



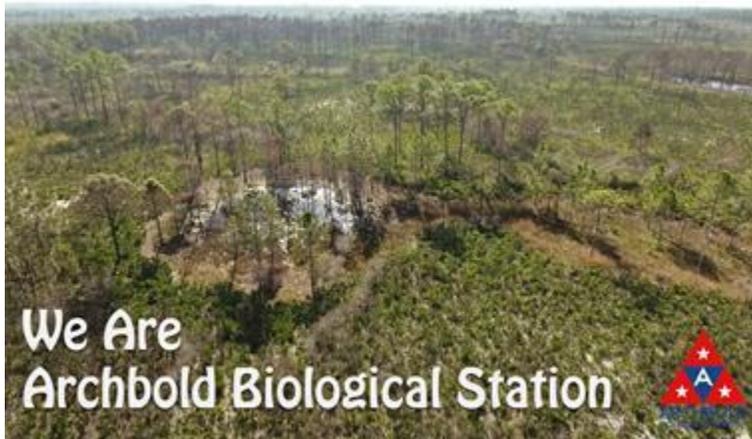
ARCHBOLD DECEMBER 2016 NEWS

for curious minds

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'We Are Archbold Biological Station'



'We Are Archbold Biological Station' will launch online on December 17th. Until then, enjoy the [video trailer here](#).

You are one of more than 7,000 people receiving this monthly [Archbold Update](#). Our [Facebook page](#) has nearly 7,000 Likes. Archbold launched its news and social media campaign in 2013 to reach out to a broader community. But even now, 'interesting' tales are spun about 'Archibald'. What ARE they doing out



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there, zipping around on ATVs? We get regular calls about suspicious persons snooping around in bushes. **Even with greater public access to Archbold, the big picture of our mission, accomplishments, and goals can be elusive.** It is understandable. Archbold scientists, interns, and educators are busy bees doing lots of complicated things. When Hilary Swain, Archbold Executive Director, speaks on the 'Who, What, and Why of Archbold', the reaction is always the same: 'We had no idea Archbold does ALL that!' **In response, we give you our new, short film. 'We Are Archbold Biological Station' will launch online on December 17th.** Until then, enjoy the [video trailer here](#). Please share to help us reach an even broader community. And consider making a [year end donation](#) to support our work. What we do is now more important than ever.

Unlocking Harebells



[Avon Park Harebells \(Crotalaria avonensis\)](#) is distinguished by a large yellow flower with a short stem and fleshy leaves. It is covered in namesake white or yellowish-white hairs.

Plants like Avon Park Harebells (Crotalaria avonensis) make other rare, endemic Florida scrub plants seem common. This yellow-flowered, deep-rooted pea occurs at just three Florida scrub sites, all in Highlands and Polk counties. It is '**at grave danger of extinction**' and 'without active and concerted conservation efforts, this species may be lost' (USFWS 2006). **Dr. Eric Menges, Archbold Plant Ecology Director, Stacy Smith, and collaborators**

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"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

Upcoming Events

Dec 17: 9:30 am-11:30 am

Family Science Day

Dustin Angell, Archbold

[published the results from 16 years of research \(1998-2014\) describing Avon Park Harebells ecology for the first time.](#) An essential first step in recovery, Menges' team found 'Avon Park Harebells is reproductively challenged, with very low rates of fruit set and infrequent visitation by required pollinators.' 1 of the 3 sites where it occurs is not protected and numbers there have significantly declined since 1998. Menges and Smith succeeded in transplanting seeds and plant material from the unprotected site to a new (third) protected site. Conservation recommendations based on their research include continued fire management, more introductions to other protected sites, reductions in herbivory (e.g., caging plants), encouraging pollinators (e.g., prescribed fire and no herbicides), and more research on pollination ecology. Full article [here](#).

Jan 21: 9:00 am-11:00 am

Fire in the Florida Ecosystem

Kevin Main, Archbold

Feb 26: Starts at 1:30 pm

Amphibious Adventure

Betsie Rothermel, Archbold

Intern to Director Cinderella Story



Dr. Betsy Boughton in a prairie with a profusion of Yellow Milkwort (*Polygala rugelii*) at the [MacArthur Agro-ecology Research Center](#).

