



Kingfisher Courier

SEPTEMBER 2017

APPALACHIAN AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

AAS PROGRAM | September 2017

ZooAmerica

Many birders look forward to fall days when northwest winds bring migrating hawks southward along the ridges, inspiring hawk watchers to perch on rock outcrops with binoculars to observe this natural phenomenon. For the September program, ZooAmerica will bring live birds of prey. Don't miss this opportunity for a close look at these amazing birds. The program will include information about raptor habitats, adaptations, and their importance in nature.

Join us at 6:30 pm for refreshments and socializing. Announcements will begin shortly before 7:00 pm and will be followed by the evening program. Note: This program starts 30 minutes earlier than usual to enable families with young children to attend.



SAVE THE DATE — Thursday, SEPTEMBER 21 @ 6:30pm

Fall Native Plant Sale

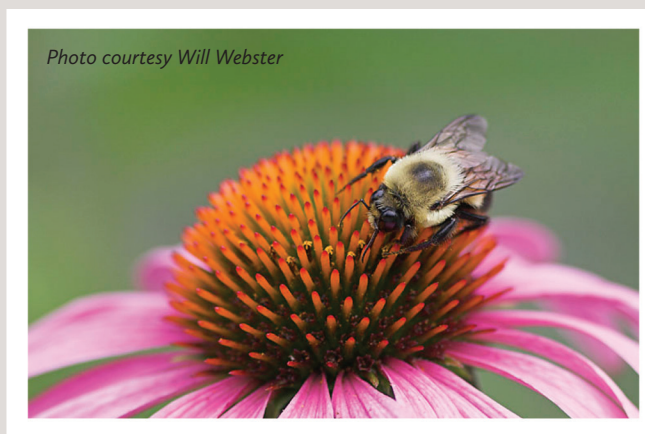
On Saturday, September 30, 2017, from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm, Appalachian Audubon will hold a Native Plant Sale in conjunction with Diakon Wilderness Greenhouse.

Kim Patton from Diakon and knowledgeable Audubon volunteers will be on hand to answer questions and help you find the best plants for your yard. AAS will receive a portion of the day's profits in support of the mission of the chapter.

Why natives? Planting natives contributes to the biological diversity of the natural world that surrounds your home. These plants support the insects needed by the songbirds we want to attract to our yards. Because they are adapted to growing conditions in Pennsylvania, native plants shouldn't require fertilizer or additional water after they are established.

The Diakon Wilderness Greenhouse & Native Plant Nursery is a unique greenhouse that not only provides native perennials, but also serves as a vocational training site for at-risk youth. As a teaching nursery, it offers students

the opportunity to learn valuable skills, gain workplace experience, and deepen their understanding of the relationships in the world around them.



Diakon is at 571 Mountain Road in Boiling Springs, PA. Take Route 174 west past Allenberry Resort, toward Boiling Springs. Turn left (south) onto Bucher Hill Road. At the south end of Children's Lake turn left onto Mountain Road and cross the one lane bridge. Continue about 2 miles to the sign for the Wilderness Center. Turn left onto the dirt road and follow the signage for another 2 miles. Turn right after the ropes course;

the greenhouse and plant sale will be up the hill on the left. For more information, go to <http://www.diakon.org/youth-services/services/greenhouse-program/>.

Bring your binoculars; there is good birding in the forest that surrounds the greenhouse. See you there.



Field Trips

SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, September 30, 2017 AAS Fall Native Plant Sale

9:00 am to 3:00 pm at Diakon Wilderness Greenhouse. See article on page 1.

Sunday, October 1, 2017 The Vincent DiFilippo Nature Preserve with Jane Earle

Join Jane Earle for a walk through this lovely 54-acre natural area, the site of the former Silver Spring golf course. The preserve has nine ponds, a flat 2-mile trail that travels along the Conodoguinet Creek and through open meadows. The preserve is the home to over 40 species of trees, some of which are uncommon and quite large, as well as numerous species of wildflowers and birds. The walk is scheduled for 1:30 pm. Contact Jane Earle at janeearle7@msn.com or 717-728-4241.



Kingfisher Courier

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AAS Birdseed Sale: New & Improved for 2017

Appalachian Audubon has changed the format of the Birdseed Sale for 2017, to make it easier and more convenient for customers and volunteers.

As in the past, an order form will be sent to members and previous customers. The same high-quality seed you received in previous years will once again be available from Agway at competitive prices.

What's new? Convenience and Flexibility! This year, you may pick up your seed at an east- or west-shore location at any time the store is open during the entire month of November. There will be no deadline for ordering, no pre-ordering, and no pre-payment.

