

## Enjoy Fall Raptor Migration at Pack Monadnock and Carter Hill

by Phil Brown, Raptor Observatory Coordinator

The hot summer winds have shifted to the north, and with them, thousands of raptors begin their migratory journeys south. Thus, it is time to migrate to the nearest raptor observatory and witness this amazing spectacle. Last fall was one for the record books – both Pack Monadnock and Carter Hill Raptor Observatories tallied their best all-time counts of overall migrants, and daily totals exceeding 7,000 individuals also set new marks. To top it off, the peak movements occurred smack in the middle of NH Audubon's festivities during the raptor release weekend at both Carter Hill and Pack Monadnock raptor observatories! Now, the big question looms: Will lightning strike twice for the 'perfect storm' of conditions for migration? Raptorphiles are already gearing up for the weekend of September 15-16, 2012 in anticipation.

Carter Hill Orchard, host site for the Carter Hill Raptor Observatory in Concord, offers a classic pick-your-own apples experience, as well as a full farmstand complete with freshly baked goods. Miller State Park, host site for the Pack Monadnock Raptor Observatory in Peterborough, offers some of the finest mountain views in southern NH and an auto road to the summit, as well as hiking trails for the more adventurous.

Both sites are free and open to the public between 9 and 5 daily. NH Audubon staff and volunteers will be on board to count migrants – and to educate the public – during all but the most challenging weather conditions. Several thousand people visit each observatory annually including dozens of school groups. All of Concord's third-grade classes visit the Carter Hill Raptor Observatory each fall to connect with nature in an outdoor setting that is unmatched by experiences they find elsewhere. The McLane Center offers trips for home school groups to Carter Hill, and there are dozens of more informal groups who make regular annual visits to the observatories. In addition, there are plenty of opportunities to join NH Audubon Chapter field trips to the observatories.

September starts with warm weather and Ospreys, American Kestrels, and Broad-winged Hawks, which steal the show for the middle part of the month. October features the autumn chill, fall foliage, and the chance for Northern Goshawks and Golden Eagles, among others.

To enhance the fun, great prizes to benefit the science and education programs at both observatories will be given away. Raffle items will include Vortex binoculars, autographed birding books and field guides, and more. Purchase a helpful raptor silhouette guide to hone your identification skills. Become a raptor observatory sponsor and take home a t-shirt or a hat with the Broad-winged Hawk logo. But more importantly, you will take home an appreciation for birds of prey, an understanding of this incredible aspect of these birds' lives and the need for monitoring their populations. Visit the raptor observatories this fall, and you will be rewarded with stunning scenery, great company, an educational message, and a life experience that is sure to compel further interest. And, there's always the chance to witness another big day!

Your support of the observatories will continue to help our staff reach its audience effectively. Additional support for the observatories in 2012 is made possible by the Lincoln Financial Foundation, community sponsors, and private donors. To make a contribution to these premier research and education programs, please contact Phil Brown at [pbrown@nhaudubon.org](mailto:pbrown@nhaudubon.org) or at 224-9909 x334.

### Mark your calendar:

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

Saturday, September 15, 1 pm at Pack Monadnock (rain date: September 22)

Sunday, September, 16, 1 pm at Carter Hill (rain date: September 23)

**Big Sit Events:** Sunday, October 14, Pack Monadnock & Carter Hill Raptor Observatories

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*Observatories are open  
September 1–October 31*

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Jennifer Esten

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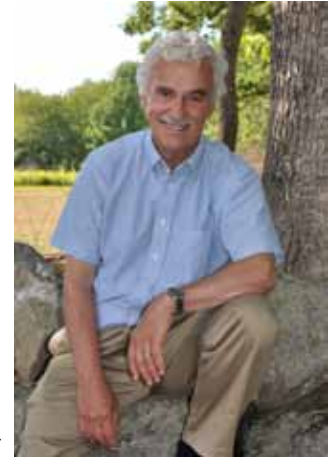
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Kelly Wing, *General Editor* (kwing@nhaudubon.org)

Banner photo by John Hession.



## From the President's Desk



Dear Friends,

Recently, I had the opportunity to talk for a few minutes with Governor John Lynch at a breakfast for the Governor and Council hosted by the NH Center for Nonprofits. The Governor asked me how the organization was faring. I was delighted to be able to tell him that New Hampshire Audubon is "alive and kicking!"

And what an important time it is as a conservation organization to be "kicking". There are so many environmental issues to address, spanning the gamut from declining bird populations, habitat degradation, and global climate change to a disturbing disconnect of people from nature nationwide.

One of the biggest issues we face as a nation is energy – what we use, how we use it, and how our energy choices impact the natural and built environments. This spring NH Audubon's Board of Trustees voted unanimously (with one abstention) to intervene in opposition to a large wind energy project proposed for Antrim on land abutting our dePierrefeu-Willard Pond Wildlife Sanctuary. Properly sited, wind energy has a place in our country's energy mix. But with wind energy, the devil's in the details, despite its potential carbon footprint benefits.

Key to our decision was the Trustees' weighing of NHA's responsibility to the individuals who over the years have created the 1,650-acre sanctuary that exists today at Willard Pond. The unambiguous intent behind Willard Pond was that it be a sanctuary for all forms of wildlife and a place of relative solitude. Impressive on its own, Willard Pond is part of a regional "super sanctuary" of nearly 30,000 contiguous, protected acres that provides extraordinary wildlife habitat. It is our position that anticipated impacts of the project on visitors to the sanctuary and on wildlife outweigh the project's benefits (see article, p. 5).

Even as we work for the green energy future we must achieve we cannot sacrifice what we collectively and the visionaries before us have worked so hard to gain for wildlife, and for people. NH Audubon will continue to give a nature a voice in these and other proceedings when our knowledge and/or fiduciary commitments have a bearing.

As the autumn thermals lift migrating raptors high in the sky, remember how blessed we are here in New Hampshire to have such wonderful opportunities to enjoy nature – opportunities we must ensure persist for future generations to enjoy!

  
Mike

Michael J. Bartlett  
President, New Hampshire Audubon

**NH Audubon's 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting: September 29**  
See details on pages 5-6.

## Ornithology Corner: GPS for the Birds

by Pamela Hunt

It's fall again, and millions of birds are winging their way south to wintering locations that can be as close as New England or as far away as offshore Antarctica. For perhaps half of these birds, this is the first time they've even made the journey, and yet they do it without any obvious instruction. Certainly there's no electronic voice telling them to "turn right" or "recalculating" when they start drifting out over the Atlantic Ocean.

