

ARKANSAS AUDUBON SOCIETY

2017 Spring - Call to Meeting

The 2017 Spring Convention of the Arkansas Audubon Society (AAS) will be held May 12 - 14, 2017, at **The Lodge on Mount Magazine** near Paris, AR. Don Simons, park interpreter and past-president of AAS, is very excited that we are having our meeting at Mount Magazine. He has scheduled an event on May 13th called the **Hummingbird Special** and has invited us to share the facilities at the lodge with him. Please see the agenda for the event schedule.

We have blocked some standard rooms (\$127/night) and deluxe rooms (\$143/night) at the lodge. These room prices are discounted 20% of the regular price. To reserve a room, call the lodge at 1-877-665-6343, press 1 for the reservation desk and ask for Group Sales or email charlee.martin@arkansas.gov. The cut-off date for making reservations at the special rate is April 12, 2017. Campgrounds in the area include: Mount Magazine State Park (877-879-2741), Cove Lake Recreation Area and Blue Mountain Lake (www.recreation.gov).

Complete the form below and mail with check to:

Robin Buff
5161 W Wheeler Road
Fayetteville, AR 72704

Mail by **April 21st** to qualify for the **Early Bird Discount**. For questions, contact **Robin Buff** at (479) 466-5600 or robinbuff@gmail.com

Spring 2017 AAS Convention REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please check here if this is your first AAS Meeting or if you have not attended for some time.

Meeting Registration # _____ @ \$20/AAS member
 # _____ @ \$30/non-AAS member \$ _____

**Early Bird: before April 21st = \$15/AAS member, \$25/non-AAS member*

**Students = \$5/person*

**Children under 16 with adult = free*

(You can Join AAS or renew for 2017 by going to www.arbirds.org. If you are not sure of your membership status you can contact me)

Vegetarian

Friday evening meal # _____ @ \$20/person \$ _____

Saturday Grab-n-Go Breakfast _____ @ \$10/person \$ _____

Saturday evening meal # _____ @ \$20/person \$ _____

Donations to help pay meeting costs \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Make checks payable to Arkansas Audubon Society.

Please indicate which field trip(s) you are interested in using the assigned alphanumeric codes next to the field trip's description. Field trips are free to those who have registered for the meeting.

	Alphanumeric Code	Number of Attendees
Friday, May 12		
Saturday, May 13		

AGENDA

**ARKANSAS
AUDUBON
SOCIETY**

**2017 Spring Convention
May 12-14, 2017
The Lodge at Mount Magazine**

All programs and meals will be held at the Lodge at Mount Magazine

FRIDAY, May 12, 2017

Field Trips	12:45 pm	meet at the fireplace in the lobby
Board Meeting	1:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Tanager Room
Registration	4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Hallway adjacent to Banquet Hall
Dinner	6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Banquet Hall
Evening Program	7:15 pm – 8:30 pm	Banquet Hall

“What’s to Love About Hummingbirds?”

Guest Speaker – Tana Beasley, Potlatch Conservation Education Center at Cook’s Lake,
“Bander of Records for the State of Arkansas in Hummingbird Banding”

Drawing for Door Prizes and Details of Saturday’s Field Trips

SATURDAY, May 13, 2017

Grab & Go Breakfast	6:00 am – 7:00 am	Location TBA
Breakfast “on your own”	7:00 am – 11:00 am	The Skycrest Restaurant
Field Trips	see field trip descriptions for time	meet at backside of lodge
Hummingbird Banding	9:00 am – 11:00 am	Banquet Hall
Garden Tour	10:00 am	Pollinator Garden, W. side of Skycrest
Hummingbird Arts & Crafts	10:00 am – 2:00 pm	Sparrow Room
Mountaintop Birds: Power Point	1:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Banquet Hall
AAS Trust Meeting	1:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Tanager Room
LIVE Concert – “ Still on the Hill ”	3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Banquet Hall
Student Presentations	4:45 pm – 6:00 pm	Banquet Hall

Ecoacoustics: A New Paradigm to Monitor Habitats and Assessing Biodiversity by Eavesdropping on Nature

Pooja Panwar (University of Arkansas at Fayetteville)

Trees, and bugs, and birds! Oh my! - The Impacts of Eastern Hemlock Decline on Louisiana Waterthrush

Lee Bryant (Arkansas State University)

