October is a great month to bring a child outside. Watch the birds as they head south. Take a night walk to hear owls. Plant a native tree together. It will be there to celebrate their graduation!

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Thank you to all who turned out for Bird Fest despite the weather! The Cape Fear Woodcarvers had a magnificent display of woodcarvings. Snakes, frogs, turtles and caterpillars all shared space as Matt Collogan, Andy Fairbanks and Andy Wood introduced visitors to a small sampling of the diversity to be found in our area. The Conservation Committee brought the lesson home through their program to encourage all of us to make our yards bird-friendly. Finally, a wonderful array of native plants from local nurseries, Growing Wild, Sheldon Herb Farm and "My Garden" Plant Co, made going native easy! Thanks to all!

**Meet Your New Board Members**
Please welcome your new board members. Kemp Burdette is Resource Development Coordinator at Cape Fear River Watch. He will co-chair the Education Committee. Matt Collogan is Airlie’s Environmental Education Program Manager and the prime mover of our Butterfly Curriculum program. He will co-chair the Education Committee with Kemp. Chuck Carmack, photographer and craftsman, is a long-time contributor to the chapter. Most of the gorgeous photographs we use are his!

**Bird Fest 2009 Thanks**

The Glens set up the Growing Wild display at Bird Fest.
Dick Daniels, traveler and photographer, is our new Treasurer. Nancy Buckingham has been our Field Trips Committee chair and is now our Programs Committee chair. And Charley Winterbauer is Conservation Committee chair and the contact person for their Bird-friendly Habitat Award Program.

Upcoming Activities
Activities and events are in detail on our website [www.capefearaudubon.org](http://www.capefearaudubon.org)

**Monday, October 12, 7 - 8:30 p.m.**
**Monthly meeting.** Kristin Rose, Cape Fear Arch Coordinator, will speak about the Cape Fear Arch Collaboration, a partnership of groups working to protect our natural resources. **Location:** Trinity United Methodist Church, 209 E. Nash St., Southport

**Saturday, October 12, 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.,**
**Special Kayak Outing on the Black River,** 12 miles of pristine blackwater swamp. Some paddling experience necessary. You may bring your own equipment. Call Stacy for details, 910-622-5548 or email stacythewhistler@ec.rr.com. Limit 12 people. Equipment rental (special Audubon rate) $75/per person; $35 with your own equipment. The Adventure Company ([www.thadventurecompany.com](http://www.thadventurecompany.com)) will assist with shuttle.

**Who's New**
We extend a hearty welcome to new member: Stanley Wolk, Wilmington
And as always a big thank you to our renewing members who keep us going!

**Saturday, October 17, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.**
**Birding at Green Swamp.** Rare birds and plants; magnificent pine savannas and pocosins. **Directions:** From intersection of NC 211 and US 17 in Supply, take NC 211 north for 5.7 miles to reach the preserve. Small green sign designates parking area on the right next to a borrow-pit pond.

**Tuesday, October 20, 9 - 11 a.m.**
**Birding at Brunswick Town.** Learn to identify the confusing fall warblers! **Directions:** From the north, take NC 133 south, turn left at Orton Plantation/Brunswick Town, continue on Phillips Road past ponds to the Brunswick Town Visitor Center and parking lot.

Green Swamp: Yellow Trumpet Pitcher-plant
Bird-Friendly Habitat: What You Can Do

Until recently, bird lovers were encouraged to plant exotic plants like Russian Olive "for the birds". Now research is uncovering the close connection between native plants, native insects and the reproductive success of our birds. Lots of exotic plants are full of beautiful berries that birds eagerly consume but they support almost no native insect populations. And it’s these insects that birds must have to feed their young in the spring.

To help birds reproduce, consider taking a small bit of lawn and planting it with native plants. Plant close together and layer the plants. An oak with dogwoods beneath and native azaleas in their shade will be breathtakingly beautiful in the spring. You will get caterpillars for nestlings, berries for winter birds and tiny insects for migrating warblers.

Focus on Native Insects

Gulf Fritillaries are passing through this month on their way to southern Florida. Watch for their bright orange wings above with large, metallic silver spots beneath. They have already laid their eggs on Passionflower vines. Look for their tiny yellow eggs under the leaves and their bright orange caterpillars on stems and buds.
**Farewell to Juanita!**
Juanita Roushdy, founder and first president of Cape Fear Audubon, leaves for her new home in Maine this month. We will miss her energy, vision and competence, but above all, the wonderful sense of humor that put things in perspective for the rest of us.

The chapter made a donation to the Friends of Hog Island in Juanita's honor. Hog Island is an Audubon sanctuary just down the road from her new home.

**Read Me!**
From time to time, we’ll highlight some good books we’ve come across. Our first one, in keeping with our Bird Fest theme, is *Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants* by Douglas Tallamy.

**Parting Shot...**
Jack Spruill brought a sampling of native plants from his garden to Bird Fest. Jack answered questions about growing natives and shared his immense enthusiasm.

Comments and suggestions welcome. Please send them to Cary Paynter, dmpaynter@earthlink.net.