

## Winter-Spring 2012 Newsletter



### **Stepping Outdoors**

### By Chris Holzmueller

It is amazing how a person's attitude can change with the weather when they step outside. You can see it walking down the street with everyone you meet. When it's sunny, about 70 to 75 degrees, and low humidity, most people are smiling and greeting every passer-by. There may be one or two grumblers, but it's hard to say what problem they are facing at the time.

Yet, the cold winter months can also bring great joy. It really is all about attitude. You can complain about being stuck inside, or you can step outside and go for a brisk walk around your neighbor-

hood or in a local park. There are sights you just cannot see from your car. Like dozens of deer hoof prints frozen in the mud of a baseball diamond, or a wall of rocks on the rail trail covered over by frozen rivulets and icicles, glistening in the morning sunlight, or 2 huge hawks, within a foot of each other, standing guard over prey.



On New Year's Day of 2012, America's State Parks coordinated a First Day Hike across all fifty

states, prompting people of all ages to take a hike. I counted 60 parks on Maryland's Department of Natural Resources "Find a Park" list (see <u>http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/</u>). I have no doubt that one of them is very close to where you live. Some of them are favorites of our field trip leaders, such as Gunpowder, which sprawls across 18,000 acres of Harford and Baltimore counties. Another favorite is Patapsco Valley, with 170 miles of trails, 8 recreational areas, and 32 miles running along the Patapsco River in Howard County. If you want a guided tour in areas of these and other park favorites, take a peek at our Field Trips on page 2 and 3 of the newsletter and join one of our trips occurring this winter and spring. You will be amazed at the variety of places where field trips are planned, from the Baltimore metropolitan area, to Easton and Tilghman Island on the eastern shore, to Front Royal and Shenandoah National Park.

A park that I am rather fond of is not state-owned, but an urban park in Canton called Patterson Park. You'll notice monthly birdwatching walks in Patterson Park among the CAS field trips. Yes, Patterson Park has quite a selection of bird species, including waterfowl that spend their winters on a small lake. It is one of my favorites because I used to live one block from the south side of the park and walked my dogs through the park 365 days a year. You cannot spot a fox, yes a fox, scurrying in the park if you are sitting inside your house. I believe the fox was finally *Continued on page 4* 

# What I'm Reading

*The Big Year* book by Mark Obmascik (and movie) Review by *Bryan MacKay* 

The year 2011 saw the release of the first-ever feature length movie about birding. And it starred three top-notch Hollywood actors: Jack Black, Owen Wilson and Steve Martin. The movie was not in theaters for long and did not make a lot of money, but

in my opinion, it was a lovely and very sweet film that anyone would enjoy, even folks who have never lifted binoculars to a bird. The movie was loosely based on a 2004 book of the same title, authored by Mark Obmascik.

The Big Year (the book) is a fun read. It is basically a series of stories about three birders who independently and competitively decide to see as many North American birds as possible in 1998. These are talented birders, but the word that by far best describes all three is obsessive. These three men are obsessive about birds, and devote immense amounts of time, mental energy and money fueling their big year. For the record, Sandy Komito set the bar incredibly high with a total of 745 species (Sandy Komito contacted CAS in March 2012 to report that his actual total was 748 species); Greg Miller had 715, and Al Levantin saw 711.

The book is well-written and entertaining. All three birders are characters, and despite their very distinct personalities, author Obmascik sketches them with clarity, insight and compassion.

The three A-list stars bring these big personalities to life in an entertaining, visual fashion in the film. Black, Wilson and Martin are perfectly cast; the sort of character they often portray in Hollywood are well-matched to the personalities of Miller, Komito and Levantin, respectively. Some of the events in the movie are fictional, not found in the book, but will ring true to serious birders. "The Big Year" is light-hearted, positive, uplifting and definitely entertaining. The movie deserved wider viewership than its run in theaters; it took in only 7 million dollars in ticket sales, against production costs of 41 million dollars. It will be out on DVD soon; be sure to view it then.

I thoroughly recommend both the book and the movie!

