

# Afield

NH AUDUBON NEWS AND PROGRAMS  
FALL 2011 (September-October-November)

## Birds Without Boundaries

by Pamela Hunt

The vast majority of New Hampshire's breeding birds spend only a fraction of their lives in the Granite State. They arrive in spring, raise young, and then depart south again. The rest of the year they are either in transit or on their wintering grounds. While the breeding season is obviously a critical time, events that occur during the non-breeding season turn out to be equally important. Some estimates suggest that annual survival of most songbirds is about 50%, and that most of this mortality occurs between southward fall migration and northward spring migration. So while much conservation activity occurs on the breeding grounds (e.g., habitat protection, predator control, chemical bans), these efforts fail to address the numerous threats that birds face the rest of the year.



*American Redstarts breed in NH but spend the winter in the Caribbean,  
photo by Dennis Skillman.*

Over the last twenty years, scientists have made significant progress toward understanding the importance of the non-breeding season to populations of migratory birds. For example, detailed studies of American Redstarts in Jamaica revealed that males forced females into drier and less suitable habitats, resulting in lower overwinter survival. Physiological studies revealed that birds in these drier habitats tend to be in poorer condition and depart later on spring migration. Birds that migrate later are less likely to have a successful breeding season. Put all this together and it becomes clear that anything that alters habitat on the winter grounds – be it development or climate change – can effect reproductive success thousands of miles away.

The next step is to get a better picture of where our migrant populations are when not on the breeding grounds. While we know in a general sense that redstarts winter in the Caribbean Basin, we can't yet say where birds from the Northeast vs. Midwest winter. These more specific connections may prove important if populations in different regions are showing different trends, or if threats vary across the wintering range. New technologies are helping to bridge the gap.

Analysis of radioactive hydrogen isotopes in a bird's feather can actually reveal the general latitude where that feather was grown. A tail feather collected on a young redstart in Jamaica will tell us roughly where the bird was hatched, because that's where the feather was grown. Similar studies are showing that birds that arrive later on the breeding grounds have isotope "signatures" suggesting they overwintered in poorer habitat, just as discussed above. For larger birds (e.g., Wood Thrush, Purple Martin), there are now tiny "geolocators" that can be attached to birds, and when recovered, show that individual's migration route and wintering location.

All these pieces can help us see the entire annual cycle more clearly, and in turn allow us to target conservation resources where they are most needed.

*Come to NH Audubon's Annual Meeting on October 8 to hear more about the connection of breeding, migration and wintering from keynote speaker, Dr. Peter Marra of the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center – a leader in this field (p. 7).*

### Inside Afield

- Conservation News
- Hawk Watching Season
- Annual Meeting Info
- Special Events

*Bug Ball at Fishways*

*Free Lecture Series at McLane*

*Enchanted Fall Festival at MAC*

*Library Book Sale*

- Holiday Wreath Orders

*and much more!*

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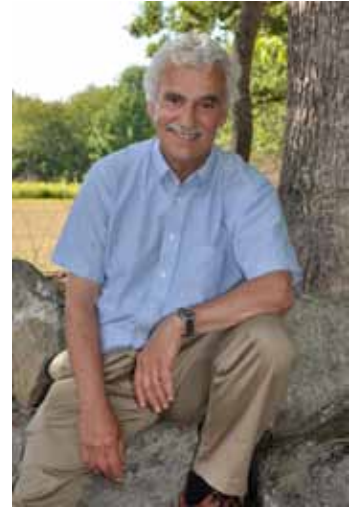
Banner photo by John Hession.



## From the President's Desk

Dear Friends,

As you look through this issue of *Afield*, you will notice a change. *Afield* will now regularly feature articles about the wildlife work our conservation biologists are doing. Several respondents to the survey in the last issue of *Afield* said they'd like to read about other NH Audubon programs in addition to the educational offerings. Additionally, a number of our friends and advisors have recently observed that we need to be telling our wonderful story in as many venues and as often as possible!



Some days that story focuses on the wanderings of the Bald Eagles we are following via satellite as part of the Merrimack River Bald Eagle Habitat Study funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Other days it's the excitement of finding a nighthawk nest with two eggs at a natural setting in the Ossipee pine barrens (the first confirmation of breeding there in many years). Still other days, it's finding our biologists sharing their knowledge with a group of summer campers as they explore our Brockway Sanctuary.

On a gloomy Saturday in June, Sr. Biologist Laura Deming led an intrepid group of individuals through Ponemah Bog in Amherst. One captivated couple sent a review of the walk that I want to share with you.

"We so enjoy what NH Audubon has brought to us, and YOU Laura Deming are such a major part of what makes our enjoyment such a wonderful experience. We learned so much today. Your shared knowledge and explanations, patient answers and dedication transformed a rainy, wet, gray day into a fun, shared, informative, collective learning experience. ... Your knowledge and expertise leverage the wonder of nature into us all. How much more could a person ask?!"

As we head into fall, our biologists and educators will continue to add to our story. Isn't it time for you to become a part of that story at one of our centers (Massabesic, Fishways, Newfound, or McLane), raptor observatories, or on a sanctuary hike? Who knows? Perhaps you will become a storyteller yourself!

Mike

Michael J. Bartlett  
President, New Hampshire Audubon

### *New Hampshire Bird Records*

This is a perfect time to subscribe to NH Audubon's quarterly all about birds and birding in New Hampshire. Read about the bird highlights each season, learn about good birding spots, test yourself with the Photo Quiz, and help support the collection and sharing of bird sighting data at the same time. The new subscription year is starting and we've just wrapped up the Fall 2010 and Winter 2011-12 issues which include an array of exciting articles. For more go to [www.nhbirdrecords.org](http://www.nhbirdrecords.org). You can subscribe online or call NH Audubon at 603-224-9909.

## Hawk Watching Season is Here

by Phil Brown, Raptor Observatory Coordinator

*The fall hawk watching season is a most exciting time of year at our staffed raptor observatories in Concord and Peterborough. And it's not only birds that find their wings here...*

September 1<sup>st</sup> marks the start of another season for NH Audubon's raptor observatories, Carter Hill Orchard in Concord and Pack Monadnock Mountain at Miller State Park in Peterborough. Last year brought record numbers of migrants to both sites, with the most noticeable jump occurring at Carter Hill, where over 4,000 individual birds and many all-time high counts were observed in the site's third year of counting. Pack once again reached the 10,000 mark, recording high counts of six species including Osprey, Bald Eagle, and Peregrine Falcon in the site's sixth consecutive year. For Pack Monadnock Raptor Observatory's final report, please go to the following link: [www.nhaudubon.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/Pack-Final-Report-2010.pdf](http://www.nhaudubon.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/Pack-Final-Report-2010.pdf)

As in past years, 2011 will feature the release of rehabilitated raptors to the open skies at both observatories, allowing visitors to see these magnificent birds up close and learn about their life histories as they begin their southbound journeys. But not only birds will find their wings here...thousands of visitors, including hundreds of students from across the state and beyond, will gather this fall at our observatories to see, hear, and touch nature. The conservation message we teach in all of our programs will stick with many of them and become a way of life. This year, our naturalists at Carter Hill will be teaching raptor identification on-site in Saturday morning workshops, with both a classroom and field component. In addition, all third-grade classes from Concord area public schools will attend similar programs at the site to learn about the importance of raptors and monitoring. School groups from across New England will return to Pack Monadnock to focus their binoculars on overhead hawks - and maybe even an eagle - while staff naturalists teach them about migration over our skies.

But hawk-watching isn't just for kids. Several of NH Audubon's Chapters will stake out their favorite perches at our observatories on their annual field trips and many new 'hawk watchers' will be made. In addition, we'll hope to best our records by counting ALL bird species during the annual Observatory Big Sit on October 9 - we can use your help!



