

Big Birding FestivalSM

On the Southwest Shores of Lake Okeechobee

Name _____ Phone(s) _____
 Address _____ E-Mail _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

•Denotes Great Florida Birding Trail Site **ALL TOURS SUBJECT TO CHANGE Bus Tours are limited to 20 persons - Boat Tour Limited to 17**

Sunday, March 9th

Pre-Festival Meet & Greet at the Port LaBelle Inn - <i>Courtesy of the City of LaBelle</i>	5pm - 7pm	Reservation	Yes	No
Keynote Speaker - Paddy Cunningham - "Bird Behavior - A Key to Better ID"	7pm - 8pm	Free	Yes	No

Monday, March 10th

Lunch	Transp.	Time	✓	Cost	Tour	Total
Exclusive Private Ranch & Birding Tour - <i>Lunch Included</i>	Bus 1	7am - 3pm		\$ 80.00	M1	
* Fort Center WMA and Harney Pond Tour - <i>Lunch on-your-own site TBD</i>	Van	7am - 12pm		\$ 25.00	M2	
Private Ranch; Ferguson Ranch (Muse)	Carpool	1p - 4p T/G		Free	M3	
Port LaBelle Loop Tour	Carpool	1p - 4p T/G		Free	M4	
* Dinner Island Ranch, WMA (Devil's Garden)	Carpool	1p - 4p S/G		Free	M5	
* Spirit of the Wild, WMA (Felda)	Carpool	1p - 4p S/G		Free	M6	
* STA-5 (Clewiston) Walking/Bicycling ONLY daylight hrs	Carpool	1p - 4p S/G		Free	M7	
* Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum & Boardwalk Tour (BCSIR)	Carpool	1p - 4p S/G		self pay	M8	
Guided Nature Walk (Riverside Retreat) by reserv only \$10 pp	Carpool	2p - 4p T/G		self pay	M9	
Keynote Speaker Dr. Paul Gray, FL Audubon - "FL Grasshopper Sparrow"	PL Inn	7p - 8p		Free	M10	

Tuesday, March 11th

Lunch	Transp.	Time		Cost	Tour	Total
* Exclusive Private Ranch & Birding Tour - <i>Lunch Included</i>	Bus 1	7am - 3:00 pm		\$ 80.00	T1	
* Lake Okeechobee Birding by Boat - <i>Lunch on-your-own site TBD</i>	Bus 2	7am - 11am		\$ 65.00	T2	
Private Ranch; Ferguson Ranch (Muse)	Carpool	1p - 4p T/G		Free	T3	
Port LaBelle Loop Tour	Carpool	1p - 4p T/G		Free	T4	
* Dinner Island Ranch, WMA (Devil's Garden)	Carpool	1p - 4p S/G		Free	T5	
* Spirit of the Wild, WMA (Felda)	Carpool	1p - 4p S/G		Free	T6	
* Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum & Boardwalk Tour \$6 - \$9	Carpool	1p - 4p S/G		self pay	T7	
Afternoon Programs at the Port LaBelle Inn				Free		
• Basic Birding (Riverside Retreat) \$10.00 pp - Bring Your Lunch	Carpool	10 am - 2 pm		self pay	T8	
• Wet Walk at OK Slough with FWC Biologist. \$2.00 Limit 10	Carpool	9 am - 10 am		self pay	T9	
Keynote Speaker Mark Kiser - "Birding in Rural Florida"	PL Inn	7p - 8p		Free	T10	

Wednesday, March 12th

Lunch	Transp.	Time		Cost	Tour	Total
Exclusive Private Ranch & Birding Tour - <i>Lunch Included</i>	Bus 1	7am-3pm		\$ 80.00	W1	
* Okaloacoochee Slough State Forest, Spirit of the Wild WMA (Felda) - <i>Lunch on-your-own site TBD</i>	Bus 2	7am - 12pm		\$ 65.00	W2	
Port LaBelle Birding by Bicycle - <i>Rentals Available</i>	Bicycle	3:30 - 5:30 p		Free	W3	
* Dinner Island Ranch, WMA (Devil's Garden)	Carpool	1p - 4p S/G		Free	W4	
* Spirit of the Wild, WMA (Felda)	Carpool	1p - 4p S/G		Free	W5	
• Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum & Boardwalk Tour \$6-\$9	Carpool	1p - 4p S/G		self pay	W6	
* Night Walk Owl Hoot at Riverside Retreat (Ft. Denaud)	Bus 1	8p - 10p T/G		\$ 10.00	W7	
• Dinner Island Swamp Buggy Ride w/FWC Biologist. Limit 7	Carpool	2p - 3p T/G		free	W8	
• Fort Center on Fisheating Creek Swamp Buggy Ride. Limit 7	Carpool	2p - 3p T/G		free	W9	
• Palms & Pines RV Park (Felda)	Carpool	TBD		Free	W10	
Keynote Speaker -Dr. Richard Raid- "Barn Owls - Nature's Mousetrap "	PL Inn	6:30 - 7:30		Free	W11	