### Don't miss *Backyard Habitat for Birds* program and book signing by Pat Sutton at the Spaghetti Dinner!

Pat has keenly studied the natural world for over 30 years, as the naturalist for the Cape May Point State Park and then the Cape May Bird Observatory,



where she is also the program director. She and her husband (Clay) wrote the landmark book, *Birds and Birding at Cape May*, the in-depth result of their long-term efforts to document and protect the migration in Cape May.

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## **Field Trips and Programs:**

Some of the dates provide an opportunity to choose a trip or double up and participate in two. Beginner birders are welcome and encouraged to attend our walks!

# Saturday, January 28, 8-9:30am, Urban Bird-watching at Patterson Park for Winter Ducks

Stroll and search for winged friends spending their winter on the lake at this amazingly bird-populated city park! We have binoculars to lend you – just drop us an e-mail. Meet at the fountain in the park, which is located just inside the park on the Patterson Park Avenue side near the Pagoda. No need to register! Free!



#### Saturday, February 25, 10am-2pm, Diving Birds at Tilghman Island - Bird Walk and Talk Series at Pickering Creek (Easton)

Meet at Acme Cost: \$10/adult; \$5/child (15 yrs and under) The Bird Walk n' Talk series introduces beginning birders of all ages to the birds found along the Delmarva Peninsula. Each month will be an exploration of the habitat, identification, and/or calls of different bird groups. Trip limited to 9 participants. For more information call (410) 822-4903.

#### Saturday, February 25, 8-9:30am, Urban Bird-watching at Patterson Park for Winter Visitors

Stroll and search for winged friends! We have binoculars to lend you – just drop us an e-mail. Meet at the fountain in the park, no need to register! Free!

#### March 1 through May 17, 2012 Easton, MD Every Thursday, 10-11:30am, Fresh Air Walk with a Pickering Creek Naturalist

Join volunteer naturalists for a walk along Pickering Creek trails on Thursday mornings. While enjoying easy exercise, you'll look for signs of the changing seasons, identifying plants and animals along the way. Bring a friend and enjoy the fresh air. Registration is required three days in advance by calling (410) 822-4903. Children are considered ages 15 and under.

#### Monday, March 5, Evening Woodcock Watch with Tim Houghton, Harford Memorial Gardens

Just a hop, skip and jump from I-95, this location was boasted about for its good number of courting woodcocks last year. If you've never seen this interesting bird, or would like to see it again, contact Tim by e-mail <u>thoughton@loyola.edu</u> or call 410-510-7504.

### Saturday, March 10, 9:30-11:30am, Drawing Birds and Beginning Your Own Nature Journal with Mary Kokoski Location: Oregon Ridge Cost: \$10

Drawing and sketching nature is the best way to really see and understand the beauty of what is around us. Mary Kokoski (<u>www.marykokoski.com</u>) will teach beginners the basics of drawing and sketching birds and other nature subjects to help you start a personal nature journal. Spring is the perfect time to begin a personal diary of your interactions with nature's unfolding seasons of life. A supply list will be sent upon registration. RSVP to information@chesapeakeaudubon.org or call Ruth Bergstrom at 443-752-1967 to sign up or ask questions.

### Saturday, March 10, 1-3 PM, Wetlands and Wading Birds -Bird Walk and Talk Series at Pickering Creek (Easton)

Location: Welcome Center Cost: \$10/adult; \$5/child (15 yrs and under). For more information, call (410) 822-4903.

# Tuesday, March 13, 6:45-8:15pm, Timberdoodles at Pickering Creek (Easton)

Meet at Welcome Center Cost: \$5 person At dusk the male woodcock spirals into the sky, creating a trilling sound with its wings. Then he descends, fluttering, warbling and zigzagging back to the spot he began. Pickering Creeks' warm season grass meadows provide ideal habitat for this annual late winter event. Please, dress warmly and bring a flashlight. Registration is required three days in advance by calling (410) 822-4903.

