



## ARCHBOLD JULY 2018 NEWS for curious minds



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### Queen of Red Hill



Tortoise 21 portrayed by graphic artist [Becca Tucker](#) for our ['Queen of Red Hill' documentary film](#).

Richard Archbold hired [Dr. Jim Layne](#) to be the Station's first Research Director in 1967. In May 1968, Layne found and measured the 21st Gopher Tortoise in his study up on Red Hill. Dr. Layne, with all his insight and vision, couldn't have known this ordinary tortoise would go on to live an extraordinary life. Still alive and well today, **Tortoise 21 is the queen of her domain and star of a new documentary produced by**



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[Archbold Biological Station](#) and [Into Nature Films](#) called **'Queen of Red Hill'**. As one of a dozen tortoises that have been followed since the 1970s, her long-term contributions to biological science are impressive. At least 14 biologists encountered her over the last 50 years, noting her behaviors and taking measurements of her growth. Dr. Betsie Rothermel, [Archbold Herpetology](#) Program Director, continues the legacy by using modern tools like motion-sensor cameras, genetic analyses, and radio telemetry. Archbold herpetologists track the weekly movements of Tortoise 21 (along with 35 other tortoises) and recently collaborated with University of Georgia and Cornell University researchers to study the mating system of this well-studied tortoise population. This decades-long research is revealing a fascinating portrait of the tortoises on Red Hill. **The Queen of Red Hill digs deep into the sands of time uncovering the entwined roots of human and natural history. Watch the film trailer [here](#). Stay tuned for release of the full film on July 14th.**

"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

## Researcher & Sustainable Rancher of the Year



Archbold's Buck Island Ranch Director of Research Dr. Betsey Boughton accepts the Florida Cattlemen's Association 'Researcher of the Year' award. From left to right: Convention Speaker Red Steagall, Researcher of the Year Betsey Boughton, Research Committee Representative Chance Clay, and Florida Cattlemen's Association President Ken Griner.

The [Florida Cattlemen's Association](#) kicked off its three-day Annual Convention in Championsgate, FL on



Watch for Mark and Nancy Deyrup's generous **Matching Gift Challenge** coming later this month!

June 19. Amidst the festivities were some memorable moments for Archbold. **Director of Research Dr. Betsey Boughton received the special honor of Florida Cattlemen's Association 'Researcher of the Year'**. Boughton was distinguished for her success and relevance in multiple aspects of the cattle industry: research, conservation, outreach, and education. 'My research is focused on wetland and water management, understanding how grazing and fire affect wetlands and grasslands, and more recently, understanding the ranchland carbon cycle,' Dr. Boughton explained in her acceptance speech. **Archbold's Buck Island Ranch also received the honor of 'Sustainable Rancher of the Year' presented by Audubon of Florida to 'the Florida cattle ranch that best exemplifies outstanding conservation stewardship'**. 'Well-managed cattle ranches produce a wealth of important wildlife habitat', said Charles Lee, Director of Advocacy at Audubon of Florida, while presenting the award. 'We are much honored to receive this award,' said Ranch Manager Gene Lollis, who accepted the 'Sustainable Rancher of the Year' award alongside Archbold Executive Director Dr. Hilary Swain. Lollis added, 'We want you all to know that we are here to work for the industry and to help other ranches reach their conservation goals.'

## Bird Lab Takes Flight



Dr. Reed Bowman (center) is congratulated by members of the Avian Ecology Program at Archbold after being honored with the Margaret



Explore [The Scrub Blog](#) by Archbold creative staff.

## The Secret Life of Flowers



The Florida scrub's exquisite beauty and biology are on full display in this playful video featuring a stunning array of wildflowers and pollinators. Narrative insights by Florida's premier expert on insects

Morse Nice Medal, a premier award bestowed by the Wilson Ornithological Society.

