Upcoming BAS Board Meeting

September 18- Monday- Meeting of the BAS Board at 7:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Slippery Rock. Please notify President Suzanne Butcher at 330-759-1945 or sarbie@msn.com if you are unable to attend.

Upcoming BAS Membership Meetings

September 11- Monday- Please come and join us for our first meeting of the 2000-1 calendar year. Jeffrey Calta, a new member of BAS but life-long nature enthusiast, will present a program on "Fireflies of Western Pennsylvania". Come learn about the species found in our area, and hear about the life cycles, flash patterns, identification clues, habitats, and bioluminescence of these most fascinating insects.

Our meetings are held at the United Methodist Church in Slippery Rock, PA at 7:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Refreshments provided this evening by Glenna Kemm and Marjorie Kirk.

October 9- Monday- Mike Fialkovich will present the program "Ecology and Geology of Western PA" covering examples of habitat types in Western PA., and the plant and animal communities associated with each.

November 13- Monday- Jerry McWilliams will present the program "Birds of Presque Isle".

Upcoming BAS Field Trips

September 23- Shenango Lake- Our first outing will be to Shenango Lake. Water levels have been high and up to now mudflats for shorebirds have been practically non-existent. So after a check of the lake, we will take this opportunity for a leisurely walk to the Beaver Pond in search of fall migrants and to see the colony of Red-headed Woodpeckers. Meet at the Lakeview parking area of the Golden Run Access Area at 8:30am. When you turn off Rt. 258 at the Golden Run Access Area sign, go to the T in the road and turn right. Drive to the end of the road and the parking will be at your left. If questions, please call Russ at 814-676-6320 or trip leader Suzanne Butcher at 330-759-1945 for additional information.

June Picnic Thanks

The annual picnic was held June 5th at the beautiful sanctuary property of Helen Phillips. The food was plentiful and delicious, and although the weather was less than cooperative, the attendance was the best in recent years. We thank Helen and her family for the wonderful time.

Naturthon Results

The teams of Crow Bait, Kelly Coyotes, and the Wild Wanderers joined returning teams for the May 2000, annual Naturthon fundraiser. One former team had a name change with returning members of the Venango Voyagers now becoming the Rusty-belted Tapaculos. Each team had a different experience as they covered their chosen site of our 4 county area for counting birds, tallying wildflowers, and identifying the butterflies. Priscilla Stoughton representing the team of "The Real McCoy" included these personalized notes of her day: "Started at 6:00 am- sun was not up yet. Temperature 63° on the porch thermometer. Pink sky in the east. Birds all over the place- walking on the lawn, on the road, on the fence posts and wires. Sun rose in the southeast at 6:34 am. Acquired a list of 33 species of birds from the front porch by 6:48 am. Clouded up soon and sprinkled some rain. Rained several times during the day. Did not affect the birds. Estimated walking about three miles. Covered many acres including neighboring farms, did not get any owls- nor any wood thrush. Stopped at 6:30 pm Total time 12-½ hrs."

Editor: S. R. Butcher

Volume 19 Issue 1 Official Newsletter of the Bartramian Audubon Society Sept 00
Common Loo, Pied-billed Grebe, Horned Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Greent Heron, Mute Swan, Canada Goose, Wood Duck, American Black Duck, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Surf Scoter, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Merlin, Ring-necked Pheasant, Ruffed Grouse, Wild Turkey, Northern Bobwhite, Virginia Rail, Sora, Common Moorhen, American Coot, Sandhill Crane, Killdeer, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Solitary Sandpiper, Spotted Sandpiper, Upland Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher, Common Snipe, American Woodcock, Bonaparte's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, Caspian Tern, Common Tern, Forster's Tern, Black Tern, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Black-billed Cuckoo, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Eastern Screech Owl, Barn Owl, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Short-eared Owl, Whip-poor-will, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Red-

**Butterflies Observed**

**Swallowtails** - Black Swallowtail, Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, Spicebush Swallowtail, **Whites and Sulphurs** - Cabbage White, Orange Sulphur, **Gossamer-wings** - American Copper, Gray hairstreak, Spring Azure, **Brush-footed Butterflies** - Meadow Fritillary, Pearl Crescent, Comma, Mourning Cloak, Red Admiral, **Skippers** - Hobomok Skipper

As you all know, the primary function of the Naturaln is to raise funds each year for projects of our local Bartramian Audubon Chapter with the majority of the money being designated for our school programs. Hundreds of local school children and the local environment will benefit from your generosity. We appreciate all of your efforts in this endeavor and thank both the team captains and their team members for their efforts and their pledges for their monetary support. All of the teams should be commended especially those consisting of a single person. While total number of species seen or identified is of interest, the real rewards of our efforts are in the money raised for Audubon. Each and every dollar is deeply appreciated. We would like to given our deepest thanks to our many valued individual contributors, and corporate sponsors of BAS.

**Corporate Sponsors**

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Armstrong Cable TV, Butler and Meadville
Bilo Market, Grove City
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U.S. Generating Company, Kennerdell

**Individual Contributors**


**BAS Board Members 2000-1**

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| Ruth Crawford         |       |
Membership Reminder

Sandee Swansiger, Membership Chair

National Audubon Society
Membership Application
Please enroll me as a new member in National Audubon—includes membership in the National Audubon Society and Audubon magazine and the local Bartramian Audubon and the local chapter newsletter, the Upland Informer, but excludes the BAS sanctuary program.

Current introductory memberships offer $20.00
Student/Senior (62 and above) membership $15.00

Name
Address
City State Zip

Please send this form with payment to
National Audubon Society
Membership Data Center
PO Box 52529
Boulder CO 80322-2529

Renewing members should use the coupon mailed to them by NAS U18

BAS is pleased to announce the availability of our new beautiful logo patch depicting two Upland Sandpipers in flight. The three-inch circular patch is a fitting companion to our logo T-shirts and commemorative patch. The new patch is brown, red and white. A $5.00 contribution to BAS will entitle you to one of these handsome embroidered patches or send a check in that amount made payable to Bartramian Audubon Society, PO Box 315, Slippery Rock, PA 16057 with a self-addressed stamped envelope and one will be mailed to you.
Upcoming BAS Board Meeting

October 16- Monday- Meeting of the BAS Board at 7:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Slippery Rock. Please notify Suzanne Butcher at 330-759-1945 or sarbie@msn.com if you are unable to attend.

Upcoming BAS Membership Meetings

October 9- Monday- Mike Fialkovich will present the program “Ecology and Geology of Western PA” covering examples of habitat types in Western PA, and the plant and animal communities associated with each. Mike, a biology graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, received certification in Conservation Ecology from Chatham College. Mike is a well-known local birder and is leader of many outings for the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania. Our meetings are held at the United Methodist Church in Slippery Rock, PA at 7:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Refreshments provided this evening by Ann Oesterling and Helen Phillips.

November 13- Monday- Jerry McWilliams will present the program “Birds of Presque Isle”.

December 11- Monday- Ecology Camp Reports followed by our annual Christmas Party.

March 12- Monday- Dick Craig will present a program featuring the “International Festival of Cranes”.

April 9-Monday- “Butterfly Gardening” - a BAS membership presentation and seed exchange.


Upcoming BAS Field Trips/Activities

October 22-28- “Eastern Shore with Gene Wilhelm” - call Gene at 724-794-3422 to see if space is still available.

November 25- Saturday- Presque Isle State Park- for early winter waterfowl and gulls -leader Jerry Stanley.

December 16 – Saturday- Butler CBC- Ruth Crawford, Suzanne Butcher.
December 31 – Sunday- Pleasantville CBC- Russ States.

February 10- Saturday- Winter Birding- leaders Russ States and Jerry Stanley.

March 17- Saturday- Moraine St. Park- leader Russ States.

April 28 – Saturday- Spring Sanctuary Visit- leader-Jim McDowell.

May 4-6, Friday-Sunday- 3rd Spring Birding Festival of Western Pennsylvania centered at the McKeever Environmental Learning Center, Sandy Lake, Pennsylvania. Theme of the event is “The Diversity of Pennsylvania Bird life”.

May 12 – Sunday-BAS Natruthon, Ruth Crawford.
May 12 – Sunday –North American Migration Count.

June 4- Monday- Annual Picnic at the Sanctuary of the Sisters of the Humility of Mary, Villa Maria, PA.

BAS Sanctuary News

Birds & Butterflies – and Bears?
Helen Phillips first noticed a missing suet ball and a broken plastic birdfeeder at her property near Chicora, PA. This seemed to be an escalation in her war of wits with the usual culprits - squirrels, chipmunks and raccoons. Only a really, really big raccoon could have been the guilty party. But when a wrought iron feeder pole was bent nearly double one night and a metal birdfeeder was found crumpled on the ground, Helen had to re-think her adversary. And, alarmingly, this latest work took place near her back porch. Something bigger than a really big raccoon had developed a taste for birdseed. Helen and her neighbors had known for some time that one or more families of black bear shared their quiet wooded valley. Daytime sightings were infrequent; a large male lumbering down the road, cubs in a tree, an adult lounging in a field. The bears had kept their distance. Close encounters were brief and peaceful, and the neighborhood no longer marveled that the great animals were living happily in the “wild” only 7 miles from the county courthouse and at the edge of the Pittsburgh metropolis.
That is until bird seed near the house became irresistible. And until some of the neighbors began to find they needed tighter garbage container lids.

