

GOS/FOS SPRING 2007 JOINT MEETING

FIELD TRIPS

BRUNSWICK, GA

Dear GOS and FOS Meeting Participants,

We are trying something new on the field trip registrations for this meeting. Instead of signing up for field trips on the Friday evening of the meeting, we will be accepting field trip registration on a first-come, first-served, by U. S. mail basis. Several of the field trips are to barrier islands that can be accessed only through the cooperation of the private owners, including transfers on the island's boats, use of the island's vehicles while on the island, and personnel from those islands. Therefore, we must charge for these field trips. GOS is not making any money on these trips; we are either covering our expenses or making a donation to the birding program of the islands involved.

In the cases of the Little St. Simons Island and St. Catherines Island field trips we are asking for your cooperation in signing up for these field trips only if you have never been to them before. Georgia birders have had opportunities to visit these islands in the past and should be able to visit in the future at the Colonial Coast Birding and Nature Festival. Many of our neighbors from Florida have not had these opportunities so we would like to give them a chance to experience these trips.

Please look over the field trip schedule, make your selections, and mail in the field trip registration sheet that is at the end of the list of field trips as soon as possible. Don't forget to mail in your Meeting Registration Form; you must be registered for the Spring 2007 GOS/FOS Joint Meeting to participate in these field trips.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

LITTLE ST. SIMONS ISLAND

Leader: Gene Keferl

7:45 AM – 4:00 PM

Little St. Simons Island is an unspoiled birding paradise located off the north end of St. Simons Island. Since access is limited it is an excellent place to bird at anytime, but especially during peak migration. We will bird the extensive maritime forest for passerines as well as the beaches and marshes for shorebirds. For more information on the site, visit www.littlestsimonsisland.com **Lunch will be provided.**

Recommended Needs: Sun protection, long-sleeves and pants, rain gear, backpack, snacks and binoculars.

Trip rigor: Easy – two miles of easy walking. Departure time listed is from the parking lot at the Park Inn in Brunswick. If you would prefer to meet the trip leader at the Hampton River Club Marina on St. Simons Island, please arrive there by 8:15 AM.

Participant Limit: 10 *First timers only; please sign up for this field trip ONLY if you have never been to LSSI before.*****

Trip cost: \$75.00

GLENNVILLE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY

Leader: Bill Lotz & Gene Wilkinson

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Meet the leaders at the site located just east of US 301 off of Pecan St. in Glennville (Tattnall County, GA DeLorme pg. 54, C2). We will look for rails, raptors, shorebirds and migrants, then drive on down to Brunswick to register for the meeting.

Recommended Needs: Sun protection, long-sleeves and pants, rain gear, snacks, scope and binoculars.

Trip rigor: Easy – two miles of easy walking.

Participant Limit: None

Cost: None

**GOS/FOS SPRING 2007 JOINT MEETING
FIELD TRIPS
BRUNSWICK, GA**

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

OKEFENOKEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Leader: Sheila Willis

6:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Naturalist Sheila Willis (Native American-Naturalist Talks and Tours) will lead a field trip at one of America's most famous national wildlife refuges (East Entrance near Folkston). The Okefenokee Swamp has been officially designated as a "Wetland of International Importance" but that doesn't begin to describe its incomparable beauty or the complex web of life that exists in this corner of Southeast Georgia. Rich in history, "swamp culture", flora and fauna, this one-of-a-kind giant peat bog contains uplands and islands covered in pine & oak forests; black-water lakes of varying sizes; interior freshwater marshes (locally called "prairies") dotted with floating mats of "botanical gardens" interspersed among stands of pond cypress, black gum, mixed bay trees and shrubs. Avian specialties include Anhinga, Wood Duck, Sandhill Crane, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Red-cockaded Woodpecker and Bachman's Sparrow.

