



Sun City Center Audubon Club

October 2022

The October 1st Audubon Club meeting is cancelled due to weather.

Effective Tuesday, September 27th at noon the CA closed all facilities and cancelled all meetings/events until further notice. Efforts to reschedule our Audubon meeting on such short notice were not successful. We appreciate your understanding, and look forward to seeing you at our *next* meeting on Saturday, November 5th.

Ponderings from your prez

Our SCC Audubon Club continues to grow! Last September 2021 we had 104 members. Now in September 2022, we have 165 members, a 58% increase! **WOW!**

Reminder: by joining or renewing now, your Audubon Club membership is *fully paid for until December 31, 2023*. Thanks to each of you for choosing to join and support our SCC Audubon Club. A printable Membership Registration form is included at the end of this Newsletter.

Our new Audubon Club banners have arrived! They will be used as part of our Club's informative exhibit table at the Florida Birding and Nature Festival at Apollo Beach on October 21st & 22nd. The banners will also be utilized at SCC's "Hi, Neighbor!" event on November 3rd, and other such events throughout the year. The banners are self-supporting, retract into a compact case, and are easy to carry and store.

Visit our website at:

www.sccaudubonclub.com

Ponderings Cont'd

Finally, the new 2022-23 Audubon Club brochure is a handy reminder of meetings, speaker topics, and field trips. Also notice the variety of committees involved in the life of our Club. To be successful, the Audubon Club relies on many volunteers like yourself who are willing to generously give of their time and talent. If interested in being part of our Audubon Club team, please contact me.

Dennis Morris, President
SCC Audubon Club
5w3d15h80y@gmail.com
570-814-2803



Happy Fall Everyone

So Long Friend.....

It is with a heavy heart and much sadness that we announce the loss of our dear member Ed Clancy.



Ed (and his wife and constant companion Clara), have been members of the Sun City Center Audubon Club for more years than anyone in our club. Not only a member, but very active in keeping the club on track and remaining a vital organization in the community.

Ed (and Clara) served as co-presidents of the club several years ago. They have also held many other positions including organizing and leading all the summer field trips for many years, serving on the program committee, and offering guidance and recommendations to many new presidents as they came on board.



Many of us will remember the Clancy's for their leadership in organizing and managing our three-day field trips for many years. It was an opportunity to go birding and explore nature at a variety of locations throughout the state.

More recently they have served as Club Historians, keeping track of our various trips and activities both written and photographic. And, over all these many years they continue to serve on the board of directors and attend board meetings. A major commitment.

Many thanks dear Ed for all your many contributions. And, thanks for playing a major role in keeping the SCC Audubon Club an active and vibrant part of our community.

Well done dear friend.

Linda J. Floyd
LFloyd21@tampabay.rr.com

A funeral mass is being held on
October 7, 2022, at 11 am at Prince of Peace
Catholic Church, 702 Valley Forge Blvd.
Sun City Center, FL 33573

***Officers & Committee Chairs
2022-2023***

<i>President</i>	<i>Dennis Morris</i>
<i>Vice-President & Programs</i>	<i>Patsie Ginley</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Betty Giles</i>
<i>Co-Treasurers</i>	<i>Pam & George Viner</i>
<i>Immediate Past</i>	<i>Mary Duncan</i>
<i>Greeter</i>	<i>Linda Floyd</i>
<i>Refreshments</i>	<i>Pat Dean</i>
<i>Membership</i>	<i>Dennis Morris</i>
<i>Name Tags</i>	<i>Jo Ann Wilkinson</i>
<i>Historian</i>	<i>Clara Clancy</i>
<i>Master Birder & Field Trips</i>	<i>Ray Webb</i>
<i>Newsletter</i>	<i>Denise Rosen</i>
<i>Conservation</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Publicity</i>	<i>TBD</i>



**The Florida Birding & Nature
Festival
October 20th – 23rd**

Are you looking for a fun weekend in October, with indoor and outdoor activities, and all only a short drive away?

If so, consider attending the Florida Birding & Nature Festival, being held the third weekend in October at the FWC Suncoast Conservation Center, 6650 Dickman Road, Apollo Beach.

A free-of-charge Nature Expo will be held on Friday and Saturday October 21st & 22nd, 9 AM – 5 P. Featured will be exhibit tables sponsored by a variety of nature-oriented organizations. It will include original artwork, environmental groups, sale of related items, and more. Be sure to look for the SCC Audubon Club exhibit!

If you decide to purchase a registration to attend the Festival, you'll be able to attend any (or all!) of the 1-hour Expert Seminars being offered on Friday and Saturday from 9 AM – 5 PM at no extra charge.

In addition, there are a number of fee-based activities available. Kicking off the festivities on Thursday October 20th will be an all-day bus trip and an evening boat cruise. Friday – Sunday features over two dozen field trips and boat trips throughout the region. Then, Friday and Saturday evenings are each capped off with a keynote presentation featuring a renowned expert speaker and including a buffet dinner and silent auction each night.

