

# THE PELICAN POST

A quarterly publication - Weeks Bay Foundation  
Winter 2011  
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**2011 Alabama Coastal BirdFest Bird & Conservation Expo  
at Faulkner State Fairhope Campus**

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*The Weeks Bay Foundation is a non-profit organization whose members work to protect the natural resources of coastal Alabama and to provide assistance and support for the Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve's goals and programs.*

Cover Photo  
by Sherry Stimpson Frost  
Layout & Design by  
Kathy Hicks

## *From the Executive Director . . .*



The leaves have fallen, most of the fall wildflowers have bloomed, and the beautiful waterfront winter sunsets are here. I am pleased to say this year's John L. Borom Alabama Coastal BirdFest was the most successful in the event's history. One of the highlights was the Bird & Conservation Expo. I enjoyed taking my two daughters, **Elizabeth**, 5, and **Caroline**, 17 months, to the Saturday Expo. I remember being introduced to the natural beauty of the outdoors at an early age by my father. This early introduction to the outdoors is one of the factors that inspired me to work for conservation full time. It is so important to be able to provide a fun, family-oriented educational event that focuses on natural beauty and environmental stewardship. The BirdFest is another example of how the Foundation supports conservation through education.

The Foundation has completed the acceptance of a conservation easement from Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuaries (DIBS). We look forward to a long-term partnership with DIBS. The Foundation also acquired a 28-acre wetland parcel. This parcel is adjacent to the Meadows, the 820 acres of coastal wetland habitat recently acquired by Alabama's Forever Wild Land Trust and the Baldwin County Commission. In addition, we have been working with the Land Trust Alliance and 23 other land trusts to create the Gulf of Mexico Partnership for Land Conservation. The Foundation co-hosted a meeting of this group in September.

We could not accomplish any of this without your continued support. Please support the Foundation by becoming a member – or renewing your membership – and making a generous contribution to our **Annual Fund**. Your membership dues and other contributions enable us to continue our work in protecting the natural resources of coastal Alabama and providing assistance and support to the goals and programs of the Weeks Bay Reserve. Thank you again for your past support.

Working for Conservation, *Walter*

### *2011 Christmas Ornament*

The **2011 Weeks Bay Christmas ornament** depicts a kayaker fishing on Weeks Bay and celebrates the 25th anniversary of the designation of the Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. It is the ninth in the series of ornaments designed to raise funds to support the Foundation's mission to protect the natural resources of coastal Alabama and provide assistance and support for the Reserve's goals and programs. The ornament also reiterates the value of ecotourism and natural resource protection. Ecotourism activities like kayaking contribute to the economy in Baldwin County.



The ornament may be purchased at Fairhope Pharmacy's Christmas 'Round the Corner, the Reserve, or by contacting the Foundation office at (251) 990-5004. Previous years' ornaments are also available at the Reserve and the Foundation office, along with a selection of Foundation t-shirts and caps. Purchases may also be made at the Foundation's website, [www.weeksbay.org](http://www.weeksbay.org).



## *AmeriCorps VISTA at the Foundation*

**Courtney Cooper** joined the Weeks Bay Foundation staff in early August as the second AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) and will be responsible for outreach and education related activities for both the Reserve and the Foundation over the course of her year-long service. In her first four months, she has been instrumental in assisting the Foundation in launching its first electronic newsletter. Courtney is a recent graduate from Berry College, a small liberal arts school in Rome, Georgia, with a bachelor's of science in economics and environmental science. In college, she actively engaged in research-related activities, spending the summer of 2010 completing environmental policy research with the National Science Foundation at Lake Tahoe. Before attending college, she lived in Saint Augustine, Florida. It was here that she developed her passion for the outdoors, local communities, and conservation-related activities. In her free time, Courtney enjoys running, an event that she participated competitively in throughout high school and college. She is a volunteer assistant coach with Fairhope High School's cross-country team. After her year here she intends to pursue her master's degree in environmental science. We are excited to welcome Courtney to our staff.



