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- Find out about upcoming Audubon Field Trips, Meetings and Special Events!
- Learn how to join MCAS



# The Skimmer

## Message from the President

Keep your eyes out for great sparrows and shorebirds this winter in coastal Mississippi. Come out and join us on one of our upcoming field trips, as we seek out winter residents and strays. We have doubled our number of field trips from one to two per month, and look forward to seeing you on the next trip. Got a great spot or idea for a field trip? Let us know and we'll add it to the schedule. The next few months include our two coastal Christmas Bird Counts and field trips in Jackson and Harrison Counties. If you see an unusual bird, please post it on one of the listserves (eSkimmer or Missbird, find out how to subscribe and post at [www.mscoastaudubon.org](http://www.mscoastaudubon.org)) and consider reporting it through eBird ([www.ebird.org](http://www.ebird.org)).

If you have never used eBird, consider giving it a try. eBird is an on-line database set up by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, spawned from Citizen Science projects like Project Feederwatch and the Great Backyard Bird Count. The idea is simple: there are millions of bird-watchers out there, from amateur feeder-watchers to professional ornithologists. All of these birders keep track of what they see in some way, whether by memory, notes, lists, or in databases. What if you could take all this collective knowledge about birds, and combine it in one place? This is what eBird is: a public database where anyone can submit bird observations, or browse the database of all observations made by birders across the Americas. If you have used eBird in the past, come back and try again...many upgrades have been made in the past few years. If you have any questions about using eBird, please ask me for help. I am an avid user, and also the eBird editor for Mississippi.

- Jake Walker, MCAS President [jakenwalker@yahoo.ca](mailto:jakenwalker@yahoo.ca)

### Save Trees: Help

#### The Skimmer Go Paperless!

Send your email address to  
[allisonwalker@mscoastaudubon.org](mailto:allisonwalker@mscoastaudubon.org)  
 to receive electronic newsletters only

### UPCOMING MCAS MEETINGS

TBA:

see us online at

[www.mscoastaudubon.org](http://www.mscoastaudubon.org)

## 2009/2010 MCAS Field Trips — join us!

### -2009-

**Dec. 5:** Seaman Road Wastewater Facility. 7:30 AM at Ocean Springs Park & Ride I-10, Exit 50 or at the facility. Cranes, winter marsh birds, ducks. Bring water, boots if wet, snacks. Millie Page (228) 324-8317

#### Christmas Bird Counts:

**Dec. 15** Hancock Co. CBC, Ned Boyajian, contact/compiler

**Dec. 18** Jackson Co. CBC, JoRee Pease, contact/compiler

### -2010-

**Jan. 16:** Ocean Springs area, Davis Bayou. 7:30AM at Gulf Islands National Seashore headquarters. Sharon Milligan (228) 861-1622

**Jan. 30:** Singing River Island (old homeport), Jackson Co. Wintering water birds & other goodies. 7:30AM at facility entrance. Don McKee (228) 238-2473

**Feb. 6:** Beaches of Harrison Co. Ducks, shore birds, raptors. 7:30AM at Courthouse Rd Pier area.

Jan Dubuisson (228) 216-0568

**Feb. 20:** MS Sandhill Crane Refuge. Henslow and other sparrows, refuge birds & facility tour. 7:30AM at the Refuge. Mark Woodrey (228) 697-0460

**March 13:** Seaman Road Lagoons. Early migrants and lagoon residents. 7:30AM at Park&Ride, Ocean Springs exit 50 or at the facility. Gerry Morgan (228) 239-6787

**March 27:** Upper Pascagoula Wildlife Management Area. Migration in the swamp. 7:30AM at gas station on NE corner intersection of Hwy 63 and 614. Jake Walker (228) 697-7157

Please send submissions to:

## Mississippi Coast Audubon Society

703 East Beach Drive  
Ocean Springs, MS 39564

Phone: 228-818-8874

Fax: 228-818-5555

Email:

allisonwalker@mcoastaudubon.org

## 2010 MCAS Field Trips cont.

### MCAS Roster 2009-2010

Jake Walker, President  
Millie Page, Vice-President  
Mark McDuff, Treasurer  
Sharon Milligan, Secretary  
Bruce Norton, Membership  
Sharon Milligan, Hospitality  
& Publicity  
Allison Walker, Publications  
Board Members-at-Large:  
Wanda Norton  
Jan Dubuisson

**April 3:** Hancock Co. Logtown and environs. Migration in woodlands. 7:30AM at I-10 Welcome Center, Exit 2. Ned Boyajian (228) 332-1329

**April 17:** Dauphin Island, AL. Shell Mounds, Fort, beaches, park for migrants. 7:30AM at Cadillac Park (later if you want, just call for locations) Don McKee (228) 238-2473

**April 24:** DeSoto National Forest. Woodpeckers, sparrows, other specialties. 7:30AM at Ocean Springs exit 50 Park & Ride. Jake Walker (228) 697-7157

**May 8:** Hancock Co. Ansley and vicinity. 7:30AM at I-10 Welcome Center, exit 2. Ned Boyajian (228) 332-1329

**May 22:** Boat trip with Bennie McCoy from Pascagoula River Audubon Center. 8:30AM. \$25/person. Kites on the river. Millie Page (228) 324-8317

Check e-Skimmer, Missbird or the MCAS website for updates! For more information on field trips, contact Millie Page at (228) 324-8317.



Photos: Joe Ravita

### Mississippi Coast Audubon Society Membership Application



Please enroll me as a member of MCAS and the National Audubon Society.

My check for \$20 payable to National Audubon Society is enclosed.

I understand my first issue of Audubon magazine can take 4-6 weeks for delivery.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Send this completed form with your check to:

MCAS Membership c/o Bruce Norton 908 Homestead Blvd, Gautier, MS 39553

Local Chapter M53  
Mississippi Coast Audubon Society  
7XCH