Here is a summary of the details:

- Order forms will be mailed in October.
- During the month of November, take your completed order form to either of our partner Agway stores:
 - *East Shore:* Hanoverdale Country Store, Inc. in West Hanover Township at 486 S. Hershey Rd., Route 39 Harrisburg, PA 17112
 - *West Shore:* Davis Country Living at 45 W. Allen St, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
- Pay at the Agway store of your choice for your order, using cash, check, or credit card.
- While picking up your bird seed at the Agway store of your choice, choose from a wide variety of feeders and other bird-related gear available at the store



Photo courtesy Rick Price

- Your birdseed will be loaded into your car for you.
- Remember, you don't need to mail an order form or a check to Audubon. Turning in the completed order form at one of the partner stores will ensure that AAS benefits from your purchase.

The increased convenience and flexibility are available thanks to the generosity of local Agway store owners. We encourage you to patronize them throughout the year to show our appreciation.

From 10:00 am to 2:00 pm on Saturdays in November, AAS would like to have Audubon Ambassadors at both Agway stores to hand out bird seed order forms to potential walk-in customers. Unlike in years past, volunteers will not have to organize forms, take payment, or lift heavy bags of birdseed. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact John Latsha at 717-982-1141 or email him at jlat1965@gmail.com.



President's Perch

Taking a deep breath, I went to my first board meeting as Appalachian Audubon's President. We had a full board, but I was the only officer. Yikes! I wanted to run.

The board members, committee chairs, and some who had recently served with us had gathered for a picnic before the summer board meeting. The food was great and the conversations interesting. A basket of binoculars was available so we could look at the cedar waxwings and goldfinches. I was among kindred spirits.

As the meeting started, I felt the support of people who have many talents to share and are willing to give their time in support of Appalachian Audubon's mission — conservation and education, with a focus on birds.

When we reviewed some of the highlights of 2016/17, it sounded almost incredible. (See "Board Accomplishments and Transitions" below.)

We went on to new business and people stepped up to the plate when we needed volunteers for outreach events; the newly formed Finance Committee discussed their first meeting; the Trout Run Committee updated us on the work they have been doing to remove invasive plants and replace them with natives; we learned that the idea of paperless newsletter is becoming a reality; we heard about efforts to improve the Birdseed Sale; and we made plans for a Fall Native Plant Sale.

Often, AAS "committees" have consisted of a single person. We are moving beyond that to honest-to-goodness

committees. People are working together, spreading out the chores so that the work becomes fulfilling and enjoyable. Two of the vacant officer positions have been filled and committees are expanding and making plans for the year ahead. Together, this chapter can accomplish much for birds and the environment.

Good things are happening in Appalachian Audubon. We would like you to be a part of that! Is this the year you will step up your involvement? If you want to join us as we find the fulfillment that comes from working together for conservation and education, contact me or anyone on the board. We will find a niche for you.

Jane Webster

Board Accomplishments and Transitions

Appalachian Audubon extends sincere appreciation to the out-going board of 2016/17. Those who served last year and will not be returning include: Kathy Kuchwara, President; Peggy Price, Secretary; and Directors, Rick Price and Ted Nichols.

Under Kathy's leadership, the diligent board accomplished the following last year:

- Rice property commitment is finished and the property is protected;
- Trout Run committee has been reinvigorated in the past year;
- Monthly programs and field trips, including classics and new offerings, were well attended;
- Scholarships were given to 11 children to attend five different camps;
- Two Native Plant Sales and a Birdseed Sale were held;
- Outreach programs included three events;
- Co-sponsored the Tallamy/Darke program with Manada Conservancy;
- AAS newsletter is moving toward paperless.

Joining the board for 2017/18 will be Sarah Klunk as Secretary and Directors Chris Kemmerer and John Latsha.

If you would like to help as we continue these efforts, contact a current officer or board member.



Photo courtesy Susan Miller



APPALACHIAN AUDUBON SOCIETY

FALL NATIVE PLANT SALE

**Appalachian Audubon, in partnership with Diakon Wilderness Nursery
will hold a Native Plant Sale
Saturday, September 30, from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm
at the nursery: 571 Mountain Road, Boiling Springs, PA.**

Plants available at the sale are listed on the Diakon website.
Go to <http://www.diakon.org/youth-services/services/greenhouse-program/>
and click on Our Inventory.

DIRECTIONS

Take Route 174 west past Allenberry Resort, toward Boiling Springs. Turn left (south) onto Bucher Hill Road. At the south end of Children's Lake turn left onto Mountain Road and cross the one lane bridge. Continue about two miles to the sign for the Wilderness Center. Turn left onto the dirt road and follow the signage for another two miles. Turn right after the ropes course; the greenhouse and plant sale will be up the hill on the left.

For more details check the web-site listed above. We hope to see you there!