Participants will meet the trip leader at the refuge visitor center parking lot for an 8:00 AM departure, then caravan around the 5-mile, round-trip Swamp Island Drive with stops at a Red-cockaded Woodpecker colony and at the Chesser Island Boardwalk for a 1-1/2 mile round-trip walk to the 50-ft. Owl's Roost Observation Tower. Afterwards, participants may tour additional areas of the refuge on their own or return to Brunswick. Lunch will not be provided. Participants may either bring their lunch or purchase lunch at the Camp Cornelia Café & Gift Shop. For more information on the refuge, call 912-496-7836 or visit www.okefenokee.fws.gov

SPECIAL RESOURCE NOTE: The use of tape recordings for attracting birds is prohibited while at the national refuge. Walking is restricted to designated trails or roadsides only.

Recommended Needs: Insect repellent, sun protection, comfortable shoes, water, rain gear, snacks/lunch and binoculars.

Trip Rigor: Easy; the 1.5-mile round-trip walk is along a wooden boardwalk with sheltered rest stops along the way. Restrooms and water fountains are available at various locations including the Chesser Island Boardwalk parking lot.

Participant Limit: 20 people.

Cost: \$ 5.00 per car Refuge entrance fee to be paid at entrance gate.

PAULK'S PASTURE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Leader: Gene Keferl

7:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Paulk's Pasture is a Wildlife Management Area with many areas of good birding. There are several nice forested wetlands, as well as many clearcuts where birders will look for early successional species. If time permits, trip will be extended to cover Altamaha Regional Park and/or Sansavilla WMA.

Recommended Needs: Rubber boots or shoes that can get wet, insect repellent, hat and sunscreen, water, snacks/lunch and binoculars.

Trip Rigor: Moderate; mostly easy walking, but power line corridor can be wet and have uneven ground.

Participant Limit: 15 people; 5 vehicles.

Cost: None; lunch is not provided, but there is a good BBQ place near WMA entrance.

ALTAMAHA WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREA

Leaders: Bob Sargent & Bob Zaremba

7:10 AM – 2:30 PM

The Altamaha Waterfowl Management Area offers one of the best overall birding sites in Georgia. The habitat consists of a mixed pine/hardwood forest, floodplain forest, freshwater marsh shrubland, weedy fields and diked ponds. Specialties include Mottled Duck, Least Bittern, Glossy Ibis, Painted Bunting, Purple Gallinule and rails.

Recommended Needs: Boots, long sleeves and pants, insect repellent, hat and sunscreen, water, snacks/lunch and binoculars.

Trip Rigor: Moderate; 2 miles or more of mostly easy walking on weedy dikes and paths.

Participant Limit: 30 people.

Cost: None; lunch is not provided, but there are several restaurants in Darien.

JEKYLL ISLAND STATE PARK

Leader: Lydia Thompson

7:20 AM – 1:00 PM

Jekyll Island State Park offers a variety of diverse habitats, including maritime forest, salt marsh, freshwater ponds and ocean beaches. Birds we hope to spot include migrating songbirds, wading birds, gulls and terns, as well as shorebirds.

Recommended Needs: Insect repellent, sun protection, hat, water, snacks, spotting scope and binoculars.

Trip Rigor: Easy – expect to walk 1-2 miles.

Participant Limit: 15 people.

Cost: \$4.00 per vehicle daily parking pass to get onto island.

**GOS/FOS SPRING 2007 JOINT MEETING
FIELD TRIPS
BRUNSWICK, GA**

SATURDAY, APRIL 21 cont'd.

SAPELO ISLAND

Leader: Mark Beebe

7:30 AM – 5:30 PM

State-owned and largely undeveloped, Sapelo Island is the approximate midpoint of Georgia's barrier islands and the probable site of the first European settlement (16th century missionaries) in Georgia. A 200-year history of wealthy private ownership of most of the island's 20,000 acres of upland and marshland preceded the establishment of the University of Georgia's Marine Institute (1953), R. J. Reynolds Wildlife Management Area (1969) and the Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve (1973). About 70 descendants of the Gullah culture established by freed slaves in 1865 still live in the community of Hog Hammock. Sapelo has miles of pristine beaches and dunes, inter-dune meadows and ponds, salt marshes and tidal creeks, grassy fields and mature maritime forest (live oak hammock) as well as pond-pine savanna. A mix of woodland, grassland, marsh, shore and seabirds in these varied habitats can be seen year round. Sapelo is also the only location in the ABA area other than South Texas where Plain Chachalaca can be found.

