Upcoming BAS Membership Meetings

Our membership meetings are held the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Jennings Environmental Education Center, 2961 Prospect Road, Slippery Rock, PA. The Education Center is located on Rt. 528 just west of its junction with Rt. 8- about five miles south of Slippery Rock. The meetings are free and open to the public.

October 14, 2013-Monday-As the Crow Flies
For centuries folklore has often portrayed the crow as an omen of bad tidings. Only recently, however, scientists have discovered there are many traits shared by both humans and crows. Join Jennings staff for this 90 minute indoor presentation that will explore the fascinating yet often misunderstood life of the common crow. Being social birds, crows mate for life, live in family units, and mourn the deaths of fellow crows. Modern science has proven that crows are able to think, plan and reconsider their actions. These intelligent animals use tools to access food, recognize individual humans, even years after an encounter, and mimic noises of other animals including human voices. Truly exceptional animals, crows are some of the smartest birds on earth.

November 11, 2013-Monday-Down the Shore -Winter Birdlife in Coastal New Jersey
When New Jerseyans head to the Atlantic Ocean beaches to swim, sunbathe, and walk on the boardwalk, they say they are going “down the shore.” When winter comes, the summertime throngs are replaced by cold winds and solitude. But the beach is not abandoned-the nature lover who ventures “down the shore” in this season finds it given over to Harlequin Ducks, Purple Sandpipers, Snowy Owls, and other avian visitors. BAS vice president Jeff Hall, who has made over 100 presentations over the last twenty years, will share this digital program.

December 9, 2013-Monday-Bartramian Audubon Society's Annual Holiday Potluck and Hog Island Presentation
Come enjoy good food and good company while hearing about Shayne Garcia-Bish’s trip to Audubon Camp at Hog Island, Maine. Bring a dish to share and your holiday spirit.

Upcoming Field Trips/Activities

Learn about your BAS wildlife sanctuaries this fall, explore their dynamic natural habitats, and discover their rich vegetation and wildlife with a knowledgeable guide.

October 5, 2013-Saturday-West Park
New Castle, PA across from the local airport. Highlight: Wetland, forest, and field habitats present diversified wild plants and birds.

November 9, 2013-Saturday-Old Stone House Forest
At the junction of Routes 8-173-258. Highlight: Explore an old deciduous forest and learn about a stream reclamation process.

December 21, 2013-Saturday-Annual Christmas Bird Count centered at Lake Arthur
This count is a part of the Butler Christmas Bird Count. Highlight: All birders, from neophyte to expert, are welcome to try breaking the 2012 record of avian species. Spend at least two hours with birding experts for an unforgettable experience of a lifetime.

The above trips start at 8:30 A.M., dress for the weather, and bring enthusiasm. Contact Gene Wilhelm at genewilhelm@aol.com or phone 724-794-2434 for directions and other details. Bring family and friends and get immersed in birds.

December 21, 2013-Saturday-Butler CBC
The center of the fifteen mile diameter of the count circle is located approximately 1.5 miles east of the junction of Lindy 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 Suzanne Butcher at 330-759-1945 (leave messages) or sarbird@hotmail.com.

BAS and Jennings will have a feeder watching station for the Butler CBC at Jennings Environmental Center from 10:00 A.M. until 12:00 Noon. Anyone who is interested is welcome to attend this free, informal birding session.
Participants in these events (please talk to the machine), or pabirder@verizon.net are interested in helping, contact Russ States at 814-676-6320 (please talk to the machine), or pabirder@verizon.net.

December 29, 2013-Sunday-Pleasantville CBC
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 area easy to get to 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, call and ask. This is a more northern count than the Butler count, so expect some more northern species. If you are interested in helping, contact Russ States at 814-676-6320 (please talk to the machine), or pabirder@verizon.net.