The Weeks Bay Volunteer who has taken on this immense challenge is **Frank Bonneville**, and he has lived a full, interesting life - so far!

Frank was born in the Manhattan borough in New York City and spent his elementary school years in White Plains. The family then moved to Colorado, where Frank attended military school in Denver. A gifted athlete, he attended the University of Connecticut on a track and field scholarship. While still in college, the Korean War broke out, so Frank left school and enlisted in the Army. Assigned to a security agency, he was stationed in Austria and then in Germany. After completing his enlistment, Frank left the Army, returned to college, and received his bachelor's degree in history.



Frank worked for a time in the steel industry and for General Motors in Pittsburgh. He then accepted a position as Assistant Dean of the Graduate College at the University of Arizona, where he earned a master's degree in higher education administration. The Bonnevilles then moved to Ft. Collins, Colorado, where Frank served as Director of Admissions and Registrar.

Frank and his wife moved to Daphne in 1992, but then moved to Wisconsin and later to Florida before returning to Baldwin County in 2009. When asked why he settled on Baldwin County after living in so many other parts of the country, Frank says, "I was looking for a home and I had ties to this area from visiting my grandfather who had owned a lumber mill in Mobile."

While living in Daphne in 1992, Frank heard about the creation of Weeks Bay Reserve, and after returning to the area, he visited the Reserve. He says, "I have an attraction for the water and wanted to do something for the environment." Frank also says, "Working at the Reserve is a very pleasant experience, and I appreciate how well the volunteers are treated."

Frank insists that learning is his main interest in life and enjoys looking things up. It seems all together fitting that the project he has taken on will allow people to do just that. We are glad that he chose to make his varied experience and considerable talents available to Weeks Bay Reserve!

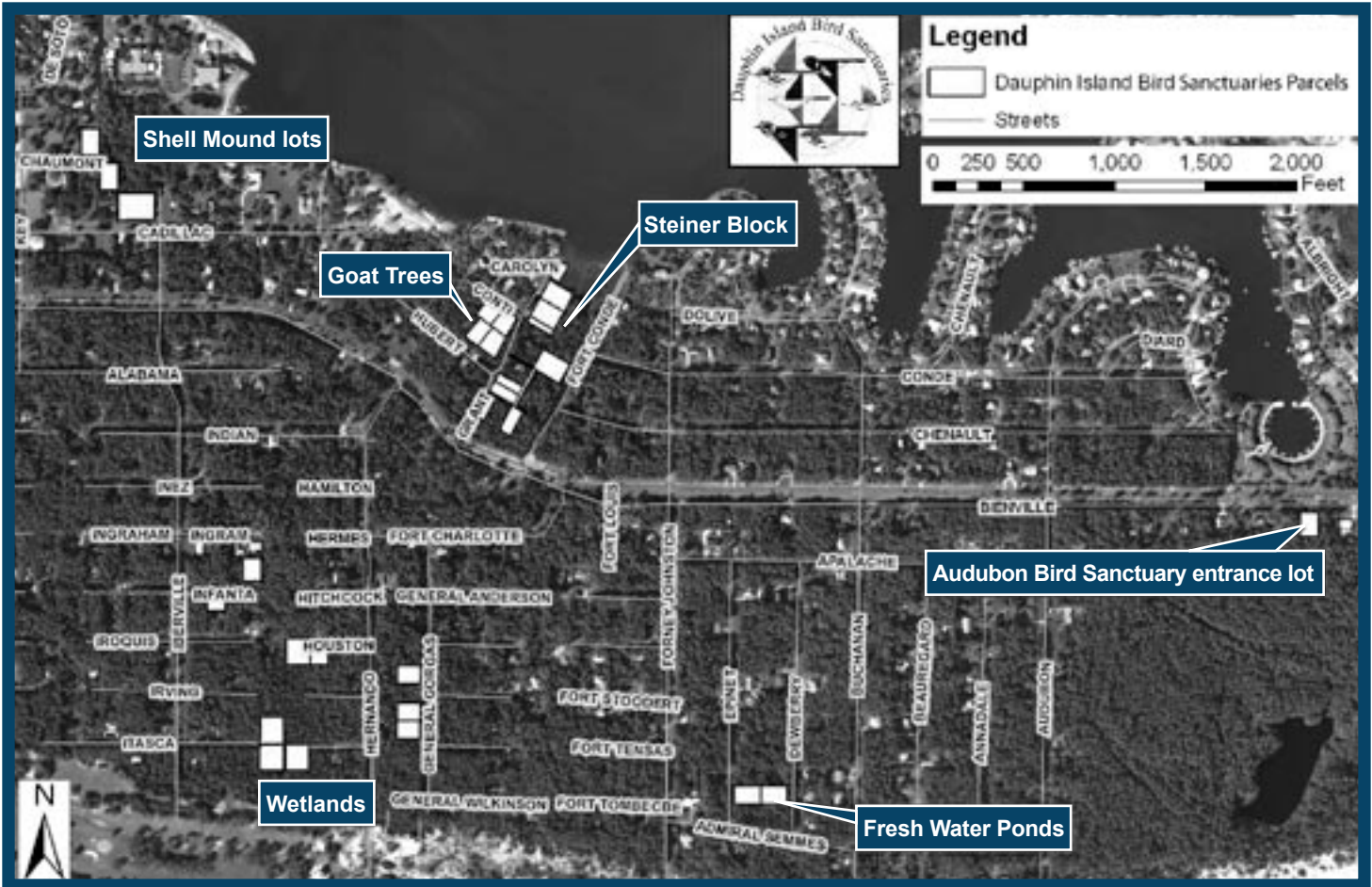
### *Volunteer Spotlight: Frank Bonneville* by Maureen Nation, Weeks Bay Reserve Volunteer Coordinator

