

October Meeting - An Inconvenient Truth

Global warming is real, its impacts can already be seen and America needs to take action now to confront the climate crisis. Local award-winning author and motivational speaker, Jane Kirkland, will bring that message to Appalachian Audubon and community members when she presents the global warming slide show painstakingly

developed by The Hon. Al Gore and as reflected in the book and award-winning Paramount Films documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*.

Come join us for this program on Thursday, October 18th at 7:30 p.m. (for location and directions, see page 2)

Kirkland is one of nearly 1,000 citizens that have been trained by Al Gore and The Climate Project® to deliver this science-based presentation. She was selected from a pool of thousands of applicants and has agreed to deliver this important message to the community. The Climate Project presenters intend to reach more than a million audience members in 2007.

"We can all do something about the climate crisis and we should. This is the single most important issue of our generation," said Kirkland. "When my grandchildren ask me if I knew about the climate crisis and what I did to fight it, I want to be able to answer them proudly. We all need to understand the significance of this issue."



Editor's Note: The Climate Project is a movement to educate and engage citizens and governments in the growing climate crisis. As a nonprofit group, they work to make the public aware of the urgency, impact and need for action to confront global warming through education, research and citizen action programs. For more information or to request an official Climate Project presentation in your community, visit *www.theclimateproject.org*.

Invasive Plants Committee Chairperson Needed

A great big thank you goes out to Walter Koerber, Denna Claypool, and crew for their hard work and dedication over the last few years in their efforts to eradicate and reduce populations of invasive plants in natural areas around the Susquehanna Valley. Due to Walter's relocation, we are now looking for a new chairperson (or co-chair) for this committee. If you have a passion for restoring natural areas for the benefit of wildlife, and are able to communicate with and organize our group of willing volunteers, please contact Lorrie Preston at *mitandpak@aol.com*.

Appalachian Audubon Society (AAS) is a National Audubon Society chapter. *Kingfisher Courier* (copyright AAS; please request reprint permission) is a membership benefit, published monthly, September to May, by AAS: P.O. Box 15123, Harrisburg, PA 17105-5123. Email submissions to editor by the 15th of the month prior to desired publication (files <100KB requested; otherwise contact editor). Editor & Board reserve publication decisions, per chapter mission/space available.

AAS WEBSITE:

www.appalachianaudubon.org/

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Invasive Plants-VACANT

Youth Coordinator-Hannah Plumpton: 362-1233

Webmaster-Brandon O'Neill

From the President's Perch -

Why a program on global warming? The problem seems so big and the solutions seem so out of reach. But it is a subject that we, as birders and nature lovers, need to truly understand. These statements, released by a group of conservation biologists from Leed University in the UK, who have studied the impact of global warming on wildlife, really hit home for me. They appeared in the September 2007 issue of *Backpacker Magazine*.

"If carbon dioxide levels and temperatures continue to rise, it is predicted that populations of the American Goldfinch will drop significantly or disappear entirely from 33 states by the year 2100." "Many warblers will shift their summer breeding ranges to more northern states. An average of 15 to 35 percent of wildlife species are expected to shift their range or face local extinction by the end of the century, if climate change progresses."

I can't imagine our backyards without the cheerful sight of bright yellow goldfinches...can you? Please join us for October's program to learn more. Knowledge gives us the ability to make a difference, and we can ALL make a difference.

For the birds and butterflies, <u>forrie</u> *Preston*



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Appalachian Audubon monthly (Sept-May) programs normally take place on the 3rd Thursday of each month in Christ Presbyterian Church, 421 Deerfield Road, in the Allendale neighborhood of Camp Hill, at 7:30 p.m. Exceptions are announced in this newsletter, as are field trips and other activities.

PROGRAMS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

Directions: Take New Cumberland exit off I-83; cross Carlisle Road. Turn left onto Allendale Way; take first left at Deerfield Road (from the south, take New Cumberland exit, turn left onto Carlisle Road, left onto Cedar Cliff Road, left on Allendale Way, then left onto Deerfield Road) to the church.

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Upcoming AAS Field Trips



Ralph Kinter Memorial Walk for Fall Wildflowers – Saturday, October 6

This popular trip recognizes Ralph's contributions to the natural history interests of the Harrisburg area. Join AAS to visit the Cornwall area to look for Gentians and other fall flowers at a favorite location of Ralph's. Contact Dan Welte at 728-0421 for details concerning this popular fall outing.

Beginning Birders – Saturday, October 13

This trip is designed for BEGINNING birders. We will visit areas to acquaint participants with fall migrants and with local areas good for birding. Call trip leader Ramsay Koury at 761-1871 for details.

