

# Safari Trips



## It is the mission of the St. Marks NWR Photo Club

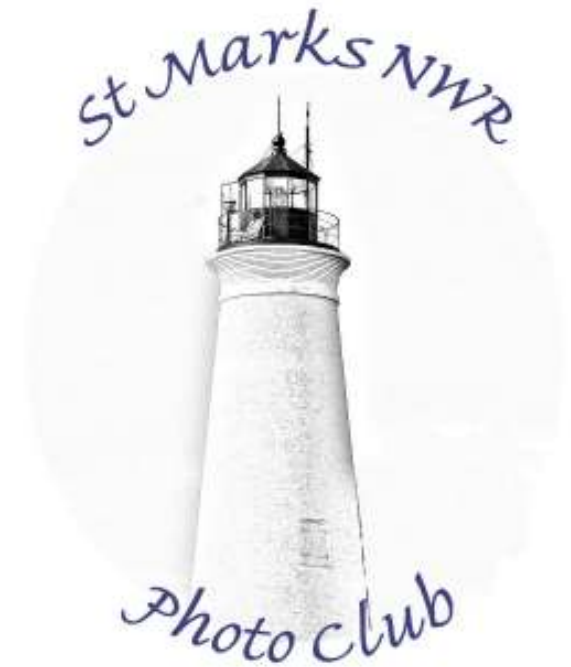
To be open to all photographers interested in nature photography. We strive to enhance the outdoor experience for the community, through education and field sessions with respect for the environment and wildlife. We will adhere to the ethical practices for nature photographers in addition to the policies of the St. Marks NWR and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

**St. Marks National Wildlife  
Refuge  
P.O. Box 68  
St. Marks, Florida 32355  
(850) 925-6121**

**thomasd@talstar.com  
Or  
saintmarks@fws.gov**



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*Striving to  
Enhance and  
Educate Our  
Community  
About the  
Outdoors*

# Photography at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge

If you haven't been to the St. Marks NWR lately, you should go see what you are missing!

It's a great place to hike or bike, and yes, a great place for nature photography. Even if you prefer to just drive down the lighthouse road, you'll be surprised at what you might see if you take your time. There is everything from wading birds, bobcats, bears, deer, butterflies, wildflowers, eagles and, of course, alligators.

The Refuge now has a digital photography class to get you started. It's taught by Barney Parker and gets together on the first Saturday of every month. He has some great pointers even for the more skilled photographer. For more details and class registration, please call the Visitors Center, (850) 925-6121.

Whether you are a novice or an experienced photographer we have a great group of people you should meet, the St. Marks NWR Photo Club. The club was formed in March 2007 and has in excess of one hundred and forty members. There are no dues or qualifications; just come have a good time. The club meets the third Saturday of every month, generally at 9:00 am in the Education Cabin next to the Visitor's Center. The time and place may vary depending on the agenda for the day.

Every other month the club takes a "Safari Trip" to take photos. We go behind the scenes for some great photo opportunities. After our safari trips we have a meeting at the Education Cabin, so bring a sack lunch and plan to get acquainted. Along with lunch, bring a CD, flash drive, or memory card with about six to eight photos to share. Don't forget to include the "not so perfect" photos, as these tend to make for the best discussions on tips and techniques.

The meetings are informal and fun. It's a great place to show your work and, in addition, make friends with the same interests. At each meeting, we plan our next meeting, whether it is an outing or a specific topic of interest. For more information or to get on the Club's email list, send an email to [thomasd@talstar.com](mailto:thomasd@talstar.com) and include "St. Marks NWR Photo Club" in the subject line.

Also, for information on the St. Marks Refuge Association or to join, please visit their website at <http://www.stmarksrefuge.org>. They have over 300 members and support the biological and educational goals of the St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge. There are special "member only" events, volunteer opportunities, and members become advocates for the refuge we love and support.



## CLUB ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Monthly meetings to share and discuss photos.

Bi-monthly safari photo shoots

Volunteer at the Refuge

Teach photo classes

Organize Photo Booth at Festivals

Design interactive trail guides

Produced St. Marks Lighthouse tour video

Contribute photos for gift cards to be sold at the Visitor Center

Hold Annual Refuge Photo Contest

Update photos for the Refuge's "Visit Florida website"



In 2007, 5 million people visited a National Wildlife Refuge to photograph wildlife and nature.



Don't forget to visit the trail at Tower Pond and check out the Photo Blind.