



Kingfisher Courier

Newsletter of Appalachian Audubon Society

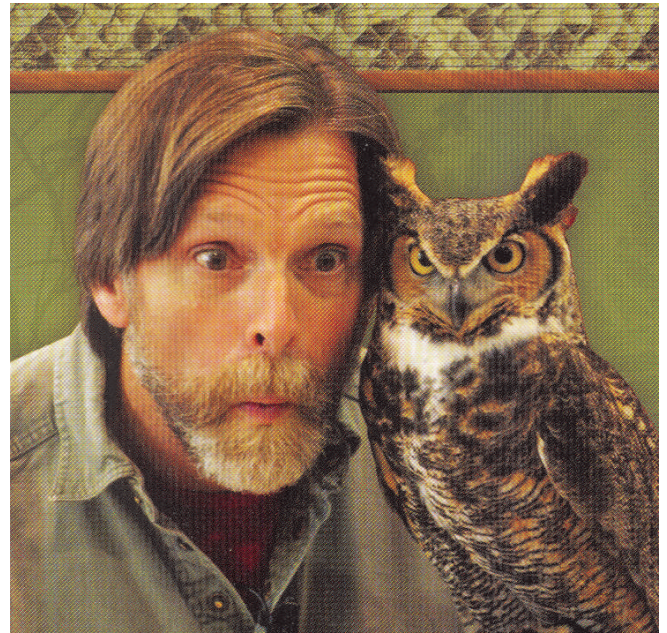
September 2010

September 16 “Flying Hunters: Birds of Prey”

We’re kicking off our fall activities with a program for the entire family. Master falconer and celebrity naturalist **Jack Hubley** will offer a close-up view of some of North America’s mightiest flying hunters.

A program that promises to be entertaining as well as educational, Jack will share with us his extensive knowledge and appreciation of birds-of-prey that live all around us in central Pennsylvania.

Jack will bring an assortment of raptors, and discuss how important they are to us and to Pennsylvania’s wild landscapes. This presentation is a perfect way to kick off raptor migration season!



Program time, location and driving directions are on back page.

Please Join Us for the AAS Native Plant Sale September 18 Meadowood Nursery in Hummelstown 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM



Fall is a great time to plant — survival rate is high as the plants won’t have to endure the rigors of a hot summer while trying to grow new roots. Also, the plants will be more established by spring, requiring less attention next year!

- Get advice on which plants will grow best in your yard.
- Find out how to make your yard more “bird-friendly” and how to get an official **Audubon Bird Habitat** sign to impress your friends and neighbors!
- Enjoy the fellowship and fun, and soak in the peaceful, botanical beauty of the nursery grounds.
- Learn how to make a “rain garden” to capture and hold your roof and yard runoff to help save our local streams. They are not only functional, they are beautiful and provide food for butterflies and hummingbirds!



Continued, page 3

OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Paul Zeph: 691-0288

Vice-President

Vacant

Secretary

Carole Norbeck: 766-0956

Treasurer

Annette Mathes: 566-0149

DIRECTORS

Term Ending May 2011

Kathie Bard: 238-0004

Judy Bowman: 761-3815

Susan Miller: 697-6696

Term Ending May 2012

Jane Barnette: 657-2055

Kathy Kuchwara: 319-0828

Sue Strassner: 243-5731

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

(JOIN US!)

Bird Seed Sale

Tom Lehman: 732-5087

Conservation

Paul Zeph: 691-0288

Education

Marci Mowery: 236-7644

Field Trips

Judy Bowman: 761-3815

Hospitality

Lorrie Preston: 732-5615

Newsletter Editor

Holly Smith: 960-9441

hsmamabear@embarqmail.com

Membership

Kathy Kuchwara: 319-0828

Marcia Wilson: 215-0633

Programs

Holly Smith: 960-9441

Publicity

Vacant

Trout Run

Jon Dale: 432-0335

Kathy Kuchwara: 319-0828

President's Perch

Paul Zeph

Local Actions in a World Gone Berserk

As we start a new program year, we find ourselves surrounded by local, state, and global environmental challenges. Locally, we are seeing open space continuously gobbled up by housing developments and really bad on-going individual behavior like dumping debris into local streams.

Statewide, we are seeing our precious ridge-top habitats cleared and scraped for wind turbine industrial complexes that are not helping to reduce carbon emissions from fossil-fuel power plants. We are also coming to grips with the ecological devastation that Marcellus Shale gas drilling is going to have on Pennsylvania. (Come to our March program for more details on wind energy and Marcellus Shale drilling.)

Nationally and globally, oil spills, plummeting fish populations, climate change, and biblical-scale floods and droughts are more than we can take! It's enough to drive the ecologically-minded to stop watching the evening news, cancel the newspaper, and become a backyard bird-watching, garden-growing recluse. But we've been here before.

We all know the story of the first Audubon Societies created in the 1890s in response to the decimation of wading bird populations for fashionable women's hats. Some of you are old enough to remember the 1948 air inversion and resulting wall of smog from zinc and steel plants in Donora, Pa. (south of Pittsburgh) that killed 20 and sickened 7,000 people that ultimately led to stronger air pollution laws. More recently, do some of you remember the DDT battle in the early 1960s or the fire that burned on the Cuyahoga River in 1969 due to unregulated chemical dumping? These events helped launch the first Earth Day in 1970 and led to the creation of the EPA, along with an unprecedented series of environmental laws.

Well, here we are today, still fighting to keep our planet from undergoing an ecological implosion and battling exploitive industries and private land-owners who value short-term economic gain over healthy ecosystems. History repeats itself again and again, with each generation having its own set of environmental challenges.