Visitors at the Reserve's Otilie Halstead Visitor Center may see one of our volunteers diligently working on an important new archival project: systematically searching through the memorabilia and the many newspaper articles written about Weeks Bay Reserve over the years. Each of these pieces of our history is being scanned, stored digitally, and catalogued for future reference.



# Historic Conservation Easement

Creating perpetual protection for birds and habitats



by **Walter Ernest**, Weeks Bay  
Foundation Executive Director

In 2010, the Foundation was approached by **Dr. John Porter**, Executive Director of Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuaries (DIBS), whose mission is to protect important bird habitat, about the possibility of accepting a conservation easement on their 28 parcels on Dauphin Island. These parcels provide important migratory bird stop-over habitat. In October, the Foundation completed an historic conservation easement that will protect this critical habitat forever.

One of the factors that steered DIBS to the Foundation was the fact that the Foundation is an accredited land trust. The accreditation seal provides a layer of trust and shows that the Foundation has met national standards to achieve accreditation. DIBS also wanted an extra layer of protection for their fee-owned properties. Dauphin Island has been recognized by the National Audubon Society as a Globally Important Birding Area. A conservation

easement provides a perpetual layer of protection to the property. A baseline documentation report was completed and donated by **Dr. Robert Keller** of the Atlantic Coast Conservancy. The report documented the conservation values that were present on all of the DIBS properties. We are grateful to Dr. Keller and the DIBS board for working with the Foundation to make this partnership successful, and we look forward to maintaining a long-term conservation partnership with DIBS.

by **Gregory J. Harber**, past President,  
Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuaries

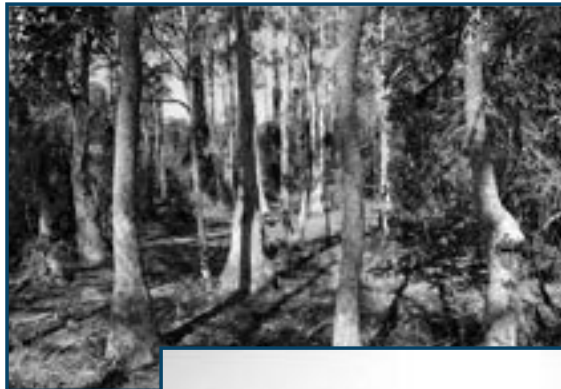


I am pleased to announce that at the recent Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuaries (DIBS) board meeting, **Dr. John Porter**, our Executive Director, reported that he and **Walter Ernest**, Weeks Bay Foundation Executive Director, had filed





Goat Tree Reserve



Gorgas swamp



Steiner Tract



Ralph Havard (center), Foundation and DIBS board member, and John Porter (right), Executive Director of DIBS, escort Chuck Roe, Director of the Land Trust Alliance's Southeast Program, on a tour of the Indian Shell Mound Park



Tupelo Gum swamp

the necessary paperwork and legal documents with the county - the conservation easement is now official! This milestone event has been many months in the making and the Board of Directors and membership of DIBS could not be more pleased. The easement covers 28 parcels on Dauphin Island, representing almost 10 acres of prime habitat for resident and migratory birds.

This milestone is important for a number of reasons. First, it ensures that the parcels DIBS has worked so diligently to acquire will be protected in perpetuity from development and maintained in their natural state. Many donors have supported our habitat preservation efforts through the years and this important achievement provides assurances that their investment in our efforts was worthwhile.

Secondly, from the standpoint of a weary neotropical migrant songbird, it ensures that the stopover habitat on which they have come to depend during the most taxing weather and flying conditions will always be there. Suitable habitat with an

abundance of natural foods, cover, and fresh water is so crucial to the successful completion of an arduous journey that can span months, multiple countries, and the Gulf of Mexico. Imagine embarking on a family vacation without any assurances of being able to obtain gas for your car, lodging to rest, or a place to eat, and you can begin to appreciate the challenges a neotropical migrant faces.

Dauphin Island is one of the top birding destinations in all of North America. The joint efforts of the Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuaries and the Weeks Bay Foundation at protecting and preserving valuable stopover habitat also provides an economic stimulus to the island, as visiting birders who might otherwise be restricted now have even more places to pursue their passion and an incentive to return.

Everyone – the birds, the island's businesses, residents, tourists, and the environment – will benefit as we move forward with this partnership, acquiring, protecting, and enhancing even more habitat. I invite you to follow our progress.



## Alabama Coastal Cleanup

by Eric Brunden, Weeks Bay  
Reserve Stewardship Coordinator

The 24th Annual Alabama Coastal Cleanup was a big success. Over 30 volunteers arrived at the Tonsmeire Weeks Bay Resource Center early Saturday morning to clean

up waterways and roadsides from Fairhope to Pelican Point. Numerous volunteers took to the water this year, traveling by motorboat, kayak, and canoe

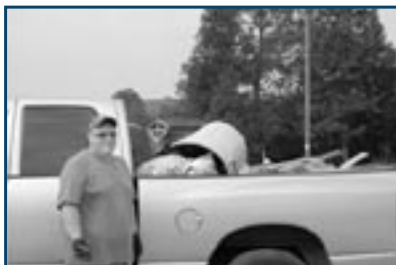


Young volunteers helped recover trash from the shoreline of Weeks Bay

to collect debris that had washed into the marshes and forests surrounding Weeks Bay. Scout Troops from Fairhope and Silverhill along with other volunteers spent their time canvassing the roads and shoreline of Mobile Bay, resulting in five pickup truck loads of debris.

Although a considerable amount of trash was collected this year, the estimated total was less than in years past. Numerous

volunteers stated that they had to look harder and work longer to collect an amount of trash equivalent to what they had found in previous years. It appears that the hard



Boy Scout Troops collected truckloads of debris from area roadways

work of community volunteers is paying off with a cleaner environment for everyone.