Word about this escalation was soon picked up by the media. The local daily carried it front-page. Then a Pittsburgh TV crew invaded the valley. Helen and some others found themselves on the evening news talking about the night-time raids. The notoriety has happily died some in recent weeks. Bears seem lately to have reconsidered their boldness (the birds never did worry much about the competition). Feeders have cautiously been replaced—some on higher poles. Suet is back up attracting woodpeckers. An now Helen Phillips has decided upon a policy of coexistence with squirrels, horned owls and bluebirds, and the many other creatures she sees on her property which, it should be noted, is a BAS Certified Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary. 

Like other registered in the BAS Sanctuary program, Helen is committed to preserving natural qualities need by the area’s animal and plant communities. In addition to this program, the Bartramian Audubon Society of Slippery Rock also offers the Certified Bird & Butterfly Sanctuary Program. While it has less stringent requirements, the goal is similar: to benefit wildlife, and to protect and improve habitat. Anyone liking more information about either of these programs may contact Jim McDowell, BAS Sanctuary Chair, at 724 285 1087. He won’t guarantee that an attractive Sanctuary sign will tempt bears on to a nice piece of real estate. But then again, he won’t deny the possibility.

Skye’s Spirit Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

Don and Anne Oesterling write...“a few months ago we discovered a bucket of live baby birds on our porch. After calling around the neighborhood and finding no one who knew where they came from, we learned about Skye’s Spirit Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. A phone call and a short trip relieved us of the birds. They were then raised and released by the Angelos who have been rehabilitating wildlife for over 6 years. Since that first encounter we have supported their endeavor financially and through donations of many supplies that are needed at their facility. Robert and Maryann Angelo reside on 10 acres of reclaimed strip mines near Harrisville, PA.”

The goal of the center is to rehabilitate injured and orphaned wildlife so they may be returned to the wild. The Angelos recently started the Skye’s Spirit Wildlife Rehabilitation Center after moving to southern Venango County from Maryland. They had both worked for the state of Maryland, Robert for the Park and Planning Commission and Maryjane for the Dept. of Natural Resources. They had also worked for a wildlife rehabilitation program that used many releasable birds, mammals, and reptiles in educational programs. These programs have helped everyone to learn how to conserve our natural resources. As the center here grows, they will be including many of the same types of programs for children and adults in Pennsylvania. Robert and Maryjane both have Native American genealogy and will be including programs on their culture and connections between wildlife and the Native American people.

Being of Native American Heritage, Robert and Maryjane hold all types of wildlife near and dear to their hearts. Wildlife that gets injured or orphaned because of human interventions is our responsibility. But remember—please don’t try to take wildlife in as pets as they are not meant to be caged. If you find any injured or orphaned wildlife you can call the center for help and assistance.

Skye’s Spirit Wildlife Rehabilitation Center
RD #1 Box 281 Harrisville, PA 16038
Phone 814-786-9677
Fax 775-890-3130
Email: skyespirit@pathway.net

Audubon Adventures Classrooms

Helen R. Ferguson, education chair

Audubon Adventures is an environmental education program for children in grades 4 to 6. Developed by professional environmental educators, AUDUBON ADVENTURES presents basic, scientifically accurate facts about birds, wildlife, and their habitats. The program is used by classroom teachers, after-school program coordinators, special education instructors, language arts teachers, and homeschoolers. Since its inception in 1984, over 7 million youngsters have participated in the program. The goal of Audubon Adventures is to develop in young people an appreciation, awareness, and understanding of the natural world—birds, other wildlife, and all living things; the habitats, systems, and interplay of forces that affect living things; and the connections between people and nature. Such an awareness of nature creates in young people (and their teachers and families) a sense of stewardship for the natural world.

The themes for the 2000-2001 Audubon Adventures season are:

“Nature’s Banquet (fruits and seeds)”
“The Living Ocean”
“Owl Prowl”

“From Dying to Thriving (endangered species)”

Each Audubon Adventures kit contains Audubon Adventures newspaper, a free Audubon Animals Dolphin Adventures educational video form the acclaimed Audubon/Disney Channel series, a Classroom Resource Manual filled with hands-on activities, duplicating masters, and research material to enhance the newspaper and video topics, and a classroom certificate.

The Bartramian Audubon Society along with its designated corporate and individual sponsors is pleased to announce the following schools, teachers, and classrooms receiving the Audubon Adventures for the 2000-2001 school year.

Broad Street Elementary in Butler has the fourth grade classrooms of Karen Krenitsky and the sixth grade classroom of Jared Starr. Emily Brittain Elementary School in Butler has the sixth grade classroom of Julie Dandoy. Oakland Twp.
Elementary in Butler has the fourth grade classrooms of Rebecca Martin and the fifth grade classroom of Phillip J. McMillen. Connoquenessing Elementary School in Renfrew has the fifth grade classroom of Arthur McCormick and the sixth grade classroom of Linda Gibola. George Washington Intermediate School in New Castle has the fourth grade classrooms of Rita Elsesser. Mercer Elementary School in Mercer has the fourth grade classroom of Dave Tomson. Riverside Middle School in Ellwood City has the fourth grade classroom of Ruth Roperti. Wilmington Area Middle School of New Wilmington has the fifth grade classroom of Michael Janovick. St. Michael's School of Greenville has the fourth and fifth grade classrooms of Joan Duffy. Shenango Elementary School in New Castle has the classroom of Kevin Rorabaugh. West Hill Elementary School in Sharon has the third grade classroom of Patricia Fisher. Sandy Christy of Slippery Rock has a classroom kit for home schooling. Musser Elementary School in Sharon has the fourth grade classroom of Beth Shupp. St. Paul's Catholic School in Butler has the fourth grade classroom of Mary Cherry and the fifth/sixth grade classroom of Susan Pelusi. Har-Mer Elementary in Harrisville has the fifth grade classroom of Tim Drennen. Dassa McKinney Elementary School in West Sunday has the third grade classrooms of Nancy Adams and Donna Metz; the fourth grade classrooms of Gary Kohlmeyer and Betty Myford; the fifth grade classrooms of Judy Kennedy, Ann Kohlmeyer, Tom Morton, and Steven Wilson; and the sixth grade classrooms of Mark Kosick, Ed Rynd, and Robert Snyder. Moraine Elementary in Prospect has the third grade classrooms of Shawn Kuhn, Louise Sunnerville, Sue Ruckert; the fourth grade classroom of Barbara Puteri; and the fifth grade classrooms of Barbara Cavanaugh, Debbie Tomosovich, Nancy LeViere and Kristen Scheetz. Karns City Middle School in Karns City has the fifth/sixth grade classrooms of Kurt Crosbie and the SpecEd classes of Nancy Lenowak and Cindy Allen. Hillview Intermediate Center in Grove City has the fifth grade classrooms of Doreen Fabiano, Shelbee Hostetler, Tom Hutcheson, Stephanie Mattocks, Carol Pechar, Rose Phillips and Steve Snyder. Slippery Rock Area Elementary School in Slippery Rock has the third grade classrooms of Jill Tackach and Pam Croll and the fourth grade classroom of Kim Cready. Slippery Rock Area Middle School has the sixth grade classrooms of Linda Croll and Suzanne Fodor and the seventh grade classroom of Stu Ketzel. Central Elementary School in Franklin has the third grade classroom of Connie Lauderbaugh and the fourth grade classroom of H. Sue Sloss. Sandy Creek Elementary School in Franklin has the fourth grade classrooms of Shawnee Novak and Julie Krupa and the sixth grade classrooms of Sally Knox and Linda Linn. Saint Joseph's School in Sharon has the fourth, fifth, and sixth grade classrooms of Margaret Alford. Meridian Elementary School in Butler has the sixth grade classroom of John McCool. The Bartramian Audubon Society with the help of its corporate and designated individual sponsors is supporting Audubon Adventures for 74 school classrooms and one home school classroom kit at a cost of $3054.25.

A Lesson on Fireflies

Can you remember collecting fireflies in a jar on warm summer evenings? This is how Jeff Calta, chemist, electrical engineer and Allegheny graduate got interested in fireflies or lightning bugs. Did you punch a hole in that jar and were heartbroken the next morning to find them all dead? Well the secret is to NOT punch a hole in the jar, there is plenty of oxygen for them but they have a rapid rate of dehydration! You can add a slice of apple, fruit side up to provide extra humidity too. These insects are neither a fly nor a 'bug' but are beetles that have developed a bioluminescent light to attract mates and sometimes even supper. We learned these and other facts during a fascinating evening that began when Jeff moved to a spot in the country near Chicora, PA and his wife called him out in the yard on a sultry June evening to see the myriads of fireflies. They were lighting the ground and looked as if tiny stars had fallen to earth. He then looked into everything he could find about these insects but there was little to be had at the local library so he contacted an expert to learn more and took off. They have a hard wing covering and use their unique flash pattern to communicate their intentions to a prospective mate. They have been around since the Cretaceous period and the ancients thought them sacred because they made light without heat. Little was known about fireflies until the 1700's when species began to be identified and classified. Fireflies, like other beetles go through three life stages and are considered semi-aquatic creatures. Their eggs are laid in water or marshy areas and are extremely tiny. They do glow faintly and check any suspicious, luminescent mass if you ever spot one. The next stage is larvae or glowworm and these are ferocious! They too glow faintly and are carnivorous predators. They enjoy slugs, earthworms and other soft-bodied creatures such as grubs and a healthy firefly population may decrease the amount of Japanese beetles in your yard! Walk slowly after dusk along the edge of your grass, where it meets the drive and look carefully and you may be lucky enough to spot these tiny glowworms. An adult's sole purpose in life is to produce the next generation. Many adult species do not even eat though one is considered a female fatale" as she mimics the flash signals of other species in order to lure them in for her supper. These signals can be studied to determine the particular firefly. Jeff then discussed 5 species commonly found in PA, two of which are not luminescent and had charts to purchase showing each species, their flash characteristics and their flash color. Now, armed with a chart, flashlight and some patience, thanks to Jeff we too can determine exactly who is lighting up our yard and enter the fascinating world of the Firefly.
Membership Reminder