Dr. Reed Bowman, [Archbold Avian Ecology](#) Program Director, brought eight lab members including interns, graduate students, and staff to the June meeting of the [Wilson Ornithological Society](#) and the [Association of Field Ornithologists](#) in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

**Bowman presented a plenary lecture sharing a 50 year perspective on the long-term study of Florida Scrub-Jays at Archbold** which is the longest, continuous study of banded birds in North America. Bowman shared, 'All of this work relies on a network of collaborators, from beginning students to seasoned professionals, representing many fields of expertise. **Training young scientists is one of the most rewarding and important aspects of my job.**' He has mentored nearly 70 post-baccalaureate interns as well as eight Masters and two PhD students. Archbold Avian Ecology interns and students presented papers and attended a workshop for young professionals providing a wonderful opportunity to network with peers. **Bowman received the Margaret Morse Nice Medal, the premier ornithological award bestowed by the Wilson Ornithological Society.** This award honors scientists who 'exemplify scientific curiosity, creativity and insight, concern for the education of young and amateur ornithologists, and leadership as an innovator and mentor'. Bowman is the second scientist at Archbold to receive this prestigious award. His mentor, Dr. Glen E. Woolfenden, who began the Florida Scrub-Jay study in 1969, was awarded the same medal in 2001.

## Archbold Visits NY Botanical Garden

Archbold staff (Dr. Hilary Swain, Deborah Pollard) and Board of Directors (Mary Hufty, Lela Love, Vevie Lykes Dimmitt) visited the [New York Botanical Garden](#) in Bronx, NY on June 8. Swain gave a seminar to Garden staff and interns titled 'Archbold Biological Station: 75 years of research, conservation, and education'. Her talk paid homage to the connections shared by Archbold and the New York Botanical Garden in this region of Florida, and why continued collaborations are vital to their shared interests. **'Archbold and the New York Botanical Garden share many research and**

of the Lake Wales Ridge, Dr. Mark Deyrup, accompany this visual symphony of pollinators and the pollinated. Watch here on Archbold [Facebook](#) or [Vimeo](#).



Check out our Youtube Videos!

conservation goals,' said Swain. 'Both of our organizations are conducting research on plants and their habitats, monitoring changes in biodiversity over time, and translating our results into effective conservation and management.' The group was thrilled to tour the Rare Book and Folio Collection in the Mertz Library where they saw field notes, books, and transcripts written by John Kunkel Small, the famous botanist and early explorer of Florida. Swain said, 'Exploring Florida in the early part of the 20th century, Small was botanizing at Archbold before there was an Archbold! The Garden has had a long-standing history with this region of Florida, and still sends botanists attracted to our extraordinary plant diversity to collect specimens.'



Dr. Hilary Swain gives an educational seminar to staff and interns at the New York Botanical Garden.

## What Goes Around Comes Around

Three years after leaving his posts at Archbold (Herpetology/Restoration Ecology Graduate Intern, Herpetology Research Assistant, Education Assistant, Interim Development Assistant), **Zach Forsburg is still giving back. For his 33rd birthday on May 30th, Zach put his large personal social network to good use by launching a heart-warming plea.** Zach wrote, 'For my birthday this year, I'm asking for donations to Archbold Expeditions (Archbold Biological Station). [Ecology Summer Camp](#) is coming up and if we



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## Directions to Archbold Biological Station

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



raise \$300, we can send 2 deserving children to this life changing camp. I hope you'll consider contributing as a way to celebrate with me. Every little bit will help us reach my goal.' With inspiring support from his friends and family, **Zach raised \$1,065 for Archbold surpassing his goal to send not three, but seven children to camp!** Facebook fundraisers are a creative and simple way for people to share things they care about by extending the value of their individual gift. If you are interested in helping Archbold, please contact [Deborah Pollard](#), Development Director. There are many creative ways to help. Even young children can learn about philanthropy – it's never too early, and we are very grateful. Thank you Zach for being such a long-time friend and supporter of Archbold. To Zach's friends and family, thank you for believing in and supporting Archbold's Ecology Summer Camp.



### Zach's Birthday Fundraiser for Archbold Expeditions

Fundraiser for Archbold Expeditions by Zach Forsburg

A screenshot of Zach Forsburg's Facebook fundraiser to send children to [Ecology Summer Camp](#) at Archbold through Network for Good.

If you enjoy these stories from Archbold, please consider a gift to support our research and education programs. [Donate now](#). Your gift really makes a difference.

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