



Upland Informer

Volume 31 Issue 1

Official Newsletter of the Bartramian Audubon Society

Fall 2012

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 10, 2012-Monday-The Foundation for Sustainable Forests

PA forests are under a huge threat. And if our forests are in trouble, then too are many species. John Bartlett will share information about the foundation and its role in PA. Learn what you can do to help conserve the beauty of Penn's Woods.

October 8, 2012-Monday-A Night at the Movies

Join us for an evening of fun while we watch the movie "The Big Year". This movie takes a look at taking bird watching to an extreme, while having fun. If you missed it at the theaters and you like birds, then this is a "must see".

November 12, 2012- Monday-Pueblos and Pinyons

Nature and wildlife, archaeology and ancient cultures, scenery and geology all come together to justify New Mexico's claim to be a "Land of Enchantment". Our presenter will be Jeff Hall. As we view Jeff's photographs, we will feel as if we have taken a trip to this special place in our country.

December 10, 2012-Monday-Annual Holiday Potluck and Hog Island Presentation

Come enjoy good food and good company while hearing about Becky Lubold's trip to Audubon Camp at Hog Island, Maine. Bring a dish to share and your holiday spirit.



Upcoming Field Trips/Activities

September 9, 2012-Sunday-Bird Walk at Pennsy Swamp State Game Land #284 (IBA) Meet at the parking lot on Number 2 Mine Road at 8:30 A.M. We will bird for two to three hours along the old rail line that goes through the wetlands. The walking will be easy. Beginners are welcome. Bring your binoculars and field guide. Contact Kathie Goodblood for details at larkwren@hotmail.com or phone 814-432-4496.

October 7, 2012-Sunday-East Sandy Creek Recreational Trail at Belmar Village

Join us for a morning bird walk to look for some of the fall migrants along the Allegheny River. Meet at the parking area at 8:30 A.M. for two to three hours of birding along a paved bike trail. Beginners are welcome. Directions- from Franklin/Oil City area take Route 8 south until you come to a traffic light at the intersection of Pone Lane. Turn left onto Pone Lane and drive until you come to a T intersection with a sign directing you to the Sandy Creek Trail. Turn right. The parking area is on the right. From the Grove City -Slippery Rock area travel north on new Route 8 until you come to a traffic light at the intersection with Pone Lane. Turn right onto Pone Lane and drive until you come to the T intersection and a sign directing you to the Sandy Creek Trail. Turn right and proceed to the parking area on the right. Contact Kathie Goodblood at larkwren@hotmail.com or 814-432-4496 for more details.

December 15, 2012- Saturday-Butler CBC

December 30, 2012-Sunday-Pleasantville CBC



Activities in Review

Annual Awards Night May 14, 2012

President Cathy Setzer led a short business meeting before the awards presentations. The slate of officers was elected for 2012-14. President- Kathie Goodblood, Vice-President-Jeffrey Hall, Treasurer- Russ States, Secretary- Nancy Baker.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Mike Alan Starker Ecology Scholarship for Environmental Studies at Slippery Rock University was presented to Ms. Elizabeth D. Smith. She was introduced by Dr. Heike Hartmann. Elizabeth is pursuing an Environmental Studies degree and plans to apply to a graduate program in conservation biology. Her goal is to protect the fractured habitat of tigers living in the Indo-China region, as well as the Siberian tigers farther north. She intends to aid in the protection of species globally as well as locally, through lobbying and research.

The Helen R. Ferguson Fund Scholarship for Environmental Studies at Westminster College was presented to Ms. Hilary Stenger. She was introduced by Helen Boylan Funari. Hilary plans to move to the western U.S. and pursue a career with the National Park Service. She is involved in Beta Beta Beta biological honors society, S.A.D.D., Pi Sigma Pi academic honors society, and works in set construction for the theater department at Westminster.



