Visit our Google calendar at www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/calendar for event details or call our office at (914) 666-6503 or email us at office@sawmillriveraudubon.org. Be sure to subscribe to our free, private email list to get additional details and early notice of new trips and events. Visit www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/list to subscribe.

Every Monday, Starts 7:30 am in main parking at each location.
Free guided bird walks at area hotspots.
1st Mon: Muscoot Farm,
2nd Mon: Rockefeller State Park Preserve,
3rd Mon: Teatown Lake Reservation,
4th Mon: Croton Point County Park,
5th Mon: Location varies, see Google calendar.

Every Second Saturday, 9:00 am, Guided Hike at Brinton Brook Sanctuary.
Check our Google calendar for additional spring field trips!

April
Sunday, April 3: Welcome to Spring Public Dinner
   Special Program: Birding in Cuba! Reserve ASAP by visiting www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/dinner. Table 9 Restaurant.
Saturday, April 9: Second Saturday Walk at Brinton Brook
Saturday, April 16: Third Saturday Seed Sale, Pruyn Sanctuary
Saturday, April 30: Croton Earth Day

May
Saturday, May 7: Love My Parks Day: Old Croton Aqueduct
Saturday, May 14: Second Saturday Walk at Brinton Brook, Croton
Saturday, May 14: Westchester Birdathon! See Page 2 for details.
Sunday, May 15: Early Morning Birding: Doodletown
Thursday Early Morning Birding
   Thursday, May 5, 6:30 am, Rockefeller State Park Preserve
   Thursday, May 12, 6:30 am, Croton Point Park
   Thursday, May 19: 6:30 am, Ward Pound Ridge Reservation

Check our Google calendar for additional events & weather-related changes.
To enjoy this newsletter in color, visit www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/news
How Many Birds Can You Find in 24 hours in Westchester County?

Join us in this effort!
Register your team (1 to 5 birders), gather pledges, and see how many birds you can see or hear in a 24-hour period in Westchester County! Yes, there are prizes and a Saturday night birders gathering!

Funds raised will benefit a multi-year study of the nesting success of wood thrushes and other species at Rockefeller SPP as well as Saw Mill River Audubon’s youth education outreach. Find out more here: www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/birdathon

In Memoriam
Stanley Lincoln
We were saddened to learn about the passing of Stanley Lincoln in 2015. Stan twice served as SMRA President, and was involved in the transfer of Brinton Brook & Graff Sanctuaries to SMRA as well as other key projects. Stan was also an influential leader in the NY Federation of Bird Clubs (now the NYS Ornithological Association.)

Carol Coggeshall
We received word in January of the passing of Carol Coggeshall. Carol was an active leader of several conservation groups in Westchester. She served on the SMRA board from 1956-1984 including as board president, and also led our conservation outreach efforts.

Sally Dow
We will miss Sally Dow’s warm and friendly presence. SMRA Board Member Sally Dow, a resident of Croton-on-Hudson for more than 50 years, passed away at the age of 80 on January 28.

2016 Cuba Bird Trips
Sue O’Rourke photographed this Cuban Bare-legged Owl, one of 24+ endemic birds seen on our 2016 Cuba birding trips. Come to our Spring Dinner, Sunday, April 3 to see more pictures and hear about our trips, presented by SMRA Board Member Christine McCluskey. Reservations at www.sawmillriveraudubon.org
**Education**

**2016 Larry Light Youth Scholarship Award**

Saw Mill River Audubon is pleased to announce our 2016 Larry Light Youth Scholarship award.

**Mack Meller**, a 10th grader from Bedford, will be attending the Audubon Youth Birding Camp in Maine in June.

Mack studies through the Stanford University Online High School and is also the top world-ranked youth Scrabble player! One of his references wrote: “Despite his many achievements, Mack is modest about his brilliance and happy to help others. His interest in the environment and wildlife is infectious. Mack will be an excellent addition to any [birding] program.”

Saw Mill River Audubon is delighted to recognize Mack with a Larry Light Youth Scholarship.

Come to our April 3rd Spring Dinner to hear from our 2015 Larry Light Youth Scholarship recipients: Eamon Freiburger and Josiah Weidenheft

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**Sanctuaries**

**Second Invasive Species Grant Received**

We are pleased to report that Brinton Brook Sanctuary will benefit from another grant to continue our work to control the invasive Hardy Kiwi.

Our grant comes to us through the Lower Hudson Partnership for Invasive Species Management (www.lhprism.org) through a program funded by NYS DEC’s Environmental Protection Fund.

The work will be continued by Tom Lewis of Trillium Invasive Species Management with additional work by adjoining landowners ConEdison & Hudson National Golf Club.

**Sanctuary Work Day**

Saturday, April 30
Meet us 9:00 am in the Brinton Brook Sanctuary parking lot to help re-plant the meadow with native species. Call or email our office to let us know to expect you at 914-666-6503 or office@sawmillriveraudubon.org

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**Advocacy**

**NY Audubon Council**

The theme for the 2016 Spring Council meeting was “Bird Friendly Communities and Native Plants.” Carol Capobianco, Westchester Native Plant Center Director and long-time friend to Audubon, shared her expertise. Look for more info about Bird Friendly Communities in the coming months.

Do you want to make a difference in local, state and national issues. Let your voice be heard!

As part of the Audubon Action Network you will receive periodic email action alerts on current and pressing local, statewide, and national conservation issues. When you join, your voice will join thousands of others calling on legislators to support conservation issues and protect New York’s and our nation’s great natural heritage.

**Join the NY Audubon Action Network** by visiting bit.ly/NYAudubonAction
SMRA Celebrates Spring!

Sunday, April 3, 2016

Saw Mill River Audubon invites you to our annual dinner, **Sunday, April 3 at Table 9 Restaurant** on the Annsville Circle, Cortlandt. Open to all, this is a relaxed and fun evening to mingle with fellow birders and outdoor lovers and celebrate the arrival of spring. This dinner is one of our favorite events of the calendar year. We hope you will join us!

Our evening begins at 5:00 pm with a reception and photography display with dinner seating at 6:00 pm. We’ll have our usual brief annual meeting with a special recognition of SMRA Board President Robert McCrillis. We’ll then have brief presentations from our 2015 Larry Light Youth Scholarship recipients, Eamon Freiburger and Josiah Wiedenheft before a break for dessert.

Our feature presentation will be “Birding in Cuba,” presented by SMRA Board Member Christine McCluskey and featuring pictures and stories from our February & March Cuba birding trips.

**Come join us!** Please note that space may be limited.

For more details and online reservations, visit [www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/dinner](http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/dinner)

Last Call: Flight of Fancy Quilt Raffle!

Patricia Loquet has designed and created this beautiful custom quilt to benefit Saw Mill River Audubon. Enter our raffle for a chance to win it! Drawing at our April 3rd Annual Dinner. More info, color picture, and online tickets: [www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/quilt](http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/quilt)

Nick Hawvermale captured this wonderful image of an Eastern Screech-Owl. Of interest, its coloring appears to be a blend of the red and gray morphs found in our region. For color viewing, visit our digital newsletter at: [www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/news](http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/news)