



# THE BIRDERS OF ST. JAMES



## Welcome Members!

### ***BIRDING JOURNEY***

**M**any of us enjoy watching birds, or “birding” as it’s known, hence we joined this St James Birders group. Having an interest in birds can begin with looking out your window at birds, feeding birds in your yard, making lists of birds you’ve seen, or even taking your listing activities globally.

My journey with birding started with an organized “bird walk” with guide Hugh Shaw through areas of the Founders golf course and over to Oak Island in June. Binoculars, a hat, comfortable shoes, bird books, and the Merlin app was all we needed! I highly recommend signing up for one of these walks. Hugh has his favorite birding “spots” and you’re bound to see several bird species and maybe a rare one too.

Our birding group is committed to bringing a periodic robust educational speaker series. Mary Ellen Rogers of Sea Biscuit Wildlife Refuge of Oak Island was a perfect “first speaker” to our group in September. She has a deep passion and understanding of numerous species of birds and brings birding to a whole new level by assisting injured birds and releasing them back to their world.

Next up to present on November 12th at 7pm is Dr. Patrick MacMillan, a naturalist, author and educator. MacMillan had a TV show on the Carolina PBS station “*Expeditions with Patrick Macmillan*” in which he took viewers on nature habitat excursions throughout the Carolinas. We’re also sending out this monthly “Birding Bulletin” to keep members informed about club news.

Also, our website [birdersofstjames.com](http://birdersofstjames.com) is coming along quite nicely. Check it out and let us know what else you would like to see on the pages.

We look forward to our November meeting with MacMillan and his presentation to our group and continuing our St James birding journey.

*Trish Greene, President, The Birders of St. James*

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September’s program was well attended by residents interested in learning more about Seabiscuit Wildlife Shelter with Mary Ellen Rogers (*and Benson*).



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Don't miss our

## November 12th program!

**Patrick McMillan's** Emmy Award  
Winning PBS show ran for 8 years,  
fascinating viewers with stories of  
natural wonders throughout the  
Carolinas and beyond.

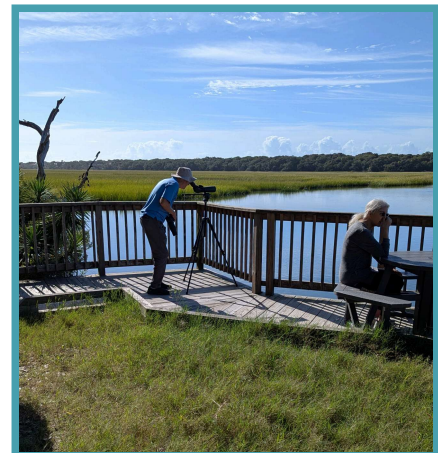


### *On our calendar:*

- Saturday, Oct. 11: World Migratory Bird Day
- Tuesday, Oct. 14 - 19: Wings Over Water Festival - Outer Banks
- Thursday, Oct. 16: Airlee Garden Bird Walk - Wilmington\*\*\*
- Thursday, Oct. 16: Hugh Shaw leads a local bird walk - St. James
- Wednesday, Nov. 12: Patrick McMillan "Coastal Ecosystems" - St. James
- Thursday, Nov. 13: Hugh Shaw leads a local bird walk - St. James
- Tuesday, Nov. 18: Hugh Shaw leads a local bird walk - location TBD
- Wednesday, Dec. 3: Hugh Shaw "Winter Bird Counts & You" - St. James
- Wednesday, Jan. 21: Diane Duloft "Eastern Bluebirds" - St. James

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Join your fellow birders for a guided Bird Walk at **Airlie Gardens on Thursday, Oct. 16th** at 7:45am. We will see resident and migrating birds and new members will learn basic birding skills at the same time! No experience is necessary. Binoculars are available on a first come first serve basis. Reservations are required. The fee for the bird walk is \$5 per person.



Email [thebirdersofstjames@gmail.com](mailto:thebirdersofstjames@gmail.com) by this  
Sunday, October 12, 2025 to register.  
We will forward additional information.





## About Migration:

Millions of birds migrate over coastal North Carolina each year, with recent estimates showing hundreds of thousands to several million birds crossing the state on a given night during peak migration periods.

### Tips during this migratory season:

- After 9pm, try using your binoculars and look at the moon. You may see flocks of birds. It's an amazing experience! You may also hear them call.
- Turn off outside lights after 10pm to help birds navigate at night. Try to use only down-shielded or motion-sensor lights on your property.
- Keep your feeders clean and full to assist birds with food along their way. Many birds will stop during the day to rest, eat, and drink.
- Birdbaths should be cleaned and full as well. Birds prefer clean water.
- Plant native shrubs that produce fall berries such as American Beautyberry. Fall fruits and berries help sustain migrating birds.
- Maintaining a bird-friendly habitat will increase the likelihood of visitors.
- Keep cats inside to prevent attacks on tired or resting birds

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We are in the peak bird migration season as well as being located in the Atlantic Flyway. Right now, you have some incredible opportunities to see scores of birds making their way along coastal Brunswick County. To help you understand this opportunity,



we are sharing a timely blog from  
our friends at the North Carolina  
Wildlife Federation.

*Click on the image above to access the blog.*

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## New Website Launch!

We are proud to announce the launch of our website this month. Although a work in progress, we hope you will check out what we've put together so far and offer feedback. What would you like to see there?

Be sure to save the link to your "Favorites".



<https://www.birdersofstjames.com>

be sure to check out our resources on **migratory birds**: [here](#)



*April 3, 1934 - October 1, 2025*



[View in browser](#)

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