# Sunday, March 18, 8am, Irvine Nature Center with Keith Costley

With forest, field and marshland, this 116-acre site has an extensive trail system and is full of promises. At this time of year, expect between 40 and 50 species with plenty of "little brown jobs." Let's welcome back leader Keith Eric Costley who has excellent identification skills. Call him at 443-985-6489 or e-mail <u>oriolekec1@comcast.net</u>

# Saturday, March 24, 8am, Centennial Lake with Larry Brammer and Ruth Bergstrom

We'll walk the 2.4 mile paved loop around this man-made lake near Columbia while searching for waterfowl and winter residents. Join us at a nearby restaurant for brunch afterwards. Please register with Ruth by emailing her at ruthb22@yahoo.com or calling 443-752-1967.

#### Saturday, March 31, 9-11 am, Bird Banding Demo with the Ward Museum - Bird Walk and Talk Series at Pickering Creek (Easton)

Meet at Main Office Cost: \$10/adult; \$5/child (15 yrs and under) For more information, call (410) 822-4903.

# Saturday, March 31, 8am, Urban Bird-watching at Patterson Park for Spring Arrivals

Meet at the Patterson Park Fountain for a morning stroll through the Park searching for birds that are visiting the Park. All ages welcome! Bring binoculars if you have them, although we will have extras for sharing if you need them. No need to register.

Join us on Meetup at Chesapeake Audubon Society for notification of field trips and events (http://www.meetup.com).







### More Field Trips & Programs!

#### Saturday, April 14, 2-5pm, Wildflower Hike, Patapsco Valley State Park with Bryan MacKay

Join naturalist Bryan MacKay for a 2.5-mile walk in search of spring wildflowers. The trails are mostly flat and paved, but some are rocky too. For more information or to register, e-mail Bryan at mackay@umbc.edu or phone at 410 747 7132 no later than April 14.

#### Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am, Adkins Arboretum with Ruth Bergstrom and Kye Jenkins

Let's see what birds have arrived and what is blooming at the 400acre native plant garden and preserve on the Eastern Shore. After the walk, browse their native plant sale, where Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer any questions. Please register with Ruth at ruthb22@yahoo.com or call her at 443-752-1967.

#### Friday, April 20, 7:30am, Old Rag Mountain Hike, Shenandoah National Park with John Love and Kevin McCahill (Day Trip)

Join us to celebrate the 42nd anniversary of Earth Day (a couple days early) and enjoy the beauty of nature on the premier day hike in the Washington area. We will meet at 7:30 at the Park-n-Ride at I 70 and RT 32 (located just north of I 70). The climb is strenuous but not technically difficult. It is 7.5 miles round-trip and takes 6-7 hours, including time for lunch at the top. You will need well broken in walking shoes or boots with hiking socks, lunch, at least a quart of water, warm clothing and rain gear and a pack to carry it all in. For those who are interested, after the hike we will stop for dinner in Warrenton, VA. We usually arrive back home around 8 PM. Although they may have lost a step or two in recent years, between them the trip leaders have made the hike up Old Rag more than 50 times! To register for the hike or for more information call Kevin McCahill at 443-831-3111.

# Saturday April 28, 9am - 1pm, Azaleas at the National Arboretum

The glory of Maryland in springtime is azalea season, and 50,000 plants will be in bloom at the National Arboretum. We'll walk about a mile of hilly but smooth trails to view the azaleas and the wildflower displays. We may even see a bird or two! For more information or to register, e-mail Bryan at mackay@umbc.edu or phone at 410-747-7132 no later than April 14.

#### Saturday, April 28th, 6:00pm, 30th Annual Spaghetti

**Dinner** St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church Parish Hall, Baltimore MD Speakers: Pat and Clay Sutton from Cape May, NJ. This is going to be a popular program so make your reservations early. Details on page 7 of the newsletter.



Saturday, May 5, Wildflower Hike, Thompson Wildlife Management Area with Bryan MacKay (Day Trip) Located near Front Royal, VA, it's a two-hour drive from Baltimore, but well worth the long trip. This wonderful forest atop the Blue Ridge harbors millions (that's not a misprint!) of large-flowered trilliums. It's an impressive sight. There are lots of wild geranium

and may apples flowering at this time, and several colonies of rare Yellow Lady's Slippers. And birding is good too; it's peak migration, and the trees at Thompson are just starting to green up, meaning the birds are easier to see than back in Baltimore where trees are fully leafed out. We'll hike a three mile circuit including a part of the Appalachian Trail. It's rocky underfoot but we'll go slow so the elevation change won't be a problem. Bring binoculars, camera, lunch and water. To register or for more information, contact Bryan MacKay (mackay@umbc.edu) at 410-747-7132. Canceled if rainy.