February 2014 GBBC
Jennings will offer two events during the Great Backyard Bird Count. In its 17th year, the GBBC is hosted by the National Audubon Society and Cornell Lab of Ornithology in partnership with Bird Studies Canada (http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/). Participants in these events will learn from Jennings’ staff the basics of bird identification, observe and count birds at the feeders, and be introduced to the use of the GBBC website for submitting data and obtaining information. They will be encouraged to use their new skills to observe birds and submit their own data at home. Representatives of the Bartramian Audubon Society will be on hand to provide assistance.

February 14, 2014-Friday
A program for homeschooling families will feature hands-on discovery centers and allow parents and their children to work together to learn about, observe, and count birds for the GBBC. The program is designed for ages 5 and older, with a registration fee and limited enrollment.

February 15, 2014-Saturday
A workshop and observation session will be offered for any individuals, ages 12 and older, who share an interest in birds. This event is particularly recommended for teachers and youth leaders who want to involve their students in citizen science projects. Pre-registration will be required. Additional details and registration for these events will be available later through DCNR’s Calendar of Events at http://www.apps.dcnr.state.pa.us/Calendar/list.asp. For more information call 724-794-6011 or e-mail jenningssp@pa.gov.

Activities in Review

July 6, 2013-11th BAS Sponsored NABA 4th of July Butterfly Count …..Suzanne Butcher, Compiler
Known as the Sandy Creek Count listed in Region 18, this count circle includes the Troyer gardens in Mercer County on one side, SGL 130 in the middle range, and the Polk Wetlands in Venango County on the opposite side. Past participants who joined us again this year included Nancy Baker, Gene Butcher, Suzanne Butcher (compiler), Curt Lehman, Bob and Dianne Machesney, and Neil Troyer with his young sons Samuel and Harvey Troyer. New participants included Todd Eiben and his son Sam Eiben, both experienced butterfly counters from the Cleveland, Ohio area. We began the day with overcast skies and a temperature of 72 degrees, but by noon the sun was intermittently shining between scattered clouds providing an afternoon high of 84 degrees. We began as usual on Triple Link Road abandoned RR bed of SGL 130 along Sandy Creek at 9 A.M. and stayed there until about noon. At first it was overcast and only a few butterflies were on the wing. However, by noon as the sun appeared, a nice variety had been found, including 2 Coral Hairstreaks, 1 Striped Hairstreak, and a high count of 4 Harvesters. Although milkweed and other flowers were in bloom, notably absent were Monarchs and indeed only one Monarch was seen on the entire count, reflecting the effects of last summer’s drought and the low overwintering numbers in Mexico. The walk along the abandoned railroad bed provided additional excitement when Nancy and I encountered a bear on our way back to the parking lot. We ended our stay here with a total of 34 species. The group then drove to the Polk Wetlands of SGL 39. One of the target species, the Baltimore Checkerspot, was easily found in new high numbers but another target species, the Bronze Copper, was not found. On the plus side, a Broad-winged Skipper was netted by Sam, providing a new Venango County record and bringing our day’s total of this sought after skipper to 4. Todd documented another Venango County record, a Common Sootywing. Heading back we drove Reed Furnace Rd. and Todd found a Gray Hairstreak which provided a new hairstreak for our count. A few additional butterflies were added at our customary stop at the Jackson Center Dairy Queen. We ended the day with a new count high of 45 species totaling 673 individuals and including 1 new count species, 2 new Venango County additions, and several high count totals H.

Species: Black Swallowtail (10), Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (29), Spicebush Swallowtail (3), Cabbage White (37), Clouded Sulphur (80 H), Orange Sulphur (34), Harvester (4 H), Coral Hairstreak (2), Banded Hairstreak (2), Striped Hairstreak (1), Gray Hairstreak (1 new for count), Eastern Tailed Blue (64 H), Summer Azure (15), Great Spangled Fritillary (64), Aphrodite Fritillary (3), Meadow Fritillary (37), Pearl Crescent (37), Baltimore Checkerspot (43 H), Question Mark (1), Eastern Comma (2), Gray Comma (1), Mourning Cloak (7), American Lady (1), Red Admiral (2), Common Buckeye (1), Red-spotted Purple (6), Viceroy (1), Northern Pearly-eye (1), Eyed Brown (6 H), Appalachian Brown (10 H), Little Wood Satyr (1), Common Wood Nymph (38), Monarch (1), Silver-spotted Skipper (22), Wild Indigo Duskywing (21), Common Sootywing (1 new for Venango County), Least Skipper (4), European Skipper (9), Peck’s Skipper (1), Northern Broken Dash (7), Little Glassywing (24), Hobomok Skipper (2), Broad-winged Skipper (4 one new for Venango County), Black Dash (4), Dun Skipper (29).

