



American  
Ornithologists'  
Union

Jacksonville Florida. 2011

Circular of Information  
One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Stated  
Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union

24-29 July 2011  
Jacksonville, Florida

Co-hosted by the University of Florida and the Florida Ornithological  
Society

*Local Chair:* Peter Frederick (352-846-0565, pfred@ufl.edu)

*Scientific Program Committee:* Doug Levey, Scott Robinson, Rob Fletcher

*Local Committee:*

Andrew Kratter (Field trips)  
Tom Webber (Circular and Meeting Handbook)  
Katie Sieving (Accommodations)  
Mike Moulton (Food and Restaurants)  
John Humphrey (Meal Planning)  
Eric Tillman (Greening the Meeting)  
Stephanie Wright (Student Events)

The American Ornithologists' Union will hold its 129th Stated Annual Meeting 24-29 July 2011 in Jacksonville, Florida. All information about the meeting can be found at the AOU 2011 website: <http://www.birdmeetings.org/aou2011>.

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA was chosen as the venue for the 2011 meeting because of its central location in the southeastern U.S., its excellent travel connections, and especially its location amongst a unique mosaic of rivers, coastal barrier islands, exceptional beaches, and rich salt marshes.

Jacksonville (The River City, "Where Florida Begins") is the largest city in Florida by population (1.3 million) and the largest city in the U.S. by area. Some of the oldest Native American pottery remains in the U.S. were found near Jacksonville, and the area has been inhabited by humans since at least 2500 B.C. Fort Caroline (French, 1564) was one of the earliest European settlements in the continental US. Today, Jacksonville is a thriving city with a diversified economy with major contributions from the military (third largest presence in the U.S.), ports (second-largest port on the Atlantic coast), banking, health care, and tourism. Jacksonville is famous for seafood (think Mayport shrimp, steamed blue crabs, stuffed flounder), jazz (second largest annual festival in the U.S.), golf (70 courses), miles of uncrowded white-sand beaches, and a beautiful city skyline at night. See further links to Jacksonville culture, recreation, travel and eating on the AOU website: <http://www.birdmeetings.org/aou2011>.

FLORIDA IN THE SUMMER! The uninitiated think of Florida in the summer as a hot, humid, bug infested hurricane attractor. In actuality, its often reliably cooler than the rest of the south and midwest, and many Floridians think that summer is the best season, with hot, clear mornings, daily sea-breezes, regular majestic and cooling thunderstorms, and relaxed, uncrowded restaurants, beaches, and venues. We suggest thinking like a local – do your outdoor activities in the early morning and late afternoon after thunderstorms, and enjoy the air conditioning when it gets hot. Come prepared with sunscreen, a good sun hat, a water bottle, and light, easily dried clothing. Take advantage of local field trips and events, and get out and experience some of the richest, most diverse and unique coastal and wetland habitat in the U.S.

### **THE MEETING SITE**

AOU has selected the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront as the meeting location. All conference activities and meetings will be at the Hyatt Regency. Set along the St. Johns River in the heart of the city's business, entertainment, and sports districts, this outstanding hotel is within minutes of museums, art venues, and famous white-sand beaches. For rates and reservations see below under Accommodations.

### **BUSINESS SESSIONS**

AOU Council Meetings will be held on the evening of Monday 25 July, and all day Tuesday 26 July. The AOU Business Meeting will be held Wednesday 27 July, 5 – 6 pm. The OSNA Committee will meet Friday 29 July 12:30 – 2:00 pm. The AOU Fellows Meeting will be held Tuesday 26 July, 4:00 – 5:00 pm, followed by the AOU Fellows Annual Dinner, 6 – 7:30 pm.

### **SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS**

All scientific sessions will take place in the hotel complex, with rooms identified on the website immediately prior to the meeting, and in a paper copy of the program that meeting attendees receive upon arrival. In addition, all attendees will be sent daily emails during the meeting with updated announcements for the day, including paper/poster changes/cancellations. The meeting website will also post these announcements on a daily basis during the meeting.

#### ***Plenary Sessions***

There will be a plenary address each morning at 8:00 am in the main auditorium. The first speaker on Wednesday will be **Dustin Rubenstein** of Columbia University, last year's winner of the Ned Johnson Award. The second plenary address will be by **Craig Benkman** of the University of Wyoming on Thursday and the final speaker on Friday will be **Robb Brumfield** of Louisiana State University.

#### ***Lecture and Poster Sessions***

Oral presentations will be concurrent, with 15-minute time slots. Session and room assignments will be determined once abstracts have been submitted and posted on the AOU 2011 website. The poster session and social will be held the evening of Wednesday, 27 July.

### *Symposia and Workshops*

We hereby invite proposals for symposia and workshops. Symposia proposals should include: (1) title of symposium, (2) a 2-5 sentence rationale for the symposium's topic, (3) names, contact information, and presentation topics of presenting speakers and 1-2 alternate speakers, and (4) requested length of symposium (whole day or half day). Before submitting the proposal, organizers are strongly encouraged to contact potential participants and receive at least tentative commitments from them to attend. Symposia typically include 6-8 presentations in 30 minute segments (25 minutes for presentation, 5 minutes for questions).

Workshop proposals should include (1) title of workshop, (2) a 2-5 sentence rationale for the workshop's topic, (3) names and contact information of the workshop's leaders, (4) short description of target audience, (5) requested length of workshop, and (5) anticipated format and requested resources (e.g., projection equipment, large table).

