

**GOS WINTER 2009 MEETING
FIELD TRIPS
TYBEE ISLAND, GA**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

FORT STEWART

Leader: Larry Carlile

6:45 AM - 1:00 PM Maximum 20 people and 5 vehicles.

Meet the group at the Love's Truck Stop at the intersection of I-95 and GA Hwy 144 (Richmond Hill). Bring water and snacks. Target species: Red-cockaded Woodpecker and Bachman's Sparrow. Moderate.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

PELAGIC

Leader: Malcolm Hodges 6:00 AM - 3:00 PM

This Pelagic Trip is Full.

Bring a small cooler with water, snacks and lunch; a hat and rain and cold weather gear. Target species: Manx Shearwater, sea ducks, loons, gulls and terns.

SAVANNAH SPOILS SITE (JASPER CO., SC)

Leader: Steve Calver 6:15 AM - 2:00 PM

Maximum 20 people; 5 high clearance vehicles

Waiver can now be signed on-site. Wear hiking boots and bring scope, water and snacks. Moderate. NO BATHROOM FACILITIES. Target species: Shorebirds, waders and waterfowl.

HARRIS NECK NWR

Leader: Paul Sykes 6:45 AM - 1:00 PM Maximum 20 people.

Bring water, snacks, scope and comfortable hiking boots. Target species: Raptors, waterfowl and waders. Moderate.

SAVANNAH NWR (JASPER CO., SC)

Leader: Bob Sargent 7:00 AM - 1:00 PM Maximum 20 people.

Bring water, snacks, scope and comfortable hiking boots. Target species: Raptors, waterfowl and waders. Moderate.

SAVANNAH HOT SPOTS

Leader: Steve Wagner 7:15 AM - 3:00 PM Maximum 12 people.

See all the best birding spots around Savannah with a local birder. Bring water, snacks and your marsh boots. Eat lunch at a local restaurant and then visit Fort Pulaski to try for both sharp-tailed and Seaside Sparrows (high tide is not until mid-day).

TYBEE ISLAND

Leader: Mallory Pearce 7:30 AM - 1:00 PM Maximum 12 people.

Explore Tybee Island with a local birder. Bring water, snacks and comfortable shoes for walking the beach.

LITTLE TYBEE ISLAND

Leaders: Capt. Rene Heidt & Steve Holzman 9:45 AM - 1:00 PM

Minimum/Maximum 4. Cost \$55.00 per person. Advanced Reservation Required.

Join Captain Rene on a boat tour of the marshes and in-shore waters out to Little Tybee Island, an uninhabited State Natural Heritage Preserve barrier island with lots of wintering shorebirds, gulls and terns. We should also see marsh sparrows, loons, gannets, grebes and ducks. HIGH TIDE TRIP. Bring raingear, hat, water and snacks.

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

PELAGIC

Leader: Dan Vickers 6:00 AM - 3:00 PM This trip has 6 spaces left.

Maximum 9. Cost \$135.00 per person. Advanced Reservation Required.

Bring a small cooler with water, snacks and lunch; a hat and rain and cold weather gear. Target species: Manx Shearwater, sea ducks, loons, gulls and terns.

SAVANNAH SPOILS SITE (JASPER CO., SC)

Leader: Steve Calver 6:15 AM - 2:00 PM

Maximum 20 people in 5 high clearance vehicles.

The waiver can now be signed on-site. Wear hiking boots and bring scope, water and snacks. Moderate. NO BATHROOM FACILITIES. Target species: Shorebirds, waders and waterfowl.

HARRIS NECK NWR

Leader: Bob Sargent 6:45 AM - 1:00 PM Maximum 20 people.

Bring water, snacks, scope and comfortable hiking boots. Target species: Raptors, waterfowl and waders. Moderate.

SAVANNAH NWR (SOLOMON TRACT, CHATHAM CO., GA)

Leader: Steve Wagner 7:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Maximum 18 people and 6 vehicles.

Explore this relatively unknown portion of the refuge that has a beautiful maritime forest and many dikes that should have waterfowl and waders as well as sparrows. Wear comfortable hiking boots and bring water, snacks and raingear.

TYBEE ISLAND NORTH BEACH & FORT PULASKI

Leader: Ken Blankenship 7:15 AM - 3:00 PM

Maximum 12 people.

Shorebirds, gulls and terns are the focus of the morning birding. Then enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before a visit to Fort Pulaski to try for both sharp-tailed and Seaside Sparrows (high tide is not until early afternoon).

LITTLE TYBEE ISLAND

Leader: Capt. Rene Heidt & Deb Barreiro 10:45 AM - 2:00 PM

This trip is full.

Join Captain Rene on a boat tour of the marshes and in-shore waters out to Little Tybee Island, an uninhabited State Natural Heritage Preserve barrier island with lots of wintering shorebirds, gulls and terns. We should also see marsh sparrows, loons, gannets, grebes and ducks. HIGH TIDE TRIP. Bring raingear, hat, water and snacks.

