



## Keynote #1, Social Event

Friday, October 14, 2016

Firehouse Cultural Center  
101 1st Ave NE, Ruskin, FL 33570

Buffet dinner and beverages: 6:00 p.m.

Speaker: 7:00 p.m.

Q&A: 7:45 p.m.

Cost: \$25

### David H. Johnson, MS, Director, the Global Owl Project



Originally from Minnesota, David has worked in the natural resources field for 39 years. He began working internationally in 2001. He and his wife now live in Virginia. When camping at age 11, an Eastern Screech Owl landed on David's pup tent. David was inside and the owl was outside, mere inches from each other. The owl called for 20 minutes, its shadow 'vibrating' with every call. Owls have been constant companions and friends ever since. David says: *he didn't pick owls, they picked him.*

**OVERVIEW OF THE GLOBAL OWL PROJECT.** GLOW is a consortium of 450 researchers and managers who are working on owl science and conservation in 65 countries. The 7 main tasks of the GLOW effort: 1) survey techniques for owls of the world, 2) DNA samples and phylogeny, 3) recordings of vocalizations, 4) morphology, new species, and the scientific literature on the owls of the world, 5) distribution maps for the species, 6) Owls in myth and culture, and 7) dissemination of products and materials.

Currently, there are 243 species of living owls (more yet to be discovered!), and 102 species of fossil owls; the oldest fossil owl is 67.3 million years! Come share the science, the wonder, and the passion that is owls!

Registration is open to the public, but space is limited:

[www.floridabirdingandnaturefestival.org](http://www.floridabirdingandnaturefestival.org)