I'm proud to be a member of the National Audubon Society and other national environmental groups that can track the national issues and work with policy-makers in ways that I cannot. Our state Audubon office has dedicated staff working to protect large landscapes identified by Audubon as "Important Bird Areas" and is working feverishly to raise money for education, science, and habitat-protection programs statewide.

Most importantly, Appalachian Audubon gives us all an opportunity to stay connected on local issues and find ways to protect and restore our small corner of the planet. We'll do our best to keep you apprised of local problems, and offer ways we can work together to make a difference. I hope you will buy some birdseed to help us raise funds to send young people to ecology camps. I also encourage you to check out the exciting list of programs and field trips planned in the enclosed brochure, and please join us when you can!

Fall Native Plant Sale

Continued from page 1



Come to the plant sale and learn how to make a rain garden like this one pictured above, with wet-tolerant plants that also attract butterflies and hummingbirds!

Directions to Meadowood Nursery

From the north: take Route 81 to Exit 77. Proceed south/east on Route 39 approximately 3 miles and turn right on Red Top Road. Proceed 1 mile and turn right on Long Lane Drive. Take the first left onto Meadowood Drive (see below for rest of directions).

From the south: follow signs to Hershey Park. From Hershey Park Drive in front of the Giant Center, follow Route 39 north/west approximately 3 miles and turn left on Red Top Road. Proceed 1 mile and turn right on Long Lane Drive.

Take the first left onto Meadowood Drive. At the "Y" at the end of the road, stay to the left and take the drive on the left up the hill to the nursery.

Meadowood Nursery is located in a residential neighborhood. Thank you for using caution while traveling through the neighborhood.

www.meadowoodnursery.org

Fundraising Update

Thank you to all who contributed to last spring's mail appeal for the Dauphin County Wildlife Rescue (DCWR). To date, members have contributed more than \$4,500! You can still send in contributions to help rebuild the many pens needed by DCWR to house hospitalized birds. If you have lost the form, simply send a check to our treasurer and indicate what it is for. Make check payable to *Appalachian Audubon Society*, and mail to: Annette Mathes, 661 South 80th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17111

Photo at right: Beth Carricato of Dauphin County Wildlife Rescue holding an immature Red-tailed Hawk.



Camp Hill S. D. Starts Bird Education Program With AAS Binocular Donation

For more than 30 years each spring, the entire 6th grade class at Camp Hill Middle School leaves town for several days for an intensive Outdoor Education Program. Recently, this program has been held at the Canadensis Camp in the Poconos. There, students are exposed to more than 30 classes in everything from kayaking and fishing to making survival shelters and searching for reptiles and amphibians.

This year, through a partnership between AAS and the school district's Lion Foundation, an ornithology component was added to the outdoor education curriculum. AAS donated to the school district 12 new binoculars, complete with field guides and a bird call "identiflyer." This bird-watching equipment was used to start a new ornithology class to help identify wildlife and its habitat around the lake. "This was an incredibly generous donation by our friends at Appalachian Audubon," noted Robin Jones, Executive Director of The Lion Foundation. "The kids learned skills about observing wildlife and its habitat that can be used throughout their lives."

The ornithology kit will also be available for year-round use by Camp Hill Middle School teachers for other educational activities at school.



Kingfisher Courier
September 2010

Appalachian Audubon Society
P.O. Box 15123
Harrisburg, PA 17105-5123

NON PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARRISBURG PA
PERMIT NO. 486

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

AAS monthly programs typically take place on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the **Christ Presbyterian Church, 421 Deerfield Road, in the Allendale neighborhood of Camp Hill.** Join us at **7:00 pm** for socializing and refreshments. **The program begins at 7:30.**

Directions to Christ Presbyterian Church, 421 Deerfield Road in the Allendale development in Lower Allen Township:

I-83 Southbound, take exit 40B towards New Cumberland. Stay straight, cross Carlisle Road to Cedar Cliff Dr. Turn left onto Allendale Way and turn left onto Deerfield Road. The Church is on the left. Park in second lot.

I-83 Northbound, take exit 40B, turn left onto Carlisle Road/Simpson Ferry Road under I-83. Turn left again at the light onto Cedar Cliff Drive. Turn left onto Allendale Way and turn left onto Deerfield Road. The Church is on the left. Park in second lot.

Printed on 100% recycled paper with 35% post-consumer reclaimed content.



Bird Seed Sale

Order Form Inside

Pre-orders due Sept. 24

Pick up Oct. 1 & 2

Also Inside:

- ◆ Jack Hubley Raptor Program Sept. 16
- ◆ **AAS Annual Fall Native Plant Sale Sept. 18**
- ◆ Camp Hill School District Starts Bird Education Program With AAS Binocular Donation
- ◆ **Annual Field Trip and Monthly Program Brochure**

Upcoming Field Trips

Saturday, September 25, 2008

Annual Ralph Kinter Memorial Wildflower Walk

Host Dan Welte will lead our group to the Cornwall area to search for gentians and other fall wildflowers. Meet at 8 AM at the back of the Harrisburg WalMart parking lot off Route 322 to carpool. Contact Dan at 728-0421 or dcmawelte@paonline.com for details.

Saturday, October 23, 2010

Waggoner's Gap Hawk Watch

Join AAS President Paul Zeph in watching for raptors and other species in their fall migration. Paul will also give an overview of the Cliff Jones Field Station and other projects at Waggoner's Gap. Meet at 11 AM in the parking lot. Contact Paul at 691-0288 or pzeph1@verizon.net.