Totals: 45 Species (new high count), 673 individuals.

Special thanks have to be given to Curt Lehman and Bob and Dianne Machesney who have faithfully made the trip from the Pittsburgh area to provide their expertise for several years now and to Todd and Sam Eiben, Ohio experts who journeyed from the Cleveland area to add their knowledge. And of course I have to thank Nancy Baker and the Troyers for their continued loyalty and my husband Gene who celebrated his birthday by participating in the count.
**July 20, 2013 “Celebrate The Bloom”**

Bartramian Audubon Society was an active participant in the “Celebrate the Bloom” festival at Jennings Environmental Center. We were proud to be one of the sponsors of the event, the first of what promises to be an annual occurrence. Dr. Gene Wilhelm of our Board led a bird walk through the unique prairie habitat at Jennings. Kathie Goodblood and Jeffrey Hall, president and vice president of BAS, staffed an exhibit table and had many conversations with Festival-goers about the numerous activities of our chapter. “Celebrate the Bloom” is scheduled to take place on the third Saturday of July, so look for us there again next year!

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**Odds and Ends**

**Audubon Adventures Available to Teachers**

During the 2013-2014 school year Bartramian Audubon again will sponsor and fund, on a first-come, first-served basis, a limited number of *Audubon Adventures* classroom kits for individual classes in grades 3-5 in schools in Butler, Lawrence, Mercer and Venango Counties. Each kit contains four sets of 32 student magazine issues, plus lesson plans and teacher resource materials designed to help bring the natural world into the classroom and to connect kids to the environment. A one year National Audubon Society membership for the teacher is included. The kits can be used across the curriculum and are correlated to national language arts and science standards. This year’s theme is “Sharing Our World with Birds!” Unit titles include: “Raptors: The Birds of Prey;” “Hooray for Hummingbirds;” “Seabirds: Feathered Ocean Travelers;” and “Caring for Our Planet: Kids are Taking Action!” Learn more about *Audubon Adventures* at [http://education.audubon.org/audubon-adventures](http://education.audubon.org/audubon-adventures). Then contact Becky Lubold, the chapter’s Education Chair, at 814-330-2550 or watersinger2@yahoo.com to arrange to receive classroom kits.

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR RESPONSE TO OUR 2012 LETTER OF APPEAL**

I would like to thank the Bartramian Audubon Society’s members and friends who so generously gave during our annual appeal. It takes many volunteer hours and funds to help BAS provide the scholarships and services we provide to the community. Without your help we would not exist.

Kathie Goodblood, President
Paper-Free Newsletter

The Upland Informer is now available online. It can be viewed at our website www.bartramianaudubon.org by clicking on the newsletter link and then clicking on the issue you wish to view. The newsletter is in the PDF format, so you must have a PDF program on your computer. Read only programs are available free at Adobe.com and other sites. Bartramian Audubon Society would like to encourage its members to begin to receive the Upland Informer online. As each newsletter is published, members who have elected to do this will receive an email informing them that the next issue is now available online, and they can then view it at their leisure. For the Bartramian Audubon Society, this will mean a savings both in paper costs and postage costs. For our environment it will mean less paper and less fuel usage in delivery.
To enroll in this program, please email our Membership Chair, Russ States at pabirder@verizon.net.

