

ATLANTIC CURRENTS

Newsletter of the Atlantic Audubon Society
P. O. Box 63, Absecon, N. J. 08201

VOL V NO. 1

September, 1978

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One of the more enjoyable parts of the year will soon be upon us as Mother Nature begins the slowing down process preparatory to the dormant season. Changing colors birds migrating south, dewy mornings, monarchs drifting slowly with the breeze, - all signal that fall will soon be upon us. These events also herald the start of another year of Audubon doings and once again your Board of Directors urges everyone to participate in all programs and to suggest to the Board any new activities, trips, or projects you would like to see inaugurated. This is your society - pitch in!!!

FALL PROGRAMMING

Program chairperson Martha Pokras has lined up an excellent series for the fall, with an equally good selection to come in the spring portion.

- September 27th: "Trails of Wonder" Terry Brown of the Jersey Shores chapter will provide a slide and sound show on a four seasons journey through the deciduous woodlands of New Jersey.
- October 25th: Marine Mammal Stranding Center: Director Robert Schoelkopf will present a program on the work of the center, now based in Gardner's Basin.
- November 15th: "Those Penguins" Our own Claire Gerber will present a slide program on her recent trip to the Falkland Islands with highlights of the fauna of the region.

As in past years, we will begin with coffee and goodies at 7:30 PM, with programs to begin at 8 PM. Meeting room at Stockton State College in Pomona is supposed to be C-134. This may be subject to a last minute change- if so, there will be signs and guides to help you find the right place.

EXPEDITION TIME

The fall field trip schedule will be a varied one, with something for everyone. All times are definite, and only very bad weather will cause cancellation.

- September 23rd: Jeffers Landing Trip - This is a re-schedule from August. Bikers meet at George Bassett's home, 328 Poplar Ave., Linwood at 8 AM. This group will bicycle out to the area while the lazy ones can drive out and meet there at 9 AM. Take Rt. 559 (River Road) to Scullville and make a left at the blinker light onto Jeffers Landing Road. Bikers will return by way of Scullville-Steelmanville Road for some flower study.
- September 30th: Marsh Walk - Mark Pokras will lead a walk into the marsh to take a look at what this vital area involves and how it works. Group will meet at the parking lot of the Brigantine Wildlife Refuge in Oceanville at 10 AM. Wear old sneakers or boots and old clothes.

- October 7th: Birding at Cape May - Joe DeLasantro will be the leader for this fall bird extravaganza. Meet at the lighthouse parking lot in Cape May Point at 7:00 AM. Bring lunch and binoculars, scopes and cameras. Group will bird back up by way of Higbees beach, Stone Harbor, and various causeways.
- October 13-15th: Hawk Mountain Weekend - Fearless leader will be Fred Hamer, who will guide viewers to a hawk spectacular - he hopes. Camping will be at Blue Rocks Campground, but there are motels in the vicinity for those who are not up to camping. Group will make their own way to campground on Friday, with birding to start Sat. morning.
- October 22nd: Canoeing on the Wading River - Sherm and Shirley DeMill will once more lead a group of peerless paddlers on a peaceful pilgrimage down the Wading River from Hawkins Bridge to Beaver Branch. Meet at Harrisville Lake on County Road 563 Spur, at 9:00 AM. If you wish to rent a canoe, the cost will be \$11.00 and Shirley must have your money by Sept. 28.
- November 18th: Fall Migration at Brigantine Refuge - Leader will be Ed Bristow and trip will leave from the parking lot at the Brigantine Wildlife Refuge at 8:30 AM. Plan to spend the morning, and bring binoculars, scopes, and a snack if you get as hungry as the leader does.
- January 20th: Winter Birding at Barnegat Light - Jim Akers will lead the frostbite brigade for a look for some of our winter visitors. Trip will meet at Barnegat Light Parking Lot at 9 AM. Dress warmly and bring a hot drink - it can be mighty chilly!!

Other dates to keep in mind - Christmas Bird Counts

- December 16th: Oceanville Count - Leaders Jim Meritt & Ed Bristow
- December 17th: Marmora Count - Leader Jim Akers
- December 23rd: Cape May Count - Leader Keith Seager
- December 30/31: Tuckerton Count - Leader Fred Hamer

Next issue will have details and how to join in this annual extravaganza along with some 30,000 plus other nuts over the length and breadth of North America.

WANTED!!!

Our newly appointed historian, Shirley DeMill has requested that any members who have any of the following materials which are needed for a scrapbook to please contact her at 641-7039 or at any of the meetings. Pictures of activities, in the form of prints (negatives will be copied and returned), clippings (which will be duplicated and returned if desired), and any similar material.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As Atlantic Audubon commences the fifth year as a chapter of the National Audubon Society, I am privileged to have the opportunity to serve as president in an organization which is at the center of the conservation movement in South Jersey. Thinking about the many issues at hand, I realize it would be helpful to keep in mind the Audubon conservation priorities as outlined in the membership application form which National provides. Along with our primary commitment to promote the conservation of wildlife and the natural environment, some of the other priorities are:

- to work for a comprehensive national energy policy,
- to support public and private measures for abatement and prevention of environmental pollution
- to work for a coherent national land-use policy and support land-use planning at state, regional and local levels
- to protect the public interest in our public lands,

If each of us will periodically review conservation issues, asking how they relate to these priorities the National Audubon has set, I believe we can continue to establish a strong common base to work from here at the local level. Of course there will be some differences of opinion and different interpretations, but the bonds created by a common set of guidelines will serve to foster solutions to the many problems we face. Herein is also every member's opportunity to have a significant voice in the decision making of our growing and influential organization: BE INVOLVED!!!