Thursday, March 13th

Lunch	Transp.	Time		Cost	Tour	Total
* Exclusive Private Ranch & Birding Tour - <i>Lunch Included</i>	Bus 1	7am - 3:00 pm		\$ 80.00	Th1	
* Boardwalk Tour at Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, and Billie Swamp Safari Eco-Tour (BCSIR)- <i>Lunch-on-your-own at Swamp Water Café</i>	Bus 2	7am - 2pm		\$ 65.00	Th2	
* Birding by Bike on the L.O.S.T. - <i>Rentals Available</i>	Carpool	2 pm - 5 pm		Free	Th4	
* Fisheating Creek, WMA (Palmdale) - <i>Canoe/Kayak</i>	Carpool	1p - 4p S/G		\$2 + rental	Th5	
* Dinner Island Ranch, WMA (Devil's Garden)	Carpool	1p - 4p S/G		Free	Th6	
* Spirit of the Wild, WMA (Felda)	Carpool	1p - 4p S/G		Free	Th7	
Cash Bar Social & Keynote Dinner & Program w/Greg Miller of "The Big Year"		6 pm - 9 pm		\$ 35.00	TH8	
				Grand Total		

Make Checks Payable to Hendry County TDC Mail to: PO Box 458, LaBelle FL 33975-0458 Questions? Call 863-675-0444

All Bus Trips have Expert Birders on board T/G = Expert Tour Guide Provided with Carpooling Trips S/G = Self Guided

Binoculars, T-Shirts, Tumblers, Books For Sale Silent Auction Sunday Thru Thursday Local Artists and Authors Sunday

Last Name(s): _____

Please check our website www.visithendrycounty.com for a list of accommodations in Hendry County.

** Cancellations for the entire festival accepted by email ONLY bigobirdingfestival@gmail.com

** Cancellations made by February 1, 2014 will receive a full refund less a 20% processing charge.

** Cancellations made by February 15, 2014 will receive a 75% refund less a 20% processing charge.

** No refunds will be made for cancellations after February 15, 2014 or for no-shows.

** The Festival reserves the right to cancel an activity or substitute an activity when necessary.

** All refunds will be processed within 30-60 days following the end of the Festival.

I acknowledge, for myself and anyone under 18 who accompanies me on a nature trip or hike during the 2014 Big "O" Birding Festival (BOBF), that such nature trips and hikes can involve certain inherent risks of accident, personal injury, and damage to or loss of personal property. In exchange for the right to participate in such nature trips and hikes, I agree not to hold BOBF or any of its leaders, assistant leaders, sponsors, hosts, officers, directors, or other BOBF staff members liable for any injury, loss, or damage to myself or others under my supervision, or to personal property of mine or theirs, relating to my/their participation in these events. In the case of accident/illness, I authorize calling medical services. I will not hold BOBF or the group leaders responsible in case of accident. If emergency medical attention is deemed necessary, I give BOBF permission to provide first aid and/or transport to nearest emergency medical facility. I agree to indemnify and hold harmless BOBF from any/all claims and demands, cost or expense arising out of injuries, and I am liable for all such costs incurred. Yes (initial) : _____

Staff photographers will be documenting the 2014 Big "O" Birding Festival (BOBF). The BOBF reserves the right to use photographs of BOBF participants taken during this event for the purposes of advertising and promoting the BOBF and its programs. Any who do not wish to comply with this policy should indicate this by checking NO below, and by notifying us at the registration desk upon arrival. ___YES, the BOBF may use my photograph; _____NO, I do not wish for my photograph to be taken.

