

NH Audubon **Afield**



Raptors Mate for Life, but Rarely Grieve

Overcoming loss of her mate of nearly nine years and abandoning her first clutch of eggs, Manchester's resourceful female Peregrine Falcon, "Black/Green 02/Z," defied the odds by fledging one juvenile in July 2014. Preserving an unbroken string of 14 productive breeding seasons for the Queen City's nesting falcons since 2001, this success offers a strong case for the resilience of our recovering New England peregrine population.

It took only three days for 02/Z to attract a new male when her previous mate, 14-yr old "Black/Green 6/7," was found badly injured several miles from the nest box on Manchester's south side in late March. She abandoned her clutch of four eggs after 48 hours of solo effort, but a day later was

courting a new unbanded 1-yr old male. Unpaired individuals called "floaters" are an important but often overlooked piece in healthy wild populations. Coincidentally, 02/Z's first mate, 6/7, was also a 1-yr old when he first settled in Manchester in 2001. Two males and two females have occupied the Manchester territory since 2001, each bird being one or two years old when first joining the pair.

Manchester's breeding peregrines have posted a remarkable record of productivity, fledgling 39 young over 14 consecutive successful years. With support from NH Fish and Game, NH Audubon has been managing recovery of the Granite State's threatened Peregrine Falcon population for more than two decades. Every one of the Manchester offspring have been color-banded,

Continued on page 11

Above: Manchester's female Peregrine Falcon, Black/Green 02/Z. Photo by Mark Karl.



100th Annual Meeting & Celebration

Don't miss our Centennial gathering at Camp Wicosuta in Hebron on September 20! See page CE4 for details.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Raptor Observatories	3
Conservation News	4
Massabesic Audubon Center	7
McLane Center	9
Teacher Workshops	10
Amoskeag Fishways	11
Statewide Chapters	12



NH AUDUBON
Celebrating 100 Years of Conservation

Protecting New Hampshire's
Natural Environment
for Wildlife and for People



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New Hampshire Audubon Afield

Kelly Wing, General Editor

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Friends,



Seasons. At a certain point in life, one becomes more poignantly aware of the characteristics of each one... and of how much more quickly they seem to pass! Each season of this Centennial year has brought renewed energy and success to New Hampshire Audubon. In fact, the year full of events and celebrations (and not over yet!) has exceeded our wildest expectations.

But there was another passing this year, one that has left a void at New Hampshire Audubon.

On page 6 of this issue, you will read the obituary of Arthur W. Mudge. Art was an avid birder, mountain climber, explorer – and long-time member and Trustee of New Hampshire Audubon. He was a generous and involved advocate, principled and extremely successful in all he did. Art's passions were clear and simple – his family and his affection for nature. He loved hiking, traveling and preserving the natural world, and he loved sharing those activities with his family and his many friends. Art was the heart, soul and conscience of New Hampshire Audubon, through thick and thin. As one colleague noted, his “invisible fingerprints” are evident on our conservation efforts throughout the state.

We, as New Hampshire Audubon members, should aspire to leave our own invisible fingerprints on the causes we hold dear. Through each season of every year, your support makes a difference. Art's example proves that point. We will miss him – but we are so very glad that all of you are here to continue carrying the conservation torch.

—Michael J. Bartlett
President, New Hampshire Audubon



NH Audubon volunteer Robert Vallieres prepares to release a rehabilitated Broad-winged Hawk at Carter Hill Raptor Observatory in September 2013. (Photo by Jen Esten.) Details on NH Audubon's Raptor Observatories are on facing page.

Celebrate the 10th Year of Raptor Monitoring and Outreach at Pack Monadnock

Pack Monadnock & Carter Hill Observatories Open September 1 through mid-November

During NH Audubon's Centennial year of 2014, another notable milestone is being reached – the 10th consecutive year of raptor migration monitoring at the Pack Monadnock Raptor Observatory, NH Audubon's first 'hawk watch'. This immensely popular and productive fall migration site at Miller State Park in Peterborough draws thousands of visitors to the platform annually. Here, from September 1 through mid-November, a NH Audubon educator/naturalist and a dedicated group of volunteers, aim to record every migrating raptor and reach every visitor with an educational message. Last fall's numbers tell only part of the story: nearly 600 hours of summit time, over 3,600 visitors to the platform including 600 students in class groups, and over 11,000 migrating raptors counted including a first-ever short-eared owl!

The story is much the same at the newer Carter Hill Raptor Observatory in Concord (entering its seventh consecutive year), but the surroundings are quite different. This year, thanks this fall to the generous support of our lead sponsor, Ed Reilly Subaru, we will again be able to hire a full-time naturalist/educator at the observatory. As a result, NH Audubon will be well suited to reach the 5,000+ visitors we expect this fall – and to tally the unknown thousands of migrating raptors overhead. 'The Orchard' has proven to be an excellent place for both migration monitoring and

outreach.

This fall will feature programs focused on in-depth identification for both kids and adults. The ever-popular Raptor Release Weekend returns in September and features the release of a rehabilitated raptor at each site. For a somewhat smaller crowd, help volunteer birders tally all bird species at the annual International Big Sit on October 11.

Each September, during peak migration of broad-winged hawks, hundreds of third graders from Concord area schools descend upon Carter Hill Orchard to learn about raptors through an organized workshop sponsored by Project SEE and NH Audubon. Naturalists and volunteers instruct these students in raptor identification and life histories, and help them make the connections between raptors and environmental stewardship. This is just one example highlighting the educational value NH Audubon's raptor observatories offer to the general public for free every day.

Your support of the observatories is needed to help us continue our mission effectively. Purchase a useful raptor silhouette guide to hone your identification skills. Become a raptor observatory sponsor and take home a t-shirt or a hat with the classic Broad-winged Hawk logo. To support these premier research and education programs in any of the above ways, please contact Phil Brown at pbrown@nhaudubon.org or at 224-9909x334.

Locations

Carter Hill Orchard, our host site in Concord, offers a classic pick-your-own apples experience, as well as a full farmstand complete with freshly baked goods. Miller State Park (fee to enter), host of our Pack Monadnock site in Peterborough, offers some of the finest mountain views in southern NH and an auto road to the summit, as well as premier hiking. Both observatories are

free and open to the public between 9 and 5 daily, and NH Audubon staff and/or volunteers are present to count migrants – and to educate the public – at both sites during all but the most challenging weather conditions.

Raptor Observatory Events

Raptor Release Weekend:

Saturday, September 13, 1 pm at Pack Monadnock
 Sunday, September, 14, 4 pm at Carter Hill (rain date: September 21)

Big Sit Events:

Saturday, October 11, 9 am–5 pm at Pack Monadnock & Carter Hill – come anytime to lend your eyes or sponsor a site! (rain date: October 12)

Carter Hill Raptor Observatory – Peak Migration Workshop

Friday, September 19, 10 am–2 pm
 Cost: \$10/pp

Join Director of NH Audubon's Raptor Observatories, Phil Brown, at Carter Hill Orchard's 'Orchard Room' for a slideshow introduction/refresher of raptor identification and life history. We will then join the Interpretive Naturalist on the hawkwatch platform and partake in some sky-watching during the peak of Broad-winged Hawk migration! In addition to Broad-winged hawks, favorable winds should bring Sharp-shinned Hawks, American Kestrels, Northern Harriers, Ospreys, and Bald Eagles into view. 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 to RSVP as space is limited.

Sharpies, Sparrows, and Cider Donuts!

Sunday, October 12, 10 am – 1 pm
 Calling all young birders!! Join the Harriers: NH's Young Birders Club in a search for migrant raptors, sparrows, and other songbirds at Carter Hill Orchard at this peak time of year for a multitude of migrant species. Meet at the hawk watch platform, and feel free to bring a picnic lunch and stay all afternoon. See www.nhyoungbirders.org for more information.

Sandhill Crane Breeds in New Hampshire



Sandhill Crane photographed by Len Medlock in Durham, NH.

On June 22, Joyce and Duane Cate of Monroe entered the New Hampshire ornithological record books when they saw two adult Sandhill Cranes accompanied by a chick in the fields across from their house. Thus was the long-anticipated breeding of this species in the state finally confirmed. The saga of the Monroe cranes began way back in May 1999, when a single bird (later dubbed “Oscar” by the local schoolchildren) appeared in a field along Plains Road. For the next several years he returned to this same spot, but was always alone (and we know he was a male because at one point it was observed trying to mate with a Wild Turkey!). In 2013 the situation changed significantly when **two** birds were regularly observed in the area, and one year later the pair had successfully hatched a colt (as young cranes are called).