## New Conservation Partnership Established

The Weeks Bay Foundation played an important role in the establishment of a coalition of local, regional, state, and national land conservation organizations devoted to advancing land and water conservation in the Gulf of Mexico coastal region. During the summer of 2010, the Foundation's

executive director contacted the Land Trust Alliance to pursue a meeting of land trusts and state and federal partners to discuss the role that land trusts could play in natural resource restoration activities following the *Deepwater Horizon* disaster. (Land acquisition had not been identified as a part of the restoration process at that time.) The Alliance assembled meetings of private conservation organizations and public agency partners to discuss how to protect and restore more Gulf Coast natural habitats and environmental resources. The Foundation and the Weeks Bay Reserve's Coastal Training Program hosted two of the three organizational meetings that led to

1. the formation of the Partnership for Gulf Coast Land Conservation,
2. the recognition of land acquisition as a form of restoration in Navy Secretary Ray Mabus' plan for Gulf Coast recovery and Natural Resource Damage Assessment process, and
3. ongoing efforts to educate government agencies and the public about the value of acquiring properties from willing sellers to protect ecologically-sensitive lands.

The core mission of the Partnership for Gulf Coast Land Conservation is to work together to increase the pace, quality, and permanence of land and water conservation on important coastal properties in the Gulf of Mexico region. It is modeled after successful land trust coalitions around the country that have worked together to protect millions of acres of watersheds, wildlife corridors, and important cultural resources. Lands in the Gulf of Mexico coastal region are among the area's most ecologically productive.



Several Foundation board members attended the most recent Partnership for Gulf Coast Land Conservation meeting, including Phil Norris, Ray Herndon, Ralph Havard, and Rick Wallace, Foundation President (right)

The Land Trust Alliance is seeking additional private and public funding to expand the project. The Foundation looks forward to the future outcomes of this partnership.

## *Stormwater Treatment Workshops*

by Mike Shelton, Weeks Bay Reserve  
Coastal Training Program Coordinator

Rainfall runoff from our towns can carry many kinds of pollutants to the creeks and rivers that feed into Weeks Bay. New regulations coming from the Department of Environmental Management and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency require that public works and highway departments treat runoff water to remove these harmful pollutants. The Stormwater Center at the University of New Hampshire is a leader in research on techniques and engineering that can reduce pollution before it reaches our waterways. Grand Bay and Weeks Bay Reserve Coastal Training Programs brought in **James Houle**, Outreach Coordinator and Program Manager for the Stormwater Center. James is an expert in sustainable development and a certified professional in storm water quality with over ten years of experience. Twenty-five engineers and stormwater managers attended the one-day workshop featuring science-based, technical information and research results related to the design and performance of stormwater treatment systems. The course was developed for engineers and other professionals involved in the development or review of stormwater treatment designs, such as individuals from private consulting firms, public works departments, and planning offices.

Course information was tailored to reflect on-the-ground conditions in the Gulf Coast region. In addition, a local success story from Escambia County, Florida, was highlighted before students undertook a rigorous design exercise. Participants indicated on workshop evaluations that they will use what they learned to match techniques to meet their treatment needs and to overcome the engineering barriers to effective design. Better techniques to remove pollution from rainfall runoff are evolving to help meet the needs of stormwater managers. The health of our waterways on the Alabama coast depends on reducing runoff pollution. Research is essential so that engineers and others can design treatment measures with the certainty that they will work. For more information on the Stormwater Center at the University of New Hampshire go to [www.unh.edu/unhsc](http://www.unh.edu/unhsc).

