



**Hurry, time is
running out!
RSVP today!**

**Please Join us for the Annual AAS
Banquet and Auction**

Thursday, May 21, 2009

(Reservations Required! Return form by May 15th)

**NEW LOCATION - RADISSON PENN HARRIS
HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER**

Ballroom South, 1150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill, PA 17011

Appetizers and Silent Auction	6:00 p.m.
Buffet Dinner	6:45 p.m.
Election of Board Members	7:45 p.m.
Program	8:00 p.m.

**Program - "Of a Feather: A (Brief) History of American Birding"
by Scott Weidensaul, Internationally Respected Author and Naturalist**

Join famous author and naturalist Scott Weidensaul as he traces the unpredictable history of bird study in America. Based on his new book *Of a Feather*, this whirlwind history shows how ornithology and birding grew from eccentric hobbies into something so completely mainstream that they're now (almost) cool.

****Silent auction items can be paid for by cash or checks only. AAS does not accept credit cards.**

AAS Annual Banquet—May 21, 2009

Please make reservations by May 15, 2009

Name(s): _____
 Address: _____
 Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Please make reservations for _____ Adults or Youth aged 12 years and up at \$25.00 each
 Total included: \$ _____

Send this form along with your check payable to AAS or Appalachian Audubon Society to:

Appalachian Audubon Society, c/o Ellen Zeph
 18 Glendale Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Appalachian Audubon Society (AAS) is a National Audubon Society chapter. *Kingfisher Courier* (copyright AAS; please request reprint permission) is a membership benefit, published monthly, September to May, by AAS: P.O. Box 15123, Harrisburg, PA 17105-5123. Email submissions to editor by the 10th of the month prior to desired publication (files <100KB requested; otherwise contact editor). Editor & Board reserve publication decisions, per chapter mission/space available.

OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Lorrie Preston: 732-5615
Vice-President – Paul Zeph: 691-0288
Secretary – Steven Horner: 732-4198
Treasurer – Ellen Zeph: 691-0288

DIRECTORS

Term Ending May 2009

Ed Chubb: 233-4807
Jean Graybill: 737-4611
Sue Strassner: 243-5731

Term Ending May 2010

Marie Bernard: 773-8657
Jon Dale: 432-0335
Ed Smith: 960-9441

COMMITTEES (JOIN US!)

Audubon at Home - Lorrie Preston: 732-5615
Jan Getgood: 566-9875
Bird Seed Sale – Tom Lehman: 732-5087
Climate Change – Dot Montaine: 233-1003
Conservation – Paul Zeph: 691-0288
Education – Marci Mowery: 236-7644
Field Trips – Judy Bowman: 761-3815
Hospitality – Sue Strassner: 243-5731
Membership – Marcia Wilson: 737-7973
Newsletter Editor – Jessica Sprajcar: 798-2409
newdomino@hotmail.com (keep files <100KB)
Newsletter Mailing Team –
Marcia Wilson: 737-7973
Kathy Kuchwara: 319-0828
Programs – Holly Smith: 960-9441
Publicity – Annette Mathes: 566-0149
Trout Run – Jon Dale: 432-0335
Kathy Kuchwara: 319-0828
Youth Coordinators – Katie Clark: 731-8435
Miranda Cover: 774-4470
Webmaster – Brandon O’Neill

President’s Perch



Dear AAS Members and Friends,

As my term as president winds down and I look back over a busy two years, I am pleased with what we have accomplished together. With the support of our Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs, many volunteers and our members, AAS continues to make a difference to the birds, environment, and people of south-central PA. I would like to thank you all for the energy you give to the cause of making the natural world a better place. It is reassuring that there are many of us out there that care, and to know that we can accomplish much when we work as a team. With Paul Zeph as our president next year, I know the chapter will continue to flourish and make a positive difference.

I have so appreciated getting to know our members better, and I count so many of you as friends. Your smiles, friendly conversations, and nods of affirmation have meant so much. Thank you. I feel a growing camaraderie at our monthly meetings. I am looking forward to being there as part of the audience next year and beyond, and will still be active as Chairperson for the “Audubon at Home” committee. Restoring bird and wildlife habitat in the face of continued development and mismanagement of land is a project that I feel truly passionate about.

Keep up the good work, my friends. Thanks for all of the great memories. And happy birding, wherever life takes you!