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MONDAY, JANUARY 19

PELAGIC

**Leaders: Russ Wigh & Gene Keferl 6:00 AM - 3:00 PM This trip has 2 spaces left.
Maximum 8. Cost \$135.00 per person. Advanced Reservation Required.**

Bring a small cooler with water, snacks and lunch; a hat and rain and cold weather gear. Target species: Manx Shearwater, sea ducks, loons, gulls and terns.

SAVANNAH SPOILS SITE (JASPER CO., SC)

Leader: Steve Calver 6:15 AM - 2:00 PM

Maximum 20 people; 5 high clearance vehicles

Waiver can now be signed on-site. Wear hiking boots and bring scope, water and snacks. Moderate. NO BATHROOM FACILITIES. Target species: Shorebirds, waders and waterfowl.

LITTLE TYBEE ISLAND

Leader: Capt. Rene Heidt & Deb Barreiro 7:15 AM - 10:30 AM

This trip is full.

Join Captain Rene on a boat tour of the marshes and in-shore waters out to Little Tybee Island, an uninhabited State Natural Heritage Preserve barrier island with lots of wintering shorebirds, gulls and terns. We should also see marsh sparrows, loons, gannets, grebes and ducks. LOW TIDE TRIP. Bring raingear, hat, water and snacks.

TYBEE ISLAND

Leader: Mallory Pearce 7:30 AM - 1:00 PM Maximum 12 people.

Explore Tybee Island with a local birder. Bring water, snacks and comfortable shoes for walking the beach.

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FIELD TRIPS THAT REQUIRE ADVANCED RESERVATIONS

PELAGIC TRIPS

Saturday, Sunday & Monday, January 17, 18 & 19, 2009

In order to reserve you must contact Bill Lotz at 404-261-1906 or blotz@mindspring.com. The cost is \$135.00 per person. This includes a \$100.00 per boat fuel surcharge and a tip for the mate. YOU MAY ONLY RESERVE ONE DAY AT THIS TIME. IF WE DO NOT FILL UP THE TRIPS BY JANUARY 1 WE WILL OPEN THE TRIPS TO MULTIPLE DAY BOOKINGS. It is important to note that the trip leaders are paying the same rate that everyone else is paying. If the boat does not fill up on a certain day that trip will be cancelled and your money will be refunded. If the boat cannot go out due to weather, your payment will be refunded in full. THERE WILL NOT BE ANY WEATHER DAYS; if you are signed up for Sunday and the boat goes out on Saturday and Monday but cannot go out on Sunday because of high wind, that is bad luck; you get a refund, but no trip. If you cancel and we are unable to fill your seat, you forfeit your payment.

SAVANNAH SPOILS SITE (JASPER COUNTY, SC)

Saturday, Sunday & Monday, January 17, 18 & 19, 2009

This tour will be led by Steve Calver and will be limited to 20 participants and 5 high clearance vehicles. Pickup trucks are not appropriate for this tour. 4-wheel drive vehicles are best.

The Savannah spoils site is a Georgia DOT property (despite the fact that it is located in South Carolina!) that has been created from dredging the Savannah River. It offers fantastic birding regardless of the time of year. The main attractions in January are waterfowl, shorebirds, gulls and sparrows. There have been many rare birds found here. It is a location that is strictly off-limits to birders except for prearranged field trips like this one.

There are no bathroom facilities on site and you must be prepared for lots of insects, a possible encounter with snakes, and you should bring food and water. Also note that in case of inclement weather, driving on the dikes may not be allowed. Access to the areas would then have to be on foot.

Participants will be required to sign a waiver of liability by both the District and the landowner (GADOT). Steve needs to know in advance if you are planning to bring anyone under the age of 19 on this tour. There is a special waiver that must be prepared in this case. The tour will last from 7:00 AM until 1:00 PM. If anyone needs to leave the site earlier than 1:00 PM, the whole tour may have to end at that time.

LITTLE TYBEE ISLAND

Captain Renee needs to fill her boat to make these trips economically viable. For more information about her company and Little Tybee Island please visit her web site: <http://www.sundialcharters.net/>

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RESERVATION FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16 FORT STEWART _____

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

1ST CHOICE _____ COST (IF APPLICABLE) _____

2ND CHOICE _____

3RD CHOICE _____

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

1ST CHOICE _____ COST (IF APPLICABLE) _____

2ND CHOICE _____

3RD CHOICE _____

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

1ST CHOICE _____ COST (IF APPLICABLE) _____

2ND CHOICE _____

3RD CHOICE _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED FOR FIELD TRIPS (IF APPLICABLE) _____

PLEASE MAKE A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS AND MAIL THE ORIGINAL FORM ALONG WITH YOUR MEETING REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK TO:

DAN VICKERS
5249 BEECH FOREST DR SW
LILBURN GA 30047-5356

Field trips are subject to change and could be canceled if there are not enough participants. You may combine your check for field trips with your check for registration and banquet. Please make your check to "GOS".

You may assume that you are confirmed on your 1st choice of field trip if you do not hear from us before the meeting.