.....Sandee Swansiger, Membership Chair

| National Audubon Society Membership Application |
| Please enroll me as a new member in National Audubon. Includes membership in the National Audubon Society and Audubon magazine and the local Bartramian Audubon and the local chapter newsletter, the Upland Informer, but excludes the BAS sanctuary program. |
| Current introductory memberships offer $20.00 |
| Student/Senior (62 and above) membership $15.00 |
| Name |
| Address |
| City | State | Zip |
| Please send this form with payment to |
| National Audubon Society Membership Data Center PO Box 52529 Boulder CO 80322-2529 |
| Renewing members should use the coupon mailed to them by NAS U18 |
| Revised 8/24/00 7XCH8 |

The seventeen participants of the Bartramian Audubon Society's field trip to Shenango Lake on September 23 tallied 50 species of birds. The highlight of the day was the first county record of a Glossy Ibis seen and documented by Neil, Harvey, and Jerry Troyer. Shenango Lake is designated an Important Bird Area by the National Audubon Society and is a Special Area Project of the Pennsylvania Society of Ornithology. Members of the Bartramian Audubon are conducting nesting bird census and shorebird migration studies at the lake.
Upcoming BAS Board Meeting

Suzanne Butcher, president
November 20- Monday- Meeting of the BAS Board at 7:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Slippery Rock. Please notify Suzanne Butcher at 330-759-1945 or sarbie@msn.com if you are unable to attend. (Note- there will not be a board meeting in December or January. The next board meeting will be in February.)

Upcoming BAS Membership Meetings

Ann Craig, program chair
Our meetings are held at the United Methodist Church in Slippery Rock, PA at 7:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Refreshments are served.

November 13- Monday- Jerry McWilliams will present the program “Birds of Presque Isle”. Jerry is the co-author of the Birds of Erie County and senior author with Daniel Brauning of the recently published Bird of Pennsylvania. Refreshments provided by Helen Ferguson, Betty Starr, and Bob and Dorothy Walczak.

December 11- Monday- Natalie Price, the 2000 Giant Eagle, Inc., Pittsburgh Environmental Education Scholarship Recipient and Mr. and Mrs. Glen McKissic, the BAS Ecology Scholarship Recipients will report on their experiences at the Greenwich, CT Audubon Ecology Camp. In anticipation of our upcoming CBC’s, a brief review of the 35 year history of the Butler County Christmas Bird Count will also be given.

March 12- Monday- Dick Craig will present a program featuring the “International Crane Center located in Baraboo Wisconsin”.

April 9- Monday- “Butterfly Gardening”- A BAS membership presentation and seed exchange. Contact Suzanne Butcher 330-759-1945, sarbie@msn.com if you have pictures of your garden to be included in the presentation, or have seeds to exchange.

May 14- Annual Awards Night- Presentation of Conservation Awards in individual, organizational, and business categories, and recognition of new members in the sanctuary programs.

Upcoming BAS Field Trips/Activities

Russ States, field trip chair
November 25 - Saturday- Presque Isle State Park- for early winter waterfowl and gulls. Meet at 8:30 am at the first parking lot as you enter the park. Contact leader Jerry Stanley at 814-432-4496 or Russ States at 814-676-6320 for further details.

December 16 – Saturday- Butler CBC- Ruth Crawford, Suzanne Butcher- see details inside.
December 31 – Sunday- Pleasantville CBC- Russ States- see details inside.

February 10- Saturday- Winter Birding Assuming decent weather and passable roads, we will trek off to Venango County to target any northern species that show up this winter. With winter in full swing we will look for Common Raven, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Common Redpoll, Pine Siskin, Crossbills, Evening Grosbeak, Rough-legged Hawk, Northern Goshawk, and Saw-wheet Owl. We will just have to see what this winter brings. MEETING TIME AND PLACE: Meet at the McDonald’s in Franklin at 9:00AM. McDonald’s is on 13th Street. As you come into Franklin on Route 8, you come down a steep hill. At the bottom traffic turns right. After you turn right go to the 2nd light and turn left. Go two blocks and McDonald’s is on the right. Please be on time. Contact Russ States 814-676-6320 to see if the trip is still on.

March 17- Saturday- Moraine St. Park- leader Russ States.

April 28 – Saturday- Spring Sanctuary Visit- contact Jim McDowell, sanctuary chair.

May 4-6, Friday-Sunday- 3rd Spring Birding Festival of Western Pennsylvania centered at the McKeever Environmental Learning Center, Sandy Lake, Pennsylvania. Theme of the event is "The Diversity of Pennsylvania Bird life". See details inside.

May 12 - Saturday-BAS Naturthon, Ruth Crawford.
May 12 – Saturday – North American Migration Count.

June 4- Monday- Annual Picnic at the Sanctuary of the Sisters of the Humility of Mary, Villa Maria, PA.

As the Crow Flies– An Overview of the West Nile Virus

Suzanne Butcher
Migrating birds this fall are again under surveillance as officials track the spread of the West Nile virus. The virus made its first appearance in the Western Hemisphere in August of 1999 where it was mostly confined to the New
York City region. Here it was associated with the death of thousands of American Crows and other avian species including exotic specimens in zoo collections. At the same time the virus was seen in people with at least 7 confirmed deaths in 62 documented cases. This spatial and temporal concurrence of infections directed epidemiologists to conclude that birds served as introductory hosts infecting mosquitoes, which in turn acted as amplifying hosts capable of infecting humans.

The West Nile virus was first isolated in the blood of a woman from the West Nile region of Uganda in the 1930’s and its history is still unraveling. The genetic lineage of the virus seen in New York is nearly identical with a strain of the virus found in 1998 in a dead goose in Israel. In the Old World, the West Nile virus is widespread as evidenced in a study done in the 1950’s when an estimated 40% of the human population in Egypt’s Nile Delta showed evidence of infection. One striking difference however is that known Old World epidemics of West Nile virus have had few concurrent reports of deaths in the infected birds.

Both wildlife officials and the medical community were hoping that the virus would be contained last summer by employing efforts, including controversial pesticide spraying, to control the mosquito population. It has not. The virus successfully over wintered and while serious human cases have been limited this past summer to 17 with only one death, the virus has traveled over 300 miles, and has now been identified in New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Maryland the District of Columbia, and possibly Canada.

Over 60 species of birds have been infected and more alarmingly it has been found in domestic animals such as horses as well as wildlife including raccoons, chipmunks, and bats. In addition, while it was first only carried by one type of an ornithophilic (bird-loving) mosquito, it is now present in eight mosquito species including the man loving Aedes vexans, accelerating the potential for spread. It is predicted the virus will appear across the county within the next three years.

While the virus is not considered a high risk to humans, it can cause death in the young, old, and those with suppressed immune systems. However, since West Nile Virus represents a new virus to most of the birds it may be affecting, the death rates are unpredictable. Hopefully the mortality rate won’t be the nearly 100% experienced by the infected American Crows.

When I was in medical school at Duke in the 1960's, and even during my pathology residency, optimism prevailed with infectious diseases viewed as plagues of the past. For a very short period of time this may have been true, but all this has changed. In the past 20 years, old diseases like tuberculosis have returned with a new vengeance and newly identified diseases such as the Ebola virus, currently causing a devastating outbreak in Uganda, are emerging at an alarming rate. Divergent factors have come into play and unfortunately many of these are man-made, none more so than Africa. Thus it is not surprising that this virus originated where is did, as the African continent is now known as the hotspot in the breeding grounds of exotic emerging pathogens. And experts in the field are facing increasing worries as travelers are now flying viruses and other pathogens across time zones with incredible speed. What was in Africa yesterday could well be in Slippery Rock tomorrow.

**Status (Sept 26, 2000) of the West Nile Virus in PA**

On September 26 Secretary of Health Robert S. Zimmerman Jr. confirmed the West Nile virus infection had been found in two crows in Southeastern Pennsylvania, one from Levittown, Bucks County, collected Sept. 8, and the second from Tredderlyrin, Chester County, collected Sept. 13. To date the virus has not been detected in any humans or from mosquitoes in the state. Secretary Zimmerman reminded Pennsylvanians to call 1-877-PA-HEALTH if they come across dead birds -- especially crows. Callers should report the location of the dead bird, the date and the number of birds observed. Callers will receive proper handling instructions. The toll-free information line, 1-877-PA-HEALTH, is answered 24 hours a day. Direct assistance is available from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. A Department of Health representative is available for emergency cases at other times.

**101th Christmas Bird Count**

Every year since 1900, the National Audubon Society has conducted its original citizen-science project, the Christmas Bird Count, which has changed the way scientists monitor the environment. What began as an effort to mobilize the early conservation movement now culminates in a vast database that sheds light on how human activity has impacted the environment over the entire 20th Century.