For the birds and butterflies,

Lorrie Preston



Appalachian Audubon monthly (Sept-May) programs normally take place on the 3rd Thursday of each month in Christ Presbyterian Church, 421 Deerfield Road, in the Allendale neighborhood of Camp Hill, at 7:30 p.m. Exceptions are announced in this newsletter, as are field trips and other activities.

**PROGRAMS ARE FREE AND OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC.**

Bringing Nature Home: April AAS Event Inspires Community

Close to 500 community members attended AAS' April program, held at the Mechanicsburg Middle School and co-sponsored by the Mechanicsburg Parks and Recreation Department. We received extremely positive participant responses after the event - with many e-mails and thank you notes from community members.

The evening kicked off with displays and interactions in the school lobby on all facets of environmentally healthy lawn, garden, and land management techniques. We extend a big thank you to the following exhibitors: AAS, Audubon PA, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, Beekeeping with Dan Heacock, Bluebird Society of PA, Bob Carey "Garden Talk" radio, Capital Resource Conservation and Development, Central PA Conservancy, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, George Weigel of the *Patriot News* and "Garden House Calls," Manada Conservancy, Meadowood Native Plants Nursery, Mechanicsburg Area Environmental Club, Mid-Atlantic Ecological Landscapes Partnership/MAESCAPES, Alan Corson with Monarchs Need Milkweed, Penn Cumberland Garden Club, Penn State Master Gardeners of Cumberland County, and Spring Haven Natives.

Steve Saffier of Audubon Pennsylvania followed up with a brief introduction of Audubon at Home's *Bird Habitat Recognition Program*. This program allows homeowners, schools, businesses, churches, or other landowners that provide healthy bird habitat to have their properties recognized as making a difference for birds and other wildlife. The application process is free. A sign recognizing your bird habitat is available at a small fee and will enable you to engage in habitat education to those that stop to ask about your sign. More information is available at http://pa.audubon.org/Audubon_at_home.html or you may contact Lorrie Preston of AAS at mitandpak@aol.com or 732-5615.

Dr. Douglas Tallamy, Entomologist, Wildlife Ecologist, Professor and Author from the University of Delaware was our featured speaker, and what an inspirational message of hope he brings with him.

Dr. Tallamy's presentation begins by telling us about the sharp decline in songbird populations due to car collisions, cat predation, window accidents, and loss of habitat. He shows us the sterile suburban landscapes that we as a community have created, then reminds us that birds primarily eat insects and feed them to their babies. Dr. Tallamy explained that all plants are made up of certain chemical compounds to make them palatable only to specific insect species, and all insects have certain plants that they have shared an evolutionary history with, using the chemical compounds from specific plants to provide protection from predators, etc. Insects that have evolved in Pennsylvania for thousands of years cannot usually digest the non-native plants that are used commonly in our landscapes now. If our insects have nothing to eat, they do not live, diminishing food for birds and causing bird populations to plummet.

Dr. Tallamy has done his research and backs up his findings with facts. He shows us how the little islands of wilderness that we are leaving in the wake of rampant development - even our national parks, are not big enough to support the diversity of life that we require for a healthy ecosystem. Populations of all species will continue to decline, unless we do something differently. And this is where his positive message begins.

He suggests that each one of us can make a difference by making a conscience decision to bring back the native plants that we have displaced in our landscapes for many years now. His vision for a healthy environment is for each household or property owner to create hedgerows and borders around their properties with a diverse selection of various native plants - trees, shrubs, vines, grasses, and perennials. They would create privacy between us and our neighbors, and would provide the food, shelter, and nesting sites that birds, insects, and other wildlife need. This is a message that we must embrace while there is still time to save bird species that have declined sharply already and will continue to decline further unless we change the way we are managing land. It has nothing to do with being a good gardener really, but everything to do with being a good steward of the earth. If we care about birds, we must care about their habitat.

Dr. Tallamy Event Continued...

If you happened to miss Dr. Tallamy's program, we strongly encourage you to read his book *Bringing Nature Home; How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in our Gardens*. The fascinating web of life will be unveiled and the dots will be connected. Once you "get it," you will never look at plant selection or property-care in the same way again.

Thank you to all who made the evening a huge success and to all who use this new knowledge to make a positive difference to the birds and wildlife of south-central PA and beyond.