But as exciting as this event is for New Hampshire, it is equally exciting in a broader context, since the Monroe birds are actually part of a major range expansion by Sandhill Cranes into the Northeast. As recently as the early 1990s, the species only bred as far east as Michigan, but there were signs of scattered

pairs colonizing sites in Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. The first breeding record for Pennsylvania came in 1993, and by the end of that state’s Breeding Bird Atlas in 2009 it had been documented in 26 blocks. In 2000 (one year after Oscar first appeared in Monroe) the species made a significant jump east and was documented nesting in central Maine

(where 5-6 pairs now breed each year). Since then the area between Pennsylvania and Maine has slowly started to fill in, with breeding in New York in 2003, Vermont in 2005, and Massachusetts in 2007.

Sandhill Cranes nest in fields, bogs, and marshes, and in this context there is certainly room for more pairs in the state, and some may be hiding undetected in the large unexplored areas of Coos County. The New England population continues to grow, as evidenced by increasing sightings during spring and fall migration. At least twice birders have seen cranes engaged in courtship dancing in southern New Hampshire as they migrated north in spring. Some of these birds could easily have been on their way to Maine or Quebec, but we now know that another breeding destination is right here in the Granite State.

[This article is an abridged version of one that will appear in the Summer 2014 issue of *New Hampshire Bird Records*. See right for subscription information.]

—Pam Hunt

A New Look for New Hampshire Bird Records

New Hampshire Bird Records has a new, larger format with more room for pictures and articles. This quarterly is all about birds and birding in New Hampshire with the bird highlights from each season, articles on a wide variety of topics including where to bird, a Photo Quiz, and much more. Your subscription also helps support the collection and sharing of bird sighting data. To find out more and read a free article, go to www.nhbirdrecords.org.

The publication schedule was delayed with the new format, but we’re working to get caught up and now is a perfect time to subscribe. You can subscribe online or call NH Audubon at 603-224-9909.

New Summer Editor Needed

We are looking for someone interested in taking over the volunteer position of Summer Editor for *New Hampshire Bird Records*. The Season Editor reviews the bird reports for their season (including eBird review), writes the summaries of the highlights and determines the reports to be published. The job requires experience birding in New Hampshire, good writing skills, familiarity with eBird and Excel, and the ability to meet deadlines. If you are interested, please contact Rebecca Suomala, 603-224-9909 x309, rsuomala@nhaudubon.org.

2014 Rusty Blackbird Breeding Season

New Hampshire's Rusty Blackbird research team continued to expand knowledge of this species' population in Coos County during the 2014 breeding season. Beaver dams, slash piles, deep mud, and dense vegetation failed to deter the team's efforts to confirm returning birds at known territories and explore new areas for blackbird activity. Building on five previous years of survey effort, the team documented 53 pairs and monitored 47 nests within a ten-township area. Of the 53 pairs, 39 fledged young. We captured and color-banded 38 new adults and 85 nestlings, and recaptured five and resighted eight individuals banded in previous years.

Through a collaborative initiative with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, researchers deployed geolocators on 11 adults in New Hampshire and 10 in Alaska. Geolocators are tiny devices that record date, time, and light level, which can be processed to provide approximate latitude and longitude. Next spring, teams on both sides of the continent will make an intense effort to locate and recapture these individuals. Each recovered geocator will provide insight into the migration pathways and wintering areas these breeding populations use, furthering our understanding of habitat use and contributing to conservation planning throughout their annual cycle.

Just when we thought the breeding season was over for the year, we learned of a nest in Antrim, where a pair was still feeding nestlings on July 2, well after the last nest we were monitoring up north had fledged! We look forward to further investigations of this area in 2015!

—Carol Foss

New Hampshire Legislature Passes Three Important Pipeline Safety Bills

New Hampshire Audubon's legislative activities during the 2014 session focused on three bills related to the potential transportation of tar sands crude oil through New Hampshire.

Senate Bill 325 requires the owner of an oil pipeline facility to submit a spill response plan to state officials. Prior to the enactment of this legislation, operators of onshore pipelines were only required to comply with federal regulations regarding spill preparedness and response. Major spills elsewhere in the United States (e.g., Kalamazoo, MI and Mayflower, AR) have exposed major inadequacies in the current federal regulations. SB 325 provides state regulators with authority to impose more stringent requirements for spill preparedness. New Hampshire's passage of this bill has already gained national attention and may serve as a catalyst for similar measures in other states. (See InsideClimate News, <http://insideclimatenews.org/news/20140616/2-states-beef-oil-rail-and-pipeline-safety-after-string-accidents>, and PipelineLaw.com, <http://www.pipelinelaw.com/2014/06/24/states-increasingly-active-oil-spill-response-pipeline-safety/>).

House Bill 1224 requires the NH Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to apply annually to the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) for certification to conduct pipeline inspections on its behalf. The NH PUC has been certified to conduct natural gas pipeline inspections for many years, but had not sought certification for hazardous liquid pipelines. Passage of HB 1224 enables state inspectors to maintain oversight of New Hampshire's section of the Portland-Montreal Pipe Line section, rather than relying on the understaffed PHMSA for pipeline safety inspections.

House Bill 1376 establishes a committee to study the safe delivery of oil and gas throughout New Hampshire, including transportation of natural gas, propane, crude oil, and refined oil products by pipeline, rail, and truck. The committee will review existing state and federal reports on rail and pipeline safety as well as state and municipal plans for responding to spills, leaks, fires, and explosions resulting from accidental releases of oil or gas release.

These legislative victories are not possible without the hard work of our volunteers and partner organizations supporting the efforts of the senators and representatives who champion bills in committee hearings, floor debates, and conference committee negotiations. NHA wishes to express our deep appreciation to the prime sponsors of these bills: Sen. Jeff Woodburn of Dalton, who worked closely with Sheridan Brown in drafting and advancing SB 325; Rep. Bill Baber of Dover, who sponsored HB 1224; and Rep. Marcia Hammon of Whitefield, who sponsored HB 1376; and to those co-sponsored one or more of the bills and worked tirelessly and collaboratively to pass all three of these important measures.

—Carol Foss

New Hampshire Audubon was saddened by the loss of a number of former trustees and volunteers who will be missed.

Arthur Mudge, Honorary Trustee (see below)

Guy (Andy) Swenson, Honorary Trustee from Frankestown, NH. As a trustee, Andy worked on various committees to further the goals of NH Audubon and was especially committed to the work of the Sanctuaries Committee. As an avid birder, he took part in Christmas Bird Counts and the annual Backyard Winter Bird Survey. The Society is grateful for all that he did to further conservation in the state.

Carleton Schaller, former trustee and volunteer. Carl was a warm, outgoing member of the Policy Committee and especially enjoyed volunteering for Osprey Weekend and other Lake Umbagog area events.

Dorothy (Dot) Soule, former trustee and long term volunteer. From the time she retired and moved to New Hampshire in 1977, she was a volunteer and member of NH Audubon. She served as Vice-President of Membership and Chapters and in later years volunteered for any number of office jobs until retiring at the age of 92. She will be greatly missed.

Jane White was a former staff member and long-time supporter of the organization who loved watching the birds wherever she was.

Blanche (Scottie) Smith was a long-time volunteer who came with her husband, Erwin, to many mailings and events. Scottie was a hard worker with a warm smile who was always willing to help.

New Hampshire Audubon is honored to receive donations in memory of friends and relatives who have died. These gifts are a valuable contribution to the work we do for wildlife and conservation. Since the last issue of *Afield*, thoughtful gifts were made in memory of the following individuals: Persis Campbell, William F. Celen, Ethel DiPadula, Deborah B. Estaver, Joseph P. Ford, Sandra Hastings, Ted Keene, Charles Koliias, Arthur Mudge, Agnes Sherburne, Guy (Andy) Swenson, and Suzanne Tremblay.

Arthur Mudge 1929-2014

Arthur Warren Mudge (1929-2014) died on Friday, May 23, at Kendal in Hanover. Born in Andover, MA, Art attended Choate school, (class of 1947) then Princeton University (class of 1951). While preparing for war service in Korea, he met Mary Ann Cadwell, a Minnesota schoolteacher working for Senator Hubert Humphrey. They married upon his return in 1953. After graduating from Harvard Law School in 1956, Arthur practiced law in New Hampshire for ten years. Arthur joined the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in 1966, overseeing economic development assistance programs in Panama, Peru, Bolivia, Guyana, Nicaragua and Sudan,

In his retirement, Art provided pro bono legal work and served on boards of many educational and environmental organizations, including NH Audubon, where he volunteered over many decades and was widely credited for

helping to lead the organization through difficult financial times. Art served on virtually every NHA committee, and was a passionate supporter of the NH Audubon mission. He was the recipient of the 2012 Tudor Richards Award.

In his spare time, Art hiked mountain ranges all over the world (Andes, Appalachians, Himalayas and Mount Kilimanjaro). At age 69, he completed his Four Thousand Footers. He was passionate about birding, tennis and writing thought-provoking letters to the editor. Art is survived by his wife, Mary; his sister Nancy Mudge Sycamore and Hubert Sycamore, NH Audubon volunteers from Hebron, NH; four daughters; and many grandchildren.

