SPRING 2014

NH Audubon Afield



Centennial Birdathon/Bloomathon is May 17-18

s NH Audubon enters its second $oldsymbol{\Lambda}$ century, one thing is clear conservation challenges require us ALL to be more mindful of decisions shaping the future of wildlife, natural places, and ultimately, ourselves. The 2014 Birdathon/Bloomathon promises to provide that opportunity. Fun, accessible and inclusive, this year's fundraising event will entice members and all who are interested to form friendly but competitive teams to search for birds and blooms statewide. Looking back 100 years, birds were the gateway to the conservation movement that still guides our work in education, advocacy, wildlife research, and stewardship/conservation. We invite you to participate in or pledge

Above: Male Magnolia Warbler in a flowering willow – two iconic symbols of spring that might be seen during Birdathon/Bloomathon. Photo by Len Medlock.

your support for this great competition!

The Birdathon/Bloomathon is outdoor exploration with a purpose.

Join in the excitement as teams of observers, representing NH Audubon's Centers, Chapters, and groups of individuals, try to see as many species of birds and/or blooming wildflowers as possible within a single day, in whatever New Hampshire location they choose. Several teams are already forming, including expert-led groups that welcome beginners!

All funds raised will be split 50/50 between NH Audubon and the Chapter, Center, or area of your team's choice (raptor observatories, animal care or education, for example), so pledges from your friends and family are encouraged.

Continued on page 3



Welcome Back!
Announcing an exciting series of events this spring featuring former staff and volunteers sharing their talents. See page CE3 for details.

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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,

Transformation. Webster's Unabridged Dictionary defines it as "a complete or major change in someone's or something's appearance, form, etc."

That word has many applications here at NH Audubon – whether we're talking about the butterflies we will be studying this summer, viewing photos of one of our Manchester-banded Peregrine Falcons strolling down the beach in the Bronx or discussing the successful restoration of nesting Bald Eagles in New Hampshire (from 0 to 40 over the last 30 years).

These are all examples of the important work we do here, day in and day out. These are all examples of what sets NH Audubon apart from the other conservation organizations in the state.

NH Audubon has also been fortunate to enjoy another type of transformation, this time of a very human nature. In the past year, a few generous and committed people have provided bequests to support our work – bequests that total over 2 million dollars! For a small non-profit, one that has endured fiscal challenges and perpetual belt-tightening, that incredible generosity has indeed been transformative. Those funds have allowed us to rebuild the foundation of our financial "house" and, with careful stewardship, will allow us to focus wholeheartedly on the other types of transformation (the scientific kind!) that represent our mission.

The next Afield will tell you more about our benefactors, so stay tuned. This current issue of Afield speaks to the here and now, immersed as we are in an array of Centennial activities that complement our everyday operations. Camps, art exhibits, a concert, an enhanced Birdathon/Bloomathon, Center programming, Chapter initiatives... all this information and more are sandwiched into this newsletter. I hope you will read every page, and then choose some way to participate and celebrate with us.

Transformation. As spring approaches and our fields, forests, water bodies and wildlife are exploding with new life, just watch what is happening at NH Audubon! (And join the fun...)

—Michael J. Bartlett
President, New Hampshire Audubon

CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Do you know someone who has done outstanding work for conservation, the study of birds, or who has been a tireless volunteer for New Hampshire Audubon? Help us recognize them! The Board of Trustees requests nominations for the Tudor Richards Award and the Goodhue-Elkins Award, which will be presented at the Annual Meeting. Details on the awards, past recipients, and nomination forms are available on the NH Audubon web site (under About), www.nhaudubon.org/about/annual-awards. Submission deadline is April 1, 2014 – no fooling! If you have questions contact Becky Suomala, rsuomala@nhaudubon.org x309.

NH AUDUBON NEWS

CONTINUED FROM COVER

Birdathon/Bloomathon

The Rules:

It's easy to participate in Birdathon/Bloomathon! There's no registration fee, just an expectation that individuals collect pledges as a way to involve an even greater audience in this event... even those who stay indoors. Donations and pledges come from friends, co-workers, family members, Facebook, local businesses, etc.

- Form a team with friends (2-6 participants/ team) or join a Chapter or Center group
- Captains will coordinate multiple teams for Chapters, Centers or Programs
- Set goals: for example, aim for a big day of 100 bird species or 10 new plants you've never seen
- Sign up pledges to support your Chapter, Center, or area of interest
- Travel across the state or focus on a favorite local spot or NH Audubon Sanctuary
- Spend a few hours in the field or search for 24 hours straight!

For registration details and more information, contact your local NH Audubon Chapter; Birdathon/
Bloomathon Coordinator Phil Brown (224-9909 x334 or pbrown@nhaudubon. org); or visit www.

nhaudubon.org/birding/ birdathon. Registration deadline is May 13. Early registration is recommended to provide team strategy and fund raising opportunities.

New this year – easy online tools through FirstGiving where you can set up your own individual fundraising web page to share electronically (via email, Facebook, other social media). We can help! May 17 – Birdathon/ Bloomathon trips around the state

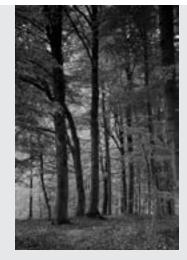
May 18 – Local celebrations, coordinated by Team Captains

Prizes will be awarded to category winners and to those who raise the most in pledges. Participation in the Birdathon/Bloomathon means that everyone wins – including the birds and plants!

Can't participate in Birdathon? You can still support your favorite team by visiting www. nhaudubon.org/birding/birdathon.



Rhodora by Phil Brown



In Memoriam

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: Vernon F. Cheney Elizabeth P. Crowley Sarah W. Gallagher Frances E. Golomb Genevieve Greenleaf Elizabeth I. Jones Harry McDade Pete Panagos Harry T. Platt Grace E. Pomeroy Eva Powers Martha Rice Wendy S. Schorr Peter R. Stettenheim Guy Swenson lanet M. Warren Thelma E. Warren Patricia Wible Mark Wiley

Honoraria

Thoughtful gifts were made in honor of the following people: Hope A. Kelly Robert D. Jones Joann M. Hoy Daniel Hubbard

Putting All Your Eggs In One Basket (or not): The Ins and Outs of Clutch Size In Birds

As spring approaches, all our breeding birds are getting ready for reproduction, with most laying eggs by the end of May. But have you ever wondered why there is so much variation in the number of eggs (aka clutch size) a species lays? Right here in New Hampshire this can range from two (doves, hummingbirds, loons) to over a dozen (ducks, turkey). So why all this variation?

One thing that influences clutch size is available food resources, which dictate how much energy a bird can invest in producing eggs and then caring for the chicks that hatch. Here in the temperate zone, there is a massive flush of insects in the spring and summer that provides food for most breeding songbirds, and this is partially behind their larger clutch sizes compared to tropical relatives (where resources are more uniformly dispersed throughout the year). In birds such as ducks and chickens, whose young can feed themselves soon after hatching, there is less pressure on the parents for provisioning, thus allowing females to produce larger clutches.

The flip side to having a large clutch of eggs in a single nest is that it is a more obvious target for a hungry predator. Since laying eggs costs energy, smaller clutches present less of an investment risk to the female bird, saving her resources for second attempts if the first clutch is lost. Thus, if predation risk is high, birds tend to lay fewer eggs at a time. This is probably one reason that cavity nesters such as chickadees lay 6-10 eggs, while the similarly-sized warblers only lay 3-5 in their more exposed nests. Higher predator densities in the tropics have been suggested as another factor

behind the lower clutches toward the equator, but to date the data have not been conclusive.

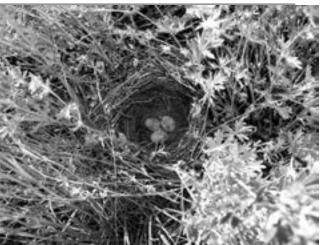
If a species has a relatively

A third factor is longevity.

short lifespan, it may be important to maximize reproductive output by attempting to produce as many young as possible given the previous constraints. And if a bird is likely to live a really long time (e.g., decades), it may be best to produce only 1-2 eggs each year (or even every other year). This is the strategy employed by many seabirds (e.g., penguins, albatrosses) and large waterbirds (e.g., loons). By investing less each season, these species have less to lose if resources are low or predation high. Failure is far less critical if you have many more years in which to attempt producing that single offspring needed to replace yourself.

