



Fall 2012
Issue 330

On the Wing

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People • Memberships & Donations



Get outside birding with us this fall! Check out our birding trips here on page 1 and continuing on page 3.

Bird Seed Sale Flyer Enclosed!

Weekend Sale

October 20th and 21st.

Visit our web site at:
sawmillriveraudubon.org
to order online.

Each year we buy bulk quantities of high quality seed and re-sell to our members and friends.

This is an important fundraiser for our local conservation work.

Advance order
deadline: Oct. 8th

FALL ADVENTURES

Join us! For more information call 914.666.6503 or visit
www.sawmillriveraudubon.org

Saturday, September 8 ♦ 9:00 am

Second Saturday Walks at Brinton Brook

This month's second Saturday walk will be part of the Hudson River Valley Ramble taking place throughout the Hudson Valley on four September weekends starting September 8th. We will explore the trails of our Brinton Brook Sanctuary in Croton-on-Hudson for 2 hours and then offer the option for a 1.5 hour extension of our walk on the Village of Croton-on-Hudson's Highland Trail. **Registration requested as space is limited.** Call 914-666-6503 or email office@sawmillriveraudubon.org. More information on other Hudson River Valley Ramble events is available at hudsonrivervalleyramble.com. **Note: we'll also walk at Brinton Brook on Sat. Oct. 13.**



Sunday, September 9 ♦ 7:00 am (from Millwood)

Birding Sandy Hook, New Jersey



Join us for a late summer birding field trip to Sandy Hook. Sandy Hook is a peninsula that projects northward into Raritan Bay at the northern-most point of the New Jersey coast and is one of New Jersey's best year-round birding locations. The photo shows North Pond, near the tip of the peninsula. A major migration path in both spring and fall, Sandy Hook attracts approximately 350 bird species and over 50 species of butterflies to its diverse habitats.

Register by calling 914-666-6503 or emailing office@sawmillriveraudubon.org by Friday, September 7. Meet at 7:00 am at the Millwood A&P parking area for carpooling and caravanning. Bring binoculars and water. We'll have spotting scopes for sharing.

Sunday, September 16 ♦ 9:00 am

Hook Mountain Hawk Watch

Hook Mountain, just north of Nyack in Rockland County, offers 360° views of the lower Hudson River valley and eye-level views of the hawks, eagles and falcons migrating south along the Hudson River. Trudy Battaly, an experienced hawk counter, will guide our hawk watching. Meet at 9:00 am at the flagpole by the executive golf course in Rockland Lake State Park. Bring binoculars and water. There is a moderate ½ hour uphill walk to the hawk watch location. Register by calling 914-666-6503 or emailing to office@sawmillriveraudubon.org by Friday, Sept. 14.

SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE AUDUBON PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Help the Birds by Joining Project FeederWatch



The winter of 2012–13 will mark the 26th year of Project FeederWatch. Anyone with an interest in birds—no matter what skill level—can participate in this winter-long survey of birds that visit backyard feeders, nature centers, and other places throughout North America. By doing so they will help scientists and policy makers obtain valuable data about the status of the birds that visit our feeders.

Project FeederWatch is operated by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Bird Studies Canada. There is a small fee to cover the research kit and instructions that each participant receives. More information is available at www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw. The Project FeederWatch website can even help participants identify birds they are unsure about.

Saw Mill River Audubon will hold a special workshop on Project FeederWatch at the Croton Point Nature Center on November 3rd. See page 3 of this newsletter for details.

Do you eBird?



A real-time, online checklist program, *eBird* has revolutionized the way that the birding community reports and accesses information about birds. Launched in 2002 by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, *eBird* provides rich data sources for basic information on bird abundance and distribution. A birder simply enters when, where, and how they went birding, then fills out a checklist of all the birds seen and heard during the outing. Saw Mill River Audubon is using *eBird* to record and share our field trip checklists. Check out *eBird* at www.ebird.org

Looking Forward to Our 60th Anniversary

Next year Saw Mill River Audubon will celebrate the 60th anniversary of our founding. Since 1953 we have worked to protect natural ecosystems through education, advocacy and habitat conservation.

The hard work, dedication, and support of our many members and volunteers over the years has allowed



Touring Brinton Brook Sanctuary in 1968

us to become an important voice for the environment. We truly have a lot to celebrate and so many people to thank.

We will mark this milestone with a series of special events, trips and get-togethers for our members and friends. Look for updates in upcoming editions of this newsletter and on our website. We are also planning enhancements to our website and a new look for our publications—stay tuned!