# Sunday, May 6, 8am, Milford Mill Birdwalk with Tim Houghton

A new location for us last year, Milford Mill proved why it has long been known to Baltimore's birders as a great migrant trap. There should be plenty to see and hear at this time of year and Tim is just the leader to find them. To sign up for a wonderful warbler experience, contact Tim by e-mail, <u>thoughton@loyola.edu</u>, or call 410-510-7504.

#### Saturday, May 12, 8am, Harford Glen with Ruth Bergstrom We'll celebrate International Migratory Bird Day by helping with

the May Count at Harford Glen. Songbirds should be plentiful as we walk along Winter's Run, the ponds, and fields. Join the leader at her home after the hike to tally the results and have lunch. Please let Ruth know you're coming by emailing her at ruthb22@yahoo.com or calling 443-752-1967.



# Sunday, May 13, 8am, Susquehanna State Park with Tim Houghton

Harford County's best place to see Cerulean Warblers building their nest. What birds will the river or the creek add to our list? This spectacular park has a little bit of everything and Tim has become one of our most popular leaders. E-mail Tim for information on meeting places/parking at thoughton@loyola.edu or call 410-510-7504.

Saturday, May 19, 8am to noon, Oriole Day at Cromwell Valley Park (Towson) See details elsewhere in this newsletter.

#### Sunday, May 20, 8am, Soldiers Delight Natural Environmental Area with Keith Costley

This time of year warblers, flycatchers and tanagers are featured as we search for late migrants and breeding birds in this globally rare serpentine barrens ecosystem. Meet at historical marker on Deer Park Road. Our leader will be Keith Eric Costley, contact him at (443) 985-6489 or <u>oriolekec1@comcast.net</u>

# Saturday, May 26, 10am, Canoe Trip, Marshy Point with Ruth Bergstrom

Cost: \$10 per person / children 8-15 years old free

Rachel Carson's birthday is during Memorial Day weekend, and we'll honor her impact on environmental awareness by paddling on tidal creeks that open to the Chesapeake Bay while learning about the watershed. All equipment provided. Register with Ruth by emailing her at <u>ruthb22@yahoo.com</u> or calling 443-752-1967.

**Sunday, May 27 is Birdathon Day** See details elsewhere in this newsletter.

### Stepping Outdoors continued...

caught and relocated, but there are other wildlife treasures to be seen. If you do visit the park, join a walk or a program sponsored by the Patterson Park Audubon Center (see page 4 of the Newsletter for scheduled programs).

Just bundle up and brave the elements. Within five minutes, I am sure you will feel nice and warm. Stepping outside and looking, listening, and smelling can be an amazing and invigorating experience, and it's free entertainment. As an added bonus, you'll get some exercise and when you come back inside, you will appreciate the warmth. From my perspective, it is the best therapy to while away the winter months.

### **Bird Watching at Pickering Creek**

For those of you who are not familiar with Pickering Creek Audubon Center, it is a 400-acre Sanctuary of the Chesapeake Audubon Society on the Eastern Shore in Talbot County. In 2011 they held 141 environmental and science education

programs to students, 10 family and outreach programs, and several events, such as Harvest Hoedown.

Several regular visitors and bird watchers of Pickering Creek share their bird lists from New Years Day of 2012.

From the side of Presquile Road: Canada Geese 400+ Northern Shoveler 20 Black Duck 4 Green-winged Teal 24+

Mallard 40+ Pintail 11 Ring-billed Duck 5 Pied-billed Grebe 3

On the trails off the main parking lot, starting with the one that circles the small pond behind the dam: several Bald Eagles, one Golden Eagle, 8 Black Vultures, and about 8 Turkey Vultures. Others that were seen or heard included:

Song Sparrow 7 Junco 2 White-throated Sparrow 2 Cardinal 1



410-558-2473 or PPAudubon@gmail.com

#### FAMILY PROGRAMMING

#### AUDUBON'S GARDEN TEAM Meet at the Butterfly Garden, on the western shore of the Boat Lake

The Patterson Park Audubon Center has three native plant gardens in the park, and we need volunteers to make sure they remain healthy and provide good habitat for the park's bird and insect species. Activities will start up in the Spring.