NH Audubon is deeply indebted to Art for his years of generous service, and very grateful for his choice of NH Audubon as the recipient for memorial donations made in his name. He has been a larger-than-life figure for NHA; we will miss him tremendously.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS: MASSABESIC AUDUBON CENTER



Located on a historic farm site, the Center is bordered by 130 acres of wildlife sanctuary that encompasses a diverse array of upland habitats and includes more than five miles of trails that lead to Lake Massabesic.

26 AUDUBON WAY • AUBURN, NH 03032
603-668-2045 mac@nhaudubon.org

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner: November 14, 6:30pm

Volunteers mark your calendars! Our night to celebrate all you do to make Massabesic Audubon Center so wonderful is here again. Please join us Friday, November 14 at 6:30pm for our annual appreciation dinner. Included in the evening will be live music, delicious food, gifts, and awards!

ADULT PROGRAMS

Introduction to Tai Chi

Fridays, Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 10-11:30 am
Cost: \$7 M/\$12 NM

Leader: Ruth Gregorakakis, Massabesic Center volunteer and Tai Chi Presenter
Explore the physical and mental benefits derived from Tai Chi, a Chinese martial art, and enjoy the outdoors while doing it! The exercise movements are slow and gentle and have martial applications. Improvement in balance, strength, and memory are some of the effects of practicing Tai Chi. The class will start with warm ups to relax proceeding to drills which demonstrate tai chi movements and postures. Students will learn 13 movement tai chi forms. Wear loose clothing and comfortable shoes and bring water. Classes will be held outdoors when weather permits. Exercises suited to any age group. 8-15 class size preferred.

Intro to Pelagic Wildlife

Saturday, Sep 6, 3 - 4 pm
Cost: \$5 (free to those attending Pelagic Trip on Sep 8)
Leader: Jon Woolf

Come see an educational slideshow about some of the wildlife you might see just off NH's coast. We'll teach you how to identify some of our common pelagic birds as well as a few of our frequently sighted whale species.

Pelagic Trip

Location: Rye Harbor, NH
Monday, Sep 8, 8 am - 5 pm
Cost: \$70 M/\$90 NM
Join NH Audubon aboard MV Granite State as we explore Jeffreys Ledge, 20 miles off the New Hampshire coast. We'll spend all day at sea, searching for pelagic seabirds, whales, dolphins, and anything else that happens to cross our course. Once you register, you will receive confirmation and further information. Participants need to meet at Rye Harbor at 7:30am for check-in and 8am departure. Minimum of 30 participants. Pre-registration required.



Len Medlock

Basic Shorebirding: Workshop

Friday, Sep 12, 7-8:30 pm
Cost: \$5 (FREE if attending Shorebirds Field Trip)

Leader: Jon Woolf
Come learn about shorebirds, some of the most interesting and most puzzling birds we see in New Hampshire. 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 coasts. Then join us for the Saturday field trip to the coast to put your new knowledge to the test.

Basic Shorebirding: Field Trip

Location: Hampton Park and Ride then beach
Saturday, September 13, 8:30 am-12:30 pm

THE NATURE CAFÉ

Fridays, 7-8:30 pm
Cost: \$5 per person, Free for Massabesic Volunteers

Come join us once per month at the beautiful Massabesic Audubon Center and enjoy warm drinks and delicious desserts while you learn about our natural environment.

Making a Wildflower Meadow – September 5

Your garden may be beautiful, but how many of your plants are native to NH? Do your store-bought plantings compare to our wildflowers? And are you attracting the insects and creatures you want? Amy Papineau, Field Specialist with UNH Cooperative Extension, will show you how to prepare and plant your own wildflower meadow. Turn your field or garden plot in to a spectacular habitat refuge for bees, pollinators, and beautiful flowers with her guidance, and bring diversity to your local ecosystem.

Seacoast Science Center Marine Mammal Rescue Team – October 3

2014 marked the beginning of the Seacoast Science Center's Marine Mammal Rescue Team, a new team of specialists who rescue stranded, injured and diseased seals, whales, porpoises, and dolphins in NH's coastal region. MMRT Coordinators Ashley Stokes and Sarah Toupin will provide us with their firsthand accounts about the amazing work they do and how their flagship year has gone. Come and learn what you can do if you encounter troubled marine mammals, how you can support the MMRT, and learn more about these rarely seen mammals!

Cost: \$10 M/\$15 NM

Leader: Jon Woolf
Join us as we travel to a few of New Hampshire's beaches to look for the various species of sandpipers and plovers that appear on our coastlines in fall. Meet at the Hampton Park & Ride at 8:30am. Bring a bag lunch and prepare to be outside! Binoculars are available to borrow if you need them.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS. CALL 603-668-2045 TO REGISTER.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS: MASSABESIC AUDUBON CENTER

Coastal Birding Trips

Location: Hampton Beach State Park
Wednesdays, September 17, October 15,
November 19; 9am-2:30pm
Cost: \$6 M/\$9 NM per trip
Leader: JoAnn O'Shaughnessy
Enjoy birding on the coast with avid
birder JoAnn O'Shaughnessy. Meet at the
Hampton Beach State Park parking lot at
9 and carpool from there to coastal hot
spots. Lunch is not provided, but the group
will stop at a local restaurant to cap off the
morning's adventure. Meet at 7:45 am in the
Massabesic Audubon Center parking lot if
you want to carpool with other participants
to Hampton.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

LIVE Birds of Prey Show

Saturday, November 22, Two Shows: Noon
- 1 pm & 2 - 3 pm
Cost: \$7 M/\$12 NM Individuals, Families:
\$15 M/\$30 NM

Get a close-up look at a live Bald Eagle,
Turkey Vulture and other birds of prey
with this exceptional presentation by Tom
Ricardi, a licensed rehabilitator and wildlife
biologist. You rarely get a chance to be this
close to some of these phenomenal birds!

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.

Tom's groundbreaking work with Bald
Eagles has resulted in captive-bred bald
eagles reproducing in the wild and captive-
bred chicks being adopted into wild
nests. Our thanks to NHA trustee Joann
O'Shaughnessy for underwriting this
program.



PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

WEE WONDERS

Wednesdays, 10-11:30 am
Cost: \$9 M / \$12 NM (per child/parent
pair)

Leader: Kim Murphy
Discover the changing seasons through
hands-on activities, songs, crafts, stories,
and outdoor discovery. Please dress to be
outside and wear appropriate footwear.
Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Pre-Registration is required. Descriptions
available online.

September 10: Shelters and Tents
September 24: Camping with Critters
October 8: Which Way to Go
October 22: Hike Safe
November 5: Night Creatures
November 19: Night Lights

HOMESCHOOL PROGRAMS

JUNIOR EXPLORERS

Wednesdays, 10-11:30 am
Cost: \$9 M / \$12 NM (per child/parent
pair)

Leaders: Jay Barry and Angie Krysiak
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, parents
may drop off or stay
and participate. Pre-
registration is required.
Descriptions available
online.

Forest Study Series:

Sep 10, 24, Oct 8, and 22
Welcome back to our 2nd Forest Study
series! Four classes will establish a second
"study site" area at Massabesic. Standard
scientific forestry practices will be used to
establish the study site, identify and measure
the trees, plot their locations, and analyze
the data. The study sites will be permanent,
and part of a broader forest ecology program
at Massabesic.

November 5: Night Creatures

Come and learn about the habits of a few of
our nocturnal neighbors, including owls and
bats and raccoons. Learn why they are out at
night and what adaptations they have to help
them survive in the dark.

November 19: Night Lights

There are many things that light up our
night skies; flashes from fireflies, sparkling
stars, and the bright moon. We'll learn a
little about bioluminescence, then learn
some basic astronomy and constellation
identification.

EXHIBIT

8th Annual Wild New Hampshire Photography Contest and Auction

The winning photos from the Wild NH
Photography Contest will be on display from
October 1 to December 7 at the Massabesic
Audubon Center. Photos are all taken in NH
in the past 5 years. They are scenes of NH's
landscapes, wildlife and wild plants. Our
exhibitors are local adults and children alike.
All photos are part of our fundraiser auction.
Come by and bid on these great images and
help out the center in the process!
Closing Auction will be Sunday, Dec 7 from
2-4pm.

Enchanted Fall Festival

Saturday, October 18, 4-8pm
Cost per family: Pre-registered \$10
M/\$20 NM; drop in \$15 M/\$25 NM

We are pleased to announce our
7th Annual Enchanted Fall Festival!
This year the Festival's theme is
"Migration Through Time." The
event will feature a puppet show,
nature program, Native American
presentation, and our 100th
Anniversary Celebration. Visitors
will also be able to enjoy live
bluegrass music, a bonfire, live
animals, face painting, games and
crafts, refreshments and much more.
This is a very popular family event so
call 603-668-2045 and reserve your
spot now!

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS. CALL 603-668-2045 TO REGISTER.

