September Field Trips

Memorial Russell Bailey Labor Day Field Trip
Monday, September 1, 2008, 8:00 a.m.
Lake Purdy

The end of summer is soon upon us, and that means it is time once again for our annual Labor Day field trip to Lake Purdy. Russell Bailey led this trip for many years and we remember him fondly as we continue this fine tradition in his memory. Please plan to join us at 8:00 a.m. at the Coxe Creek bridge on AL 119, approximately 2.25 miles east of the US 280 intersection. After birding the Lake Purdy vicinity the group will continue looking for migrating songbirds and shorebirds at nearby birding destinations to be selected.

Monte Sano State Park and Hays Nature Preserve, Huntsville
September 20, 2008

Monte Sano State Park is located in north Alabama near Huntsville. Harry Dean from Madison has kindly agreed to host us during our visit. Plans are to arrive about 8:00 am at Monte Sano to start the day. Monte Sano is wooded and should be good for typical woodland birds such as woodpeckers, the nuthatches, chickadees and wrens. Bring a lawn chair so that at lunch we can picnic at an overlook that provides a dramatic view of the valley and look for migrating raptors. We will visit Hays Nature Preserve after lunch, time and weather permitting.

Depart: Arrive READY TO LEAVE at 6:30 a.m. from the parking lot of North Gate Village Shopping Center. Directions: Take I-65 north to Exit 271, Fieldstown Road. Turn right, go one block and the shopping center will be on the right. A Hardees and other places for breakfast are just past the shopping center.

To meet us at Monte Sano State Park about 8:00 am take I-65 North to I-565 into Huntsville. Turn south off I-565, Exit 17, onto Memorial Parkway/US 231 and take second exit to Governors Drive (US 431 follows Memorial Parkway to the North and Governors Drive to the East). Drive east. Turn left off Governors at the Monte Sano State Park sign onto Monte Sano Blvd. Continue to another Monte Sano State Park sign and turn right onto Nolan Avenue, which goes into the park. Drive past the Picnic area to the Park Office and Store. Upon entering the park our first stop will be the Office and Store restrooms. Bring scopes, binoculars, water, drinks, lunch, a full tank of gas, insect repellant, and sunscreen.

Entrance fee: There is a $3.00 per person entrance fee on the weekend ($2.00 weekday). There is an honor box at the park entrance (the gatehouse is only manned for special events).

Trip Leader: Jessica Germany

Please contact the trip leader if you plan to join us. The phone number is 595-0814 or jhgermany@bellsouth.net. Plans could change due to unforeseen circumstances.

5th Annual Alabama Coastal BirdFest is Oct. 16-19, 2008

The Alabama Coastal BirdFest celebrates five years of birding this fall, with more than 20 planned events, including guided birding tours, dinners and speakers, and the free, daylong Bird and Conservation Expo. Set to greet the fall migration, when millions of birds make their annual trip from all over North America to winter homes in Central and South America, the 2008 BirdFest is planned for Oct. 16-19. As last year, all of the trips will depart from the Five Rivers Delta Resource Center on the causeway, conveniently located half way between Mobile and the Eastern Shore.

For more information or to register please visit: http://www.alabamacoastalbirdfest.com/

The Birmingham Audubon Society would like to thank the following for their recent memorial gifts:

In memory of Dr. Charles P. Dagg from Elberta Reid
In memory of Robert R. Reid, Jr. from Mary E. Woodrow