

## **FIELD TRIP REVIEW**

### **DELTONA'S AUDUBON PARK: SEPTEMBER 20,2015**

We visit Audubon Park on the third Sunday of each month. Our field trip leader, Harry Robinson, is now beginning his third year of keeping records of bird species, their numbers and all other wildlife at this location. For this long term study, Harry typically arrives at the property no later than 5:30 AM and stays 'til around noon. After all, some birds may only be identified by their calls, before sunrise. On this particular day, before Amy, Luddy, Mary and I had arrived at 8:00 AM, Harry had already noted 11 species: Pie-billed Grebe, Blue-winged Teal, Cooper's Hawk, Wild Turkey, Killdeer, Barred Owl, Cuck-will's-widow, Fish Crow, Swainson's Thrush, Common Yellowthroat and Bobolink.

As is our practice, we began by walking around the wooded perimeter of the rather large parking area, observing White-eyed Vireo, Carolina Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Northern Cardinal, Tufted Titmouse and others. On the boardwalk over the marsh; White Ibis, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-shouldered Hawk, Downey Woodpecker. **Special Treat: A beautiful River Otter.**

Upon reaching the water impound area: Anhinga, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Little Blue Heron, Cattle Egret, Wood Duck, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Sandhill Crane, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Boat-tailed Grackle, Yellow-throated Warbler, Northern Parulas, Blue Jay and others. Then, along the wooded trail and the bike trail: American Redstart, Red-eyed Vireo, Ovenbird, Black and White Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture and others. Our 8:00 AM field trip reached 37 species.

This monthly field trip is an extraordinary opportunity to observe and learn about the resident and migrant birds of inland Volusia County, and Harry Robinson is a most experienced and knowledgeable birder, always happy to share and teach. See you there on October 18.

Written by Eli Schaperow