

April / May 2013  
Issue 333

- 1 **Audubon Programs & Walks**
- 2 **Chapter News**  
Chapter Roundtable ♦ Raptors Uncorked  
Welcoming Our Southern Neighbors
- 3 **More Spring Programs  
& Field Trips**
- 4 **Contact Us!**  
People ♦ Memberships & Donations

## Board Proxies Due

Our annual election of board members and officers will be held on Saturday, April 13. Please fill out and mail your proxy or cast your vote online at [sawmillriveraudubon.org/Proxy](http://sawmillriveraudubon.org/Proxy)

## Raptors Uncorked!

An evening of wine and wildlife.  
Sat. June 1. Details on page 2

## Final Bird Seed Sale for Spring will be Saturday, April 20

9:30 am–12:30 pm  
Prun Sanctuary

Stock up on our high-quality seed!

Weekday sales are available  
Mon/Wed/Fri  
10:30 am–3:30 pm  
Call 914.666.6503 for details

All sales benefit  
Saw Mill River Audubon

## SPRING FIELD TRIPS & PROGRAMS

Join us! For more information call 914.666.6503  
or visit [www.sawmillriveraudubon.org](http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org)

### Monday Morning Birding: Rockefeller State Park

Monday, April 8 ♦ 8:30 am–10:30 am

Join us for a walk at this local birding hotspot—Rockefeller State Park Preserve. Beginners encouraged! Meet in the main parking area off Route 117 (note \$6 per car fee collected by NY State Parks). Call or email us for directions or to borrow a pair of binoculars for the walk.



Photo: C. McCluskey

### Second Saturday Walk at Brinton Brook Sanctuary

Saturday, April 13 ♦ 9:00 am–11:00 am

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

### SMRA Anniversary Dinner & Program: Exploring the Hudson River

Saturday, April 13 ♦ 6:00 pm ♦ New Castle Community Center, Chappaqua



Photo: W. Kellner

We're celebrating our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a spring potluck dinner. After a brief business meeting, we'll enjoy a special program from Steve Stanne of the Hudson River Estuary Program, "Exploring the Hudson River from the Adirondacks to the Atlantic." We'll also have a presentation on SMRA's birding trip to Texas. Reserve a place online at [sawmillriveraudubon.org/Dinner](http://sawmillriveraudubon.org/Dinner)

### Monday Morning Birding: Croton Point Park

Monday, April 22 ♦ 8:30 am–10:30 am

Join us for our monthly walks at local birding hotspots. Beginners encouraged! Meet at the Nature Center parking lot within Croton Point Park. Call or email us for directions or to borrow a pair of binoculars for the walk.



Photo: J. Kellner

### Arbor Day Tree Walk: Lasdon Arboretum, Somers

Saturday, April 27 ♦ 9:00 am–11:00 am

Join Arborist John Grant on this spring walk as we learn about the value of native trees, with tips on tree identification. Meet in garden/mansion parking area off Route 35. For adults and children 10 and up. No pre-registration necessary.

SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE AUDUBON FIELD TRIPS & PROGRAMS

## SMRA Hosts Audubon Chapters

Saw Mill River Audubon hosted a Lower Hudson Audubon Roundtable on Saturday, March 2, joining with six other local Audubon chapters and Audubon New York to share chapter successes and challenges.

One of the roundtable workshops focused on planning for better connections between local Audubon chapters and the Hispanic community. Chapters represented were: Audubon Society of the Capital Region, Bedford Audubon, Bronx River Sound Shore Audubon, Central Westchester Audubon, Hudson River Audubon of Westchester, Rockland Audubon and Saw Mill River Audubon.

The roundtable costs were partially underwritten by Saw Mill River Audubon's Together Green planning grant from National Audubon, funded by Toyota.