Symposium presenters and organizers are expected to pay registration fees and travel expenses; the AOU cannot provide financial assistance. We encourage symposium and workshop organizers to seek external funds to support participants' expenses. Please send workshop and symposia proposals to Rob Fletcher: robert.fletcher<at>ufl.edu.

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

Members of the AOU and other ornithologists are invited to contribute oral and poster presentations to the scientific session. To apply for a place on the program, follow instructions for online submission found on the AOU2010 website; abstracts will not be accepted by fax or e-mail. **DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ABSTRACTS BY THE SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM COMMITTEE IS 1 MAY 2011.** Proposals for oral presentations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until the schedule is full. The Scientific Program Committee will select and organize papers in appropriate sessions based on scientific content of the abstract. Abstracts should summarize findings, not methods. Indicate preference for either lecture or poster presentation. If all paper sessions are filled, it may be necessary to accept for poster presentation some abstracts submitted for oral presentation. Oral presentations will be limited to 15 minutes including time for questions and technical difficulties; the Program Committee encourages speakers to aim for 12 minute presentations. Preliminary findings or works in progress should be submitted as poster presentations rather than oral presentations.

### *Audio-Visual Materials*

All meeting rooms will be equipped with PowerPoint 2007 on Windows PC computers. Presenters should bring files on CD, a USB thumb drive, or a flash drive to upload their presentation file in advance of scheduled sessions. Specific instructions for preparing and loading presentations will be sent by e-mail to authors of accepted abstracts and will also be available on the meeting website. Slide projectors and other AV equipment will NOT be available unless requested in advance when submitting an abstract.

A preview room will be available, as will a location to preload presentations. Note that authors will need to deliver their final presentation for pre-loading no later than 24 hours prior to their presentation.

## **SOCIAL EVENTS**

### ***Icebreaker Social***

Tuesday 26 July 5:30 – 8:00 pm. Welcome to incoming guests, find your friends and colleagues. Light snacks and cash bar.

### ***Poster Session and Social***

Wednesday 27 July, 7:00 – 9:30 pm. Light snacks, cash bar, and hundreds of posters about BIRDS to look at and discuss with authors.

### ***Quiz Bowl***

Thursday 28 July, 7:00 – 9:30 pm. Organized by AOU Student Affairs Committee. In this exciting Jeopardy-style quiz bowl--always one of the most popular events at the meeting--teams of three will compete to answer general knowledge questions on a variety of topics that somehow relate to birds, ranging from categories like Taxonomy to Avian Anagrams. Student teams will participate in a timed match against two other teams where up to 25 questions will be asked. The winning teams from each first-round match will then play in the championship round for great prizes. Don't miss the exhibition faculty match as well! Light snacks and cash bar.

### ***Closing Banquet and Awards Ceremony***

Friday 29 July. Cocktail hour with cash bar 5:30 – 6:30 pm, Banquet 6:30 – 8:30 pm. At this closing banquet, awards will be presented for student and postdoctoral travel; research and presentations; the Johnson Young Investigator Award; and the prestigious lifetime achievement awards for service to the AOU, and contributions to avian science and conservation.

## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

The AOU Student Affairs Committee organizes many student-oriented events at our annual meetings. For more information on any of the events, or getting involved yourself, e-mail Stephanie Wright ([wright.1295@osu.edu](mailto:wright.1295@osu.edu)).

### ***Quiz Bowl (see above under Social Events)***

### ***Silent Auction***

After its fantastic success in 2010, the silent auction is back for its 4th year! In this conference-long event items donated by various companies and AOU members are bid on by conference attendees <sup>≠</sup> and to the highest bidder go the spoils! From jewelry to fine art to books and monographs, we've got it all. The generosity of our donors and bidders help fund events hosted by the AOU Student Affairs Committee at future conferences. **To do this we need auction items!** Suggested donations include, but are not limited to: books and field guides (new and

used, vintage, hard-to-get, out-of-print, or autographed books are especially welcome); binoculars or other optics; tripods; field supplies; education materials; services (e.g. statistics, bird identifications, etc.); trips; and jewelry, art, decorations, photos, prints, software, or DVDs. This is the perfect opportunity to support students and recycle those unused, but valuable/interesting items! If you have suitable items to donate, or have questions, please contact Stephanie Wright ([wright.1295@osu.edu](mailto:wright.1295@osu.edu)). We can make arrangements to give receipts for donated items, for donors who may wish to take a tax deduction.

### ***Student-Professional Social***

Meetings are an important time for students to meet and interact with professional ornithologists. However, conferences can sometimes be challenging environments for students to locate and approach professionals in their area of research interest. The student-professional social provides students with a unique opportunity to meet informally with professional ornithologists to discuss common research interests. Professionals with both academic and non-academic expertise are seated at tables according to their research interests and students are encouraged to sit at any table(s) and mingle with the professionals of their choice over refreshments.

### **ALL-OUT OSTRICH UPROAR 5K RACE**

The 25th running of AOU's traditional 5 km fun race will take place on the morning of Thursday July 28. The race will begin just after sunrise in the cool of the day. The course will be a flat, fast, out-and-back beginning at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront hotel and heading west along the riverfront running trail. Runners will enjoy a view of the morning sun over the river as they head east toward the finish line at the hotel. The \$20 race participation fee benefits student scholarships and includes a t-shirt and eligibility for ostrich-egg prizes. For details consult the AOU 2011 website or Brittany Burtner ([bburtner@ufl.edu](mailto:bburtner@ufl.edu)).

