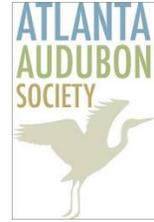


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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ATLANTA AUDUBON SOCIETY ADDS FOUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

(Atlanta, Ga.) December 11, 2017 – Atlanta Audubon Society elected **four new members** to the **Board of Directors** at their annual meeting on Sunday, December 10 at Manuel’s Tavern. **Craig Bell, Gina Charles, Roarke Donnelly, and Shannon Fair** were each elected for three-year terms, beginning on January 1, 2018.

Current board members Charles Loeb, Rusty Pritchard, and Esther Stokes were also re-elected for a second term. Additional Atlanta Audubon board members include Linda DiSantis, Ellen Miller, Joy Carter, Angelou Ezeilo, Jairo Garcia, Robert Johnson, Melinda Langston, Tom Painter, David Schaefer, Michael Wall, and Amanda Woomer.

“We are excited to welcome Craig, Gina, Roarke, and Shannon to the Atlanta Audubon Society Board of Directors,” says Linda DiSantis, board chair. “These four individuals bring a wealth of talents and experiences to the Atlanta Audubon Board that will help the organization fulfill its mission of building places where birds and people thrive.”

Craig Bell is part of **Georgia Power’s corporate communication team** serving as a media and issues management specialist. Before joining Georgia Power, Craig was an external affairs specialist at the Federal Emergency Management’s (FEMA) Region IV office. Prior to working with FEMA, Craig served 20 years as a reporter, photojournalist and producer in several media markets, including Houston, Dallas, Atlanta, and Memphis. As a journalist, Craig is no stranger to crisis communications and has covered numerous national events such as 9/11, the BP gulf oil spill, the Times Square bombing attempt, Nashville floods, and others.

Gina Charles is a long-time member of Atlanta Audubon. She and her family are avid travelers, and Gina has birded in many different parts of the world. She became a Master Birder in the fall of 2011 and stays involved through workshops and volunteering at the office and events. She shares her enthusiasm for birding with kindergarteners to senior citizens, hosting these groups in her back yard. Gina is also a member of National Audubon Society, ASPCA (American Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals), FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes), and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

Roarke Donnelly is a **professor of biology at Oglethorpe University** and a master bird bander with special interests in ecology, behavioral ecology, urban ecology, bird conservation, and STEM education. He regularly teaches 10 courses in biology and statistics, including ornithology at a wilderness field station in northern Minnesota, and maintains an active research program. Both the teaching and research have generated open-access teaching modules, manuscripts in several scientific journals, an edited book, and an audio guide to bird identification.

Shannon Fair is the **director of international analytics within the Innovative Solutions Group at TransUnion**. She is responsible for providing analytics solutions and credit scoring services to banks, credit reporting agencies, and other financial institutions across the globe, as well as establishing model governance standards and new hire training programs for all of TransUnion's international analytics teams. Shannon has been an active member of Atlanta Audubon since 2012 and also serves as the membership chair for the Georgia Ornithological Society. She is one of the top eBirders (www.ebird.org) in metro Atlanta and birds frequently in her spare time around Georgia, the U.S., or just about any place in the world that her work takes her.

For more information on Atlanta Audubon Society, visit www.AtlantaAudubon.org.

Media Note: Photos to accompany this article and a MS Word version of this press release are available for download at <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/y3l9s32oktcs94e/AADL4n1VHbxzzwGhN455VJ-fa?dl=0>.

Atlanta Audubon Society is committed to building places where birds and people thrive. We create bird-friendly communities through conservation, education, and advocacy.

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