

CALOOSA BIRD CLUB

Application for Membership

Date _____

NAME(S) _____

Winter _____

Address _____ Street & Number _____ Community, if applicable _____

_____ City or town _____ State & zip code _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Dues notice and information about the first November meeting are mailed during September. Summer contact information is needed.

Summer _____

Address _____ Street & Number _____ Community, if applicable _____

_____ City or town _____ State & zip code _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Date of Leaving Florida _____ Date of return to Florida _____

How did you hear about the Caloosa Bird Club? _____

Application for Membership may be submitted after the applicants have attended at least two trips and one general membership meeting. Annual dues and one-time application fee should accompany the application.

Members are expected to help lead field trips, participate in the Christmas Bird Count and serve in the various positions that are vital to the operation of the club

Upon acceptance as a new member you will receive a name badge, a copy of the By-Laws, calendar and field trip schedule, membership list and a vehicle window sticker for field trip identification purposes.

Bird check lists, club patches, and additional vehicle stickers are for sale at monthly meetings. Shirts and windbreaker jackets are also for sale.

The season begins with a Potluck dinner on the second Sunday in November at 1:00 P.M. at Tropicana Club House. Monthly meetings are held from December through March at 2:00 P.M. at Tropicana Mobile Manor, 16711 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers FL 33908.

Your Name(s): _____

One of our eligibility requirements states that new members "understand their responsibility to assist in the functioning of the Club." This is because a club such as ours can only thrive through the active participation of all its members. Upon occasion, to operate fully and effectively, Caloosa Bird Club needs the benefit of abilities other than birding. As such, we'd like to know something about you so that, as needs arise, we might be able to tap into your skills, strengths, and experience for the benefit of all. Please tell us the following:

Why do you wish to become a member of the Caloosa Bird Club?

Are you an experienced birder?

Are you a member of other ornithological clubs?

Do you have leadership experience on a Board?

Do you have bookkeeping, business, or financial skills?

Do you have technological / computer skills?

Do you have other skills, interest, experience that might be of value to the Club, ie something that we should know about?

CALOOSA BIRD CLUB
TRIP GUIDELINES

PLEASE:

- If you signed up for any trip and then cannot attend, inform the trip leader(s).
- Arrive at the meeting location in plenty of time to sign in and hear all information from the trip leaders(s).
- Keep Quiet: Minimize noise by turning off cell phone ringers and holding conversations in low tones. The quieter the group is as a whole, the more birds we will all see. When you see a bird, or even just a flutter of movement or flash of color, share your observations, offer clues as to the location based on surrounding trees, brush or other landmarks and use the "clock system". When the group is clustered together, stand still, particularly if you are in the front. The people behind you are moving slowly to try to get a look around you. Try not to step in front of someone who is looking through binoculars at something. If you are standing in front and have seen the bird, move slowly out of the way to let others have a turn.
- When using a group scope focused on a bird, step up quickly; get your look, and then step away to let others have their turn. It may fly away at any moment. Don't kick the tripod or move the scope when taking your turn.
- When walking along a road or trail, don't go ahead of the leader(s). You may flush the birds, causing them to fly away before anyone has a chance to see them. When standing, don't get in front of the leader(s). Look where the leader(s) is/are looking and wait for her/his comments.
- Don't wander around. Stay still and stay with the group. There will be plenty of time for socializing and catching up on the news at lunch!

- Photographers are welcome; however, fit in your photo's without holding up or distracting the birding.
- Share Rides: Carpooling on birding field trips is not only environmentally conscious, but it also ensures a smaller caravan of birders that will be less likely to disturb birds in each area. Sharing rides also gives you a unique opportunity to meet other birders and share favorite birding stories, identification tips and local birding information.
- Try to have a CB available in the car for sharing bird sightings and other communications. Use the CB to help manage the caravan safely.
- Drive behind the same vehicle for the entire trip. Stay together and be aware of the vehicle behind you and help avoid cars getting separated or lost. If you leave the caravan, inform the car in front of you and the car behind you.
- If other cars on the road are trying to pass the caravan, try to provide openings and assist safe passing.

AND FINALLY **PLEASE** DON'T SLAM THE CAR DOORS!