*Julie Brown and Chris Martin preparing for the hawk release at Pack Monadnock, September 2009. Photo by Phil Brown*

There are many reasons to get involved and support the Observatories' successful education and research programs. Come to witness and learn about the spectacle of raptor migration, view the incredible fall foliage from Pack Monadnock's summit, savor the flavor of the season late into fall at Carter Hill, and be part of one of autumn's greatest ancient traditions.

Observatory volunteers are dedicated individuals whose reasons for assisting the programs include all of these, as well as their own. Our growing list of supporters continues to generously fund staff naturalist positions and programs. We hope to count you among one or both of these groups this fall.

Support for the observatories is made possible by grants from the Kingsbury Foundation, The Benjamin Couch Trust, community sponsors, and private donors. To make a contribution to these premier research and education programs, please contact Phil Brown at [pbrown@nhaudubon.org](mailto:pbrown@nhaudubon.org) or at 224-9909x334. We'll see you where the hawks fly!

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR:**

*Raptor Releases at Pack Monadnock & Carter Hill Raptor Observatories:*

Pack Monadnock: Saturday, September 17, 1pm (rain date: September 24)

Carter Hill: Sunday, September, 18, 1pm (rain date: September 25)

*Big Sit Events: Sunday, October 9, 9am-5pm at Pack Monadnock & Carter Hill (in addition to Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge, see Ammonoosuc Chapter listings on page 14)*

## A Day in the Field with Rusty Blackbirds

by Eian Prohl and Carol Foss

The mist is still hanging low in the valleys as the truck slowly climbs the logging road. On the seat beside me, a receiver scans steadily through a series of radio frequencies emitted from transmitters attached to 18 Rusty Blackbirds. These birds, subjects of collaborative research by NH Audubon and University of Georgia Ph.D. student Patti Newell, are teaching us how this declining species uses the North Woods landscape after the young leave their nest.

Suddenly, quiet beeps interrupt the constant static of the receiver. I pull to the side of the road, turn off the engine, disconnect the receiver from the roof antenna, and grab the directional antenna from the back of the truck. After setting the receiver to the proper frequency, I turn the antenna slowly to find the direction with the strongest signal. Although the beeps are distinct, the signal strength is weak, indicating that the bird is nearly half a mile away. Consulting GPS and compass, I jot down the coordinates of my location and the bearing of the loudest beeps. The odds are against the bird staying put long enough for me to hike in and find it, so I opt to try for a second, and hopefully third bearing further up the road. Fortunately the road swings closer to the bird and I succeed in getting three good bearings, from which I can later pinpoint the location on a map.

Back in the truck, I continue on until the receiver detects a second radio frequency. This time, the signal is strong enough to attempt visual confirmation of the bird's location. As mosquitoes and deer flies buzz around my head, the rhythmic beeps guide me ever deeper into the wetlands of the Great North Woods. With unwieldy antenna in hand and radio receiver at the hip, I am constantly striking a balance between the shortest route to my target and the easiest one through dense vegetation on rough terrain. The first few days on the job quickly taught me to avoid a direct path over and under blowdowns in favor of a round-about moose trail that heads in the right general direction! After crossing two small streams and sloggng through a cedar swamp, I hear "chucks" and "kerglees" ahead. I turn off the receiver to minimize noise as I move cautiously forward. Soon I reach the edge of a regenerating clearcut, and there atop a dead birch is my quarry, a male Rusty Blackbird perched in plain sight! With binoculars I can even see his color bands and radio antenna! As I watch quietly, a female appears with a beak full of dragonflies. Yes! She disappears into a dense clump of young firs, a commotion of begging calls arises, and she emerges with empty beak. More patient watching, and I confirm three fledglings nearby. After documenting all I have observed, I head back to the truck.

And on to the next transmitted bird, and the next! Finally, tired and bug-bitten, I return to camp, satisfied that I have located all my targets for the day.

## First Detectors on Watch

by Laura Deming

This past April, citizen scientists from around the state gathered at NH Audubon's McLane Center to learn how to identify invasive forest pests. Throughout the day, professional foresters, entomologists and botanists from state agencies and the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension provided participants with a crash course in identification of native trees, invasive plants and insects (Asian Longhorned Beetle, Emerald Ash Borer, etc.), and current research and management efforts for controlling and eradicating them. By the end of the day, the 49 participants had sufficient knowledge (and hand-outs!) to identify a daunting array of plant and insect species that have caused or (once they arrive in the state) have the potential to cause substantial damage to New Hampshire's forests, nursery stock, and urban/suburban shade trees.

The First Detectors Workshop capped a two-year collaboration among NH Audubon, UNH Cooperative Extension, NH Division of Forests and Lands, and NH Dept. of Agriculture to educate New Hampshire citizens about the Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) and the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), both wood-boring beetles introduced from Asia. Although not yet found in the state, these have the potential to wipe out many of our native hardwood species, with disastrous impacts to our state's timber, maple sugar, and nursery industries, and fall foliage tourism. Ecological damage could be long-term and severe.

Infestations of these tree-killers in other states have, almost without exception, been detected by members of the general public, rather than by professionals. New Hampshire's invasive species experts believe that the best way to detect and quickly contain these dangerous forest pests is to train citizens how to identify and report them. New Hampshire's First Detectors will be keeping a lookout for forest pests in their routine work as foresters, land stewards, municipal planners and conservation commissioners, landscapers, gardeners, and concerned property owners.

We urge you to keep an eye out for ALB, EAB, and other pest species, to report any suspected sightings, and to refrain from transporting firewood, which may contain larvae. For more information on ALB, go to the UNH Cooperative Extension website: <http://extension.unh.edu/ALB/>; for information on EAB, go to <http://www.emeraldashborer.info/index.cfm>



## Wildlife Fatalities at the Lempster Wind Power Project

by Carol R. Foss

Iberdrola Renewables recently released the results of a two-year study of bird and bat fatalities at the Lempster Wind Power Project in Lempster, NH. Conducted by Western Ecosystems Technology, Inc., a well-respected environmental and statistical consulting firm, the study encompassed monitoring surveys conducted during April 15–June 1 and July 15–October 31 in 2009 and 2010. Survey methods included standardized searches for bird and bat carcasses on the ground below turbines, tests of searcher efficiency, and assessment of scavenger removal rates.

The majority of fatalities occurred during the fall migration period. Technicians found totals of five bird carcasses and one bat carcass during the spring surveys, compared to 19 bird and 23 bat carcasses during the fall surveys. Bird fatalities found during surveys and incidentally included seven Red-eyed Vireos, four Golden-crowned Kinglets, three Blackpoll Warblers, two Magnolia Warblers, Swainson's Thrushes, and unidentified flycatchers, and one Mourning Dove, American Crow, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Ovenbird, and Common Yellowthroat. Bat casualties included 14 hoary bats, 11 silver-haired bats, two red and big brown bats, and one each little brown and tri-colored bats.

Fatality estimates (which account for searcher efficiency and scavenger removals) for 2009 and 2010, respectively, were calculated as 6.75 and 5.27 birds and 6.21 and 7.23 bats per turbine per year (3.38 and 2.64 birds and 3.08 and 3.57 bats per megawatt per year). These values are consistent with estimated fatality rates at 18 other wind facilities in the eastern United States, which range from approximately 1.1 to 5.8 birds/mw/yr and 0 to 33.2 bats/MW/yr. In the regional context, the Lempster fatality rate for birds is considered moderate and that for bats low.

*Carol Foss was on the technical advisory committee for the Lempster fatality study.*

## Policy Update

by Carol R. Foss

Recent months have been busy for Conservation staff and the Environmental Policy Committee, with preparation of testimony for legislative hearings and comments on proposed rules and projects. The legislative session was a challenging one, as there were efforts to repeal a number of important laws that protect New Hampshire's environment. We provided testimony on the following bills, and continue to follow their outcomes and implications:

Bill number	Topic	NHA Position	Outcome
SB19	Changing definition of prime wetlands	Against	Retained in House Committee
SB20	Exempting certain activities from Shoreland Protection permit	Against	Passed; Adopted with amendment
SB21	Changing definition of wetlands	Against	Passed; Adopted with amendment
SB154	Revisions to Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act	Against some provisions	Passed; Adopted with amendment
HB439	Invasive species management	Against	Referred back to Committee
HB470	Repeal of Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act	Against	Retained in House Committee
HB519	Repeal of RGGI	Against	Pending

Information on these bills and other legislation considered in the 2011 session is available at [www.gencourt.state.nh.us/](http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/).