Dietary or Mobility Concerns? Please let us know

Registration Roost: Port LaBelle Inn, 1563 Oxbow Drive, LaBelle, FL 33935
Hotel Reservations: 863-675-4411 Ask for Donna Adams PROMO Code: **BOBF2014**

Questions? Send us an e-mail at bigobirdingfestival@gmail.com

Detach Here



2014 Big "O" Birding Festival Registration

Credit Card Information

VISA, Mastercard, Discover (Circle One)

Number: _____

Name on the Card: _____ Expiration Date: _____ CVV Code: _____

Signature: _____

Registrations paid by credit card may be faxed to 8630675-0036 or e-mailed to bigobirdingfestival@gmail.com

Big "Bird" Birding FestivalSM

On the Southwest Shores of Lake Okeechobee

Sunday, March 9th through Thursday, March 13, 2014

Hosted at the

Port LaBelle Inn
1563 Oxbow Drive, LaBelle, FL

Sunday Pre-Festival Meet & Greet
5pm-7pm

Sponsored by the City of LaBelle, Dave Lyons - Mayor


Meet Tour Guides, Local Artists and Authors


Silent Auction Begins in the Sabal Palm Room

Keynote Speaker 7pm-8pm – Paddy Cunningham *Birding Adventures*
"Bird Behavior – A Key to Better ID"
Port LaBelle Inn- Sabal Palm Room

Our Sponsors *(in alphabetical order)*


Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum
Audubon of the Western Everglades
Billie Swamp Safari
Birding Adventures
Bridgestreet Coffee & Tea
Caloosahatchee River Citizens Association
Curtis Honey
Devil's Garden Bird Park
Don's Steak House
Doug & Catherine Zipperer
Dwayne House
Family Eye Care
Florida Audubon
FWC Great Florida Birding & Wildlife Trail
Hendry - Glades Audubon Society
Hendry County BOCC
Hendry County Tourism
Martin's Marina
Port LaBelle Inn
Riverside Retreat
Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation
Seminole Tribe of Florida

7am-3pm  **Exclusive Private Ranch & Birding Tour at Zipperer Ranch/ Devil's Garden Bird Park.** *Ranch BBQ included. \$80 per person.*
 Tour Guides: Paddy Cunningham, *Birding Adventures*; David Hartgrove, David Goodwin
 Transportation: 20-passenger Bus, escorted in small groups via UTV; light walking
 Birds: Sandhill Cranes, Barred Owls, Ibis, Limpkin, Roseate Spoonbill, Caracara, occasional Bald Eagle or White-tailed Kite, Herons, Sparrows, Meadowlark, Raptors and more...



7am-12pm  **Fort Center Archeological Site WMA and Harney Pond Birding Tour (Lakeport)** *\$25.00 per person.*
 Tour Guides: Dr. Paul Gray (Audubon Florida) and Butch Wilson (Clewiston Museum)
 Transportation: Bus or Van; light to moderate walking
 Birds: Ducks, Purple Gallinules, Terns, Gulls, Herons, Swallow-tailed kites, Egrets, Woodpeckers, Warblers and more...

1pm-4pm **Private Ferguson Ranch Birding Tour (Muse).** Free
 Tour Guides: Margaret England, Janet Papinaw
 Transportation: Carpool
 Birds: Eastern Bluebirds, Red-headed Woodpecker, Raptors, Wading Birds, Wood Stork, American Kestrel, Swallow-tailed Kite, and more...


1pm-4pm **Port LaBelle Loop Tour.** Free
 Tour Guides: Mark & Selena Kiser, FWC Great FL Birding & Wildlife Trail
 Transportation: Carpool
 Birds: Egrets, Herons, Ducks, Raptors, Great Crested Flycatcher, Warblers, Red-Winged Blackbirds, Grackles, Eastern Meadowlark, and more...