### **DOWNTOWN PADDLE RACES**

The Downtown Paddle Races will be held Friday 29 July (weather dependent) during the lunch hour. Enjoy a gull's eye view of downtown Jacksonville by hopping into a kayak with a partner on the St. Johns River and racing to the finish line at the Jacksonville Landing where your friends may be rooting for you. Intercollegiate and international rivalries encouraged! Meet at the waterfront at Jacksonville Landing at 12:00. There is a \$25 team entry fee. For details as the time approaches, visit the AOU 2011 website or contact Louise Venne ([lvenne@ufl.edu](mailto:lvenne@ufl.edu)). You must wear a life jacket, have experience paddling kayaks, and be willing to sign a liability release form, which will be provided at the time of the race. A motorized safety boat will supervise the races. There will be a limit of 40 participants, i.e., 20 teams.

### **FIELD TRIPS**

Conference attendees will have multiple opportunities to participate in field trips associated with AOU 2011. The trips will be organized and led by the Florida Museum of Natural History at the

University of Florida (Gainesville) and the Florida Ornithological Society. Although mid-summer in northeast Florida is probably best known for its heat and humidity, birding opportunities can still be rewarding with the onset of fall migration, particularly with water birds. Local breeders in upland habitats may be more quiet and skulking than in spring, but can still be encountered. Further details about logistics and costs for the field trips will be available on the conference web site. Conference attendees will be able to register and pay for trips through the web site after completing registration for the conference itself. **Note that all participants in field trips must complete and sign a Liability Waiver form included at the end of this Circular.**

### *Early Morning Bird Trips*

#### **Shorebirds and seabirds at the mouth of the St. Johns River**

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 27-29 July 2011. Approximately 6 am - 8:30 pm.

Late July marks the beginning of shorebird migration in Florida, and one of the premier sites for shorebirds in Florida is Huguenot Memorial State Park, at the mouth of the St. Johns River, just north of Jacksonville. Rarities recorded here include Greater Sand-Plover and Bar-tailed Godwit. Most early migrants are adults still in alternate plumage. Reddish Egrets, various tern species, and seabirds are also possible. Wilson's Plovers and Least Terns nest on the sand and mud flats. Breeding by a large colony of Laughing Gulls and Royal Terns may still be active at Huguenot at the time of the meeting. A side trip, time permitting, will visit the nearby Kingsley Plantation where Painted Buntings breed.

COST: \$10. Vans will leave from the Hyatt.

### *Post-conference Field Trips*

#### **Osceola National Forest: long-leaf pine forest specialties**

Saturday 30 July 2011. Approximately 6 am - 2 pm.

The long-leaf pine forests of the southeastern United States are the prime habitat for a number of listed and endemic bird species, especially Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, Bachman's Sparrow, and Brown-headed Nuthatch. Osceola National Forest, lying 45 minutes west of Jacksonville, has ample stands of long-leaf pines of various age and burning regimes. The leader, Jim Cox, of Tall Timbers Research Station, will demonstrate capturing nuthatches and Bachman's Sparrows as part of his research program.

COST: \$30, which includes lunch and transportation from the Hyatt.

#### **Pelagic birds of the Gulf Stream**

Saturday 30 July 2011. Approximately 4 am - 9 pm.

The Gulf Stream and its pelagic birds are most easily accessible in Florida off Ponce de Leon Inlet, about 1.5 hours south of Jacksonville. We will hope to reach the Gulf Stream quickly, where our chances are good to see Black-capped Petrel, Wilson's Storm-Petrel, Leach's Storm-Petrel, Band-rumped Storm-Petrel, Great Shearwater, Cory's Shearwater, early migrating jaegers, and possibly tropicbirds. A long list of rarer species awaits the more optimistic birders. The *Pastime Princess* (<http://www.pastimeprincess.com/>) is the perfect vessel for pelagic bird

trips, fast, stable, roomy, with a seasoned crew experienced in conducting pelagic bird trips. Leaders will include Michael Brothers, of the Marine Science Center, Andy Kratter, of the Florida Museum of Natural History, and other veteran pelagic leaders from Florida. COST: \$150, which included transportation to Ponce Inlet from the Hyatt.

### **Breeding marsh and waterbirds of northeast Florida.**

Saturday 30 July 2011. Approximately 7 am - 2 pm.

Participants will board a large, shaded, and stable pontoon vessel for an extended cruise into the NPS Timucuan Ecological and Historical Preserve, offering prime opportunities to view reclusive marsh species. Katy NeSmith (Florida Natural Areas Inventory) will share her knowledge and insight of the distribution, status, and nesting biology of two local subspecies: MacGillivray's Seaside Sparrow and Worthington's Marsh Wren. Local naturalist/researcher Patrick Leary will discuss the status and biology of regional American Oystercatchers and other shorebirds dependent on marsh habitats throughout the year. The tide schedule appears favorable for exploring Nassau Sound with its nesting colonies of Black Skimmers and Gull-billed Terns. The cruise will begin and end at Kingsley Plantation on Ft. George Island.

COST: \$50, which includes boat fare, lunch, and transportation from the Hyatt.

### **STUDENT AND POSTDOCTORAL AWARDS**

Numerous travel awards (for students and post-docs) and presentation awards (for students) are available. In addition to application materials described below for each award program, students must also submit standard abstract materials by 1 May 2011 to the Program Coordinator to receive a place on the scientific program.

#### ***Application Procedures***

The application deadline for all student and postdoctoral travel and presentation awards is **1 May 2011**. Online application form and additional details can be found at <http://www.aou.org/> (see under Awards). Late applications will not be accepted. Submit only ONE application, even if you are applying for multiple awards.