At the federal level, we submitted comments on the US Fish and Wildlife Service Draft Land-based Wind Energy Guidelines and Draft Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance, the USDA Forest Service Proposed Planning Rule, and the Presidential Permit Application and Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Process for Northern Pass. The Environmental Policy Committee will continue to follow the Northern Pass project and participate in opportunities for public comment. Visit [www.nhaidubon.org](http://www.nhaidubon.org) for more on these issues and our testimony on state bills.



Did you know that breeding Bald Eagles generally winter in NH as well? This adult eagle from the nest site at Squam Lake showed up at the Squam Ice Harvest Day in January 2011, during the week of our Mid-winter Eagle Survey. Check out our next issue of *Afield* for a complete report of the 2011 Winter Eagle season. Photo by Debbie DePeyster.

# NH Audubon News

## New Board Members



*We at NH Audubon are pleased to introduce two new members of the Board of Trustees.*

### Tracy LaChance

Tracy LaChance is a New Hampshire native raised in Concord and now living in Fremont with her husband and two children. Tracy graduated from the University of New Hampshire with a B.S. in Environmental Conservation and received her J.D. from New England Law Boston. She has practiced law for 8 years with a focus in environmental, employment, and workers' compensation law. Her community involvement has focused on environmental issues as well as education. She has joined NHA's Development Committee and is already in touch with members and corporate leaders.



### Tony Sayess

Tony Sayess was born in Portsmouth and grew up outside Boston and in Derry, New Hampshire. A graduate of the University of New Hampshire (as well as George Washington University, M.A. in Int'l Affairs; University of Virginia Law School; and New York University School of Law, LL.M. in Taxation), Tony has worked on both the east and west coasts. He is currently a Business and Tax Associate with Rath, Young and Pignatelli, P.C. in Concord. Tony lives in Concord with his wife Polina. In Concord he enjoys participating in The Friends Program Junior Senior Youth Mentoring Program. He is particularly interested in NH Audubon's Development and Finance committees.

## TRAVEL with NH Audubon to Belize: January 2012

NH Audubon, in partnership with Merlin Enterprises, is pleased to offer members a trip to Belize with NH Audubon's very own Dr. Pamela Hunt. This trip will provide participants with the opportunity to see some of our migrant birds on their winter grounds, as well as tropical species and Mayan ruins. Tentative dates: January 17-26, 2012. visit [www.nhaudubon.org](http://www.nhaudubon.org) for more details.



## NH Audubon's 97<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

Visit the White Mountain National Forest's new LEED certified headquarters as part of this year's Annual Meeting in Campton on Saturday October 8. Optional morning field trips and lunch will be followed by the business meeting, award presentations, and a fascinating look at what we in New Hampshire don't see in the life cycles of our migratory birds and what it means for them - and for us - by research scientist Peter Marra of the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, National Zoological Park, Washington, D.C.

In the past, the names of NH Audubon awardees have been kept secret until the awards are presented at the Annual Meeting. This year, we are breaking with tradition so family and friends of recipients can plan to come.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Tudor Richards Award  
Goodhue Elkins Award  
Volunteer of the Year Award  
President's Award

Geoff Jones  
Steve Mirick  
Jack Gleason  
Raptor Observatory Volunteers Tom Baillio, Tom Brewton, Katrina Fenton, David Howe, and Crawford Lyons  
Francie Von Mertens

Meade Cadot Award

Activities are summarized on the agenda included on the following page, and detailed on our website. And, while reconnecting with Audubon friends, you can also enjoy spectacular foliage and pay homage to the 100-year-old White Mountain National Forest and those who created it! Use the registration form on page 7, or sign up online.

# NH Audubon's 97<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

October 8, 2011

US Forest Service • White Mountain National Forest Headquarters  
71 White Mountain Drive • Campton, NH

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Morning Field Trips:

#1 A paddle at Campton Bog with Carol Foss, Director of Conservation. BYO canoe or kayak. Meet at 8:30 AM at the dam for Campton Bog Pond.

#2 An easy, leisurely bird walk with Bob Quinn, Merlin Enterprises, to Greeley Ponds in the WMNF. Meet at 8:30 AM at WMNF Visitor Center in Lincoln (exit 32).

#3 A moderate hike (<1 mi) at the Mary McLane property in Hebron with Phil Brown, Director of Land Management. Meet at 9:00 AM at NHA's Ash Cottage, Hebron.

#4 Easy walking tour of Hubbard Brook with Pam Hunt and others. Meet at 9:00 AM at WMNF headquarters, Campton.

### Agenda:

11:00–11:45	Registration and pick up lunch tickets
11:30–12:30	Lunch (optional)
12:30–12:45	Welcome by Michael Bartlett, President
12:45–1:45	Business Meeting, Paul Nickerson, Chairman, Board of Trustees
2:00–3:00	Awards
3:15–4:15	Keynote talk by Peter Marra, Studying Birds in the Context of the Annual Cycle
4:15–4:30	Closing Remarks
4:30	Tour of LEED features of White Mountain National Forest headquarters, Leighlan Prout, USFS

Check [www.nhaudubon.org](http://www.nhaudubon.org) for directions to field trips and WMNF headquarters, or contact Kathie Palfy (see lower right).

Corporate Partner Sponsor: Normandeau Associates, environmental consultants

Local Hosts: Pemigewasset Chapter, NHA and U.S. Forest Service

## Annual Meeting Registration Form

or register online at

[www.nhaudubon.org/about/annual-meeting](http://www.nhaudubon.org/about/annual-meeting)

- I (we)'d like to sign up for morning field trip #\_\_\_\_\_.
- I (we) plan to attend the Annual Meeting but DO NOT want lunch. (No charge for meeting.)
- I (we) plan to attend the Annual Meeting and would like to order lunch.

Number in party \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10 Cost = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch count: \_\_\_\_\_ Standard Meal

\_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian option

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed (payable to NH Audubon)

VISA       Mastercard

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form, with payment, to: **NH Audubon, 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, NH 03301** no later than Sept. 30. No refunds are available after October 1. For more information, please contact: [kpalfy@nhaudubon.org](mailto:kpalfy@nhaudubon.org) or call (603) 224-9909 x 310.

# Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center

## FISHWAYS FUNDAYS

(for children ages 4-5, accompanied by an adult)

10-11 am or 1-2 pm

Cost: \$5 per family, advance registration with payment required

### Beautiful Butterflies: September 7

We love to watch them, but what do we really know about butterflies? Learn all about these beautiful creatures, play butterfly games, search for butterflies around the Fishways and make a butterfly craft to take home.

### Bye, Bye Birdie: September 21

Where are all the birds going? Why do we have new birds visiting? Learn about migrating birds, why some fly south, and why some come to the Merrimack River for the winter!

### Terrific Trees: October 5

What's green, red or yellow and sometimes taller than your house? Trees! Discover the wonderful trees along the river and why some of them turn colors in fall. We'll even go on a leaf hunt and make a "leafy" craft to take home.

### Fall Forest Exploration: October 19

Our NH forests blaze with color during the fall season. Join us for a fun journey through our local forest to play and experience the wonder of the woods in autumn. We will meet at the Fishways, and then travel together to Hackett Hill natural area (5 min drive).

### Its Harvest Time!: November 2

Autumn brings a bountiful harvest. Squashes, corn, cabbages and root vegetables abound this time of year. Through games, yummy fall treats and hands-on exploration, we will learn about the fall harvest and some of its delicious veggies!

