



December 2021



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December in the Field

Our winged winter visitors have arrived and it's perfect birding weather! Birders of every level are invited to join one of our December field trips listed below. Discover Everglades birds on our Flamingo Area Birding trip. Search for parrots, bulbuls, mynas, swamphens and other introduced species on our all-day Miami Exotics van tour. To view our entire Fall 2021-Winter 2022 trip schedule visit our [website calendar](#). Please note that **REGISTRATION** is required for all trips. See what other birders are posting and share your birding highlights on our [Bird Board](#) and [Facebook Bird Board](#).

Photo: Blue-and-yellow Macaw by John Paul Stanisc

RSVP for a December Field Trip

[Flamingo Area Birding](#) | Saturday, December 4, 7:30am-4pm

[Miami Exotics Tour](#) | Saturday, December 11, 12am-11:59pm



For the past 121 years, teams of enthusiastic birders have joined together every December across North America to participate in the Christmas Bird Count (CBC). Coordinated in the U.S. by National Audubon Society, the CBC is the nation's longest-running bird-related community science project. This early-winter bird census spans three weeks, from December 14 to January 5. Area counts of the number of individual birds of each species present within each 15-mile diameter CBC circle are tallied over 24 hours on just one of those calendar dates. Data collected from thousands of CBC circles provides an annual snapshot of the status of wintering bird populations throughout the country. (A map of CBC locations can be accessed [here](#)). To participate in a local CBC, RSVP below.

RSVP for a Christmas Bird Count

[Miami Christmas Bird Count](#) | Saturday, December 18, 12am-11:59pm

[Homestead Christmas Bird Count](#) | Sunday, December 19, 12am-11:59pm

[Long Pine Key Christmas Bird Count](#) | Monday, December 20, 12am-11:59pm

[Kendall Area Christmas Bird Count](#) | Sunday, December 26, 12am-11:59pm

[Coot Bay/Everglades Christmas Bird Count](#) | Sunday, January 2, 12am-11:59pm

Featured Events

Last Call!

"Raise a Glass, Raise the Chickee" Pop-Up

TONIGHT: Wednesday, December 1, 6:30pm



Ready for the holidays!? We've hatched an altogether enchanting and delicious preamble! Won't you join the proverbial birds for "Raise A Glass, Raise The Chickee!" tonight, Wednesday, December 1 at 6:30 p.m.

The intimate pop-up event promises to be a delicious evening of "Bubbly & Bites" under the Audubon oaks (beer and still wines will also be poured).

A limited number of tickets are presently available.

Here's to toasting the holidays and raising a new chickee! [RSVP HERE](#).

Photo: Joy Wallace and Matt Wood raise a glass on the keystone patio.

Tour the Historic Doc Thomas House

Saturday, December 4, 1pm & 3pm



Tropical Audubon Society invites you to tour our historic Doc Thomas House headquarters. Our charming 1932 cottage has recently undergone extensive structural repair. Enjoy a captivating, 45-minute guided tour led by a Tropical Audubon docent. Learn about TAS patron and area pioneer Arden Hayes "Doc" Thomas and Robert Fitch Smith, the architect commissioned to design the charming Florida vernacular cottage, distinguished by its native woods and oolitic limestone features.

Bonus: Explore our society's Bird-friendly pollinator gardens and near-native Steinberg Nature Center campus.

Directions: 5530 Sunset Drive, Miami, FL 33143; limited onsite parking via the SW 55 Avenue auto gate. [Registration Required HERE](#).

Pop-Up Holiday Shop @TAS

Give/Get Bird-themed Gifts, Holiday Cards, Local Honey

Saturday, December 18, 9am-1pm



Looking for unique holiday cards to give or send?! We have you covered with gorgeous Bird and Nature note cards by Artist Louise Gardner Schwartz. Her lively renderings feature the festive Northern Cardinal and a bevy of other indigenous and migrating South Florida birds, including the sexy pink Flamingo and the sensational Roseate Spoonbill! (Cards start at \$4.)

Stuff stockings with "birdiful" enamel pins featuring fabulous Florida birds — Great Blue Heron, Roseate Spoonbill, Brown Pelican, Florida Scrub Jay, Snail Kite — \$15 each or procure all five for \$60. These unique pins were custom-designed for TAS by artist Kate Dolamore, [The Little Nuthatch](#) blogger.

