

## IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE BIRDS!



### Fripp Audubon Invites All to Explore Our “Mother Lode” of Lowcountry Wildlife

*Bob Freeman*

Just one more hidden treasure of our Fripp corner of Paradise is the chock-a-block schedule of Audubon Club-sponsored events on and around the Beaufort Barrier Islands. To be sure, Fripp Audubon Club members are mainly avid birders, but scratch the surface and you'll find a range of interests in nature and wildlife as diverse as the origins of folks who've gravitated to the Carolina Coast.

So far this fall, activities have included a nature cruise aboard the Fripper II to explore local waterways and flyways, “Breakfast with the Birds” to observe and photograph the multitudes of resident shorebirds and migrants, and a guided “Tree Walk” through Beaufort's historic “Old Point” district.

As October drew to a close, the club hosted well-known nature educator and TV personality Tony Mills in the Fripp Community Centre, as he presented a fascinating, fun program highlighting our varied local habitats and their reptilian, amphibian, and mammalian inhabitants. This event was absolutely free, open to all, and featured a “meet ‘n’ greet” social hour with potluck snacks before Tony's program. As usual, Tony was accompanied by a strong supporting cast of “critter companions,” wildlife that's all around us, which we can experience simply by taking a closer look at our surroundings.

Fripp Audubon will emphasize birding through the holidays. November 17th will mark our third bird identification workshop, focusing on birds commonly found at Fripp feeders. The Christmas bird count follows on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

Please visit our Website, [www.islc.net/audubon/](http://www.islc.net/audubon/)