How do they do it? The Socratic approach would be to respond with: "How do we do it?" You seem to have no problem getting home from work every day, or even going back and forth to relatives for the holidays. Granted, if I instead asked you to drive to Sudbury, Ontario tomorrow, you'd be a little less certain, but you would know how to go about solving the problem. Any kind of destination-driven travel requires the traveler to have two things: a map and a compass. The map need not be something you hold in your hand (e.g., by now you've memorized the way home from work) and the compass need only be as simple as a general sense of which way is north. These are otherwise referred to as the processes of Navigation (knowing where you are on the landscape and where you're heading) and Orientation (knowing which direction you need to go to get there).

Biologists know quite a bit about how birds orient. It turns out they have a whole arsenal of tools at their disposal, from using the north star (yes, just like ancient sailors) to proteins in their eyes and iron-oxide particles in their brains that are sensitive to the earth's magnetic field. The latter are mainly a back-up for when cloudy conditions make using visual cues unreliable. A third option involves sensitivity to the polarization of light that allows a bird to detect sunset (and thus "west") even under overcast conditions. Most of these discoveries have been made in laboratory settings where researchers could more easily modify birds' perceptions, including everything from changing the stars in a planetarium to fitting them with tiny polarizing "contact lenses."

The navigation part is a little more problematic. How does the phoebe that nests on your porch return to the same place three years in a row? It would appear that for young birds at least, the direction they fly in their first migration is mostly innate, with the main purpose being to get them from point A (where they were hatched) to point B (where they winter). This is often expressed as a compass bearing (e.g., "fly southwest"). In fact, when biologists hybridized birds from southwest-migrating populations with those from populations that migrate southeast, the offspring tended to migrate south, suggesting a strong genetic component to orientation. With experience, birds learn more subtle detail along these routes and are better able to fine tune their navigation to arrive at the same territories year after year. Such landmark-based navigation makes sense when individuals are going to familiar areas (e.g., breeding territories), but we still really don't know how birds replicate the longer journeys between breeding and wintering areas twice a year – and often at night.

Keep all this in mind as you watch southbound skeins of geese this October, or marvel at kettles of Broad-winged Hawks over Pack Monadnock. And send a postcard if you safely make it to Sudbury (then come back without using a map).



### Leave a Legacy for Nature with New Hampshire Audubon

While the future holds many uncertainties, one thing is certain: environmental challenges will not go away. Increasingly, we will need the best science, public policy, and advocacy ever.

When you make a legacy gift to New Hampshire Audubon, you help ensure that conservation science, nature education, habitat protection, and science-based advocacy will continue for years to come.

By carefully planning your gift, you may be able to make your donation stretch further. Check with your financial advisor or estate planner to see which of the many vehicles for making a legacy gift is right for you. Whether it's through a bequest, retirement account, charitable remainder trust, charitable gift annuity, charitable lead trust or other vehicle, your gift will keep making a difference for years to come.

To find out more about NH Audubon's planned giving program, contact Eric Berger, Director of Membership and Development at (603) 224-9909, ext. 307, or [eberger@nhaudubon.org](mailto:eberger@nhaudubon.org).

# News

## Statewide Butterfly Data Compilation is Underway

by Vanessa Jones and Pam Hunt

How many species of butterflies are known in New Hampshire? What is the status of these species? Are there areas of the state where targeted surveys could yield significant results? These and other questions are what's driving the compilation of butterfly data that is currently underway at NH Audubon. NH Audubon is visiting major collections and contacting butterfly enthusiasts with large personal collections in order to create a comprehensive summary of available butterfly data. The hope is that these data can be used to inform future surveys, research, or conservation action.

Butterflies are widely recognized as important components of natural ecosystems. Adults can be important pollinators, larvae can be major herbivores, and all life stages provide food to other wildlife species. Many are also specialists on one or a few host plants, and in this context can serve as indicators of environmental change. But while over 100 species of butterflies have been recorded in New Hampshire, the actual status of most species is unknown. Most conservation work on butterflies in the state has focused on pine barrens species such as the Karner blue, or the endemic butterflies of the Presidential Range, with little effort directed at the remainder – many of which may be equally rare.

If you are interested in helping us find answers to the questions above, please support the project with a donation. Stay tuned for more information as this projects unfolds!



Gray hairstreak, photo by Vanessa Jones

## NHeBird Update

by Rebecca Suomala

*New Hampshire Bird Records* has been working to import twenty years of older bird sighting data into NHeBird and I'm excited to report that we're making progress! We have been using NHeBird ([www.ebird.org/nh](http://www.ebird.org/nh)) as the primary database for New Hampshire bird records since the fall of 2009. Anyone can use this on-line system for entering bird reports and it's a great way to keep track of your own sightings, as well as contribute to our knowledge of birds in New Hampshire.

Before eBird, sightings were sent to NH Audubon and entered in a database by numerous volunteers. This computerization began in 1986 and the original NH Audubon database contains 188,778 bird reports from 22 years that are not currently part of the eBird system. Thanks to a grant from the Saumel P. Hunt Foundation we have now begun the process of adding this older data to eBird. It's a challenging task because written location descriptions must be converted to points on a map. There are 32,214 different locations that must be reviewed, some of which are the same but with minor text differences in their names while others are unique and require research. Once names are standardized the data can be imported and new locations mapped.

Marshall Iliff, one of Cornell's eBird Project Leaders has done the initial preparation of the data file for import. Eight volunteers have been working on this project since January and we have uploaded the data from 15 towns with 20 more in process. We've had lots of questions so if you've been reporting birds for a long time don't be surprised if you get an e-mail asking about the location of an old sighting you barely remember.

Once the data is in eBird it will be available for viewing through the eBird mapping interface. Birders will be able to easily see past records of unusual species. The data can also be downloaded by any individual through the on-line Avian Knowledge Network. This allows conservationists and land planners to map the data for selected species or certain areas and use it for conservation purposes. It's very exciting to see this project moving forward and see the expanded use of this valuable data.

# NH Audubon Intervenes on Antrim Wind Permit Application

by Carol Foss

On January 31 of this year, Antrim Wind Energy, LLC submitted an application for a wind energy generating facility to the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee. The proposed project would involve 10 wind turbines located on a roughly 2.5 mile ridgeline south of Route 9 in Antrim. Portions of our Willard Pond Sanctuary lie within 1.5 miles of the nearest proposed turbine location, and most of the pond itself lies within two miles of the closest turbine. The proposed turbine height is 492 feet, and at least nine of the turbines will dominate the northwestern horizon from the surface of Willard Pond.

