



January 2022



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January in the Field

Happy 2022! Let's resolve to get outdoors more often to enjoy the wonder of birds, whether from our backyards or on one of our guided bird walks (TAS field guides will lead 20 South Florida birding forays between January and May). To venture further afield, RSVP for our August [Costa Rica trip](#) and/or our May 2023 [Kenya expedition](#). All of our outings are open to nature and bird enthusiasts of every experience level. Join us — we'd love to help your birding wish list come true in 2022!

To view our entire Winter/Spring 2022 trip schedule visit our [website calendar](#). Please note that [REGISTRATION](#) is required for all trips.

See what other birders are posting and share your birding highlights on our [Bird Board](#) and [Facebook Bird Board](#).

Banner Photo: Snowy Egret by Alex Shutin

RSVP for a January Field Trip

[Black Point Area Birding](#) | Saturday, January 8, 7:30-11 am

North Florida Birding Tour **CANCELED** | January 14-17

[North Broward Birding](#) | Saturday, January 15, 8am-3pm

[Southern Palm Beach Birding](#) | Saturday, January 22, 7am-3pm

[Everglades National Park Birding](#) | Saturday, January 29, 7:30am-3pm



Slaty-tailed Trogon by Joaquin Garcia

RSVP for an International Field Trip

[Costa Rica: Birder's Paradise](#) | August 7 - 17, 2022

[Kenya Birding and Wildlife Tour](#) | May 13-28, 2023

Featured Events

Tour the Historic Doc Thomas House
Saturday, January 8, 1pm & 3pm



Tropical Audubon Society invites you to tour our historic Doc Thomas House headquarters. Our charming 1932 cottage has recently undergone extensive structural repair. Enjoy a captivating, 45-minute guided tour led by a Tropical Audubon docent. Learn about TAS patron and area pioneer Arden Hayes "Doc" Thomas and Robert Fitch Smith, the architect commissioned to design the charming Florida vernacular cottage, distinguished by its native woods and oolitic limestone features.

Bonus: Explore our society's Bird-friendly pollinator gardens and near-native Steinberg Nature Center campus.

Out of courtesy for others, masks are required indoors.

Directions: 5530 Sunset Drive, Miami, FL 33143; limited onsite parking via the SW 55 Avenue auto gate. [Registration Required HERE.](#)

Photo: Arden Hayes "Doc" Thomas and his mother, Margaret, perched on the house's front porch, from the TAS Photo Archive.

Conservation Concert @TAS
Featuring Take Sixx
Saturday, January 29, 7pm



Finally! After a 22-month pandemic hiatus our popular Conservation Concert series will reboot on Saturday, January 29, with **Take Sixx** inaugurating our signature concert series for the twelfth year. Their volunteerism has set the tempo for other local bands to follow in their footsteps on the storied Doc Thomas House Keystone Stage. Take Sixx founding band members Dr. Steve Chavoustie (keyboards/harmonica), Harold Norman (drums) and Dr. Ron Sancetta (vocals) have since been joined by Janet Scarpatetti (vocals), Dr. Enrique Hernandez (bass guitar) and Aaron Whitman (lead guitar).

Also on the playbill: Taco Fresh Food Truck and the donation Bird Bar featuring craft brew and a bevy of divine wines courtesy of Republic National Distributing Co. (Masks must be worn at the Bird Bar.)

Picnic tables available on a first-come basis.

Gates open at 7pm; music begins at 7:30pm
[RSVP HERE: \\$10 donation p/p. children 12 and under FREE](#)

Proceeds benefit capital improvements to the Steinberg Nature Center grounds and historic buildings.

Mark your Calendars for the **2022 ConCon Season:**
Saturday, January 29, Take Sixx
Saturday, February 26, Been There, Done That
Saturday, March 26, Plan B

[Learn More.](#)
[RSVP HERE](#)

Chirping About

Join us — we're hiring!



