

ATLANTIC CURRENTS

Newsletter of the Atlantic Audubon Society

P. O. Box 63, Absecon, N. J. 08201

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February 16, 1975

Editor: E. Bristow

In order to help everyone keep track of dates for programs and field trips, all pertinent information is on third page. This can be removed for posting.

MEMBERSHIP: We have a great opportunity to earn some money for the chapter. National Audubon has received a grant to help build membership and are now running a little contest. To the chapter in each region gaining the most new members between January 1 and June 30 will go \$1000. To the chapter in each region showing the largest percentage increase during this period will go another \$1000. We rank 24 of 25 in our region by numbers as of Jan. 1. If each one can recruit at least one new member during this period, we have a good chance. If you need applications, contact Pat Bristow, membership chairman, at any meetings or field trips or call 641-4670, or use P. O. Box. Also, for those of you already members- please renew those memberships. That is our only source of funds at present.

Programs: Our January program was very popular, with several members presenting some of their favorite slides. Because of the response from those present we will make this an annual feature, so remember this for next year. Future programs are excellent, and we are starting to line up next years.

EMBLEM CONTEST: As a result of the voting at the January meeting, the entry submitted by Ben Hiatt of Tuckerton was the winning entry. Mrs. Hiatt did the art work. Subject is an Osprey landing. This will be on display at the next meeting. We are now looking into having this made up as a membership patch.

BIRD HOTLINE: There is now a local bird hotline located in Philadelphia. Call area code 215-236-2473 or remember 236-BIRD for local information.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS: Full results will appear in American Birds, but here is a brief summary of our local counts.

MARMORA: This was our own count started this year and was quite successful. 22 field observers and 6 feeder watchers took part.

Total was 124 species, 52,598 birds. We could use more help.

OCEANVILLE: 16 members of AAS participated. 127 species and 70,818 birds.

TUCKERTON: Several members took part in this one also- totals were lower. Although plans for post-count gettogethers fell through at the last minute, we hope to set these up for next year. We would hope to have more participation next year so that all areas could be covered much better.

COUNTY PARK: Atlantic County has purchased land in Estell Manor for a county park. We offered our services to help in planning nature trails and survey plants and wildlife. One visit has been made and recommendations made to the Board of Freeholders. We are pushing for slow careful planning as this area appears to have tremendous potential for nature study, as well as some historical values that should be preserved.

Help is also needed to encourage Galloway Township to preserve the Great Blue Heron Rookery in Pomona and the Great Creek Bog. Their conservation commission is currently looking into these areas. Give them your support.

BEGINNING BIRDING COURSE: In previous years, a brief program has been run at the Brigantine Wildlife Refuge to introduce field identification to those who had not had much experience. This year we are offering an expanded course consisting of six evening sessions and six morning field trips at the Refuge. Because of the additional work involved in the evening sessions, we are asking that each participant donate \$5 to the Atlantic Audubon Society Sanctuary Fund. Since New Jersey Audubon charges \$25 for their course, we feel that this request is reasonable. Pre-registration is required. Donation is to be sent with registration form at bottom of last page.

IMPORTANT DATES: National Wildlife Week March 16-22
Earth Week April 19-26
National Audubon Convention, New Orleans April 17-21

We urge your support of recycling. Locally, ACCCE is running a center for glass and aluminum at The Shore Mall. Collection is Friday evenings from 4-8PM. They could use help there as well bringing in your materials.

PROJECTS: We will shortly have available a series of botanical field guides which were previously recommended by Frank Knight in his Field Notes in last issue of newsletter. These will be sold at the regular price of 75¢ each. We have also arranged to obtain Daily Field Check Lists Of N.A. Birds. These will be sold for 4¢ each or 5 for 20¢. Proceeds go to Sanctuary Fund.

WRITE - WRITE - WRITE!!!!

To: President Gerald Ford and Secretary Rogers Morton of Interior to urge that the ban on use of pesticides and poisons on federal lands be continued in effect. Woolgrowers are pushing for removal of these bans.

To: Rep. Hughes and Senators Case and Williams urging inclusion of additional acreage in the Wilderness area of the Brigantine Refuge. This may be vital when off-shore oil operations commence.

Remember to continue feeding the birds in this very changeable weather. If they have become dependent on your feeders, loss of this supply could be disastrous.

GET NEW MEMBERS --- IT COULD MEAN MONEY FOR THE CHAPTER.

\$ 1000



\$ 1000

PROGRAMS FOR 1975

- Feb. 26 - 8:00 PM - Rm CC103, Stockton. "Everglades" - Bob Repenning
Mar. 26 - 8:00 PM - Rm CC103, Stockton. "Churchill" - John Schmid
Apr. 23 - 8:00 PM - Rm CC103, Stockton. "Wildflowers"- Gil Cavileer
May 28 - 8:00 PM - Rm CC103, Stockton. "Archeologic Studies of South Jersey Indians" - Dick Regensberg.

FIELD TRIPS:

- Feb. 22 Sat. Cape May for early migrants. Meet at Lighthouse Park, Cape May Point at 8:30 AM. Bring lunch. We will bird back up.
Mar. 22 Sat. Early plants and flowers. Stockton campus. Ken Hunt will repeat last years fine walk. Meet at 9:30 AM in Parking Lot #1 (closest to front of buildings.)
April 20 Sun. Brigantine Wildlife Refuge - 7:30 AM in parking lot. We have invited Jersey Shores Audubon Society to join us.
April 26-27 Weekend trip to Delmarva. See below for details.
May 10 Sat. Warbler search. Various places. Full details later.
June 7 Sat. Final picnic and nature walks at Batsto. Birds, flowers, etc. Meet in Parking lot at Batsto at 9:00 AM. Bring lunch.

An additional wildflower walk is still to be scheduled. Further details will be forthcoming at a later date.

Special Spring Weekend Trip:

We have planned a camping trip for April 26-27 to take in Pokomoke Swamp, Ocean City, Md., Chincoteague, and Blackwater Refuges. We plan to go down Friday night April 25 so as to get an early start Sat. AM. This is an excellent opportunity to catch spring warbler migration as well as other birds and should be excellent if weather cooperates at all. We will have to have definite commitments by April 9 so that reservations can be made at the campground. Please contact Ed. Bristow at 641-4670 or at meetings to save your space. There are motels in the area for those who do not wish to camp.

BIRDING FOR BEGINNERS:

This course will be much expanded over previous years. Reservation prior to course will be necessary for the evening programs and a donation of \$5 to the Sanctuary Fund per person is requested.

Dates of evening programs at the Brigantine Wildlife Refuge: 7:30 PM
March 20 April 3 April 17 May 1 May 8 May 22

Morning walks will meet in Refuge parking lot at 7:00 AM
March 22 April 6 April 19 May 3 May 11 May 17

Please return the form below by March 15 to P. O. Box 63, Absecon, N.J.

To: Atlantic Audubon Society, P. O. Box 63, Absecon, N. J. 08201

Please reserve ___ place(s) for the following:

NAME _____

PHONE: _____

ADDRESS _____