There are of course plenty of exceptions! Hummingbirds almost always lay only two eggs – even in the north – despite being relatively short-lived, and sandpipers worldwide, whether temperate or tropical, migratory or resident, lay four. These are likely artifacts of evolutionary history that for whatever reason haven't changed much as birds have diversified in those groups, but you can be sure that the ecological pressures discussed above are still in operation, and perhaps subtly working change behind the scenes.

-Pam Hunt



Grasshopper Sparrow nest by Pam Hunt

Educators:

Register for Your Complimentary NH Audubon Membership Today!

As a way to honor our history and look to the future, we are following the example of our founders who, in 1914, invited teachers to join the Audubon Society of New Hampshire (as it was known at the time) for free.

During our centennial year, we are offering all New Hampshire educators a one-year complimentary membership!

Teachers: Please visit www. nhaudubon.org/about/centennial/education to register for your free membership today!

NH AUDUBON NEWS

Field Volunteer Opportunities

Nighthawk Watches

Project Nighthawk volunteers help locate and monitor Common Nighthawks during the summer nesting season, primarily in the Concord, Keene (in partnership with AVEO), and Ossipee areas. Volunteers typically watch at one site from 8-9:30 pm. Time commitment is variable, but we request a minimum commitment of two evenings from new volunteers. If you are interested, contact Becky Suomala, rsuomala@nhaudubon.org, 603-224-9909 x309. For more on Project Nighthawk, see the web page: http://www.nhaudubon.org/project-nighthawk

If you are interested in any of the following, contact Pam Hunt, 224-9909 x328 or phunt@nhaudubon.org.

Chimney Swift Roost Counts

In spring, when they've first returned from the winter and before they disperse to breed, Chimney Swifts spend the night in large communal roosts in a variety of chimneys. Swift populations are in decline across the Northeast for yet unknown reasons, but one possibility is that these roosts are disappearing or of lower quality. You can help by looking for roosting swifts in your neighborhood or at pre-determined locations. A training session will be arranged for some time in early May.

Marshbird Surveys

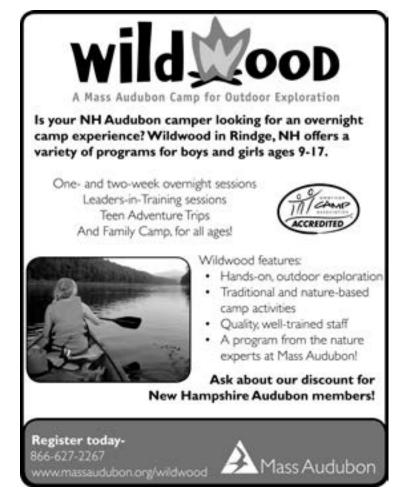
In recent years the numbers of Pied-billed Grebes at some traditional sites have appeared to go down – not good news for a State Threatened species. To try and get more current data, we hope to recruit volunteers to survey pre-selected wetland sites in 2014. Surveys will take place in May and June, and include other marsh birds such as bitterns and rails as well as grebes. For 2014, we'll focus on sites south of the White Mountains. Interested participants will need access to a boat for almost all sites, be willing to do surveys near dawn or dusk, and have access to playback equipment (although we may have some things for loan).

Olive-sided Flycatcher Blitz

In June and July we will be surveying for Olive-sided Flycatchers at sites in northern and western New Hampshire. This species has been declining regionally, and our goal is to get a feel for how much its range has changed in the 30 years since we completed the NH Breeding Bird Atlas. Volunteers will need a car, a willingness to travel, and in some cases be able to survey challenging habitats. They will also need to visit assigned sites at least two, and possibly three, times during the season. This will be a great opportunity to explore new parts of the state and see some beautiful habitats (and maybe even an Olive-sided Flycatcher!). Training will be provided in early June.

Swallow Colony Reporter

Project Swallow CORE is looking for volunteers to track active nesting colonies for four species: Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Bank Swallow, and Purple Martin. You will need to be able to identify swallows and have a pair of binoculars. You can monitor a local swallow colony or check on sites as you travel in the state. For more on Swallow CORE, see the web page: http://www.nhaudubon.org/swallow-core.





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,

84 SILK FARM RD, CONCORD NH 03301 603-224-9909 nha@nhaudubon.org

PROGRAMS

Spring Binocular Workshop Saturday, March 22, 10-11:30am

Are you overwhelmed by the variety of binoculars available these days? Are you still not sure what the difference is between "eye relief" and "field of view?" Or are you just in the market for a new pair and not sure where to start? Answers to these and many other questions will be revealed at this workshop with NH Audubon Senior Biologist Pamela Hunt – and just in time to get everyone ready for spring birding.

Pam will cover all the binocular basics: price, ease of use, and what the numbers mean. Feel free to bring your own binoculars if you have questions about them, or consider getting a brand new pair based on what you learn! If the weather's good, we'll even take some for a test drive around the Center. Attendees receive 15% off a purchase of a pair of binoculars at the Nature Store!

Wildflower Identification for **Beginners**

Saturday, April 26, 9am-2pm

Prepare for the spring season and NH Audubon's Birdathon/Bloomathon by learning to identify local wildflowers. Learn some of the basics of plant characteristics and about the ecology of spring ephemerals. The workshop will include a slideshow of the most common local wildflowers and use Newcomb's Wildflower Guide and the New England Wildflower Society's "Go Botany" website as resources. Participants will go outdoors in search of early wildflowers to practice new skills.

Instructor: Melissa Coppola works with the New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau which locates and facilitates the protection of New Hampshire's rare plants and exemplary natural communities, Melissa has been botanizing for over 17 years.

Participants should bring a bag lunch. It is recommended to bring a copy of Newcomb's Wildflower Guide. Books can be purchased from NH Audubon's Nature Store. Members receive a 10% discount.

Pre-registration is required. Contact Ruth Smith at rsmith@nhaudubon.org or 224-9909 ext. 313.

ART EXHIBITS

BETSY IANEWAY: WATERCOLORS OLD AND NEW. **NEAR AND FAR**

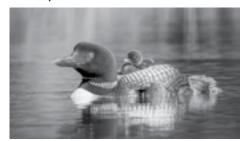
Exhibit Open March-April Opening Reception: Tuesday, March 4,

This exhibit is part of our Centennial Celebration Welcome Back Series. See page CE3 for more details on the exhibit.

BRIAN REILLY PHOTO EXHIBIT

Exhibit Open May-June

Opening Reception: Tuesday May 6, 5-7 pm The Monadnock region contains many small ponds and lakes, and Brian was initially drawn to photograph water birds when he discovered a passion for common loons. By using binoculars and telephoto lenses, Brian is able to watch every aspect of the birds' lives while remaining at a respectful distance. Brian's observational and reporting skills and sensitive, technically improving photos of loons and the world in which they live and breed have made him a valued asset for the Loon Preservation Committee, for whom he currently serves as a volunteer and trustee.



The Birds of New Hampshire

by Allan R. Keith and Robert P. Fox

The first book in 100 years to document the sightings of birds in New Hampshire is now available through the Nature Store for \$55 (\$49.50 for members!). It is a must-have for any avid New Hampshire birder. The book contains:

- First state-wide coverage of all species in
- Status and distribution for all 427 species, seasons of occurrence and abundance
- History of New Hampshire Christmas
- Summary of New Hampshire Hawkwatching data
- Location and identity of over 4,800 museum specimens collected in the state
- Summary of over 17,500 bird band returns for New Hampshire
- Breeding Bird Survey results since 1966
- Bibliography of over 1,200 titles covering the last 200 years

Order online or using the form below:

☐ Please send me The Birds of New Hampshire.
Name
Address
City
StateZip
Phone
Email
Shipping Option (select one):
☐ Media Mail (add \$10)
☐ Priority (add \$15)
Member/nonmember price (select one):
□ \$49.50, NH Audubon member
□ \$55, non-member
TOTAL:
Make your check payable to 'NH Audubor

and mail with form to: Attn Nature Store,

McLane Center, 84 Silk Farm Rd, Concord,

NH 03301

GET READY FOR SPRING!

Field Guides: Visit the Nature Store to check out our selection of field guides for your springtime explorations. Subjects range from mammals to mushrooms, birds to butterflies, and flowers to ferns! Also, be sure to pick up the brand new Sibley's 2nd edition Guide to Birds, coming out March 11.