Betsy Boughton first came to Archbold in January 2002 from Central Michigan University for a Plant Ecology Internship. She shared, 'Coming from Michigan, the entire landscape looked foreign to



Betsy Boughton doing field research in wetland at the MacArthur Agro-ecology Research Center in foreground with cow operations in background.

me. The Florida oaks looked so different from the northern oaks that I was used to. **Right from the beginning, Archbold was a source of ecological surprises for me.** Boughton would go on to enjoy the mentorship of Dr. Eric Menges and Dr. Pedro Quintana-Ascencio as an intern and two years later as a PhD student at University of Central Florida. After marrying her 'Archbold sweetheart', Dr. Raoul Boughton, she chose to work at Archbold's working cattle ranch, the [MacArthur Agro-ecology Research Center](#) (MAERC), where she conducted her PhD and Post-doctoral research. 'I was intrigued by the unique collaboration where ecologists were working together with ranchers to balance biodiversity and environmental values with economically viable agriculture.' **Dr. Betsey Boughton would succeed Dr. Patrick Bohlen as MAERC Program Director** within one year of starting her Post-doctoral research position. 'I have learned so much about ecology, evolution, and the value of scientific research to conserving nature. And, it all came full circle when I started to have research interns under my supervision. I hope to give back to the young scientists what Archbold has given me.'

Birds of a Feather



Wood Storks (*Mycteria americana*) (Federally Threatened) perch together on a South Florida Slash Pine tree in Highlands County.

'Byrdes of on kynde and color flok and flye allwayes together', better known as 'birds of a feather flock together' (William Turner 1545). This was true for [The](#)



Check out our Youtube Videos!



Connect with us on Facebook!

[Florida Ornithological Society \(FOS\)](#) fall meeting held at Archbold November 4–6, drawing over sixty ornithologists and birdwatchers from around the state. Dr. Reed Bowman (Archbold Avian Ecology Director) gave a warm welcome and history of [ornithology at Archbold](#) followed by a keynote talk by Dustin Angell (Archbold Education Coordinator) entitled '[Florida Stewards: Using Photography to Promote Conservation in the Northern Everglades](#)'. The following day, Dr. Angela Tringali (Archbold Avian Ecology) led a field trip about Archbold scrub-jay research. Later, scientists shared their work on threatened bird populations giving over 15 presentations focused on the biology, management, and conservation of birds throughout Florida. Dr. Paul Reillo, President of [Rare Species Conservatory Foundation](#), gave a closing keynote about the challenges of captive-breeding critically endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrows. This successful meeting was organized by Emily Angell (Archbold Avian Ecology & FOS Vice President) and made possible by the 'flok' coming together to roost and squawk within Archbold's Learning Center, a state-of-the-art green building, certified LEED® Platinum (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).

[Archbold Facebook Event Calendar](#)

Year End Appeal



Family Nature Day participant decorates a Sand Pine tree in the Florida scrub.

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 would like to give thanks as we wrap-up a wonderful 2016.

Thank you to the generous giving that occurs year-round, but especially during our Annual Year End Appeal. Just one week ago, we launched our [Annual giving program](#) on #GivingTuesday receiving over \$6,000 from those who believe in our mission and appreciate Archbold. We are grateful. Archbold directs 100% of your gift to our world-class research, education, and conservation programs. **Archbold also depends on many volunteers who tirelessly show up to lend a helping hand in the field and office.** They are a blessing and we pay tribute to each one. Every December, we host Family Nature Day where families spend the day at Archbold learning and appreciating nature. Each family leaves with an environmentally friendly holiday ornament. These edible ornaments are sure to bring a sparkle to your backyard birdwatching. **Please consider a gift to Archbold during this month of giving.** [Click here to donate.](#) Or, if you would like to volunteer with Archbold, give us a call (863-465-2571). Thank you and Happy Holidays!

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

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