

THE MONTCLAIR BIRD CLUB

YOUR WEEKLY BIRD 34

April 28, 2024

by Michael Sheldon

Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge

Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge is a top birding hotspot in Florida, and the Blackpoint Wildlife Drive is one of its prime attractions. My wife, Ellie, and I visited in December. About two-thirds of the way through the 7-mile loop, we spotted a roseate spoonbill. It landed ahead of us, just around the next bend, in an open field full of wading birds—including more spoonbills. I always have a telephoto lens on the camera when I'm birding, and I did what I generally do: I tried to get a portrait of the most interesting individual bird.



Roseate Spoonbill

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At some point I realized I was missing the big picture: all of those spoonbills, wood storks, great egrets, snowy egrets, white ibises together. I walked back to the car and switched to a wide-angle lens for a group photo.



Roseate Spoonbill & Waders

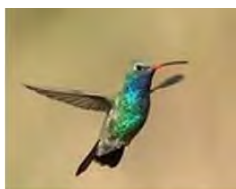
Something startled the flock. They went airborne and I was standing in the right place with the right lens to take this photo.





Startled

If you would like to see your photographs highlighted here, send one or two pictures with a short paragraph to Sandy Sorkin & Rick Wright at MontclairBirdClub100@gmail.com.



Southwest Wings

