

## ATLANTIC CURRENTS

Newsletter of the Atlantic Audubon Society  
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The current warm spell serves notice that Spring will soon be here and reminding us once again of earth's ability to renew itself if humans don't mess things up too badly. Please also remember that March weather can be treacherous- keep those bird feeders going for a while longer.

Programs and field trips for the remainder of the spring are now set. The schedule and descriptions are on page 2 so that they may be removed for easier reference. Please note that there is a deadline for reservations for the weekend trip and also for canoe rental for that trip.

Our annual beginner's bird identification course will start on March 11, 1976. See page 3 for details and an application form. This has been expanded over last year. Additional forms may be obtained by writing to the above address.

BICENTENNIAL NEWS: The National Audubon Society is registered for Bicentennial projects and has requested that suitable chapter activities be reported to them for inclusion in published calendars of Bicentennial activities. Two proposals are currently under consideration. We will hold a paper reclamation drive if we can get a large truck to transport the paper to Vineland. Anyone knowing of the availability of such a vehicle is requested to contact the editor at 641-4670. The second project is another clean-up program which will be a bigger job than our last one and will involve other groups as well. Details will be announced at a later date.

Along the above lines, please remember that if everyone would refrain from careless discarding of cans, bottles, bags, etc. there would be a substantial improvement in our environment. Please help by removing what litter you can, and encourage others to do likewise. Let's really make this "America the Beautiful"!!

ELECTIONS: Annual election of officers and directors will take place at the April meeting. Fred Hamer has been appointed chairman of the nominating committee. All suggestions for candidates should be passed on to Fred for his committee to evaluate. Any member is eligible, and nominations can also be made from the floor.

DATE TO REMEMBER: March 20th is a most important date this year. It is the first day of Spring; it is Earth Day - 1976; and it is the last day of National Wildlife Week. This year's theme for Wildlife Week is "Save Our Wetlands". We are planning a program in conjunction with the Brigantine Refuge to incorporate all these observances into a kick-off for our Bicentennial year celebration. Your help in making this a success will be needed, so please save that date. Details will be announced in the area papers so keep an eye out for this.



NEW MEMBERS: Please come out to the meetings and introduce yourselves. We do appreciate the financial boost we get from the dues refund, but most important is your participation.

PROGRAMS: All programs are preceded by coffee hour starting at 7:30 PM. Program begins at 8:00 PM. Meetings are held in Room J203, Stockton State College in Pomona.

- March 24: "Songbirds of South Jersey" - Dr. Diorio of Vineland will provide an introduction to our neighbors, just in time to welcome the Spring migration.
- April 28: "Insect Friends" - Mike O'Brien of our club will provide an introduction to some of the good guys and maybe some of the bad guys as well. Good chance to learn something about the most numerous group in the animal kingdom.
- May 26: "The Galapagos Islands" - Ernie Choate, our neighbor from Cape May will provide us with a look at one of the unique areas of this hemisphere.

FIELD TRIPS: Please make note of the special requirements for each trip. We want everyone to enjoy these expeditions, and to learn something from them.

- March 13: Plant Walk - leader Ken Hunt. Meet at 9 AM at the County Park on Route 50 in Estell Manor. Time about 3 hours. An early look at trees, shrubs, perhaps some early flowers in a most interesting botanical area.
- April 10: Birding in Cape May. Leaders: Ed Bristow, Fred Hamer, others. Bring lunch, binoculars, cameras, etc. An all day trip. Meet at 7:00 AM at Lighthouse Park in Cape May Point. We will bird Cape May Point, Higbees Beach, Cape May County Park, Stone Harbor and the causeways coming north. Should be lots of migrants.
- April 30- May 2: Weekend in Delmarva. Camping near Ocean City, Md. Birds, birds, birds!!! A repeat of last years highly successful trip. We will plan arrival at the campground Friday afternoon and evening with birding starting early Sat. AM. We will be birding Pokomoke Swamp, the Ocean City area, Chincoteague-Assateague Refuges, Plackwater Refuge, and for those who last, finish up on Sunday with Bombay Hook Refuge. Everyone will be responsible for their own gear, food, etc. We will be reserving a block of sites, so reservations must be in by March 31. We need to know number in your party and type of accommodation- tent or vehicle. \*\*
- May 23: Canoeing on the Wading River. Leaders - Sherm and Shirley DeMill. Time 4-5 hours. Bring change of clothes, plastic bags (for Storage) and lunch. Reservations for canoes must be in to leaders by April 24th (\$8.50 for canoe rental). Call 641-7039 for info.
- June 12: Flower Walk. Leader - Gil Cavileer. Meeting place to be announced later. A good chance to learn more about our local wildflowers.

\*\*If you are not a camper, but wish to join this trip, please contact Ed Bristow at 641-4670 for information relative to local motels and to make arrangements to join the group for the birding.