### Let's Talk Turkey!: November 16

It's turkey time! What do we really know about our Thanksgiving dinner favorite? Learn all about this fine bird and make your very own turkey call to take home!

### Who's Here in Winter?: November 30

Which wild animals will you find out and about braving the cold NH winter? Where do these animals go to stay warm? Discover these answers and more as we play games and search for signs of animals around the Fishways.

## FAMILY FRIDAY NIGHTS

(Programs are for all ages and focus on the Merrimack River and its watershed)

Cost: \$5 per family, advance registration with payment required

### Groundhogs Galore: September 16, 7-8 pm

The Amoskeag Fishways is home to a colony of groundhogs or "whistle pigs". We'll learn about their habitats and adaptations, search for their homes, and try to catch a glimpse of these burrowing critters with big appetites.

## FAMILY FRIDAY NIGHTS, continued

### Lovely Leaves: September 30, 7-8 pm

Discover the wonderful trees along the river and why some of them turn colors in the fall. Look at leaves and bark up close, make a leafy craft to take home, and go on a fun leaf hunt around the Fishways.

### Feeding Birds in Your Backyard: October 14, 7-8 pm

Which birds stick around for winter in New Hampshire? We'll build several types of feeders to attract them to your yard. Enjoy watching them as they feed outside your window this winter!

### Going Batty: October 28, 7-8 pm

Some find these creatures creepy, but what are bats really like? Join us for a fun-filled hour to learn about these misunderstood and amazing creatures of the night!

### Village Along the Merrimack: November 18, 7-8 pm

A family version of our popular school program! Enjoy an evening of hands-on activities, games, and storytelling focusing on the history of the native people of this region.

## SPECIAL EVENTS AT THE FISHWAYS

### The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Bug Ball

September 10, 11 am-3 pm

This is our 11<sup>th</sup> Bug Ball – many years of insect fun and celebration! Activities will include an insect petting zoo, buggy crafts, and special guest, Dr. Paul Johnson, UNH insect expert. Participants will enjoy special staff presentations, featuring Butterfly and Moth presentations throughout the day. Give our six-legged friends the respect they deserve!

Cost: \$3/person, \$6/family. No registration required.

### Smithsonian Magazine's Museum Day

September 24, 10 am-4 pm

Museum Day is a one day event where participating cultural institutions across the USA offer free admission to Smithsonian Magazine readers and friends with a Museum Day Admission card. You can print out this special admission offer and find out other participating museums by going to [www.smithsonianmagazine.com](http://www.smithsonianmagazine.com) The Amoskeag Fishways will offer special activities throughout the day. No registration required.

### Eyes on Owls

Saturday, November 5

Three Presentations: 11 am-12:15 pm, 1-2:15 pm, 3-4:15 pm

Live owls will be our guests along with owl expert and naturalist Marcia Wilson. Learn all about New Hampshire's owls, what they look like, and where they might be found. Best of all, see these wonderful birds of the night up close, and learn some of their hooting calls!

Cost: \$8/person or \$20/family

Pre registration with payment required.

Location: PSNH Five Rivers Auditorium

Energy Park 780 Commercial St. Manchester, NH 03101

Fletcher Street, Manchester, NH 03105

626-FISH (3474)



## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Our Changing Environment: An Evening Lecture Series

Lead sponsor: Baldwin & Callen, PLLC  
Co-sponsors: Stonyfield Farm and Rath, Young and Pignatelli, P.C.

7–9 PM, Cost for all lectures: Free  
*Refreshments will be served after each lecture.*

#### Thursday, September 15: Solar Power, Wind Power, Biomass, Geothermal Energy and More. Is There a Best Choice?

Ann Ingerson, Resource Economist for the Northeast Region of the Wilderness Society, reviews the patterns of energy use and production in northern New England, renewable energy options for the future, and the trade-offs between climate mitigation and protection of our northern landscape based on recent research by her organization.

#### Thursday, October 13: Managing the Unavoidable and Avoiding the Unmanageable: Forests, Water, People, Land Use and Climate Change

Paul Barton, University of Massachusetts Professor of Forest Resources at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and Director of the Forest-to-Faucet Partnership, cites examples to illustrate why we need an integrated approach to forest conservation and low impact development, including a suite of sensible policies and effective practices to protect aquatic ecosystems, water supplies, and public health to “manage the unavoidable and avoid the unmanageable” (in the words of Al Sample of the Pinchot Institute).

#### Wednesday, October 19: Climate change: How's it impacting our native fauna?

Restless bears, too hot trout, and ticked off moose in New Hampshire? Our changing climate is affecting and will continue to impact our fish and wildlife in ways yet to be understood. Join veteran certified wildlife biologist Eric Orff in discovering how changes are happening in your back yard. And he'll talk a little bit about things we all can do to help curb climate change.

## ADULT PROGRAMS

### Birds Have No Boundaries with Speaker, Gershon Peleg September 12, 6:30 pm

Cost: Free

Peleg is the Chairman of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel. He is an experienced speaker whose topics range from the environment to fish farming, water requirements for the future, and the December forest fire's effect on Israel's Hof HaCarmel region. He is an avid birder who enjoys sharing Israel's natural environment with visitors. His talk will be about birds migration in Israel along the Great Rift Valley and the Mediterranean coast.

## NH's Agricultural History and Associated Bird Life

Saturday, October 1, 9 am–3:30 pm

Location: Rolfe House and Morrill fields, 11 Penacook Street, Penacook NH

Cost: \$7

The Penacook Historical Society and NH Audubon offer a look back at New Hampshire's agricultural history and the bird life associated with it. Exhibits open at 9 am. At 10 am and again at 1:30 pm, NH Commissioner of Agriculture Lorraine Merrill will highlight agricultural land uses through time, followed by Carol Foss, NHA Conservation Director, speaking to farming's influence on New Hampshire's bird life. At 9 am and 1 pm the Capital Area Chapter's Rob Woodward will lead walks to look for migrating sparrows in adjacent riverbottom fields farmed by the Morrill family. *To pre-register, contact Kathie at 224-9909 x310 or [kpalfy@nhaudubon.org](mailto:kpalfy@nhaudubon.org). Lunch will be served.*

## New England Nature Writers Series

Series Opens: Thursday, November 17, 7 pm

Cost: Free

Hear New Hampshire author Sy Montgomery discuss the wonderful similarities and differences between birds and humans in her book BIRDOLOGY. She will concentrate on the chapters, Birds are Dinosaurs and Birds are Made of Air. Using photos of chickens, cassowaries and hummingbirds, she will show how each of these birds reveals a different and surprising aspect of what makes a bird a bird. Ms. Montgomery is a naturalist, author, documentary scriptwriter, and radio commentator who writes for children as well as adults. Among her award-winning books are The Good Good Pig, Journey of the Pink Dolphins, Spell of the Tiger, and Search for the Golden Moon Bear. Birdology will be available for purchase and signing.

## FAMILY PROGRAMS

### Raptor Identification & Hawk Watching at Carter Hill

Saturdays: September 10, September 24, October 8  
10 am–noon

Cost: \$10 M/\$15 NM

Leader: Kevin Wall

Join Kevin for this in-depth look at migrating raptors. We begin with a discussion on the basics of raptor natural history, migration, and identification. We then join our experts on the viewing platform where we put our newly acquired skills to practice. This is a great opportunity for those interested in becoming involved with our hawk watch program and folks who just want to improve their naturalist skills. *Pre-registration required. Please call 603-224-9909, ext 333 to register.*

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

Visit [www.nhaudubon.org/programs](http://www.nhaudubon.org/programs) for an exciting lineup of fall programs offered to preschool and homeschool groups at the McLane Center.

## ADULT PROGRAMS

**NEW! The Nature Café, Fridays, 7–9 pm**

**Cost: \$5 per person, Free for Massabesic Volunteers**

Come join us once per month at the beautiful Massabesic Center to enjoy drinks and desserts while you learn about our natural environment. Experts in their field will be teaching us about varying aspects of our environment.