Introduction to Hawk Watching for Novices and Families – Saturday, October 20

Visit Waggoner's Gap, Appalachian Audubon's very own hawk watching locale, to learn the fine points of this great fall pastime. Children and their parents are encouraged to participate in this special offering. Appalachian's Vice President Paul Zeph will lead this field trip. Contact Paul at 691-0288 for times and directions.

Hawk Watch at Waggoner's Gap-Saturday, November 3

Come enjoy some late season hawk watching featuring birds such as Golden Eagles and Northern Goshawks. Located along Route 74 north of Carlisle, Waggoner's is especially good for excellent close-up views of all migrating hawks and some selected waterfowl as they travel south for the winter. Deuane Hoffman will lead this watch. Contact Deuane at 564-7475 or by email at *corvuscorax@comcast.net*.



Eagles at Conowingo Dam – Saturday, December 1

Come witness the annual gathering of Bald Eagles along the lower Susquehanna River at the Conowingo Dam in Maryland. Other birds of note are the large concentration of gulls that usually include some of the more uncommon species. Contact trip leader Al Mercik at 657-8548 for more details.

Giant Gift Cards: Earn Money for AAS While Grocery Shopping

For the past couple of years, our chapter has sold Giant grocery gift cards at face value as a fund raiser for our chapter. Giant generously donates 5 percent of the purchase price to our chapter, and the card can be used at full face value in the grocery store. It is an easy, painless way for our chapter to raise money. Last year we raised more than 3 hundred dollars for our chapter!

All you have to do is make out a check or pay cash to AAS at the monthly meeting, and in return, get a Giant gift card for that amount. Next time you go to the grocery store, simply swipe the gift card, and the cost of your groceries is automatically deducted from the face value of the card. Giant gift cards can also be used at their gas pumps.

We're all going to the grocery store anyway. This won't cost you an extra cent and every little bit helps AAS to meet our goals for nature. Please see Carl Juris at the monthy program meetings for more information or to buy your cards.

AAS Highlights From 2006-2007

Sometimes it is difficult to realize the scope of something until you put it in writing. When last year's accomplishments of our chapter were tallied, there was quite an impressive list of events and projects, many of which are outlined below. Because of our dedicated members, we have helped advance education, habitat protection, and so much more. Here is to another successful and enjoyable year for the Appalachian Audubon Society!

 Partnered with Meadowood Nursery for fall native plant sale Educate members about the positive connection between native plants and birds and wildlife in our newsletter and programs. Excellent fundraiser - Chapter gets 50% of profits from sale. Provides opportunity to gain new members. 	 Sponsored and organized the Forever Wild Multi-Media Concert and Celebration with Walkin' Jim Stoltz 32 Environmental and outdoor recreation groups had displays in the lobby. Approximately 1,000 people attended. Excellent publicity for AAS. Generated several hundred mailings to elected officials asking for environmental protection.
 Sponsored annual fall bird seed sale Excellent fundraiser to support Hog Island Scholarships (we provided 3). Provides excellent visibility for the chapter within the community. 	 Raised \$1,500 in donations for the Forever Wild Tour and environmental education. Resulted in a community website, called the Susquehanna Valley Environmental Connection, <i>http://groups.</i> <i>yahoo.com/group/SVEnviroConnect/</i>
 Held educational and entertaining programs each month for our members - September through May Highlight was having Operation Migration speak about Whooping Crane 	 Published Kingfisher Courier newsletter for members each month – September through May Ongoing educational articles on ways that our members can make a difference to wildlife.
project at our end of the year banquet. Annual appeal raised \$1,514 for Operation Migration.	Adopted three Important Bird Area (IBA) sites
Protected and maintained Trout Run Nature Preserve • Provides educational opportunities	 Sheets Island Archipelago, St. Anthony's Wilderness, Kittatinny Ridge Gives us the opportunity to educate citizens and engage them in conservation.
Set up and maintained new website • <i>www.appalachianaudubon.org</i>	Invasive Plants Committee helped with invasive plant removals.



Audubon Nature Calendars Make Great Gifts

Order deadline October 25th



Need a great gift idea for the people on your holiday list - teachers, the mailman, grandparents, etc? Appalachian Audubon Society is holding a 2008 Audubon Calendar sale, at a super price for our members. Each calendar is available at a cost of just \$10.00. This is a savings of \$2 to \$3 plus tax, compared to what you would pay retail. Photos and descriptions of each calendar are included on page 6. To see color versions of the calendars, go to *www.audubon.org/market/licensed/ calendars.html*.