Membership Reminder

......Russ States, Membership Chair

We welcome the many of you who have recently joined Bartramian Audubon Society.
As a reminder, the expiration date of your membership with the BAS should be on your address label. Please renew in a timely fashion as to not miss future newsletters. If you have any questions about your membership status, feel free to contact the membership chair, Russ States - pabirder@verizon.net.

B&B and Wildlife Sanctuary renewals are handled by the sanctuary chair in June each year. The $15.00 or more per sanctuary checks should be made payable to BAS but mailed to Becky Sheeler, 125 Crolls Mill Road, Slippery Rock, PA 16057-4611.

Bartramian Audubon Society
Associate and Newsletter Application

Please check below

______$15.00 BAS associate fee- includes newsletter
______$5.00 newsletter only

Please send this form along with your name, address, and e-mail with payment to the:
Bartramian Audubon Society
PO Box 315
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

National Audubon Society
Membership Application

Please enroll me as a NEW member in the National Audubon Society. This membership will include membership in the National Audubon Society and Audubon magazine and the local Bartramian Audubon Society and the local chapter newsletter, the Upland Informer, but excludes the BAS Sanctuary Program.

Current introductory membership 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 422250
Palm Coast, FL32142-2250

Renewing members should use the coupon mailed to them by NAS

COZU180Z
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Upcoming BAS Membership Meetings

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March 10, 2014-Monday-Tanzania Adventure
Becky Sheeler will present a photo safari of her trip to Tanzania.

April 14, 2014-Monday-Wild About Art
Sheree Daugherty’s program will cover the painting process from start to finish: beginning with inspiration, explaining materials and technique all the way to the completed artwork. Sheree will take you to some of her favorite birding spots and discuss how these experiences spark the creative process. Through her acrylic paintings, she hopes to share her love of nature and hopefully inspire others.

May 12, 2014-Monday-Annual Awards Night
The Bartramian Audubon Society will be honoring our new Bird and Butterfly and Wildlife Sanctuary owners. We will also be awarding scholarships to two local college students and present a Hog Island scholarship to a local educator. Join us for an evening of recognition and refreshments.

Upcoming Field Trips/Activities

February 2014 GBBC
Jennings will offer two events during the Great Backyard Bird Count. In its 17th year, the GBBC is hosted by the National Audubon Society, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and Bird Studies Canada (http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/). Participants in these events will learn from Jennings’ staff the basics of bird identification, observe and count birds at the feeders, and be introduced to the use of the GBBC website for submitting data and obtaining information. They will be encouraged to use their new skills to observe birds and submit their own data at home. Representatives of the Bartramian Audubon Society will be on hand to provide assistance.

February 14, 2014-Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon
A program for homeschooling families will feature hands-on discovery centers and allow parents and their children to work together to learn about, observe, and count birds for the GBBC. The program is designed for ages 5 and older, with a registration fee and limited enrollment.

February 15, 2014-Saturday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
A workshop and observation session will be offered for any individuals, ages 12 and older, who share an interest in birds. This event is particularly recommended for teachers and youth leaders who want to involve their students in citizen science projects. Pre-registration will be required. Additional details and registration for these events will be available later through DCNR’s Calendar of Events at http://www.apps.dcnr.state.pa.us/Calendar/list.asp. For more information call 724-794-6011 or e-mail jenningssp@pa.gov.

May 3, 2014-Saturday-Bird Walk at Buttermilk Hill Nature Sanctuary
Join us at 8:00 a.m. to look for early spring migrants in Venango County. Contact Kathie at larkwren@hotmail.com or 814-432-4496 for directions. Beginners are welcome. Dress in layers and wear sturdy shoes.

May 10, 2014-Saturday-PAMC
The 23rd Pennsylvania Annual Migration Count (PAMC) is similar to the Christmas Bird Count except it is done on a county basis, rather than a 15-mile diameter circle. Participants go out and identify all of the birds they can find on that day. For more information, visit www.pabirds.org/PAMC.

