



# Upland Informer

Volume 29 Issue 3

Official Newsletter of the Bartramian Audubon Society

Spring 2011

Editor- Nancy Baker

Check us out online at [www.bartramianaudubon.org](http://www.bartramianaudubon.org)



## Activities in Review



### 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 12, 2011-Monday- Saving Pelican 895

We will be viewing a DVD produced by National Audubon and HBO about the clean-up after the BP oil spill.



### Upcoming Field Trips/Activities

#### June 26, 2011-Sunday-BAS Annual Picnic

This year's annual picnic will be held at Oil Creek State Park. It will start at 4:00 p.m. with dinner at 5:30 p.m. We will be at the pavilion at the "Blood Farm", the first picnic area after entering the park from Route 8. There is plenty of parking, cover, a grill, and it's right on the creek. We will carpool down to look at the native wildlife garden that we helped to plant at the Park office. BAS will provide hot dogs and soft drinks, please bring a dish to share and your own place setting. For more information contact Kathie Goodblood at 814-432-4496 or [larkwren@hughes.net](mailto:larkwren@hughes.net).

#### July 9, 2011-Saturday-NABA Butterfly Count

The ninth BAS sponsored North American Butterfly Association 4<sup>th</sup> of July Butterfly Count will be held on Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup>. Known as the Sandy Creek Count, the area covered by the 15 mile diameter circle includes the Troyer gardens in Mercer County on the western aspect and the Polk Wetlands in Venango County on the eastern side. Sandy Creek flows through the upper aspect of the circle which also contains parts of Goddard State Park and the lower aspect of Lake Wilhelm. Parts of State Game Lands 130 and 39 are also covered. The data obtained on the NABA counts is crucial in monitoring butterfly populations. Contact person, Suzanne Butcher, [sar-bird@hotmail.com](mailto:sar-bird@hotmail.com), 330-759-1945

#### March Membership Meeting

Becky Lubold presented a program on bats. She described the current status of bats and all of the threats they now face. For more information see Bat Conservation International's website, [www.batcon.org](http://www.batcon.org). Thanks to Becky for the program and to Kathie Goodblood for refreshments following.

#### April Membership Meeting

Jerry Stanley shared "The Birds of Southern Ecuador" at our April meeting. He had beautiful slides of some of the 1600 species of birds that are found there. Thanks to Jerry for the program and to Nancy Baker, Joanne Wilhelm, and Gary Uber for the refreshments.

#### May 9, 2011 Annual Awards Night

This year's annual awards night honored new Sanctuary members and three scholarship winners.

#### 2010-2011 NEW BAS BIRD AND BUTTERFLY SANCTUARY PARTICIPANTS

Susan Race  
Marty and Julie Meyer  
Jake Weiland for Oil Creek State Park  
Cindy and Dale Hockenberry



Marty and Julie Meyer, Susan Race



Jake Weiland (back row center) and volunteer crew (starting from back left) Patty Lehosky, Kati Porter, Gary and Judy Campbell, Kathie Goodblood, Nancy Baker

## 2010-2011 NEW BAS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY PARTICIPANTS

Brian and Jamie Slamecka

### HELEN R. FERGUSON SCHOLARSHIP



*Kerri Duerr, Cory Seese, Helen Boylan*

The Helen R. Ferguson Fund Scholarship in Environmental Sciences at Westminster College was given to Cory Seese, a junior Environmental Science major and accounting minor who maintains a great GPA despite the rigorous course work he is involved in. Cory is the son of Timothy and Linda Seese of New Paris, PA, and a graduate of Chestnut Ridge High School. He is involved in Youth Leadership Bedford County Alumni and the Hopewell Sportsman Club. A true outdoorsman, Cory enjoys fishing, hiking, biking, hunting, and any sport he can play outdoors. He is considering the Masters program in Hydrogeology at Slippery Rock University. From there, Cory hopes to find environmental consulting work or employment with EPA or DEP.

### MIKE ALLEN STARKER SCHOLARSHIP



*Kelly Levstek, Krystal Levstek, Heike Hartmann*

The Mike Alan Starker Ecology Scholarship at Slippery Rock University was awarded to Krystal Levstek. She is a sophomore from Wooster, Ohio, and is majoring in Geography-Track in Environmental Studies (B.S.) . She carries minors in Leadership and Non-Profit Leadership. She is interested in conservation easements law and policy, and plans to work in a nonprofit organization that deals with conservation or planning projects.

### HOG ISLAND AUDUBON CAMP SCHOLARSHIP

The BAS scholarship to Hog Island Audubon Camp for Educators was given to Lori Fennel, who could not be present. She is currently a full time student at Butler Community College working towards a Bachelor's degree in Park and Recreation Management with a specialty in Environmental Education and Interpretive Programming. She also interns at Moraine State Park doing educational and interpretive programs.