8am-11am  **Wet Walk at Okaloacoochee Slough State Forest.** *\$2 per person.*
 Tour Guide: Jean McCollom, FWC Biologist
 Transportation: Carpool Coordinator Kristie Anders
 Meet at the Keri Fire Tower at 9am
 Gear: Closed toed shoes or boots, change of footwear/pants

1pm-4pm **FREE self-guided birding tours – No guides or escorts provided**

  Dinner Island Ranch WMA (Devil's Garden) 1.5 hours roundtrip

  Spirit of the Wild WMA (Felda) 1 hour driving roundtrip

 STA-5 (Clewiston) 2 hour driving roundtrip DAYLIGHT HOURS ONLY Sat-Monday Walking and/or Bicycling only

2pm-4pm  **Guided Nature Walk at Riverside Retreat** *15 minute drive to site. \$10.00 per person, self pay at Riverside Retreat.*
 Tour Guide: Martha Pierce, Florida Master Naturalist, Manager RR
 Transportation: Carpool to 7305 CR78, LaBelle (Ft. Denaud), FL 33935
 Program begins at 2pm; Moderate, leisurely walk on grassy trails
 Birds: Painted Buntings, Indigo Buntings, White-winged Dove, Sparrows, Raptors, and more....

5pm-7pm **Local LaBelle Tour & Birding Hot Spots.** Free. *Dinner on your own at local restaurants.*

7pm-8pm **Keynote Speaker Dr. Paul Gray, Audubon Florida**
"Update on the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow, Perhaps Our Most Endangered Bird"

Where: Port LaBelle Inn, Sabal Palm Room
 Price: Free



Designated Great Florida Birding & Wildlife Trail



Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, Wildlife Management Area

7am-3pm Exclusive Private Goodno Ranch/Ortona Locks Birding Tour

Lunch provided at Lightsey's. \$80 per person.

Tour Guides: Margaret England; David Goodwin, David Hartgrove
Transportation: 20-passenger Bus or Van, light walking
Birds: Burrowing Owls, Florida Scrub Jays, Warblers, Wading Birds, Raptors, Purple Martins, and more...

7am-12pm  Birding by Boat on Lake Okeechobee 2-hour Boat Ride. Lunch on own at the Tiki Bar or The Galley at Martin's Marina. \$65.00 per person.

Tour Guides: Dr. Paul Gray (Audubon Florida) and Butch Wilson (Clewiston Museum)
Transportation: Bus or Van; Pontoon Boat with licensed Captain.
Birds: Gulls, Terns, Pelicans, Skimmers, Wading Birds, Purple Gallinules, Ducks, Roseate Spoonbill, Raptors, and much more...

1pm-4pm Private Ferguson Ranch Birding Tour (Muse). Free

Tour Guides: Paddy Cunningham, Janet Papinaw
Transportation: Carpool
Birds: Eastern Bluebirds, Red-headed Woodpecker, Raptors, Wading Birds, Wood Stork, American Kestrel, Swallow-tailed Kite, and more...

1pm-4pm Port LaBelle Loop Tour. Free

Tour Guides: David Goodwin, David Hartgrove
Transportation: Carpool
Birds: Egrets, Herons, Ducks, Raptors, Great Crested Flycatcher, Warblers, Red-Winged Blackbirds, Grackles, Eastern Meadowlark, and more...

10am-2pm  Basic Birding Program – Riverside Retreat *Bring your own lunch.*

\$10 per person; self pay at Riverside Retreat.

Instructor: Martha Pierce, FL Master Naturalist
Transportation: Carpool; moderate walking, bring binoculars.
Coordinator Kristie Anders

1pm-4pm FREE self-guided birding tours – No guides or escorts provided



Dinner Island Ranch WMA (Devil's Garden) 1.5 hours roundtrip



Spirit of the Wild WMA (Felda) 1 hour driving roundtrip

9am-5pm  Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum & Boardwalk (Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation) 2 hour driving roundtrip, one hour on the boardwalk.

Self-Pay \$6-\$9 at the Museum. Self-guided Tour.

7pm-8pm Keynote Speaker Mark Kiser, FWC Great Florida Birding & Wildlife Trail "Out of the Country: Birding Rural Florida"


Where: Port LaBelle Inn, Sabal Palm Room
Price: Free






Designated Great Florida Birding & Wildlife Trail










Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, Wildlife Management Area

7am-3pm  **Exclusive Private Zipperer Ranch/Devil's Garden Bird Park TOUR** *Ranch BBQ Lunch provided. \$80 per person.*
 Tour Guides: Mark & Selena Kiser, Greg & Leslie Cornett
 Transportation: 20-passenger Bus or Van, light walking
 Birds: Sandhill Cranes, Barred Owls, Ibis, Limpkin, Roseate Spoonbill, Caracara, occasional Bald Eagle or White-tailed Kite, Herons, Sparrows, Meadowlark, Raptors and more...