Over 50,000 volunteers in all fifty states, every Canadian province, Central and South America, the Caribbean and several Pacific Islands (areas where North America’s breeding birds winter) will count and record every bird species encountered over one calendar day during the December 14th through January 5th count period. Compilers will enter their group’s results at BirdSource, the on-line source for bird information, run by Audubon and the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. From humble beginnings nearly a century ago as protest to the excessive slaughter of birds, the National Audubon Society’s Christmas Bird Count has become the world’s largest all-volunteer bird survey. Up until the turn of the century, people commonly engaged in a holiday tradition known as the Christmas “Side Hunt”: They would choose sides and go afield with their guns; whoever brought in the biggest pile of feathered quarry won. Conservation was in its beginning stages at the turn of the century, and many observers were becoming concerned about the indiscriminate slaughter of wildlife, and concurrent declines in bird populations. On Christmas Day 1900, ornithologist Frank Chapman, an early officer in the then budding Audubon Society, called for an end to the slaughter. He suggested that, rather than shooting birds, people count them instead. So began the Christmas Bird Count. Thanks to the inspiration of Frank M. Chapman and the perspiration of twenty-seven dedicated birders, twenty-five Christmas Bird Counts were held that day. The locations ranged from Toronto, Ontario to Pacific Grove, California with most counts in or near the
population centers of northeastern North America. Those original 27 Christmas Bird Counties tallied a total of 90 species on all the counts combined. Today there are more than 2000 CBCs. The CBC, like the conservation movement it first heralded, has truly come of age! The data from 100 years (and counting) of Christmas Bird Counts yields valuable insights into the shifting patterns, distributions, and population trends of bird species. Volunteers are the heart and soul of the CBC. From feeder-watchers and field observers to count compilers and regional editors, everyone who takes part in the Christmas Bird Count does it for love of birds and the excitement of friendly competition -- and with the knowledge that their efforts are making a difference for science and bird conservation. As long as there are birds to be counted, the Christmas Bird Count will go on being the most popular, fun, and rewarding bird census the world over.

The Butler County CBC will be held on Saturday December 16th. The center of the 15 mile diameter of the count circle is located approximately 1.5 miles east of the junction of Lindey Road and Rt. 528. Lake Arthur, Moraine State Park, McConnell’s Mill, Wolf Creek Narrows and the campus of Slippery Rock University are within the circle. If you are interested in participating, either by being a feeder watcher or field observer, contact Ruth Crawford at 724-794-5688 or Suzanne Butcher at 330-759-1945 as soon as possible so count assignments can be made. The after count traditional chili supper for all participants will be held at the United Methodist Church in Slippery Rock at 6pm.

The Pleasantville CBC will be held on Sunday December 31, 2000 from dusk to dark (or earlier if you are so inclined). The circle for this count encompasses the area approximately from Titusville in the northwest to Pleasantville to Tionesta in the northeast south to President east to Oleopolis and Rouseville and then north along the western edge of Oil Creek State Park. The count is centered on the historic ghost town of Pithole. Please feel welcome to participate in this count. Assignments can be made for an easy to get to area if you are unfamiliar with this count. Also needed are feeder watchers who live in the area. If you are unsure if you are in the count circle and would like to help, please contact Russ. This is a more northern count than the Butler count, so expect some more northern species. If you are interested in helping, please contact: Russ States 814-676-6320 (please talk to the machine)

Join the 3rd Spring Birding Festival

Everyone interested in birds and natural history is cordially invited to participate in the 3rd Spring Birding Festival of Western Pennsylvania centered at the McKeever Environmental Learning Center, Sandy Lake, Pennsylvania, on Friday 4 May to Sunday 6 May 2001. Theme of the event is "The Diversity of Pennsylvania Birdlife." This fun and educational outdoors event will introduce the participants to the ecoregion's wild and wonder-ful forests, grasslands and wetlands and their diverse birdlife. Each registrant has the option of choosing one of two packages to two field trip sites on Saturday with an expert field guide or taking a more in-depth birding package to two sites on Saturday and a wetlands site on Sunday morning. The festival is geared primarily to BEGINNING AND INTERMEDIATE BIRDERS, defined as those individuals who have five years or less field experience in birding and who want to learn short-cuts and tips to birding by using a six-key field identification system. However, all birdwatchers from amateur to expert levels are welcome.

A "quick-tips" session to begin birding for all participants, guest speakers Maryjane and Robert Angelo, Directors of the Skye's Spirit Wildlife Rehabilitation Center and a social will highlight Friday evening. A wrap-up bird tally dinner is planned for Saturday evening. Exhibits and vendors will be available all weekend. Please call 724-376-1000 PROMPTLY for complete information and registration form or e-mail info@mckeever.org

Mike Fialkovich, pictured above, presented the program 'Ecology and Geology of Western Pennsylvania' at the October BAS meeting.

Contact Pres. Clinton- Help Alaska and Florida

The Alaska Wilderness League requesting that all of our members telephone the White House toll-free at 1-888-750-4897 requesting that the President do three things:

1) Urge President Clinton to exercise the powers of his office to protect forever the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as an enduring legacy for future generations. Please designate this spectacular biological heart of Alaska as a National Monument today.

2) Request the President save Everglades and Biscayne Bay National Parks by rejecting the proposed Homestead airport. Ask him to approve the "mixed-use alternative" instead.

3) Urge the President to keep his promise of last October to save our last wild national forests by approving a plan that bans all logging, drilling and mining on 60 million roadless acres of our National Forests including protecting Tongass National Forest.

For more information, contact A WL, toll-free at 1-800-322-5205 or Parisa@alaskawild.org
Membership Reminder

...Sandeep Swansiger, Membership Chair

National Audubon Society
Membership Application

Please enroll me as a new member in National Audubon- includes membership in the National Audubon Society and Audubon magazine and the local Bartramian Audubon and the local chapter newsletter, the Upland Informer, but excludes the BAS sanctuary program.

Current introductory memberships offer $20.00
Student/Senior (62 and above) membership $15.00

Name

Address

City State Zip

Please send this form with payment to:

National Audubon Society
Membership Data Center
PO Box 52529
Boulder CO 80322-2529

BAS is pleased to announce the availability of our new beautiful logo patch depicting two Upland Sandpipers in flight. The three-inch circular patch is a fitting companion to our logo T-shirts and commemorative patch. The new patch is brown, red and white. A $5.00 contribution to BAS will entitle you to one of these handsome embroidered patches or send a check in that amount made payable to Bartramian Audubon Society, PO Box 315, Slippery Rock, PA 16057 with a self-addressed stamped envelope and one will be mailed to you.
Upcoming BAS Board Meeting

March 19- Meeting of the BAS Board at 7:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Slippery Rock. Please notify Suzanne Butcher at 330-759-1945 or sarbie@msn.com if you are unable to attend.

Upcoming BAS Membership Meetings

Our meetings are held at the United Methodist Church in Slippery Rock, PA at 7:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Refreshments are served.

March 12- Monday- Dick Craig will present a program featuring the “International Crane Center located in Baraboo Wisconsin”.

April 9- Monday- “Butterfly Gardening”- A BAS membership slide presentation on Butterfly Gardening. The program will cover the butterflies of Butler, Mercer, Lawrence, and Venango Counties and will provide information on their host plants and favorite nectar sources. Contact Suzanne Butcher 330-759-1945, sarbie@msn.com if you have pictures of your garden to be included in the presentation, or have seeds to exchange.

May 14- Annual Awards Night- Presentation of Conservation Awards in individual, organizational, and business categories, and recognition of new members in the Bird and Butterfly and Wildlife Sanctuary programs.

Upcoming BAS Field Trips/Activities

March 17- Saturday- Moraine St. Park- Spring Duck Migration at Moraine State Park. This has proved one of our most popular trips. We will search the far reaches of Lake Arthur for migrating spring waterfowl. Meeting time is 8am at the park headquarters off US Rt. 422. Leader is Russ States.

March 25 – Sunday - The Spring Hawk Watch Field Trip will be changed from Ripley, NY to the Allegheny Front near Johnstown. Catch one of nature’s great spectacles along the ridges and valleys of southern Pennsylvania’s Allegheny Moun-
tains. You MUST sign up for this trip, so we can coordinate times & meeting places. There is limited parking, so we will carpool. Departure time from the Slippery Rock area will be approximately 7 am. Contact in advance one of the trip leaders: Russ States 814-676-6320, email russs@csonline.net or Jerry Stanley 814-432-4496, email bms@csonline.net to participate on this outing.

April 28 – Saturday- Spring Sanctuary Visit- see more details in the March Upland Informer.

May 4-6, Friday-Sunday- 3rd Spring Birding Festival of Western Pennsylvania centered at the McKeever Environmental Learning Center, Sandy Lake, Pennsylvania. Theme of the event is “The Diversity of Pennsylvania Bird life”. See details inside.

May 12 - Saturday- BAS Natruthon, Ruth Crawford. Form teams and bird your favorite areas. Also open to those who prefer to watch butterflies or count wildflower species. Designed to get you out and observe nature. This is the major fundraiser for our BAS chapter.

May 12 – Saturday – North American Migration Count.

June 4- Monday- Annual Picnic at the Sanctuary of the Sisters of the Humility of Mary, Villa Maria, PA.