Welcome Members

Chappaqua Michael Hart, Forrest Sussman, Mitchell Tepper
Cortlandt Manor Thomas Gora
Crompond Deb Guiffre
Flushing Edward Mertz
Mount Kisco Virgil Bretz, Catherine Lepone,
Ossining Andrew Brennemann, Greg and Frances Jacobson, George Klein, Barbara Lofaro, Robert Rainero, Ernest Schelling
Peekskill Muriel Bell, Cecelia Fiering, Samuel North and Julie Overskei
Pleasantville Stephanie J. Demeo, Catherine Locascio, Judith Perrotti, Michael Tedesco
Sleepy Hollow Irene Saltzburg, Suzanne Sorrentino
Tarrytown Patsy D. Dileo, Ann Faison, Cora Hubbard, Judith H. Mukae, Lawrence Ostrow, Karen P. Thomas, G. Weeks
Valhalla Ann K. Clark

MORE AUDUBON ADVENTURES (continued from p. 1)

SEPTEMBER

Thursday, September 20 ♦ 7:30 pm
**Butterflies Across America,
Chappaqua Library Theater**

Come on a butterflying adventure with Jeffrey Glassberg, visiting



some of the most beautiful places in the U.S. to learn about butterflies and their habitats. Jeffrey Glassberg, a former Chappaqua resident, is author of the *Butterflies through Binoculars* field guides, president of the North American Butterfly Association and editor of *American Butterflies* magazine. Cosponsored with the Chappaqua Library. Free and open to the public.

OCTOBER

Saturday Oct. 6–Monday Oct. 8
**Coastal Birding Weekend,
Delaware and New Jersey**

Join us as we travel to the Delaware coast, take the Cape May-Lewes Ferry and continue up the New Jersey coast, birding as we go. On Saturday we'll visit Bombay Hook NWR and Prime Hook NWR in Delaware. Sunday will be spent in the Cape May area, and on Monday we'll visit Brigantine NWR (New Jersey). This is a great time of year for songbird and raptor migrants! Meet us Saturday morning at Bombay Hook (3.5 hrs. from Millwood) or come down Friday evening. We expect to return to Westchester around 6:00 pm on Monday. Your costs are motels, meals, gas and tolls. Call or email our office to let us know if you will be joining us, if you have questions, or if you wish to carpool.

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 13 ♦ 9:00 am
**Second Saturday Walk at
Brinton Brook Sanctuary**

Our monthly walks will continue year-round on second Saturdays at our largest sanctuary: Brinton Brook in Croton-on-Hudson. No pre-registration necessary. Meet in main parking area off Route 9A. Good for ages 6 and up. Held regardless of weather except in cases of severe weather or road closures.

Thursday, October 18 ♦ 7:30 pm
**Raptors for Rookies Workshop
at Ossining Library**

Our popular 1-hour workshop on how to identify the birds of prey of New York State returns! Come learn how to sort out the hawks, eagles, falcons and owls that might be seen year-round in our area and where to go to see them. Suitable for ages 10 and up. Call or email our office to register so that we have enough workshop materials for all.



Saturday & Sunday, October 20 & 21
9:00 am–2:00 pm both days
Annual Seed Sale Weekend

Our annual bird seed sale offers you high-quality bird seed at bulk prices and supports our work to protect local habitats and wildlife. We renew our inventory each fall and offer a convenient pickup at the parking lot behind New Castle Town Hall in Chappaqua. Flyer in this newsletter or visit our web site to order online. Gift certificates are available!

OCTOBER

Sunday, October 21 ♦ 8:00 am
Larchmont Reservoir Birding

Join us for a morning birding exploration of Larchmont Reservoir on this joint trip with Bronx River Sound Shore Audubon. Meet 8:00 am in main parking area. Bring binoculars. No pre-registration necessary.



NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 3 ♦ 10:00 am
**Project FeederWatch
Workshop, Croton Point Park**

Come find out about Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Project FeederWatch. To attend this volunteer workshop at the Croton Point Park Nature Center, please call or email us by Friday, Nov. 2 so we have sufficient materials and space. A \$5 donation is suggested to cover materials.

Sunday, November 18 ♦ 9:00 am
**Birding at Jamaica Bay
Wildlife Refuge**

Meet at 9:00 am at the Visitors' Center. Led by Bronx River Sound Shore Audubon. No pre-registration necessary. Call about possible carpooling from Millwood. Bring lunch.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE
Information for All Field Trips**

Suggested donation of \$5/person.
(Youth & children under 18 are free.)

We ask you to call 914.666.6503 OR email office@sawmillriveraudubon.org before the trip so we know to expect you. Most trips run rain or shine. If we do need to cancel a trip we will call or email (your preference) to all who are registered and we will also put a notice on our website and our office answering machine.

Saw Mill River Audubon
275 Millwood Road
Chappaqua, New York 10514

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Deadline for Next Newsletter: **Nov. 1**

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IT'S IN YOUR HANDS

“Conservation... is a positive exercise of skill and insight, not merely a negative exercise of abstinence and caution...” *Aldo Leopold*



Caring for our planet begins right here at home. Saw Mill River Audubon needs your support to maintain and expand our programs. You may also join, give a gift membership, or make a memorial donation online.

SMRA's sanctuaries preserve habitat for the great horned owl.

I WISH TO DONATE

Enclosed is:

- \$500 \$250 \$100
 \$50 \$30 \$_____

My employer will match my gift.

**I'D LIKE TO JOIN
Saw Mill River Audubon!**

Basic Chapter Membership:

- Enclosed is \$30
 Please send me planned giving info

Name(s)

Address

City/State/Zip

Please make checks payable to:

Saw Mill River Audubon
275 Millwood Road
Chappaqua, NY 10514