7am-12pm  **Okaloacoochee Slough State Forest,   Spirit of the Wild WMA.** *\$65 per person.*
 Tour Guides: Kim Willis, David Goodwin, David Hartgrove
 Transportation: Bus or Van; light walking
 Birds: Wading Birds, Wild Turkey, Northern Bobwhite, Caracara, Raptors, Egrets, Herons, Ibis, Swallow-tailed Kite, and lots more...

1pm-4pm **Bike & Bird Port LaBelle Tour. Free** *Bring your own bike or rent one at the Port LaBelle Inn.*
 Tour Guides: Butch Wilson, Janet Papinaw
 Transportation: Bicycles (Rentals available or bring your own)
 Birds: Egrets, Herons, Ducks, Raptors, Great Crested Flycatcher, Warblers, Red-Winged Blackbirds, Grackles, Eastern Meadowlark, and more...

1pm-4pm **FREE** self-guided birding tours – No guides or escorts provided


-   Dinner Island Ranch WMA (Devil's Garden) 1.5 hours roundtrip
-   Spirit of the Wild WMA (Felda) 1 hour driving roundtrip
-   Dinner Island Ranch Swamp Buggy Tour with FWC Biologist (Dawn Dodds) LIMIT 7 people.
-   Fort Center Archeological Site Swamp Buggy Tour with FWC Biologist (Brandon Schad) LIMIT 7 people.










Palm & Pines RV Park (Felda) 2pm-4pm (Margaret England will guide and escort) *Certified Wildlife Habitat*

9am-5pm  **Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum & Boardwalk (Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation)** 2 hour driving roundtrip, one hour on the boardwalk.
Self-Pay \$6-\$9 at the Museum. Self-guided Tour.

6pm-7pm **Keynote Speaker TBD**

Where: Port LaBelle Inn, Sabal Palm Room
 Price: Free

8pm-10pm  **Night Walk Owl Hoot at Riverside Retreat.** *\$10 per person.*
 Tour Guides: Martha Pierce, David Goodwin, David Hartgrove, Mark & Selena Kiser
 Transportation: 20-passenger bus
 Birds: Barred Owls and more...

- 7am-3pm  **Exclusive Private Zipperer Ranch/Devil's Garden Bird Park Birding Tour.** *Ranch BBQ Lunch provided. \$80 per person.*
Tour Guides: Margaret England, David Goodwin, David Hartgrove
Transportation: 20-passenger Bus or Van, light walking
Birds: Burrowing Owls, Florida Scrub Jays, Warblers, Wading Birds, Raptors, Purple Martins, and more...
- 7am-2pm  **Billie Swamp Safari Eco Tour/Ah-Tah-Thi Ki Museum & Boardwalk.** *Lunch on your own at Swamp Water Café. \$65 per person.*
Tour Guides: Mark & Selena Kiser, Greg & Leslie Cornett
Transportation: Bus or Van; light walking
Birds: Wading Birds, Wild Turkey, Northern Bobwhite, Caracara, Raptors, Egrets, Herons, Ibis, Swallow-tailed Kite, and lots more...
- 1pm-4pm  **Bike & Bird the L.O.S T. (Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail)**
Free *Bring your own bike or rent one at the Martin's Marina. Leisurely 6-mile ride to or from Uncle Joe's Fish Camp on the Herbert Hoover Dike (depending on wind and/or weather)*
Tour Guides: Janet Papinaw, Jody Foster
Transportation: Carpool Clewiston Boat Ramp
Birds: Osprey, gulls, terns, raptors, wading birds, alligators...and more
- 1pm-4pm **FREE** self-guided birding tours – No guides or escorts provided
  **Fisheating Creek, WMA (Palmdale)** *1 hour drive roundtrip; rent kayaks or canoes at Fisheating Creek Outpost*
  **Dinner Island Ranch WMA (Devil's Garden)** *1.5 hours driving roundtrip*
  **Spirit of the Wild WMA (Felda)** *1 hour driving roundtrip*
- 6pm-9pm **Cash Bar Social, Keynote Dinner and Program with speaker Greg Miller of "The Big Year" fame.**
Where: Port LaBelle Inn, Sabal Palm Room
Price: \$35.00 per person