Notes of the Dec. 11th Membership Meeting

President Suzanne Butcher opened the December membership meeting of the Bartramian Audubon Society, Slippery Rock, PA at 7:35 p.m. Dec. 11, 2000. Announcements: The minutes of the November meeting were read and approved. Treasurer Gene Butcher reported that finances remain stable with a checking account of $5,891.94. Education Chair Helen Ferguson reports that the “Great Backyard Bird Count” will be held in February. Check with her for more information. Gene Wilhelm reports that Giant Eagle Inc. of Pittsburgh, PA has added a second Environmental Camp Scholarship, this time for an advanced (already attended once) teacher. This enables the teacher selected to apply for an Audubon Camp in Wyoming, Montana or Minnesota! Contact Helen for an application. Sanctuary Chair Jim McDowell reports that we have received a request for a Bird and Butterfly Sanctuary from Melanie Petridis and papers have been signed Ann Griffin and Pat Zimmerman for a 24 acre Wildlife Sanctuary along Wolf Creek. Newsletter Chair Suzanne Butcher reports the next publication of the Upland Informer will be in February. Conservation Chair/ Sec-
OND VP Melanie Petridis reports that the DCNR has denied the variance at McConnell's Mills. Quality Aggregates can reapply for a new permit and we will stay alert to the situation. At this time Tri County has been quiet and their status is uncertain. Hospitality Chairs Margie Kirk and Glenda Kemm thanked all for tonight's potluck refreshments. Gene Wilhelm announced that the Birding Festival at McKeever will allow teachers to apply for 15 units of continuing education under Act 48. The dates are May 4-5-6. Contact Gene for more details.

Fieldtrip Chair Russ States reports that the Nottawasaga trip to Presque Isle went very well with sightings of a Goshawk, Merlin, Cooper's Hawk and SNOWY OWL! If you are receiving this newsletter you are entitled to attend these outings and see other wonderful birds. The next fieldtrip is tentatively scheduled on February 10th to Venango County where we will be looking for winter birds. Meet at the McDonald's in Franklin at 9 a.m. Program Chair Anna Craig announced her husband's presentation of the International Crane Festival for March membership meeting. The April program will be on butterfly gardening. Awards night is in May. Suzanne Butcher then presented thirty-five years of CBC's, hitting some of the highlights and rarities. She then gave certificates and awards and recognized participants, who had taken part in the counts for at least five years over the past 35 years. Those include George Dean-5, Debbie Yovanovich-5, Bob Walczak-6, Audrey Pettifors-7, Robert Love-7, Barb Dean-7, Father Roch Raible-7, Gene Butcher-8, Kate Brydon-8, Joanne Wilhelm-9, Shirley McCauley-9, Harriet Bauer-9, George Wilson-10, Mary Kruth-10, Doug Peifer-10, Helen Beck-12, Ed Wilver-13, Suzanne Butcher-13, Priscilla Stoughton-16, Ruth Crawford-17, Joan Wilver-17, Fred Lochen-17, Gene Wilhelm-21, Betty Star-24, Marguerite Geibel-27, and Helen Ferguson-30. Many kudos and thanks! Last year's ecology scholarship teachers, Glen McKissic and Natalie Price who attended the Greenwich, CT Audubon Ecology Camp then presented programs on what they saw, learned and enjoyed and how it has aided them in their teaching and also in their daily lives. The 24 meeting attendees then enjoyed refreshments and fellowship before the meeting was closed at 10:15 p.m. See you in 2001!

Butler County Christmas Bird Count
Suzanne Butcher, Ruth Crawford compilers
The Butler County CBC, in conjunction with the 101st National Audubon Christmas Bird Count, was held December 16, 2000 from 7am to 5pm. After some overnight freezing rain, the early morning began overcast with a temperature of 34°. Rain soon began falling with varied intensity through out most of the day. The temperature rose to 44° by late afternoon. Winds were gusting and shifting out of the SE, between 15-20 mph. The ground was lightly covered with a thin layer of ice and snow. Larger bodies of still water including Lake Arthur, were 99% frozen. Moving water was mostly open.

Observers: 31 in 12 field parties; 18.75 hours and 18.25 miles on foot; 46 hours and 483.25 miles by car. plus 12 at feeders for 53.5 hours and 7.75 hours and 24.5 miles owling.

Total Party Hours: 64.75; Party Miles: 501.50


Total Species- 70, Individuals- 5713


Pleasantville CBC, Sunday January 2, 2000
Rus States, compiler
Count circle includes the area within a 15 mile diameter circle, centered 4 miles SSE of Pleasantville. Count area boundary includes Enterprise to the north, Tionesta to the East, Eagle Rock to the south, and PA Route 8 to the west. December 31, 2000: 7:30am to 4:30pm. Temperature 10-19F, mostly cloudy.

Species and Numbers:
Pied-billed Grebe 4, Great Blue Heron 2, Canada Goose 292, American Black Duck 37, Mallard 26, Redhead (cw) Hooded Merganser 1, Common Merganser 40, Bald Eagle 5 (1ad, 4Im) Northern Harrier 1, Red-tailed Hawk 6, Rough-legged Hawk 4, Ruffed Grouse 3, Wild Turkey 56, Ring-billed Gull 1, Mourning Dove 27, Eastern Screech Owl 11, Great Horned Owl 3, Belding's Kingfisher 2, Red-bellied Woodpecker 16, Downy Woodpecker 41, Hairy Woodpecker 11, Northern (Yellow-shafted) Flicker 1, Pileated Woodpecker 8, Blue Jay 123, Am. Crow 125, Common Raven 2, Black-capped Chickadee 195, Tufted Titmouse 51, Red-breasted Nuthatch 2, White-breasted Nuthatch 74, Brown Creeper 8, Carolina Wren 5, Winter Wren 1, Golden-crowned Kinglet 35, Eastern Bluebird 17, American Robin 1, European Starling 79, American Tree Sparrow 92, Song Sparrow 4,
Join the 3rd Spring Birding Festival

Gene Wilhelm

Everyone interested in birds and natural history is cordially invited to participate in the 3rd Spring Birding Festival of Western Pennsylvania centered at the McKeever Environmental Learning Center, Sandy Lake, Pennsylvania, on Friday 4 May to Sunday 6 May 2001. Theme of the event is "The Diversity of Pennsylvania Birdlife." This fun and educational outdoors event will introduce the participants to the ecoregion's wild and wonderful forests, grasslands and wetlands and their diverse birdlife. Each registrant has the option of choosing one of two packages to two field trip sites on Saturday with an expert field guide or taking a more in-depth birding package to two sites on Saturday and a wetlands site on Sunday morning. The festival is geared primarily to BEGINNING AND INTERMEDIATE BIRDERS, defined as those individuals who have five years or less field experience in birding and who want to learn short-cuts and tips to birding by using a six-key field identification system. However, all birdwatchers from amateur to expert levels are welcome.

A "quick-tips" session to beginning birding for all participants, guest speakers Maryjane and Robert Angelo, Directors of the Sky's Spirit Wildlife Rehabilitation Center and a social will highlight Friday evening. A wrap-up bird tally dinner is planned for Saturday evening. Exhibits and vendors will be available all weekend. Please call 724-376-1000 PROMPTLY for complete information and registration form or e-mail info@mckeever.org

Winter Birding Field Trip revisited

The Bartramian Audubon Society of Slippery Rock, PA had its annual winter birding trip to Venango and Clarion Counties on Saturday Feb 10th. Winds were gusty and the day began overcast with temperatures in the low twenties. Participants Gene and Suzanne Butcher, Neil, Harvey, and Jerry Troyer, Helen Ferguson, Marjorie Kirk, and Betty Starr met leaders Russ States and Jerry Stanley in Franklin. As the group was departing the local McDonalds, an adult Bald Eagle soared overhead. The group then headed for Kyle Lake while stopping and scanning the farm fields for flocks of Snow Buntings and Horned Larks along the way. Red-winged Blackbirds, Cedar Waxings, and Robins were with a large group of Starlings seen feeding on Sumac. A Northern Mockingbird was skulking in shrubbery close to the lake but did fly out in the open long enough for all to have excellent views. Two Turkey Vultures were seen soaring low overhead and a Killdeer was calling as it flew over the crest of a hill. The group then headed back towards Franklin to try and relocate the Northern Shrike found earlier in the week by Jerry. All members of the group had excellent looks at the Shrike and before heading home scoped ducks along French Creek. Another Bald Eagle was seen and the last bird of the day was a Great-horned Owl on her nest.

**Audubon Adventures Teachers**

| Name: Helen Ferguson, education chair |

Notice to Audubon Adventures teachers and any teacher of grades 4-6. If you want to be considered for "Audubon Adventures" for the school year 2001-2001, please complete this form and return it to Helen R. Ferguson, 100 Balcony Court, Butler PA 16001.

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A gift from the

*Bartramian Audubon Society*

BAS is pleased to announce the availability of our new beautiful logo patch depicting two Upland Sandpipers in flight. The three-inch circular patch is a fitting companion to our logo T-shirts and commemorative patch. The new patch is brown, red and white. A $5.00 contribution to BAS will entitle you to one of these handsome embroidered patches or send a check in that amount made payable to Bartramian Audubon Society, PO Box 315, Slippery Rock, PA 16057 with a self-addressed stamped envelope and one will be mailed to you.
Upcoming BAS Board Meeting

...Suzanne Butcher, president

April 16 - Meeting of the BAS Board at 7:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Slippery Rock. Please notify Suzanne Butcher at 330-759-1945 or sarbie@msn.com if you are unable to attend.

Upcoming BAS Membership Meetings

...Ann Craig, program chair

Our meetings are held at the United Methodist Church in Slippery Rock, PA at 7:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Refreshments are served.