To sweeten up your holiday brunch or surprise your sweetie, procure a bottle (\$12 each) of our wild "Tropical Honey" produced in our on-campus beehives and harvested/bottled by TAS board member Kirsten Hines.

These gorgeous "local" gifts are available for purchase exclusively at our historic Doc Thomas House headquarters on Saturday December 18, from 9am until 1pm. A portion of all sales benefit Tropical Audubon Society. **Cash or checks are preferred.**

Chirping About



We are ever grateful to our supporters who came together for Tropical Audubon Society on Give Miami Day, November 18. **Thanks to you, we surpassed our previous Give Miami Day records, raising \$37,502 from 206 donors!** More happy news: This amount will increase with a partial match from The Miami Foundation. These much-needed funds will enhance our vital Mission work: Conserve and restore natural South Florida ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife and their habitats.

If you missed your chance to support Birds on Give Miami Day, you can make a gift [here](#).

1,770 Birds Banded by CFBS during Fall Migration



The Cape Florida Banding Station (CFBS) on Key Biscayne wrapped up its Fall 2021 banding season with 1,770 birds, accounting for 52 species. A female Black-and-white Warbler (pictured) was the last bird banded on November, 7; the same bird was also banded last Fall. Learn how this long-running community science project helps birds by following [CFBS here](#).

Photo: Black-and-white Warbler banded at CFBS by Miriam Avella.

Federico Acevedo promoted to TAS Digital Communications Coordinator



Former TAS Conservation Communications Intern Federico "Fede" Acevedo has been officially engaged as Digital Communications Coordinator. Fede is a talented visual storyteller whose passion for wildlife and conservation advocacy is both inspiring and infectious. We are proud of his accomplishments, and honored to welcome him onto our staff. [Read Fede's bio here.](#)

Photo by Anthony Sleiman

Plants for Birds

Bird-Friendly Gardening Day @TAS!
Dig in Saturday, December 18, 9am-Noon



Join us in stewarding our Bird-Friendly Demonstration Garden and near-native Steinberg Nature Center grounds. Get hands-on experience creating wildlife habitat under the guidance of our resident Master Gardeners. Learn how to establish a bird-friendly garden in your own yard, patio or balcony. [Sign Up!](#)

Photo: Zebra Longwing Butterfly in native Firebush by Kristen Fonseca.

The Birds Thank ...



... Republic National Distributing Company, of Deerfield Beach, Florida, for keeping fine wine and craft beer flowing at the TAS donation "Bird Bar" season after season. With roots extending before Prohibition, RNDC is a family-owned business that represents some of the world's most distinguished labels, including Castello Banfi, Chateau Ste. Michelle and Champagne Taittinger.

RNDC recently made it possible to reboot live events on our Steinberg Nature Center campus with the November 27 debut of our "**Members Gratitude Concert**," generously stocking the Bird Bar with Sapporo brews, Château La Gravière Blanc and Cashmere Red for an appreciative crowd. Solo artist and TAS board member DeBlois Milledge headlined the well-attended evening of acoustic music and storytelling. RNDC will amp up the vino vibe tonight, December 1, for our "[Raise A Glass, Raise The Chickee!](#)" – a bubbly and bites reception featuring Domaine Carneros Brut, Toad Hollow Unoaked Chardonnay and Bonterra Rosé and Cabernet Sauvignon. TAS simply could not stage back-to-back soirees of this scope without the extraordinary kindness of RNDC Fine Wine Ambassador (aka Wine Fairy!) Roxana Garciga and her kind cast of RNDC suppliers.

Looking forward, RNDC will stock the donation Bird Bar for our [Winter 2022 Conservation Concert](#) season (inaugural date: Saturday, January 29). With their continued help, we plan to stage our Spring edition of "[Walk in the Woods with Wine & Whisk](#)" in April under a newly built chickee!

Learn more about this foremost U.S. distributor of premium wine and spirits by visiting www.rndc-usa.com

Thanks to RNDC, we're once again able to cultivate conservation and community in real time, and clink glasses with our members and friends on our Steinberg Nature Center campus!

Support Birds

Become a Member

www.tropicalaudubon.org



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