



**January 15 Program -
John James Audubon: The Man and His Legacy, Part I**



Join former National Audubon Regional Vice President Walt Pomeroy for his comprehensively researched history of John James Audubon (JJA) and his conservation legacy. This presentation includes early stories about JJA, his travels in parts of Pennsylvania and how he produced his famous *Birds of America* publication while living in Pennsylvania. We'll also learn about JJA's travels in the eastern US and sailing the Atlantic. The program also explores the conservation legacy JJA and his work created, which also involves interesting Pennsylvania history. Join us for Part II of this program when the AAS hosts a field trip to Mill Grove on Saturday, April 25, 2009. Mill Grove, near Valley Forge, was JJA's first home in America. Please see the program bulletin or website for more details!

And as always, meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. with refreshments and social time followed by announcements, with the program starting at 7:30 p.m.

The programs are free and open to the public. See page 2 for directions.

In Thankful Memory of our Friend and AAS Board Member, Ron Wilson, who passed away in November 2008. Ron and his wife, Marcia, have been dedicated Chairs of the Membership Committee and the Newsletter Mailing Team and have served our chapter well for many years. We send our condolences to Marcia, as well as continued thanks for all she does for us.

Donations in Ron's memory can be made to Appalachian Audubon and will be earmarked for our *Audubon at Home* efforts in teaching people to create bird and wildlife habitat in the backyard, which was a passion of Ron's.

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 15th of the month prior to desired publication (files <100KB requested; otherwise contact editor). Editor & Board reserve publication decisions, per chapter mission/space available.

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Inclement Weather Announcements

Weather-related postponements or cancellations of AAS activities will be reported at *wgal.com*, and on TV Channels WHP21 and CW15, as well as Radio Station WHP580 AM. We will also place the information on the homepage of our website, *www.appalachianaudubon.org*, as soon as we are able. If we have your e-mail address, we will alert you soon after a weather-related decision has been made. If we do not already have your e-mail address, you can send it, along with your name, to Lorrie Preston at *mitandpak@aol.com*. If in doubt about weather-related changes, please call any officer of the club.



DON'T FORGET! You can recycle household batteries at monthly AAS meetings!

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.

Directions: Take New Cumberland exit off I-83; cross Carlisle Road. Turn left onto Allendale Way; take first left at Deerfield Road (from the south, take New Cumberland exit, turn left onto Carlisle Road, left onto Cedar Cliff Road, left on Allendale Way, then left onto Deerfield Road) to the church.

Upcoming AAS Field Trips

Newville Christmas Bird Count(CBC) – January 3, 2009

AAS participates in four surveys in this century-old tradition. Teams of birders are given designated areas to conduct the counts. Contact Bill and Linda Frantz at 776-4463 for more details.



Nature Walk at Wildwood – January 3, 2009

Join Sandy Lockerman, naturalist at Wildwood Park, part of the Dauphin County Park System, to start the new year with a healthy and invigorating walk around the beautiful trails and lake at Wildwood. Please dress for the weather. Meet at the Olewine Nature Center. Contact Sandy at 221-0292 for more information and to check on pathway conditions.

Winter Birding Trip – February 21, 2009

Past AAS President Ramsay Koury will lead us on a winter birding trip to chase away the winter blahs. Contact Ramsay at 761-1871 or RKoury123@aol.com for details.



Ned Smith Waterfowl Watch – March 15, 2009

Hosted by the Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art. This annual waterfowl watch along the Susquehanna River in Millersburg was an annual event for beloved artist and outdoorsman, Ned Smith. Birding experts will be on hand to help identify and count the waterfowl. The event is held from 8 AM to 1 PM. Please dress warmly and bring along your binoculars and spotting scopes. Contact Beth Sanders at the Ned Smith Center at 692-3699 or Judy Bowman at 761-3815 for further information.

Introducing New AAS Global Warming Liaison

AAS Member, Dot Montaine, has agreed to be our representative in communicating about global warming and climate change between our chapter and Anne Crowley, National Audubon's PA Outreach Coordinator on Global Warming. Dot will keep us up to date on NAS efforts and information so our chapter members can stay current with this important topic.

Audubon members across the nation are being encouraged to sign up for timely updates and information about climate change and protecting birds and other wildlife from its effects. Updates are being sent in a joint effort by National Audubon and the Alliance for Climate Protection. You can sign up for these updates on a sign-in sheet at monthly program meetings or by going to our website at www.appalachianaudubon.org and click on the electronic button on the home page. They promise not to overload your e-mail box or send solicitations, and you can stop receiving the e-mails at any time. Working together and understanding the issue, we can make a difference.

Anne Crowley is an interesting and engaging speaker and welcomes invitations to speak about global warming to a wide variety of community groups. They do not have to be Audubon members. She can be reached at acrowley@audubon.org or 610-640-3303.



Got a Question? We Have Answers!



