



Conservation Corner

By Valerie B. Barnes
Conservation Chair



Endangered species, water quality, energy development, invasive plants, climate change, ... So many conservation issues face us today, and it's hard to choose where to focus. What is most important?

So many conservation issues face us today, and it's hard to choose where to focus. What is most important?

Should we help clean up the March 2014 oil spill in Galveston Bay, Texas? Should we resist energy extraction in sensitive areas of Alaska? Should fracking companies pay more in Pennsylvania? Should I plant flowers and other plants to attract hummingbirds to my yard?

What does "conservation" mean? According to the American Heritage College Dictionary, Third Edition, Houghton Mifflin, 1993: "Conservation: **1.** The act of conserving. **2.a.** Preservation from loss, damage, or neglect. **b.** The controlled use and systematic protection of natural resources, such as forests..."

Audubon's mission is: *To conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity.* Most of us are members of Audubon because we care about the environment and about birds.

As conservation chair for Conococheague Audubon, my mission will be to heighten awareness of conservation issues and encourage you, our members, to get involved and stay involved. Choose what matters to you. Any one issue is connected to many others. For instance, keeping our water supply safe is good for our health. No one wants to live downstream from a water treatment plant that leaks or dumps polluted water into a natural waterway. Clean water is good for other animals and plants in our communities, too.

... get involved and stay involved. Choose what matters to you. Any one issue is connected to many others.

Conservation Corner *continued . . .*

As each of us contributes to conservation on a small scale, our collective efforts can improve the larger situation.

The US Department of Agriculture administers the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) that helps Pennsylvania farmers and others to voluntarily restore wetlands, riparian areas and grasslands. CREP helps to reduce erosion in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, prevent sediment and harmful runoff of nutrients from reaching the Chesapeake Bay, and restore and enhance grassland habitats for Pennsylvania birds such as Ring-necked Pheasants. Helping farmers in Pennsylvania helps local birds and the Chesapeake Bay.

Whatever your particular interest in conservation, please get involved and stay involved. Talk to your friends and family, write a letter to the editor, contact government representatives, give to an organization that promotes your values, share conservation issues on social media, work on removing invasive plants, go native (in terms of plants anyway!). Do whatever you feel comfortable doing. Speak up for the environment, for the birds, for native plant species – for whatever your passion suggests. You can make a difference. As each of us contributes to conservation on a small scale, our collective efforts can improve the larger situation.



CAS Offers Scholarship Support

Conococheague Audubon Society is pleased to offer scholarship support for educational activities in keeping with our mission: promoting the conservation of wildlife and the environment by appreciating, studying, and observing nature.

CAS invites applications from individuals and groups who seek scholarship support. We will give special consideration to those who wish to defray the costs of conservation workshops, ornithology conferences, or Audubon Leadership Camps. Please make sure your request does not exceed \$250. We will review applications on a rolling basis. To allow adequate time for the review process, please submit your application no later than 45 days prior to the event for which you seek funding. For consideration you must complete the scholarship application form in its entirety.

We encourage you to submit your application electronically. The easiest way to do that is to download the Word file (CASscholarship.doc), open the file on your computer and enter information into all the fields above the red line. Save the completed application into a new filename that includes your name, and then email that file to wcbushey@gmail.com. Or print your completed application and mail it to the President, Conococheague Audubon Society, P.O. Box 20, Fayetteville, PA 17222. We will notify scholarship recipients by Email or letter.



On the Record

By Donna Hocker

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE COUNT

The 2014 Pennsylvania Migration Count (PAMC) will be held Saturday, May 10. Last May, 69 people counted birds in the field in Franklin County and/or at their backyard feeders. Members counted 11,306 birds of 165 species.

PAMC is a county-based bird count. Observations can be made anywhere in Franklin County over a 24 hour period on count day. Individual participants in Franklin County send their data to county compiler, Donna Hocker, who in turn, forwards it to the state compiler. The results are published in Pennsylvania Birds, our state ornithological journal.

The rules are simple: spend some time in the field counting birds in a specified area, keep track of miles traveled, and time spent counting birds. Birders of all skill levels can help out with the count. You can count the birds in your yard, at your feeders, in a local park or down the street.