**September 16: Backyard Medicine: Identifying and Using Common Medicinal Plants**

**Speaker: Maria Noel Groves, Clinical Herbalist and Health Journalist, Wintergreen Botanicals, LLC [www.wintergreenbotanicals.com](http://www.wintergreenbotanicals.com)**

We'll look at several common safe, wild plants that have useful healing properties and discuss how to make remedies with them. You'll get a list of recipes to try at home. If the weather is nice, we'll visit the plants outdoors, if not, the class is easily adapted to the classroom.

**October 14: Nature Journaling**

**Speaker: Susanna Hargreaves, Educator and Writer, <http://susannahargreaves.com>**

Susanna will explain how free writing, poetry, personal reflection writing, and nature sketching are a great way to celebrate and connect with the world around you. Take a step outside with your pencils and journal, and discover your voice through the love of nature. Suggested supplies: Colored Pencils, Pencils, Crayons, Erasers, a Digital Camera, and a Journal.

**November 4: Drawing and Painting From Nature**

**Speaker: Ron Plante, Artist Illustrator and Educator**

Ron will offer examples and tips for capturing the feeling of what you saw in the wild while we use the animals of Massabesic as our models. Bring your note pad and/or sketchbook. You will learn how to research and create studies and roughs that lead to finished works of art.

**Introduction to Pelagic Wildlife**

**Saturday, September 3, 3–4 pm**

**Cost: \$5 (free to those attending Pelagic Trip on Sept. 6)**

**Leader: Jon Woolf**

Come see a brief slideshow about some of the common birds and whales you might see just off NH's coast.

**Pelagic Trip**

**Location: Rye Harbor, NH**

**Tuesday, September 6, 8 am–5 pm**

**Cost: \$65 M/\$85 NM**

Join NH Audubon aboard MV Granite State as we explore Jeffreys Ledge, 20 miles off the New Hampshire coast. Search the length of Jeffreys Ledge for pelagic seabirds, whales and dolphins. Participants need to meet at 7:30 am at Rye Harbor for 8 am departure. Max. 50.

**Nature Photography Workshop Series**

**Cost: \$120 M / \$150 NM for the whole series or \$45 M / \$55 NM for individual sessions**

**Leader: David Saxe, USA Aloft, LLC.**

Introductory level course. For more specific information, please visit [www.usaaloft.com/courses](http://www.usaaloft.com/courses).

**Saturday, September 17, 12–4 pm: Composition, Venues and Examples**

**Saturday, October 1, 12–4 pm: Camera Equipment and Operation, Field Techniques**

**Saturday, October 15, 1–5 pm: Exposure, Focusing / Depth of Field, Workflow**

**Shorebirds Workshop**

**Saturday, September 17, 3–5 pm**

**Cost: \$5 (Free if attending Shorebirds Field Trip)**

**Leader: Jon Woolf**

Study the features and field marks of common plovers and sandpipers in the classroom and learn how to identify many of the species that populate New Hampshire's shorelines.

**Shorebirds Field Trip**

**Sunday, September 18, 9 am–1 pm**

**Cost: \$10 M/\$15 NM**

**Leader: Jon Woolf**

Join us as we travel to the beach to look for sandpipers and plovers and other shorebirds. Bring binoculars. Max 12 participants.

**Coastal Birding Trips**

**Wednesday, September 21; Wednesday, October 19;**

**Wednesday, November 16; 9 am–2:30 pm**

**Cost: \$6 M/\$9 NM per trip**

**Leader: JoAnn O'Shaughnessy**

Meet at the Hampton Beach State Park parking lot and carpool from there to coastal hot spots. Max. 24 people.

**Hikes of New England**

**Saturday, October 29, 10–noon**

**Cost: \$8M/\$12NM**

Leader: Jeff Romano, author of *Best Loop Hikes: New Hampshire's White Mountains to the Maine Coast* and *100 Classic Hikes in New England*

Watch a slide show and discover some of New England's best places to spot wildlife, and gather information to plan your next hiking adventure.

**Soap Making Workshop**

**Saturday, October 29, 1–3 pm**

**Cost: \$15 M/\$25 NM, plus \$5 materials fee**

**Leader: Barbara Benton, Little Cabin Crafts**

Come join us for a demonstration of making hand-crafted soap using all natural ingredients and essential oils. Each person will take home a bar of soap.

## ADULT PROGRAMS, continued

### Photography Printing Workshop

**Saturday, November 12, 10 am–5 pm**

**Cost:** \$25 M/\$35NM plus materials fees based on paper type, size and quantity selected.

**Leader:** David Saxe, USA Aloft, LLC.

Learn how to prepare your digital images for printing and go home with a final print. For more specific information, please visit [www.usaloft.com/courses](http://www.usaloft.com/courses).

The Massabesic Audubon Center is holding a **TREE DRAWING** from now until Oct. 22. Choose an ornamental, fruit, or flowering tree. Approx \$100 value. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$x.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Great opportunities to meet wonderful people, help care for resident wildlife, and spread Audubon's message! Needs include: educators for school programs and birthday parties, greeters, cleaning/upkeep of building, marketing, soliciting donations, and limited animal care. Email Sarah for more info at [skoval@NHaudubon.org](mailto:skoval@NHaudubon.org).

## FAMILY PROGRAMS

### Massabesic's "Passport to Adventure"

**Now through October, Cost:** \$2 per passport

Follow clues that lead to various locations around the Audubon Center and its trails. Complete your passport and get added to the Wall of Fame, and be entered into a drawing to win a prize!

### Cheese and Garlic Workshop

**Saturday, September 10, 1–3 pm**

**Cost:** Individuals \$15M/\$18NM; Families \$20M/\$30 NM

**Leaders:** Barbara Benton and Angie Krysiak

Learn how to make mozzarella cheese, then talk about garlic-how to grow it, harvest it, and the many reasons it is good for you! Come hungry. Ages 10 and up, please.

### National Public Lands Day: Saturday, September 24

**Cost:** FREE, suggested donation \$5/person, \$10/family

Get outside and enjoy our beautiful sanctuary of fields, forests, ponds, and lake by participating in our naturalist-led themed nature walks themed each hour on the hour from 10am to 2pm, including tree and plant ID, vernal pool and pond explorations, history of the New England landscape, bird watching and song identification, and New Hampshire wildlife habitat hunt. Refreshments provided.

### Enchanted Fall Festival

**Saturday, October 22, 3:30–8 pm**

**Cost:** Families \$15 M/\$20 NM

Tour guides will lead guests along a lit pathway to learn about the wild creatures of the season. Be entertained with skits, live animals, and stories dispelling myths about the creatures of Halloween. Visit our Barn Theatre and enjoy a puppet show by local entertainer, Karen Lincoln. Enjoy refreshments, crafts, games and live music by Fiddlin' Bill and his group. Gather around the campfire. *Pre-registration required for a specific tour time. Tours leave every 45 minutes starting at 4 pm with the last tour at 7 pm.*

## Birds of Prey Show: featuring a Live Golden Eagle

**Saturday, November 19, Two Shows: Noon–1 pm & 2–3**

**Cost:** \$8 M/\$10NM Individuals, Families: \$20M/\$30 NM

Get a close-up look at a live Golden Eagle, Turkey Vulture and other birds of prey with this exceptional presentation by Tom Ricardi, a licensed rehabilitator and wildlife biologist. Learn about the great work done by the Massachusetts Bird of Prey Rehabilitation Facility, which cares for injured birds and operates a successful captive-breeding program. *Our thanks to Joann O'Shaughnessy for underwriting this program.*

## PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS, Wee Wonders

**Tuesdays, 12:30–2 pm, Wednesdays, 10–11:30 am**

**Cost:** \$8 M / \$11 NM (per child/parent pair)

Discover the changing seasons through hands-on activities, songs, crafts, stories, and outdoor discovery. Siblings are welcome. Please dress to be outside and wear appropriate footwear. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required.