Willard Pond is New Hampshire Audubon's largest sanctuary, and in many respects its most beautiful. Much of that beauty comes from the fact that the sanctuary's setting is in an undeveloped landscape – the 1,650 acres of our property are set within a regional “supersanctuary” of nearly 30,000 contiguous acres of protected lands. Willard Pond is a sanctuary for people, as well as for wildlife, and many people visit regularly to fish, canoe, observe wildlife, or just to enjoy the peace and solitude.

The Board of Trustees of New Hampshire Audubon is very concerned about the impact of an industrial scale wind farm on the Sanctuary's wildlife residents and human visitors, and the values several generations of members and donors have invested their time and financial resources to protect and hold in trust for present and future generations. In keeping with their fiduciary responsibility for this investment, the Board voted on April 24 to intervene in the SEC permitting process in opposition to the application.

The Board did not take this step lightly. New Hampshire Audubon believes that renewable energy must gain a larger share of the nation's energy portfolio—and that properly sited wind power should play a role in that increase. Proper siting involves a multitude of considerations, including environmental impacts. We feel strongly that this proposed project fails the “proper siting” criteria. Attorney David Howe, a member of Audubon's Board of Trustees, is representing us in the proceeding.

New Hampshire's Site Evaluation Committee (SEC), an arm of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), is the permitting authority for energy facilities in the State. Permitting is a legal process that involves an applicant, intervenors, Public Counsel, and expert witnesses in a series of public hearings. In addition, Technical Sessions provide opportunities to question expert witnesses in a less formal setting. The first Technical Session, at which the applicant's witnesses were available for questioning, took place during June 27-29. The second Technical Session, at which expert witnesses for intervenors will be available, will take place on August 20 and 21. The SEC will hold Adjudicative Hearings during September 10-14, and public deliberations on October 4 and 5. A decision will be announced on or before the October 31 deadline.

All documents pertaining to this proceeding are available on the SEC website, at <http://www.nhsec.nh.gov/2012-01/index.htm>.

## NH Audubon's 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting: September 29, 2012

This year's Annual Meeting will be held in the historic Lawrence Barn in Hollis on Saturday, September 29. The Lawrence Barn is one of only a half-dozen double or triple English barns left in all of New England. This unique facility will provide a beautiful setting for NH Audubon's 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.

Optional morning field trips will be followed by the annual business meeting. After lunch, awards will be presented, followed by our keynote speaker, Laura Erickson, host of NPR's “For the Birds” and author of “101 Ways to Help Birds.” Laura will provide us with a fascinating look at owls and hummingbirds, their similarities and differences. You won't want to miss this presentation!

Members will also be voting to elect new Trustees appointed by the Board in the past year to three-year terms as Trustees. The appointees to be elected are:

Michael Amaral  
Betsy Blaisdell  
Jay Edwards  
and David Howe

In addition, three current Trustees are up for reelection, all of them to their third full three-year terms: Art Mudge, Paul Nickerson, and David Ries.

Awardees:

In the past, the names of awardees have been kept secret until the awards were presented at the Annual Meeting. Last year, we broke with tradition so that family and friends of recipients could plan to come, and we're doing the same this year.

### **Congratulations:**

Tudor Richards Award: Art Mudge

Goodhue-Elkins Award: Roger Lawrence

Volunteer of the Year Award: Bev Youree

President's Award: Dragonfly Survey

volunteers Holly Grant, Betsy Hamlin-Morin, Larry Potter, Martha Reinhardt, Tricia Saenger, Dennis Skillman, and Scott Young

Activities and registration information are summarized on the following page.

# NH Audubon's 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

September 29, 2012

Lawrence Barn  
28 Depot Road • Hollis, NH 03049

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Morning Field Trips:

Morning Field Trips begin at 8 am and include a Nashua River paddle led by Chris Martin, and walks at Ponemah Bog and Beaver Brook led by NHA conservation staff and Nashaway Chapter members.

### Agenda:

10:00–11:00	Registration and pick up lunch tickets
11:00–12:15	Welcome by Michael Bartlett, President & Business Meeting, David Howe, Chairman, Board of Trustees
12:15–1:00	Lunch (optional)
1:00–1:45	Awards
2:00–3:00	Keynote talk by Laura Erickson, of NPR's "For the Birds" and author of "101 Ways to Help Birds"
3:00–3:15	Closing Remarks
3:15–4:00	Travel to Pack Monadnock Raptor Observatory (optional)
4:00–5:00	Hawk Watch at Pack Monadnock, led by Phil Brown (optional)

Visit the NHA web site ([www.nhaudubon.org](http://www.nhaudubon.org)) for more details.

Local Hosts: Nashaway Chapter

## Annual Meeting Registration Form

or register online at

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

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

Number in party \_\_\_\_\_ x \$12 Cost = \$\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Check enclosed (payable to NH Audubon)

VISA       Mastercard

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

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

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

Please return this form, with payment, to: **NH Audubon, 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, NH 03301** no later than Sept. 20. For more information, please contact: [kpalfy@nhaudubon.org](mailto:kpalfy@nhaudubon.org) or call (603) 224-9909 x 310.

## ART EXHIBIT

**"Stories in Wood" by artist Craig Altobello**

**August 27th–September 28th**

**Exhibit Opening: Friday, September 7, 3–5**

Craig uses the grain, texture, and natural color of wood to create images from nature. This ancient wood inlay technique is called marquetry. He uses primarily North American woods including local species such as black locust, apple, hickory, aspen, butternut, and figured maples. His colorful wood panels include birds, blossoms, botanical illustration, and landscapes. Craig is a juried member of the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen, the Sharon Arts Center, and is a participant in the Monadnock Art Open Studio Art Tour.

## FALL NATURE SERIES

**Birds of Prey Program**

**Saturday, Sept. 15, Two Shows: 11am–noon and 1–2 pm**

**Cost:** Individuals \$5 M/\$10 NM; Families \$15 M/\$30 NM

Tickets at [www.nh Audubon.org](http://www.nh Audubon.org) or by phone at 224-9909 x310.

