



Kingfisher Courier

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2017

APPALACHIAN AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

AAS PROGRAM | October 2017

Happy Campers: Scholarship Roundup

Special Time: Please note this meeting starts a half-hour earlier than usual to accommodate families with children.

Education is an important part of the mission of Appalachian Audubon. This past summer, 11 youth received AAS scholarships to attend five different camps with ornithological, natural history, and environmental themes. This evening, a few of those campers will share their favorite experiences and some of what they learned. Camp representatives will be on hand to answer questions for prospective campers.

Join us at 6:30 pm for refreshments and socializing. Announcements will begin at 7:00 pm, followed by the evening program.



Photo courtesy
Hog Island

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
October 19 @ 6:30 pm

AAS PROGRAM | November 2017

Those Dazzling Dragonflies!

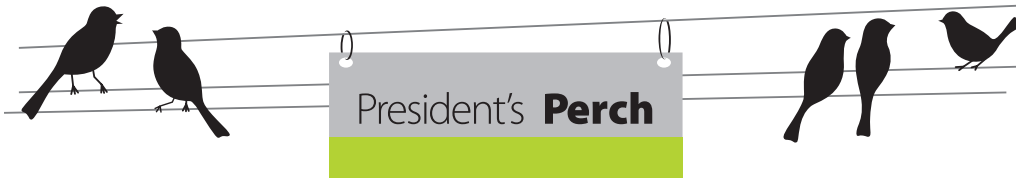
Naturalist and retired teacher Tony "Doc" Schoch will focus on dragonfly anatomy, identification, life cycle, and their place in the food chain of the wetlands. Local species of dragonflies and damselflies will be discussed to help you with identification of common ones seen here in central Pennsylvania. The program will also include information on field guides and tips on photographing these beautiful creatures.

Doc taught for 35 years in Schuylkill Valley School District. He is still teaching, but now it is as a volunteer naturalist at Blue Marsh Lake, where he leads outdoor programs for the public and field trips for school groups. An active member of the Mengel Natural History Society and Dragonfly Society of the Americas, Doc travels extensively, searching for dragonflies to document and photograph and teaching others about these amazing insects.



Photo courtesy
Will Webster

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
November 16 @ 7:00 pm



Fall brings an abundance of opportunities for involvement in Appalachian Audubon. Don't miss the October program, where we will hear about summer camp adventures that were possible because of scholarships from the chapter. Campers and camp representatives will be at the meeting to share stories and pictures. This is a great opportunity for young people to join us for a meeting, get involved in the activities of the chapter, and meet other youth who share their interest in nature and outdoor activities.

If you are looking for your own outdoor adventure, check out the list of field trips. There is an opportunity to visit a

Saw-whet Owl banding station as well as two new offerings: a walk through the recently opened Vincent DiFilippo Nature Preserve by the Conodoguinet Creek, with its diversity of tree species, and a day trip to Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge in Maryland, which offers the prospect of seeing bird specialties of Maryland's Eastern Shore.

With the return of cooler weather, work resumes at the chapter's Trout Run Preserve. This is an opportunity to learn about the flora and fauna of the area while working to replace invasive plants with natives in an effort to revitalize habitat for birds and wildlife.

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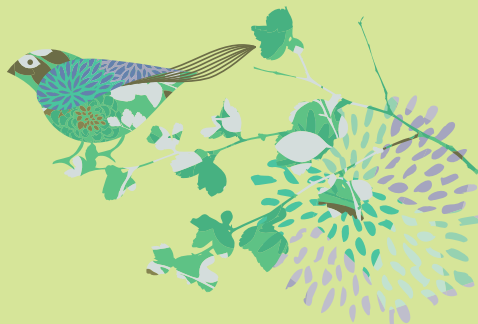
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In Memory of
Nancy Juris

We are sad to report that longtime member Nancy Juris passed away on August 29. Along with her husband Carl, Nancy traveled and birded extensively. She volunteered for many chapter activities, including birdseed and native plant sales, and coordinated bird counts. Nancy mentored many beginning birders, and she served on our board as both Director and Secretary. She also volunteered with Operation Owl Net and the Hershey Butterfly House.

Nancy was a lovely person who was quick to greet friends and make newcomers feel welcome. She will be greatly missed.

Nancy's family has generously designated Appalachian Audubon as an organization to which donations can be given in her memory. We have established the Nancy Juris Scholarship Fund to receive those donations. We appreciate the thoughtfulness of the family in including the chapter in this way.



Appalachian Audubon Society welcomes people at all levels of experience. Birding with a group is a good way to improve your skills and confidence in birding.

OCTOBER FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, October 1, 2017 The Vincent DiFilippo Nature Preserve

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 and a flat 2-mile trail that travels along the Conodoguinet Creek and through open meadows. The preserve is 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.