Please make your selection(s) from these colorful styles and choices, fill out the order form, then bring cash or check payable to Appalachian Audubon Society to the October 18th general meeting. If you prefer to mail in your order, please fill out the order form and send your payment of \$10 for each calendar to: Lorrie Preston, 3904 Chippenham Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA 17050. **All orders must be paid in advance and placed by October 25th**. Calendars will be available for pick up at the November and December general meetings only.

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Mail Addre	255		
Item #	Calendar Title	Price	# of Copies
85327	Engagement Calendar	\$10.00	
85342	Birds Page-A-Day Calendar	\$10.00	
85344	Birding Trails Calendar	\$10.00	
85332	365 Songbirds Calendar	\$10.00	
85328	Arctic Calendar	\$10.00	
85329	Walking America Calendar	\$10.00	
85330	Nature Calendar	\$10.00	
85331	Wildflowers Calendar	\$10.00	
85343	Raptors Calendar	\$10.00	

Audubon Nature Calendars Make Great Gifts

Engagement Calendar

Celebrate the vast natural world in panoramic landscapes, intimate glimpses, and moments of singular beauty. With detailed captions and spacious weekly grids. $6 1/4'' \times 9 1/4''$

Birds Page-a-Day Calendar

Shore birds, birds of prey, tropical birds – even birds from your own backyard. Each vivid photo is accompanied by illuminating text. $61/8'' \times 61/8''$

Audubon Birding Trails Calendar

Twelve fantastic birding trails from all over the country. Each spread includes a map and detailed text. 12"x 12"



365 Songbirds and Other Backyard Birds Calendar

This Picture-a-Day wall calendar is packed with the world's most captivating flycatchers, redstarts, and more. In addition to the daily pictures, each month features one species in depth. 12" x 14"

Artic Calendar

Discover the rare beauty and shifting moods of the Artic National Wildlife Refuge. 12"x 12"

Walking America Calendar

Get off the road and discover America's hidden-away hiking trails. Includes maps and commentary. 12"x 12"

Nature Calendar

Panoramic vistas, drama, and astounding beauty -it's a year of North America's most spectacular natural wonders, up close and in vivid color. $12'' \times 12''$

Wildflowers Calendar

These vibrant North American wildflowers are hardy in spirit and a treasure to behold. 12"x 12"

Raptors Calendar

Each of these birds – from Red-tailed Hawks to Osprey – is a wonder to see. Text by legendary birder Kenn Kaufman, of the Kaufman Field Guide series. $12'' \times 12''$

Hawk Watch Greeters and Educators Needed at Waggoner's Gap!

One of our chapter's conservation initiatives is helping to educate about and protect the Kittatinny Ridge, also known in central Pennsylvania as Blue Mountain. The Ridge is PA's largest Important Bird Area (IBA); and one location along the top of the ridge that is very important to our chapter is Waggoner's Gap, a 20-acre hawk-watch site north of Carlisle.

We are assisting the Audubon PA state office with education and "public engagement" at this IBA by supplying volunteers at the site on weekends to greet visitors, answer questions about the site, and assist with their raptor watching. Volunteers will receive an official Audubon hat and will be supplied with field guides, brochures,

and binoculars to lend to beginning birders.

Other benefits include fresh air, sunshine, and the good feeling that comes from helping people! Dates and times for volunteering are very flexible, and can be for as many or few times as you wish. For more information, or to sign up to help, contact Paul Zeph at *ehzeph@verizon.net*; 691-0288.

Waggoner's Gap is the best local spot to watch the fall migration of raptors along the Kittatinny Ridge.



Join Appalachian Audubon Society AND National Audubon Society AT THE SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY RATE OF \$20 (\$15 FOR SENIORS AND STUDENTS) Image: Colspan="2">Image: Colspan="2" Image: Im			
This application is for NEW members joining Appalachian and National Audubon for the FIRST time (for members renewing, renewal information will come to you directly from National Audubon). This introductory offer includes membership in both National and Appalachian Audubon societies, the beautiful Audubon magazine, and our own Kingfisher Courier newsletter. Please send the form below, with check payable to National Audubon Society, to: Appalachian Audubon, PO Box 15123, Harrisburg, PA 17105-5123. New Member's Name:	Ba	Join Appalachian Audubon Society AND N	ational Audubon Society
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MOVING? TAKING AN EXTENDED VACATION?

To receive AAS mailings when away on long vacations or after moving, PLEASE contact our AAS chapter Membership chair (see p.2) with your address change. This saves us money while keeping you current with our activities. Giving a change of address form to the US Post Office (USPS) **will NOT help**; our USPS addresses are handled by National Audubon. We incur a \$.41 charge per item for each piece of incorrectly addressed, returned mail. Please help us help you!