Treat yourself to 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. Rarely can you get this close to some of these phenomenal birds! Learn about the great work done by the Massachusetts Birds of Prey Rehabilitation Facility, which cares for injured birds and operates a successful captive-breeding program. Tom's ground-breaking work with Bald Eagles has resulted in captive-bred adults reproducing in the wild and captive-bred chicks being adopted into wild nests. *Our thanks to Joann O'Shaughnessy for underwriting this program.*

**Henry David Thoreau: The Theatre of the Natural World**

**Thursday, October 11, 7 pm**

**Cost:** Free

Did you know that Mount Monadnock was Thoreau's favorite mountain? He climbed it four times and recalled the experiences in vivid terms. Author and scholar Robert Sargent Fay has spent his life immersing himself in Thoreau's world and has put together a visual presentation of five places that Thoreau held as especially sacred, including New Hampshire's Monadnock Region and the White Mountains. View these treasured locations through the eyes of Henry David Thoreau in stunning photographs that invite you to see, understand, and interpret the inner dramas within the natural world and within each image. Robert Sargent Fay teaches at Landmark College in Putney, Vermont and lives in the town of Hancock in the Monadnock Region of southern New Hampshire.

**Understanding Bobcats in New Hampshire**

**Thursday, November 8, 7 pm**

**Cost:** Free

Learn about these fascinating and elusive animals from a NH Fish & Game steward –where they roam, what they eat, their history and behavior, and more. A fascinating presentation for the whole family.

Annual Library Book Sale  
Saturday, November 17, 9am–3pm  
McLane Center in Concord

- Plan to arrive early for the best selection
- Great bargains on a wide variety of used books
- Special half-price sale starts at 2pm!

### Book Donations

We welcome all kinds of book donations, including cookbooks, paperbacks, fiction, non-fiction, hardcover novels, children's, mysteries, etc. We especially like to have a large selection of bird books, field guides and natural history books. We will accept donations between Oct. 1–Nov. 2. Please hold on to your donations until then as we do not have room to store them. We do not accept magazines, text books or old encyclopedias. Thank you!

### Book Sale Volunteers Needed

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

NH Audubon's Nature Store  
at the McLane Center

Visit NH Audubon's Nature Store for a wonderful variety of nature-inspired gifts. All proceeds from Nature Store sales support the conservation and education work of NH Audubon.

Featured Products for Fall:

- NH Audubon Vests & Children's T-shirts
- NH Audubon Coffee Mugs
- Wide Selection of Bird feeders & Field Guides

**Nature Store Hours: Tuesday thru  
Friday 12–5 pm**

**SHOP LOCAL!**

**84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, NH 03301**

**224-9909**

# Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center

## FISHWAYS FUNDAYS

**\*Starting in October, Fundays programs will be 1.5 hours long and begin earlier to allow more time to explore and create!**

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

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

### In Search of Seeds

**September 12, 10-11 am or 1-2 pm**

What exactly is a seed? Seeds are all around us and have some interesting ways of getting from one place to another. Learn all about them as we play with seeds, see how many seeds we can collect, move like seeds & make a seed craft.

### Bye, Bye Birdie

**September 26, 10-11 am or 1-2 pm**

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.

### Lovely Leaves

**October 10, 9:30-11 am or 12:30-2 pm\***

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

### Fall Forest Exploration

**October 24, 9:30-11 am or 12:30-2 pm\***

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).

### Terrific Turkeys

**November 7, 9:30-11 am or 12:30-2 pm\***

It's turkey time! What do we really know about wild turkeys in NH? Learn all about this fine bird, play turkey games and make your very own turkey call to take home!

### Feeding Birds in Your Backyard

**November 28, 9:30-11 am or 12:30-2 pm\***

Lots of backyard birds stick around to brave the cold winter. We will go on a bird walk, discover how birds survive the winter, and help them through the season by making birdfeeders and winter bird treats to take home.

## FAMILY FRIDAY NIGHTS

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

### The Bear Necessities: September 14, 7-8 pm

Bears are all around us, yet we rarely see them. Learn about the survival needs and amazing behavior of these large, furry omnivores.

## Who's Hooved in New Hampshire

**September 28, 7-8 pm**

Deer and moose are two of New Hampshire's largest and most amazing mammals. Discover some of their unique adaptations by observing pelts, skulls, and more.

## Classic Outdoor Games and Parents' Movie Night

**October 12, 6:30-8 pm**

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 Digital Age." While kids create a craft with all natural materials collected from outside, parents will have time to discuss the film, the challenges of keeping kids active, and the benefits of outside time for families. Check out [mothernaturesmovie.org](http://mothernaturesmovie.org) or [childrenandnature.org](http://childrenandnature.org) for more information.

## Creatures of the Night: November 2, 7-8

Some critters are alert and active while we are asleep. Find out how these amazing and mysterious nighttime animals get around in the dark.

## Native American Games and Stories

**November 16, 7-8 pm**

Join us for a fun-filled evening as we listen to Native tales and test our skills by learning and playing traditional Penacook games.

## HOMESCHOOL SERIES

**Living Along the River (For children in grades 1-3)**

**Group meets 1-2:30 pm**

**Cost: \$8 per session/ \$30 for all four sessions**

This four-part series teaches the concepts of animal habitat, adaptation and classification, all using the context of a river. Observation of pelts, skulls, and mounts, as well as hands-on activities, engage students and enhance learning.

**Sept. 20:** "Furry River Creatures" explores mammals that depend on rivers

**Sept. 27:** "Feathered River Creatures" introduces birds that use rivers

**Oct. 4:** "Gills, Scales and Fins" is all about fish!

**Oct. 11:** "Bugs Below the Surface" introduces the amazing world of water insects

## SPECIAL EVENTS AT THE FISHWAYS

**12<sup>th</sup> Annual Bug Ball!**

**Saturday, September 15, 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, "Moths and Butterflies", featuring the two most beautiful and diverse insect families on the planet. Give our six-legged friends the respect they deserve! Cost: \$3/person, \$6/family. No registration required.

**Fletcher Street, Manchester, NH 03105**

**626-FISH (3474)**



# Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center

## SPECIAL EVENTS AT THE FISHWAYS

### The Smithsonian Magazine "Museum Day"

**Saturday, September 29, 10 am–4 pm**

The Amoskeag Fishways joins the nationwide celebration of museums. Museum Day is a one day event where participating cultural institutions across the U.S. offer free admission to Smithsonian Magazine readers and friends with a Museum Day Admission card. You can print out this special admission offer and find out other participating museums by going to [www.smithsonianmag.com](http://www.smithsonianmag.com). The Amoskeag Fishways will offer special activities throughout the day. Our visitor center is wheelchair accessible. No registration is required.

### Eyes on Owls

**Saturday, November 3**

**Three Presentations: 11am, 1pm, 3pm**

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/person or \$25/family, Pre-registration with payment required.