1914 - 2014

NH Audubon

FROM HATS TO HABITATS

New Hampshire Audubon marks its Centennial this year. The many triumphs and accomplishments achieved over these years in education, research, conservation, sanctuaries and legislative action are a tribute to the dedicated effort of thousands of women and men who shared a common vision. This is the last installment in a four-part history of the organization. If you missed reading about the first 75 years, please visit www.nh Audubon.org/about/centennial/history.

One Hundred Years and Still Counting: 1990-2014

The most recent 25 years of NH Audubon's history, like much of our past, included ebbs and flows. A few downturns were balanced by exciting growth in programs, centers, land acquisitions, legislative successes and wildlife conservation milestones. As we complete our first century, the overall trend is upward, as we continue, with the help of our donors, partners, volunteers and friends, to protect and enhance NH's natural environment for wildlife and for people.

Education Centers and Programs

The early 1990s was a time of building and expansion. Staff and volunteers at Audubon House (what is now the McLane Center) delivered school programs throughout the state and offered adult and family programs in Concord, seasonally at Paradise Point and at some NH Audubon sanctuaries. Active chapters, as many as 12 at one point, enabled members in all corners of New Hampshire to engage in the organization through local programs and

field trips. The idea to bring programs to more people hatched a plan to establish centers in other parts of the state.

After providing summer programs at Odiorne Point State Park in Rye since 1977, NH Audubon became the managing partner of an expanded facility known as the Seacoast Science Center in 1992. Working with the Friends of Odiorne Point, UNH Cooperative Extension/Sea Grant and the State of NH, Division of Parks, NH Audubon staff began to offer year-round programs and summer day camp on the coast.

In 1995 a successful public-private partnership was also established to operate the Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center in Manchester as an outreach arm of NH Audubon (NHA). Working with Public Service of NH, NH Fish and Game Department and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, NHA helped develop new exhibits and staff the fish ladder facility. A presence in New Hampshire's largest city offered opportunities to reach even more people.

Involvement in the Manchester area expanded with the purchase of the



NH AUDUBON
A CENTURY OF
CONSERVATION

Continued on next page

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Brown Farm in Auburn in 1996 and the 1998 construction of the Massabesic Audubon Center (MAC). Programs at the center, outreach to area schools and a day camp was launched. With this undertaking, the organization established its first year round center completely owned and operated by NHA beyond Concord.

The partnership model continued with the establishment of the Prescott Farm Audubon Center in Laconia in 1998. The Pardoe Family and Prescott Conservancy worked with NHA to support staffing, program development and the ultimate construction of an energy efficient program building (2005). Local schools were engaged in regular programming, thanks to support from Antioch University New England's CO-SEED program. A day camp was offered at Prescott Farm, bringing the total number of camps to five. Satellite camps were established in Durham and Newbury to reach children in areas not served by NHA centers.

By 2001 the Seacoast Science Center set sail as an independent organization, continuing to cooperate with NHA. Ultimately Prescott Farm also fledged into the independent Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center. NHA is proud to have been the incubator of these successful programs, just as it was with the Project SEE (Science and Environmental Education) program in the Concord School District in a previous decade.

Meanwhile the Concord headquarters expanded with the construction of a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified "green" facility which accommodated expanding programs, including popular preschool lessons, teacher workshops, adult classes and facility rentals. The McLane Center opened in 2006.

Conservation

Conservation success occurred on many fronts. The return of nesting Bald Eagles to New Hampshire (1989) was followed by steady growth of their numbers over the following years. In 1998 the Umbagog eagles were joined by a second pair of breeding eagles on Nubanusit Lake in Hancock. Eagles established territories along the Connecticut River, the Lakes Region, Seacoast, and Merrimack Valley to the point where over 40 nesting territories were monitored in 2014.

A similar trend occurred with Peregrine Falcons and Ospreys. Along with NH Fish and Game and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, NHA staff and volunteers spent countless hours monitoring these birds of prey to help increase their success. In 2001 Peregrine Falcons expanded their nesting sites to include an office building in downtown Manchester. A camera was installed at this nest enabling the public to observe as chicks hatch and

grow each spring.

In 1997 NHA spearheaded an overwhelmingly successful and innovative program to attract nesting terns back to the Isles of Shoals. Using non-lethal methods to deter gulls and decoys and sound recordings to attract terns, Common Terns resumed nesting. Steady growth from six pairs in 1997 to 1,687 pairs in 2002 surely spelled success.

Common Loon protection continued through the work of the Loon Preservation Committee which expanded, built a new center in Moultonborough and became an official affiliate of NH Audubon. (replace the end of the sentence that is there with this).

After years of field data collection, NHA published the Atlas of Breeding Birds in New Hampshire in 1994 – the most massive and complex volunteer project the organization had ever undertaken.

Several other major initiatives and multi-year projects were implemented in the 1990s including the Wetlands Protection Project to design tools for protecting freshwater wetlands; a project to document trends in bird populations within the White Mountains; the Northwoods Project exploring ways to conserve the expansive woods in northern New England and New York; and the Comparative Risk Project. The 2000s found the Conservation staff working on a Biodiversity Project which integrated education and sanctuary efforts to expand awareness of the diversity of wildlife in the state.

Citizen science projects such as dragonfly, vernal pool, and nighthawk surveys, continuing the Backyard Winter Bird Survey, launching raptor observatories on Pack Monadnock in Peterborough and Carter Hill in Concord, provided opportunities for the public to interact with and assist biologists.

Working with partner agencies is a common theme throughout NHA's history. Projects such as the Important Bird Areas, Great Bay Partnership and the state Wildlife Action Plan are examples of how the conservation staff has provided leg work and brain power for many important wildlife conservation efforts in the state.

Policy

Working hand in hand with the conservation staff, the policy (formerly Environmental Affairs) staff and volunteers have been a vigilant presence in the State House and at the table with decision makers throughout the state. Advocating for essential programs such as LCHIP (Land and Community Heritage Program) and conservation license plates; battling for native plant protection, reduction of various air pollutants, gasoline additives, and use of lead

fishing tackle; promoting responsible highway expansion and energy projects, NHA always relied on sound science to back up our stance. For this kind of work NHA received the 1994 and 1996 EPA Environmental Merit Award.

Wildlife Sanctuaries

This quarter century saw a significant expansion in properties acquired by NHA. Ten additional properties, totaling nearly 900 acres brought the sanctuary holdings to 39 parcels and approximately 7,600 acres. In some cases existing properties were expanded, including two of the largest sanctuaries, Willard Pond in Antrim and Stoney Brook in Newbury. Some properties were acquired to provide habitat protection for rare plants or wildlife (Watts Sanctuary in Effingham, Bear Mountain in Hebron, and the Smith Sisters Sanctuary in Newmarket). The portfolio of wildlife sanctuaries was expanded to include salt marshes and fields, mountains and diverse forests, riparian corridors and islands, and grew to include holdings in each county of the State. NH Audubon also took on the responsibility of holding and monitoring numerous conservation easements, ensuring that these privately-owned parcels of land would never be developed.

Membership and Development

Membership numbers are once again growing as we close out our first century. The organization is engaged in exciting programs, essential conservation work, active policy efforts, important land projects and growing support from new, returning and long term members, donors and sponsors.

NH Audubon entered into an association with the National Wildlife Federation and became an official NWF affiliate in 2011. This partnership has opened doors for collaboration on policy, conservation and educational activities and provided opportunities for NWF members to learn more about NHA.

NH Audubon is needed now more than ever to advocate for wildlife in the face of complex conservation challenges such as climate change, development pressure, new classes of pesticides, and threats to birds that cross the hemisphere.

We enter our second century with the knowledge that we stand on the shoulders of thousands of hard working and caring individuals who have persevered through the past 100 years to do good work for wildlife and the natural environment. We look forward to carrying that legacy into the future.

—*Ruth Smith*

WELCOME BACK SERIES

As part of our centennial celebration we continue to welcome back past staff and volunteers to share their current activities. See below for opportunities to learn and have new experiences with “old” friends.

MORE Improving Bird Identification Skills with Bob Quinn

Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6-9 beginning August 26 (see detailed schedule on our website)

McLane Center

This introductory class is ideal for people keenly interested in birds who want to

improve their identification skills. It's a great way to learn while enjoying fall specialties such as the Common Nighthawk migration and the Carter Hill hawk watch as well as migrating songbirds. During field and indoor lessons you will learn how to identify at least 100 of our most common birds. Participants will gain the following knowledge:

- Simple techniques for identifying birds
- Identification clues based on habitats
- Why birds sing and the importance of vocalizations
- Where and how to find birds
- Why birds and bird watching matter
- How to use and choose binoculars and bird guides (basics)

Instructor: Bob Quinn of Merlin Wildlife Tours is one of NH's leading birders and workshop leaders. He leads trips for birding enthusiasts locally and across the globe. He was NH Audubon's Sanctuaries Manager and staff ornithologist from 1977-1986.

