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Dr. Lakey and Susan Tolbert present --

STALKING THE GHOST BIRD

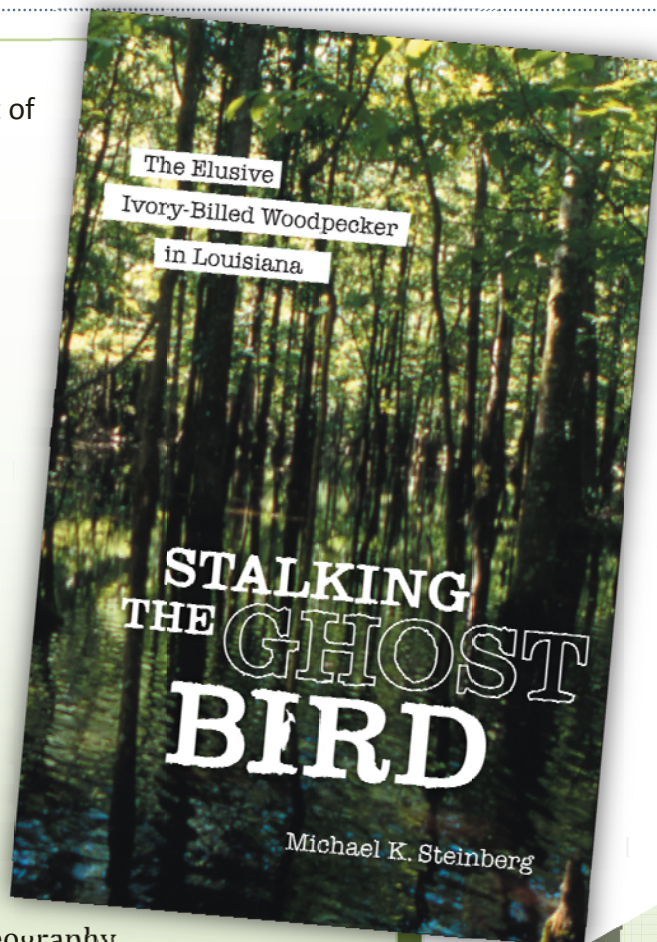
The Elusive
Ivory-Billed Woodpecker
in Louisiana

Lecture by Michael K. Steinberg

Assistant Professor in New College & Department of Geography
Assistant Curator of Ornithology, The University of Alabama

Rediscovered in 2004 by a kayaker, its sighting started a media frenzy and controversy among birders and scientists who continue to disagree about whether the bird really still exists. Interviews with conservation officials, ornithologists, and native Louisianans illuminate the ongoing controversy and explore why the ivory-bill, more than any other bird, arouses so much attention. Steinberg also meets elderly residents of the Atchafalaya Basin who saw the ivory-bill while hunting in the 1930s and even ate the bird-which they called the "forest turkey"- during hard times.

In this absorbing study, Steinberg turns his lifelong interest in the majestic ivory-billed woodpecker into a tale that encapsulates both the mystery and intrigue surrounding the legendary bird and our fascination with it. This talk is not to be missed!



4:00 pm on Thursday, April 24, 2008
in Gorgas Library room 205

A reception and signing will follow the reading. This event is free and open to the public.
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or contact Jessica Lacher-Feldman at jlfeldma@ua.edu or 205.348.0500