

# ARCHBOLD MAY 2016 NEWSLETTER

for curious minds



## In This Issue:

1. Life of a Mint Bee
2. Pied Piper of the Scrub
3. Archbold Photo Club
4. Red Hill Fire Revival
5. 500 Interns & Still Counting

## Life of a Mint Bee



Blue Calamintha Bee *Osmia calaminthae* pollinating and foraging on Ashe's Mint *Calamintha ashei* flower. Photo by Tim Lethbridge.

'When I first saw the mint bee—deep metallic blue with a triangle of pollen on her face, diligently pollinating the pale pink flowers of *Calamintha ashei*—I knew I was hooked', said Katherine Burns. **Burns is studying the habitat preferences of the Blue Calamintha Bee *Osmia calaminthae*, a bee found only in Highlands County. This native bee might depend exclusively on the nectar and pollen of Ashe's Mint *Calamintha ashei*, an endemic, threatened mint.** Discovered at Archbold in 2002, little is known about the life and range of the Blue Calamintha Bee. Burns hopes to change that. That means lots of patient observations of her new favorite pollinator and plant surveys in the Florida scrub. Burns is the first intern at Archbold supported by the [Florida Wildflower Foundation](#), which wants to foster more pollination studies of native flowers. Her interdisciplinary internship is shared between [Archbold Plant Ecology](#) (Dr. Eric Menges) and [Entomology](#) (Dr. Mark Deyrup) programs. Burns' study will provide much-needed data for scientists to better evaluate a 2015 petition by the



[Donate Now](#)

[Archbold Biological Station Website](#)

[Subscribe to our Newsletter](#)

"Archbold Biological Station is one of America's iconic centers of continuous research and education in field biology. It is a prototype of what we need all across America."  
— Edward O. Wilson

Defenders of Wildlife to have this bee listed under the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

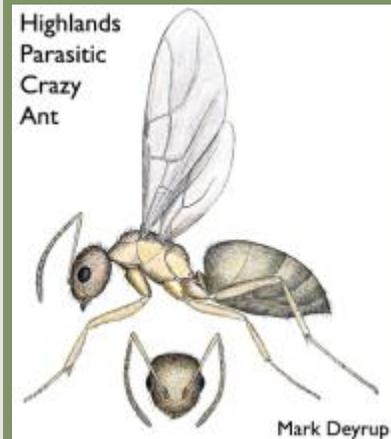
## Pied Piper of the Scrub



Tim O'Meara (left) presents Dustin Angell (right) with the Florida Chapter of the Wildlife Society's 2015 Outstanding Educator Award on April 14th.

**Archbold Education Coordinator Dustin Angell received the 2015 Outstanding Educator Award for excellence in Florida-focused wildlife education from the Florida Chapter of the Wildlife Society.** Dustin moved to Archbold from Syracuse, NY in January 2013. He is the key staff person for education at Archbold running K-12 programs, public events and tours, local festivals, and guidance for college classes. His success builds on his artistic creativity and powers of observation, combined with his sponge-like absorption of the science and natural history surrounding him at Archbold. **As our 'Pied Piper of the Scrub', he has an innate ability to share his child-like enthusiasm for the natural world.** His creative tools include art, role-playing, games, story-telling, music, and presentations from scientists. As President-Elect for the League of Environmental Educators in Florida, Dustin is already a force in education state-wide. Congrat ulations Dustin!

## Archbold Photo Club



## Science Bugs Art Exhibit at Archbold

Archbold Biological Station is honored to display a special art exhibit on loan from the [Museum of Florida Arts and Culture](#) that celebrates 75 years of entomology (insect) research. The 'Science Bugs Art Exhibit' will be open to the public from May 12 to June 2, Mon-Fri, during business hours of 8am-5pm in the Event Lobby at Archbold's Learning Center. The public is also invited to the show opening and reception on May 12, from noon to 3:15pm.



Connect with us on Facebook!



Cutthroat Seep at sunrise photo by Kevin Main, Archbold Land Manager.