Saturday, February 4, 12:30-2:30pm, Tricky Trees Safari in Patterson Park Pileated Woodpecker 1 Flicker - 1 Lincoln's Sparrow 1

Pickering Creek is a beautiful sanctuary and well worth visiting. Look at our list of field trips on page 2 and 3 for several programs.



Compliments of Dave Gigliotti, photographer, Bel Air, MD

## **Conservation Corner**

Chesapeake Audubon Society and their Conservation Committee worked on key conservation issues on your behalf in 2011. A committee member was recently sent to Capitol Hill to meet with members of Congress to talk about cuts in critical conservation programs. We also wrote letters on key issues, among them were the following:

- Incidental Take Permit
- Great Plains Wind Energy Development Offshore Wind Sites
- Mid Atlantic Extinction Rider (Endangered Species Act)
- FASTC on the Eastern Shore
- Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act
- Charles County Cross County Connector (Mattawoman Creek)

If you would like to join our Conservation Committee and help advocate for worthy environmental and other issues, contact us at information@chesapeakeaudubon.org

Join this informal family safari through the park to identify trees and their importance to birds in the park. Walk starts at Pagoda, register in advance, free.

#### JUST FOR KIDS

#### TINY TOTS PROGRAMS

This is an hour of fun and education for ages 2 to 5 years old (accompanied by an adult). Time: 10-11am; register 2 days in advance; \$5 per child; meet at the Pagoda

# Friday, February 17 OR Saturday, February 25, I Dig Worms

Meet worms and learn what end is the head, what they like to eat, and where they LOVE to live.

Friday, March 16 OR Saturday, March 31, Reptiles Rule Meet some cool reptiles that are native to Maryland and learn where they like to make their homes.

Last spring, five black-bellied whistling ducks and the elusive least bittern visited Patterson Park!

# Animal Tracks

Winter is the best time of year to find out what kind of animals are romping around in your backyard, or your favorite park. After it snows, you can see animal tracks, and if you look at them closely, you may be able to figure out what kind of animal it is.

kid's corner

Hmmm...just think about what animals may be living close to your house. Ask yourself:

How many toes does the animal have? Deer have two, dogs, fox, and cats have four.

Does the track you see show claw marks? Fox and raccoon's tracks may show claws marks. (Dog tracks do too.) Cats pull in their claws when they walk or run, so you usually won't find claw marks if it is a cat.

Is there a line in the snow? Mice sometimes leave the imprint of a tail in the snow.

Are the tracks far apart from each other, or are they close together? Answering this question tells you whether the animal is big or small and whether it was moving quickly or slowly.

Do the tracks go over or under downed trees? A bigger animal will go over a downed tree, while a smaller animal may choose to go under it.

Do the tracks stop at a tree? Squirrel climb trees, but rabbits cannot. Is the track made by a "hopper?" As squirrels bound along, their larger hind feet land ahead of their smaller front feet. It looks like the front feet are side by side. Rabbit tracks look a little different. The hind feet still land ahead of the front feet, but the front feet are not found right next to each other.

Four toes on the front foot and five toes on the hind foot means it's a rodent (mice, voles, chipmunks, squirrels, wood-chucks, muskrat, and porcupine).

If the track has five toes each on the front and back feet it's from a raccoon or a member of the weasel family (weasel, badger, mink, skunk, otter) or it's a bear, beaver, or opossum. You may want to sketch the tracks you found and try to match them with an animal tracks book from the library. Go to page 6 and see if you can match the tracks to their owners.