### Raptors Uncorked!

Saturday, June 1, 2013 ♦ 5:00—7:00 pm

Kitchawan Lodge

Croton Point County Park

An evening of wine and wildlife celebrating Saw Mill River Audubon's 60<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary

**Tickets: \$25 each**

Enjoy a spectacular sunset over the Hudson while you sample hors d'oeuvres and fine wines (wines supplied by Deprez Wines of Croton).

Guests will be treated to an exciting program by falconer James Eyring and his entourage of hawks, owls and falcons. Watch these birds of prey in flight and learn about the fascinating world of raptors.

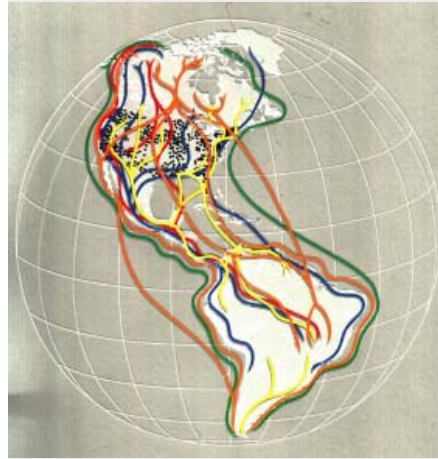


### Reservations Required

Call our office at 914-666-6503 or visit [www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/Raptors](http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/Raptors)

## Welcoming Our Southern Neighbors

Our daily encounters with Latin American immigrants are numerous and varied. We meet them on the train, at the office, and at restaurants; really, in all walks of life. The Latino population in our area has grown significantly in recent decades, as it has in much of the United States. We see



specialty stores serving the cultures of Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, and many other countries. So how do we, at Audubon, welcome them into our fold?

It turns out that there is a common migratory thread which we can use to connect

immigrants to the Audubon Society—their lands of origin also happen to be the places where many of our bird species go for the winter—the neotropical migrants who spend part of the year south of the Tropic of Cancer. There are approximately 200 species which make this annual journey.



Cerulean warbler

People long for any connection to their homeland—hence the popularity of specialized music venues and restaurants. But folks also remember the wildlife of their native lands and feel an instant pang of recognition when seeing, for example, a cerulean warbler. They may have different names for it, surely (*reinita cerúlea* or *verdin azulada*, among them, even *Paruline azurée* in French-speaking Haiti or French Guiana) but it is the same bird.

We discovered this phenomenon at a recent event co-sponsored by Saw Mill River Audubon and Bedford Audubon, which invited members of the community to a talk by John Beavers of Audubon's International Alliances Program.

## Southern Neighbors (continued from p. 2)

The program, *The Atlantic Flyway Connection / La Conexión vía Migratoria del Atlántico*, showed quite clearly that we share a lot of birding history and habitat with our new neighbors.

We have a local organization, Neighbors Link, to thank for helping us begin to think about new outreach possibilities. About 70 people attended the February 13 event. Folks had fun looking at pictures of different birds, and identifying on the map where they came from—both birds and people.

Events like this help us in our goal of Audubon being a more inclusive organization, while diversifying and adding youth to our ranks. To all our new neighbors, *bienvenidos!*

--Brian Kluepfel



Saw Mill River Audubon's exploration on how to build bridges between local Audubon chapters and the Hispanic community was supported by a planning grant from the Together Green program from Toyota and National Audubon.

## M A Y

### Monday, May 6 ♦ 7:30 am Bird Walk: Muscoot Farm

NOTE EARLIER START TIME

Our Monday walks at local birding hotspots continue at Muscoot Farm County Park on Route 100 in Somers. Beginners encouraged! Call or email for directions or to borrow a pair of binoculars for the walk.

### Wednesday, May 8 ♦ 7:00 pm Public Program: Native Plants Croton Unitarian Fellowship

Carol Capobianco, Executive Director of the Native Plant Center of Westchester, will present a program about native plants and the work of the Native Plant Center. Unitarian Fellowship is located at 2021 Albany Post Road (Route 9A) just north of Route 9 Montrose exit.