Co-evolutionary Patterns Between Feather Mites and Warblers

Alix E. Matthews (Arkansas State University)

Dinner	6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Banquet Hall
Evening Program	7:15 pm - 8:15 pm	Banquet Hall

“Lessons I’ve Learned from the Flora and Fauna”

Guest Speaker – Lori A. Spencer, Arkansas’s Butterfly Lady, author of *Arkansas Butterflies and Moths*

Business Meeting	8:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Banquet Hall
weekend checklist, door prizes, reports from Saturday’s field trips, discussion of Sunday’s field trips		

SUNDAY, May 14, 2017

Field Trips	see field trip descriptions for time	meet in lobby
Breakfast “on your own”	7:00 am – 9:00 am	

FIELD TRIPS

Please indicate on your registration form which of the following field trips you would like to attend. Sign-up sheets for Saturday's trips will also be available at registration. Changes are OK at any point.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON FIELD TRIPS – Trips will leave from the lobby near the fireplace at 12:45 pm.

F1 – Cherokee, Flanagan, and Presson-Oglesby Prairies – Three protected remnants of the once much larger prairies of the western Arkansas River Valley. Possible birds of interest include Henslow's Sparrows, Bell's Vireos, Painted Buntings, and Northern Bobwhite, but native wildflowers may steal the show. Expect moderate walking on uneven, potentially muddy terrain. Knee boots are recommended. (40 miles from The Lodge at Mount Magazine)

F2 – Paris Bottoms to Aux Arc (pronounced "Ozark") – Paris Bottoms Road runs mostly eastward through farm fields. Hawks, shorebirds, and Horned Larks are common. A Burrowing Owl was videotaped in this area last year. Aux Arc Park (a Corps of Engineers park on the south side of the River across from the town of Ozark) has eagles, herons, waterfowl, and swallows nesting under the bridge. (Aux Arc is 48 miles from The Lodge at Mount Magazine)

SATURDAY FIELD TRIPS – Trips will leave from the back area of the Lodge. All field trips leave at **7:00 am** unless otherwise indicated.

S1 – Cherokee, Flanagan, and Presson-Oglesby Prairies – See F1 for description. Trip will last into the afternoon.

S2 - Paris Bottoms to Aux Arc (pronounced "Ozark") – See F2 for description. This field trip will start at Aux Arc Park where participants will work the trees and then head into the open lands of the Paris Bottoms. Trip will last into the afternoon.

S3 – Holla Bend National Wildlife Refuge – Holla Bend is a globally significant IBA on an old bend of the Arkansas River eight miles downriver from Dardanelle. The USFWS manages over 7,000 acres here to benefit migrating waterfowl and neotropical songbirds like Blue Grosbeaks, Northern Bobwhite, Bobolinks, and Bell's Vireos. Trip will be driving and stopping to look with very little walking. Trip could last into the afternoon. (44 miles from the The Lodge at Mount Magazine, travel time approx. 1 hr 15 min)

S4 – Blue Mountain Lake – An under explored area by birders with some varied and interesting habitat. Trip will be tailored to the lake water level. Mostly driving with some walking on pavement and gravel. (26 miles, approx. 45 min from The Lodge at Mount Magazine)

S5 – Signal Hill – A pre-breakfast bird walk that **leaves at 5:30 am** to Signal Hill, the highest point in Arkansas. This trail is a 1.5 mile loop with a moderate climb. Participants will walk to the trailhead from the lodge. Will last approx. 1 hour.

S6 – Benefield Trail – On the east of Mount Magazine State Park, this trail can be quite birdy. Only a short distance from The Lodge at Mount Magazine, this is a good field trip if you do not want a long drive. Morning only.

S7 – Bon Dea Trails and Sanctuary – A Corps of Engineers park adjacent to Lake Dardanelle on the edge of Russellville, this popular recreation and birding area includes bottomland forest and wetland habitat. Prothonotary Warblers are easily seen here. This trip involves moderate walking on smooth trails. Trip will last into the afternoon. (47 miles from The Lodge at Mount Magazine)

SUNDAY FIELD TRIPS

Rufous-crowned Sparrows – Don Simons will lead a trip before breakfast to see this special species on Mount Magazine. This trip will last 30 – 60 min. Meet in the lobby of the lodge at **6:30 am**.