Sunday, October 29, 2017 Owl Banding

Bird bander Sandy Lockerman has again graciously agreed to demonstrate owl banding to a small group of participants, provided an owl is caught that evening. No guarantees! Participation is limited to 10 and carpooling is required and limited to no more than three vehicles. No children under six please. The group will meet near Harrisburg at 6:30 pm.

The demonstration should be over before midnight. Dress in warm layers, as the small cabin is unheated.

Contact Rick Price at rprice210@comcast.net or 717-657-1950.



*Photo courtesy
Rick Price*



*Photo courtesy
Rick Price*

NOVEMBER FIELD TRIPS

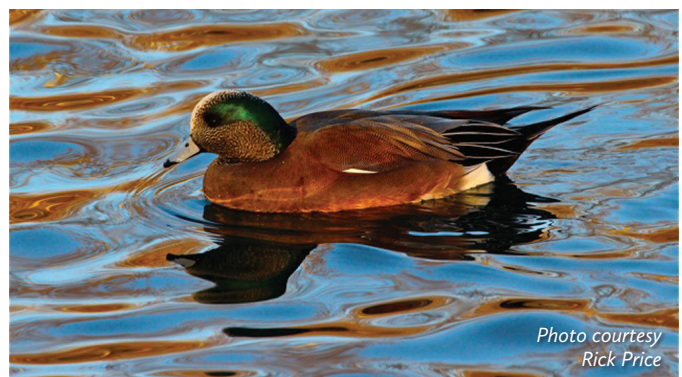
Sunday, November 5, 2017 Fall Birding at Eastern Neck NWR

Appalachian Audubon has an exciting new field trip for fall. Mid-fall birding at Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge on the Eastern Shore of Maryland can produce an extensive species list. Recent years have recorded an interesting variety, including two species of scoters, two species of pelicans, Lincoln's Sparrows, Brown-headed Nuthatches, Purple Finches, raptors, and an array of common waterfowl species.

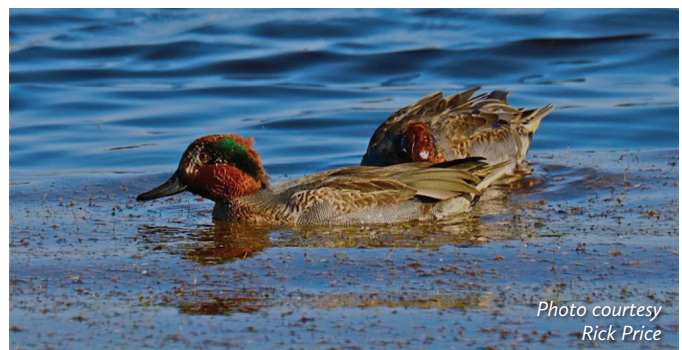
This will be a full day trip, carpooling from the Harrisburg area at 8:00 am. Bring a drink and a bagged lunch; we will plan to stop at a restaurant for dinner.

National Wildlife Refuges may charge an entry fee unless the driver of the vehicle has a current "Duck Stamp" or National Park Senior or Annual Pass.

Contact Rick Price at rprice210@comcast.net or 717-657-1950 to register.



*Photo courtesy
Rick Price*



*Photo courtesy
Rick Price*

Audubon PA Sponsors Native Plant Swap

Bring your surplus native plants, pots, books, and gardening tools to exchange with fellow gardeners! The event will also include a bird walk at 10 am, native plant walk at 12:00 pm, and native plant gardening displays. At 11:00 am, a speaker from Audubon Pennsylvania will discuss the benefits of native plants for birds and how you can get your backyard certified as bird habitat.

Please bring only plants native to this area (Audubon's Native Plant Database: <https://www.audubon.org/native-plants>). This is an even swap — you will leave with the same number of items that you bring. Don't have anything to swap? Items will be available for non-swappers. Donations appreciated. Proceeds will benefit Audubon's *Bird-Friendly Communities* program. Please register by October 12 by contacting Kim Schubert at kschubert@audubon.org. Ms. Schubert is also a great resource for more information, including how to volunteer!



Saturday, October 14, 2017 • 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Olewine Pavilion, Wildwood Park
100 Wildwood Way, Harrisburg, PA

What Can One Person Do?

Appalachian Audubon is involved in many activities that would benefit from your support. If you are interested in helping your chapter make a difference, here are some suggestions for ways to be more involved. Many small actions together make a big difference.



VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT MEETINGS

If you enjoy Appalachian Audubon program meetings, here are two ways you can help:

- The Hospitality Committee is looking for people to provide drinks and snacks before monthly meetings. See Deb Latsha or Lorrie Preston at the next meeting to sign up for a month.
- Chairs and tables are set up a half-hour before each meeting. To help, contact Jane Webster at 717-756-6492 or president@appalachianaudubon.org.



