shows us the specialties such as Bananaquit, Red-legged Thrush, Western Spindalis, Cuban Emerald & Bahama Woodstar Hummingbirds. We will stay in a garden bed and breakfast next to the beach to maximize our chances to see a variety of birds. On the ferry ride we will pelagic bird from the deck. Day trips will include Garden of the Gods and numerous birding hot spots. All transportation on island is provided in a comfortable bus. Trip includes 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch, transfers to and from ferry in Bahamas, expert guide Paddy Cunningham and local expert Erika Gates.



**April 8, Birding in the Field-Green Cay and Wakodahatchee Wetlands Field Trip. Celebrate!!**

Talk a wonderful walk in the best two local birding hot spots in South Florida. Put all what you have learned to practice at these top birding destinations. See young birds in the nests of a variety of wading birds. A chance for some rare birds like Painted Bunting, Sora, Least and American Bittern. A focus of the walk will be how to find birds in the field and wetland birds. We "do" lunch together to celebrate a great year of birding and learning. Lunch on your own. 8 am- 2:00 p.m. CONTACT LINDA at (954) 563-5393 ext 137. Cost \$25

**Sat April 22/Sun April 23 Ft. DeSoto, Celery Field, Cecil Webb/Babcock Weekend Adventure Getaway**

Ft. DeSoto is one of the best spots for spring migration and the possibility of 100 plus species for this trip. Varieties can include 15 species of warblers-Hooded, Blackpoll, Cape May, 12 shorebirds-Whimbrel, Wilson's Plover, Painted/Indigo Buntings Scarlet/Summer Tanagers, Wood/Swainson/Veery Thrushes and Blue/Rose-breasted Grosbeaks. The drive over includes a stop at Archbold Biological Station for Florida Scrub Jay and Red-headed Woodpecker. On Sunday an early a.m. walk in Ft. De Soto for more, and then south to the Celery Fields for Bobolink, Wilson Snipe, Black-bellied Whistling Duck, shorebirds and possible King Rail. At the Cecil Webb for Eastern Bluebird, Pine Warbler, Brown-headed Nuthatch and Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Trip includes 2 days of expert birding by Paddy Cunningham, 1 night's hotel, 1 lunch and 1 breakfast. Cost-\$285. For further information and reservation contact Paddy at [birdpaddy@yahoo.com](mailto:birdpaddy@yahoo.com)



**Sat., April 29 – Hugh Taylor Birch State Park / Evergreen Cemetery Birding FREE Audubon walk**

South Florida Audubon Society's Paddy Cunningham invites TAS to join her for a tour of Hugh Taylor Birch State Park, followed by a visit to Evergreen Cemetery in Ft. Lauderdale. It should be great for spring warblers. The state park's entrance is on Sunrise Blvd., just west of A1A. Meet at 8:00am at the Hammock Trail parking area. Costs include an entrance fee to the park.

**Sun April 30-Native Plant 101-Botany made easier-plant class, Bonnet House, 2-5 pm** (954) 563-5393 ext 137.

**Sun May 21-Attracting Birds and Butterflies to your yard-plant class, Bonnet House, 2-5 pm** (954) 563-5393.

**Jamaica Tropical Adventure June 18-22**

As a tropical island, Jamaica's climate is a bird haven year round. The island also boasts a range of habitat which attracts a variety of bird species, from lush lowland jungles and extensive shorelines to high elevation mountains and midrange grasslands, meandering rivers, dramatic waterfalls, coffee plantations and dry savannahs. There are 28 endemics found nowhere else in the world and last year as we found them all. The spectacular views from Strawberry Hill and the veranda of our Blue Mountain hideaway Woodside provide great birding and dining opportunities. Goblin Hill Villas overlooking a turquoise bay is tropical lodging and was a great location for Parrot and Potoo watching. Ecclesdown Road is some of the best birding in Jamaica where we found both Jamaican Lizard and Chestnut-billed Cuckoos. Part of the fun of the trip is the great cultural experiences at the Old Tavern Coffee Plantation and the tranquil Reach Falls. **Join the fun.**

**Trip includes:** Expert Jamaican Leader-Lyndon Johnson, Cultural Leader Lynda Lee Burke and Expert Guide Paddy Cunningham, All Meals, Transportation & Airport Transfers in Jamaica

All activities described including: Blue Mountain National Park, Rio Grande Rafting, Reach Falls, Clifton Mount, Holleywell National Park, Strawberry Hill, Castleton Botanical Gardens, Old Tavern Coffee Plantation, Lodging-Woodside Manor-Blue Mountains, Goblin Hill Villas-Port Antonio

Cost-\$1750 dbl. occupancy Does NOT include airfare from Miami to Kingston, Jamaica.