Keep Track of the Birds in Your Yard All Year

Do you enjoy watching birds and contributing to our growing understanding of birds and their conservation? If so, you can help by keeping track of the birds in your yard with a new *My Yard eBird* online at <http://ebird.org/content/myyard>. *My Yard eBird* takes the power of regular eBird, but makes it friendlier and easier to use for backyard birdwatchers. By contributing bird sightings to *My Yard eBird*, your yard becomes a biological research station, joining a network of thousands of other yards contributing bird sightings across the country.



Unlike some citizen science programs where your data goes in but you get nothing out, *My Yard eBird* allows you to see all your bird sightings, graph them, and map them along with all the other data being submitted. You can use this tool to keep track of your yard list or follow changes in your yard birds from day to day, month to month, year to year, or even decade to decade! You can also track how many times you've seen any given bird, the highest number of birds seen at any time, and dozens of other reports. Of course, to have access to such useful data, you need to first enter it online. But once you get the hang of it, *My Yard eBird* does all the work of preserving your data and graphing it for you. eBird is a joint Audubon and Cornell Lab of Ornithology project, and *My Yard eBird* was developed through an *Audubon at Home* agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation Service. For more information contact Rob Fergus, Senior Scientist, Urban Bird Conservation at audubonathome@audubon.org or visit Audubon Birdscapes at <http://birdscapes.audubon.org>.

AAS Elections to be Held at Banquet on May 21st

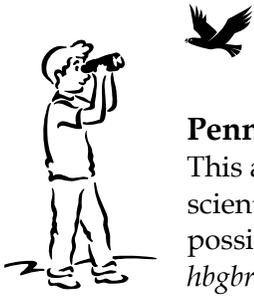
In accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Appalachian Audubon Society, the Nominating Committee submits the following slate of Officers and Directors for your consideration to serve our chapter in the coming year and throughout the terms of office.

* Nominees up for election in May 2009

Directors:	<u>Term Ending May 2010</u>	<u>Term Ending May 2011</u>
	Marie Bernard	Kathie Bard*
	Jon Dale	Judy Bowman*
	Ed Smith	Susan Miller*
Officers:	<u>President</u>	Paul Zeph*
	<u>Vice President</u>	VACANCY*
	<u>Treasurer</u>	Annette Mathes*
	<u>Secretary</u>	Steven Horner*



Suggestions for Nominations of Officers or Directors may be submitted to any member of the Nominating Committee (Paul Zeph, Holly Smith, or Lorrie Preston) at any time, up to and including from the floor at the time of the elections, in accordance with the By-Laws.



Upcoming AAS Field Trips

Pennsylvania Migration Count Annual Survey – Saturday, May 9

This annual survey provides an excellent opportunity for birding and contributing to a scientific effort. Various leaders search the tri-county region to count as many species as possible within the day. AAS contacts are Carl and Nancy Juris at 564-1479 or hbgbrdrs@verizon.net and Ramsay Koury at 761-1871 or RKoury123@aol.com.

Nescopeck State Park Spring Bird Walk – Saturday, May 16

This outstanding park in Luzerne County will highlight thrushes and warblers. Please contact leader Al Mercik at 657-8548 for more information.



Cliff Jones Memorial Introduction to Birding – Saturday, May 30

Cliff Jones, who loved to share his knowledge of birds, served as a mentor to our group leader and bird expert, Terry Neumyer. Terry will carry on Cliff's mission by helping those new to birding observe and identify birds. The group will meet at the West Fairview Boat launch. More information at 564-5149.

Round Top Mountain Warbler Walk – Saturday, June 6, 2009

Join the Quittapahilla Audubon Society and leader Art Schiavo as we travel to this little-known area at State Game Land 246, which is great for birding. Sightings should include veery, ovenbirds, thrush, and warblers. Approximately a 3 hour walk. Contact Art at 520-5711 or aschiavo@hersheypa.com.

Other Upcoming Events

May 2 Manada Conservancy Native Plant Sale, Meadowood Nursery, 9 am – 4 pm
www.manada.org/nativeplantsale.html

May 8-10 Festival of the Birds – Presque Isle State Park – Erie, PA
www.presqueisle.org/audubon

July 25th Ned Smith Nature and Arts Festival, 9 am – 4 pm
www.nedsmithcenter.org
To volunteer for this event, contact Lorrie Preston at GardensNaturally@aol.com or 732-5615.