June 22, 2014-Sunday-BAS Annual Picnic
This year’s annual picnic will be held at one of our largest and long time wildlife sanctuaries, Buttermilk Hill Nature Sanctuary. Arrive at 4:00 p.m. for some bird and butterfly watching or a quick tour of the organic garden. We plan on grilling the hot dogs at 5:30 p.m. Bring a dish to share, your place setting, and a folding chair. We provide the hot dogs and drinks. For directions go to our website or contact Kathie at larkwren@hotmail.com or 814-432-4496.

Activities in Review

December 9, 2013-BAS Holiday Potluck
Hog Island Scholarship winner Shayne Garcia-Bish entertained us at our annual December potluck. Her lively presentation even included a sing-a-long! A good time was had by all. Thank you, Shayne.
December 21, 2013 Butler CBC

What a difference a year makes. After last year’s amazing count with both the high numbers and diversity of species of birds, this year’s totals were well – underwhelming. In fact, the number of species was the lowest since the Bartramian Audubon Society took over the sponsorship of the count in the early 1980’s. In spite of temperatures ranging between 50-57° on count day, the severe cold weather preceding the count led to Lake Arthur being essentially 100% frozen. The total of 50 species was more in line to when the Butler Nature Club first sponsored the count and this makes sense as back then prior to 1970, Lake Arthur was not in existence and thus this year’s lack of water birds dropped our count back to the pre-lake days. In addition, there was no significant southward movement of irruptive species as seen last year, and the expected winter and local birds were hard to come by in the constant rain. The one major irruptive species of this winter, the Snowy Owl, was diligently searched for but even though one had been seen within the count circle prior to the count, none was located on count day. However, it was nice to see that once again northern Robins are spending the winter with us.

The Birds:

December 29, 2013 48th Pleasantville CBC

Great Blue Heron – 3
Canada Goose – 237
Am. Black Duck – 19
Mallard – 39

Ring-necked Duck - 3

Bufflehead – 1

Common Merganser – 83

Bald Eagle – 13
Red-tailed Hawk – 8

Ruffed Grouse – 1

Wild Turkey – 37
Rock Pigeon – 86
Mourning Dove – 77
E. Screech Owl – 10
Great Horned Owl – 2

Am. Crow - 45
Common Raven – 3
Black-Capped Chickadee - 259
Tufted Titmouse – 569
Red-breasted Nuthatch - 2
White-breasted Nuthatch – 72
Brown Creeper – 3
Golden-crowned Kinglet – 31
Hermit Thrush - 1
Am. Robin - 20
N. Mockingbird - 1
Brown Thrasher - 1

Eur. Starling – 221
Am. Tree Sparrow – 39

The Observers:
26 in 10 field parties totaling 16.0 hours and 14 miles on foot and 45.5 hours and 385 miles by car plus 3.5 hours and 16 miles owling; 34 watchers at feeders for 71 hours.
Total Party Hours: 61.5 and Total Party Miles: 399

We are most grateful to the those dedicated volunteers who faithfully reserve the date, year after year, to offer their services in a most cooperative way to cover the circle and make the count a resounding success. Thanks to each and every one but special recognition goes to our long time volunteers with twenty plus years- Ruth Crawford, Helen Ferguson, Gene and Joanne Wilhelm, and Gene and Suzanne Butcher. We also greatly appreciate the help offered by John Stehle and the members of the Butler Outdoor Club (BOC) and Becky Lubold, and her watchers at Jennings Environmental Education Center (JEEC) including this year Mary Karavias with 8 Daisy Scouts, Grades K-1 and their accompanying adults, and Cathy Setzer and workers of the Birdwatchers Store (BWS). We also extend a hearty welcome to all the new participants and especially the youth participants- the Daisy Scouts and Zane Scott. Thanks also is to be given to Joanne Wilhelm for her financial support.