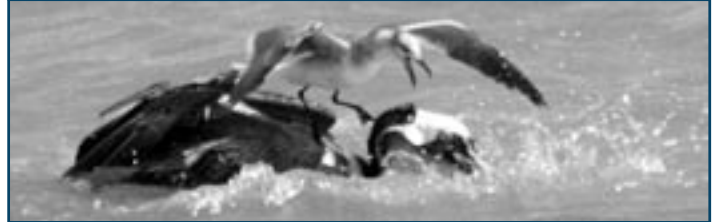


## **Remember!**

**to donate to the  
Foundation's Annual Fund  
[www.WeeksBay.org](http://www.WeeksBay.org)**

## *Did You Know?*

by John Borom, Weeks Bay Foundation Vice President



Kleptoparasitism literally means parasitism by theft. It can be a form of feeding in which one animal takes prey or food from another animal, or used to describe one animal stealing nest material from another animal. The kleptoparasite benefits either by obtaining food or other objects that it could not obtain itself, or by saving the time and effort required to obtain it. Intraspecific kleptoparasitism involves two animals of the same species, and interspecific kleptoparasitism involves two different species of animals.

The Brown Pelican forages primarily by plunging into schools of anchovies and menhaden. On contact with the water, the pelican draws back its wings and opens its huge bill, centering the prey between its jaws. Its gular pouch serves primarily to capture fish. It distends rapidly to an enormous size, capable of holding about 21 pints, or about 17 pounds of water, and closes around the fish. The prey is swallowed when the water drains from the pouch. If a pelican is harassed by a gull, it increases the chance that some stunned fish will escape as the water is drained from the pouch. Often a juvenile Laughing Gull that is not yet skillful enough to catch fish can be seen close to a Brown Pelican trying to steal prey that may escape from the pouch if the pelican momentarily loses its concentration.

The next time you visit an estuary, look closely at the feeding behavior and relationship between an eight to ten pound Brown Pelican and an eight to thirteen ounce Laughing Gull and you might observe interspecific kleptoparasitism in action.

## *Thanks to Our Donors* August to October

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*In support of Alabama Coastal BirdFest*  
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Mobile Bay Audubon Society  
The Nature Conservancy

*In support of Kid's Fishing Day*  
WalMart Stores, Inc.

In honor of Gaye Lindsey  
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Ren Alford Hinote  
David & Jeanie Lindsey

In honor of Skipper Tonsmeire  
James & Helen Moffat

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Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuaries, Inc.  
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TogetherGreen  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Weeks Bay Volunteers

**Become a part of the  
Weeks Bay Foundation!  
Join us by returning  
the enclosed envelope  
or look for the link  
on our home page at  
[www.weeksbay.org](http://www.weeksbay.org).**

### **Giving Levels**

Legacy Circle	\$5,000 and up
Sustainer	\$1,000 - \$4,999
Steward	\$ 500 - \$999
Supporter	\$ 250 - \$499
Friend	\$ 100 - \$249
Member	\$ 35 - \$99

**Donate to the Foundation  
through the Combined Federal  
Campaign, Code 37621**



## *How Vulnerable is the Reserve to Climate Change?*

by Mike Shelton, Weeks Bay Reserve  
Coastal Training Program Coordinator

According to the *Global Change Impacts in the United States*, coastlines are experiencing “multiple changes consistent with a rapidly warming climate.” Wetlands along the Gulf Coast are being affected by several climate change stressors like rising sea levels, increases in temperature, changes in storm intensity, alterations in freshwater supply, and others. In order to manage resources and undertake effective restoration, coastal resource managers need to anticipate changes over a longer future outlook. Planning and subsequent adaptation efforts require not only understanding changes in climate, but also the impacts of land use and the actions of people in the coastal area. These problems are evident on the Alabama Gulf Coast and around the Weeks Bay Reserve.