In addition to providing the information in the online form, you will also need to upload a single PDF, preferably titled with your lastname.AOU.pdf including:

- 1-page curriculum vitae
- An expanded abstract (double-spaced with 12-point font, 3-page maximum including any references, tables, and figures). The expanded abstract should state objectives, methods, major results, and scientific significance.

#### ***Additional Application Materials***

- Applicants for Student Travel and/or Presentation Awards should have their academic advisor send a brief e-mail (1–3 sentences) stating that the applicant is a student in good academic standing (longer letters of support are not required).
- Applicants for Postdoctoral Travel Awards should include a short paragraph explaining the

financial need for the travel award, the professional benefit of attending the AOU meeting, and what type of contribution the applicant has made or is making to the AOU (e.g., serving on committees, moderating sessions, planning events). No recommendation letter is needed.

### ***General Eligibility and Requirements***

- All applicants must be AOU members.
- All applicants must be the sole or lead author on a presentation, and must present the poster or oral paper.
- Applicants may receive both a research award and a travel in the same year
- Travel award funds cover transportation costs only. Awardees should not use award funds for registration, accommodation, or meals. We cannot predict the size of the awards at this time.
- Awards are contingent on eventual acceptance of the abstract by the Scientific Program Committee (see Call for Papers, above).

### **Eligibility and requirements: Marcia Brady Tucker Student Travel Awards**

- Full-time undergraduate and graduate students are eligible. Applicants (including post-docs) who graduated the semester/quarter prior to the meeting are still eligible.
- Marcia Brady Tucker Travel Awards are limited to two per lifetime.

### **Eligibility and Requirements: Postdoctoral Travel Awards**

- Individuals are eligible for the AOU Post-doc Travel Award even if they have previously received two Marcia Brady Tucker Travel Awards as students.
- Individuals eligible for the post-doc travel awards generally would not meet the eligibility criteria for the Marcia Brady Tucker Student Travel Awards.

### **Eligibility and requirements: Student Presentation Awards**

- Full-time undergraduate and graduate students are eligible. Applicants (including post-docs) who graduated the semester/quarter prior to the meeting are still eligible.
- AOU Presentation Awards have a limit of one per lifetime.
- Students presenting in symposia are ineligible.

## **CLIMATE AND DRESS**

The summer in Jacksonville is very warm and humid. In July over the last ten years the mean daily high was about 89° F (32° C) and the mean low about 75° F (24° C); the highest temperature was 100° F (38° C) and the lowest 68° F (20° C). Each July has had at least one day of 95° F (35° C) or higher. The region receives an average of about 4.5 inches (11.4 cm) of rain for the month. As a counterbalance to the heat, Jacksonville gets very regular afternoon thunderstorms in the summer, and a regular sea breeze in the afternoon.

The meeting venue, socials, and all recommended eating locations are air conditioned, and attendees may wish to bring a sweater or light jacket for the colder locations. There is no dress code for AOU meetings, though we recommend light clothing and open shoes generally for comfort. For the Banquet, casual business dress is adopted by many, though there is no dress

code. For outdoor activities and tours, plan to get damp because of the steamy climate and frequent afternoon showers – lightweight synthetics will do much better than cotton in this situation because it dries faster and sticks less to your body. As you move from humid outdoors to air conditioning, you will also find synthetics get rid of the condensation more rapidly.

The sun is intense for much of the day. You will be much more comfortable with a full brim hat than a bill cap outdoors, and we recommend sunscreen and lightweight long pants and shirt to keep sun exposure to a minimum. Sun protection is especially important for children. The hotel has a pool, gym, and whirlpool on premises; bring sports clothing accordingly.

## **AIR TRAVEL**

Jacksonville International Airport is the main port for air travel, and is located approximately 20 minutes drive from downtown Jacksonville. JAX is a relatively modern and uncrowded airport serving 5.6 million passengers annually, and has eleven major carriers with excellent direct connections to large US cities and hubs.

Airport layout map: <http://www.ifly.com/jacksonville-international-airport/terminal-map>.

American Airlines has been designated the official airline carrier for the AOU 2011 meeting and has offered a 5% discount on published airline fares or a negotiated set price between states for this meeting. Contact American Airlines at 800-433-7300 and mention the Star File Number **A4171AZ**. Special Airline Rates Valid Travel Dates are 22 July 2011 – 31 July 2011. You may also contact Allen Samuels House of Travel at 800-874-4731 or by e-mail to: [kyle@houseoftravelwaco.com](mailto:kyle@houseoftravelwaco.com) for assistance with your travel plans.

### ***Getting to downtown from the airport***

The airport is located approximately 15 miles from downtown and vehicular transport is the only practical way to get there. Taxis and car rentals are available in the airport. However, a cheaper option is to sign up ahead of time with the Hyatt Shuttle, which is tailored to this meeting and costs considerably less per person than the a taxi. Sign up by completing and submitting the Shuttle Reservation Form included in this Circular, and also available online: <http://www.birdmeetings.org/aou2011>.

You can also take a bus from the airport to downtown for approximately \$1.00 at the time of writing. See bus schedules at <http://www.jtafla.com/Schedules/showPage.aspx?Sel=103> or use the online trip planner at <http://jtatranstar.tann.com/>. If using the latter and going to the Hyatt, use the hotel address as the destination: 225 East Coastline Drive. Please plan your trip by bus and know the schedule before you arrive.

