



Reed Bowman

# ARCHBOLD DECEMBER 2018 NEWS

for curious minds



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## Archbold's Annual Symposium



Dustin Angell

Archbold's 3rd Annual Symposium attendees including staff, students, and research interns as well as colleagues from universities, conservation organizations, government agencies, our volunteers and local citizens.

**The recurring theme from Archbold's work this year highlighted at our 3rd Annual Symposium on November 15 might be 'scientific hope', according to Dr. Hilary Swain, Archbold Executive Director.**

Swain continued, 'Hope that comes from sheer persistence in the face of challenges like Becky Windsor and co-author's talk "Every Sparrow Counts: Recent Advances in Management Strategies used in Florida Grasshopper Sparrow". Hope instilled by open-minded science with seven presentations by Dr. Betsey Boughton and her colleagues at Archbold's [Buck Island](#)



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"Archbold Biological Station is one of America's iconic

[Ranch](#) showing the many ways ranch management can be compatible with conservation goals. Hope that comes from deploying new technologies like the next-generation instrument buoy planned for [Lake Annie](#) with Florida International University faculty collaborator Dr. Evelyn Gaiser which will allow us to collect rich data about the lake's particular algae, color, temperature, and light 24 hours a day 7 days a week at depths we never thought possible. Hope from scientific curiosity exemplified by Dr. Mark Deyrup's inspiring closing talk on "dark or hidden biodiversity". About 75 people were in attendance at this year's symposium organized by Emily Angell, Archbold Research Assistant, to hear our many messages of scientific hope.'

## Bringing Wetlands Back



Participants for the November 14th tour included members of the US Department of Agriculture, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the Florida Cattlemen's Association.

**In November, Dr. Gregory Sonnier, Archbold Post-doctoral Fellow, Dr. Betsey Boughton, Archbold Agro-ecology Director, and Dr. Betsie Rothermel, Archbold Restoration Ecology Director, hosted three field trips at Archbold to share our exciting wetland research and restoration projects.** The trips began with a tour of Frances Creek (404 acres) and Mary's Creek (494 acres) on the [Archbold Reserve](#). These two wetland restoration easements were restored recently through the [Natural Resource Conservation Service Wetland Reserve Program](#) primarily by plugging ditches and installing water control structures. The tour continued on a swamp buggy at [Buck Island Ranch](#) (10,500 acres) visiting experimental wetlands studying the effect of cattle ranching practices on wetlands. Sonnier shared, 'It was really important for us to share

centers of continuous research and education in field biology. It is a prototype of what we need all across America."  
— Edward O. Wilson

## Public Events

**Jan 10:** 3:30-4:30

'Artificial Light at Night Affects Leopard Frog Physiology'

Zachery Forsburg, Texas State University

our success with agencies that funded our research'. South Florida Water Management District participants appreciated the tour commenting, 'Thank you for the very interesting presentation and tour. We really appreciate the excellent work that you and your team do at the ranch. Plus it was so nice to spend the morning in such a beautiful place!'

## Ozone Aware



Tom Clisham  
The DEP ozone monitoring station on Archbold's Red Hill after a controlled burn.

Ozone gas (three oxygen atoms) occurs naturally on earth in the upper atmosphere blocking harmful ultraviolet rays. Ozone also occurs in earth's lower atmosphere as a toxic byproduct of air pollutants that is harmful to plants and animals. In 1999, Tom Clisham, Environmental Specialist with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), was tasked to install an ozone monitoring site in Highlands County. The DEP recommended checking out Archbold Biological Station. Clisham shared, 'I found Archbold fascinating from my first visit. The staff are hard-working, dedicated, and friendly.' **After installing the monitoring station on Archbold's Red Hill, the DEP started recording ozone data in 2001.** The site has been a valuable part of the [200+ sites](#) around the state. You can view the public access site for ozone monitoring data at Archbold [here](#). Archbold hosts important statewide monitoring instruments and sites in addition to our own monitoring of weather, water, and greenhouse gases. **For nearly two decades, Clisham managed DEP's ozone monitoring station at Archbold** with occasional bobcat sightings while appreciating restoration efforts to burn and rollerchop the long-unburned surrounding



Our new video, '[One Day in the Florida Scrub](#)', captures the beauty of one single day in the Florida scrub from morning moonset to evening sunset at Archbold Biological Station.

### The Scrub Blog

Nature and Science from Florida's  
Heartland

Explore The Scrub Blog by  
Archbold creative staff.

sandhill habitat. Clisham retired in November passing the torch to Kris Simonian. Welcome Kris! But, we are not saying goodbye to Tom Clisham. He will soon begin here as an Archbold volunteer.

## Big Brother: The Lost Tortoise Episode



A motion-activated camera video showing a Gopher Tortoise in her burrow alongside a Bobcat on Archbold's Red Hill.

Some of Archbold's most popular video clips on social media are from motion-activated cameras recording the fascinating web of life centered on Gopher Tortoise burrows. **Now you can binge-watch the best tortoise research video clips from Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida, all compiled into one 11-minute video. Watch 'Big Brother: The Lost Tortoise Episode' [here](#).** 'Big Brother' is a reference to the 'Big Brother' reality television show where contestants are under constant camera surveillance. Unlike the television show where humans are isolated from the outside world, tortoises live interconnected to the community inside and outside their burrow. The researchers' cameras reveal curious bears and bobcats, foraging snakes, secretive tortoise behaviors like egg laying, and much more! Dr. Betsie Rothermel, [Archbold Herpetology](#) Director, teamed up with Heather Gaya, University of Georgia graduate student, to produce this engaging tribute to their favorite study animals and to highlight the importance of Gopher Tortoises as keystone species in southeastern pine forests.

## Year-End Matching Gift Challenge



Check out our Youtube Videos!



Connect with us on Instagram!



Connect with us on Facebook!

[Archbold Facebook Event Calendar](#)

**Directions to Archbold Biological Station**



The sun sets at Archbold in late November during the final scene for our short film '[One Day in the Florida Scrub](#)'.

This is the time of year when we reflect on all we have to be thankful for, and at Archbold—we are thankful for you. **And, thanks to a generous donor deeply committed to the work we do at Archbold, every dollar you give by December 31, 2018 will be matched up to \$100,000.** This [exciting opportunity and the matching gifts](#) it inspires will advance our work in 2019. Your gift to Archbold will have twice the impact: a \$10 gift becomes \$20, a \$50 gift becomes \$100, a \$100 gift becomes \$200, and so on. Because of the generosity and commitment of our supporters, we can continue our level of world-class scientific research. We are able to inspire the next generation of scientists, ranchers, and conservationists, while searching for solutions to protect the wildlife, lands, and waters in our region. **Enjoy our new video '[One Day in the Florida Scrub](#)' and imagine yourself right here, with us.** We hope you'll join us in our Year-End Matching Gift Challenge because your gift will help sustain many more eye-opening initiatives here at Archbold. Know that your [donation](#) will be matched dollar-for-dollar and will go towards studying, interpreting, and educating the public about our natural world. Thank you!

Eight miles south of Lake Placid. Entrance is 1.8 miles south of SR 70 on Old SR 8.



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