Optics: The Nature Store carries high quality Nikon and Vortex brand binoculars ranging from \$90-\$650 great for spring birding. Also, save the date for our upcoming binocular workshop, March 22 and remember members will receive 15% off a new pair of optics at the workshop (details on opposite page).

Bird-Friendly Coffee: As you are flipping through the new field guide purchased from the Nature Store you can sip a delicious cup of organic Birds and Bean coffee. We are fully stocked with "made in the shade" bird friendly coffee in dark roast, medium roast and French roast decaf.

Nature Store is open 6 days a week. Monday-Friday: 10-5 pm Saturday: 10-4 pm



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

Where have all the insects gone? How

season? We'll explore, play games and

discover what insects do in the winter.

will they make it through this chilly

Icy Insects

Thursday, March 6

winters. Learn all about the mammals, big and small, that may have visited your yard this winter when you were not looking!

Signs of Spring

Thursday, April 3

Spring is in the Air! As days get longer and the weather gets warmer, life along the river starts to wake up. Discover this for yourself as we explore the outdoors and search for the many signs of spring.

Spring Serenade

Thursday, April 17

Who is making all that noise in your backyard? And what is all that noise about anyway? Discover which animals are calling in spring and why. We'll try our luck at mimicking some of their songs and make an animal call to take home!

FISHWAYS FUNDAYS

SPRING 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.

Mammals, Mammals Everywhere! Thursday, March 20

Lots and lots of furry friends are active all year long, even in the coldest NH

SPRING 2014 NH AUDUBON AFIELD NH AUDUBON **AFIELD** SPRING 2014

7

Celebrate May Day!

Thursday, May I

May is finally here, with longer days, sunlight, flowers and new life! Celebrate this wonderful season with us at the Fishways as we engage in traditional May Day festivities, games and crafts. We'll even make a May basket to take home to surprise a friend.

Fin-Tastic Voyage

Thursday, May 15

Join us for a fun program to learn about some Merrimack River fish. We'll discover what makes fish special and which fish make a long journey from the ocean to the Merrimack River each spring. We'll even look for them underwater in our fish ladder.

Amphibians All Around

Thursday, May 29

What is an amphibian and which ones live nearby? What are they doing in spring? Amphibians abound this time of year! Meet some live frogs and salamanders, discover their special qualities and try your luck at mimicking frog calls.

FAMILY FRIDAY NIGHTS

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

The Hunters and the Hunted

March 14, 7-8 pm

What is the difference between a predator and a prey animal? We'll investigate the adaptations animals use to find food and stay safe.

Finding their Way

March 28, 7- 8 pm

Discover how migrating creatures find their way back to NH. Compare their navigation skills to yours through games and activities.

Frog Songs

April 18, 7-8 pm

The calls of frogs and toads are loud and clear this time of year. Observe real amphibians and explore the reasons they sing in the spring.

Fabulous Fish

May 2, 7- 8 pm

What makes a fish a fish? Have you ever really looked at a fish up close? Give it a try as we learn about the amazing and special features of these underwater creatures.

Family Fishtravaganza

May 16, 7- 8:30 pm

Some of our Merrimack River fish travel amazing distances. Find out which go the farthest as we go on a tour, play fish games, and look for migrating fish in our ladder.

Flower Power

May 30, 7-8 pm

Why are flowers so colorful and beautiful? How do they grow? Discover these answers and more as we search for sprouts, plants and flowers around the Fishways.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Predators of the Sky: Live Birds of Prey

Saturday, March 8

Two Presentations: Noon – 1:30 pm and 2 – 3:30 pm

Tom Ricardi and his spectacular birds of prey will be our guests. A regal golden eagle and a very playful turkey vulture will be two of the birds on hand for close-up viewing! Learn about the great work done by Tom's organization, the Massachusetts Bird of Prey Rehabilitation Facility, which cares for injured birds and operates a successful captive breeding program. For all ages! Cost: \$10 per person, \$25 per family (Fee does not cover extended family). Preregistration with payment required.

Learn to Fly Fish

Wednesdays, March 19, 26 and April 2, 9 (Four consecutive sessions), 6 - 8 pm

Learn all about equipment, how to tie a fly, strategies and techniques, where fish live and what they eat. Members of Trout Unlimited certified in the 'Let's Go Fishing' program will be our instructors. For Beginner and Intermediate

Cost: \$5 per person

Pre-registration with payment required. **2014 Fish Festival**

Featuring Dash and Splash! Tuesday, April 29, 10 am – 2 pm

Line up and cheer on US Fish and Wildlife biologists when they deliver adult broodstock salmon, or other trout species, to stock our fish ladder at 10 am. The wild fish have yet to swim up the Merrimack River, but the ladder is running and there will be fish in our window for up-close and personal viewing while we wait. Fish stocking will be

followed by fish crafts, fish hats, fish games,

and fish fun...lots of fishy fun! Cost: \$3 per person or \$6 per family (Fee does not cover extended family). No registration required.

All about River Raptors

Saturday, May 17, 11 am – 3 pm

Everyone is noticing all kinds of raptors flying over the Merrimack River, a common sight in the Manchester city landscape that we love so well. What are they doing in a city and where are they nesting and raising their young? Do they ever interact with each other? We will work together to answer these questions and more by looking through telescopes, watching a slideshow, and viewing live raptors up close! Let's celebrate their recovery, the 100 years of NH Audubon working to protect our birds and our own efforts to learn and conserve river raptors everywhere! Cost: \$3 per person or \$ 6 per family (Fee does not cover extended family). No registration required.

World Fish Migration Day

Saturday, May 24, II am – 3 pm
The Amoskeag Fishways and locations around the world celebrate the very first "World Fish Migration Day," calling attention to migratory fish and healthy oceans and rivers everywhere. We will have fish migration games, inquiry and art projects that will help to better understand migratory fish, here and abroad. Water connects us. Our goal is to educate the public and celebrate healthy fish and productive river ecosystems. Play and learn at this worldwide event along the Merrimack River, here at the FISHWAYS!
Cost: FREE! No registration required.

Celebrate the 2014 Fish Season!

The Amoskeag Fishways celebrates the 2014 fish migration season April 28th through June 14th. We will be open seven days a week, 9 am-5 pm. The center will be closed Monday, May 26th, in observance of Memorial Day. Walkin visitors are always welcome and guided fish season tours are offered to groups of 10-30 participants. For more information about fish season, special events or to schedule a tour, call 626-FISH.

NHAudubon

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 second installment in a four-part history of the organization. If you missed reading about the first 25 years, please visit www.nhaudubon.org/about/centennial/history.

Recovery and New Momentum: 1939-1964

Cimilar to the weather in the month of March, the second quarter century of the Audubon Society of New Hampshire (as it was known in those years) came in like a lamb as the damaging effects of the Great Depression and World War II were dauntingly manifest. But the strong foundation of the Society, built by the likes of Rev. Manley Townsend and General Wheeler (See "The First 25 Years" in the NH Audubon Afield, Winter 2013-2014) was resilient enough that the organization persevered. It awakened from its doldrums in the 1950s and positively roared into the 1960s, like the proverbial lion.

Even though it took a few years for that re-invigoration to become obvious, the seeds were sown at the 30th Annual Meeting in 1943 when the Directors voted to resume publishing the *Bulletin* (the Society's only publication), broaden the Society's approach from birds to include all wildlife, set up educational programs, hold meetings around the state and start a membership drive. They also elected an entirely new slate of Directors. Basically they started over, almost from scratch! The driving forces

behind this re-birth were Professor Charles F. Jackson of the University of New Hampshire (President), Doug Wade, Naturalist for Dartmouth College (Secretary, and Editor of the Bulletin), and Louise Forsyth (Treasurer).

In 1947 Ludlow Griscom, acknowledged Dean of 20th century birding, spoke at the Annual Meeting which was a collaboration with the New Hampshire Academy of Science. A more academic approach to bird life became noticeable in the *Bulletin*, replacing the original sentimental attitude.

The post-WW II economic struggles of the organization continued and the quality of the *Bulletin* declined so the Society ceased publication in 1949. But hope grew, as did the membership, from its nadir of 120 in 1943 to 346 in 1944. The Annual Meeting in 1948 "... marked an important turning point in the history of the Society..." as written by Pauline Merrill in her "History of the Audubon Society of New Hampshire. Part III" (NH Audubon Quarterly, Vol. 17, #4, October 1964). The Directors revised the original Constitution and

Continued on next page



1939-1964

the objectives of the Society, the first Newsletter came out in June 1948, and Tudor Richards became a Vice President. No one knew at that time that Tudor's impact on the Society would be one of the biggest stories of the subsequent 35 years. In 1949, Tudor became the Editor of *The Newsletter*, and the first concerns over "the insecticide problem" (DDT) were voiced by the Society, just one example of the forward-thinking actions the Society would take.