*Dr. Hartmann and Helen R. Ferguson chatting after the meeting*



### Sanctuary News

.....*Gene Wilhelm*

In April 2008, the Bartramian Audubon Society celebrated its twenty-fifth year anniversary being an official chapter of the National Audubon Society. That year it also had 108 sanctuary owners (41 Wildlife Sanctuaries and 67 Bird and Butterfly Sanctuaries) who were protecting 4184.078 acres of vital habitat for wildlife in six counties. In the spring of 2011, the chapter now has 138 sanctuary owners (50 Wildlife Sanctuaries and 88 Bird and Butterfly Sanctuaries) who are protecting 4430.638 acres(9.4%) more in eight counties than in 2008. The chapter also monitors eight Important Bird Areas(IBAs) with 38,319 acres in our eco-region of Butler, Lawrence, Mercer, and Venango Counties. Thus, when adding the 38,319 IBA acres to the 4430.638 sanctuary acres, 42,749.638 total acres are being protected by our chapter. Bartramian Audubon Society follows the National Audubon Society's policy in allowing anyone to join our chapter in the country. Therefore, our chapter has enticed sanctuary owners from near and far in Pennsylvania, thanks in large measure to our chapter's website. Currently, BAS has sanctuary members from four counties outside our normal four county eco-region: Chester, Crawford, Elk, and Erie. Thank you sanctuary members, wherever you live, for your courage, steadfastness, and dedication to the Audubon cause for sixteen years in protecting critical habitat for the number of declining populations of wild birds and other vulnerable native plants and animals. Nature is depending on us more each year as new conservation challenges occur. The chapter has set a goal of attaining **12 new sanctuaries by the spring of 2013**. This goal can only be achieved with your kind help in contacting family, neighbors, and friends who would be interested in our dynamic sanctuary program. For details, simply go to the chapter's website ([www.bartramianaudubon.org](http://www.bartramianaudubon.org)), email [genewilhelm@aol.com](mailto:genewilhelm@aol.com), or telephone 724-794-2434 as soon as possible. Remember, every green spot, no matter how small, adds to the vital needs of all wildlife: food, water, cover, and space for breeding.

## **Thank You for Your Response to our 2010**

### **Letter of Appeal**

*I would like to thank the Bartramian Audubon Society's members and friends who so generously gave during our annual appeal. It takes many volunteer hours and funds to help BAS provide the scholarships and services we offer to the community. Without your help we would not exist.*

*Cathy Setzer, President*

#### **Chickadee**

Michael Antal  
Ruth Crawford

Gary and Kay Daniels

Barbara Dean

Barbara Eshelman

James Hathaway and Laura Quinn

Sandy Isacco

Deborah Ann Kalbfleisch

In Memory of Frank W. Bechtel Jr. (Joseph Bechtel)

In Memory of Thad A. Bukowski (Elizabeth Bukowski)

In Memory of Robert F. Uram (Alfred and Marcia Brown)

William and Bonnie Renick

Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Richards Jr.

F. Duane Rose

Sam Servedio

F.I. Sheetz

Sisters of Humility of Mary

Russ States

Susan Tenace

Lawrence Upton

Mary Elizabeth Williams

#### **Sandpiper**

Thomas Antal

Emma and James Barcaskey

Carl and Roxanne Bleakney

Michael Conlon

John and Evelyn Kolojechick

Lori Love

In Memory of Mary Kruth (Jerry Kruth)

In Memory of Shirley McCarl and Jim McDowell (Anon)

In Memory of Ted Walwik (Brad and Phyllis Smith)

Mary D. Reefer

Claire R. Schmieler

Charles H. Shultz

John Stehle

Stephen B. Thompson

Theodore and Barbara Walwik

#### **Eagle**

Michael and Nancy Baker

Thomas Black

County Market-Grove City

Merab R. Drennan

In Honor of Caroline Barbara Freeze (Dixie Reimold)

Janis Larish

Ronald and Lee Etta Proudfoot

Scrubgrass Generating

Terry and Mary Shaffer

Jerry Stanley and Kathie Goodblood

Vernon G. Uber

***The following donors have supported  
an Audubon Classroom***

Thomas Black

Helen Ferguson

Janis Larish

In Memory of Dr. Patricia Annabelle (Jay and Renee Hewitt)

Mary Ellen Walter

***Special thanks to Elizabeth Wilson for donation of materials***



### **Odds and Ends**

#### **ABC's Top 10 Tips for Bird-Friendly Living**

10. Plan your yard for biodiversity: mix flowers, shrubs, and tree species that mimic natural habitats near where you live.

9. Use native plant species: birds know these best and they are best suited for where you live.

8. Allow the "Back 40" to become a little scruffy: create a mower free zone and get rid of grass.

7. Hang Milar Strips or place feeders on large windows so birds don't fly into them.

6. Donate your old binoculars to a worthy cause; visit [www.americanbirding.org](http://www.americanbirding.org).

5. Drink shade grown coffee and ask your grocer/coffee shop to stock shade-grown coffees.

4. Reach out to friends and join Bartramian Audubon and learn about the joys of birding.

3. Provide birds with fresh food and water, especially in winter. Keep feeders clean to prevent mold and disease. Scrub them with a solution of 1/4 cup bleach to 2 gallons of water; rinse well.

2. Avoid pesticides. Not only can they be toxic to birds, but also they kill the insects birds use for food. Weed instead of spraying. Go organic and ask your store to stock bio-pesticides and organic fertilizer. If they don't stock them, ask them to do so.

1. Keep your cat indoors. Even well-fed, vaccinated cats kill birds. Keep them inside; not only will the birds be safer, your cat will be healthier and safer. Use [www.abcbirds.org/cats/](http://www.abcbirds.org/cats/) for aid.

For more information contact: American Bird Conservancy 1-888-BIRDMAG or [www.abcbirds.org](http://www.abcbirds.org).

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

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**Paper-Free Newsletter**

The Upland Informer is now available online. It can be viewed at our website [www.bartramianaudubon.org](http://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](mailto:pabirder@verizon.net).



**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](mailto: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

**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  
Membership Data Center  
PO Box 422250  
Palm Coast, FL32142-2250**

**Renewing members should use the coupon mailed to them  
by NAS**

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