

Birding Adventures Bonnet House Birding Class Schedule 2018-2019

Paddy Cunningham Biologist, Expert Guide and Birding Instructor



**Bonnet House-Historic House & Gardens, 900 N. Birch Road, Ft. Lauderdale, Fl. 33304.
Class reservations contact Linda Schaller, (954) 563-5393. Ext 137.**

Bonnet House is an amazing secret garden along Ft. Lauderdale beach. Its' historic home is listed U.S. National register of Historic Places and has a Key West style with large verandas and artwork. Its' 35 acre natural area and gardens is perfect for birding in that it has a variety of habitats including mangrove lagoon, tropical hardwood hammock, freshwater pond, open tree canopy, and flowering gardens. A bird walk through these habitats can bring a variety of species. Our informative classes and powerpoint presentations are held in the tropical Island House. Come early and your class fee allows you to see all of the gardens and nature trail at your leisure.

These classes are designed to teach the basics of what you need to become a better birder. I teach a 10 step approach that will show how to begin to identify bird through a variety of ways. Each class stand on its own, but it HIGHLY recommended that you take the Ascend to Better Birding I if you are a beginner or new to birding. The Ascend to Better Birding II is the foundation of my birding and teaching style and critical to becoming a better birder. Classes such behavior, habitat, season and birding by ear will go into further depth in these very important steps which are key in better identification.

Sept. 9-Ascend to Better Birding-Part I-The Tools of the Trade-bird class-2:00-5:00 p.m Bonnet House.
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.

Sept. 23-Ascend to Better Birding-Part II-Ten steps to better i.d. bird class-Bonnet House-2-5 pm.

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.

Sun. Nov. 4- Bird Behavior-A Key to Better I.D. bird class Bonnet House-2:00-5:00 pm

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., Nov. 17—Plantation Preserve Birding Audubon FREE walk 8:00-11:30 a.m. Join local 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.

Sun. Dec 2-Birding by Habitat-bird class Bonnet House-2:00-5:00 pm

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

Sun. Jan. 6 Ascend to Better Birding-Part II-A 10 step approach to better identification bird class-2-5pm

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 for adults. Bring binoculars, and a field guide (if possible can be provided upon request). CONTACT LINDA at (954) 563-5393 EXT 137. Cost \$25
Pre-registration is required. Cost includes admission to the Bonnet House, so come early to enjoy the gardens.

Feb. 3 Birding by Ear bird class Bonnet House-2:00-5:00 pm

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, 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 3-Birding by Season-Right Bird, Right Time, Right Place-bird class Bonnet House-2:00-5:00 pm.

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

Sat., May 4 – Evergreen Cemetery Birding FREE Audubon walk-8:00-11:30 am

Spring migration annual trip to Evergreen Cemetery in Ft. Lauderdale. It should be great for warblers. It is the best time for Connecticut warbler. Also possible Swainson's Warbler and Thrushes.