Elizabeth and Dr.Hartmann Dr.Boylan and Hilary



Ken Bennett, Arthur Richards, and Val Means

BARTRAMIAN AUDUBON SOCIETY 2012 WORKSHOP FOR EDUCATORS SCHOLARSHIP

The BAS 2012 Workshop for Educators at Audubon Camp in Hog Island, Maine was presented to Ms.Becky Lubold. Becky is an environmental educator at Jennings Environmental Center. Her enthusiasm and skills are an inspiration to all of us. Becky will be sharing her experiences at the camp with us at our annual holiday potluck.



Cathy Setzer and Becky Lubold

**PRESENTATION OF NEW SANCTUARIES
by Gene Wilhelm, Ph.D., Sanctuary Chair
BIRD AND BUTTERFLY SANCTUARIES**



Sonya Lenz, John Burdick, Becky Burdick, Marcia Brown, Larry Brown, and David Uber

New Bird and Butterfly Sanctuary owners were announced and presented with their Sanctuary signs. The new owners are Becky and John Burdick of Allegheny County, Marcia and Larry Brown of Butler County, Sonya Lenz and Vipin Kohli of Butler County, Val Means of Jefferson County, Dr. Arthur and Carol Richards of Butler County, Kenneth E. Bennett, Jr. of Butler County, and David and Virginia Uber of Mercer County. These sanctuaries total 17.71 acres.

WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES

New Wildlife Sanctuary owners were presented with their signs. The new owners are Gordon and Elaine Taylor of Butler County; Russell and Marianne Bleakney of Venango County; McConnell's Mill State Park in Lawrence County presented to Daniel K. Bickel, Park Manager; Kenneth E. Bennett, Jr. of Butler County; Main Campus, Slippery Rock University in Butler County presented to Herb Carlson, Assistant Vice President and Jerry Chmielewski, Professor and Chair of the Biology Department; and Jennings Environmental Education Center in Butler County, presented to Wil Taylor, Center Manager. These Sanctuaries total 2867.4 acres.



Ken Bennett, Daniel Bickel, Elaine and Gordon Taylor Wil Taylor, Jerry Chmielewski, Herb Carlson

GENE WILHELM RECEIVES GREAT EGRET AWARD



The National Audubon Society and Bartramian Audubon Society surprised Dr. Gene Wilhelm by presenting him with the Great Egret Award. This award is given to individuals who

have made significant long-term contributions to Audubon and conservation in pursuit of the Audubon mission. The award states: Rarely will you meet a person more dedicated to preserving life on this planet than Gene Wilhelm. He began his lifelong affiliation with Audubon as a boy, helping stuff envelopes for the St. Louis Audubon Society. Years later, he would be chosen as Vice President of Education at our national headquarters in New York City. Along the way, his career as an environmental educator took him to Pennsylvania, where he became a member and volunteer for the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania. While teaching at Slippery Rock University, Gene was very active with Audubon, offering quality educational programs throughout the area. While with Audubon in New York City, he helped former students in Western Pennsylvania inaugurate the Bartramian Audubon Society chapter. He has served BAS in many capacities from President, to newsletter editor, to his current role as Sanctuary Chair (overseeing two exemplary sanctuary programs that he created). His accomplishments and contributions are immeasurable. He continues to be a strong advocate and dedicated spokesman for the environment at local, state, and national levels. Gene has certainly become one of our valuable resources.



**Sandy Creek Count
10th BAS Sponsored
NABA 4th of July Butterfly
Count, July 7, 2012**

The tenth BAS sponsored North America Butterfly Association 4th of July Butterfly count was held on July 7th. 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, Gene Butcher, Suzanne Butcher (compiler), Joseph Hochstetler, Curt Lehman, Bob Machesney and Dianne Machesney of the Wissahickon Nature Club, James Monroe, Richard Nugent of the Wissahickon Nature Club, Harvey Troyer, Neil Troyer and his young sons Samuel Troyer and Harvey Troyer and daughter Rachel Troyer. Although it was a beautiful if not somewhat hot sunny day with temperatures ranging from a morning 80° to 90° at noon and 98° by midafternoon, a breeze made the heat and sun somewhat more bearable. The first stop began at the Triple Link Road abandoned RR bed of SGL 130 along Sandy Creek and lasted until about 11:30am. Highlights here included the finding of two Broad-winged Skippers a species that has somewhat defined our count and two **Common Buckeyes** and two **Fiery Skippers**, both new additions to the count. A Harvester was also a welcomed addition. We ended our stay here with a total of 29 species. The group then drove to Polk Wetlands of SGL 39. One of the target species, the Baltimore Checkerspot was easily found and a Bronze Copper was also added. Here again a Common Buckeye was seen. After our customary stop at the Jackson Center Dairy Queen most of the group made a stop at Neil's place where young Rachel Troyer had located a **Common Checkered Skipper**, also a new addition for our count. We ended the day with 39 species totaling 279 individuals and

