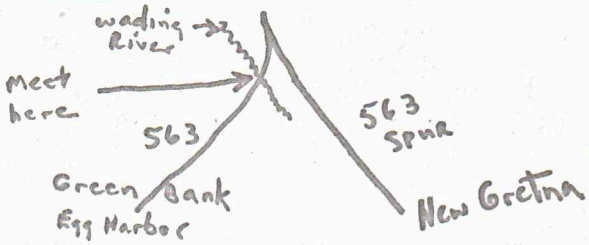
ATLANTIC CURRENTS

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

VOL II NO. 1 September 14, 1975 Editor: E. Bristow

Welcome to another year of activities with your Audubon Society. A full schedule is set for the fall season. Remember - participation is the way to learn more about your environment.

URGENT!!! We have scheduled a canoe trip on the Wading River for Sunday, Sept. 28. Group will meet at the Route 563 bridge (terminal point) at 9 AM. Trip will be from Hawkins Bridge to Rt. 563 bridge. Bring lunch and a change of clothes in a water-proof bag(just in case). If you have your own canoe, bring it. If you will need a rental-canoe, contact Shirley DeMill at 641-7039. She must have the reservation and money ($8.50) by Sept. 19 at the very latest. We realize this is very short notice, but this could not be avoided. Directions to meeting place are at right.



Remainder of field trips and programs are listed on last page for easy removal and retention for reference.

Chapter Patch: We expect the patches to be ready by the October meeting. It features the osprey design submitted by Mrs. Ben Hiatt in last years contest. Patches will be available to all members at the price of $1.50 each.

As a means of focusing more attention on the energy problems we face, and as a small fund raiser, we have available 5 bumper strips at 50¢ each with the following titles:

Bring Back Windmills | Obey 55 MPH Limit | Save Energy - Insulate
Save Energy - Recycle | Boost Sun Power

These will be available at meetings starting with Septembers.
Reminder: We also have available field guides for Winter trees, Wildflowers, and the Master Tree Guide, as well as Daily Bird Check Lists. Guides are 75¢ each and the checklists go for 4¢ each. These will be available at meetings and we hope to arrange to make them available at the Stockton Book Store again.

HOTLINE: In order to improve communication in regard to unusual local bird sightings, we are setting up a chain calling system to spread the word. If you wish to be included, please send your name, address and phone number to P.O. Box 63, Absecon, or give it to Jim Akers or Pat Bristow at the September meeting. We must have this by September 30th. Following this date, the network will be set up.

LOOKING AHEAD: The Christmas Bird Counts are now scheduled-

Oceanville	Dec. 20	Contact: Ed Bristow 641-4670
Cape May	Dec. 21	Contact: Keith Seager 884-8778
Tuckerton	Dec. 27	Contact: Ben Hiatt 296-4016
Marmora	Jan. 4	Contact: Jim Akers 266-7859

Even if you're not an expert birder, but would like to participate, please let us know. We can use all the eyes we can get. Many areas now receive only minimum coverage and more eyes can help to spot some of those elusive birds. We hope to set up a post-count get-together for review and socializing this year. More later.

CLEAN-UP: It has been proposed that we organize a clean-up campaign to improve some of the natural areas that are in danger of becoming dumps. Such a project will have to involve other groups, but Joe Delesantro Jr. has agreed to act as organizer.

Further word on this activity in the future.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

1. As we start our second year, I am pleased by the growth of this group and I thank all of you who have helped to recruit new members. We are now at a stage where more active participation is needed to help with our various projects. As an aid to increased fellowship at meetings, we hope to institute refreshments at meetings if there is no conflict with Stockton Rules. Meetings are meant to provide not only interesting programs but a chance to exchange ideas, nature findings, and get to know each other. Such exchanges can help strengthen the society by developing some knowledge of potential leaders, helpers, special interests, etc. The key to continued growth and success lies in how effectively this is done.
2. Recent letters in Audubon Magazine have complained about the increased number of articles on conservation, environment, and areas other than the birds and animals. It seems to me that we cannot isolate birds or animals or flowers from everything around them - they are all part of the same environment, and what affects that environment also affects those birds, animals, and flowers. We can agree that many things like pollution, strip mining, unthinking land development, etc. are not very pretty, but we cannot close our eyes to their effects. When we do, those in industry, land development, resource and mineral mining, etc. who don't give a damn for anything except making more money may well produce the degradation that will cause the disappearance of those birds, animals and flowers that the aforementioned complainers so desire to see in the magazine. Already many birds, animals, and flowers are disappearing because too few people were concerned over things like habitat destruction, poisoning of the environment and pressure of man's activities. Evidence accumulates that we may also be poisoning ourselves, perhaps into extinction! This may be nature's way of returning our flagrant disregard for the balance of things.
3. WE WANT YOU!! Join us on our field trips. All are welcome- novice or experienced. We are all still learning, so don't be bashful or afraid to admit your ignorance about something. That's what this is all about. If you don't know, we'll help you find out. If you have interests other than those we have scheduled, let us know. We'll try to fit in any type of activity for which there is some interest.

ODDS AND ENDS:

New Jersey Audubon Cape May Weekend is Oct. 3-5. Excellent programs and field trips if you can make it.
Do other organizations that you belong to need programs? We have speakers available on several subjects. Donations to our Sanctuary Fund is the only fee.

We will repeat the popular bird identification course in the spring. It is expected that this year's will be enlarged to cover some of the areas which were skimpy due to lack of time. Keep this in mind and let any of your friends know about it who may be interested in learning more about birds.

Ideas for programs are always welcome. This is your society, so contribute.

The next page contains the listing for programs and field trips as presently scheduled. Be sure to keep that page for reference.

1975-1976 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

All programs will be held at Stockton State College, Room J203 unless otherwise noted. Meetings will formally begin at 8 PM with a social "hour" from 7:30 to 8 PM.

September 24	Cascades Pack Trip: Ralph and Marion Bartlett will open the year with a slide-tape presentation.
October 22	Frogs and Other Amphibians: George Porter, VP of National Audubon will present a slide and tape program to better acquaint you with one of our lesser known groups of animals. In addition to VP George, we shall also have our regional representative Dick Martyr. This is the night when we shall receive our $1000 prize and also our permanent charter as a chapter of NAS. Everyone come!!!
November 19	Australia: Treasurer Joe Delesantro will provide us with a report on the natural wonders from down under. Slide program.
January 28	Members Night: Repeated by popular demand. Everyone plan to bring your favorite slides, art, interesting natural objects, etc. Let's all share our favorites. More details in the next newsletter.
February 25	Down Mexico Way: Fred Hamer, Kevin Inman, Sherri Tisdale will share their experiences on a trip to Mexico this past summer.
March 24 April 28 May 26	To be announced later

FIELD TRIPS:

September 28	Canoe trip, Wading River. See letter for details.
October 11	Hawk watch, Cape May. Meet at 8AM at Lighthouse Park, Cape May Point. For hawk watching as well as other migrants. Bring lunch.
October 18	Birding for Novices. Brigantine Wildlife Refuge, Oceanville. Meet in refuge parking lot at 8AM. An opportunity to learn some basics.
November 22	Waterfowl at Brigantine. Meet in parking lot of Brigantine Wildlife Refuge at 8 AM. Bring lunch if you wish to make a day of it.
December 20	Oceanville Christmas Count
December 27	Tuckerton " "
January 4	Marmora " " Remember- this is our count!