The pace of growth and change with the Society accelerated tremendously in the 1950s and these are just a few of the highlights. In 1950, Claire Batchelder was appointed Education Director. Claire's tenure in this position was one of the most productive and successful volunteer efforts ever by one individual in the organization's history. After 14 years, she received a national award in recognition of her educational work with the Society.

In 1951, The Newsletter evolved into New Hampshire Bird News with Barbara Richard's hand-drawn Common Loon on the cover. This began an era of "...improved and systematic amateur ornithology..." (Merrill). All bird records were compiled and published seasonally in systematic fashion in New Hampshire Bird News with Vera Hebert as records editor, "...forming what is probably the most permanently valuable feature of the Society's publication..." (Merrill). Vera's modest initial efforts at making the data more consistent and systematic would ultimately result in the impressive and important publication we have today, New Hampshire Bird Records. New Hampshire Bird News continued to be published until 1961 when it became the New Hampshire Audubon Quarterly.

In 1953, Tudor was elected President of NH Audubon and he was also Vice-Chair of the NH Natural Resources Council, formed in 1952 by a consortium of dozens of environmental groups. The Rideout Sanctuary (acquired in 1930) was sold to the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests and the proceeds put into a fund for sanctuaries. NH Audubon opened its first office in Concord courtesy of Claire and Leon Batchelder who generously shared part of their office space with the Society.

The first field trip as part of an Annual Meeting was conducted to the Isles of Shoals in 1953 and the next year, Kimball Elkins was named the first Field Trips Chairman. He greatly expanded the field trip program. Tudor's Annotated List of the Birds of New Hampshire was published and a joint NH Audubon and NH Fish and Game Department bird field checklist was issued in 1954. In 1957, membership reached 500 and a bequest of \$34,000 came from Eleanor E. Whitcomb, by far the largest received by the Society at the time.

In 1958, there was a major effort to draft, support, and successfully pass a Birds of Prey protection bill. It was the Society's first major legislative success at the State level. Before this law was enacted it was still legal to shoot hawks and owls! The first opposition to a highway through Franconia Notch was raised, an issue that would become significant in the next 25 years.

In 1961, the Bear Brook Nature Center was established in cooperation with what was then the State Department of Recreation. The acquisition of the Pondicherry property was the biggest story in 1962 and 1963 and there were successful land acquisition efforts to protect salt marshes, thanks to the hard work of Robert Rathbone. Regular radio programs featured the Society, and Jane Grant became membership Chairperson beginning her long tenure with the organization.

A big 50th anniversary celebration in 1964 featured Roger Tory Peterson as the guest speaker with a turnout of 300 people! For the first 50 years of its history, everything had been accomplished by volunteers! Membership had expanded to 835, membership dues were \$3.00, 28 statewide field trips were run, and 150 acres of salt marsh had been protected. Pondicherry was dedicated as a Sanctuary and Wildlife Refuge with a management agreement with the NH Fish and Game Department. The Society continued to be forward-thinking with more concern expressed about DDT.

The Audubon Society reached its 50th year with tremendous accomplishments and momentum just as the national environmental movement was about to begin.

-Robert A. Quinn



Kimball Elkins on a whale watch field trip.

FROM HATS TO HABITATS: A CENTURY OF CONSERVATION

Welcome Back Series

As part of NH Audubon's centennial celebration, we have invited some former staff and volunteers to conduct programs and display exhibits. We are thrilled to have them returning to share their skills and continued interest in NH Audubon.

Art Exhibit: Watercolors Old and New, Near and Far by **Betsy Janeway**

March-April McLane Center's PSNH Room Opening Reception: Tuesday, March 4, 5-7pm

Betsy Janeway is honored to be part of NH Audubon's Centennial Celebration by showcasing her watercolor landscapes. Painting outdoors at places she knows and loves, and on her travels, she is not searching for perfection in her work as much as to capture a memory in mood, light and colors. She has painted at most of the NH Audubon sanctuaries.

Betsy has had a long history with NH Audubon as a volunteer, serving on committees and the Board of Trustees, and helping with the NH Breeding Bird Atlas. A birdwatcher since she was nine, she lives in Webster with her husband, Harold, on an old farm where birds and wildlife flourish, sheep graze the pastures, swimming is good in the Blackwater River, and meals come fresh from her garden.



Songs and Tales of the Earth **Performance by Steve Schuch**

Saturday, March 15, 7:00 pm Member Fee: \$15/adult, \$8/child; Non-member Fee: \$18/adult, \$10/child,

Tickets at www.nhaudubon.org McLane Center

Award-winning musician and storyteller Steve Schuch will return to the McLane Center for a performance of songs and stories inspired by his passion for the natural world. Steve is classically trained on violin, an accomplished singer/song writer, guitarist, author and storyteller. He has delighted audiences across the U.S and Europe, fusing Celtic/Folk roots with contemporary influences.

His performance will include songs he composed while serving as a naturalist for NH Audubon in the mid-1980s. Audience members will be inspired by toe-tapping tunes, sing-along songs and beautiful ballads. To learn more and hear samples of Steve's music visit his website: www.nightheron.com

Thanks to event sponsor Endicott Furniture of Concord, www.endicottfurniture.com

A Walk Back in Time: The Secrets of Cellar Holes with Adair Mulligan

Thursday, April 3, 7pm

McLane Center

Northern New England is full of reminders of past lives: stone walls, old foundations, or a century old lilac out in the woods. Adair Mulligan explores how to discover clues of the past that remain and to piece together a rich story from those remnants. She will help participants gain a new way of looking at the woods to decipher past land uses and discover how landscapes have changed through time.

Adair has a deep curiosity about the natural and cultural history of northern New England. She has written several books and contributes to regional publications. Adair is currently the Executive Director of the Hanover Conservancy. She was NH Audubon's Education Director from 1981-1985 and previously served as a loon biologist and naturalist.

There is no fee for this program. Funding is provided by a grant from the New Hampshire Humanities Council.

Schedule (Each class will include in-class instruction and field exploration.) Tuesday, April 15, 6:30-8pm Thursday, April 17, 6-9pm Tuesday, April 22, 6-9pm Thursday, April 24, 6-9pm Tuesday, May 13, 6-9pm

HUMANITIES

COUNCIL

Thursday, May 15, 6-9pm Saturday Field Trip, May, date TBD (either local or Star Island)

Improving Bird Identification Skills with Bob Quinn

Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning April 15

This introductory class is ideal for people keenly interested in birds who want to improve their identification skills. It's a great way to prepare for participating in NH Audubon's Birdathon/Bloomathon. 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
- How to use and choose bird guides

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. Bob has received the Goodhue-Elkins award for his "outstanding contributions to the study of NH birds." Bob was a staff member from 1977-1986 working on sanctuaries, conservation and education.

Fee: \$35/members, \$43/non-members per session or \$175/\$215 for all six sessions. Price includes National Geographic's Birding Essentials by Jonathan Alderfer and Jon L. Dunn. An all-day field trip in May will be a separate charge. Sessions can be taken on an a la carte basis if desired. The majority of the proceeds from this course will go toward the NH Audubon Centennial celebration. Limited to 15 participants.

Pre-registration is required. See www. nhaudubon.org for complete schedule, requirements, and registration info.

NH Audubon's 100th Anniversary Poster Contest

To celebrate the 100 years NH Audubon has spent helping protect NH's wildlife and environment, students across the state are invited to enter our Poster Contest to show us how they can help too.

The theme is "How I can help NH's wildlife and environment." Categories are grades K-2 and 3-5. Entries must be submitted by March 15. Winners will be displayed this spring at Amoskeag Fishways, Massabesic, and McLane centers.

See our website for details and submission guidelines.

APRIL VACATION CAMP

McLane Center: April 21-25 Massabesic Center: April 28-May 2 For Children Ages 6-10 All-day sessions: 9am—4pm Member Price: \$42/day Nonmember Price: \$52/day

SPRING CELEBRATION!

New Hampshire Audubon is celebrating its 100th year. Join us for a week-long celebration honoring this historic milestone while examining the seasonal changes taking place around our sanctuaries.