April 9-Monday - “Butterfly Gardening” - A BAS membership slide presentation on local Butterfly Gardening. The program will cover the butterflies of Butler, Mercer, Lawrence, and Venango Counties and will provide information on their host plants and favorite nectar sources. Butterfly gardens of BAS members will be featured.

BAS Bird and Butterfly Sanctuary Program

In September 1997 the Bartramian Audubon announced its “Bird and Butterfly Sanctuary Program”, as a complement to its already successful private property Wildlife Sanctuary Program. Any landowner is welcome to enroll simply by agreeing to encourage wildlife - especially birds and butterflies - to use their property and to strive to improve even established natural habitats by adding to the biological diversity already present. This conservation effort is timely, and beneficial, by emphasizing that ecology truly begins at home. Program benefits to landowners include: 1) a sign identifying the property as a certified BAS BIRD & BUTTERFLY SANCTUARY, 2) a list of suggestions for specifically attracting birds and butterflies to your yards and gardens, 3) a list of tips and reference on how to diversity habitats and wildlife in yards, gardens, grounds, living or working sites and 4) a one-year Sanctuary Membership in BAS, all for a $39 enrollment fee. Succeeding year fee is just $15 from July 1st - June 30th.

Please request an official application form and instructions from: Bartramian Audubon Society, BIRDS AND BUTTERFLIES SANCTUARY PROGRAM, P.O. Box 315, Slippery Rock, PA 16057.

May 14 - Annual Awards Night - Presentation of Awards - This year’s awards will be focused on recognition of some of the members of BAS who have made significant contributions to the organization over the years. The BAS was founded December 6th, 1982 and as a new Audubon chapter filled the gap between the Audubon Society of Western PA in the south and the Presque Isle Audubon in the north. The first officers were:

President - Doug Hoskins, Vice President - Dr. Craig Chase, Secretary - Butch Rosendale, and treasurer - Martha Rosetsky. Although the chapter was centered in Slippery Rock and associated with Slippery Rock University, its membership was then and still is - from throughout the Slippery Rock, Butler, Grove City, Mercer, Sharon, New Castle, Oil City and Franklin regions and the entire 4 county area.

New members in the Bird and Butterfly and Wildlife Sanctuary programs will also be recognized, and ecology camp scholarship winners will be presented to the group.

Upcoming BAS Field Trips/Activities

...Russ States, field trip chair

April 28 - Saturday - Spring Wildlife Sanctuary Visit to Buttermilk Hill - MEETING TIME AND PLACE: We will meet at the McDonald's in Franklin at 8:00am before driving out to Buttermilk Hill. McDonald's is on 13th Street. As you come into Franklin on Route 8, you come down a steep hill. At the bottom traffic turns right. After you turn right go to the 2nd light and turn left. Go two blocks and McDonalds is on the right. Please be on time. Contact Russ States 814-676-6320

Buttermilk Hill Sanctuary

Buttermilk Hill became a BAS Wildlife Sanctuary in February of 1997. The sanctuary is comprised of 400 acres situated on French Creek in Canal Twp. in Venango County. It is located on an old stone quarry which has been allowed over the past 30 years to revert to a natural state. The property adjoins French creek for approximated 2/3 miles and here old growth sycamores, many with a diameter of three feet, are home to numerous nesting species of birds including Yellow-throated Warblers, Eastern Screech Owls, Baltimore Orioles, Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers and Belted Kingfisher. The hillside next to the creek is very steep and wooded and Great-horned Owls and many species of warblers including Cerulean, Common Yellow-throat, and Worm-eating call this home. Mourning Warblers occupy an area that was more recently logged. Kentucky and Hooded Warblers can be heard singing away from the creek in hilly terrain where there is a mixed growth of 20-30 year olds trees. Saw-whet and Long-eared Owls winter in a small hemlock and laurel growth at the top of the valley. Another area has blueberry bushes and adjacent fields have nest boxes occupied by Eastern Bluebirds and Tree Swallows. Three small ponds, one supported entirely by run offs, and the others spring fed, are also on the property. Wild Turkey and Ruffed Grouse are common. The property also hosts a diversity of plants, salamanders, snakes, turtles, bats, and many other mammal species. We thank Jerry Stanley and Kathie Goodblood for allowing us to visit their beautiful sanctuary property.
May 4-6, Friday-Sunday - 3rd Spring Birding Festival of Western Pennsylvania centered at the McKeever Environmental Learning Center, Sandy Lake, Pennsylvania. Theme of the event is "The Diversity of Pennsylvania Bird life". See more details.

May 12 - Saturday - BAS Naturthon, Ruth Crawford. Our major fundraiser. See related article.

May 12 - Saturday - North American Migration Count. May This can be done in conjunction with the BAS Naturthon - See related article.

June 4 - Monday - Annual Picnic at the Sanctuary of the Sisters of the Humility of Mary, Villa Maria, PA. We will meet at the Villa Maria at 5:30 pm rain or shine. We will stroll the two nearby trails and see our Wildlife Sanctuary. BAS will provide the hotdogs and everyone is to bring a dish to share. Contact Suzanne Butcher, 330-759-1945 sarbie@msn.com for more details or if you plan to attend.

Notes of the March 18th Membership Meeting

Sandeep Swansiger, recording secretary (ed SB)
The Bartramian Audubon Society met in the United Methodist Church, Slippery Rock PA on Mon. March 12, 2001. President Suzanne Butcher called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. after finding an open room in the church. Brochures on the Birders' Workshops conducted by the PA Audubon and PA Game Commission to develop and birding and monitoring skills for the IBA program were distributed. Minutes of the Dec. 11, 2000 meeting were read and approved. Treasurer's Report: Checking balance is stable. Chair reports: Education Chair Helen Ferguson is still looking for candidates for the Ecology Camp Scholarships. Hospitality Chairs Marjorie Kirk and Glenda Kemm thanked Anna Craig for the night's refreshments and Kathie Goodblood and Sandee Swansiger are hostesses for April. No report from Naturthon Chair. Newsletter Chair Suzanne Butcher reports that the date for the Naturthon is May 12, NOT 13 as listed. Field Trip Chair Russ States reminded everyone of the Spring Duck outing at Moraine on the 17th. Sun. March 25 is the trip to the Allegheny Front for Migrating Raptors - meet at SRUM church parking lot at 6:30 a.m. and in Butler at 7:15, location to be determined. Conservation Chair/Second VP Melanie Petridis reports that the Tri-County Landfill issue is still on-going, and the integrity of McConnel's Mills is still being threatened. Keep writing letters to DEP, game commission and state legislators! The Third Spring Birding Festival at McKeever is coming soon. This year Seneca Rocks and Presque Isle Audubon Societies will be participating. Please send your reservations soon! Program Chair Anna Craig then turned the activities over to our speaker, Mike Fialkovitch who graciously agreed to present the program when scheduled speaker Dick Craig was called out of town. Mike is a biology graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and is certified in Conservation Ecology by Chatham College. He leads outings for the Audubon Society of Western PA, conducts BBS (breeding bird surveys) in Eastern Butler County, is the county compiler for Allegheny and Fayette Counties for PA Birds and is involved in the Reptile/Amphibian Survey conducted by Indiana U. Mike used many beautiful slides and his extensive knowledge to guide us on a tour of the seasonal changes here in PA and the adaptations of the flora and fauna throughout the year. The meeting was closed at 9:30 after enjoying the wonderful refreshments provided by Anna Craig.

March 17th Waterfowl at Lake Arthur Birding Field Trip Revisited

Participants of the Bartramian Audubon Society's annual Spring Duck Migration trip to Moraine State Park searched the far reaches of Lake Arthur for migrating spring waterfowl. Those braving the biting wind chill and blowing snow were rewarded with seeing large numbers and also a terrific variety of species including: 1 Common Loon, 1 Pied-billed Grebe, 3 Horned Grebe, 1 Snow Goose, 50 Canada Goose, 64 Tundra Swan, 8 Wood Duck, 7 Gadwall, 14 American Wigeon, 13 American Black Duck, 30 Mallard, 4 Blue-winged Teal, 10 Northern Shoveler, 2 Northern Pintail, 12 Green-winged Teal, 48 Canvasback, 400 Redhead, 3,300 Ring-necked Duck (a lake record), 4 Greater Scaup, 500 Lesser Scaup, 24 Bufflehead, 3 Common Goldeneye, 87 Hooded Merganser, 20 Common Mer- ganser, 10 Red-breasted Merganser, 4 Ruddy Duck, and 175 American Coot.