Fee: \$35/members, \$43/non-members per session or \$175/\$215 for all six sessions. (Full series price includes a \$20 gift certificate for the Nature Store to purchase birding resources.)

A half-day field trip in September will be included. Sessions can be taken on an a la carte basis if desired. Limited to 15 participants. Pre-registration is required. Send name, address, phone number, email and fee to Ruth Smith at 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, NH 03301. More details and registration at www.nh Audubon.org.

Tracking Ospreys from New Hampshire to South America

Thursday, September 11, 7pm

McLane Center

Iain MacLeod will describe Project OspreyTrack, a multi-year project using GPS trackers to follow Ospreys from their nests in New Hampshire to their wintering grounds in South America. MacLeod is also learning about the foraging behaviors of breeding male Ospreys. Hear the amazing and sometimes tragic stories of ten NH Ospreys, including Art, a male Osprey from a nest in Bridgewater who travelled 5,000 miles to his winter home in Brazil and returned to his nest in April 2013 to be greeted by a film crew and reporters. Program will include an up-close encounter with a live Osprey.

MacLeod is Executive Director of the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center in Holderness, New Hampshire. He worked for NH Audubon for 18 years.

**“Hat’s Off to Audubon”
Gala and Live Auction**

Saturday, November 8, 5:30 pm

Currier Museum of Art,
Manchester

Help launch us into the next 100 years by joining us for NH Audubon’s Centennial gala, fund raising auction and dinner.

5:30 Cocktails and exclusive viewing of M.C. Escher exhibition

6:30 Elegant 4-course meal prepared by Greenhouse Catering

7:30 Live auction with auctioneer Steve Schofield. Auction items include:

- One-week stay at Rockywold-Deephaven Camps on Squam Lake for up to 4 guests
- South African photo safari
- One-week stay at a Stowe VT time-share
- A private raptor observation opportunity with biologist Chris Martin
- Fly fishing trip at Rock Creek in Montana
- Birding with naturalist Phil Brown at Mt. Auburn Cemetery
- Catered dinner for 8 with NH Audubon President Mike Bartlett
- Private tour and Christmas Tea at Gore Place in Waltham, MA
- Opportunity to name a trail on an Audubon Sanctuary
- And many more!

One-of-a-kind items are being added to the auction to make it a uniquely Audubon event. Join the fun and take your chances on opportunities to create special memories and support a mission you care deeply about.

Tickets: \$100/person, \$800/table (contact us if you’d like to reserve a whole table)

To register visit our website: www.nh Audubon.org or call 224-9909 ext. 313

**NH Audubon’s 100th Annual Gathering
and Centennial Celebration:
Saturday, September 20**

Join us as we celebrate 100 years of conservation, honor those who have helped us get to this point and look toward future opportunities. This year’s annual meeting and gathering will be particularly special. We will gather on Newfound Lake, home of NH Audubon’s first nature center – Paradise Point. The day will include field trips to Paradise Point, Little Round Top Mountain (site of NH’s first official hawk watching station) and more (see below).

Annual Gathering Schedule

9am-12:30pm: Field trips

- Hawk Migration Watch on Little Round Top
- Paddling on Newfound Lake, Hebron Marsh and the Cockermonth River
- Pontoon Boat Tour of Newfound Lake
- Guided walk to Paradise Point
- Quincy Bog exploration
- Foliage hike up Little Sugarloaf Mountain (visit our website for more details)

1:00: Gather at Camp Wicosuta, West Shore Road, Hebron. We will meet and eat in the modern and spacious dining hall.

Afternoon will include:

- President’s address
- Election of officers and award presentations
- Review of accomplishments
- Keynote address by Scott Weidensaul “The History of Birding and Bird Conservation”
- Silent Auction
- Catered Harvest Dinner and recognition of NH Audubon’s 100 most important people

The event will conclude after dinner at 8pm. For those interested in spending the weekend in the Newfound area, visit our website for accomodation options.

Fee: \$45/NHA member; \$55/non-member

To register visit our website (www.nh Audubon.org) or call 224-9909 ext. 313. Registration includes field trips, program and speaker as well as refreshments and dinner.

Support for this event is provided by ReVision Energy and Camp Wicosuta.

Keynote Speaker Scott Weidensaul

Author and naturalist Scott Weidensaul has written more than two dozen books on natural history including *Of a Feather, a Brief History of American Birding*. This book traces the colorful origins of American birding and chronicles 400 years of bird observations to the current explosion of modern birding. Weidensaul is also an active field researcher focusing on the ecology of saw-whet owls. He is a bird bander and directs the ornithological programs for National Audubon’s Hog Island Center in Maine.

Scott will speak about the impact of birding history on birds and people and some of the future trends in bird conservation. He will also be



co-leading the hawk migration field trip on Little Round Top in Bristol. He is a regular hawk counter at Hawk Mountain in his home state of Pennsylvania.



In addition to being a program center, the McLane Center is home to NH Audubon's central operations. It is located on the Silk Farm Sanctuary in Concord. Sanctuary trails are open dawn to dusk daily, as are the raptor mews. The Center and Nature Store are open Monday–Friday, 9am–5pm and Saturday, 10am–4pm.
 84 SILK FARM RD, CONCORD NH 03301
 603-224-9909 nha@nhaudubon.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

Enchanted Forest

Saturday, October 25, 4:30-9:15 pm

Join us for the Centennial Edition of the Enchanted Forest – new skits, same enchanting fun!

Family friendly event for ages 4-adult. Scout and youth groups are also invited.

- Follow the glowing jack-o-lantern trail into the nighttime forest
- Encounter larger than life creatures and characters as they present skits about mysterious activities in nature
- Gather around a campfire for enlightening stories
- Enjoy indoor seasonal games, refreshments and activities

Pre-registration is required. Call 224-9909 x333 to register for a specific time slot. This popular event sold out last year. Rain or shine – skit sites are undercover.

Cost: \$6.50/Member, \$9.50/NM. Group rates available for scout and youth groups, call for details.

Volunteers will be needed to help make this event successful. There are opportunities to help with the planning, but also in the production of Enchanted Forest. If you would like to participate by acting in a skit, leading groups on a trail, sharing games and crafts, baking refreshments, or assisting with planning or set up, please contact Ruth Smith at rsmith@nhaudubon.org.

ART EXHIBITS



Kathie Fife: A Journey through NH's Landscapes and Audubon Sanctuaries

Exhibit Open September-October
 Opening Reception: Thursday, September 4, 4:30-6:30pm

Talk with Kathie about her inspirations and artistic process. Take home a complimentary bookmark with a panoramic image of Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge.

Canterbury native Kathie Fife presents a series of panoramic images of protected landscapes with a focus on NH Audubon properties. Stunning photographs feature loons, rare plants, and native wildflowers.

Kathie Fife has spent her life exploring and observing the natural world. She has worked for a variety of environmentally focused non-profits and state and federal agencies. Kathie's award winning images have been published in feature stories including New Hampshire Magazine, NH State Visitor's Guide, The Weirs Times, The Nashua Telegraph, among many others. Learn more about Kathie and her work at www.anrdllc.com or www.kathiefife.com.

Exhibit info continues on page 10

**Get Ready to Enjoy Fall
 At the NH Audubon Nature Store**

*Will you be prepared for all the activities that fall has to offer?
 Hawk watching, bird migration, fall foliage hikes and more?*



BINOCULARS: Try out any one of our variety of high quality optics from Nikon and Vortex ranging from \$90 to \$650. We even have children's binoculars!

BIRD FEEDERS: If you pulled your feeder in to avoid bears in the spring it is well past time to get it out again! You will want to offer a variety of ways for the birds to feed and we have plenty of feeders to choose from. We have seed and suet too!


HAWK WATCHING MATERIALS: Put on your warm NH Audubon fleece vest, hang binoculars around your neck, and bring along the identification guide *Hawks in Flight* by David Sibley, Clay Sutton and Peter Dunne.



The Nature Store is open six days a week.
Monday-Friday: 9 am to 5 pm
Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm
84 Silk Farm Rd., Concord
224-9909 Ext. 318, ask for Nancy



PROGRAMS AND EVENTS: THE MCLANE CENTER

Hal Close: Patagonian Images 
Exhibit Open November-December
Opening Reception: November 18, 5-7 pm

The artist's interest in photography began in the mountains. While at Exeter and then Harvard, he skied and climbed in the White Mountains, then out west, then in Switzerland as he grew older. He always brought a camera on these trips, and it became a passion to try to capture the beauty of the mountains. During his life in business, his camera became more important, and the trips Hal took usually centered around photography. He travelled to Africa, South America, and Asia. One trip was around the world with National Geographic! He was very fortunate to travel with top-notch photographers, such as Franz Lanting and Galen Rowell, and learned a great deal from them.