- Crafts
- Birding
- Vernal pool exploration
- Live animal presentations
- Hiking/Exploration
- Games

VISIT WWW.NHAUDUBON.ORG FOR COMPLETE DETAILS AND CAMP REGISTRATION.

Summer Camp in Our Centennial Year!

- MASSABESIC & MCLANE CENTER LOCATIONS
- PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AGES 4-12
- LEADERS-IN-TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AGES 13-15

Registration opens March 3 for NH Audubon members, March 10 for non-members. Visit www.nhaudubon.org.

Session I: June 23-July 3 (9 days) *last day of school is June 16 Concord/June 12 Manchester

Histories Mysteries

Unlock the ancient mysteries of Earth's history during this session. Explore the landscape through the lens of a paleontologist, glaciologist, and archaeologist. Prepare to get down and dirty as we search the fields and forests for evidence of the past that may help us learn about the future. Begin a summer long celebration of NH Audubon's 100th year reveling in the natural history that NH Audubon has helped protect.

Session 2: July 7-11 (5 days) Native and Natural Ways

Ever thought about how nature recycles? During this session we attempt to better understand the rhythmic ways of the natural world. Examine seasonal changes through

the eyes of a Native American with story-telling and games. Make recycled art using natural materials and other repurposed objects.

Session 3: July 14-18 (5 days)

$Winged\,Wonders$

What's all this buzzing around? It's that time of the summer when flying creatures are everywhere. Time to break out the bug nets and binoculars and start exploring our wildlife sanctuaries in search of the insects and birds that zip around the sky. We might see

evidence of flying mammals as well. Ever wonder what NH Audubon has done over the past 100 years to help protect the flying species that inhabit our state? Spend time with our live birds while you learn about this and more.

Session 4: July 21-31 (9 days) Wilderness Ways

How do plants and animals survive when the weather is inclement or food is in shortage? What could we learn from them that could help us survive? Survival is what it's all about! We welcome back our most popular session complete with fire and shelter building. This session is filled with adventures aimed at improving our ways in the woods. Learn how to not get lost and what to do if you do get lost.

Session 5: August 4-8 (5 days) Water Wizards

Ever wonder where our water comes from? Join us as we examine the intricate nature of our local water shed. Follow a drop of water as it falls from the sky and makes its journey through the water shed. We explore the habitat surrounding Great Turkey Pond and Lake Massabesic in search

of plants and animals. Of course, we will find plenty of opportunity to experience the cooling effects of water with various water games.

Session 6: August 11-15 (5 days)

Earth Heroes What does it me

What does it mean to be an Earth Hero? Most of us know about reduce, reuse, recycle. But what else can we do to help take care of our planet? Learn about eco-friendly practices that can be used at home or in the forest to help us lessen

our negative impact on the planet while discovering ways increase our positive. Build a solar oven and harness the sun's energy to cook some snacks!

Mark Karl

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

ADULT PROGRAMS

Bluebird Natural History and Trail Monitoring 2014

Saturday, March 8, 10 am-2 pm Cost: FREE

Leader: Logan Young, Volunteer Coordinator

Get involved in a citizen science project to research the status of declining NH species like Eastern Bluebirds and Tree Swallows. Morning workshop focuses on the bluebird's natural history, conservation status and how to become a bluebird trail monitor. In the afternoon become oriented to our bluebird trail, clean out and make minor repairs to boxes as well as look for any early bluebirds. Volunteer monitors adopt a part or a whole field and contribute about one hour each week from April to August to monitor activity in our 100+ nest boxes.

Nature Poetry

Saturday, April 5, 2-3:30 pm Cost: \$5 suggested donation Leader: SNHU

The Romantic Era in Britain was an influential literary period famous for nature poetry. Come listen to students from Southern New Hampshire University's Romantic Literature class recite nature poems by Romantics such as Charlotte Smith, William Wordsworth, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Percy Bysshe Shelley, and John Keats. A brief discussion will follow the readings. Light refreshments will be served.

Soap Making Workshop

Saturday, April 19, 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. Follow the
entire process: the selection of recipe and
ingredients, the choice of utensils and

equipment, mixing and pouring into a mold. Watch a recently processed batch being cut into bars using a guitar string. Take home a finished soap bar from a previously cured batch.

Coastal Birding

Wednesday, May 21, 9 am-2:30 pm Cost: \$6 M/\$9 NM per trip Leader: JoAnn O'Shaughnessy

Enjoy birding the coast with Audubon trustee 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 parking lot if you want to carpool with other participants to Hampton.

Water, Weather, Climate, and Community Workshop

Thursday, May 22, 6-8 pm Cost: FREE

What is the connection between NH's declining moose populations, NH's skinny shrimp catch, and the state's bird populations? Join conservation planners, wildlife enthusiasts, and neighbors in this workshop. Learn about the condition of these species, what is being done to manage it, and how you can help! Everyone interested in wildlife is welcome, bring a coworker, friend, neighbor or family member!

Intro to Pelagic Wildlife

Saturday, May 24, 3 - 4 pm Cost: \$5 (free to those attending Pelagic Trip - see next page) Leader: Jon Woolf

Come see a brief 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 commonly sighted whale species.

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 to enjoy coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and delicious desserts while you learn about our natural environment.

March 21: The Seven Sleepers

Deep in their winter burrows, New Hampshire's seven types of hibernators are preparing to wake up with the spring thaw. Seasoned wildlife biologist Eric Orff will discuss what keeps these animals alive while at death's door in the wintertime. From jumping mice to bears, learn about how extreme hibernation has to be to survive our winter and hear Eric's stories from the forest after 40 years of field work in NH's woods.

April 4: Tracking Ospreys

Learn about Project OspreyTrack with Iain MacLeod, a multi-year project using GPS trackers to follow Ospreys from their nests in New Hampshire to their wintering grounds in South America. Hear the amazing and sometimes tragic stories of ten NH Ospreys, including Art, a male Osprey from Bridgewater, NH 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. The program will include an up-close encounter with a live Osprey.

May 16 (rain date of May 23): Night Hike under the Stars

You may be familiar with the Massabesic trails, but have you ever walked them at night? Join Naturalist Angie Krysiak for a guided hike of a portion of the Massabesic trails to experience the hidden sights and sounds of the nocturnal forest. We'll look for woodcocks and listen for frogs, and hope for some bats or owls. Afterwards members of the NH Astronomical Society will lead a Sky Watch for a close up experience with the stars and planets above us. Telescopes will be provided; bring your flashlights.

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

Pelagic Trip

Monday, May 26, 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. Spend all day at sea, searching the Ledge for pelagic seabirds, whales, dolphins, and anything else that happens to cross our course. Participants meet at Rye Harbor at 7:30 for check in.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

The Sweet Taste of Spring Fundraiser Saturday, March 15

Program 9:30 or 11; Breakfast 9-noon

Cost: Program and Breakfast: Individuals \$10 M/\$15 NM; Families \$25 M/\$35 NM Join us for a maple sugaring celebration and NH Audubon Fundraiser breakfast. Attend a 1/2 hour program to learn all about the amazing process of turning sap into syrup and join us for a homemade pancake breakfast with real NH made syrup and live music! Help support NH Audubon's animals, programs, and mission. Bring your

100th Anniversary Earth Day Festival: Tread Lightly Saturday, April 12, 10am-3pm

friends! Breakfast is first come, first served.

Cost: Drop in Fee Individuals \$5, Families \$15

Join NH Audubon and the Student Conservation Association as we celebrate both Earth Day and NHA's 100th anniversary. We'll have bird banding demonstrations, live animals, a "Lorax" dance performance, drawings to win prizes, 'build your own birdhouse' kits for sale, games, mural painting, crafts, scavenger hunts, live music, and marshmallow roasting at our campfire. See live raptors from the McLane Center and a number of Massabesic's own live animals up close. Lunch will be available for sale from A Market. Visit booths by a variety of earth-friendly businesses and organizations and learn tips and tricks to reduce your impact on the earth. Learn how you can make a difference today and every day.

10

Staying Found Workshop

Saturday, March 22, 10am-noon Cost: FREE

Leader: New England K-9 Search and Rescue

This FREE workshop is an educational program with a presentation by New England K-9 Search & Rescue for kids (age approx 4-10) and their families. Learn how to avoid becoming lost and what to do if you become lost. Meet some of NE K-9 Search and Rescue team-both the people and the canines! Registration is required-please contact Wanda Rice at (603)432-7840 (before 8pm) or wandarice@comcast.net.