Location: PSNH Five Rivers Auditorium, Energy Park  
780 Commercial St. Manchester, NH 03101

**Fletcher Street, Manchester, NH 03105**

**626-FISH (3474)**

## Massabesic Audubon Center

**Pre-registration required for all programs.  
Call 668-2045 to register.**

### ADULT PROGRAMS

#### Nature Photography Workshop Series

**Cost: \$120 M / \$150 NM for the whole series**

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

Like being outdoors? Like taking pictures? Combine the two in David Saxe's successful series of nature photography classes. Introductory level course.

Please have your camera make and model available when you register, and be prepared to go outside. The topics shown below are general. For more specific information, please visit [www.usaaloft.com/courses](http://www.usaaloft.com/courses).

Saturday, September 8, 12:30 – 4:30 pm: Composition, Venues and Examples

Saturday, September 15, 12:30 – 4:30 pm: Camera Equipment and Operation, Field Techniques

Saturday, September 22, 12:30–4:30 pm: Exposure, Focusing / Depth of Field, Workflow

#### Coastal Birding Trips

**Wednesdays, September 19, October 17, November 21; 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. Maximum of 24 people.

#### Intro to Pelagic Wildlife

**Saturday, October 13, 3 - 4 pm**

**Cost: \$5 (free to those attending Pelagic Trip on October 14)**

**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.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Annual: Wild New Hampshire Photography Contest & Auction

If photography is your passion, take this opportunity to have your best photos recognized! Enter your photos to win in any or all of the three categories: wildlife, wild plants and land/waterscapes. Up to 5 photos can be submitted. Youth (17 and under) and Adults (over 17) will be judged separately. All winning photos will be donated to the silent auction that will benefit the Massabesic Audubon Center. Winning photos will be on display from October 2 to December 9, 2012. Call the center for complete rules or email [mac@nhaudubon.org](mailto:mac@nhaudubon.org) for more information. Rules and entry forms are on our website, [www.nhaudubon.org](http://www.nhaudubon.org). Entries must be submitted by Sept. 5.

### Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Volunteers mark your calendars! Our night to celebrate all you do to make Massabesic Audubon Center so wonderful is upon us! Please join us Friday, November 9, 2012 at 6:30pm for our annual appreciation dinner! Join us for live music by Wings and Strings, delicious food, gifts, and awards!

**26 Audubon Way, Auburn, NH 03032**

**603-668-2045**

# Massabesic Audubon Center

## ADULT PROGRAMS, continued

### Pelagic Trip

**Location: Rye Harbor, NH**

**Sunday, October 14, 8am - 5pm**

**Cost: \$65 M/\$85 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 length of Jeffreys Ledge 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. Max. 50. Pre-registration required.

### Soap Making Workshop

**Saturday, October 27, 1-3pm**

**Cost: \$15M/\$25NM, 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. Registration is required.

### Candle Making Workshop

**Saturday, November 3, 1-3pm**

**Cost: \$10 M/\$20 NM, plus \$3 materials fee/candle**

**Leader:** Barbara Benton, Little Cabin Crafts  
Adult, Teen or Child Accompanied by Parent

Come join us to learn about candle making using soy wax in re-usable jelly jar containers. Soy wax is an environmentally friendly wax made from American grown soy plants. Soy candles are cleaner burning and longer lasting than paraffin candles made from non-renewable petroleum derivatives. A variety of essential oils and fragrance oils plus coloring dyes will be available for each participant to make a candle to take home. Registration is required. Call 668-2045 to register.

## FAMILY PROGRAMS

### Cheese and Garlic Workshop

**Saturday, September 8, 1-3pm**

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

**Leaders:** Barbara Benton and Angie Krysiak

Learn how to make your own mozzarella cheese – kits will be available for purchase. We'll also talk about garlic – how to grow it, harvest it, and the many reasons it is good for you. Come hungry! Ages 10 and up, please.

## 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. Pre-registration is required.

### September 21: Special Nature Café Event with Optional Field Trip on Sat, Sept 22! Speaker, Jon Woolf, Naturalist: Shorebirds of the NH Coast

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 shorelines. Then if you are interested, join us as we travel to a few of New Hampshire's beaches to look for the various species of sandpipers and plovers that call our coastlines home. Meet at MAC at 8 am to carpool or meet in the Odiorne State Park parking lot at 9. Bring a bag lunch and prepare to be outside! Bring binoculars. Field trip costs \$10 M/\$15 NM, lasts until 1 pm, and requires pre-registration.

### October 12: Speaker, Chris Bogard, Wildlife Rehabilitator: Bats of NH

Bats have been in the news lately. Wondering what's up with bats in New Hampshire? Come learn about the different bats found in our state, where to look for them, and how landowners and homeowners can help conserve these fascinating mammals. You'll also learn about the impact of a new disease that is affecting our bats, called white-nose syndrome, what scientists are learning about this threat, and how you can help. This program is brought to you by Speaking for Wildlife, a volunteer project of UNH Cooperative Extension, the NH Coverts Project, and NH Fish & Game, with funding provided by the NH Charitable Foundation and the Davis Environmental Foundation.

### Bird Banding Demonstrations

**Saturdays, Sep 15, Oct 13, 10-noon**

**Cost: FREE**

**Leader:** Jay Barry, volunteer educator and licensed bird bander for 40 years

Join Jay as he shows us the fascinating banding process from capture to release. Using mist nets to catch birds, we 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!



Jon Woolf

## SPECIAL EVENTS!

### Enchanted Fall Festival

Saturday, October 20, 3:30-8 pm

Cost: Families \$15 M/\$25 NM

The Massabesic Audubon Center in Auburn, NH is pleased to announce its 5th annual Enchanted Fall Festival! Join a tour along a lighted pathway as we visit our talented naturalists, NH storytellers, bluegrass musicians and our Enchanted Bonfire. Before and after the tour, enjoy refreshments, crafts and games, the Greater Derry Humane Society, and our new Wildlife Encounters hands-on exhibit. This fun-packed evening is guaranteed to entertain the entire family. Tours require a reservation and are scheduled for the following times: 4:00, 4:45, 5:30, 6:30 and 7:15.

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

Sat., November 17, Two Shows: Noon-1pm & 2-3pm

Cost: Individuals \$5 M/\$10 NM; Families \$15 M/\$30 NM

Get a close-up look at a live Golden Eagle, Turkey Vulture and other birds of prey with this exceptional presentation by Tom Ricardi, a licensed rehabilitator and wildlife biologist. 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 Joann O'Shaughnessy for underwriting this program.*

## 4H COMMON GROUND GARDEN PROJECT

Hello from the 4-H Teaching Garden . . .

