

Upland Informer

Volume 29 Issue 1 Official Newsletter of the Bartramian Audubon Society May Summer Fall 2010

Editor- Nancy Baker

Check us out online at www.bartramianaudubon.org



Upcoming BAS Membership Meetings

Our membership meetings are held the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Jennings Environmental Education Center, 2961 Prospect Road, Slippery Rock, PA. The Education Center is located on Rt. 528 just west of its junction with Rt. 8- about five miles south of Slippery Rock. The meetings are free and open to the public.

September 13, 2010-Monday- Timber Wolf Alliance

Laura DeYoung will present the Timber Wolf Alliance. The Timber Wolf Alliance was founded in 1987 to provide support for wolf recovery in the Upper Great Lakes region. The mission of TWA is to use education to promote and maintain a viable population of wolves in the Western Great Lakes region with a special emphasis on Michigan and Wisconsin. TWA programs promote strategies which enhance wolf populations and stable interrelationships within the natural community.

October 11, 2010-Monday- An Artistic View of Birds: Creating a Personal Style

Richard Eakin, avid birder and BAS Wildlife Sanctuary owner will be talking about his bird art (he designed our BAS logo). He will share how he got into it, why and how he does it, and the satisfaction he gets from sharing it with others. Rich derived inspiration to draw and paint birds by studying the art of Roger Tory Peterson, L.A. Fuertes, and G.M. Sutton, among others. He works in watercolor, pen-and-ink, and most recently, colored pencil.

November 8, 2010-Monday- TBA

December 13, 2010-Monday-Holiday Potluck

Join us for our annual holiday get together. Bring a dish to share.



Upcoming Field Trips/Activities

December 18, 2010-Saturday-Butler CBC

Details will follow.

January 2, 2011-Sunday-Pleasantville CBC

Details will follow.



From the President

...Cathy Setzer

My first "official act" as your new president is to personally thank our outgoing president, Kathie Goodblood, for many years of service to our membership. As trite as it may sound, words cannot convey how appreciative we are of the leadership she provided throughout her tenure. Her firm and calm

demeanor have made her a great role model for me. Although her shoes might be a tad smaller than mine, I don't anticipate being able to fill them. To do that, I will rely on our Board of Directors to assist!

I envision my role as that of a shepherd, of sorts, with the task of keeping the flock on course and headed towards those "green" pastures. We'll certainly be bird-watching along the way but will also look at what we can do to assure that there will continue to be greener pastures in our future where those birds can reside. I will look to promote balance in the activities which our organization presents and supports. We need to be cognizant of land use and preservation in our local area, in our state-with regard to gas drilling, and in the country- with regard to the havoc being wrought from oil and chemical spills. We also need to promote field trips and outdoor activities to get more people out there among our fine feathered and furry friends to become more aware of the habitats we need to protect, and why.

I look forward to getting to know our members better. Please join us at our upcoming program series which will be starting in September. I know you will enjoy the presenters we have lined up thus far. Here's to a great new season of Audubon. Enjoy your summer and I'll see you in September!



Activities in Review

April 12, 2010 Membership Meeting

Ferns and Fern Allies of PA with Thomas R. Lord



Thomas R. Lord answering questions

Thomas R. Lord, co-author of *The Ferns and Fern Allies of Pennsylvania*, presented the program at our April membership meeting. There are over one hundred fern species in our area, and Thomas shared photographs of many of them, along with tips on how to identify them. Hopefully, with what we learned, (and a copy of his book), we'll be able to put a name to the ferns that we come across. Thanks to Thomas for the program, and to Nancy Lendyak for providing refreshments.

May 10, 2010 BAS Annual Awards Night

This year's awards night included presentation of scholarships, sanctuary signs, and voting for the new slate of officers.

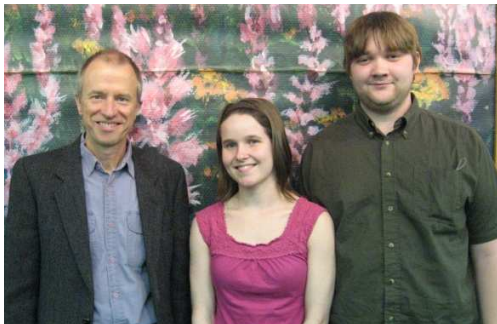
HELEN R. FERGUSON SCHOLARSHIP



Paula Roberts, Caitlin Roberts, and Helen Boylan

The Environmental Science Committee of Westminster College selected Caitlin Roberts as the 2010 recipient of the Helen R. Ferguson Scholarship in Environmental Sciences. Currently, Caitlin is a sophomore environmental science major from Salem, OH. She is a marvelous student and also involved in a number of extracurricular activities including Handbell Choir, Newman Club, Chapel Staff, Titan Traverse, and Alpha Phi Omega. After graduation, Caitlin plans on working towards a Master's degree in ornithology, emphasizing research and the conservation of birds of prey. In her free time she enjoys hiking, camping, swimming, and traveling. Introduced by Professor Helen Boylan.