September 9-13 31st Annual North American Bluebird Society Conference
Holiday Inn-Harrisburg/Hershey in Grantville, PA
Early discount registration by May 15; Deadline for registration is July 18
www.thebsp.org or www.nabluebirdsociety.org

Save the Dates for Autumn 2009 AAS Events

Sunday, September 13 - AAS 4th Annual Native Plant Sale at Meadowood Nursery
Watch for more info in the September Kingfisher Courier.
Please contact Lorrie Preston at GardensNaturally@aol.com if you can volunteer that day.

Friday and Saturday, October 2 and 3 - AAS 30th Annual Bird Seed Sale
Watch for your Bird Seed Sale Order Form in the September Kingfisher Courier.
Volunteers will be needed for this event, as well.



Early Spring on the River



Every year in late winter and early spring I look forward to migration on the Susquehanna River. It is always fun and interesting, and usually there is a surprise or two. In late February, the river is often covered with migrating Ring-billed Gulls. On nice sunny days when the stoneflies are very active, you can see several thousand of them between West Fairview and Marysville. By the middle of March, most of the Ring-billeds have moved on, but Bonaparte's Gulls start to arrive. In some years they can also cover the river, but this year the maximum number was only two or three hundred. Among the "Bonies," there can be rarer species. This year a Black-headed Gull made an appearance at Marysville in mid-March. Little Gulls have become an annual visitor to our area. In late March and early April, there were one or two Little Gulls being seen between West Fairview and Marysville. This is a fairly recent phenomenon. Until about 15 years ago, Little and Black-headed didn't seem to migrate up the Susquehanna - more were seen coastally. Now I would be disappointed not to see to a least a couple each spring.

Waterfowl migration is always very interesting, as well, on the river, and after some unsettled weather, waterfowl can sometimes be seen in spectacular numbers. Unfortunately this spring, so far, there hasn't been a big bonanza day of thousands of ducks, but there have been some nice days, nonetheless. In early April, there were 6 Red-throated and 11 Common Loons during one weekend at West Fairview. I saw Long-tailed Ducks (Oldsquaw) a number of times along with a couple of White-winged Scoters, both mainly sea-faring birds seen more commonly along the coast. All of the regularly occurring ducks were seen in March, although mostly in relatively small numbers. One exceptional sighting was a Eurasian Wigeon seen at the Millersburg Waterfowl Survey in mid-March.

As you read this in late April or early May, it is still not too late to look for some interesting river birds. While most of the waterfowl has gone north, May is a great time to look for terns, loons, and often lots of swallows. Some really good rarities have occurred in May, most notably the Yellow-billed Loon that spent a weekend here two years ago.



Good Birding! *Ramsay Koury*

Master Gardener Plant Fest is Coming Soon

The 5th annual Penn State Master Gardener Plant Fest in Cumberland County is scheduled for Saturday, May 16, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the grounds of Claremont Nursing and Rehabilitation Center at 1000 Claremont Road, Carlisle. This festival of events and ideas for home gardeners features a plant sale of annuals, perennials, shrubs and small trees from the gardens of Master Gardeners, as well as quality native plants from local growers, all at very reasonable prices. There will also be short talks by Master Gardeners on favorite native plants, as well as displays on pollinators and other gardening topics. Master Gardeners will be available to answer your gardening questions and give tours of the Trial and Idea Garden at the corner of Claremont and Army Heritage drive, and 4-H will have a food stand. For more information or to receive a brochure, call 717-240-6500 or visit <http://cumberland.extension.psu.edu> and click on Horticulture/Gardening to find Upcoming Events.



Summer Camp Scholarships Available through AAS

Yes, summer is rapidly approaching, faster than a diving falcon. So don't delay, act today. Plan to attend one of the following exciting camp options.

The Appalachian Audubon is offering scholarships to a variety of local and regional camps this summer, a step we are taking until the Hog Island Camp in Maine reopens next year (hopefully). The options for the summer vary. Read the options below carefully. If you are interested, contact Marci Mowery at mmowery-ppff@pa.net or call 717-371-2155 for more information and an application. **Deadline for registering is May 15, 2009.** If you are interested in one of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation camps, please call ASAP, as they are holding a few spots for us beyond their registration deadline.

Learn More About the Chesapeake Bay

All camps are run by trained CBF staff and may include tent camping, paddling, canoeing, bird watching, water quality monitoring and much more!