Have a professional passion for the environment? Want to help support our Mission to "Conserve and restore South Florida's ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife and their habitats"? Then Tropical Audubon Society is the place for you! We presently have two open positions: Senior Conservation Director and Education & Advocacy Director. [Learn More.](#)

Photo: Everglades by Sarah Klein

Plants for Birds

Bird-Friendly Gardening Day @TAS!
Dig in Saturday, January 15, 9am-Noon



Join us in stewarding our Bird-Friendly Demonstration Garden and near-native Steinberg Nature Center grounds. Get hands-on experience creating wildlife habitat under the guidance of our resident Master Gardeners. Learn how to establish a bird-friendly garden in your own yard, patio or balcony. [Sign Up!](#)

Photo: Blue Porterweed is a popular pollinator-attracting South Florida native plant. Photo by Federico Acevedo

Green Things to Do

"Flying Free" Birds of South Florida Photography Exhibit
Coral Gables Art & Mega Festival
Jan 29 – 30, 10am-6pm





Catch up with Coral Gables wildlife photographer and birder Anthony Marino, who, in collaboration with TAS, will present ["Flying Free" at the Coral Gables Art & Mega Festival January 29-30](#). The exhibit will showcase a suite of captivating birds photographed in their South Florida habitats. (Original acrylics and prints will be on offer.) Stop by Marino's booth for an up-close look at these beautiful images and learn more about our year-round resident birds and snow bird visitors by talking with TAS President José Francisco Barros. Thirty percent of the proceeds from the sale of all art will benefit TAS. [Learn More.](#)

Photo: Green Heron by Anthony Marino

Save the Date
"Preserving the Past, Protecting the Future"
Tropical Audubon Society Exhibit
Wirtz Gallery Opening Night Reception
Friday, February 11, 6-8pm



Attend the free opening night reception celebrating an exhibit that showcases Tropical Audubon Society's rich, local history and conservation mission. Our 75-year trajectory will be brought to life via a sweeping photographic essay, together with Audubon prints and works by South Florida wildlife artists at [The Wirtz Gallery](#). The month-long exhibit will illuminate our society's benefactor, South Miami-area pioneer Arden Hayes "Doc" Thomas, the gift of his now-historic home to our organization, and our commitment to protecting South Florida wildlife, and preserving our region's diverse habitats and natural resources. (The opening night reception is subject to postponement or cancellation pending February pandemic status/protocols.)

Located within the First National Bank of South Miami lobby, **The Wirtz Gallery** is a distinguished public art space featuring month-long exhibits by local, national and international artists. It opened in 1983 in memoriam to Arthur M. Wirtz, a past bank chairman of the board and a patron of the Arts. 5750 Sunset Drive, South Miami, 33143.

"Preserving the Past, Protecting the Future" will hang February 1-28; Gallery hours: Monday-Thursday, 9-4, Friday 9-5.

Limited free on-site parking directly behind the bank on S.W. 73rd Street.

The Birds Thank ...



... our dedicated 2021 "Eco-Restoration Gardening Days" volunteers for digging in with us on the third Saturday of every month. They helped maintain our Steinberg Nature Center campus under extended pandemic protocols, tending and expanding the new Bird-Friendly Demonstration Garden, while continuing to mask up and social distance, braving heat, humidity and pesky mosquitoes.

Their indispensable help with planting, weeding, mulching and tilling has enabled our Pollinator Garden to blossom, our Pine Rockland habitat to reassert itself, and our Steinberg Nature Center trails to re-emerge from the tangle of undesirable invasive species.

Among our valued Grounds volunteers are University of Miami Department of Biology students who have worked tirelessly to help remove invasive species in the Pine Rockland demonstration forest. Other 2021 regulars included Alex Andres-Gascon, Taryn Barnett, Michelle Brin, Miguel Caridad, Arlyn Cuan, Carol Horkowitz, Maria A. Inglesis, Martha Kent, Joy Klein, Joanne Marsic, Kira Miska, Paula McNicholas, Mark Monroe, Javier Pratt, Master Gardener Steve Rawlins, Tom Smith, Gerardo Vildostegui, along with Board members Dan Jones, Deblois Milledge, Jeff Shimonski and Elizabeth Smith.

Our "Raise a Glass, Raise the Chickee" volunteers Eve Carter and Ernie Lynk deserve a Champagne toast, too!

Eco-Restoration Gardening Days will continue in 2022 on the third Saturday of every month, but attendance continues to be limited so an RSVP is required. To support the Bird-Friendly Demonstration Garden educational component, we'll continue to install plant identification plaques and topic markers.

Grounds volunteers are absolutely vital to our on-site conservation education efforts and the viability of our native habitats. We greatly appreciate their energy and contributions, and we consider our volunteer team part of the TAS family.

Resolve to become a member of the Grounds Team! Interested in volunteering? You'll find a place where you can practice your skills, meet new people, learn, grow and contribute. We encourage you to ask questions, share your ideas, and provide feedback. For more information please contact Amy at volunteer@tropicalaudubon.org. It's an easy New Year's Resolution to keep!

Support Birds

Become a Member

www.tropicalaudubon.org



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