During September and October we will be harvesting all the food in our garden to donate to NH Food Bank. Last year we donated 2200 pounds and hope to do more this year! We'll be putting the garden to bed for the winter in November. We begin planning after the first of the year and are always looking for interested volunteers!

The gardens are planted and tended by adult volunteers, and by youth from after-school agencies and the Massabesic Audubon summer campers. The Garden is sponsored by grants, gifts, donations, and service hours from various benefactors. The Garden would not exist without them and we appreciate every one!

To learn about volunteer opportunities, visit the 4-H Children's Teaching Garden webpage at [www.extension.unh.edu/COUNTIES/Hillsboro/4-HChildrensTeachingGarden.htm](http://www.extension.unh.edu/COUNTIES/Hillsboro/4-HChildrensTeachingGarden.htm), call (603)641-6060, or email [carol.martin-ward@unh.edu](mailto:carol.martin-ward@unh.edu) for further information. Also, see our Facebook page at NH 4-H Common Ground Garden Project.

## PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

### Wee Wonders

Tuesdays, 12:30-2 pm

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.

### Fall Session 1: Land of the Lost

Sept 11/12 Plants of the Past

Sept 18/19 Dragons of Today (dragonflies)

Sept 25/26 Surviving Reptiles

Oct 2/3 Dinosaur Descendants (birds)

Oct 9/10 Mammals Everlasting

Oct 16/17 Going, Going Gone (threatened and endangered species)

### Fall Session 2: Not-So-Scary Animals

Oct 30/31 Clever Corvids (ravens, crows, jays)

Nov 6/7 Spider Hiders

Nov 13/14 Sssslithery Ssssnakes

### Fall Session 3: Have You Ever Wondered?

Nov 27/28 Let's Talk (animal communication)

Dec 4/5 Where Have All the Wild Things Gone? (animals in winter)

Dec 11/12 Animal Foolery

## HOMESCHOOL PROGRAMS

### Junior Explorers

Tuesdays, 12:30-2 pm

Wednesdays, 10-11:30 am

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

Leaders: Angie Krysiak and Jay Barry

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.

### Fall Session 1: Land of the Lost

Sept 18/19 Dragons of Today (dragonflies)

Oct 2/3 Dinosaur Descendants (birds)

Oct 16/17 Going, Going Gone (threatened and endangered species)

### Fall Session 2: Not-So-Scary Animals

Oct 30/31 Clever Corvids (ravens, crows, jays)

Nov 13/14 Sssslithery Ssssnakes

### Fall Session 3: Have You Ever Wondered?

Nov 27/28 Let's Talk (animal communication)

Dec 11/12 Animal Foolery

## Holiday Wreaths!

## Natural Beauty for the Holidays

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

### Sizes available (outside diameter):

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

**TO ORDER:** Complete this order form and mail in with payment. Or if you prefer, use your credit card and call or fax your order. Submit orders by November 3. Members receive a 10% discount! Wreath pick-up begins Tues., November 27.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Newfound Audubon Center

### ABOUT NEWFOUND AUDUBON CENTER

Located on the beautiful northern shore of Newfound Lake, the Newfound Audubon Center is comprised of three wildlife sanctuaries: Paradise Point Nature Center, Ash Cottage at Hebron Marsh Sanctuary and Bear Mountain Sanctuary. The center closes for the season on September 3, but 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.

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

## The Loon Center

### ABOUT THE LOON CENTER

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

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

### Kick Off the Holiday Season at Our Holiday Open House! Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm

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

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

## AMMONOOSUC

For more information on any of these programs contact David Govatski at 603-586-7776 or David.Govatski@gmail.com.

### **Saving Buffalo and Cardinal: NH's Environmentalist Earnest Harold Baynes (1868-1925): Wed., September 19, 7 pm at the Rocks Estate in Bethlehem, NH**

James Atkinson of Cornish, NH will present this special program about one of New Hampshire's pioneer environmental leaders in partnership with the New Hampshire Humanities Council. This is our chapter kick-off celebration to the Centennial of NH Audubon.

### **The Birding Big Sit at the Tudor Richards Viewing Platform at Cherry Pond: Sunday, October 14, 6 am to 6 pm**

This is our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Big Sit and it is a great time to be outdoors at Pondicherry to see a variety of migrating birds. We start at 6 am and finish at 6 pm although you don't have to stay all day. Come join us for a few hours or longer.

### **Alpine Areas of the Northeast: Wed., October 17, 7 pm at the Rocks Estate in Bethlehem, NH**

Mike Jones and Lisabeth Willey are the editors of a spectacular new guide to the alpine areas of the northeast including northern New England, Newfoundland, Labrador and Quebec. The photography is superb and the amount of new information you will learn is considerable. The authors will be available to sign copies of their book afterwards.

### **A Trip Through Time with the Birds of Lake Umbagog: Wed., November 14, 7 pm at the Rocks Estate in Bethlehem, NH**

Bob Quinn will present a special program about the birds and wildlife of Lake Umbagog. We will journey back in time and compare the early bird studies by William Brewster with current findings.

## LAKES REGION

Programs take place at The Loon Center on Lees Mill Rd. Moultonborough. (*Handicapped accessible.*) Contact: The Loon Center at 476-5666

### **Program: Thursday, September 20, 7:30 pm Invasive Plant Species in New Hampshire**

University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension Educator Matt Tarr, a habitat management specialist, will present this program on invasive plant species, what they mean to our wildlife and what we can do to combat them.

### **Field Trip: Sandwich Area: Saturday, Sept. 29, 7:30-10:30 am**

We'll look for fall migrants in the Sandwich area. Bring binoculars. Call or email for the location. Contact: Tony Vazzano, tvazzano@ncia.net or 284-7718

### **Program (TBA): Thursday, October 18, 7:30 pm**

### **Program (TBA): Thursday, November 15, 7:30 pm**

Check the local newspapers for program information.

## CAPITAL AREA

### **Field Trip: Fall Warblers of Webster.**

#### **Saturday, September 1, 8 am–11 am**

Many warblers and other fall migrants are on the move by the beginning of September and we will spend the morning in a variety of habitats that should result in at least a dozen species of warblers (we saw this many in 2011). We might walk several miles on dirt roads and easy trails. Meet at the Webster elementary school at 8am. Contact Bob Quinn at raqbirds@aol.com.