Photo courtesy Will Webster



Photo courtesy Will Webster

Hog Island Scholarship Opportunities for 2018

Appalachian Audubon Society offers scholarships for people to attend camps at Hog Island in Maine. There are camp opportunities for teens, educators, and families to learn about birds and nature from talented educators on an amazing island. To check out Hog Island's camp offerings, go to <http://hogisland.audubon.org/>.

AAS will accept scholarship applications from mid-October until Saturday, January 27, 2018. Watch for the AAS scholarship application on the Education page of our website at www.appalachianaudubon.org/education.htm. In preparing your application, please keep in mind that we require recommendations/references to be submitted with the application.



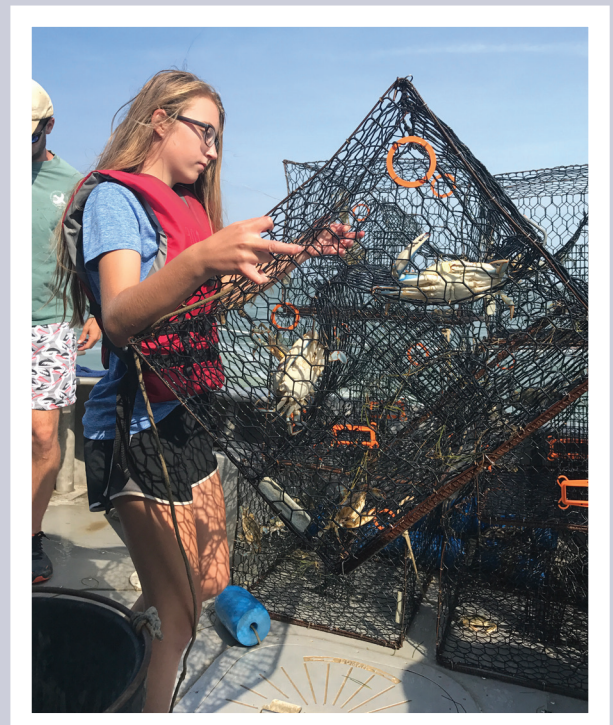
Camper Letter

My name is Karley Thomas and I attended the Goddard Leadership Legacy Institute in July 2017. At this camp, not only did I learn about many different ways to help save the Chesapeake Bay, but I also learned traits such as leadership, integrity, and the ability to sometimes steer away and do things that may not be in my comfort zone.

"What we see mainly depends on what we look for." This quote by John Lubbock seems to fit the relationship between people and the Bay. While placing crab traps to observe the health of the Bay, counting clams, and exploring Holland's Island, all of us on the boat saw the Bay as a place that we need to help save. Others look at the Bay and see it as a resource, that will always be in a great condition. That's why we need to get the word out.

During our time at Pine Grove Furnace State Park, we helped with rain barrels, removed invasive species, and planted native plants at one of our headwater streams. Pine Grove Furnace, the Karen Noonan Center, and The Phillip Merrill Center had so many amazing things to see and learn about. This and much more I learned at camp and I hope to share this knowledge with people now and for 50 years forward.

This was a wonderful program. Thank you to all of the staff for being amazing teachers and role models. Thank you AAS for this scholarship opportunity.





SEPTEMBER 2017

Except for the December program and the May banquet, AAS monthly programs take place on the third Thursday of each month at the **Christ Presbyterian Church** located at 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 pm. September and October programs begin 30 minutes earlier to enable families with children to attend.

DIRECTIONS

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

I-83 northbound — take exit 40B, turn left onto Carlisle Road/Simpson Ferry Road and go 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 the second lot.



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Save the Date:
ZooAmerica • 1**

**Fall Native
Plant Sale • 1**

Field Trips • 2

**AAS Birdseed Sale:
New and Improved for 2017 • 2**

President's Perch • 3

**Board Accomplishments and
Transitions • 3**

Fall Native Plant Sale • 4

**Hog Island Scholarship Opportunities
for 2018 • 5**

Camper Letter: Karley Thomas • 5



In Memory of Thyra Sperry

With sadness, we learned of the passing of AAS Member, avid birder, and community leader Thyra C. Sperry on Aug. 16th, 2017, after a brief illness. Thyra and her husband, Dick Martin, also an AAS member, traveled extensively overseas and within the US on birding trips. She was a passionate and devoted volunteer and served on the boards of the Keystone Trails Association, the Susquehanna Appalachian Trail Club, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, and was one of the founders of the PA Forest Coalition.

She was a strong, calm leader who advocated for good stewardship of public lands and protection of hiking trails in PA and afar. She was friend to many and a wonderful role model and mentor and will be deeply missed. We are asked to carry on our mission in her memory.

