

Dear Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival (SCBWF) Sponsors and Exhibitors,

We are overwhelmed and grateful for your interest and willingness to commit to the 2024 SCBWF! Your participation in bringing back one of the best birding festivals in the country is not taken for granted and very much appreciated! Please join us for the 25th festival in the Expo Center, Radisson Resort at the Port, Wednesday, January 24th through Saturday, January 27th, 2024.

As one of our sponsors said -this is the "Rise of the Phoenix' in the birding festival community! We have chosen to have the Sandhill Crane as our official festival bird for 2024. Cranes symbolize travel, open mindedness, aspiration, and as a symbol of grace, the crane inspires us to pause and reflect and honor the miracles around us.

We are still in the process of lining up our speakers but are having discussions regarding diversity in the birding community, conservation initiatives, development of satellite tracking technology, and tour operator Thursday will focus on the Galapagos. We will not be scheduling any speakers on Friday evening, instead letting everyone enjoy the amenities of the facilities, the chance to visit one of the wonderful restaurants in the immediate vicinity, and a chance for everyone – sponsors, exhibitors, speakers, photographers, field trip leaders and attendees to mingle and share their mutual love of birds and nature.

There are so many reasons not to allow the disruptions of the past few years to take away from one of the largest, most comprehensive birding and wildlife festivals in the country. Come join us, we are not flying into extinction, we are coming back better than ever!

The Exhibitor Registration Form, Expo Maps, and Sponsorship Guide are attached and also are available on <u>www.scbwa.net</u>. 2024 Updates will be posted as they become available as our brand new organization builds a new festival website. We have filed for our 501(c3) status but at this time cannot guarantee that will be approved by the IRS prior to the festival. Our new festival website already has in place a page for recognizing 2024 Sponsors and Exhibitors and upon receipt of payment you will be included during scheduled updates.

Information on how to submit your Exhibitor Application is outlined on the form. **PLEASE NOTE: Your booth is not reserved until payment is received along with your sales tax form or tax-exempt form, no exceptions.** We will do our best to honor your booth location request, however booths are assigned by date of application, previous exhibitor status or level of sponsorship. (In order to be considerate of the visibility for your neighboring exhibitors tent structures are not allowed.)

Our New Expo (Convention Center and Pavilion Center) is located at the Radisson Resort at the Port, 8701 Astronaut Blvd., Cape Canaveral, Florida 32920.

The Expo Center booth cost will be \$600.00 which includes electric, but please note that all draped booths are now 8'x 8'. (see exhibitor registration form for complete booth details). In addition, we have four receptions scheduled for Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. We are working on creating a national marketing program to promote via print and digital/social media. Festival support team plans to travel nationwide this fall to promote directly to potential attendees. In addition, exhibitors will receive an opportunity to give a presentation or be a celebrity guide on field trips, space permitting.

## **Exhibit Days and Hours:**

| Set up   | Tues., Jan 23  | 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm    |
|----------|----------------|----------------------|
| Set up   | Wed., Jan 24   | 8:00 am – 11:00 am   |
| Open     | Wed., Jan 24   | 12:00 noon – 6:00 pm |
| Open     | Thurs., Jan 25 | 12:00 noon – 6:00 pm |
| Open     | Fri., Jan 26   | 12:00 noon – 6:00 pm |
| Open     | Sat., Jan 27   | 10:00 am – 6:00 pm   |
| Teardown | Sat., Jan 27   | 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm    |

We look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones! Thank you,

Barb Eager, Executive Director barb@scbwa.net Kathy Rooney, Administrative Services Coordinator kathy@scbwa.net

## www.scbwa.net