Naturthon Update - May 12th

Ruth Crawford, Naturthon Chair

The day for our 2001 Naturthon - May 12th is fast approaching. Are you ready to spend a fun, game-like day counting species of birds, butterflies, and wildflowers and at the same time helping our BAS chapter? Then form your own NATURTHON field team. Any member or friend of the chapter can organize a field team by simply giving your team a special name for identifying purposes, or keep your team name from last year. Then start collecting pledges of so many dollars per wildlife species or a flat fee contribution from individuals, organizations, and businesses. Actually now is the time to organize your team and start collecting those pledges. Note that you do NOT have to be an expert ornithologist, entomologist, or botanist to organize and lead a field team. The whole idea is to have fun on your own or with friends identifying wildlife. And you do NOT have to count all three wildlife categories (birds, butterflies, and wildflowers) although it is more fun and enjoyable if you do. So
pick your favorite natural spot and start counting! Spend as much or as little time on May 13th as you can to help our cause. You may pick up your information packets which include pledge and receipt forms, and bird, wildflower, and butterfly lists at our April membership meeting or by calling Ruth Crawford at 724-794-5688 and requesting one be mailed to you.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JIM MCDOWELL

All of us at the Bartramian Audubon Society were deeply saddened to learn of the sudden and untimely death of Jim McDowell on Feb 23, 2001. Jim, a graduate of the University of Rochester, had been a Navy officer and retired as a systems manager at Dunn & Bradstreet in New York before returning to Butler. He was a worldwide traveler and amateur photographer. He loved the theater and opera and was an active participant in the arts. He also supported children’s causes. He was a strong conservationist and loved birds, and was an enthusiastic member of the Bartramian Audubon Society. He had served on the BAS Board as Recording Secretary and Sanctuary Chairperson where his quick wit and smile, thoughtful advice, and “blathering” as he put it, were greatly appreciated. He was genuine and good hearted, and made all that knew him feel good about their friendship. He will be deeply missed. Our heartfelt condolences are sent to his sisters Helen M. Phillips of Butler and Ann M. Oesterling of Slippery Rock and brother-in-law, Don Oesterling, all participants in our BAS Bird and Butterfly and Wildlife Sanctuary programs.

Join the 3rd Spring Birding Festival

Everyone interested in wild birds and natural history is cordially invited to participate in the Third Spring Birding Festival of Western Pennsylvania at McKeever Environmental Learning Center, Sandy Lake, Friday 4 May to Sunday 6 May 2001. This year’s theme is DIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA BIRD LIFE. Three northwestern Pennsylvania Audubon chapters (Bartramian, Presque Isle and Seneca Rocks) and the McKeever Center have joined together to make this weekend a fun and learning event, by introducing participants to northwestern Pennsylvania’s eco-region of wild and wonderful forests, grasslands, wetlands and their bird life. Each registrant has the option of choosing two field trip destinations on Saturday with an expert birding guide or taking a more in-depth field experience to three destinations Saturday and Sunday morning, culminating at beautiful Erie National Wildlife Refuge.

The festival is primarily geared to beginning and intermediate birders (up to five years of field experience) and teachers who want to identify wild birds by using a six-key field identification system. However, all birders (beginners, amateurs and advanced) are welcome but teachers are especially encouraged to participate in the festival since it is Act 48 approved for up to 15.5 contact hours credit. All participants are required to be present Friday evening for a Preview of Events, a Bird Identification Session and to hear special guests Mary Jane and Robert Angelo, owners and operators of Sky’s Spirit Wildlife Rehabilitation Center near Harrisville, Pennsylvania, speak on “Rehabilitation of Local Wildlife.” The Angelos are bringing some of their live birds that night, so you won’t want to miss this exciting session. Saturday evening, Steve Hoffman, Director of Bird Conservation, Pennsylvania Office, National Audubon Society, is presenting a session titled “The Important Bird Area Program in Pennsylvania.” Please note that festival spaces are limited to guarantee a positive, personal field experience and are filled on a first-registered, first-served basis only. Thus, it is not too early to register now. For complete information, registration and brochure, please call 724-376-1000 or e-mail info@mckeever.org promptly. Join the fun, camaraderie of other birders and learn about our feathered friends at the beginning of lovely spring in northwestern Pennsylvania.

The Return of the Upland Sandpipers

As we approach the middle of April, we eagerly await the return of the Uplands from their wintering grounds in South America back to their nesting sites in our locale. Our chapter’s namesake, the Upland Sandpiper, Bartramia longicauda, has experienced a dramatic population decline and is now on the threatened list of the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Indeed we have lost the pairs that used to occupy the Slippery Rock Campus and the ones at the Butler-Venango county line are even now being threatened by development. Lucky are those who hear their call and witness their short stay with us.

North American Migration Count – May 12th

The North American Migration Count (NAMC) is fast approaching. As most of you know, this is the day set aside to count the returning Neotropical migrants as part of a nationwide campaign to track population trends, with emphasis on migrating species. This year, Saturday, 12 May 2001 is the official date. Last year, the count in Pennsylvania was an enormous success, with 862 observers in 47 counties tallying 233 species. Pennsylvania was one of the best represented states in the country. For those of you who want to also participate in the North American Migration Count as well as the Naturthon, instructions will be included with the Naturthon Packets.
Audubon Adventures Teachers

Helen Ferguson, education chair

Notice to Audubon Adventures teachers and any teacher of grades 4-6. If you want to be considered for "Audubon Adventures" for the school year 2001-2002, please complete this form and return to Helen R. Ferguson. 100 Balboa Court, Butler PA 16001.

Audubon Adventures 2001-2002

Name

School and Address

Grade No of Students

A gift from the Bartramian Audubon Society

Membership Reminder

Sande Swansiger, Membership Chair

National Audubon Society

Membership Application

Please enroll me as a new member in National Audubon - includes membership in the National Audubon Society and Audubon magazine and the local Bartramian Audubon and the local chapter newsletter, the Upland Informer, but excludes the BAS sanctuary program.

Current introductory memberships offer $20.00
Student/Senior (62 and above) membership $15.00

Name

Address

City State Zip

Please send this form with payment to

National Audubon Society
Membership Data Center
PO Box 52529
Boulder CO 80322-2529

Renewing members should use the coupon mailed to them by NAS
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Upland Informer

Volume 19 Issue 6 Official Newsletter of the Bartramian Audubon Society May-summer 01

Editor: S. R. Butcher

August BAS Board Meeting

Suzanne Butcher, pres.

There will be a special BAS board meeting in late August. Board members will be individually notified of the time and place.

September BAS Membership Meeting

Ann Craig, program chair

September 10-Monday- Come and join us for our first meeting of the 2001-02 season. Dick Craig will present a program featuring the "International Crane Center located in Baraboo Wisconsin".

Our meetings are held at the United Methodist Church in Slippery Rock, PA on the second Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Refreshments are served. Program listing will be in the September Upland Informer. Scheduled field trips will also be announced.

Awards Nights - May 14th

An Evening of Recognitions and Remembrances

The annual Award’s Night of the Bartramian Audubon Society was held during the May 14th monthly membership meeting. The evening was a time for recognitions and remembrances remembering Mike Starker, co-founder of the Bartramian Audubon Society and recognizing Robert Baldesberger, recipient of the Mike Alan Starker academic scholarship to Slippery Rock University. Long time Bartramian Audubon Society members Betty Starr, Robert Love, and Shirley McCarl were recognized for their many years of participation in the society and the many services they provided the organization. This years scholarship winners to Ecology camp - Suzanne Fodor and Rebecca Martin to the camp in Maine, and Jim and Susan Lummley to the camp in Minnesota were also recognized. Jim McDowell was remembered by his sister Anne Oesterling as a part of the recognition and presentation of the sanctuary signs to new sanctuary members. Anne Griffiths and Pat Zimmerman, Suzanne Butcher, and Melanie Petridis. It was an evening of sadness and joy, and a time for reflection on the continuity of the organization and a look at a bright tomorrow.

In Remembrance of Mike Alan Starker

The Bartramian Audubon Society was founded in 1982 and Mike Alan Starker was instrumental in the beginnings of the new society. All of us at BAS were saddened to hear of his untimely death. Doug Hoskins, first president and also a co-founder of BAS wrote the following about Mike in the April 1983 Upland Informer.

Some remember Mike Starker as a co-founder of the Bartramian Audubon Society and to some he was also known as the "Birdman of Slippery Rock". In the spring of 1983 Mike was one of three members of the Audubon Ark, a mobile educational project funded by the National Audubon Society and Cenlaene Corporation touring the country to inform the public about endangered species. Their job was to set up and maintain an exhibit in shopping malls to meet the public one on one, to visit elementary schools to inform the future stewards of the natural resources they will be responsible for in the years to come, and as "Audubon Action" to appear on radio, television, and newspaper in every city they touched. In the midst of the hectic schedule of covering parts of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi, Mike didn't miss the opportunity to visit many National Audubon Society and National Wildlife Refuges. Here Mike had the chance to see birds unique to the region and to tally 155 species including 45 species. But Mike's most long lasting impression of his tour was the "importance of Americans from all walks of life to understand the complexity and interdependence of all living things. Not only are humans but wildlife also are a part of the web of life. Let us make sure that no strand disappears. Let us preserve the web not only for ourselves but for all living things who share our planet with us."

After graduation with a major in environmental studies from Slippery Rock, Mike's interest in birding and hiking continued. Mike was most recently a survey supervisor for the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Last September he began a weeks vacation and was planning on visiting family in Connecticut but never arrived. His Chevy blazer was found near the Appalachian Trail at the entrance of SGL 211. An intensive search began but his body was not located until November 30 when it was discovered by a deer hunter. Death was ruled a complication of diabetes. Mike is survived by his parents, Samuel Starker of Media, Pennsylvania, and Nancie Starker of Connecticut, and two sisters.
In Recognition of Robert C. Baldesberger-recipient of the Mike Alan Starker Scholarship.

In Mike’s honor and memory, the Bartramian Audubon Society elected to award a scholarship to an upper-class student majoring in environmental studies with high academic standing at Slippery Rock University. The faculty of the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies used these criteria to select a deserving student. We were happy to announce that the winner is Robert C. Baldesberger of New Castle. Robert has just completed his junior year and is majoring in environmental studies. He has earned Dean’s List Honors and maintains an excellent GRA. Bob has established a bird banding station near his home in New Castle. The scholarship was presented to Robert C. Baldesberger by Dr. James Hathaway-Professor and Chair of the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies and by Mr. Ed Bucha — Executive Director for University Advancement. Our congratulations to Robert!