Animal Calls and Sounds

Saturday, March 29, 10 am-noon Cost: Individuals \$9 M/ \$11 NM; Families \$18 M/ \$21 NM

Leaders: Angie Krysiak and Colby Sabutis
Ever wondered who was making those
strange sounds you hear in the woods at
night? We'll explore some of the calls and
sounds that a variety of mammals and other
animals make, then we'll go for a walk to the
lake to test out some artificial animal calls.

Cheese and Garlic Workshop

Saturday, May 17, 1-3pm Leaders: Barbara Benton and Angie Krysiak Cost: Individuals \$15 M/\$18 NM; Families \$20 M/\$30 NM (Cost covers food)

Learn how to make your own mozzarella cheese in this tasty workshop. Then we'll talk about garlic-how to grow it, harvest it, and the many reasons it is good for you! We'll put the two together and make some delicious treats. Small kits will be available for \$20 with instructions and ingredients (except milk) to make 2 batches of mozzarella. Ages 10 and up, please.

MAPS Bird Banding

May, dates TBA Cost: FREE

Leader: Jay Barry, Volunteer Educator and licensed bird bander for 40 years
Watch the fascinating banding process from capture to release. The summer
MAPS (Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship) program will help provide critical information relating to the ecology, conservation, and management of North American landbird populations, and the factors responsible for changes in their

populations. Using mist nets to catch birds, Jay will ID, band, and record our findings for the national database. Learn how to identify species, sex, and age with a variety of live subjects!

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

WEE WONDERS

Wednesdays, 10-11:30 am

Cost: \$9 M /\$12 NM (per adult/child pair)

Leader: Kim Murphy, Naturalist

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. Classes are for ages 4-6. Visit www.nhaudubon.org for more detailed class descriptions.

SPRING SENSATIONS: We use our five senses to perceive the world around us. Come see, hear, feel, smell and touch our way through the natural world this spring. March 12, Whiskers and Hands March 26, Sweet Taste of Spring April 9, Sounds of Spring April 23 (preschool classs only), Colors and Shapes

BABIES OF SPRING: Animals spend spring raising their young, so that they can grow big and strong before the next hard winter arrives. Join us for this late spring session to learn about the babies of spring! May 14, Eggs Left Behind May 28, Water Babies

June 11, Metamorphosing Monarchs

HOMESCHOOL PROGRAMS

JUNIOR EXPLORERS

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

Leader: 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 stay and participate.

Class themes and dates are same as listed above for preschool, except where noted. Visit www.nhaudubon.org for more detailed class descriptions.

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.

LEES MILLS ROAD • MOULTONBOROUGH, NH 03254 603-476-5666

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

NATURE TOUR:

Boreal Birds and Wildlife of NH's North Country –With a Special Focus on NHA's Wildlife Sanctuaries*

August 23-27, 2014

Leaders: Phil Brown (NHA's Director of Land Management) and Bob Quinn (Merlin Wildlife Tours)

This special nature tour will focus on boreal and migrants birds, other wildlife, and several of the most accessible and fascinating landscapes of NH's 'North Country'. With NHA's milestone Centennial celebration in mind, this tour is designed to include NHAspecific conservation and historical themes. At many of our locations, we will highlight the history of NH Audubon's role in conserving and stewarding these special places such as East Inlet and the Connecticut River Headwaters in Pittsburg, and NHA's own Pondicherry and Dahl Wildlife Sanctuaries. The tour will include extensive time in Pittsburg (NH's border town to Canada) and at Lake Umbagog, where we will take a pontoon boat tour in search of waterbirds. Bird conservation themes of the tour will include changes in both the landscape and avifauna of this unique region of the state over the past 100 years. As an added bonus, all proceeds of this special tour will directly support NH Audubon's wildlife sanctuaries throughout the state*.

Visit www.nhaudubon.org/programs/travel for complete details or contact Phil Brown at pbrown@nhaudubon.org or (603) 224-9909x334 for pricing, more information or to book your spot. Space is limited!

Don't miss this exciting once-in-a-Centennial opportunity!

Below: Male spruce grouse displaying by Bob Quinn



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

SPRING 2014 NH AUDUBON **afield** NH Audubon **afield** Spring 2014

AMMONOOSUC

Program: The Ordinary Extraordinary Junco

Wednesday, March 19, 7pm

A new documentary film from Indiana University and funded by the National Science Foundation designed to engage, entertain, and inspire audiences of all backgrounds. The feature-length film is comprised of eight chapters that highlight past and present biological research on one of the most common and abundant – yet amazing and diverse groups of songbirds in North America, the Juncos.

Program: Turtles, Amphibians and Vernal Pools

Wednesday, April 16, 7pm

Join us for a fascinating evening program and a visit to a vernal pool with Mike Jones and Liz Willey. Mike and Liz are accomplished authors, speakers, researchers and photographers. We will go outside after the indoor program on turtles and amphibians to see a vernal pool just a few steps away. Bring a flashlight and warm clothing for the outside portion.

Field Trip: International Migratory Bird Day at the Pondicherry NWR

Saturday, May 10

Join us for a few hours or a full day of birding at the Pondicherry NWR in Jefferson and Whitefield. We have two walks with the first beginning at 6 AM at Airport Marsh near the Mount Washington Regional Airport in Whitefield. The second walk begins at 8 AM at the Pondicherry Trailhead on Airport Road in Whitefield. We will walk 5 miles on flat terrain with several guides that will help identify birds and the natural history of the area. We often see 100 or more bird species. Free International Migratory Bird Day posters will be available for participants.

CAPITAL

Field Trip: A Different Kind of Concord Area Waterfowl Trip

Saturday, March 29, 2:00 PM until sunset Join Bob Quinn on this new take on the traditional waterfowl tour in the Concord area. We will go where the ducks are during the afternoon but end up at the "Big Bend" in the Merrimack River in Boscawen toward sunset to watch the birds come in to roost.

Sightings in prior years have included Northern Pintail, American Widgeon, Snow Goose and Gadwall. Meet at the McLane Audubon Center. Contact Bob Quinn at 746-2535 or RAQbirds@aol.com.

Field Trip: Merrimack River Waterfowl

Saturday, April 5, 7 am

Late March and early April bring the highest diversity of northbound ducks to the Capital region, so this is a great time to see what's out there – and maybe turn up a few early land bird migrants. Meet at the McLane Center at 7:00 am, and bring a scope if you have one. Contact: Pam Hunt at 753-9137 or biodiva@myfairpoint.net.

Field Trip: Woodcock Walk

Thursday, April 24, 7:30 pm
Meet Rob Woodward for his annual
EVENING walk in search of American
Woodcock. Experience the unique sights and
sounds of the "sky dance" of this amazing
shorebird! Meet at the McLane Center.
Careful advance scouting that week will
determine the exact location for this walk.
Contact: Rob Woodward at 224-0889
(evenings).

Field Trip: Before Work Walk - Horseshoe Pond

Friday, May 9, 6:30 – 8 am

Wake up early and get your fill of spring migrants before heading off to work. Join Rob Woodward for what has become one of the most popular trips of the year to see new spring migrants. Contact: Rob Woodward at 224-0889 (evenings).

Field Trip: The Mystique of Turkey Pond

Saturday, May 24, 7 am

Explore the fields, forests, and wetlands of Turkey Pond and learn its history from the days of Francis Beach White, the "Lumber Jills" who worked the saw mill, the sightings from Tudor Richards, to today's Turkey Pond Bird Survey. Meet Rob Woodward at McLane Center. Contact: Rob Woodward at 224-0889 (evenings).

Field Trip: Concord Airport

Saturday, May 31, 7 am

Join Dave Howe for a search for grassland species at the Concord Airport. Meet at the airport parking lot. For information call Dave Howe at 224-9298.

MASCOMA

Field Trip: Spring Migratory Waterfowl

Saturday, March 22, 8-11am Norwich, VT

This outing will head north from the Ledyard Bridge on the VT side of the Connecticut River searching the river and its adjacent fields and woods for waterfowl and early arriving spring migrants. Meet in the "Park and Ride" lot adjacent to the VT side of the Ledyard Bridge to form car pools. To be led by George Clark.

Field Trip: Woodcock Walks

Wed., April 9 and Thurs., April 10, 7:15-9pm

Hanover, NH

These two early evening explorations hope to observe the woodcock's spectacular mating flight. Meet at Kendal of Hanover's reception center for carpooling to the site. To be led by George Clark and Arthur Mudge. Cosponsored with the Kendal Birding Club.