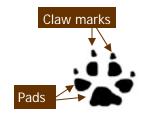
### Noteworthy Information

**Start saving eggshells now for the birds!** They will appreciate the calcium lost during egg production in the spring. Be sure to wash the eggshells and bake them for 1/2 hour at 350 degrees. Then crush and add them to your wild bird-seed or spread them around your yard.

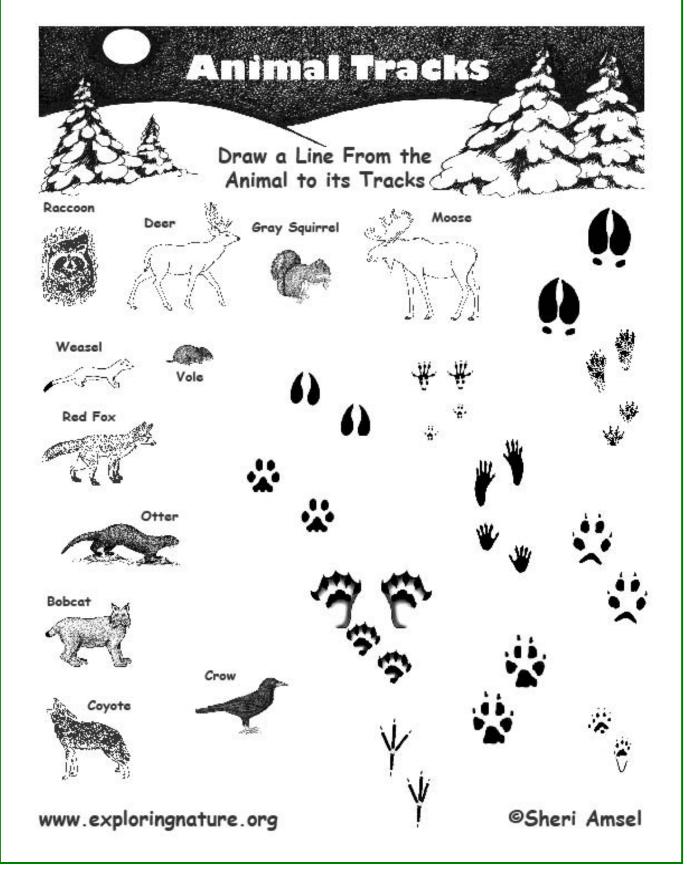
**Volunteer!** Do you enjoy helping out at special events, like to write letters, or have an idea for a field trip or workshop? Chesapeake Audubon is always looking for volunteers or new committee members. Please e-mail <u>informa-tion@chesapeakeaudubon.org</u> if you'd like to become more involved with our chapter.

**Great Backyard Bird Count:** The Christmas Bird Count has ended, but there's another bird-counting opportunity coming up from Feb. 17-20. The 15th annual Great Backyard Bird Count is looking for counters of all ages to help determine what birds are where in the U.S. Last year 92,218 check lists were submitted, and 11,471,949 birds were counted!

Learn more and sign up: <u>http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc</u>







Amsel, Sheri. "Animal Tracking Activities." Matching Animals to Their Tracks. Exploring Nature Educational Resource. © 2005 - 2011. December 27, 2011. <a href="http://exploringnature.org/db/detail.php?dbID=110&detID=2567">http://exploringnature.org/db/detail.php?dbID=110&detID=2567</a>>

# Chesapeake Audubon Society

## 30th Annual Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 p.m., Saturday April 28, 2012

## Pat and Clay Sutton Cape May, New Jersey

"Backyard Habitat for Birds (& Butterflies & Dragonflies & More!)," program and book signing by Pat Sutton

In the "Go Green" movement, all too often yards are forgotten and, in fact, many yards are the antithesis of green. The first and most important step is to "Go Native," to favor native plants and wildlife-friendly practices. Pat Sutton will showcase native trees, shrubs, vines, wildflowers, and even weeds that are most beneficial to birds and other wildlife. From the perspective of a life-long naturalist intimate with the workings of the natural world, Sutton will share countless common-sense garden maintenance techniques that will help property owners avoid common practices that actually harm rather than benefit wildlife. In addition to the obvious (bird feeders, bird houses, and bird baths), this program is packed with the "how's and why's" of attracting birds, butterflies and other wildlife to your backyard, no matter how small. In rapidly developing regions, backyards are critical wildlife habitat for nesting, migratory, and wintering birds, as well as frogs and toads, butterflies, dragonflies, and other beneficial insects. Patricia Sutton, in her long-time capacity as Naturalist and Program Director with the Cape May Bird Observatory, researched and wrote the New Jersey Audubon Society booklet, Backyard Habitat For Birds, a Guide for Landowners and Communities in New Jersey. Visit their web site: http://www.patandclaysutton.com/