### **Field Trip: Peak Migration at Carter Hill Raptor Observatory Tuesday, September 18, 10 am–2 pm**

Join Director of NH Audubon's Raptor Observatories and hawk aficionado, Phil Brown, at Carter Hill Orchard's 'Orchard Room' for a slideshow introduction/refresher of raptor identification and life history. We will then join Naturalist/Counter Robert Vallieres on the hawkwatch platform and partake in some sky-watching during the peak of Broad-winged Hawk migration! (Over 7,000 raptors were tallied here on this date last year!) In addition to Broad-wingeds, favorable winds should favor Sharp-shinned Hawks, American Kestrels, Northern Harriers, Ospreys, and Bald Eagles, among others. Bring binoculars (we have a few loaners on hand), water, a lunch, and sun protection. Contact: Phil Brown at pbrown@nhaudubon.org or 224-9909 x334 to RSVP as space is limited.

### **Field Trip: 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Trip - Elm Brook Park, Hopkinton: Saturday, September 22, 7 am**

Celebrate Rob Woodward's Anniversary as a NHA field trip leader where it all began 20 years ago! Search and find fall migrants at Elm Brook Lake, Sparrow Corner, and, of course, legendary Dendroica Alley. Contact: Rob Woodward (224-0889) evenings.

### **Field Trip: Fall Foliage/Canoeing/Birding on the Merrimack River: Sat., October 6, starting at 8 am–early afternoon**

A new wrinkle on a traditional trip. Bring your canoe or kayak and join us for an afternoon of drifting down the Merrimack River from Boscawen to Penacook as we look for birds along the way. We'll stop along the way for a picnic lunch so bring snacks or a light meal. Pre-registration is required for this trip (but no cost). Meet at the Hannah Dustin Park 'N Ride on Route 4 West, off I-93 Exit 17. Contact Bob Quinn at raqbirds@aol.com

### **Field Trip: Annual Sparrow Party! Sat., October 13, 7:30 am**

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

### **Field Trip: Fifth Annual Concord November Challenge! Saturday-Sunday, November 3-4**

A tradition begun in November 2008 has become an annual event. Join the fun this year and find out if 2012 will outdo any of the previous years! Anyone is welcome to participate for all or part of the weekend, which will also include at least one meal gathering to compare notes and plan strategy mid-weekend. Beginner birders can be paired with people who know their birds and their way around the city. If interested, contact Pam Hunt at 753-9137 or biodiva@myfairpoint.net and she'll keep you posted as the plan forms.

# Chapter Happenings

## MASCOMA

Visit [www.mascomabirds.org](http://www.mascomabirds.org) for listings.

## MONADNOCK

### Field Trip: Nighthawk Migration in Keene: Monday, September 3, 6–7 pm

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

### Program: Hawk Watching at Pack Monadnock Thursday, September 6, 7 pm–8:30 pm at the Harris Center

Want to learn how to identify a Sharp-shinned from a Cooper's hawk, or a Merlin from a Kestrel? Intrigued by the art and science of raptor counting? Interested in raptor population trends in the Northeast and in NH? Site Coordinator, Julie Brown, and Naturalist, Henry Walters, will present a slideshow on raptors seen at NHA's own Pack Monadnock Raptor Observatory. *Co-sponsored by the Harris Center.* Contact: Julie Brown at [brown@hmana.org](mailto:brown@hmana.org) or at 525-3499 for more details.

### Field Trip: 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Monadnock Waterfowl Safari Saturday, October 27, 8 am–2 pm

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

### Field Trip: Mt. Monadnock Golden Eagle Watch Saturdays and Sundays, October 27–November 11, 10 am–2 pm

We will hike to several Mt. Monadnock vistas to view the scarce migratory Golden Eagle. These birds are migrating from Greenland, northern Quebec and Labrador. While small in number, they offer a spectacular conclusion to the fall raptor season. If you haven't seen a Golden Eagle, this may be your best chance in NH! Join us to better understand their migratory patterns in NH. The hikes will proceed only in favorable conditions. Bring lunch and dress for cold weather conditions. Participants will receive monographs on the Golden Eagle. Contact: Tom Warren at 563-7194 for information on sites and directions.

## NASHAWAY

Programs take place at the Nashua Public Library at 7pm. All programs are open to the public.

### Program: September 19: Bobcats in New Hampshire

The Understanding Bobcats in New Hampshire presentation by New Hampshire Fish and Game includes information about the natural history of bobcat in the northeast, bobcat research currently being conducted in NH with implications for management based on the findings, and the federal Wildlife Restoration Program that makes the work possible.

### Field Trip: Pack Monadnock Raptor Migration Observatory at Miller State Park in Peterborough: Sunday, September 16, 8 am–2 pm

We will be visiting NH Audubon's Observatory on Pack Monadnock to watch for migrating raptors. Bring along 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](mailto:rbielawski@mac.com) for directions to meet at the refuge.

### Program: October 17: Penguins are birds too! The Great Penguin Rescue

Author Dyan deNapoli, aka The Penguin Lady, recounts her experience managing the rehabilitation of nearly 40 percent of the world's African penguin population after a massive oil spill off South Africa on June 23, 2000. Her recent book, "The Great Penguin Rescue," will be available for sale and signing. Dyan deNapoli has worked closely with penguins at Boston's New England Aquarium and in the wild for over fifteen years. She has been featured as a penguin expert on several television shows and can be found at [www.thepenguinlady.com](http://www.thepenguinlady.com).

### Field Trip: Parker River Wildlife Refuge, Newburyport, MA: Saturday, October 20, 7:30 am–3:30 pm

We will be looking for ducks and any late shorebirds. Bring along your binoculars or scope if you have one and pack a lunch. There is a \$5.00 entrance fee, per car, into the refuge and no pets allowed. 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\(AT\)mac.com](mailto:rbielawski(AT)mac.com) for directions to meet at the refuge.

### Field Trip: Odiorne Point and the NH Coastline: Sunday November 18, 7:30 am–3:30 pm

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 Granite Inn, or contact Richard Bielawski at 429-2537 or [rbielawski@mac.com](mailto:rbielawski@mac.com) for directions to meet at the Odiorne Point.

### Program: November 26: New England Forests and the Winds of Change

Scott Ollinger is an Associate Professor of Natural Resources in the Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans and Space and the Complex Systems Research Center at the University of New Hampshire. His research interests span a variety of topics within the fields of ecology and biogeochemistry including carbon and nitrogen cycling, forest productivity and succession, plant-soil interactions, remote sensing, ecosystem modeling and the effects of multiple environmental stressors on forests.

## SEACOAST

Full descriptions available at [www.seacoastchapter.org](http://www.seacoastchapter.org).