Student Leadership Experiences

Middle School Age Students

July 5-11 – Our Watershed Address

July 19-25 – Headwaters to the Bay

Visit www.cbf.org trips to learn more. Call Marci to receive an application to one of these camps.

High School Age Students

July 5-11 – Leadership on the Bay

August 2-15 – Mountains to the Bay

Summer Camps through the Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania

We chose several environmental based camps offered through the Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central PA. Camps are based in Lebanon or Adams County.

Grades 3-6

July 5-11 – Guppies – a water study/water sport adventure

June 21-27 – Tree Toppers – Live in a tree house and see things from a birds eye view.

July 19-25 – Turtles – Look at things from a turtles view!

August 9-15 – Night Owls – Stay up late and learn more about the creatures that inhabit the night.



Grades 6-9

July 19-25 – Outdoor Survival Skills



Grades 8-11

July 12-18 – KirchenQuest – Use nature clues to travel via backpack, canoe and bike to make your way back to the Kirchenwald

Electronic Version of Kingfisher Courier Newsletter Available

Recognizing a national trend of organizations converting from hardcopies of their newsletters to electronic versions, the Appalachian Audubon Society (AAS) would like to offer you an option of receiving the Kingfisher Courier newsletter by e-mail. This will result in a significant cost savings to the chapter, so the AAS board is encouraging our members to sign up for this service.

In order to initiate this service, simply send an email from the account that you wish to receive the email notice to appaudubonsoc@yahoo.com. Please include your name in the text of the email.

Thank you very much for considering this option. If you have any questions, please send an e-mail to appaudubonsoc@yahoo.com or call Ed Smith at 717-960-9441.

New AAS *Connect with Nature* Brochure

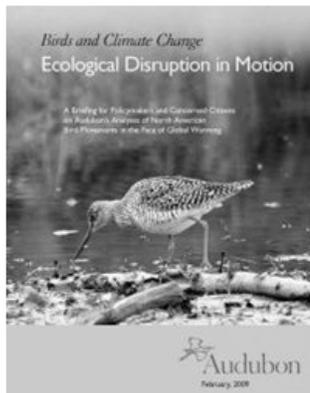


A new brochure has been created that gives a good introduction to who Appalachian Audubon Society is and what our missions are in the community. If you enjoy AAS, please consider picking up a blue brochure at the May banquet and passing it along to someone else that loves nature and might enjoy being involved in our chapter.

Birds and Climate Change: Ecological Disruption in Motion



Audubon recently released a new study using Christmas Bird Count Data. These analyses would not have been possible without the hard work of CBC participants and the many chapters that organize and lead counts. Audubon thanks all that have participated over the years for their effort. The study explored if birds had shown significant shifts in their winter distribution over the last 40 years. As we all know, birds are good indicators of the environment. Audubon thinks birds provide important information to people on changes in the environment and human quality of life. Audubon has a goal of working bird indicators into regular reviews of how the environment in the US is doing and hopefully helping drive policy and funding that benefits the environment and birds. These analyses of the CBC dataset on winter distribution are part of that effort.



The report, *Birds and Climate Change*, is available on Audubon's web site at www.audubon.org/bird/bacc/cbcanalysis.html and provides more details on the analyses and results. To download the report from this web site, click on the "Download Report" link on the left side of the page or on the image of the report cover.

Audubon will continue to undertake scientific analyses of these data to learn more about the status of birds and conservation needs. Please consider donating through the web site to help Audubon continue using the CBC data to move a conservation agenda.

Online Migration Tracking Tool



eNature.com is a wonderful, award-winning website for scientifically-reviewed information about animal and plant species in the United States.

Bird watchers out there will be interested to learn about their **Migration Tracker**. This online tool can be used to follow migratory birds as they take their yearly trip north across the US to summer breeding areas. Migration Tracker can be accessed at www.enature.com/birding/migration_home.asp. In addition to this great resource, *eNature.com* has many other useful birding tools for novices and experts at <http://enature.com/birding>.



Top Ways to Combat Global Warming and its Impact on Birds



All of us have a role to play in reducing the worst impacts of global warming. As engaged citizens, we can all take steps to reduce our energy use, switch to cleaner sources of power, conserve habitat and encourage our leaders to take immediate action. Here's a short list:

1. Be an Active Citizen

Join Audubon's activist team and urge our elected official to make global warming a top priority by signing our petition at <http://birdsandclimate.org>. Voice your support for new approaches to help solve global warming, move us toward a 100 percent clean energy future, and reduce our dependence on oil. Stay informed, write letters to your leaders, and support candidates who promise to take the aggressive and farsighted actions necessary to curb global warming.