In Recognition of Robert Love

......Mark Swansiger

Bob Love became a member of BAS in 1983, the year after it’s inception, a recruit of Gene Wilhelm. Bob served as treasurer from 1994 to 2000 and also served as program chair previous to that. Bob grew up in Cleveland and first started birding in high school at the age of 15 as the result of the birding field trips his biology teacher conducted for extra credit. He served in the Army from 1946 to 1947 and was stationed in Louisiana, Washington, D.C. and Fort Knox Kentucky, although he says he never got to see the gold there. One of his first jobs was as a reporter for the Cleveland jail, but he claims he really wasn’t cut out for that line of work. He took an interest in library studies and attended classes at Case Western Reserve University and worked at the Cleveland Public Library. Bob then moved to Pittsburgh where he attended Carnegie Mellon and worked in the Pittsburgh public library system. In 1964 Bob was hired as a librarian at Slippery Rock University where he helped automate the system and also assisted in changing the library over from the Dewey decimal system to the Library of Congress system. He retired in 1993. Bob says his favorite birds are the Scarlet Tanager and the Blue-winged Warbler. One of our most successful and enjoyable field trips has been the one Bob leads at Wolf Creek in Slippery Rock. He and his wife Jean now live in Zelienople, and are busy trying to sell their house on Cooper St. in Slippery Rock. Congratulations to Bob! The award was accepted on Bob’s behalf by Mark Swansiger.

In Recognition of Betty Starr

......Helen Ferguson

Betty Starr was born in Uniontown, PA and lived in Dawson, PA until 1952 when she moved to Butler after marrying Clyde Whipskey. They had two sons- Clyde and David. Her first husband died in 1961 and in 1964 she married Bill Starr. Bill died in 1982 and son Clyde died in 1992. Betty graduated high school in 1929 and then attended Indiana University and Duffs Business School. She has worked as a bank teller, a secretary for the WPA, the Butler Police District, and as a teacher’s aide in the Butler Public Schools.

A minister’s wife first introduced Betty to birding when she was a teenager. She was shown the nest of an ovenbird and to this day it has been the only one she has ever seen. Betty is very active in all our BAS activities and has participated in many field trips and 25 CBC’s. She loves to read, do volunteer work at the hospital and her church, and travel. She is a very friendly person and loves to make new friends. She also loves to learn new things and is an avid crossword puzzle worker. When our Nature Club in Butler would go on and outing, she would want to see a Pileated Woodpecker while I would want to see a Wood Duck. It never failed that when I was not there, the group would see the Wood Duck, and in Betty’s absence, we would see a Pileated Woodpecker. I would like to dedicate this poem to Betty - it is from the book The Birds Talk to God by June Lazzon.

Woodpecker

Why couldn’t you have given me a noiseless bill, Lord? I hear people say “Listen to that noisy bird. I wish he’d stop that tapping.” Don’t people know I have to eat to keep alive? I wish I could inform then I am doing a service by eating their tree bores. How could I make my nest in the trees without the boring? If you can think of another way, I’m open to suggestion, I have no musical voice, Bit I can roll A jubilant tremolo In the mating season.

In Recognition and Remembrance of Shirley McCarl

......Suzanne Butcher and Ruth Crawford

I do not remember a time during my years of birding with the Bartramian Audubon Society that I did not know Shirley McCarl. She was such a visible part at all its functions and activities.

Shirley was born in Greenville, PA December 20, 1923, but soon moved with her family to Sandy Lake, PA. She married her husband Jim when she was in her early twenties and they resided in Grove City. She became an Licensed Practical Nurse and worked at the former Bashline Hospital in Grove City before working at Polk Center for many years. She had always been an outdoors person, spending time in her youth with her brothers along the Sandy Creek, fishing or hunting and always watching the birds. She had many hobbies and interests from gardening, collecting coins, stamps and patches, crocheting,
knitting, cooking, and reading. She was famous for the sweet pickles she canned and served with cheese dip on many a BAS outing. She also liked to make walnut fudge and took delight in crushing the thick walnut hulls by driving her car over them in her driveway. She was also known for her dandelion wine that made it way to our June picnics. While out birding she would check all the license plates she saw as each year she would keep a list hoping she would see ones from all 50 states—said that year lists were only for the birds? Shirley loved both dogs and cats and had a fondness for Cocker Spaniels named ‘Sade’ and for an ‘old cat’ who was just simply known by that name. More recently, Vanilla came to live with her. Shirley was formally introduced to birding by her friend Lorraine Weiland and became a BAS member in the early 1980’s. She served the BAS in many capacities— as Recording Secretary where she was known for her beautiful handwriting, Field Trip chair, CBC compiler, and most recently as Hospitality Chair. Recently she reminisced with me on her birding trips to Chincoteague and Point Pelee and while always enjoying being out birding she remembered that seeing the White Ibis close to Grove City and finding a Worm-eating Warbler were the two memorable highlights of her birding experiences. We last went birding together on April 23rd to SGL 130. I had wanted to take some pictures of the Trailing Arbutus she had found growing there last spring, and she located it for me again this year. She was excited and happy to see a Ruffed Grouse strutting on the road in front of us, and we stopped to take its picture. I think it was poetic that the last bird she truly enjoyed seeing was the state bird of Pennsylvania. She was always proud that she knew the state birds of all the states and she treasured the sheet of stamps that showed them along with the state flowers. Ruth presented the award to Shirley on Award’s Night, May 14th, and accepted it on her behalf. Ruth gave it to her on Tuesday, May 15th. Shirley died two days later on May 17th at her home in Grove City after fighting a valiant battle with cancer. She will be deeply missed.

In Remembrance of Jim McDowell

Anne Oesterling, sister of Jim McDowell, addressed the group with fond memories of Jim, stressing how enthusiastic he was about being a member of the Bartramian Audubon. She told us what a fine nature photographer Jim was, and displayed several of his beautiful photos for us to enjoy. Jim was Corresponding Secretary and Sanctuary Chair when he became ill, and so on Jim’s behalf, Anne and Helen Phillips, Jim’s two sisters, presented the sanctuary signs to this year’s new members of the sanctuary programs. Anne also thanked those who contributed to the Sanctuary Program of the BAS in Jim’s memory.

In Recognition of New BAS Sanctuary Members

Anne Oesterling and Helen Phillips

New BAS Wildlife Sanctuaries
Anne Griffiths and Pat Zimmerman, Slippery Rock, Butler County, PA - 21.5 acres.

Suzanne A. Ralston Butler, Slippery Rock, Butler County, PA - 80 acres.

Anne Griffiths and Pat Zimmerman have joined the BAS Wildlife Sanctuary Program with their property in Slippery Rock Township in Butler County. The property consists of 21.5 acres showing a rich biodiversity along beautiful Wolf Creek. Suzanne Butcher has added her property also in Slippery Rock Township to the program. This 80 acre property along Ralston Rd. also shows a wide biodiversity and has recently been naturally transformed with the arrival of a beaver pond.

New BAS Bird And Butterfly Sanctuaries
Anne Griffiths and Pat Zimmerman, Slippery Rock, Butler County, 21.5 acres.

Melanie Petridis and family, Slippery Rock, Butler County, 5 acres.

Anne Griffiths and Pat Zimmerman have also created a Bird and Butterfly Sanctuary on their property so are participants in both of the BAS sanctuary programs. Melanie Petridis and her family have dedicated their 5 acre property as bird and butterfly friendly.

Any property owner in Butler, Lawrence, Mercer and Venango Counties who is interested in learning more about the programs should contact Sanctuary Chair Gene Wilhelm of the Bartramian Audubon Society, PO Box 315, Slippery Rock, PA.

In Recognition of the BAS Ecology Camp Scholarship winners
Helen Ferguson and Gene Wilhelm

This year with the support of Giant Eagle, Inc. of Pittsburgh who is providing the monies for 2 of the scholarships, the BAS was able to offer 4 ecology camp scholarships. Going to the Audubon Center in the North Woods in Sandstone, Minnesota are first time attendees, Jim and Susan Lumley. Going as advanced winners, having already participated in one camp experience are Suzanne Fodor and Rebecca Martin. They will be attending the Maine Audubon Camp at Hog Island. The recipients of the scholarships were introduced for recognition at the meeting by Helen Ferguson and Gene Wilhelm.
Officers Elected for 2001-2

...Suzanne Butcher, Pres.
The slate of officers elected at the May membership meeting were 1st Vice-President- Sandee Swansiger, 2nd Vice-President- Melanie Petridis, Treasurer- Gene Butcher, Recording Secretary- Mark Swansiger, Corresponding Secretary- Sharon Suszynski. Chair Positions on the BAS Board are still open and anyone who is interested should contact Suzanne Butcher at sarbie@msn.com or call 330-759-1945.

Membership Reminder

...Sandee Swansiger, Membership Chair

National Audubon Society
Membership Application
Please enroll me as a new member in National Audubon- includes membership in the National Audubon Society and Audubon magazine and the local Bartramian Audubon and the local chapter newsletter, the Upland Informed, but excludes the BAS sanctuary program.

Current introductory memberships offer-- $20.00
Student/Senior (62 and above) membership-- $15.00

Name

Address

City  State  Zip

Please send this form with payment to

National Audubon Society
Membership Data Center
PO Box 52529
Boulder CO 80322-2529

Renewing members should use the coupon mailed to them by NAS

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