MIKE ALLEN STARKER SCHOLARSHIP



James Hathaway, Ronni Underwood, and Aaron Snyder

The Department of Geography, Geology, and the Environment of Slippery Rock University chose Ronni Underwood for the Mike Alan Starker Scholarship in Environmental Studies at Slippery Rock University. Ronni, from Grove City, PA, is working toward a Bachelor's degree in Geography with a major in Environmental Studies and minors in political science and philosophy. The fifth of eight children, and a graduate of Grove City High School, she is the first in her family to attend college. Ronni has been working full time during her academic commitment, yet maintains over a 3.0 QPA. After graduating, she plans to marry and is seeking an internship that coincides with her immediate career objective of attending graduate school to explore the political and social dimensions of environmental issues. Introduced by Professor James Hathaway.

2009-2010 NEW BAS BIRD AND BUTTERFLY SANCTUARY PARTICIPANTS

Robert A. Macoskey Center of Slippery Rock University
Tom and Gail Shannon
Daniel W. and Patricia G. Call
Moraine State Park

2009-2010 NEW BAS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY PARTICIPANTS

Daniel W. and Patricia G. Call



*Jason Shannon, accepting for Tom and Gail Shannon
Dan Bickel, Moraine State Park Manager*

2010-2012 OFFICERS ELECTED

Members unanimously approved the new slate of officers.

President: Cathy Setzer

Vice-President: Ron Fodor

Secretary: Nancy Baker

Treasurer: Russ States

May 22, 2010 New Wildflower Garden for Oil Creek State Park

.....*Kathie Goodblood*

On May 22 volunteers braved the rain to give the Oil Creek State Park office area not just a new look, but a more wildlife friendly look. The group planted native plants and laid down fresh mulch on what was a lawn. We would like to thank the National Audubon Society, Audubon PA, Oil Creek State Park, and Toyota's "Together Green" Grant, for the funds to complete this project. But it would not have been possible without the help of the volunteers, who came out on a rainy Saturday to do the planting. So many thanks to Betty Meinstereifel, Chuck McConnell, Patty Lehoskey, Kati Porter, Cindy Weiland, Guy Weiland, Gary Campbell, Carol Couvrette, Nancy Baker, Russ States, Kathie Goodblood, Jim Tomlinson, Sarah Sargent, and park manager Jake Weiland. Please come by and see the finished garden.



May 29, 2010-The Robert A. Macoskey Center at Slippery Rock University

Eleven people attended the tour of the Macoskey Center. The weather was great and all enjoyed the tour and walk on the trail.

June 6, 2010-BAS Annual Picnic

The weather wasn't the best but the annual picnic was a good time for those who attended. Thanks to the Calls for hosting us at their beautiful Sanctuary.

July 10, 2010

8th BAS Sponsored NABA 4th of July Butterfly Count

.....Suzanne Butcher, compiler



Broad-winged Skipper (Photo by James Monroe)

The eighth Bartramian Audubon Society sponsored North America Butterfly Association 4th of July Butterfly count was held on July 10th. Known as the Sandy Creek Count, the area covered by the 15 mile diameter circle includes the Troyer gardens in Mercer County on one side and the Polk Wetlands in Venango County on the opposite side.

Count participants included Nancy Baker, Suzanne Butcher (compiler), Curt Lehman, James Monroe, Walt and Dana Shaffer, and Harvey, Jerry, Neil, and Samuel Troyer. The first stop began at the Triple Link Road abandoned RR bed of SGL 130 along Sandy Creek and lasted until about 12 noon. Dana Shaffer once again provided the makings of a delicious lunch. (Thanks Dana!) Highlights here included finding 4 **Broad-winged Skippers** and 3 **Harvesters** well photographed by Jim. The group then drove Griffith and Reed Furnace Roads through another area of SGL 130 stopping at several sites where sunshine and milkweed beckoned the butterflies. The final stop was at the Polk Wetlands of SGL 39. One of the target species, the **Baltimore Checkerspot** was easily found but Bronze Coppers were not. However, Walt netted a **Black Dash**, a targeted species for this site. Dana later netted a skipper which Walt used to show some of us the identifying features of a **Delaware Skipper**, a Venango county record. Both Jerry and Curt found **Variegated Fritillaries**, also a new record for Venango County.

