



FLORIDA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY SPRING MEETING ~ APRIL 27-28, 2019

Hosted by Hernando Audubon Society
and Chinsegut Hill Retreat

22495 Chinsegut Hill Rd, Brooksville, FL 34601



Meeting Schedule

Saturday, April 27

12:00 Lunch, dining room

1:00 p.m. Field Trip: **Southwest Water Management District's Green Swamp West** tract, eastern Pasco County. Tour the tract and learn about restoration, land management, and significance of the Green Swamp and the Withlacoochee River with WMD staff. Meet at the main entrance to Green Swamp West off of River Rd. <https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/recreation/green-swamp-west-tract>.

2:00-5:00 p.m. Board Meeting, classroom

2:00 p.m. Field trip

Crystal River Boat Tour, 2 - 4 p.m. Reservations required. Limited to 24 people. \$20/person. Leaving from Crystal River Preserve State Park, 3266 N Sailboat Ave, Crystal River, FL 34428. The boat will cruise the river to the Indian Mound at the Crystal River Historical Site and down to the river's mouth at the Gulf of Mexico.

Citrus Tract of the Withlacoochee State Forest Field Trip, led by FWC biologist Jon Hoch, will visit Longleaf Pine sandhill communities to showcase Red-cockaded Woodpecker clusters and their unique habits. Activities include an auto tour with frequent stops and short walks at RCW sites, as well as, demonstrations of management tools and possible nestling banding. Directions: Leaving Chinsegut Hill, take a left onto Snow Memorial Hwy and continue for 13 miles. Upon seeing the Marathon gas station on the right be prepared to turn left onto Forest Trail 10 and continue for 1.5 miles arriving at the checkstation pavilion. The RCW field office is on the right.

5:30 p.m. Reception at Chinsegut Hill Retreat

6:30 p.m. Supper and speakers, dining room and classroom

Marsh Wrens and Seaside Sparrows: FWC Scientist Andrew Cox will share results from recent research on Marsh Wrens and Seaside Sparrows in northeast Florida. The range of both species contracted substantially over the past 50 years, so FWC set out to learn more about the habitat preferences and demographic performance of these charismatic salt marsh specialists.

American Oystercatcher monitoring and conservation by the Florida Shorebird Program: The Florida Shorebird Program is a partnership between FWC, Audubon, and an extensive network of volunteers. The program monitors and protects nesting and wintering shorebirds and seabirds across the entirety of Florida's coastline. FWC's Janell Brush will present information on research, monitoring, and management of the American Oystercatcher to provide insight into how the Shorebird Program is conserving some of Florida's most imperiled birds.

Withlacoochee Woodpeckers: FWC biologist Jon Hoch will discuss the history and future of Red-cockaded Woodpecker management on the Withlacoochee State Forest.

Sunday, April 28

7:00 a.m. Breakfast, dining room

8:00 a.m. - noon Field trip

The **Withlacoochee State Forest** Field Trip, led by FOS President Jim Cox and Hernando Audubon's Bev Hansen, will focus on pineland species and may include banding Bachman's Sparrows for follow-up monitoring. We'll try to entice a few female sparrows to provide their rare songs and may help to band nestling woodpeckers in the forest. Meet at Chinsegut Hill Retreat.

12:30 Lunch, dining room

Lodging at Chinsegut Hill Retreat

Chinsegut Hill is one of the highest elevations in Central Florida. The Manor House, built in the 1850s by South Carolina lawyer Col. Bird Pearson, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Manor House and 115 acres are owned by Florida and managed by the Friends of Chinsegut Hill with Hernando County. Residential Cottages have four bedrooms with two twin beds in each, private bath and shower. Space is limited to 56 beds, so please make your reservations soon; first come, first served.

Meals by Albanese Catering

Saturday, April 27

Lunch Buffet: Assorted wraps and croissants, Caesar Salad, Grilled Pineapple Salad, Tomato Basil Tortilla Soup and Spicy Bean & Vegetable Soup, Yogurt Granola Parfait

Supper Buffet: Chicken Caesar Skewers, Steak Kabobs, and Vegetable Skewers, Cobb Salad, Summer Salad, Broccoli & Cheddar Soup, Brownies

Sunday, April 28

Breakfast Buffet: Three Quiches (one is veggie), bacon, breads, fruit parfait, oatmeal bars

Lunch: Sandwich and Salad Bar, Cookies and Brownies

Mail your Registration Form and Check made out to "FOS" to Ann Paul, 4928 Barnstead Drive, Riverview, FL 33578. Please register by April 22nd.

Questions or late registrations: call, email, or text Ann Paul 813/624-3149, apaul@audubon.org

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip code:** _____

Email address: _____

FOS Meeting Registration @ \$15/person

I want to register for _____ person/people. _____

Crystal River Boat Trip @ \$20/person

I want to reserve for _____ person/people. _____

Housing Saturday night @ \$60/person.

I want to reserve for _____ person/people. _____

Lunch, Saturday, April 27 @ \$15.00/person.

I want Lunch for _____ person/people. _____

Supper, Saturday, April 27 @ \$20.00/person.

I want Supper for _____ person/people. _____

Breakfast, Sunday, April 28 @ \$10.00/person.

I want Breakfast for _____ person/people. _____

Lunch, Sunday, April 28 @ \$15.00/person.

I want Lunch for _____ person/people. _____

Total enclosed _____