**The Archbold Photo Club had their first public show at the Sebring Regional Airport in April. 'Highlands County Seen by the Archbold Photography Club' is a two month-long exhibit hosted by the Heartland Cultural Alliance.** You can still view the exhibit at the Sebring Regional Airport until May 27. The club was started by Dustin Angell, Archbold Education Coordinator, and Becca Tucker, Archbold Restoration Ecology Research Assistant, in January 2014. Club members include Archbold staff, collaborators, and volunteers. Dustin said, 'We wanted to show a side of the county most people don't get to see, but that we experience every day because of our jobs. Highlands County has some fantastic natural areas.' Club members aim to improve photo skills and share a love of photography, science, and conservation at monthly meetings. Tucker said, '**For the last three years, I've had the chance to get together with good people to chat about everything photography from the mechanics of our cameras to the more subjective ways we each compose an image.**' The discussions are always open and constructive with enthusiasm for creative sharing.'

## Red Hill Fire Revival



Check out our Youtube Videos!

[Archbold Facebook Event Calendar](#)

## Upcoming Public Events

**May 12:** 12:00pm-3:15pm

'Science Bugs Art Exhibit Opening & Reception'

Refreshments, Talks, Demos, Tours



Kevin Main, Archbold Land Manager, mowing sandhill scrub on top of Red Hill.

Red Hill sits high and dry at 213 feet elevation on the southern Lake Wales Ridge of central Florida at Archbold. It is one of few remaining examples of a southern ridge sandhill scrub community of pines alongside hickories, turkey oaks, lupines, palmettos, and wiregrass. Much of this fire-dependent community went decades without fire resulting in overgrown habitat dominated by woody species. Native grasses and forbs that Gopher Tortoises depend on became restricted to isolated patches. **Although Archbold started reintroducing fire to the 480-acre Red Hill more than 30 years ago, it was difficult to burn and progress was slow. In 2014, Archbold received federal funding from [USFWS Partner's Program](#) and the [NRCS EQIP Program](#) to boost restoration efforts.** [Archbold Land Manager](#), Kevin Main, said, 'The goal of restoration is to improve habitat for Gopher Tortoise, Florida Scrub-Jay and other listed plants and animals. Restoration activities include mowing and mechanical removal of Sand Pines followed by prescribed burning.' Stay tuned for updates on how we are bringing fire back to Red Hill!

## 500 Interns & Still Counting

Exhibit Open Daily to the Public May 12-June 2 (Mon-Fri 8am-5pm)

Archbold Learning Center  
Event Lobby

Mark Deyrup & Dustin Angell, Archbold



Earth Day with #21  
Video



2016 Archbold Plant Ecology interns after conducting 24 small scale prescribed burns, each about 3m square, in support of intern Olivia Karas' independent research project.

**[Archbold's research internship program](#) has influenced the lives and mentored the careers of young scientists ever since the first intern in 1968.** Our post-baccalaureate internships provide a 6-12 month residential training opportunity. Interns work in one of our research programs and complete an independent research project. **In 2016, we celebrate the milestone of intern #500!** An Archbold internship translates into better research skills for succeeding in graduate school, building successful careers in science and non-science professions, and becoming informed stewards of our natural resources. One former intern received the Nobel Peace Prize as a member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. We are pleased to keep in touch with former interns as they continue their lifetime journeys. 85% of all current and former interns will receive this issue of the Archbold Update. Archbold intern alumni represent college graduates from 48 states and 17 foreign countries. **WOW! Click [here](#) if you would like to support the Archbold internship program and learn more about internship opportunities.**

Watch our Earth Day Facebook video posted on April 22 [here](#). Gopher Tortoise #21 was here for the first-ever Earth Day at Archbold in 1970. On April 22, 2016, she is still here celebrating yet another Earth Day. She is at least 58 years old.

### **Directions to Archbold Biological Station**

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



[Archbold Biological Station](#) | [MacArthur Agro-ecology Research Center](#) | [Archbold Reserve](#)

[Contact Us](#) | [Directions](#) | [Newsroom](#) | [Donate](#)

We are a publicly supported organization exempt from income taxes under the Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3).

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

[Archbold](#)

123 Main Drive, Venus, FL 33960