The Counters -60- with their years( ) of participation:
Betty Antal (4), Nancy Baker (12), Beverly Barnett (6), Rick Beck (1-BOC), Steve Bickel (8-BOC), Grace Bickert (2), Larry and Marcia Brown (4), Gene (20) and Suzanne (29) Butcher, Mike Ciccone (1BOC), Bob and Deanna Clouse (3), Ruth Crawford (31), Dave(18) and Debbie(19) Darney, Barbara Davis (15), Barb Dean (18), Helen Ferguson (38-JEEC), Stephanie Hamilla (1-JEEC), Margaret and Roger Higbee (9), Robert Jamison (8) and Sally(14) Jamison, Debbie Kalbfleisch (1), Joanne Kapp (1-JEEC), Mary Karavias (1-JEEC), Nicole Kennedy (1-JEEC), Becky Lubold (3-JEEC with 8 Daisy Scouts grades K-1), Robert Madjaric (11), Dennis Martsolf (2), Lynn Merlino (1-BWS), Richard Nugent (8), John and Rachel Pitzer (1), Nancy Rodgers (1-JEEC), John and Zane Scott (2), Cathy Setzer (7 - BWS), Becky Sheeler(8), Dawn Smith (4-BWS), Mark Smith (2-BOC), John Stehle (13-BOC), Mark (17)and Sandee (16) Swansiger with Charlie and Bernie, Christy Tichy(5), Kim Tindall (1-JEEC), Bob VanNewkirk (5), Linda Wagner (13), Bob Walczak (18), and Gene (33) and Joanne (21) Wilhelm.

The Birds: photo by Jeff Hall
Barred Owl – 2  
N. Saw-whet Owl – 1  
Snowy Owl - 1  
Belted Kingfisher – 6  
Downy Woodpecker – 31  
Hairy Woodpecker – 1  
Pileated Woodpecker – 2  
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 10  
Blue Jay – 133  

Song Sparrow – 3  
White-throated Sparrow – 8  
Dark-eyed Junco – 204  
N. Cardinal – 68  
Common Grackle – 1  
House Finch – 1  
Am. Goldfinch – 96  
House Sparrow – 118  

Total 47 Species  
2064 Individuals  

Bold number indicates High count for that species.  
Bold Species indicates new or unusual species for the count.  
Notable species – Ring-necked Duck, Bufflehead, N. Saw-whet Owl, Snowy Owl, Brown Thrasher  

Highest number ever for: Ring-necked Duck  
2nd highest numbers for: Bald Eagle, Rock Pigeon  
3rd highest numbers for: Common Merganser  
1st time on count for Snowy Owl, Brown Thrasher  

Unusual Species – N. Mockingbird, Common Grackle  

Statistics: 7 species have been seen all 48 years, 8 species have been seen 47 of 48 years, 16 species have only been seen once.  

Dec. 29, 2013: 3:15am to 5:00pm. Temp. 32-37F; Snow cover – up to 4”, Still waters frozen, moving waters open; wind 0-5mph; rain all day.  

Observers: 11 in field in 5 parties, plus 3 casual observers.  
Time/distance: 39.75 total party hours; 313.5 total party miles; including 7 hours & 6 miles on foot and 32.75 hours & 307.5 miles by car. Plus 3.75 hrs and 6 miles owling.  

Compiler: Russ States  
111 East Fourth Street  
Oil City, PA 16301  
pabirder@verizon.net  

Count Circle includes area within 15 mile diameter circle, center 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.  

*** Thanks to all who participated in the count this year.  
Hope to see you again next year***  
russ

Odds and Ends

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Hog Island Audubon Camp for Educators: Each year Bartramian Audubon awards one scholarship for a local teacher to attend the “Sharing Nature: An Educator’s Week” session of Audubon Camp in Maine on Hog Island. Scheduled for July 20-25, 2014, this session aims to inspire and empower both science and non-science teachers who seek practical approaches for integrating environmental education into their classes, and for engaging both children and adults with nature. Those who attend the camp become part of a legacy of Audubon education that began in 1936. Instructed by some of the most respected naturalists and environmental educators in the nation, they participate in interdisciplinary workshops and field trips that teach inquiry-based science in the context of the forest, intertidal and ocean ecosystems of the scenic Maine coast. Participants also find time to share ideas with fellow educators, enjoy the camp’s delicious home cooking and explore the environs of historic Hog Island during this extraordinary learning adventure. Applications for the Hog Island scholarship will be accepted until February 28, 2014. The scholarship application is available on our website www.bartramianaudubon.org or by contacting the BAS Education Chair at 814-330-2550 or watersinger2@yahoo.com.