Recommended Needs: Insect repellent, sun protection, long sleeves and pants, hat, water, snacks and lunch, rain gear, scope, binoculars and \$2.00 cash for the ferry.

Trip Rigor: Moderate – open-air riding on flatbed pickup with benches; 2 miles of beach walking and up to 1 mile of road/trail walking. Boat travel can be cold and wet depending on current weather conditions – please dress accordingly.

Participant Limit: 17 people.

Cost: None other than ferry (\$2.00 per person on outbound ride only).

LITTLE ST. SIMONS ISLAND

Leader: Chuck Saleeby

7:40 AM – 4:00 PM

Little St. Simons Island is an unspoiled birding paradise located off the north end of St. Simons Island. Since access is limited it is an excellent place to bird at anytime, but especially during peak migration. We will bird the extensive maritime forest for passerines as well as the beaches and marshes for shorebirds. For more information on the site, visit www.littlestsimonsisland.com **Lunch will be provided.**

Recommended Needs: Sun protection, long-sleeves and pants, rain gear, snacks, scope and binoculars.

Trip rigor: Easy – two miles of easy walking. Departure time listed is from the parking lot at the Park Inn in Brunswick. If you would prefer to meet the trip leader at the Hampton River Club Marina on St. Simons Island, please arrive there by 8:15 AM.

Participant Limit: 10: *First timers only; please sign up for this field trip ONLY if you have never been to LSSI before.*****

Trip cost: \$75.00

MOVEABLE FEAST

Leader: Mike Chapman

8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Moveable Feast will visit a number of great birding locations in and around Brunswick, depending on tide conditions and scouting prior to the meeting. These may include the Jekyll Island Visitor's Center, the heron roost on US 17 south of the causeway, Yacht Rd., Gould's Inlet on St. Simons Island, the Hofwyl-Broadfield Plantation and Andrews Island Causeway.

Recommended Needs: Sun protection, insect repellent, sturdy shoes/boots, long pants, water, snacks and binoculars.

Trip Rigor: Fairly easy – some walking on several trails around a mile or less.

Participant Limit: 15 people; 5 vehicles.

Cost: None; bring some cash for a lunch stop around Brunswick.

**GOS/FOS SPRING 2007 JOINT MEETING
FIELD TRIPS
BRUNSWICK, GA**

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

ST. CATHERINES ISLAND

Leaders: Jenifer Hilburn & Steve Holzman

6:00 AM – 5:30 PM

Owned by the nonprofit St. Catherines Island Foundation, the island's interior is operated for charitable, scientific, literary, and educational purposes. The foundation aims to promote conservation of natural resources, the survival of endangered species, and the preservation of historic sites, and to expand human knowledge in the fields of ecology, botany, zoology, natural history, archaeology, and other scientific and educational disciplines.

Recommended Needs: Sun protection, long-sleeves and pants, rain gear, backpack, water, drinks (cooler with ice will be available on the island) snacks, lunch and binoculars.

Trip rigor: Easy – two miles of easy walking. Departure time listed is from the Park Inn parking lot in Brunswick. The boat leaves the mainland dock at 7:30 AM

Participant Limit: 9 *First timers only; please sign up for this field trip ONLY if you have never been to SCI before.*****

Trip cost: \$50.00; bring your lunch as there are no stores or restaurants on island.

PAULK'S PASTURE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Leader: Mike Chapman

7:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Paulk's Pasture is a Wildlife Management Area with many areas of good birding. There are several nice forested wetlands, as well as many clearcuts where birders will look for early successional species. If time permits, trip will be extended to cover Altamaha Regional Park and/or Sansavilla WMA.