### Saturday, May 11 ♦ 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.

Good for ages 6 and up. No pre-registration necessary. Held regardless of weather except in cases of severe weather or road closures. Meet at main parking area off Route 9A.



Black locust grove at Brinton Brook

### Wednesday, May 15 ♦ 7:00 am Bird Walk: Rockefeller State Park Preserve

NOTE START TIME

Meet in the main parking area off Route 117 (note \$6 per car fee collected by NY State Parks). For this walk, email registration is required. Send your name and a contact phone to: [trips@sawmillriveraudubon.org](mailto:trips@sawmillriveraudubon.org).

## M A Y (cont.)

### Saturday, May 18 ♦ 6:00 am Bear Mountain State Park Doodletown

#### Mine Road Birding

Doodletown, inside Bear Mountain State Park, is a famed location for spring warblers including cerulean and hooded warblers. We'll meet

early to catch the height of morning activity and song. Optional extensions to nearby Iona Island and Mine Road habitats for additional birding. For this walk, email registration is required. Send your name and a contact phone to: [trips@sawmillriveraudubon.org](mailto:trips@sawmillriveraudubon.org).



Hooded warbler

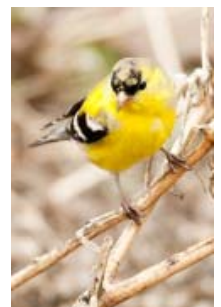
### Tuesday, May 21 ♦ 8:00 am Mianus River Gorge Birding

The Mianus River Gorge Preserve was established in 1953 to protect an old growth hemlock grove on the banks of the Mianus River in eastern Westchester County. We will meet with Preserve staff to view their bird banding station and go birding for spring migrants in the gorge. For this walk, email registration is required. Send your name and a contact phone to: [trips@sawmillriveraudubon.org](mailto:trips@sawmillriveraudubon.org).

### Monday, May 27 ♦ 7:00 am Bird Walk: Croton Point Park NOTE EARLIER START TIME

Meet us at the Nature Center parking lots in Croton Point County Park. Beginners are encouraged!

No pre-registration is required for this walk. Check our web site or phone message if any question about weather.



American goldfinch  
Photo: B. Talluto

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

PERIODICAL POSTAGE  
PAID  
at Chappaqua, NY  
and additional offices

**Save the Date!**

Geocaching Day at Brinton Brook Sanctuary  
Saturday, June 15, 2013. See website for details.

Deadline for next newsletter: **May 1**

**Saw Mill River Audubon**

275 Millwood Road  
Chappaqua, New York 10514  
914.666.6503  
office@sawmillriveraudubon.org  
www.sawmillriveraudubon.org

**OFFICERS**

President, Robert McCrillis  
Vice-President, William Kellner  
Chairman of the Board, Richard Saravay  
Secretary, Donna Lee Ubertalli  
Treasurer, Tom McEnerney  
Bulletin Editor, William Kellner  
Circulation Director, Jean Sparacin

**STAFF**

Executive Director, Anne Swaim  
Office Manager, Ellen Heidelberger  
Marketing & Fundraising, Barbara Campbell  
Educator, Patricia Mutolo  
Sanctuary Maintenance, Danny Ferguson

*ON THE WING* is published five (5) times a year (Sept/Oct/Nov, Dec/Jan, Feb/Mar, Apr/May, and June/July/Aug) for \$7.50 a year by Saw Mill River Audubon, 275 Millwood Road, Chappaqua, NY 10514. Periodical Postage #013281 at Chappaqua, NY 10514. ISSN: 1545-5254 at Chappaqua, NY and additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Address changes to: **Saw Mill River Audubon**, 275 Millwood Road, Chappaqua, NY 10514

**EXPERIENCE NATURE**

“To learn something new, take the path that you took yesterday.” *John Burroughs*

Visit one of Saw Mill River Audubon’s sanctuaries and experience the natural world.



Your gift helps us to preserve and protect these special places close to home.  
Thank you!

**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