Program: Roz Renfrew: "A Tale of 56,000 Observations" - The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds of VT

Monday, April 14, 7pm

The Howe Library – Hanover, NH
Atlas editor and VT Center for Ecostudies
Conservation Biologist Roz Renfrew
will discuss the compilation and recent
publishing of this comprehensive survey
of VT's breeding bird population.
Conservation in the face of habitat and
environmental pressures will be among the
major themes Roz will discuss. Co-sponsored
with The Howe Library.

Field Trip: Spring Migrant Birdwalk Saturday, April 19, 6:30- 9am Hanover, NH

We'll start in Hanover at Wilson's Landing and travel north along River Road to Lyme's Grant Brook looking for waterfowl and other early migrants. Meet in the Dartmouth Printing parking lot next to Hanover's Richmond School. Led by George Clark. Co-sponsored with The Hanover Conservancy and Upper Valley Land Trust

Field Trip: "Warbler Wednesdays" May 7, 14, 21 & 28, 7-10am W. Lebanon, NH

Join our popular, early morning May series of weekly warbler searches at Lebanon's

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

Boston Lot woods across from Wilder Dam. Meet in the parking lot. To be led by Gail "Pip" Richens.

Field Trip: "Feathered Fridays" May 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 7-10am

Union Village Dam, Thetford Center, VT
Each Friday morning in May, we'll survey
the woods and fields in VT's Union Village
Dam Park. Meet inside the gate at the
entrance across from E.C. Brown's Nursery
in Thetford Center. To be led by Becky Cook
and Ted Boze.

Field Trip: Evening Birdwalk

Fridays, May 16 & 23, 5:30-7:30 pm Union Village Dam, Thetford Center, VT Take an early evening stroll through Union Village Dam Park as we seek out spring migrants. Meet inside the gate at the entrance across from E.C. Brown's Nursery in Thetford Center. To be led by Becky Cook and Ted Boze.

Field Trip: Bedell Bridge Birdwalk Saturday, May 31, 6:30- 9am

Bedell Bridge State Historic Site, Haverhill This visit to the former site of the Bedell Covered Bridge, lost in a September 1979 hurricane, offers an opportunity to see a wide variety of birds due to the park's interesting combination of riverine, mixed woodlands and agricultural land habitats. To be led by Blake Allison.

MONADNOCK

Program: Ordinary Extraordinary Junco film showing

Thursday, February 27, 7-9 pm Monadnock Center for History and Culture in Peterborough

Readily found in backyards and city parks as well as wilder landscapes, Juncos-little, gray songbirds sometimes known as "Snowbirds"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. Ordinary Extraordinary Junco: Remarkable Biology from a Backyard Bird shows just how much wild bird studies can teach us - from how the body works to how new species form

– in an exciting illustration of the fact that absolutely nothing in nature is "ordinary." Co-sponsored by the Harris Center for Conservation Education, the Monadnock Conservancy, New Hampshire Audubon, and the Monadnock Center for History and Culture. For more information, contact Brett Amy Thelen at thelen@harriscenter.org or (603) 358-2065.

Field Trip: Owl Prowl at the Willard Pond Wildlife Sanctuary, Antrim

Saturday, March 22, 7-8pm

Join the NH Young Birders Club for a short walk on a March evening in woods outside of Hancock. Barred Owl, Saw-whet Owl, and Great Horned Owl are all possibilities. We'll gather inside the Willard Pond cottage after our prowl to share hot chocolate and a warm toasty fire. Meet in the Willard Pond parking lot at 7:00 pm. This event is cosponsored by the Harris Center and NHA's Monadnock Chapter: all are welcome, adults and kids alike! Contact Henry Walters at (603) 525-3572 or email nhyoungbirders@gmail.com for more details.

Field Trip: 31st Annual "Waterfowl Safari" along the Connecticut River Sunday, March 23, 8 am

Through carpools and a little walking, we're likely to see a variety of northward bound ducks and other species. Phil Brown's group will go south from Charlestown (departing at 8 am from the Charlestown Library on Main Street), while Eric Masterson's group will head north from Hinsdale (departing at 8 am from the Home Depot parking lot in Keene). The two groups will meet at Herrick's Cove in Vermont for lunch. Carpools return about 1 pm. Co-sponsored with the Harris Center. For more information or to sign up, contact Phil at pbrown@nhaudubon.org or Eric at masterson@harriscenter.org

Field Trip: Dublin Woodcock Walk Saturday, April 19,7 pm

The amazing aerial display of the courting American Woodcock is one of the most delightful harbingers of Spring. Join trip leader Tom Warren for an evening walk to experience this natural spectacle. Meet at Charcoal Road in Dublin at Sunset. Contac Tom at ttwassociates@myfairpoint.net for more details.

Field Trip: Spring Warbler Walk in Hinsdale

Saturday, May 10, 7 am - noon May 10 is International Migratory Bird Day. Why not celebrate with a trip to a perennial migration hot spot, along the Connecticut River in Hinsdale? The walk will start at the Hinsdale setbacks where breeding Marsh Wrens keep company with migrating warblers, gnatcatchers, flycatchers, possible rails and maybe even a Least Bittern! The walk will continue along the causeway and out to the bluffs overlooking Lake Wantastiquet where possible birds include Orchard Oriole, Bald Eagle, and Bank Swallow. Meet at Prospect St boat ramp parking area in Hinsdale at 7 am. Contact Cliff at clifdisc@gmail.com.

Field Trip: Annual Surry Birdathon Sunday, May 18, 7 am – noon

Join local birder Dave Hoitt and wildflower enthusiast Wendy Ward on this easy walk looking for birds and wildflowers of the open field and wetland habitat. Meet at the Surry Town Hall parking lot at 7:00 am. The trip should end by noon. Bring field guides, binoculars, drink, snack and bug repellent. For more info, call Wendy @ 313-0197 or weward0@yahoo.com

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: The Dramatic Erratics: A Glacial History Of New Hampshire with Bob Quinn

Wednesday, March 19, 7-9pm

Some of the most dramatic glacial scenery in the country can be easily seen in New Hampshire. In this entertaining program, Bob will share such iconic images as the classic U-shaped valley of Crawford Notch plus spectacular boulders, including the amazing Glen Boulder perched high above Pinkham Notch and the largest glacial erratic in the world-the Madison Boulder. After a short overview of the Ice Ages, with many aerial photos of existing ice fields, Bob will delve into some of the glacial evidence readily seen and visited in NH, such as boulders, waterfalls, striations, plucking (cliffs and talus slopes), and bogs (orchids

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and carnivorous plant life). He will explain why we have special landscapes like the Pitch Pine barrens, along with the unique wildlife found there, and how they came about because of the ice. From the Karner Blues butterfly to Moose, from Whip-poor-wills to Eastern Towhees, the legacy of the last ice age lives on. Join us for this fun and unique program and discover why ice cream is an important part of the presentation!

Program: Speaker to be announced Wednesday, April 16, 7-9pm

Program: Speaker to be announced Wednesday, May 21, 7-9pm

Field Trip: Odiorne Point and the NH **Coastline**

Saturday, March 22, 7am-3:30pm From Odiorne Point to Hampton Beach State Park, 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 Fireside Inn and Suites, or contact Richard Bielawski at 429-2537 or rbielawski@mac.com for directions to meet at Odiorne Point.

Field Trip: Massabesic Audubon Center, Auburn NH

Saturday, April 19, 7am-noon

Come and join us as we spend the morning walking the trails at Massabesic Audubon Center. We will meet at the center parking lot. Contact Richard Bielawski at 429-2537 or rbielawski@mac.com.

Field Trip: Horse Hill Nature Preserve Saturday, May 3, 6:30-10:30am

We'll be hiking into Merrimack's 563-acre nature preserve, through pine and oak woodlands, and along beaver ponds. Mud season may linger here so be prepared to get your shoes or boots wet and dirty. We will meet at 184 Amherst Rd. in Merrimack. Contact Richard Bielawski at 429-2537 or rbielawski@mac.com.

Field Trip: Mine Falls Park, Nashua Sunday, May 4, 6:30-10:30am

Join us as we walk through Mine Falls Park, an oasis for birds surrounded by urban and residential development, bolstered by the waters of the Nashua River. We will meet in the parking area at the end of Spine Rd. in Nashua. Contact Richard Bielawski at 429-2537 or rbielawski@mac.com.