Hal's photographs of glacial markings were taken at the foot of Viedma Glacier in Patagonia, Argentina in October 2005. The rocks had been exposed to the air for a very short time due to the rapidly shrinking glacier. The different colors are due to the rapid oxidation of the various minerals in the area.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS: EDUCATORS

Wings at Your Windows! Engaging Students in Winter Bird Feeding
October 2: McLane Center, 4:30-6:30pm
October 9: Massasbesic Audubon Center, 4:30-6:30pm
\$35 member/\$40 non-member
Liven up the winter by attracting birds to your classroom window for close-up observation. Use student observations to integrate language arts, math, art, and science, and learn how students can collect data for the NH Winter Bird Survey. Participants will gain an overview of winter bird biology, identification, and feeding. Through centers, participants will see evidence of student work, gain ideas for bird feeding investigations, and participate in a variety of activities. Participants will receive a window feeder, sunflower seed, and 2 professional development credits. Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Blue Seal are sponsors of this workshop.

Integrating Science and Technology: a Natural Connection
Thursday, November 13, 4-6pm
McLane Center
\$35/member, \$40/non-member
In our 21st century learning environment, how can we use technology to bring students closer to nature instead of creating a barrier? In this workshop, practical examples of ways to use tech devices such as digital cameras, digital microscopes, iPads, flip cams and more will be shared, as well as how to make the most of (mostly free) applications such as slideshows, audio recordings, video/film and digital storybooks. We will look at

ways to engage even our youngest learners, bringing them up close and in contact with their natural world by creating projects that are meaningful and developmentally appropriate. Connections to Common Core State Standards, ICT (Information Computer Technology) Standards and Grade Level Expectations will all be provided. Recommended reading list of children's literature will be provided.
Leader: Karen Landsman is a Library Media and Technology Integration Specialist in Hooksett. She has over twenty years of experience in education, including teaching in the classroom. As a Destination Imagination Coordinator/Team Manager of many years, she enjoys watching kids tackle open-ended challenges that encourage creativity, teamwork and problem-solving skills. She earned a Master's degree in education, and is a Level I trainer in the Independent Investigation Method of Research.

Complimentary Educator Memberships!

Did you know that during our centennial year, we are offering all New Hampshire educators a one-year complimentary membership? To date, over 750 teachers have taken advantage of this special offer! There's still time to register for complimentary educator memberships, so please share this opportunity with your colleagues. Teachers can sign up by visiting www.nhauudubon.org/about/centennial/ through December 31, 2014.

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

CONTINUED FROM COVER: RAPTORS MATE FOR LIFE, BUT RARELY GRIEVE

and so far we have post-fledging encounter data for 18 (46%) of them. Several are documented to be nesting in the region – in Amherst, MA, in Lawrence, MA, and in Portland, ME.

Dr. Michael Dutton from the Weare Animal Hospital performed surgery on 6/7 in early April, inserting pins to stabilize compound fractures in the radius and ulna of the male's right wing. Wings of Dawn wildlife rehabilitator Maria Colby fed and cared for him. We thought it might be possible to return him to the wild. Unfortunately, his condition worsened post-surgery, and in June we made the difficult decision to euthanize NH's oldest-known and most productive male Peregrine Falcon.

Meanwhile, romance bloomed anew in Manchester. Bret Clark from SpectraAccess Wireless used Falcon Cam to capture an image of the new couple engaged in a ritual bowing courtship display at the nest box. Re-nesting rarely turns out successfully for peregrines, but in this case O2/Z laid five more eggs – a total of nine eggs produced in just over one month's time!

At less than a full year old, the new male was ill-prepared for nesting, and it took several days before he stepped up to the task of incubating. As a result, only one of five eggs in the second clutch yielded a viable chick. But he was able to provide prey at a sufficient rate to feed one chick, and a young female fledged on July 4.

So a new chapter begins for peregrines in Manchester. If he's made of the right stuff, our new male will own the sky over the Queen City for the next decade or more. If not, he will be replaced by a rival. When it's all about survival, there's really no time for grieving!

-Chris Martin

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS: AMOSKEAG FISHWAYS LEARNING CENTER



Located in Manchester on the beautiful Merrimack River, the Center is open year round Monday-Saturday from 9am to 5pm. During fish migration season (April 28-June 14), the Center is open seven days a week.

FLETCHER ST • MANCHESTER, NH 03105
603-626-FISH www.amoskeagfishways.org

this fine bird, play turkey games and make your very own turkey call to take home!

Woodchucks, Bats and Other Hibernators

Thursday, November 20



Who is snoozing away in winter while you try to stay warm? Groundhogs aren't the only ones. Discover what it means to be a true hibernator and learn all about the animals who will be sleeping in your backyard this winter.

FAMILY FRIDAY NIGHTS

7 – 8 pm

Programs are for all ages and focus on the Merrimack River and its watershed. Cost: \$5 per family. Advance registration with payment required.

Night Hike

Friday, September 12

Walk through the woods, play games, and use your night vision to see in the dark. Our hike will be filled with lots of fun facts about which animals come out at night and how they find their way around. Group will meet at the Fishways and proceed to Hackett Hill (5 min. drive from Fishways).

FISHWAYS FUNDAYS

FABULOUS FALL SERIES

9:30-11am or 12:30-2pm

Programs are for ages four to five accompanied by an adult and include outdoor exploration and indoor craft making. Cost: \$8 per family. Pre-registration with payment required.

Beautiful Butterflies



Thursday, September 11

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!



Thursday, September 25

Why are we seeing fewer birds in our backyards? Where are the birds going? We'll play games, explore outdoors and go on a bird walk to discover what birds are doing this time of year.

Fall Forest Exploration

Thursday, October 9

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).

Lovely Leaves



Thursday, October 23

Why do leaves change color in the fall? How many different colors can we find? Discover these answers and more as we go on a leaf hunt around the Fishways, look at leaves up close, play leafy games and make a fun leafy craft.

Terrific Turkeys



Thursday, November 6

It's turkey time! What do we really know about wild turkeys in NH? Learn all about

Bring a Bug

Friday, September 26



Get ready for an evening of creepy-crawly fun! We'll search for bugs around the Fishways and discover some of their amazing adaptations. Kids are encouraged to bring a live insect to investigate.

FAMILY FUN NIGHTS

6:30 – 8 pm

Family Fun Nights are for all ages, and focus on the Merrimack River and its watershed. Engaging facts and stories are followed by group activities and open crafts. Cost: \$5 per family. Advance registration with payment required.

Classic Outdoor Games and Parents' Movie Night

Friday, October 10



Remember playing Kick the Can, Flashlight Tag, or Mother May I? Kids will get a chance to play these favorites and more while parents view "Mother Nature's Child: Growing Outdoors in the Media Age." Parents will have time to discuss the film and the benefits of outside time for families while kids create a craft from natural materials collected outside.

Be a Tree

Friday, October 17



Put yourself in the place of a tree and learn about how they work and why they change color and lose their leaves in the fall. We will create colorful autumn artwork and crafts to help us appreciate this beautiful time of the year.

Native American Harvest

Friday, November 7



What kinds of foods did the Abenaki people of this area grow and gather long ago? We will learn which native fruits, grains, nuts, seeds and vegetables were available for harvest, and how they were prepared. We will even get a chance to participate in some of these preparations ourselves!

Just Ducky!

Friday, November 21



Discover some of the amazing adaptations of our common floating friends, the ducks! How do they stay dry in the water? Which ducks are migrating upriver this time of

year, and why do some stay here on the Merrimack River, even when lots of other birds are heading further south? We will take a close look at feathers, try out some duck sounds, and make a craft to take home.

SATURDAY FAMILY ACTIVITIES

10 – 11 am

Cost: \$5 per family. Advance registration with payment required.

Who's up for Dinner?

Saturday, October 18



Did you know that owls cough up "pellets" after a meal? We can see amazing bones and sometimes even whole animal skeletons by carefully picking these pellets apart. Join us to learn all about owl eating habits and pick apart a real pellet with your family!

Build an Urban Habitat

Saturday, November 22



For wildlife, habitat is home. How can wild animals find their home in a city like Manchester, amidst all the people, cars, buildings and roads? We will build a model together to learn about what makes a habitat and what urban river animals need to survive.

SPECIAL EVENTS

14th Annual Bug Ball

Saturday, September 6, 11 am – 3 pm



Activities will include an insect petting zoo, buggy crafts, and special guest, Dr. Paul Johnson, UNH insect expert. Participants will enjoy special staff presentations, "Dragonflies and Damselflies", featuring one of the most beautiful insect orders on the planet. Give our six-legged friends the respect they deserve! Cost: \$3 per person or \$6 per family (fee does not cover extended family). No registration necessary.