### Dinner music by the Ten Directions Jazz Quartet

Where: St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 4713 Edmondson Avenue, Baltimore, MD

Cost: \$9.00/person for dinner and the program, \$12.00 if you would like a glass of wine or a beer with dinner.

**Reservations:** Please call 410-203-1819 and leave a message with your name, telephone number, and number of people you will be bringing, and whether you prefer vegetarian meatballs. Please send checks payable to The Chesapeake Audubon Society PO Box 3173, Baltimore, MD 21228. **Reservations are required.** 

**Directions:** Take Baltimore beltway to exit 15A (Rte. 40, Baltimore National Pike east, Baltimore.) Take Rte. 40 about 2 miles, just past the convergence of Route 40 and Edmondson Ave. The Church is on the right.

## **Special Events**

Wing into Spring Wednesday, March 21, 2012 Boordy Vineyards 6 to 9:00pm

Join National Audubon Society president, David Yarnold, and other Audubon supporters at Boordy Vineyards for an evening of food, wine and chocolate to support Audubon's work in Maryland and the District of Columbia. For details, call Susanna at 410-558-2473 Tickets: \$65 per person or \$125 per couple (\$35/person and \$70/couple is tax-deductible)

Tickets can be purchased by mailing a check payable to *Audubon Maryland-DC* by March 3, 2012 to: Audubon Maryland-DC, 2901 E. Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21224

### **Chesapeake Audubon Birdathon**

Sunday, May 27, 2012

Chesapeake Audubon invites you to join our 3rd annual

Birdathon on Sunday, May 27th! During 2011, we supported environmental education programs at Pickering Creek Audubon Center and Patterson Park Audubon, and Audubon Maryland/DC's Salt Marsh research project. Money raised this year will enable us to continue to fund these and new bird conservation programs. Consider forming your own birding team or sponsor ours. Ways to participate will be mailed out to you in a few months.

Oriole Day Cromwell Valley Park Saturday, May 19, 2012 8:00am to 12:00pm



Oriole Day is back! Spy Baltimore Orioles and Orchard Orioles in their nests, join guided nature walks, bring your children for fun-filled activities. There are many activities planned including a bird walk (promptly at 8am), a bug walk, and children's games, crafts and a puppet show. Free **Welcome New Members!** Welcome to the Chesapeake Audubon Society (CAS)! We are your local Chapter of the National Audubon Society. We are dedicated to carrying out the Audubon mission 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. As a member of Chesapeake Audubon, you are invited to participate in our numerous field trips and member events. EVERYONE, regardless of knowledge, skill level, or age is welcome and encouraged to come have some fun on one of these field trips. We hope you'll join us at some of our events and meet like-minded people who all share an interest in, respect for, and awe of nature. Welcome!

Donald W. Adams Anayezuka Ahidiana Kuroush Aligholizadeh Joyce A. Allegrini Margaret Allio Joan Alston Michelle L. Althouse Carson Amiot Geri Andrus Bruce Armiger Peter Ashley James G. Bacon Anne Bailliere **Richard Balling** Nancy Banning T. G. Barlow Grace Batton **Rosemary Beers** Ann E. Beezley Monty G. Bickerton Judith P. Bladen Geri Bond Judy C. Boone Mary Booz Carole Bossler Alice Bower Mary E. Boyce **Christine Briccetti** Margaret G. Brocato Anita Brokans Sylvia Brooks Alice E. Brown Rachel Budd Iain Burgess Qi Cao Elfriede Carney Sally Cartwright Nadine Cates Alice R. Cave Andrij Chornodolsky Michael Christopher

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