### Fall Session 1: Let's Go Camping

September 13/14: Night Creatures

September 20/21: Shelters and Tents

September 27/28: Hike Safe

October 4/5: Which Way Do I Go?

October 11/12: Camping With Critters

October 18/19: Night Lights

### Fall Session 2: Autumn Adventures

November 1/2: Rainbow Leaves

November 8/9: Speed of Seeds

November 15/16: Scurry, Scurry, Squirrels in a Hurry

November 29/30: Migration Mysteries

## HOMESCHOOL PROGRAMS, Junior Explorers

**Tuesdays, 12:30–2, Wednesdays, 10–11:30**

**Cost:** \$8 M / \$11 NM (per adult/child pair)

Parents, drop off your older children for a class that can't be beat. We'll explore the natural world with live animals, nature walks, and hands-on activities that follow a different natural theme each day. Be prepared to be outside! Classes are for ages 7-12. Pre-registration is required, parents may stay and participate.

### Fall Session 1: Let's Go Camping

September 20/21: Shelters and Tents

October 4/5: Which Way Do I Go?

October 18/19: Night Lights

### Fall Session 2: Autumn Adventures

November 1/2: Leaves and Seeds

November 15/16: Scurry, Scurry, Squirrels in a Hurry

November 29/30: Migration Mysteries

## Wild NH Amateur Photography Show

**September 10–December 4**

Experience the beauty of New Hampshire's landscapes, animals and wildflowers. This 5<sup>th</sup> annual photography show features winning photos submitted by amateur photographers. All the photos in this year's show will be auctioned. Come and bid on your favorites before the closing silent auction reception on Sunday, December 4 from 2-4pm. *Proceeds benefit Massabesic Audubon Center.*



## Holiday Wreaths!

## Natural Beauty for the Holidays

Order a fragrant balsam fir wreath and support New Hampshire Audubon's Educational Programs!

### Sizes available (outside diameter):

18" wreath	for your door	\$24 with bow
24" wreath	for your window	\$28 with bow
36" wreath	for wherever you need that large wreath!	\$50 with bow
48" wreath	for your barn door	\$60 with bow

**TO ORDER:** Complete this order form and mail in with payment. Or if you prefer, use your credit card and call or fax your order. Submit orders by November 4. Members receive a 10% discount! Wreath pick-up begins Tues., November 29.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ NH Audubon Member: Y or N

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

WREATH SIZE	PRICE	BOW	COLOR (check one)	DECORATED**	TOTAL
<input type="checkbox"/> 18" wreath	_____ \$24	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Burgundy <input type="checkbox"/> Gold <input type="checkbox"/> Red	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, add \$5	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> 24" wreath	_____ \$28	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Burgundy <input type="checkbox"/> Gold <input type="checkbox"/> Red	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, add \$6	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> 36" wreath	_____ \$50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Burgundy <input type="checkbox"/> Gold <input type="checkbox"/> Red	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, add \$8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> 48" wreath	_____ \$60	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Burgundy <input type="checkbox"/> Gold <input type="checkbox"/> Red	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, add \$10	_____
PAID BY: <input type="checkbox"/> CASH	<input type="checkbox"/> CHECK	<input type="checkbox"/> MC/VISA	Member Discount (-10%) - _____		TOTAL _____

MC/VISA # \_\_\_\_\_ EXP DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Pick up at (please check one): \_\_\_\_\_ Massabesic (Auburn) OR \_\_\_\_\_ McLane (Concord)

Massabesic Audubon Center \* 26 Audubon Way, Auburn 03032 \* Ph. 668-2045 \* Fax 668-3796

## Newfound Audubon Center

### ABOUT NEWFOUND AUDUBON CENTER

Located on the beautiful northern shore of Newfound Lake, the Newfound Audubon Center is comprised of three wildlife sanctuaries: Paradise Point Nature Center, Ash Cottage at Hebron Marsh Sanctuary and Bear Mountain Sanctuary. The trails at all three sanctuaries are open year-round to bird watchers and hikers, Nordic skiers and snowshoers, and all-around nature lovers. Paradise Point and Hebron Marsh extend to the water's edge, allowing visitors to experience more of Newfound Lake's habitat, while Bear Mountain's hillside habitat exemplifies the beauty of New Hampshire's woodlands. With sanctuary trails open all year long and exciting summertime program offerings, there is always something to do.

**North Shore Road  
Hebron NH 03222  
603-744-3516**

## The Loon Center

### ABOUT THE LOON CENTER

The Loon Center is open Monday through Saturday from 9am-5pm. Enjoy the educational displays and award-winning videos, as well as the trails on the Markus Wildlife Sanctuary, which are open from dawn until dusk daily for walking, snowshoeing, or cross-country skiing. Then stop into the Loon's Feather Gift Shop for unique holiday and birthday gifts!

The Loon Center is a self-directed and self-funded constituent organization of NH Audubon located on the 200-acre Markus Wildlife Sanctuary. The Loon Preservation Committee exists to restore and maintain a healthy population of loons throughout New Hampshire; to monitor the health and productivity of loon populations as sentinels of environmental quality; and to promote a greater understanding of loons and the natural world. All gift shop proceeds benefit Common Loon research and preservation in New Hampshire.

### Kick Off the Holiday Season at Our Holiday Open House! Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm

- Raffle drawing, kids' activities, hay rides, face painting by Cedar, AND Santa arrives at noon!
- Stop by for family fun and special savings in the Loon's Feather Gift Shop.
- For more information, call (603)476-LOON (5666) or email info@loon.org.

**Lees Mills Road  
Moultonborough, NH 03254  
603-476-5666**



## Sanctuary Field Trips

### **Raptor Migration at Willard Pond's Bald Mountain Sunday, September 25, 9 am–1 pm**

Resident caretaker/naturalists and NHA staff, Phil and Julie Brown, and the Harris Center's Eric Masterson, will lead participants on a short hike to the scenic slopes of Bald Mountain to witness raptor migration along the Turtle Hill – Bald Mountain ridgeline. Not a formal hawk watch site, it has long been noted that raptor migration along this corridor may yield notable trends, as the raptor observatory at Pack Monadnock has noted there. The day might also provide some interesting insight into the potential threats of still-pending wind power development on Willard Mountain, which abuts NHA's largest wildlife sanctuary. Aside from that, the views are breathtaking, and given good conditions, the migration may be impressive. The hike to the slopes is moderate, but somewhat steep, and is about one mile each way. *Bring binoculars, a lunch and plenty of water, and be prepared for sun exposure.* Co-sponsored by the Harris Center. Contact: Phil & Julie Brown at 525-4096 or at brown@hmana.org to RSVP.

### **Hawkwatch & 'Big Sit' at NH Audubon's Pack Monadnock Observatory**

**Sunday, October 9, 10 am–2 pm (or 9 am at the parking area for Miller State Park to hike up the mountain)**

**Cost:** \$12M/\$15NM (includes admission into Miller SP) Join Site Coordinator and expert raptor biologist, Julie Brown, and the seasonal counter to see the spectacle of raptor migration from Pack Monadnock Raptor Observatory. Falcon migration is at peak in early to mid October, and there are great possibilities to see generally seldom-seen birds, such as Northern Goshawk and Merlin, up close. In addition, lend your eyes to staff and volunteers, who will be conducting the annual 'Big Sit' birding event from the location, in which all species of birds will be tallied. *Pack binoculars, water, and lunch.* Co-sponsored by the Vermont Institute for Natural Sciences (VINS). Contact: Julie Brown at brown@hmana.org or 525-4096 to RSVP.

### **Sanctuary Ecology Expedition (SEE) Field Trip Series**

#### **Sept 9: Willard Pond WS Paddle with the Loons**

Bring your own boat for a morning of paddling scenic Willard Pond with its resident loons, dramatic surroundings, and migrant birds in the air.