### ***Special Car Rental Rates***

Avis has been designated the official car rental company for the AOU 2011 Jacksonville meeting. Special meeting rates and discounts are available on a wide selection of GM and other fine cars. Rentals are available at several Jacksonville locations, including airport, downtown, and suburban. Advance reservations are recommended. To receive these special rates, be sure to mention your Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD) number, **J996259** when you call. Call Avis direct at 1-800-331-1600 or go to the Avis

Web Page

([https://www.avis.com/AvisWeb/reservation/ReservationsInitializer?&AWD\\_NUMBER=J996259](https://www.avis.com/AvisWeb/reservation/ReservationsInitializer?&AWD_NUMBER=J996259)) to receive the best car rental rates available. The discount will be effective 17 July through 6 August 2011.

## **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**

Jacksonville has a well developed bus system, a Skyway rail system on both sides of the St. Johns River downtown, and free trolley lines both downtown and at Jacksonville Beach. Information, schedules, and trip planners can be found at <http://www.jtafla.com/Schedules/showPage.aspx?Sel=17>. The free Bay and Beaver Street trolleys serve downtown Jacksonville and run approximately every 15 minutes, 6 am through 7 pm. The Bay street trolley can take you to most restaurants and venues in downtown Jacksonville, and can carry you nearly the entire way from the Hyatt to the Landings, a major aggregation of restaurants and shops that is likely to be popular at this meeting. For travel to the beaches, regular bus service can take you there, and a free trolley service runs up and down the streets behind Jacksonville Beach. Please consult the bus schedules before you go – know where you are going, when, and how much it costs.

## **RAIL TRAVEL**

Jacksonville is a major stop on the east coast Amtrak line, which can be an excellent way to get to the meeting, especially for those traveling from destinations on the east coast and elsewhere in the southeastern US. See schedules and fares at <http://www.amtrak.com/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=Amtrak/HomePage>. The Amtrak station is located at 3570 Clifford Lane and is approximately 6.5 miles northwest of the meeting location. You can take a taxi to the hotel, or several of the car rental companies will pick you up at the station if renting a car.

## **PARKING**

Parking fees are reduced by 50% for attendees staying at the Hyatt Riverfront during the meeting. A car park pass must be picked up at the front desk as you register. Those not staying at the hotel will be charged \$15 per day for self-parking, \$20 for valet parking.

## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

### ***Hotels, Motels, and Other Rentals***

The official meeting site is the Hyatt Riverside Jacksonville Hotel, a four-star hotel ranked #2 in the city by independent guest surveys. We have negotiated accommodations at \$109.00 nightly single or double occupancy, \$134.00 triple occupancy and \$159.00 quadruple occupancy. In addition, there is a 14.13% local sales tax for all hotel bills. These prices include free in-room

internet access and 50% off prevailing parking fees. These room prices are considerably below all local large hotels, and we are unable to find comparable or lower prices except by going several miles from the center of town. For price, ease, and accessibility, we recommend the Hyatt. ***By staying at the Hyatt, you are helping to reduce costs for the meeting, and are supporting the AOU.*** Reservations can be made by calling the hotel at 904-633-1234 or via the reservation Web site at <http://www.jacksonville.hyatt.com>.

There are many other accommodations in the Jacksonville area, ranging from cheaper hotels, mostly located at major highway intersections to hotels, condos and rentals on Jacksonville Beach.

### ***Camping***

Camping in Florida in steamy July takes preparation and the right equipment but can be a wonderful experience. Full-service campsites (hookup, bathrooms, and showers) for tents or RVs are available at two remarkably beautiful state parks in the Jacksonville area (Little Talbot Island and Fort Clinch Beach), see <http://www.floridastateparks.org/findapark/district-northeast.cfm>. In addition there are several commercial campgrounds in the area designed for RVs.

## **FOOD AND DINING IN AND NEAR THE HYATT HOTEL, DOWNTOWN JACKSONVILLE**

### ***At the Hotel***

The hotel offers sit-down meals and a full bar. "Grab 'n' go" breakfast and lunch will be available during the meeting for reasonable prices.

### ***Within Two Blocks of the Hotel***

Attendees can eat at the Chart House, Tastings, Morton's, Ruth's Chris, BB's, Chai House Cafe, Wine Cellar, Southern Grill, or Tidbits Deli (see local map provided on the meeting web site: <http://www.birdmeetings.org/aou2011>).

### ***Jacksonville Landing (a four-minute walk from the meeting site)***

Over 20 restaurants under a single roof, including sports bars, a fast-food court, and full service Japanese, seafood, Italian, and Mexican dining. For a full listing see <http://www.jacksonvillelanding.com/dining-nightlife>.

With the exception of the Banquet, dinners are on your own. Light snacks and a cash bar will be offered at the Icebreaker Social (Tuesday night), Poster Session (Wednesday night), and Quiz Bowl (Thursday night). A cocktail hour with cash bar will take place prior to the Banquet and Awards Ceremony (Friday night).

## **GREENING THE MEETING, CARBON OFFSETS**

The Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront is a designated member of the Florida Green Lodging Program and a member of the Convene Green Alliance. Through coordination with the AOU conference planning committee, the hotel has agreed to manage our meeting space to

reduce energy consumption, reduce or eliminate the use of disposables, and facilitate recycling. We suggest that attendees reduce their carbon footprint by use of public transit where possible. If you need to rent a car, we suggest a hybrid or fuel efficient model. We also encourage attendees to consider offsetting the carbon impacts of their travel and lodging by making a voluntary contribution to a carbon offset provider. Numerous offset providers can be found through an internet search, however, we recommend finding a provider that supports carbon reduction projects which are certified according to industry standards and verified by independent third-parties.