2. Get Involved in Your Community

Support conservation efforts that protect and restore essential bird habitat, keeping it healthy to better withstand global warming. Visit www.audubon.org to learn how the Important Bird Areas program is building a national network of conservation stewards. And join in "Citizen Science" efforts like the Christmas and Great Backyard Bird Counts, www.audubon.org/bird/citizen/index.html.

3. Determine Your Energy Profile and Carbon Footprint

An energy audit assesses how much energy you consume. A carbon footprint shows how much greenhouse gas you emit into the atmosphere. These figures can help you determine actions to make your home, school, or office more energy efficient. Footprint calculators are available online.



4. Reduce Energy Consumption and Switch to Green Power

Save money and energy by switching to compact fluorescent light bulbs and maximize the use of sunlight for lighting needs. Reduce excessive use of home heating and cooling and weatherize your home. Buy energy efficient appliances like those that are "Energy Star" rated. Switch to utilities that provide 50 to 100 percent renewable energy or install solar panels on your home.

5. Eat Locally Grown and Organic Produce



The fewer miles your products travel, the less energy is used for refrigeration and transport. Buy organic to reduce the use of pesticides that kill the organisms which help keep carbon in the soil.

6. Shop Smarter

Manufacturing, packing, transporting, and selling goods not only use huge amounts of energy but also release excessive amounts of greenhouse gases. When shopping, always ask, "Do I really need this? Does the Earth really need this?" You'll probably save money as well. Get in the habit of using reusable shopping bags.



7. Save Gas and Money

Use public transportation, ride your bicycle, walk, carpool, and drive a more energy-efficient vehicle. Keep tires properly inflated to increase fuel efficiency – it will lower your fuel costs.

8. Plant More Trees and Buy Good Wood

An average tree absorbs ten pounds of pollutants from the air each year, including four pounds of ground level ozone and three pounds of particulates. So, plant leafy trees around your house to provide windbreaks and summer shade. When shopping for wood, ask about certified wood to support sustainably-managed forests that are bird-friendly.

Peterson Poem

In honor of the 100th anniversary of Roger Tory Peterson's Birth

Born: August 28, 1908; Died: July 28, 1996

"... the man who made America a nation of birdwatchers."
said William Zinsser, Writer and Critic.

Your dashes are arrows
in *A Field Guide to the Birds*, the green-bound "Peterson"
tucked into belts, pushed into pockets, stuffed into backpacks

Arrows that lead eyes of millions,
squinting through binoculars,
to the red-brown cap and black "stick-pin"
identifying the passerine in snowy branches.

"That's it," the new birder exclaims,
pulls out list, checks off the "Winter Chippy,"
American Tree Sparrow



Arrows that fly to crest and black necklace of Blue Jay,
"golden slippers" of Snowy Egret,
yellow "spectacles," black sideburns, of Kentucky Warbler,
purple throat, green crown, decurved bill of Lucifer Hummingbird,
white tail tip of Eastern Kingbird.
The Bald Eagle with white head and tail is "all field mark."

In the salt marsh in May, the birder thinks "Life Bird?"
Focuses on shorebird
prodding mud flat with Short-billed Dowitchers,
Red Knots, Ruddy Turnstones. Greater Yellowlegs,
Semipalmated and Least Sandpipers,
Semipalmated and Black-bellied Plovers.
She has identified all with the dried, wrinkled pages of her
"Peterson."



She studies what she knows to be a plover,
concentrates glasses on this bird feeding
by greening shoots of Spartina grass.

Again, she stares at your art,
your arrow guide slanting to the back.

She rereads your description:
"spangled with golden spots above."

Suddenly, her freckled face is a loud smile,
her whisper a bursting
"Golden Plover!"

Field Guide, 1996

The Roger Peterson Institute of Natural History
Maxwell Corydon Wheat, Jr., Poet Laureate
www.maxwellcorydonwheatjr.com

Permission given to reproduce this poem with author credit.

Coins for Conservation Challenge

After our March program meeting, we are pleased to report that AAS members rose to the challenge - donating a whopping \$68.20 in one month, and bringing our total contributions to date for Dauphin County Wildlife Rescue to \$309.33. Thank you to Dale Darkes, Kathy Brenneman, and Mike Ruger for their generous donations of door prizes that evening.



