



Sun City Center Audubon Club

May 2023

Thanks to Ray Webb for a super experience and to John Lampkin for sharing his amazing photography skills on our recent Field Trip to Fort DeSoto Park.

News from our Master Birder Ray Webb

On April 19, thirty-one members and guests were treated to an avian display of color to rival all else. Fort Desoto County Park, in south Pinellas County, lived up to its reputation as one of the best locations in the country for observing spring bird migration.

We arrived at the park's ranger station at around 9 AM, and found many people looking up at Baltimore orioles, rose-breasted grosbeaks, and summer and scarlet tanagers right there next to the parking lot. And so our day began. We spent a couple hours at what we call the "mulberry tree area," next to the Bay Pier.

Actually, the birds were feasting on figs in a few large trees and visiting the fountain for a drink. More of the same pretty species were here, as they were throughout the park. Indigo buntings, great crested flycatchers and a pileated woodpecker were included in our total of 25 species of birds.

Eventually we gathered in an area of the park known as the "oak grove," where there were picnic tables for us to enjoy a sociable lunch together.

Summer Field Trips

We will now be beginning our summer series of field trips. These include a boat ride in Ruskin, an outing at the Tampa History Museum, a visit to the Mote Aquarium and fall birding at Boyd Hill Nature Reserve in St. Pete. Some of these require pre-payment.

Please log in to our website, sccaudubonclub.com, for further details and to sign up.



www.sccaudubonclub.com



Time for this Blackpoll Warbler to stretch those legs.

John Lampkin

Red is my favorite color!
Scarlet Tanager



John Lampkin



"Peek a boo, I see you."

A rose-breasted Grosbeak peeking around the twigs.



"It's bath time."

Louisiana Waterthrush



John Lampkin

"Oh No, I think I have the measles.
Whew, It's just my beauty spots."

Wood Thrush

"I can fly, I can fly, what a
beautiful day, I can fly."

Indigo Bunting



John Lampkin



John Lampkin

"I love these seeds, I love these seeds,
thank you God, they are so good."

Indigo Bunting Sea Grape



John Lampkin

"I love standing on my head. Ooh
what's that up there."

Yellow-throated Vireo

Photos by John Lampkin
Captions by Denise Rosen