Eyes on Owls

Saturday, November 1



Two Presentations: 11 am – 12:15 pm & 1 pm – 2:15 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: \$10 per person or \$25 per family (fee does not cover extended family). Advance registration with payment required. Location: PSNH Five Rivers Auditorium, Energy Park 780 Commercial St. Manchester, NH 03101

Teacher Workshop: Teaching STEM, Literacy and History with the Merrimack River

Saturday, November 15, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm



Teach about your local river and meet multidisciplinary curriculum goals! The Merrimack River and its watershed have a rich cultural and natural history. From the textile mills to geology to dams and fish ladders to natural history data, the Merrimack River Watershed offers many unique opportunities for student learning. Join us for a fun day of science inquiry, problem solving, literacy and data analysis with a river theme. This watershed curriculum will act as a model for using local natural systems to achieve your science, literacy, math and STEM goals. CEUs available.

Cost: \$50, advance registration with payment required. Please call 626-3474 for more information.

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

AMMONOOSUC

For more information contact David Govatski at David.Govatski@gmail.com.

Program: The Birds of Iceland

Wednesday, September 17, 7pm

Join naturalist David Govatski for a program on the fascinating bird life of Iceland. Explore why Iceland is considered the "Duck Factory" of Europe and learn about some of the 384 species found here. Iceland is famous for seabirds such as Atlantic Puffins and waterfowl such as the Barrow's Goldeneye and Harlequin Duck. We will also look at the flora and geography of this island nation. This free program will be held at the Rocks Estate on Christmas Tree Lane in Bethlehem, NH.

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

Pondicherry Big Sit Birding Event

Sunday, October 12, 5:30am-5:30pm

Bird with the Pondicherry Marsh Hawks for their 8th Annual Big Sit at the Pondicherry National Wildlife Refuge. We will be stationed all day at the Tudor Richards Viewing Platform on Cherry Pond to tally migrating birds. Stay for an hour or all day. Spotting scopes will be set up as we enjoy the autumn color in the White Mountains. This event is free and open to the public. It is a 5 km round trip walk over flat terrain to access the platform.

Program: Night Flyers: The Silk Moths of New Hampshire

Wednesday, October 15, 7pm

Lucy Golden is presenting a fascinating program about working with local schools on raising Luna and Cecropia moths. Lucy was featured in an article in the Spring 2014 issue of Northern Woodlands. This free program will be held at the Rocks Estate on Christmas Tree Lane in Bethlehem, NH.

CAPITAL

Field Trip: Surf and Turf: Whale Watch and Fall Shorebirds

Saturday, September 6, 7 am to 6 pm

It's been a while since the Capital Chapter went to the coast for fall migration, so now's your chance. The trip will start with a whale watch on the Granite State out of Rye Harbor (8:30 departure) and then spend the afternoon looking for shorebirds in Hampton/Seabrook Harbor (low tide at 3:30). Participants are welcome to join for one or the other as well in coordination with the trip leader. Expect to bring lunch or buy something on the boat and stop at a local seafood shack for dinner before returning to Concord. **PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED:** contact Pam Hunt at biodiva@myfairpoint.com or 753-9137. More information on the whale watch is available at www.granitestatewhalewatch.com/.

Field Trip: Locke Road, Concord

Saturday, September 13, 7 am

Search for fall migrants in wetlands, woodlands, fields and river. In 2004 the City of Concord protected 350 acres as part of a 950 acre 7.5 mile river frontage conservation lands in Concord and Canterbury. We

will share it with migrating birds and the Concord Skyhawks, the model airplane club. Locke road is off exit 16 from I-93. For more information call Rob Woodward 224-0889 (evenings).

Field Trip: Sparrow Round-Up!

Saturday, October 11, 8 am

Last year 14 species of sparrows were seen here, more than any single location in the state, including Clay-colored and Vesper. Also seen last year were Dickcissel, Blue Grosbeak, and Sedge Wren. It's time we found a LeConte's Sparrow! Serving cider and pie. Meet at the community vegetable gardens off Clinton Street, Concord. Contact Rob Woodward 224-0889 (evenings).

Field Trip: A different kind of Waterfowl Trip in the Outer Reaches of Merrimack County

Saturday, October 25, 8 am until early afternoon

Join Bob Quinn on this autumnal take on the traditional spring waterfowl tour. Our focus will be on the ponds and lakes of northern Merrimack County and sites will include Webster Lake, Pleasant Lake, and Sunapee Lake. Hoped for sightings include typical ducks plus maybe some scoters and other sea ducks. This is an excellent time of the year for grebes and loons too. Meet at the Webster Lake boat launch on Route 11 in West Franklin.

NOTE: The trip will go rain or shine because bad weather can be good for duck watching! So be prepared for the weather and pack a lunch. Contact Bob Quinn at 746-2535 or RAQbirds@aol.com.

Concord November Challenge

Saturday-Sunday, November 1-2

For the last six years, Concord area birders and folks from farther afield have gathered on the first weekend of November to see how many species we can find within the city limits. Over the years we've found 119 species, with the record of 93 set just last year. Can we top it in 2014?! Birders of all skill levels are welcome to participate, and we'll make every effort to pair new folks up with hardened veterans of the CNC. Traditionally, we bird hard Saturday morning and then meet for a group lunch

to see what we've found. Afternoon and Sunday birding are a little more low key and generally involve visiting areas no one got to or seeking out species we missed. If interested, contact Pam Hunt 753-9137 (evenings) or biodiva@myfairpoint.net. Please try to "sign up" several days in advance.

MASCOMA

Field Trip: Annual Hawk Migration Watch

Saturday, September 13, 10am-noon
Lebanon Airport -- Airport Road, W. Lebanon, NH

This popular event provides a good opportunity to watch the wonderful fall hawk migration. Past outings have produced good views of kettling broad-winged hawks, bald eagles, osprey and other fall migrants. The event is free and open to the public. Bring binoculars and/or spotting scopes as you prefer. The viewing site is handicapped accessible. In the event of inclement weather or poor wind conditions, the watch will be moved to September 14 with the same start and finish times. Contact: mascomabirds@yahoo.com

Field Trip: Simon Pearce Flood Plain

Saturday, September 27, 7-9am

Simon Pearce Complex -- US Rt. 5, Windsor, VT

Mascoma Chapter Steering Committee member George Clark will lead this outing to the fields along the Connecticut River adjacent to the Simon Pearce and Harpoon Brewery complex north of Windsor. Last year produced a bonanza of sparrows both in variety and number. People wishing to car pool should meet at 6:30 a.m. in the "Park 'n Ride" lot at the Vermont side of the Ledyard Bridge in Norwich. The event is free and open to the public. The walking is mostly level, but footwear suitable to potentially wet conditions is recommended. Bring binoculars and/or spotting scopes as you prefer. Water is recommended. In the event of steady rain, the event will be cancelled. Contact: mascomabirds@yahoo.com

Field Trip: Bedell Bridge Bird Walk

Saturday, October 4, 7-9am

Bedell Bridge State Historic Site -- NH Rt. 10, Haverhill, NH

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

The Bedell Covered Bridge may be long gone, a victim of a violent windstorm in 1979, but the grounds surrounding it offer a diverse array of habitats that always produce some interesting sightings. There are wetlands, hardwood trees and shrubs as well as active agricultural fields. Last fall's trip recorded 28 species. Highlights included a bald eagle, an American bittern, a pileated woodpecker and a Lincoln's sparrow among others. The walk will be co-hosted by Blake Allison and George Clark. People wishing to car pool should meet at 6:30 a.m. in the "Park 'n Ride" lot at the Vermont side of the Ledyard Bridge in Norwich. The trip is free and open to the public. The walking is level and travels over a dirt road. Bring binoculars and/or spotting scopes as you prefer. Water is recommended. In the event of steady rain, the event will be cancelled. Contact: mascomabirds@yahoo.com

Field Trip: Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area

Saturday, November 1
Addison, VT

Did someone say snow geese? Last year's visit to this major migratory stop on the Lake Champlain flyway produced a tally of over 4,000 birds. The party recorded 39 species that day including a golden eagle, a peregrine falcon and seven shore bird species. This is an all day event. Car poolers will depart at 7am from the "Park 'n Ride" lot at the Vermont side of the Ledyard Bridge in Norwich. The trip is free and open to the public. The walking is level traveling over paved and dirt roads. Bring binoculars and/or spotting scopes as you prefer. Packing a lunch and water is recommended. In the event of adverse weather conditions the event will be cancelled. Contact: mascomabirds@yahoo.com

LAKES REGION

All programs meet at the Loon Center on Lee's Mills Road, Moultonborough.

Program: "Winged Rainbows: Protecting the macaws of Peru"

Thursday, September 18, 7pm

Journey into the heart of the Peruvian Amazon, where researchers are investigating the ecology and life history of macaws as they work to protect them from increasing human threats. Biologist Tiffany Grade of

the Loon Preservation Committee, who worked for three months as a volunteer researcher studying the macaws, will introduce you to the macaws and the efforts to preserve these magnificent birds.