After the customary get together at the Jackson Center Dairy Queen, the group headed for home. When we got to Neil's, his oldest daughter Rachel, age 8, was waiting to show us a Common Sootywing she had found.

With 37 species, this count ranks 4th among our eight counts.

The count includes: Black Swallowtail (7), Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (20), Spicebush Swallowtail (6), Cabbage White (22), Clouded Sulphur (6), Orange Sulphur (12), **Harvester (3)**, Eastern-Tailed Blue (7), Summer Azure (14), Great Spangled Fritillary (24), Aphrodite Fritillary (3), **Variegated Fritillary (2)**, Meadow Fritillary (2), Pearl Crescent (352), Baltimore Checkerspot (9), Question Mark (4), Eastern Comma (7), Gray Comma (1), Mourning Cloak (3), American Lady (2), Red Admiral (29), Red-spotted Purple (22), Viceroy (6), Northern Pearly Eye (1), Common Wood- Nymph (8), Monarch (13), Silver-spotted Skipper (18), Wild Indigo Duskywing (33), Common Sootywing (1), Least Skipper (1), Peck's Skipper (1), Northern Broken Dash (4), Little Glassywing (3), **Delaware Skipper (1)**, **Broad-winged Skipper (4)**, **Black Dash (1)**, Dun Skipper (4). **Total 37 Species, 656 individuals**



Odds And Ends

Special Announcement for All BAS Members

....Gene Wilhelm



2010 is the 15th anniversary of our BAS Sanctuary program. In order to celebrate this special occasion, the BAS Board of Directors has approved having a meaningful memorabilia for sale this year. Rich Eakin, ornithologist and artist, has contributed 100 copies (in numerical order) of his beautiful sketch of the flying Upland Sandpiper that is our official chapter logo. Each vivid pen and ink sketch is \$10 or four sketches for \$35 to BAS members. Non-members will pay \$12 each or four for \$45. The size and shape of each sketch is ideal as a place-mat setting. So bring your pocketbook, wallet or check book to the September 13 membership meeting and help the BAS Sanctuary program by buying four of these gorgeous sketches.

**BARTRAMIAN AUDUBON SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 315
SLIPPERY ROCK, PA 16057**

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The Upland Informer is now available online. It can be viewed at our website www.bartramianaudubon.org by clicking on the newsletter link and then clicking on the issue you wish to view. The newsletter is in the PDF format, so you must have a PDF program on your computer. Read only programs are available free at Adobe.com and other sites. Bartramian Audubon Society would like to encourage its members to begin to receive the Upland Informer online. As each newsletter is published, members who have elected to do this will receive an email informing them that the next issue is now available online, and they can then view it at their leisure. For the Bartramian Audubon Society, this will mean a savings both in paper costs and postage costs. For our environment it will mean less paper and less fuel usage in delivery. To enroll in this program, please email our Membership Chair, Russ States at pabirder@verizon.net.



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Membership Reminder

.....*Russ States, Membership Chair*

We welcome the many of you who have recently joined Bartramian Audubon Society.

As a reminder, the expiration date of your membership with the BAS should be on your address label. Please renew in a timely fashion as to not miss future newsletters. If you have any questions about your membership status, feel free to contact the membership chair, Russ States - pabirder@verizon.net.

B&B and Wildlife Sanctuary renewals should be handled through the sanctuary chair in June or July each year. The \$15.00 dollar checks should be made payable to BAS and mailed to Gene Wilhelm, 513 Kelly Blvd., Slippery Rock, PA 16057-1145.

Bartramian Audubon Society Associate and Newsletter Application

Please check below

_____ \$15.00 BAS associate fee- includes newsletter

_____ \$5.00 newsletter only

Please send this form along with your **name, address, and e-mail** with payment to the:

Bartramian Audubon Society
PO Box 315
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

FYI- Subscribers to National Audubon Magazine will note some changes: The magazine will be published bimonthly starting in 2005 -Jan./Feb. March/April etc. There is also a new format in which the expiration date will be given as the last bimonthly issue and use J/F or M/A 200_. All membership expiration dates have been adjusted to insure that you get your full subscription. **THIS DOES NOT** affect those who only have Sanctuary, BAS Associate, AA School or Upland Informer subscriptions.

National Audubon Society Membership Application

Please enroll me as a **NEW** member in the National Audubon Society. This membership will include membership in the National Audubon Society and *Audubon* magazine and the local Bartramian Audubon Society and the local chapter newsletter, the *Upland Informer*, but excludes the BAS Sanctuary Program.

Current introductory membership offer \$20.00
Student/Senior (62 and above) membership \$15.00

Name

Address

City State Zip

Please send this form with payment to
National Audubon Society

**P.O. Box 422250
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