Possible negative impacts caused by climate change on the ability of the Reserve to conduct and facilitate long-term research, to disseminate science-based information, and to conserve ecologically-sensitive lands need to be explored as we enter our second 25 years of service. Recently, **Mike Shelton**, Coastal Training Program coordinator, attended Climate Vulnerability Assessment training at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. The three-day course is designed to teach students to identify the most likely cause of negative impacts and to plan for those impacts. That is exactly what the Reserve wants to do. Mike with **Scott Phipps**, Research coordinator, and NatureServe submitted to the NOAA Climate Program office a proposal to fund a vulnerability assessment in the watershed of Weeks Bay. NatureServe is a non-profit scientific services organization that provides data and analytical services and has considerable experience integrating climate change into assessments and planning. If funded, the outcomes of the project will include identification of those parts of the Reserve and watershed most vulnerable to climate change, a plan to adapt to different scenarios, and an assessment that can be used as a model in other protected areas. Understanding how changing climate affects sensitive natural resources at Weeks Bay Reserve is essential so that we can continue our mission and also be a model for decision-makers in coastal Alabama. For more information on climate change, go to [www.epa.gov/climatechange](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange).

# CALENDAR

## WINTER 2011-2012

### December

- 13 **Guest Lecture Series “Native Orchids of Alabama,”** presented by **Bill Summerour**. 5 Rivers Delta Resource Center, 7:00 p.m. Bring a friend.
- 14 **Weeks Bay Holiday Open House.** Light snacks and drinks will be served at the Tonsmeire Weeks Bay Resource Center, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- 25-26 **Christmas Holiday.\***
- 31 **New Year’s Day Holiday.\***

### January

- 1-2 **New Year’s Day Holiday.\***
- 3 **Watershed Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting.** Tonsmeire Weeks Bay Resource Center, 3:30 p.m.
- 10 **Weeks Bay Volunteers Annual Meeting.** Tonsmeire Weeks Bay Resource Center, 11:00 a.m.
- 10 **Guest Lecture Series “Exploring Norway,”** presented by **Gaye Lindsey**, 5 Rivers Delta Resource Center, 7:00 p.m. Bring a friend.
- 16 **Martin Luther King, Jr. / Robert E. Lee Birthday.\***

### February

- 14 **Guest Lecture Series “African Animals,”** presented by **John Borom**, 5 Rivers Delta Resource Center, 7:00 p.m. Bring a friend.
- 20 **George Washington / Thomas Jefferson Birthday.**
- 21 **Mardi Gras Day.\***

\* The Visitor Center will be closed. All trails and boardwalks will remain open for your walking and sightseeing pleasure.



## 8th Annual BirdFest Draws Big Crowds

by D. Fran Morley, "Nestkeeper"

Another successful Alabama Coastal BirdFest has come and gone. Visitors from about 19 states, from as far away as California and New York, attended the three-day event. There were also many folks from Baldwin and Mobile counties and a lot of familiar faces from past years.

The Pre-BirdFest Orientation and Presentation Reception held the night before the first trips was new this year. The evening included the presentation "Nature Through Our Lenses" by **Kathy Hicks**

(Foundation member), featuring some of the best photographers in our area. It was just spectacular! The delicious light meal was provided by Mobile Bay Audubon Society volunteers.

"We had a tremendous crowd at 5 Rivers that night, but it was fun," BirdFest coordinator **Fran Morley**

said. "Guide **Gaye Lindsey** (Foundation Board member) said that the big crowd stirred excitement, and lots of people made new friends. That's my definition of a good time."



The Bird & Conservation Expo also drew big crowds to the Faulkner State Fairhope Campus on Saturday. "We thank all our exhibitors from various conservation organizations, the vendors who brought bird and garden supplies, the artists who shared their talents, the rehab folks from Coosa River Science Center and the Mobile County Environmental Studies Center who brought raptors and other birds, the Boy Scouts and leaders from Troop 47 in Fairhope who led the birdhouse build, and all the divisions from the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, especially 5 Rivers, State Lands, State Parks, and Marine Resources," said BirdFest Chairman **John Borom**.