Program: A (Boat) Trip Through Time With The Birds Of Lake Umbagog By Bob Quinn

Thursday, October 16, 7pm

Lake Umbagog is one of the wildest, most wildlife rich areas in all of northern New England. Bob Quinn from Merlin Wildlife Tours will share the dramatic scenery of this remote area and talk about some of the fascinating changes in Lake Umbagog's bird life over the last 130 years. The focus of the program will be on the Lake Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge and its efforts to protect this dazzling northern lake and the surrounding forests.

Program: A Passage Northwest: Birding Alaska by Planes, Trains, and Automobiles (and Boats)

Thursday, November 20, 7pm

Pam Hunt of NH Audubon spent two weeks in August 2012 covering more of Alaska than many native-born Alaskans see in their lives. From Pacific rainforest to Mt. McKinley to remote areas on the Bering Sea, Pam logged a lot of miles and saw a lot of birds (plus mammals and scenery), and will share her experiences in this slide show.

NASHAWAY

Monthly programs are held at the Nashua Public Library. All are welcome to attend programs free of charge. Programs are cancelled only if the library closes.

Program: Dr. Jeanne-Marie Maher: Junco: Aves Rock star

Wednesday September 17, 7-9pm

Join Nashaway chapter member and bird enthusiast Dr. Maher as she hosts the award winning film: *Ordinary Extraordinary Junco: Remarkable Biology from a Backyard Bird.*

The lively Junco is found in backyards and city parks as well as wilder landscapes. Juncos are little, gray songbirds sometimes known as "Snowbirds". They can be easily overlooked but for scientists who study animal behavior, ecology, and evolutionary biology, the Junco is a rock star. This visually-stunning, feature-

length documentary film brings to life more than 100 years of groundbreaking research in animal behavior, evolution, and ecology featuring one of North America's most abundant groups of songbirds.

Program: Bill Gette: Bosque del Apache and the Rio Grande Corridor

Wednesday, October 15, 7-9 pm
Since 2007, Bill Gette, Sanctuary Director of Mass Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center has led eight January travel programs to the El Paso, Texas, area and along the Rio Grande River to Albuquerque, New Mexico. His itinerary includes many of the most productive birding venues and scenic areas in New Mexico. Bill will show you his photographs of these diverse habitats and describe the beautiful wildlife he has encountered. You will see desert specialties of the Chihuahuan Desert, shorebirds in Rio Bosque Wetlands Park, songbirds in the Organ Mountains, and tens of thousands of Snow and Ross's geese at Bosque del Apache.

Program: Ruth Smith: Lions and Zebras and Ostrich, Oh My!

Wednesday November 19, 7-9 pm

The plains of Tanzania are home to about a quarter of Africa's large mammals and hundreds of species of birds. It's not possible to see them all in two weeks, but Ruth Smith observed and learned about many of them during a dream-come-true trip there in February 2013. Join Ruth as she shares slides and highlights from her safari, including close encounters with herds of elephants, towers of giraffes, a coalition of cheetahs, migrating wildebeest, mischievous monkeys, gorgeous rollers, flamboyant flamingos, and elegant cranes (to name a few). Experiencing the animals that we think of as "zoo creatures" living in their native habitat, visiting the cradle of humankind, and meeting current residents of this special country was a journey worth sharing. Ruth Smith is NH Audubon's Centennial Coordinator.

Field Trip: Pack Monadnock Raptor Migration Observatory at Miller State Park in Peterborough, NH

Sunday, September 21, 8am-2pm

We will be visiting NH Audubon's Raptor Migration Observatory on Pack Monadnock to watch for migrating raptors. Bring along

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

a chair, binoculars, lunch, drink and hope the winds are blowing from the Northwest. We will meet in Nashua at the Exit 7 Park & Ride, on the hill behind the Granite Inn, or contact Richard Bielawski at 429-2537 or rbielawski@mac.com for directions to meet at the refuge.

Field Trip: Great Bay, Newington Saturday, November 18

Join us as we explore the largest inland saltwater bay on the east coast. We will be looking for wintering waterfowl as well as Bald Eagles. Bring Binoculars and a scope if you have one, and dress WARMLY. We will meet in Nashua at the Exit 7 Park & Ride, on the hill behind the Granite Inn. You can contact Richard Bielawski at 429-4537 or rbielawski@mac.com for more information.

Field Trip: Odiorne Point and the NH Coastline Saturday, November 22

We will be looking for seabirds along the NH coast (e.g. Loons, Scoters, Eiders, Grebes, Gannets). Bring your scope if you have one and pack a lunch. We will meet in Nashua at the Exit 7 Park & Ride, on the hill behind the Granite Inn, or contact Richard Bielawski at 429-2537 or rbielawski@mac.com for directions to meet at the Odiorne Point.

SEACOAST


Meetings are held at the Seacoast Science Center at Odiorne State Park, Route 1A, Rye, NH, and wheelchair accessible. Refreshments are served at 7 pm. The public is welcome free of charge. Contact: Dan Hubbard at danielhubbard@peoplepc.com, 603-332-4093 or see our web site at www.seacoastchapter.org/programs.

Program: Snowy Owls Wednesday, September 10

Norman Smith, Director of Mass Audubon's Blue Hills Trailside Museum, has studied Snowy Owls since 1981. As part of his research, he attaches bands and transmitters to the owls at Logan Airport, and then tracks their travels. The transmitters allow researchers to learn more about Snowy Owl migration routes, the

rate at which they travel, if and where they stop, where they spend the breeding season, and where they spend the winter. After an astounding 2013-2014 NH invasion of Snowy Owls, come learn about Norman's fascinating experiences with the species. This date is the Seacoast Chapter annual business meeting for the election of Executive Board officers.

Program: Migration Eight Months of the Year - Living on the Strait of Gibraltar

Wednesday, October 8 

Join longtime Seacoast Chapter members Al and Linda Maley who will describe the birds and places near where they've lived in Spain for the last few years. Storks, vultures, hawks, eagles, swifts and swallows are just some of the thousands of birds on their way to and from Africa and Europe that overfly the farm where the Maleys have spent the last four winters.

Program: Birding Marvelous Morocco and the Canary Islands Wednesday, November 12

Dana and Bob Fox travel the world to see wonderful birds in amazing habitats. In this program, they will lead us on a journey to two of the Canary Islands and some of the bird rich areas of Morocco, including the Atlas Mountains, the coast with a pelagic trip, the gorges, the high desert, and the western edges of the Sahara.

Beginner Bird Walks

NH Audubon Seacoast Chapter volunteers will lead three walks this fall. Although these walks are geared with the beginner birder in mind, birders of all levels of expertise are encouraged to participate and share their experiences. Children are gladly welcome with an adult. Unless otherwise noted, walks start promptly at 7 am. Wednesday trips end by about 9 am so, if necessary, you can leave for work. Saturday and Sunday trips end at noon. Participants are encouraged to bring binoculars, water, insect repellent, and sunscreen.

Field Trip: Pickering Ponds Trails
Sunday, September 7, 7 am and Wednesday, September 10, 7am
These walks will traverse Rochester city park

trails along the Cocheco River and around old wastewater treatment facility settling ponds. Meet at the Pickering Ponds parking area. The entrance is about a mile south of the Rochester Wastewater Treatment Plant on Pickering Road (opposite mailbox #374). Contact: Dan Hubbard at danielhubbard@peoplepc.com or 603-332-4093.

Field Trip: Strafford County Farm Sunday, September 14, 8 am

This walk will include the Don Black Trail and the hedgerows around the fields of the conserved property (good for sparrows in fall). The walk will last as long as participants choose, but not beyond noon. Contact: Dan Hubbard at danielhubbard@peoplepc.com or 603-332-4093.

Field Trip: Bioblitz September 20, 5 am-5pm

The Bioblitz is scientists, field naturalists and backyard enthusiasts coming together to appreciate and learn about biodiversity and record data on as many different species as possible in one day at Odiorne State Park for The Seacoast Science Center. There will be guided programs around the park covering many different topics, including birds. Contact: The Seacoast Science Center website, www.seacoastsciencecenter.org

Field Trip: Seacoast Chapter Pelagic Trip

Date To Be Announced

Rye Harbor, Granite State Whale Watch

In past years September pelagics have turned up four species of Shearwater (Great, Manx, Cory's, and Sooty), 2 species of Phalarope (Red-necked and Red), 3 species of Jaeger (Parasitic, Long-tailed, Pomarine), two species of Storm-petrel (Wilson's and Leach's), Northern Fulmar, and interesting gulls such as Sabine's and Lesser Black-backed. Contact: Lauren Kras at Lauren.Kras@gmail.com or 603-801-4628 or see website.

Field Trip: Annual Coastal Migration Saturday, October 4, 8 am-2 pm

Meet at the Odiorne Point State Park parking lot. Trip begins with a fall migration walk around Odiorne and then birding south along the New Hampshire coast. Contact: Steve Mirick, 978-374-0654 or e-mail smirick@comcast.net



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Thank You

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