### **Program: Shorebirds: A Profile Incredible**

**Wednesday, September 12, 7:30 pm**

There is a bird walk at 5:30 pm before the program. (See below for more info.) Program will feature a presentation on shorebirds by Wayne Petersen, Director of the Important Bird Area Program for Massachusetts Audubon. This presentation will examine the natural history of shorebirds and will specifically consider shorebird classification, adaptations, nesting ecology, migration, and conservation all within an ecological context. Mike Bartlett, President, and Eric Berger, Director of Membership and Development, of NH Audubon will speak briefly about the organization and its relationship with Chapters. This is also the Seacoast Chapter annual business meeting with election of officers. Meet at the Seacoast Science Center. Reception with refreshments are at 6:30 pm, welcome and update on NH Audubon at 7:15 pm. Contact: Dan Hubbard, 603-332-4093, [danielhubbard@peoplepc.com](mailto:danielhubbard@peoplepc.com).

### **Field Trip: Odiorne Point State Park**

**Wednesday, September 12, 5:30 pm**

This is an Odiorne Point State Park bird walk in conjunction with the September shorebird program described above.

### **Program: America's Wildest Refuge: Discovering the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Wed., Oct. 10, 7:30 pm**

Join Naturalist David Govatski for a celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. David will show a high definition movie of the Refuge featuring its wildlife, vegetation and sweeping panoramas. David will also show slides of his 2010 rafting expedition to experience the wilderness north of the Brooks Range where wolves, caribou, and musk oxen are found. Free refuge brochures and posters will be available after the program. Meet at the Seacoast Science Center. Refreshments are at 7 pm. Contact: Dan Hubbard, 603-332-4093, [danielhubbard@peoplepc.com](mailto:danielhubbard@peoplepc.com).

### **Program: Impacts of Wind Power on Wildlife with a focus on New England: Wed., November 14, 7:30 pm**

Dr. Sarah Barnum, Senior Wildlife Ecologist with Normandeau Associates, has nearly 20 years of professional experience as a wildlife biologist. Her focus has been assessment of impacts to wildlife from a wide range of development projects, including wind. Her presentation will give an overview of the current understanding of wind power related impacts to wildlife, based on the current literature. Meet at the Seacoast Science Center. Refreshments are at 7 pm. Contact: Dan Hubbard, 603-332-4093, [danielhubbard@peoplepc.com](mailto:danielhubbard@peoplepc.com).

### **Beginner Bird Walks**

NH Audubon Seacoast Chapter volunteers will lead the following beginner bird walks this fall. Birders of all levels of expertise are encouraged to participate and share their experiences. Children are gladly welcome with an adult. Participants are encouraged to bring binoculars, insect repellent and sunscreen. Walks are free and open to the public. Details at [www.seacoastchapter.org](http://www.seacoastchapter.org).

**Field Trip: Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge Beginner Bird Walk:** Wednesday, September 5, 7–9 am

### **Field Trips: Pickering Ponds Beginner Bird Walks**

Sunday, September 9, 7 am–12 pm and Wednesday, September 12, 7–9 am

### **Field Trip: Urban Forestry Center Beginner Bird Walk**

Saturday, September 22, 7:15 –9:15 am

### **Field Trip: Bioblitzbird walk! Sat., September 15, 6 am**

Meet David Blezard at the Odiorne Point parking lot. The Bioblitz is scientists, field naturalists and backyard enthusiasts coming together to 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.

### **Field Trip: Annual Coastal Migration: Saturday, October 6, 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 [smirick@comcast.net](mailto:smirick@comcast.net)

### **Field Trip: The Coast of Maine: Sat., Nov. 10, 9 am–2 pm**

Meet at Perkins Cove. Dress warmly in layers and bring a lunch or snack. From Perkins Cove we will go to Cliff House, Nubble Light, Long Sands Beach, and Sea Point Beach. Contact: Ann Ablowich, 603-659-6078 or [napap@comcast.net](mailto:napap@comcast.net)

## SOO-NIPI

All programs are held at Tracy Memorial Library, New London.

### **Program: Hawks, Specks, and Spectacles: Friday, September 14, 7 pm refreshments, 7:30 pm program**

Henry Walters, NH Audubon naturalist at Pack Monadnock Raptor Migration Observatory, will present portraits, in words and photographs, of the fourteen species of hawks, falcons, eagles, and vultures that move through the region annually. Learn the latest on the health of bird populations, tips for identifying them in flight at any distance and the reasons why a trip to a local mountaintop this September may afford one of the most impressive sights the natural world has to offer. Contact: Ruth White, 763-5506

### **Program: Black Bear Happenings in New Hampshire Friday, Oct. 12, 7 pm refreshments, 7:30 pm program**

This presentation offers a chance to learn about the natural history of our native bears, related research and management activities in New Hampshire, and the federal Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program that makes the work possible. It is given by NH Fish and Game Department Fish and Wildlife Steward and former biology teacher, Richard Wright. Contact: Natalie Davis, 763-5320 or [dnatalie3832@yahoo.com](mailto:dnatalie3832@yahoo.com)

### **Program: Current Status of the Canadian Lynx in New Hampshire: Friday, November 9, 7 pm refreshments, 7:30 pm program**

Jillian Kilborn of the NH Fish and Game will give a presentation on the current status of the Canadian Lynx in New Hampshire. Contact: Natalie Davis, 763-5320 or [dnatalie3832@yahoo.com](mailto:dnatalie3832@yahoo.com)



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### **THE FLORIDA EVERGLADES: A SUBTROPICAL ADVENTURE With Bob Quinn January 22-30, 2013**

Bird-filled, warm, exotic, and fascinating are just some of the words that describe southern Florida. The winter home to an enormous number and variety of water birds we could see Roseate Spoonbill, Limpkin, Anhinga, Purple Gallinule, Wood Stork, and Reddish Egret. Land bird possibilities include the brilliantly colored Painted Bunting, Burrowing Owl, and possibly Smooth-billed Ani, plus such Florida specialties as Snail Kite, White-crowned Pigeon, and Mottled Duck. We will visit Sanibel Island- home to the spectacular Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge; the impressive old-growth Bald Cypress ecosystem at Corkscrew Swamp; Shark Valley; and then on to Flamingo in the heart of Everglades National Park.

There is no other place in the US like south Florida, especially in January. This was Bob's first NH Audubon tour (in 1984) and he is excited to share it with you once again.

**COST: \$1975 BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY.** (Single supplement of \$385.) Cost includes lodging, most meals, ground transportation, boat trip, guides, and all entrance fees. Airfare to FT MYERS is not included.

Details at: [www.nhaudubon.org/programs/travel](http://www.nhaudubon.org/programs/travel)