Shade-Grown Coffee

Audubon Organic Shade Grown Coffee will be available for sale at the May 21st AAS Banquet. We carry a variety of blends in whole bean and ground, caffeinated and decaf. 12 oz. bags are \$10.00 each. Please contact Lorrie Preston at mitandpak@aol.com or 732-5615 for special quantities or associated items which can be special ordered.

Production of organic shade grown coffee is an example of a method of managing land and growing plants which benefits birds and wildlife by working with nature and providing critical habitat. Shade-grown coffee makes a nice Mother's Day or Father's day gift.

How You Can Take Conservation Personally



iConservePA, a new initiative of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, wants you to think about what conservation means to you, and what you can do to “take conservation personally.” The *iConservePA* website, www.iconservepa.org, provides numerous tips for becoming “greener,” and is frequently updated with new information. For instance, the *iConservePA* theme for 2009 is “Bring Home the Natives” - plants that is. Throughout the year, programs and activities will be launched to encourage Pennsylvanians to plant more natives and appreciate their homegrown beauty. These programs include information on choosing the right plants for your yard, finding plant nurseries that sell those natives, garden design templates, and much more. If you want to learn more about native plants, *iConservePA* is one great place to go!



You might be asking yourself, “How else can *iConservePA*?” Consider becoming a PA *iCon*. PA *iCons* are people like you who understand the value of protecting our natural resources and want to share ideas and opportunities to “take conservation personally.” PA *iCons* receive short monthly “SEEDS” e-newsletters with “insider” information on the latest *iConservePA* events, news and happenings, and they are eligible for special giveaways and prizes. You can sign up to become an *iCon*, and learn more about “Bring Home the Natives”, at www.iconservepa.org.

Editor’s Note

Over the past three years it has been my pleasure to edit *Kingfisher Courier*. As an amateur birder, I have learned so much from reading these articles, attending AAS meetings, and chatting with the knowledgeable board members, committee chairs, and chapter members. However, due to my hectic schedule this will be my last issue as editor. I leave on a confident note, as the position will be filled by someone extremely capable – Holly Smith will be the *Kingfisher Courier* editor for next year. Thanks for reading. Until next year, happy birding!

Jessica Sprajcar

Join Appalachian Audubon Society AND National Audubon Society

AT THE SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY RATE OF \$20 (\$15 FOR SENIORS AND STUDENTS)

This application is for **NEW** members joining Appalachian and National Audubon for the **FIRST** time (for members renewing, *renewal information will come to you directly from National Audubon*). This introductory offer includes membership in both National and Appalachian Audubon societies, the beautiful *Audubon* magazine, and our own *Kingfisher Courier* newsletter. Please send the form below, with **check** payable to **National Audubon Society**, to: Appalachian Audubon, PO Box 15123, Harrisburg, PA 17105-5123.

New Member’s Name: _____ Today’s Date: _____

Address: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Phone: _____ Senior Membership? (age 62 and up) _____ Student? _____

Is any of this contact information new? If so, place an X here: _____

Please send my *Kingfisher Courier* newsletter by: (Check one)

_____ E-Mail (Saves funds and resources) OR _____ Paper Copy - U.S. Mail



May 2009

www.appalachianaudubon.org

Appalachian Audubon Society
P.O. Box 15123
Harrisburg, PA 17105-5123

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Harrisburg, PA
Permit 486

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Printed on 100% recycled paper with
35% post-consumer reclaimed content

Last Chance to Register for May Banquet! Deadline is May 15.

IN THIS ISSUE

May Banquet and Auction.....p.1	Connect with Nature Brochure.....p.8
President's Perch.....p.2	Birds and Climate Change.....p.8
Board of Directors; Chapter Contacts.....p.2	Migration Tracker.....p.8
Doug Tallamy Event.....p.3&4	Combat Global Warming.....p.9
My Yard eBird.....p.4	Peterson Poem.....p.10
Chapter Elections.....p.4	Coins for Conservation.....p.10
Field Trips and Events.....p.5	Shade Grown Coffee.....p.10
Spring on the River.....p.6	iConserve Info.....p.11
Master Gardener Plant Fest.....p.6	Editor's Note.....p.11
Summer Camps.....p.7	Membership Form.....p.11
Electronic Newsletter.....p.7	