#### **Oct 14: Chase WS Peak Foliage Hike**

A black gum swamp, moose sign, and extensive marsh views might surprise you during this peak season hike of NH Audubon's 4<sup>th</sup> largest wildlife sanctuary.

#### **Nov 4: Ponemah Bog WS Bog Stomp**

'The Bog' in fall impresses visitors with its unique & subtle foliage and late wild fruits. Bog Cranberry, blueberries, huckleberries, and Winterberry are among them. Of course, there are always carnivorous plants and late migrant songbirds to marvel at from the bog boardwalk.

**Cost:** \$8M/\$12NM, All field trips 8–11 am.

Join Phil Brown, Director of Land Management, for Friday morning trips. We'll look at fall migrating birds, peak foliage, and learn about the history and ecological significance of each location. Contact: Phil Brown at pbrown@nhaudubon.org or at 224-9909x334. RSVP required.

## Chapter Happenings

### **AMMONOOSUC CHAPTER**

All evening programs, unless otherwise noted, are held at the Rocks Estate on Christmas Tree Lane and Glessner Road in Bethlehem, NH. Programs start at 7 pm and are free and open to the public. For more information contact David Govatski, Ammonoosuc Chapter President at david.govatski@gmail.com

#### **September 21: Naturally Curious with author, photographer and naturalist Mary Holland**

Take a month by month journey through the fields, woods and marshes of New England through the photos in this award winning book. An extensive natural history collection from Mary Holland will also be on display and copies of her book will be available for signing.

#### **October 9: Big Sit at Pondicherry NWR**

Participate in the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Big Sit at the Tudor Richards Viewing Platform on Cherry Pond in Jefferson, NH. The Pondicherry Marsh Hawks team will be present from before sunrise to after sunset counting species on this international birding event. This event kicks off National Wildlife Refuge Week and free posters will be available. Access to the viewing platform is by a 1.6 mile walk along the Presidential Range Rail Trail from the trailhead on Airport Road in Whitefield.

#### **October 19: Natural Communities of New Hampshire with David Govatski**

Explore New Hampshire's natural beauty through the lens of ecologists and photographers Ben Kimball and Dan Sperduto. Featuring photos of rare and special plant communities and habitats throughout the state, you'll learn new ways to look at the natural landscape and find out places to visit some of New Hampshire's unique places.

#### **November 16: Green Fire - The Legacy of Aldo Leopold**

See the first full length, high definition film about legendary conservationist Aldo Leopold and his environmental legacy. Green Fire examines Leopold's thinking and his development of a land ethic as written in his classic book Sand County Almanac. The film draws on Leopold's life and experiences to provide context and validity and explores the deep impact of his thinking on conservation projects

around the world today.

### **CAPITAL AREA**

#### **Field Trip: Fall Migrants at Clough Saturday, September 10, 8 am–noon**

Local birders regularly visit



*Chase Sanctuary in the fall.*

Clough State Park and adjacent areas of the Hopkinton–Everett Flood

Control Area in spring, but the site is rarely birded in fall. No more! Join Pam Hunt to see what's there in September. Meet at McLane Center. Contact: Pam Hunt at biodiva@myfairpoint.net or 753-9137

# Chapter Happenings

## CAPITAL AREA, continued

### Field Trip: Carter Hill Raptor Observatory at Peak Migration

**Wednesday, September 14, 10 am–2 pm**

(Limited to 10 participants, pre-register w/Phil Brown at contact shown) Join expert hawk-watchers, Phil Brown and Robert Vallieres, for some sky-watching at Carter Hill during peak Broad-winged Hawk migration! In addition to Broad-wings, favorable winds should favor Sharp-shinned Hawks, American Kestrels, Ospreys, Bald Eagles, and several other species of raptors. Bring binoculars (we have a few loaners on

hand), water, a lunch, and sun protection.

Contact: Phil

Brown at pbrown@nhaudubon.org or 224-9909x334

### Field Trip: Hike

#### Mount Kearsarge for Hawks, Foliage, & Views

**Sunday, September 25, 8 am–noon**

Meet Bob Quinn in the parking lot on the north side of the mountain (Wilmot) for this moderately strenuous half-day hike to the summit of Merrimack County's greatest peak! There is a modest fee to park. Contact Bob at raqbirds@aol.com to pre-register. If the weather is against us we will bird Cascade Marsh and other local sites. Bring lunch if you want to linger on the mountain.

### Program: Cycles of the Turtle Season in NH

**Wednesday, September 28, 7 pm**

#### Location: McLane Center

New Hampshire Naturalist, Author and Illustrator, David Carroll, will present an overview of the year of the turtle: from emergence from hibernation through courtship and mating, nesting, summer activity, and the return to hibernation. The focus will be on Spotted, Wood, and Blanding's turtles. Conservation issues and the need for preservation will also be discussed. Artwork by the Carroll Family will also be on display.

### Field Trip: Morrill Fields, Penacook

**Saturday, October 1, 9 am & 1 pm**

As part of Penacook Historical Society and NH Audubon's celebration of the history of agriculture and its influence on bird populations, Rob Woodward will lead morning & afternoon trips along the riverbottom fields farmed by the Morrill family in search of sparrows and other migrants. This is a day-long event, so come for the birds and stay for the lectures and lunch! There will be a \$7.00 fee and pre-registration is suggested. (More info on page 9.)

### Field Trip: A Sparrow Party!

**Saturday, October 15, 7:30 am**

We will learn sparrow identification while enjoying spiced cider and pie. Meet at the community gardens off Clinton Street, Concord. Contact: Rob Woodward 224-0889



*Dirk van der Merwe*

### Field Trip: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Concord November Challenge! Saturday-Sunday, November 5-6

A tradition begun in November 2008, when several intrepid birders fanned out around the city of Concord to see how many species they could find in a single late-fall weekend and tallied a remarkable 91, has become an annual event continued in '09 with 75 and '10 with 77. Join the fun this year and find out if 2011 will outdo any of the previous years! Anyone is welcome to participate for all or part of the weekend, which will also include at least one meal gathering to compare notes and plan strategy mid-weekend. Beginner birders can be paired with people who know their birds and their way around the city. If interested, contact Pam Hunt at 753-9137 or biodiva@myfairpoint.net and she'll keep you posted as the plan forms.

### Field Trip: Birders Choice for Late Fall Rarities

**Sunday, November 6, 8 am**

An all-day trip with Bob Quinn and a guest leader to seek out the rarest of the rare, or at least whatever is around. We will start the day early in Concord and help with the local birding blitz then probably head for the coast. There should be a wide variety of late fall and early winter species. Bring lunch and foul-weather gear. Meet at the McLane Center at 7:00 am or at 11:00 am for the second shift which will go wherever the birds beckon us. Contact Bob for more hints at raqbirds@aol.com.

## LAKES REGION CHAPTER

### Field Trip: Chamberlin Reynolds Forest, Center Harbor Saturday, September 17, 8–11 am

We'll look for fall migrants in a variety of habitats near and along the shore of Squam Lake. Meet at the parking area by the information sign on College Rd. Of the two parking areas, this is the more southerly one and is the first one on the right when approaching from Route 25B.

Contact: Tony Vazzano at 284-7718 or tvazzano@ncia.net

### Program: Moths

**Thursday, Sep 22, 7:30 pm**

Join Master Naturalist Rick Van de Poll for a fun evening staring at bright lights! Put on your feathery proprioceptors and tune in to the hundreds of species of moths that ply our night skies. Dr. Van de Poll will cover the basics of morphology, physiology, and ecology using his award-winning slides. After viewing close-up images of some of the 600+ species he has recorded locally, we will journey outside (weather depending) to see what the light traps have brought in. Kids completely welcome, bats are not allowed! The Loon Center on Lees Mill Rd. Moultonborough. Handicapped accessible.

Contact: The Loon Center at 476-LOON (476-5666)

### Programs: To Be Announced

(Check [www.nhaudubon.org](http://www.nhaudubon.org) for details.)