We are pleased to introduce a new column that will be appearing regularly in our *Kingfisher Courier* newsletter. It will be called "*Kingfisher Queries*" and will be managed and most-often written by past AAS president, Ramsay Koury.

Questions about bird identification, behavior, habitat, feeding, native plants, and more can be submitted by members into the special *Kingfisher Queries* box beginning at the January meeting. This will be for all levels of birders, so don't be shy, even if you think everyone else in the chapter already knows the answer. There are plenty of inexperienced birders in our midst, and we all have a lot to learn! If you've been wondering about something bird or habitat-related, this is your chance.

While Ramsay expects to answer most bird-related questions, he will not hesitate to pass specific questions on to the most qualified person to get the correct answer. Stay tuned for this informative new column.

Looking for Good Ways to "Think Birds" During the Winter Months?

Lots of interesting information is mailed to our chapter, especially around the holidays, alerting us to bird-related products and activities. Here are a few things that might help to pass the winter while we wait for the returning migrants. AAS does not endorse any of the following items, but passes on the info for you to decide.

North Museum of Natural History and Science. Lancaster, PA - through January 18, 2009 - "*Raucous! Everything Raven*" - Explore the natural history of this mischievous bird, challenge a friend to Raven Games, or tune into Raven radio to hear raven calls and vocalizations.
www.northmuseum.org

NorthernBirdHouses.com - a new online store that caters to nature lovers. Operated by wild-life biologists, the site is chock full of free information, articles, tips, and photographs and carries a full line of wild bird products of excellent quality and ornithological accuracy.

"In Hovering Flight" - A Novel by Joyce Hinnefeld. Curl up with a good book about a famous bird artist and activist who claims to have seen the Cuvier's kinglet. Her husband, a world-renowned ornithologist, doesn't dispute the sighting in this beautiful novel about enduring love, a deep passion for birds, and about the passing on of what matters most.
www.unbridledbooks.com

"The Great Pageant - How I Learned About the Lives and Journeys of Birds" - A Book by Eldon Remy. This book inspires readers to start their own adventure learning about birds' lives and journeys of migration. carol@publishingworks.com

Bird Treks - Robert M. Schutsky of Peach Bottom, PA, is in his 14th year of leading exciting birding trips to many wonderful places around the world. Contact him for a catalog full of birding options for 2009 at 717-548-3303 or info@birdtreks.com, or check out his website at www.birdtreks.com.



Conservation Program for High School Students

The Wildlife Leadership Adventures (WLA) is a cooperative program that empowers high school aged students with the skills and knowledge to become ambassadors for conservation in their communities. The Program brings the knowledge and expertise of Audubon Pennsylvania, PA Game Commission, Pennsylvania State University, the Ruffed Grouse Society, the PA Deer Association, Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA), and the US Army Corps of Engineers directly to high school students. The program begins with the residential field school where students learn through hands-on experiences how to track wildlife, identify native plants, evaluate habitat quality, use radio telemetry to study wildlife, and more.

The program's director, Gail Farmer, notes, "We work with the students all year as they participate in education and service work on conservation issues in their communities. Our goal is to enable youth to be informed participants in conservation throughout their lives." Recent graduates of the program have taken this challenge to heart. "To date, WLA students have conducted over 127 outreach programs and service projects, had 567 contact hours with the public, and reached an audience of over 5,000 people across 17 counties in the Commonwealth," Farmer added. Several WLA students have worked with Audubon on their service and outreach projects, such as building nest boxes and assisting with educational programs.

The 2009 field school will be held July 7-11 at Raystown Lake in Huntingdon County. Tuition is \$350, which includes room, board, and educational materials. Scholarships are available to help defray tuition costs. The application deadline is April 15, 2009. For more information and to download application materials visit www.PICEweb.org and follow the Youth Programs hyperlink or contact PICE at 570-441-3364; info@piceweb.org.



Protect Neo-Tropical Bird Habitat – Drink Shade Grown Coffee

Audubon organic shade-grown coffee in 12 oz. packages will continue to be available for sale at our monthly program meetings. AAS members report that the coffee has an excellent flavor and early buyers have already made repeat purchases. Below is a brief description of the various blends. All are 100% shade-grown and 100% organic, and come in whole bean or ground.

Breakfast Blend - Rise and shine to this smooth yet rich, flavorful coffee. Available in regular or decaf.

French Roast - Roasted for an intense caramelized, bittersweet taste.

Rainforest Blend - A perfectly rounded blend yielding a medium bodied, complex flavor.



12 oz. bags of all blends are \$10. 2 lb value size bags are available by special order for \$20. Pillow packs and associated items, including mugs, filters, bag clips, and gift sets are also available by special order. Check it out at www.auduboncoffeeclub.com. Please contact Lorrie Preston at mitandpak@aol.com or 732-5615 to place special orders. We can save you shipping charges by ordering through the chapter. Enjoy a great cup of coffee and feel good about protecting critical winter habitat for many of our favorite birds, including warblers, tanagers, orioles, thrushes, and more.



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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: _____ **U07 7XCH**