Each of the following carbon offset providers has been found to support meaningful projects that measurably reduce carbon production. The first two listed offer a carbon offset calculator to help you determine an appropriate contribution.

***Sustainable Travel International***

Educates travelers and the travel trade about how to reduce carbon emissions, provides advisory services that include developing carbon management frameworks, and supports high-quality carbon offset projects

<http://carbonoffsets.org/index.html>

***Native Energy***

Supports an evolving portfolio of Native American, family farm, and community-based renewable energy and carbon reduction projects

[http://www.nativeenergy.com/pages/travel\\_calculator/465.php](http://www.nativeenergy.com/pages/travel_calculator/465.php)

***The Carbon Trust***

Promotes climate change solutions by providing high quality carbon offset projects and advancing sound offset policy

<http://www.climatetrust.org/donate.html>

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

You can register electronically on the 2011 conference web site:

<http://www.birdmeetings.org/au2011>. Electronic registration must include complete credit card information. Your credit card statement will show the charges made to The Schneider Group. If registration by electronic means is not possible, please complete the registration form included at the end of this Circular and send it to the address listed below with payment or charge card information.

AOU 2011

c/o Schneider Group, Inc.

5400 Bosque Boulevard, Suite 680

Waco, TX 76710-4446

Please make checks payable to: AOU 2011. All payments must be in U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. bank. Registrations complete with purchase order or credit card information (not accompanying an abstract submission) can be faxed to 254-776-3767.

### ***Regular Registration***

Registration fees are stated in U.S. dollars and must be paid in U.S. dollars. Professional and Student registration categories include: registration materials, admission to all scientific sessions and associated coffee breaks, admission to evening events (welcome reception and poster sessions), and eligibility for participation in the scientific program. Guest/Spouse category provides admission to the welcome reception on Tuesday 26 July, the plenary sessions, the poster sessions and reception on Wednesday 27 July, and the AOU business meeting, also on Wednesday 27 July, but not access to other scientific sessions. Neither Professional/Student nor Spouse/Guest registrations includes the closing reception and banquet.

<b>Category</b>	<b>On or before 25 June 2011</b>	<b>26 June – 18 July 2011</b>	<b>After 18 July 2011</b>
Professional	\$325	\$425	\$525
Student	\$200	\$250	\$350
Guest/Spouse Registration	\$45	\$65	\$95

One Day Registration \$100. This category cannot be used to register for multiple days.

Please indicate day: \_\_\_Wednesday \_\_\_Thursday \_\_\_Friday

Registration fees must be paid in advance. Registration is not considered complete until a check, money order, purchase order, or charge card information is received. Fax registrations must include complete credit card information, including number, expiration date, and cardholder name. VISA, MasterCard, and American Express are accepted. Organizations can be billed only if a purchase order accompanies the registration by fax or by mail.

### ***Special Events***

Prices for special events are as follows:

- Fellows Dinner, Tuesday 26 July: \$50 per person (Fellows and Guests)
- Closing Reception and Banquet, Friday 29 July: \$55 Professionals and Guests, \$35 students
- All-Out Ostrich Uproar, Thursday 28 July: \$20 per person (includes t-shirt)
- Downtown Kayak Races, Friday 29 July: - \$25 per entrant (includes kayak rental)
- Field trips: See above under Field Trips, and on the Registration Form.

***Substitutions or Cancellations***

We understand that occasionally other responsibilities or personal obligations prevent you from attending a meeting for which you have registered. If you find that you will not be able to attend the meeting, we encourage you to send a substitute. Substitutions can be made at any time, even on-site at the conference. If you find it necessary to cancel after you have already paid, we can refund your conference fee minus a \$50 processing fee. To provide cancellation notice and request a refund, please send a letter to: Sue Rulla, AOU 2011, 5400 Bosque Boulevard, Suite 680, Waco, TX 76710-4446, fax your request to 254-776-3767, or e-mail the information to [suer@sgmeet.com](mailto:suer@sgmeet.com).

**NON-U.S. ATTENDEES**

Under the Visa Waiver Program, citizens of 27 countries in Europe and the Far East may visit the U.S. for up to 90 days without a visa if the attendee has a passport with a computer-readable bar code. However, international travelers who are seeking to travel to the United States under the Visa Waiver Program are now subject to enhanced security requirements, and all eligible travelers who wish to travel under the program must apply for authorization on-line as part of the new Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA). The authorization is valid for two years or until your passport expires, whichever comes first. If you have not done so already, visit <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta> to apply for entry. The program does not apply to travelers entering by land from Canada and Mexico. Attendees from these countries are reminded to bring a valid passport to cross into the U.S. Please note that authorization does not guarantee entry into the U.S. Answers to questions regarding international travel can be found at the U.S. Department of State visa website at [http://travel.state.gov/visa/visa\\_1750.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/visa_1750.html) or contact your local consulate. If you need a letter of invitation, contact Sue Rulla at: [suer@sgmeet.com](mailto:suer@sgmeet.com).

**EXHIBITS AND ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

A vendor area will be set up at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront, with easy access for all participants at the meeting. Commercial and non-profit vendors are encouraged to participate. The cost for a vendor table is \$350.

Opportunities are available for sponsorship of various breaks, receptions, and other functions throughout the meeting; please contact the Exhibits/Sponsorship Coordinator at the conference management office at 254-776-3550 or [lesl@sgmeet.com](mailto:lesl@sgmeet.com) if you would like more information.

AOU 2011 will offer other opportunities for exhibitors and other vendors. We are seeking donations for prizes for the student quiz bowl, auction items for student travel award funding, and student presentation award prizes.