**Thursday, Oct 20, 7:30 pm**

**Thursday, Nov 17, 7:30 pm**

The Loon Center on Lees Mill Rd. Moultonborough. Handicapped accessible.

Contact: The Loon Center at 476-LOON (476-5666)

## MONADNOCK CHAPTER

### Field Trip: Nighthawk Migration in Keene Thursday, Sept 1, 6–7 pm

Join Cliff Seifer in monitoring one of the under-appreciated spectacles of fall migration, the annual flight of Common Nighthawks over the Monadnock Region. An average night will provide great looks at a handful of these incredible nightjars and on a good night you can see hundreds of Nighthawks feeding in giant flocks. Meet at Stone Arch Village on Court St in Keene. Contact: Cliff Seifer at [clifdisc@gmail.com](mailto:clifdisc@gmail.com) for more information

### Program: Hawk watching at Pack Monadnock Thursday, September 8, 7–8 pm at the Harris Center

Want to learn how to identify a Sharp-shinned from a Cooper's hawk, or a Merlin from a Kestrel? Are you intrigued by the art and science of raptor counting? Or are you interested in raptor population trends in the Northeast and in NH? If so come see Julie Brown, who will present a slideshow on raptors seen at NHA's own Pack Monadnock Raptor Observatory at Miller State Park. Co-sponsored by the Harris Center. Contact: Julie Brown at [brown@hmana.org](mailto:brown@hmana.org) or at 525-4096 for more details

### Field Trip: Migration at Keene's Krif Road Sunday, September 18, 2011, 7–10 am

Mid-September is a fantastic time to look for migrants at Keene's Krif Road area (which includes the Keene State College Wildlife Management Area and the Ashuelot Rail Trail). On a good day one can find over 15 species of warblers including Cape May and Tennessee, multiple sparrows including Lincoln's, and Indigo Buntings, migrant raptors and much more! In addition, the possibility of exciting rarities (Lark Sparrow and Connecticut Warbler have been seen here in September) makes this a "must-do" field trip. Meet trip leader Ken Klapper at 7 am at the cul-de-sac on Krif Rd (off Rt 10 south of the Keene traffic circle) outside the Keene State College Athletic Complex gate) *Bring binoculars, field guides, water, and insect repellent.*

Contact: Ken Klapper at [kklapper@gmail.com](mailto:kklapper@gmail.com)

### Field Trip: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Monadnock Waterfowl Safari Sunday, October 30, 8 am–2 pm

Join Phil Brown in searching for migratory waterfowl on several of the region's numerous lakes and ponds. Upwards of 12 species are possible on this trip, which will be a driving tour of the perennially productive lakes of the Monadnock region. Depending upon conditions, large flocks of Scoters are possible, as well as several species of Grebe, migratory Common Loons, and more. We'll aim to visit over a dozen lakes in about eight towns. We will meet in front of the Nelson Town Hall at 8 am and loop around the region from there, stop for a lunch, and return in the early afternoon. Trip goes rain or shine. Co-sponsored by the Harris Center. Contact: Phil Brown at [pbrown@nhaudubon.org](mailto:pbrown@nhaudubon.org) or at 224-9909x334 to carpool and for details



*American Bittern by Phil Brown*

### Field Trip: Golden Eagle Vigils

#### Weekends, Oct 29 – Nov 13, 10 am–2 pm

Weather permitting, on weekends between October 29 and Nov. 13th, 10 am – 2 pm, we will hike to hilltop sites in Dublin, Peterborough, Marlborough, and Stoddard in hopes of viewing the scarce migratory Golden Eagle. These birds are migrating from Greenland, northern Quebec and Labrador. While small in number, they offer a spectacular conclusion to the fall raptor season. If you haven't seen a Golden Eagle, this is probably your best chance in NH! Join us to better understand their migratory patterns in NH. Contact: Tom Warren at 563-7194 for information on sites and directions.

### Field Trip: Full Beaver Moon Hike at Willard Pond WS Thursday, November 10, 7:30 pm

The full "Beaver Moon" corresponds to a time of year when the busy rodents are foraging for their winter food, some of which they will impale in the mud near their lodges underneath bodies of water where they den. This will ensure beavers a food supply through the long winter when their mobility is limited, and their activity is often seen by the light of the moon. We'll explore a favorite haunt of this charismatic creature, the Mill Pond, and examine the interconnected relationship of this species with our own. We'll also listen for Coyotes, Barred and Northern Saw-whet Owls, and whatever else yelps or hoots in the night! Bring a headlamp in case the moon is out, and be prepared for about one mile of night hiking. Co-sponsored by the Harris Center. Contact: Phil Brown at [pbrown@nhaudubon.org](mailto:pbrown@nhaudubon.org) or at 224-9909x334

## SOO-NIPI CHAPTER

All programs held at Tracy Memorial Library, New London. Contact Natalie Davis at [dnatalie3832@yahoo.com](mailto:dnatalie3832@yahoo.com) or 763-5320.

### The Loons of Pleasant Lake

#### Friday, Sept 9, 7:30 pm

Kittie Wilson, recipient of the 2009 Spirit of the Loon Award from the Loon Preservation Committee, will talk and present slides of Loon families on the lake.

### Naturally Curious by Mary

#### Holland

#### Friday, October 14, 7:30 pm

Mary Holland will present a slide show, based on her recently published book. She will take us month by month, show each month's most memorable events of the natural world. Books for sale.

### Birds of the Texas Gulf Coast

#### Friday, November 11, 7:30 am

Robin Gray, an avid local birder and Soo-Nipi member, will talk and a slide show about his recent visit to some of the Texas Gulf Coast' birding hot spots.





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We are trying to streamline our mailing list. If you would prefer to receive electronic communications from NH Audubon, please call (603)224-9909 or email [emedia@nhaudubon.org](mailto:emedia@nhaudubon.org)

Mark Your Calendar:

**Annual Library Book Sale**  
Saturday, November 19, 9am–3pm  
McLane Center in Concord

- Plan to arrive early for the best selection
- Great bargains on a wide variety of used books
- Special half-price sale starts at 2pm!
- Proceeds benefit the F. B. White Library

Book Donations

We welcome all kinds of book donations, including cookbooks, paperbacks, fiction, non-fiction, hardcover novels, children's, mysteries, etc. We especially like to have a large selection of bird books, field guides and natural history books. We will accept donations between Oct. 3–Nov. 11. Please hold on to your donations until then as we do not have room to store them. We do not accept magazines, text books or old encyclopedias. Thank you!

Book Sale Volunteers Needed

Help our team of book lovers set up and organize the sale on Nov. 18. Contact Kathie at 224-9909 x310 or [kpalfy@nhaudubon.org](mailto:kpalfy@nhaudubon.org). Heavy lifting involved.

**Corporate Partner Spotlight**

Stonyfield Farm is committed to “healthy food, healthy people, a healthy planet and healthy business.” Founded in 1983 and today headquartered in Londonderry, NH,



Stonyfield is the world's leading organic yogurt maker, with annual sales at \$366 million and 467 employees. Its dairy products are sold in stores across the U.S. and internationally through sister brands, Stonyfield Canada, Glenisk (Ireland), and Les Deux Vaches (France). Fundamental to Stonyfield's mission is the belief that business must lead the way to a more sustainable future. Energy efficiency improvements have reduced facility energy use and associated CO2 emissions by one-third. Recycling has kept more than 20 million pounds of materials from landfills, and anaerobic pre-treatment generates energy from yogurt processing wastes.

The ingredients for Stonyfield products come from hundreds of farms on more than 100,000 acres that are managed with organic practices.

**OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS**

Public Service Company of New Hampshire • TransCanada  
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Normandeau Associates • Stonyfield Farm • Rath, Young, and Pignatelli, P.C.  
Ed Reilly Subaru • Weare Animal Hospital • Grappone Automotive Group

If you would like to become a Corporate Partner of NH Audubon, please contact us at (603) 224-9909, ext. 307.