Field Trip: Maple Hill Barn, Beaver Brook, Hollis

Saturday, May 10, 6:30-10:30am

Beaver Brook Association's seemingly endless trails traverse gently rolling hills, mixed woodlands, stone walls, and marshes and ponds. Beaver Brook always seems to give up a few surprises. We will meet at the Maple Hill Barn at 117 Ridge Rd, Hollis, NH. Contact Richard Bielawski at 429-2537 or rbielawski@mac.com.

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: Birding with Sacagawea Wednesday, March 12

Most people know the basics of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and most birders know that Lewis's Woodpecker and Clark's Nutcracker are named after the explorers. This program is your chance to combine history and birding all in one place! Pam Hunt, Senior Biologist at NH Audubon, has traveled the Lewis and Clark Trail twice, and this presentation stems from her most recent effort in the spring of 2013. See the places that the Corps of Discovery saw in 1804-06 and hear how the landscape and wildlife along the route have changed over the last 200 years.

Program: The Nature of Pondicherry Wednesday, April 9

Come celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Pondicherry National Wildlife Refuge (1963-2013) with this slide show. Learn where its name came from, why it is such an important wildlife area and the events that have occurred over the past fifty years to make this such a well-loved area. Pondicherry has recorded an amazing 237 species of birds, 77 species of dragonflies and damselflies, 65 species of butterflies, and has many other interesting features. Future plans will be discussed and participants will be invited to share stories about Pondicherry. Speaker David Govatski is the President of the Friends of Pondicherry.

Program: Barbets, Bulbuls, and Bee-eaters: Exploring the Birds and **Beauty of Vietnam**

Wednesday, May 14

Katie Towler and Jim Sparrell will share their trip to Vietnam in August 2013. Starting in Ho Chi Minh City, they traveled with their birding guide to a tropical National Park, a small town in a mountain pass, and then to the cool temperatures of the south central highlands. Katie taught in Hanoi during September and managed additional trips with highlights that included seeing rare and endemic species such as Annam Barbet, Vietnamese Cutia, Vietnamese Greenfinch, Dalat Shrike, Grev-crowned Crocia, and Siamese Fireback, as well as many more common, beautiful birds and a few familiar feathered friends.

Field Trip: Bob Hull Memorial Bird Walk

Saturday, March 22, 8 am

Help clean out bluebird boxes, look for early migrants and lingering winter birds, and get yourself in the mood for spring. Meet at the Mill Road Plaza in Durham. Contact: Len Medlock at lenmedlock@comcast.net or 603-770-8224.

Field Trip: Great Bay

Saturday, April 5, 8 am

Bird the varied habitats of the Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge and other Great Bay birding hotspots. Meet at the McDonald's in Newington, 49 Gosling Road, next to the Fox Run Mall. Contact: Lauren Kras at lauren.kras@gmail.com or 603-801-1856.

Field Trip: Owl Prowl

Saturday, April 26, 4 am

Join our always popular search for owls and sunrise birds. Meet at 4 am (!) at the Mill Road Plaza parking lot in Durham. Be prepared for a long and possibly a bit wet, but leisurely walk through the woods. Wear appropriate footwear and bring insect repellent. Contact: Steve Mirick at smirick@ comcast.net or 978-374-0654.

BEGINNER BIRD WALKS

NH Audubon Seacoast Chapter volunteers will lead four walks this spring. 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

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welcome with an adult. 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 around 12 pm. Participants are encouraged to bring binoculars, water, insect repellent, and sunscreen. Walks are open to the public.

Field Trip: The Hidden Wilds of **Durham**

Wednesday, May 7, 7 am

Meet in front of the UNH Dimond Library. Contact: David Blezard at blezard@mac. com or 603-343-1223

Field Trip: Exeter and Beyond

Saturday, May 10, 7 am

Meet at Powderhouse Pond to look spring migrant songbirds and water birds. Contact: Len Medlock at lenmedlock@comcast.net or 603-770-8224.

Field Trip: Pickering Ponds Trails

Sunday, May 11 and Wed., May 14, 7 am 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.

YOUNG BIRDERS CLUB

Introducing the Harriers, New Hampshire's Young Birders Club

Founded in the spring of 2013, The Harriers are a student-led organization devoted to birds and the natural world, and open to all kids statewide regardless of experience. Membership costs \$25/ year. All events are free to members and their parents. Check out the Club's website at nhyoungbirders.org, as new outings are being added all the time! To RSVP for any of the trips below, or for more information about joining the club, write to nhyoungbirders@gmail.com, or contact YBC Coordinator Henry Walters at (603) 525-3572.

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SANCTUARY FIELD TRIPS

The Flight of the Woodcock, Silk Farm Wildlife Sanctuary

Tuesday, April 8, 7-8:30pm

Join leader, Phil Brown, and the NH Young Birders Club to observe this seasonal spectacle. One of the most elaborate, beautiful, and downright bizarre bird behaviors of the spring season comes from a roly-poly shorebird sitting in a wet field, making a sound like that of a truck backing up very slowly. When it bursts into flight, twittering like crazy and rising like a skylark out of sight and hearing, only to return to the precise spot where it began, you're not going to believe your eyes or ears! Contact Phil Brown at (603) 224-9909x334 or email pbrown@nhaudubon.org for more details.

Bird Watching Walk at Watts Wildlife Sanctuary in Effingham

Sunday, April 13, 9:45 am

The public is invited to celebrate Earth Day by participating in a Bird Watch walk bordering wetlands of two rivers in Effingham. This 2-hour walk will be led by local residents Kamal Nath and Johanna Vienneau. Participants will meet at the parking lot of the Effingham Public Library by 9:45am for a 10am departure to the Larry Leavitt Preserve to be followed by a visit to the NH Audubon Watts Wildlife Sanctuary. This is an easy walk of two short trails, and we will learn about some of the wetland birds that reside here, as well as some of the interesting history of the area. Bring water and binoculars. Wet walking, ticks and cold weather are possibilities, so dress appropriately. Registration is required and to register please call the Effingham Public Library at (603)539-1537, or send an email to effinghampubliclibrary@gmail.com or drop by the Library. This is a Speaking for Wildlife program, a volunteer project of the UNH Cooperative Extension, the NH Coverts Project, and NH Fish and Game, with funding provided by the Wellborn Ecology fund of the NH Charitable Foundation. This program series, sponsored by the Effingham Public Library, is co-sponsored by the Green Mountain Conservation Group, the Effingham Conservation Commission, and NH Audubon.

6th Annual Tudor Richards Memorial Field Trip/International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD) at Pondicherry Refuge Saturday, May 10, 6 am at Airport Marsh or 8 am at Pondicherry trailhead on Airport Rd.

Join leaders, Dave Govatski of the Friends of Pondicherry, and Phil Brown, Director of Land Management for NH Audubon, for a guided bird watching tour around Airport Marsh in Whitefield (for grassland and marsh birds), then to Cherry and Little Cherry Ponds in Jefferson (warblers and other songbirds). This annual field trip commemorates the return of migrating birds and the memory of Tudor Richards, NH Audubon's first President and the "father of Pondicherry". Bring water, lunch and binoculars. Past field trips have yielded upwards of 100 species of birds! Be prepared to walk 3-5 miles on flat terrain. The event will be held rain or shine. Free IMBD posters for all participants. For more information contact David Govatski at 586-7776 or david.govatski@gmail.com.

Birds and Blooms at Ponemah Bog Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, May 24, 8-10 am

NH Audubon Senior Biologist, Pam Hunt, will lead the first of a 5-part series of field trips extending in July that will investigate all aspects of the natural world. Highlights of this season are spring songbird migration and blooming bog plants, including the spectacular Rhodora blooms of the Bog – a must see! Be prepared for some wet walking and insects on an otherwise easy .75-mile loop of the bog boardwalk trail system. For more information, or to find out about future field trips here, contact Jack Gleason at westonpond10@gmail.com.





84 SILK FARM ROAD CONCORD, NH 03301

We are working 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.

Thank You

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Save the Date! BIRDIES FOR THE BIRDIES: NH AUDUBON'S FIRST GOLF TOURNAMENT

Amherst Country Club, an Audubon International Certified Golf Course

Thursday, September 4, 9:30 am Form your foursome now! Registration information is at www.nhaudubon.org or call 603-224-9909

