2017 Meeting of the American Oystercatcher Working Group

The American Oystercatcher Working Group will hold its 17th annual meeting on Sapelo Island, Georgia! This large barrier island is located mid-way between Savannah GA and Jacksonville FL. There is a ferry to get us to the island where we will meet at facilities operated by the University of Georgia Marine Institute. The island is a wonderful place with a rich history, boasting the extant Geechee community of Hog Hammock, an historic mansion operated by Georgia State Parks, and much more!

Registration

**Registration is now open!**  
Based on your personal plan for attendance, you will need to select BOTH a lodging AND a registration option for purchase:

PLAN A: *For those attending ONLY the meeting, purchase tickets for BOTH:*

1. Monday and Tuesday Night Lodging, AND
2. General registration Basic (leaving Wed 4:30)

PLAN B: *For those attending the meeting AND Thursday field trip, purchase tickets for BOTH:*

1. Monday through Wednesday Lodging (field trip participants), AND
2. General registration & field trip (Leaving Thursday)

[Follow this link to the registration page](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/american-oystercatcher-2017-meeting-tickets-37069777703), use the password: “AMOY2017” to login, and click on the green “tickets” button to select your registration and lodging options for purchase.

Schedule

October 23 – Travel day  
October 24-25 – Meetings  
October 26 – Field Trip

Getting There

Flying to Coastal Georgia

There are three options to fly, depending on where you can get the best price:

1. Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport  
   (Roughly 1 hour drive from airport to Ferry)
2. Jacksonville International Airport  
   (Roughly 1 hour 15 minute drive to Ferry)
3. Brunswick Golden Isles Airport  
   (Roughly 30 minute drive to Ferry)

Ferry to Sapelo Island

Whether flying or driving, you will need to make it to the Sapelo Island Ferry Dock.

* We will try to facilitate carpooling from the airport, and also may be able to make a van pickup if a group arrives at a similar time, but some people will need to rent vehicles.
* We*will register you for the ferry, but you will need to****bring $5.00 for a roundtrip ticket.***
* Arrive 20-30 minutes prior to departure time, **the ferry does not wait for anybody**.
* The ferry takes roughly 20 minutes to travel between island and mainland.
* GA DNR staff will meet arriving participants at the ferry dock to shuttle them to the conference location.

FERRY LANDING: 1766 Landing Road SE Darien GA 31305.

DIRECTIONS TO FERRY LANDING: Directions can be found at <https://ugami.uga.edu/directions/>

FERRY SCHEDULE

Monday October 23 – Departing Mainland Ferry Dock (preferred times – 3:30 or 5:30)

* 8:30 AM
* 3:30 PM
* 5:30 PM

Wednesday October 25 – Departing Sapelo (people not staying for Thursday field trips can get 4:30 PM Ferry off).

* 7:00 AM
* 12:00 Noon
* 4:30 PM

Thursday October 26 – Departing Sapelo (Morning birding trip participants could depart on 2:30 ferry, while Altamaha trip participants will depart on 4:30 ferry)

* 7:00 AM
* 2:30 PM
* 4:30 PM

Travel Assistance

There will likely be some funds available for travel assistance, particularly for students or international travelers. More details will follow.