including 3 new count species The count includes: Black Swallowtail (3), Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (19), Spicebush Swallowtail (5), Cabbage White (20), Clouded Sulphur (6), Orange Sulphur (10), Harvester (1), American Copper (1), Bronze Copper (1), Eastern-Tailed Blue (3), Summer Azure (4), Great Spangled Fritillary (17), Aphrodite Fritillary (1), Variegated Fritillary (1), Meadow Fritillary (3), Pearl Crescent (80), Baltimore Checkerspot (9), Common Buckeye (3), Question Mark (5), Eastern Comma (4), Mourning Cloak (1), American Lady (1), Red Admiral (5), Red-spotted Purple (9), Northern Pearly Eye (1), Appalachian Brown (1), Common Wood-Nymph (5), Monarch (8+ 1 cat), Silver-spotted Skipper (10), Wild Indigo Duskywing (15), Common Checkered Skipper (1), Least Skipper (1), European Skipper (1), Fiery Skipper (2), Peck's Skipper (1), Northern Broken Dash (4), Little Glasswing (5), Broad-winged Skipper (2), Dun Skipper (10). **Totals: 39 Species, 279 individuals.** One of the purposes of the 4th of July Butterfly counts is similar to the NAS Christmas Counts in that species can be tracked and followed over the years to see trends and changes. The habitat in our butterfly count area has remained fairly stable over the past 10 years although the Polk Wetlands is managed with fluctuation of plowing and plantings. Last year's rather low count was attributed to the cooler and wetter spring – what a difference a year makes! With the hot dry weather we have been experiencing, vegetation and butterflies appear ahead of schedule and migrants are showing up earlier than expected.Suzanne Butcher, Compiler



**THANK YOU FOR RESPONDING TO OUR
LETTER OF APPEAL**

EAGLE: Anonymous, Thomas Black, Central Electric Cooperative, Kathie Goodblood and Jerry Stanley, Clayton and Sandra Homer, David and Victoria Knopp, Carolyn and Paul Rizza, Terry and Mary Shaffer, Scrubgrass Generating, Gary Uber

SANDPIPER: Carl and Roxanne Bleakney, Marianne and Russ Bleakney, Rebecca Popovich Burdick, George Casselberry and Family, Barbara Dean, Jeffrey and Diane Hall, James Hathaway, Sonya Lenz and Vipin Kohli, John and Evelyn Kolojechick, Joyce Myers, Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Richards Jr., Timothy and Roberta Tritch, Mary Ellen Walter

AUDUBON ADVENTURES CLASSROOM: Thomas Black, Merab Drennen, Jay and Renee Hewitt, Claire Schmeiler

CHICKADEE: Hazel Allen, Beth, Larry, and Marcia Brown, Elizabeth and Eleanor Bukowski, Gay and Kay Dannels, Linda Dunn, Mary Jane Egger, Barbara Eshelman, Anne Griffiths, Kenneth and Nancy Harris, Bruce Hazen, Roy D. Hoffman, S. Isacco, Pat and Sharon Lynch, George and Laura Mihalik, Mary Frances Miller, Oscar Miller III, Robert and Karen Peterson, William and Bonnie Renick, F. Duane Rose, Russ States, Terry and Stacy Steele, Mary E. Williams, Patricia Zimmerman

**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 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.



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 by the sanctuary chair in June each year. The \$15.00 or more per sanctuary checks should be made payable to BAS but 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**

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