**MESSAGE BOARD AND EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

A message board will be maintained throughout the conference in the registration area. A telephone number for emergency contact will be established; the number will be posted on the conference web site, and will be sent to registrants by email.

### **MEDICAL SERVICES AND FACILITIES**

Dial "0" to notify the hotel operator of an emergency situation and security will be dispatched immediately. If it is a life-threatening situation, call 911.

#### ***Hospitals and Emergency Rooms***

- Shands Jacksonville Medical Center, 1.8 mi N of the Hyatt at 655 W 8th St. (904) 244-0411
- Emed Primary Care and Walk-In Clinic, 1.7 mi SE of the Hyatt at 2570 Atlantic Blvd. (904) 647-8576.
- Saint Vincent's Hospital, 2.4 mi SW of the Hyatt at 1 Shircliff Way. (904) 308-7300.

#### ***Nearest Pharmacy***

Winn-Dixie Pharmacy, 0.5 mi NE of the Hyatt at 777 North Market Street. (904) 632-0844.

#### ***Shopping***

Jacksonville Landing, 0.3 mi W of the Hyatt at 2 Independent Dr # 250. (904) 353-1188. In addition to the eateries noted above, the Landing offers gifts, clothing, liquor, sporting goods, toys, art, jewelry, and the Jacksonville Visitor Center.

### **CHILD CARE**

Two licensed child-care agencies are available in Jacksonville. All arrangements are directly between parents and the child care organization.

Ashli Scott (Jacksonville office)  
Nannies USA  
(904) 651-9200  
[www.nanniesusa.net](http://www.nanniesusa.net)

Sharyn Edmiston  
Jax Nanny  
904-260-4915  
<http://www.jaxnanny.com>

Two museums in the area - Jacksonville Museum of Science & History and Jacksonville Museum of Contemporary Art - have day camps during the summer; however, each one is based on week-long attendance rather than day by day. Schedules for 2011 have not been set by either facility.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

130th Stated Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, 14-18 August 2012, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. To be held in conjunction with the **5th North American Ornithological Conference**, organized jointly by the American Ornithologists' Union, Society of Canadian Ornithologists / Société des Ornithologistes du Canada, Bird Studies Canada, Association of Field Ornithologists, Cooper Ornithological Society, Raptor Research Foundation, Sección Mexicana del Consejo Internacional para la Preservación de las Aves (CIPAMEX), Waterbird Society, and Wilson Ornithological Society. For more information, contact Dr. Kathy Martin, Chair of the Committee on Local Arrangements (kathy.martin@ubc.ca).

NAME OF EVENT: Field trips during the 2011 AOU Annual Meeting, Jacksonville, Florida.

LIABILITY WAIVER & RELEASE FORM

I will be participating in the field trips at the AOU 2011 annual meeting in Jacksonville, Florida, (hereinafter "event") sponsored by the American Ornithologists' Union (hereinafter "AOU") as listed. I assume full responsibility for the risks associated with this event including risk of bodily injury, death or property damage due to the negligence of AOU, the local arrangements committee, AOU board members, officers, representatives and volunteers, and any organizations involved with this event. I release, waive and discharge all those named above from all liability for any and all loss or damage, and for any claim or damages resulting in injury to my person or property, even injury resulting in death. I further agree to indemnify all those named above and hold them harmless from any loss, liability, damage or cost that may incur due to my participation in this event whether caused by their negligence or any other cause. I further release those above from any claim on account of first aid, treatment, or service rendered to me during my participation in the event. Participation includes travel and any activities undertaken in connection with the event.

This release contains the entire agreement between the parties and may not be altered except in writing. I have carefully read this release, understand the contents, and am signing and participating as my own free agent.

Name:

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

# AOU 2011 Meeting Registration Form

If you are unable to register electronically on the web at <http://www.birdmeetings.org/aou2011/>, please mail completed registration form and payment to: AOU 2011, OSNA Business Office, c/o Schneider Group, Inc., 5400 Bosque Blvd, Suite 680, Waco, Texas 76710-4446, USA. Registrations complete with purchase order or credit card information that are not accompanying an abstract submission can be faxed to: 254-776-3767. Please make checks payable in U.S. dollars and drawn on a U.S. bank to: AOU2011. Please print or type.

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	
NAME FOR BADGE			
INSTITUTE OR ORGANIZATION			
DEPARTMENT OR FIRST ADDRESS LINE			
SECOND ADDRESS LINE			
CITY	STATE/PROVINCE	ZIP	COUNTRY
E-MAIL	PHONE	FAX	
SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS			

## Registration Fees (in U.S. dollars and per person):

Professional (  \$325.00 on or before 25 June 2011;  \$425.00 between 26 June – 18 July 2011;  \$525.00 after 18 July 2011)..... = \_\_\_\_\_

Student (  \$200.00 on or before 25 June 2011;  \$250.00 between 26 June – 18 July 2011;  \$350.00 after 18 July 2011)..... = \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest (  \$45.00 on or before 25 June 2011;  \$65.00 between 26 June – 18 July 2011;  \$95.00 after 18 July 2011) ..... = \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Single-day (\$100. Please indicate which day you wil attend:  Wednesday, 27 July 2011;  Thursday, 28 July 2011;  Friday, 29 July 2011) ..... = \_\_\_\_\_

Fellows Dinner ( \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian Option(s)) ..... \_\_\_\_\_ tickets@ \$50.00 USD per ticket= \_\_\_\_\_