This will be the 22nd year the Conococheague Audubon Chapter has participated in this event.

As always we need more people to count. If you would like to participate in the field but don't know where in Franklin County to count or if you want to count birds at your feeders,

contact Donna Hocker at 352-8713 or email dlhocker@yahoo.com.

Cub Scouts Enjoy Learning about Birds



By Shirley Fenstermacher

Cub Scout Pack 136, which meets in St. Johns United Church of Christ on Lincoln Way East most Tuesday evenings, has had some fun learning about birds this Spring.

A member of Conococheague Audubon, Shirley Fenstermacher, helped the 12 boys use pine cones, peanut butter, birdseed and a long pipe cleaner to create bird feeders to suspend in their back yards. The boys and their Dads also created wooden bird houses with hammers and nails.

The Scouts were invited to an upcoming birding workshop sponsored by CAS.

The public is also invited to attend the Beginning Birder Workshop Saturday, June 7, from 8 a.m. to noon at Caledonia Park.



Science Fair Award Winner Congratulations, Noah Whitney !

His Intermediate project "What is the Effect of Turbidity on Wildlife" has won a CAS award. The student, Noah Whitney, is in Mrs. Rooney's 6th grade class at Fairview in the Waynesboro School District. -- *Earl Nollenberger*

Coming Up

MEETINGS:

Community Center, Norlo Park,
3050 Lincoln Way East, Fayetteville, PA

MAY 1 **Field Trip Planning**, 6:30 p.m.
Board meeting, 7:30 p.m.

MAY 12 *Promoting Pathogen Hypovirulence as an Aid
in Restoring the American Chestnut*
by Dr. Michael Marshall, Shippensburg
University, Monday, 7 p.m.

JULY 31 **Board Meeting**, Thursday, 7 p.m.

FIELD TRIPS

PLEASE CONTACT LEADER IN ADVANCE

MAY 9 **PATH VALLEY FOR SPRING MIGRANTS**
(meet 6:30 a.m. Friday at Keener's home)
Bob Kenner (H) 532-9723 or (C) 658-8765.

MAY 10 **PENNSYLVANIA MIGRATION COUNT (PAMC)**
(Saturday all day) Contact **Donna Hocker**
352-8713 for tally form (see p. 3).

MAY 20 **EDENVILLE AREA FOR WHIP-POOR-WILLS
& BOBOLINKS**
(6 **p.m.** Tuesday leave from Chambersburg
Sunnyway Foods parking lot, Lincoln Way West.)
Eric & Rhetta Martin 597-8675

MAY 24 **STATE GAME LANDS #249, ADAMS COUNTY,
FOR SPRING MIGRANTS**
(7 a.m. Saturday, leave from 2nd parking lot,
Caledonia State Park)
Mike O'Brien 642-6676

JUNE 7 **BIRDING WORKSHOP**
(8 a.m. Saturday, 1st parking lot, Caledonia State Park.
Conway Bushey 262-5659

JUNE 14 **SOUTH MOUNTAIN / CALEDONIA / MICHAUX
IBA FOR SPRING MIGRANTS**
(Saturday 7 a.m. leave from 2nd parking lot,
Caledonia State Park)
Eric & Rhetta Martin, 597-8675

Conococheague Audubon Website
www.conococheagueaudubon.org

Newsletter Editor - J. D. Wright
717-532-7326 tjwright@embarqmail.com

Assistant Editor - Joyce Schaff
717-375-4632 Pjschaff@comcast.net

Send all newsletter articles and photos to the editor.
Send all mailing changes to the assistant editor.

**COPY DEADLINE IS AUGUST 15
FOR SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER.**

OFFICERS:

President Conway Bushey
wcbushey@embarqmail.com 717-262-5659

Vice President Doug Powless
dougpowless@hotmail.com 717-352-3418

Recording Secretary Rhetta Martin
rhettaanderic@embarqmail.com 717-597-8675

Corresponding Secretary Corinne Anderson
corinneanderson@centurylink.net 717-485-4214

Treasurer Henry Betz
hvbetz@embarqmail.com 717-263-3165

Immediate Past President Donna Hocker
dlhocker@yahoo.com 717-352-8713