Snowy Owl  
photo by Jeff Hall
Paper-Free Newsletter
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Bartramian Audubon Society would like to encourage its members to begin to receive the Upland Informer online. As each newsletter is published, members who have elected to do this will receive an email informing them that the next issue is now available online, and they can then view it at their leisure. For the Bartramian Audubon Society, this will mean a savings both in paper costs and postage costs. For our environment it will mean less paper and less fuel usage in delivery.
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Slippery Rock, PA 16057

National Audubon Society
Membership Application
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Current introductory membership 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 422250 Palm Coast, FL32142-2250
Renewing members should use the coupon mailed to them by NAS COZU180Z rev 1/10 7XCH
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September 8, 2014-Monday-Film-The Lost Bird Project
Gone and nearly forgotten in extinction, the Labrador Duck, the Great Auk, the Heath Hen, the Carolina Parakeet, and the Passenger Pigeon leave holes not just in the North American landscape but in our collective memories. Moved by their stories, sculptor Todd McGrain set out to create memorials to the lost birds—to bring their vanished forms back into the world. The Lost Bird Project follows the road-trip that McGrain and his brother-in-law, Andy Stern, take as they search for the locations where the birds were last seen in the wild and negotiate for permission to install McGrain’s large bronze sculptures there.

Upcoming Field Trips/Activities

To Be Announced

Activities in Review

May 12, 2014-Annual Membership Meeting and Awards Night
President Kathie Goodblood conducted a short business meeting before the awards ceremony in which upcoming events were announced and the proposed slate of officers for 2014-2016 was presented to the membership. The slate being, President: Jeffrey Hall, Vice-president: Russ States, Treasurer: Marianne Bleakney, Secretary: Kathie Goodblood. Becky Sheeler moved that we accept the proposed slate and Gene Wilhelm seconded. All present voted in favor.

Many thanks to Jeff Hall for taking all the photographs at the Awards Ceremony.

THE HELEN R. FERGUSON FUND SCHOLARSHIP IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES AT WESTMINSTER COLLEGE

Dr. Helen Boylan, Mara Sawdy, and Helen Ferguson

This year’s recipient of the Helen R. Ferguson Scholarship is Mara Sawdy. She is the daughter of William and Mary Sawdy. She is from West Newton, PA, where she graduated from Belle Vernon Area High School. Mara is a member of Sigma Kappa Sorority and Model United Nations. She also volunteers with the youth group at New Wilmington Presbyterian Church and works for the Regional Trail Corporation as informational staff for the Youghiogheny River Trail. In recognition of her work on a Peace Studies minor, she has recently been awarded the Barbara Ostrowski Scholarship. After graduation, Mara hopes to work with the conservation of endangered animals or with water quality and purification.

THE MIKE ALAN STARKER ECOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AT SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY

Dr. Heike Hartmann, Mary Kate Vitale, and Kathie Goodblood
Mary Kate Vitale is the recipient of this year’s Mike Alan Starker scholarship. She is a Junior majoring in Geography-Environmental Studies. Mary Kate cares deeply about the environment and seeks to protect natural landscapes. She will be interning this summer at the Succop Conservancy in Butler.

AWARD FOR SUSTAINABLE CONSERVATION

This year’s Conservation Award goes to a group of people who constructed a Chimney Swift Tower. The idea for the tower began with Sharon Thompson. She loves Chimney Swifts, small, fast-flying birds that depend on open chimneys for nesting and roosting. A colony of the birds use a chimney near her home, and that chimney was slated for destruction. So Sharon came to a BAS board meeting to see what could be done. Then-President Cathy Setzer applied for a grant to construct a tower, and approached Grove City College for a location for the tower. Andrew Morgan (Project Manager) and Dr. Fred Brenner (Biology Faculty) of Grove City College became involved, and John Relihan constructed the tower as his Eagle Scout project, with the help of Scout Troop 380.