HELP AT TROUT RUN PRESERVE

Trout Run is a small preserve in Upper Allen Township that is owned by the chapter. Recently, the Trout Run Committee has been working on removing invasive species and planting native trees and shrubs. The work will continue this fall. If you are interested in helping with work days, please contact Ian Gardner at 717-350-5815 or gardnie07@gmail.com



REPRESENT THE CHAPTER AT THE BIRDSEED SALE

We will have Audubon Ambassadors at Agway stores in Mechanicsburg and West Hanover Township on Saturdays in November. Volunteers will greet customers and hand out Birdseed Sale forms to boost walk-in sales and spread the word about the work of the chapter. To sign up, contact John Latsha at 717-982-1141 or jlat1965@gmail.com.



BUY DUCK STAMPS

The US Fish and Wildlife Service produces and sells annual Duck Stamps. These are works of art that also serve to regulate waterfowl hunting and provide free entry into National Wildlife Refuges. Proceeds from sales go toward conservation of land for wildlife. Appalachian Audubon has only two stamps remaining for sale for the 2016/17 year. The beautiful Trumpeter Swan image makes them a valuable collectors' item or a welcome gift for a conservation-minded friend. If you are interested in purchasing one, contact Karen Atwood at atwoodphoto1@verizon.net or see her at the next program meeting.

Appalachian Audubon Scholarship Opportunities for 2018

Appalachian Audubon Society (AAS) offers a variety of natural history and environmental education camp scholarship opportunities to youth, teens, educators and families at Hog Island Audubon Camps in Maine and also closer to home. Come to our October program to meet and talk with some former scholarship recipients and camp representatives and to enjoy camper tales and slide shows!

The Hog Island Audubon camps in Maine are opportunities to learn about birds and natural systems from talented educators on an amazing island. To check out Hog Island's camp offerings, go to <http://hogisland.audubon.org>. Beginning October 1, you can download the AAS scholarship application from the Education page of our website, <http://appalachianaudubon.org/education.htm>. AAS will accept Hog Island scholarship applications from October 14, 2017 until January 27, 2018. Or, beginning October 16, you can register on the Hog Island website, pay your own deposit, and then apply for an AAS scholarship, with the understanding that only one or two applications will be selected. First consideration will go to chapter-area residents.

We also offer scholarship opportunities for natural history and environmental education camps closer to home. Most post their programs and application forms in early spring, so please monitor AAS newsletters/website or specific camp websites. Important: For these you must note your AAS affiliation to receive AAS partial-to-full scholarship consideration:

- **Goddard Legacy Leadership Institute (GLLI)** is for youth ages 13 to 15 with an interest in environmental connections and civic engagement. Hands-on learning opportunities take place on South Mountain at Pine Grove Furnace State Park and on the Chesapeake Bay at the Smith Island Environmental Education Center in Maryland. GLLI applications usually appear in late spring. Go to www.centralpaconservancy.org.
- **Wildlife Leadership Academy** offers the opportunity to work with professionals while learning about wildlife/fisheries biology and conservation, leadership skills, and community outreach. This rigorous camp is for high school youth. Rolling applications, year-round. Go to www.wildlifeleadershipacademy.org and check out the Drummers, Brookies and Bucktails camp pages.
- **Wildwood Park** has week-long day camps for ages 6 through 14. Active learning is focused on birding and other natural history topics while hiking and canoeing. Go to www.wildwoodlake.org.
- **Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art** has day camps that concentrate on specific topics like birds or native pollinators. Some camps are for children participating with their grandparents/other adults. Go to www.nedsmithcenter.org.

Camper Letter from Hog Island Scholarship Recipient Grace Stewart

This summer, I had the fantastic opportunity to attend Audubon Camp on Hog Island. I was so eager to go birding on Muscongus Bay and, of course, see Project Puffin in action! I had a fantastic time learning from experts from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and experiencing everything the island had to offer. I was thrilled to see a Ruffed Grouse pretending to have a broken wing in order to distract us from her chicks. It was amazing! During our last day, we traveled to Eastern Egg Rock, and I was overjoyed to see so many Puffins. It was an experience I will never forget!

"I had a fantastic time learning from experts from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology ... It was an experience I will never forget!"

— Grace Stewart





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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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APPALACHIAN AUDUBON SOCIETY

Don't miss these two Appalachian Audubon fundraisers coming up this fall. In addition to helping the chapter, you will be helping the birds in your neighborhood. Details are in the September newsletter.

- **Appalachian Audubon's Native Plant Sale** at Diakon is on September 30.
- Look for the **Birdseed Sale flyer** to arrive in the mail during October. The sale will be in November.

AAS MEMBERS ON THE MOVE



Photo courtesy Mary Brenner



Photo courtesy Mary Brenner



Photo courtesy Mary Brenner