For more information concerning the Florida Birding & Nature Festival, go to:

[Florida Birding & Nature Festival
\(floridabirdingandnaturefestival.org\)](http://floridabirdingandnaturefestival.org)



SCC Audubon Board Meetings

Board meetings are held in the heritage room at 7:00pm on the third Monday of every month.

All Members are invited.

Field Trip Schedule 2022-2023

10/14/22	Circle B Bar Reserve Lakeland, FL
11/16/22	Alderman's Ford Park Lithia, FL
12/20/22	Captain Tom's Christmas Palmetto, FL
01/12/23	Felts Audubon Preserve Palmetto, FL
02/17/23	TECO Restoration Area Sarasota County, FL
03/15/23	Sweet Bay Nursery Parrish, FL
04/19/23	Fort Desoto County Park Pinellas County, FL

To sign up for our field trips, please visit our website:

WWW.SCCAUDUBONCLUB.COM

When It's Okay (or Not) to Feed Birds

As bird lovers, we often look for ways to get closer to birds—or to bring them closer to us. However, knowing what kind of food is okay to supply, and when, and where, can be confusing.

But don't fret. We're here to help you make sense of it all. Here are three simple questions to chew on to help determine whether you're helping—or hurting—birds when you feed them.

[When It's Okay \(or Not\) to Feed Birds | Audubon](#)



SCC Audubon Field Trip





Trail Blazing

John Lampkin

Caterpillars know how to crochet! Well, sort of. “Crochet” is a French noun that means “little hook” and refers to the hooked needles used to craft lacy doily-type textiles. It is also a verb, referring to the process of creating them. Therefore, crocheters crochet with crochets.

Caterpillars have no need for doilies but instead are interested in holding onto foliage for dear life. Like all insects they have six true legs, but they also have a varying number of “prolegs,” short and fleshy stubs used for locomotion. At the end of each proleg is a foot with an array of you guessed it, crochets! These tiny hooks latch securely onto microscopic pores and fissures in leaves. You can see them in my greatly enlarged photo of one pair of prolegs, as well as the sensory hairs that help them navigate. Despite their twelve simple eyes, caterpillars see no detail and just feel their way along, munching their way voraciously from leaf to leaf.



Caterpillars use tiny hooks called crochets on their foot pads to cling to foliage, and leg hairs to navigate.

This caterpillar will soon form a cocoon and when safely ensconced inside, will recycle all its organs including the prolegs and crochets. It will then emerge reformed as a stunning Polyphemus Moth with a six-inch wingspan. Polyphemus Moths do fly in Sun City Center, but only at night so adults are rarely seen although cocoons are spotted from time to time. However, caterpillars of many other species are easy to find on the SCC Nature Trails. All have prolegs with crochets, none crochet doilies.

The trailhead is located opposite North Lake on Del Webb West between Vincennes and Seton Hall. John Lampkin leads walks on the first Tuesday of each month at 9 am. Join us as we marvel at both the macro and micro wonders of Nature.

John Lampkin - JohnLampkin@JohnLampkin.com

CREATURE CLINGS



Many of us receive those wonderful wildlife calendars and here is a fun, quick idea of how to utilize them. For the past 15 years of working in after-school programs, I have had the children make hundreds of these plastic see-through clings. They just adore doing this as it is semi magical, easy and they so love animal pictures. Basically, you are forcing the color photo to come off the page and into the plastic and then getting rid of the paper. You can then put the cling on windows, refrigerator doors etc.

Steps:

Pick a fun picture - you can use magazines or calendars, but the paper must be shiny/glossy-brightly colored pictures works best.

Cut a picture to about four inches square – you can cut into shapes, but too big of a picture is tricky.

Then take a piece of clear contact paper (the duct brand is best).

Place the clear contact on the picture as smoothly as possible.

Then rub entire picture with the side of a spoon or scissors – do not scratch.

The tricky bit is anywhere you don't rub the picture doesn't get into the plastic – if you take a close look, you usually can see where you missed – I usually say rub hard and then rub some more.



Place the picture into a bowl of water and let it get very saturated – then rub with your thumb to get rid of all the paper. It is best to do it in the water – be sure to rub not scratch – the more of the paper you get off the better.

Put the wet cling on a smooth surface – to restick it just make sure it is wet.

I will have pictures and contact paper at the next meeting (**November**) for you to take home, plus samples to show how. I oversee the art program at the Boys and Girls Club in Wimauma and can always use more calendars. Please just bring them to the meeting for me. It would be greatly appreciated.

Thank You,

Laura Butler

Program Schedule – 2022-2023

11/05/22	Raptors, Nature's Rodent Expert Fairl Thomas
12/03/22	Wonders of Nature Matt Edmonds
01/07/23	Defend Yourself, insect Micro-photography John Lampkin
02/04/23	Woodpeckers, Nature's Wood-worker Reinier Munguia
03/04/23	Mermaid, Manatees, and other Marine Life Dr. Buddy Powell
04/01/23	Garden to Attract Bird/ Butterflies Terry Brockway
04/22/23	EARTH DAY CELEBRATION AT THE NATURE TRAILS