Recommended Needs: Rubber boots or shoes that can get wet, insect repellent, hat and sunscreen, water, snacks/lunch and binoculars.

Trip Rigor: Moderate; mostly easy walking, but power line corridor can be wet and have uneven ground.

Participant Limit: 15 people; 5 vehicles.

Cost: None; lunch is not provided, but there is a good BBQ place near WMA entrance.

ALTAMAHA WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREA

Leaders: Bill Lotz & Chuck Saleeby

7:10 AM – 2:30 PM

The Altamaha Waterfowl Management Area offers one of the best overall birding sites in Georgia. The habitat consists of a mixed pine/hardwood forest, floodplain forest, freshwater marsh shrubland, weedy fields and diked ponds. Specialties include Mottled Duck, Least Bittern, Glossy Ibis, Painted Bunting, Purple Gallinule and rails.

Recommended Needs: Boots, long sleeves and pants, insect repellent, hat and sunscreen, water, snacks/lunch and binoculars.

Trip Rigor: Moderate; 2 miles or more of mostly easy walking on weedy dikes and paths.

Participant Limit: 30 people.

Cost: None; lunch is not provided, but there are several restaurants in Darien.

JEKYLL ISLAND STATE PARK

Leader: John Galvani

7:20 AM – 1:00 PM

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**GOS/FOS SPRING 2007 JOINT MEETING
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Participant Limit: 15 people; 5 vehicles.

Cost: None; bring some cash for a lunch stop around Brunswick.

**GOS/FOS SPRING 2007 JOINT MEETING
FIELD TRIP REGISTRATION SHEET
BRUNSWICK, GA**

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

_____ Little St. Simons Island Gene Keferl 7:45 AM – 4:00 PM Cost \$75.00/person Amt. Enclosed _____
*****Limited to first 10 people who have not been to LSSI before*****

SATURDAY, APRIL 21 +++++Please indicate 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices+++++

_____ Okefenokee NWR Sheila Willis 6:45 AM – 2:30 PM

_____ Paulk's Pasture WMA Gene Keferl 7:00 AM – 3:00 PM

_____ Altamaha WMA "A" Bob Sargent 7:10 AM – 2:30 PM

_____ Altamaha WMA "B" Bob Zaremba 7:10 AM – 2:30 PM

_____ Jekyll Island SP Lydia Thompson 7:20 AM – 1:00 PM

_____ Sapelo Island Mark Beebe 7:30 AM – 5:30 PM

_____ Little St. Simons Island Chuck Saleeby 7:45 AM – 4:00 PM Cost \$75.00/person Amt. Enclosed _____
*****Limited to first 10 people who have not been to LSSI before*****

_____ Moveable Feast Mike Chapman 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 22 +++++Please indicate 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices+++++

_____ St. Catherines Island Steve Holzman 6:00 AM – 5:30 PM Cost \$50.00/person Amt. Enclosed _____
*****Limited to first 9 people who have not been to SCI before*****

_____ Paulk's Pasture WMA Mike Chapman 7:00 AM – 3:00 PM

_____ Altamaha WMA "A" Chuck Saleeby 7:10 AM – 2:30 PM

_____ Altamaha WMA "B" Bill Lotz 7:10 AM – 2:30 PM

_____ Jekyll Island SP John Galvani 7:20 AM – 1:00 PM

_____ Sapelo Island Mark Beebe 7:30 AM – 5:30 PM

_____ Little St. Simons Island Bob Zaremba 7:45 AM – 4:00 PM Cost \$75.00/person Amt. Enclosed _____
*****Limited to first 10 people who have not been to LSSI before*****

_____ Moveable Feast Gene Keferl 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please make your check payable to "GOS" and mail to:
BILL LOTZ
4140 N BROADLAND RD NW
ATLANTA GA 30342-3610

If you sign up for LSSI or SCI and do not get on the trip your check will be returned to you. Please include your email address or phone number so I can confirm your island trip. Please do not sign up for more than 1 trip to LSSI or SCI.