At our upcoming program meeting on September 27, involvement questionnaires will be circulated, and I am asking that each of you consider how you can best contribute your energies within Atlantic Audubon, keeping in mind that we need many talents at many different jobs to keep our chapter viable.

/s/ George Bassett, President

ART SHOW COMING

Plans are now underway for our second art show to be held on November 8th-12th in the Stockton State College gallery. Chairman Fred Hamer is formulating plans for committee meetings to organize publicity, corraling artists, setting up and planning for a reception for the artists. All this requires some willing hands to help, so be ready when the call comes. We will have some new ideas this year and some new artists for a bigger and better Wildlife Art Show. Don't miss it!

ATLANTIC AUDUBON GROWS

We welcome the following new members to our ranks. If you know them, offer a ride to meetings and activities. Participation provides more meaning to that membership.

Mr. & Mrs. N. S. Adams - Linwood	Margaret Applegate - Hammonton
Nicholas & Mary Anastor - Vineland	Stephanie Armiger - Ocean City
Mary Boyd - New Gretna	Mr. & Mrs. Albert DeCicco - Cardiff
Charles Fox - Hammonton	Dorothy Higbee - Absecon
Edythe & Arthur Henry - Margate	Holly Hummel - Pomona
Helen Hunt - Atlantic City	Charles Inkster - Ocean City
Michael Jacob - Egg Harbor	Max Kayman - Atlantic City
Edith Kooker - Marmora	Sally Nunn - Ocean City
Barbara Olbrich - Ventnor	John Rogge - Brigantine
Rick Schindewolf - Oceanville	Mr. & Mrs. C. Schmidt - Linwood
Kathleen E. Starr - Brigantine	Beth Wirtz - Hammonton
Mr. & Mrs. Robert S. Wynn - Margate	Jim Iannelli - Absecon
Russell Del Cotto - Dorothy	Tina Foster - Sweetwater
June Hartzell - Egg Harbor	Alvah Jeter - Ventnor
Les Kelly - Petersburg	Judy Schmidt - Ocean City

A memory jogger for all those old and new members - Membership in National Audubon and Atlantic Audubon Societies is a joint one, at no extra charge. Because this newsletter is mailed at a special rate, it will not be either forwarded or returned to us if you move. It is therefore essential that you let us know if you change your address. This will enable both the membership and newsletter committees to keep up-to-date files, as well as insuring that you will not be missing your newsletter.

"IT TURNS YOU ON!!"

REGIONAL CONFERENCE DOES IT AGAIN

A seven member contingent from the Atlantic Audubon Society journeyed to Messiah College near Harrisburg for the Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference August 25th-27th. Sessions on Audubon research, sanctuary programs, chapter relations, legislation, wildlife, publicity, and education among others provided new ideas, exchanges of information, and stimulation of new ways of moving Audubon ahead. One of the best parts was the opportunity of meeting and talking with members of other chapters about problems and possible solutions, as well as a good interchange with people from the National Audubon staff. Everyone returned with renewed enthusiasm for the job ahead.

An Art Show was held in conjunction with the meeting - participants from Atlantic Audubon included Bud Bartlett, Ed Bristow, and Dave Rhodes. Dave took a ribbon for carving and Ed took one for photography. An auction was held to benefit the NAS Sanctuary Fund and contributions from Dave Rhodes and Pat Bristow of items for auction helped swell the coffers.

Post conference field trips had been scheduled to several areas, but all were cancelled because of lack of registrants except for the South Jersey trip sponsored by our chapter. Jim Akers set up and led the three day trip for a total of three people who thereby received a personally guided tour. Thanks to Jim and his able assistants for a valiant effort.

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES - 1978

Still pending in the Senate is the Alaska Lands Bill previously passed by the House. Letters are still needed to ensure that a strong bill is voted on in the Senate. Pending in the House is the Endangered Species bill already passed by the Senate. Support is needed for this one also. The final item is the bill to support Non-game and Endangered Species. While there is funding for game species through such things as Duck Stamps, license fees, etc., there is no provision generally for support of other species. This bill would provide some support in this vital area.

Energy legislation still remains hung up in congress, with little progress noted at this point. It appears that there is still a great deal of disbelief that an energy conservation program is really needed, and yet the lack of such a program continues to hit our pocketbooks and erode the currency on an almost daily basis. While a national commitment to such goals is needed, it is also necessary that each of us do what we can to reduce the use of energy in all of its non-renewable forms.

Within New Jersey, watch for attempts to place the siting of energy facilities in the hands of the state department of energy. This is an area where more local option should be available to prevent conflicts with other types of activity.

Locally, expect more attacks on the wetlands as developers look for more space to erect casinos, hotels, and other such things. This will most likely come in the form of a little nibble here and a little nibble there, so they can say this small piece will never be missed. That's how we have lost some 50% or more of what we started with many years ago.

THIS N' THAT

Patches for members are available at meetings, along with other items such as field guides, bumper stickers, etc. Look for Sherri Hamer and her sale table.

Dues will be going up again in the fall due to the effects of inflation on all of National Audubon activities. While no one is happy about this, money is required to support the many activities.

Encyclopedia Britannica will be handling sales of Audubon educational materials under a recent agreement. This will provide a better sales effort through the existing Britannica force.

L. L. Bean of Maine will also handle some materials from Audubon through another agreement. This should free up some personnel and funds to be used in other areas.

ATTEND MEETINGS *** MAKE NEW FRIENDS *** LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR WORLD