Proceeds from this year's event will be utilized for natural resource protection projects in coastal Alabama. It has provided over \$70,000 for coastal land protection since its inception in 2004.

Mark your calendar: the 9th annual Alabama Coastal BirdFest is on the books for October 4-6, 2012.

## Birders on the Bay

by Angela Underwood, Weeks Bay Reserve Education Specialist

During three days in early October, bird enthusiasts flocked to Weeks Bay Reserve to catch a ride on the *Weeks Bay Explorer* during BirdFest. On these morning excursions, participants learned about the ecology of Weeks Bay estuary while scouting for birds and other wildlife. As the boat cruised into the bay, Brown Pelicans, seagulls, and terns could be seen diving overhead, hunting for breakfast while bottlenose dolphins were nose-deep in the bay floor searching for southern flounder and blue crabs, tails flapping above the water's surface. Along the western shore of the bay, the boat stopped briefly for visitors to catch a glimpse of the massive Bald Eagle's nest atop a tall pine tree. Reserve stewardship coordinator and boat captain, **Eric Brunden**, remarked that the eagles have been nesting every winter in the same spot for the last six years.

Crossing the bay, the boat traveled up Magnolia River. The journey yielded more species of birds including Great Blue Herons, Great Egrets, Ospreys, Pileated Woodpeckers, and a juvenile Bald Eagle. "You can tell it's a juvenile," stated the trip guide, Game Division biologist, **Roger Clay**, "because of the brown mottled head. They don't have a full white head until they are mature."



Birders take in the sights on the Weeks Bay BirdFest fieldtrip

A unique highlight of the trip was observing the method used by biologists to monitor the abundance of marsh birds, which are notoriously known to be elusive. As the captain pulled the boat alongside a salt marsh, Reserve education specialist **Angela Underwood** broadcast a Clapper Rail call. Almost instantly, two rails began calling back. One inquisitive rail was even spotted as it ventured out of the marsh towards the boat.

As always, it was another great trip on Weeks Bay. If you weren't able to be there this year, make sure to book a trip aboard the *Weeks Bay Explorer* or on any of the other fabulous field trips offered by BirdFest in October 2012. And remember, the early bird gets the worm, so register early!





White-faced Ibis



The Environmental Studies Center exhibit



White Pelicans



Expo



Bald Eagle



Expo



Carolina Chickadee



Expo



Expo



Expo



Osprey



Bottlenose Dolphin



Great Blue Heron



Expo



Expo



Expo



Expo

# Weeks Bay Foundation

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Photo by John Borom

Gulf Fritillary  
(*Agraulis vanillae*)

**“What is common to many is taken least care of, for all men have greater regard for what is their own than for what they possess in common with others.” - Aristotle ( 384 BC----322 BC )**

## *Weeks Bay Plant Sale* by Maureen Nation, Weeks Bay Reserve Volunteer Coordinator

Weeks Bay’s Plant Sale has come and gone. Due in very large measure to the Baldwin County Master Gardeners, we placed hundreds of terrific native plants in the hands of area homeowners and businesses.

Master Gardeners worked and sweated to unload the trucks, to place, move (and move, and often move again) the plants, and to keep them watered. They assisted customers with plant



Master Gardeners advising plant sale shoppers

selections and answered constant questions about what, where, and when to plant. Master Gardeners contributed full-color signs, with photos, growing conditions, and detailed plant information. These signs, along with the great carts purchased for Weeks Bay Reserve, were invaluable assets during the sale.

The wonderful relationship between Weeks Bay Reserve and the Baldwin County Master Gardeners is one of the oldest and most productive conservation partnerships in Baldwin County. We are very proud of this association, and look forward to assisting with the Master Gardeners’ spring sale.



Blanket Flower,  
*Gaillardia pulchella*  
Photo by Fred Nation



Narrowleaf Sunflowers,  
*Helianthus angustifolius*  
Photo by Fred Nation