Closing Banquet : Members and Guests ( \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian Option(s)) ..... \_\_\_\_\_ tickets@ \$55.00 USD per ticket= \_\_\_\_\_

Closing Banquet: Students ( \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian Option(s))..... \_\_\_\_\_ tickets@ \$35.00 USD per ticket= \_\_\_\_\_

All-Out Ostrich Uproar ..... \_\_\_\_\_ entries@ \$20.00 USD per entry= \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt(s) (One per entry. Specify size: \_\_\_\_\_ Small, \_\_\_\_\_ Medium, \_\_\_\_\_ Large, \_\_\_\_\_ X-large)

Kayak Race ..... \_\_\_\_\_ entries@ \$25.00 USD per entry= \_\_\_\_\_

## Field Trips (in U.S. dollars and per person):

Shorebirds and Seabirds (  Wednesday, 27 July 2011;  Thursday, 28 July 2011; or  Friday, 29 July 2011) ..... \_\_\_\_\_ tickets@ \$10.00 per ticket= \_\_\_\_\_

Osceola National Forest ..... \_\_\_\_\_ tickets@ \$30.00 per ticket= \_\_\_\_\_

Pelagic Birds..... \_\_\_\_\_ tickets@ \$150.00 per ticket= \_\_\_\_\_

Breeding Marsh and Water birds ..... \_\_\_\_\_ tickets@ \$50.00 per ticket= \_\_\_\_\_

**Total in U.S. Dollars** \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment:

- Amount Enclosed. Make checks payable in U.S. dollars and drawn on a U.S. bank to: **AOU 2011**
- Bill My Organization. (You must submit a purchase order.)
- Credit Card Payment:  Visa  MasterCard  American Express

NAME ON CARD	
CARD NUMBER	EXP. DATE
SIGNATURE	

## Room Sharing Information:

- Yes, I would like information about finding a roommate or available dorm rooms and understand that I will be contacted to make these arrangements.

## ♿ Special Needs:

If you have a disability or limitation that may require special consideration in order to fully participate, please contact the meeting's planning organization to see how we can accommodate your needs. Call 254-776-3550 or contact via e-mail at [helens@sgmeet.com](mailto:helens@sgmeet.com).



**Express Shuttle**  
**\$20 Each Way!**  
 Inclusive of taxes & gratuities!

Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront • Express Shuttle Transportation Reservation Form  
 Midwest Association Housing Cooperatives  
 May 13<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Destination Planning Corporation • Phone 904-249-3729 • Fax 904-249-3728 • E-mail [reservations@destinationplanning.com](mailto:reservations@destinationplanning.com)  
 3161-1 St. Johns Bluff Road South • Jacksonville, Florida • 32246

**PASSENGER & BILLING INFORMATION**

*\*Please Print Legibly*

Passenger First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

BILLING Street Address or P.O. Box Number \_\_\_\_\_

BILLING City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Travel Contact Phone Number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ (To which voucher(s) will be sent)

Number in Party, Additional Passenger Names (more than 3, please use separate form): \_\_\_\_\_

**FLIGHT INFORMATION**

*\*For guests arriving or departing on different flight than one(s) listed below, please use separate form.*

**Arrival & Departure Transportation**     **Arrival Transportation ONLY**     **Departure Transportation ONLY**

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Airline \_\_\_\_\_ Flight # \_\_\_\_\_

Flight Arrival Time \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM    Origin Airport \_\_\_\_\_    Arrival Airport \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_ Airline \_\_\_\_\_ Flight # \_\_\_\_\_

Flight Departure Time \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM    Departure Airport \_\_\_\_\_

Notes/Requests (i.e. dropping off rental car, require seatbelts, infant car seat, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT INFORMATION**

*\*Destination Planning Corporation requires full prepayment to confirm ALL transportation reservations.*

**Shared Ride Express Shuttle Rate:** \$20.00 per passenger/each way

- Pricing is **Inclusive** of parking, service fees and any applicable taxes and is subject to change for 2010.
- Rates based on one-way transfer from Jacksonville International Airport to Hyatt Riverfront Downtown Jacksonville.

Please make your payment with one of the following credit cards: (Please PRINT legibly)

Credit Card:     AMEX     Discover     MasterCard     VISA

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_    Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_    Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Name \_\_\_\_\_    Cardholder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize Destination Planning Corporation to charge my credit card for the reservation listed above. I understand that if my reservation is not cancelled within 24 hours of the scheduled pickup time or if I do not show up for my transportation reservation, full charges will apply. For cancellations, please call DPC office at 904-249-3729. **Reservations are processed during our regular business hours M-F 8:30am – 5:30pm EST.** Emergency after hours contact -- please call Anne Urban at 904-699-8704. **Please note a \$10.00 fee will apply to ALL cancellations.**

**CONFIRMATION INFORMATION**

*\*Please make sure your e-mail address above is legible!*

You will receive a confirmation EMAIL to confirm all details for transportation – **Pick Up Location at JIA, Pick Up Location at Hotel, Arrival & Departure Dates, Payment Confirmation, etc.**

**Please print this email and bring it with you on your trip for reference.**

Reservation form must be completed in full and faxed or e-mailed to Destination Planning Corporation no later than 48 hours prior to reservation time in order to receive the reduced group rate. The standard rate of \$25.00 each way will apply for all reservations requested within 48 hours prior to arrival or onsite at Jacksonville International Airport.

CONFIRMATIONS WILL BE RETURNED APPROX 7 DAYS OF ARRIVING FLIGHT.

**Express Shuttle: \$20 Each Way!**  
 Inclusive of taxes & gratuities!