NEW SANCTUARIES

Sanctuary Chair Becky Sheeler announced the new Sanctuary owners. Wildlife Sanctuary: Wolf Creek Farm of John and Susan Biberich, Grove City, Mercer County. Bird and Butterfly Sanctuaries: Christen and Chris Yates, Grove City, Mercer County; Sara and Craig Whitman, Slippery Rock Borough, Butler County; James and Susan Bennett, Grove City, Mercer County; Barbara Brizendine, Zelienople, Butler County; and Ewing Park, Ellwood City, Lawrence County. (Domenic Vicarri).
Odds and Ends

Update On Previous Scholarship Winners

Dr. Heike Hartmann of Slippery Rock University shared news of previous Michael Alan Starker Scholarship winners. 2013’s Caleb Sykora just finished an internship with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. 2012’s Elizabeth Smith has been accepted to law school. 2011’s Krystal Levstek is starting her second year in the masters program at Kent State in Geography. Thanks to Dr. Hartmann for keeping us informed.

Hog Island Audubon Camp for Educators Scholarship Awarded

Each year Bartramian Audubon awards a scholarship to a local teacher to attend “Sharing Nature: An Educator’s Week” at Audubon Camp in Maine on Hog Island. Susanne Gillespie has been awarded the scholarship for 2014. Sue is a sixth grade homeroom teacher at St. Luke Lutheran School in Cabot, PA. She plans to share her Hog Island experience and knowledge with her students through integration with writing, journaling, and art, “encouraging them to be givers and caregivers to our natural habitats.” She will also make a presentation to the Bartramian Audubon chapter at the December meeting. We congratulate Sue and wish her well in her travels to the Maine coast.
Paper-Free Newsletter
The Upland Informer is now available online. It can be viewed at our website www.bartramianaudubon.org by clicking on the newsletter link and then clicking on the issue you wish to view. The newsletter is in the PDF format, so you must have a PDF program on your computer. Read only programs are available free at Adobe.com and other sites. Bartramian Audubon Society would like to encourage its members to begin to receive the Upland Informer online. As each newsletter is published, members who have elected to do this will receive an email informing them that the next issue is now available online, and they can then view it at their leisure. For the Bartramian Audubon Society, this will mean a savings both in paper costs and postage costs. For our environment it will mean less paper and less fuel usage in delivery. To enroll in this program, please email our Membership Chair, Russ States at pabirder@verizon.net.

Membership Reminder

......Russ States, Membership Chair

We welcome the many of you who have recently joined Bartramian Audubon Society.
As a reminder, the expiration date of your membership with the BAS should be on your address label. Please renew in a timely fashion as to not miss future newsletters. If you have any questions about your membership status, feel free to contact the membership chair, Russ States - pabirder@verizon.net.

B&B and Wildlife Sanctuary renewals are handled by the sanctuary chair in June each year. The $15.00 or more per sanctuary checks should be made payable to BAS but mailed to Becky Sheeler, 125 Crolls Mill Road, Slippery Rock, PA 16057-4611. beckysheeler@gmail.com

Bartramian Audubon Society
Associate and Newsletter Application
Please check below
____$15.00 BAS associate fee- includes newsletter
____$5.00 newsletter only

Please send this form along with your name, address, and e-mail with payment to the:
Bartramian Audubon Society
PO Box 315
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

National Audubon Society
Membership Application
Please enroll me as a NEW member in the National Audubon Society. This membership will include membership in the National Audubon Society and Audubon magazine and the local Bartramian Audubon Society and the local chapter newsletter, the Upland Informer, but excludes the BAS Sanctuary Program.

Current introductory membership 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 422250
Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250

Renewing members should use the coupon mailed to them by NAS

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