

Chesupioc

Winter-Spring 2013 Newsletter



Fall 2012 Birdseed Sale

by Robin Schless

The Wild Bird Center in Timonium hosted this year's Fall Birdseed Sale. They very generously opened their doors, ordered the 3,500 lbs of birdseed and 200+ suet cakes requested by our members, and offered their wonderful store for our use. We raised over \$800 for children's programs at Audubon's urban Patterson Park Center. We got off to a slow start this year, but look for us next Fall before you stock up for winter birdfeeding. We'll bring back a mixed seed since so many of you really like the mixes. In hopes of dispelling a few myths, remember that spring and summer feeding is also very useful because it's bird baby-making time and the parents are in need of lots of protein. And it's a myth that birds become dependent on the feeders; they see it as an easy and dependable food source, but the majority of their diet remains the natural environment— insects and plant seeds and fruits. So open those bags, keep on filling those feeders, grab a cup of coffee, and enjoy the sights at your windows! Thank you all for your orders and your generous donations.



not show significant declines over the decade and a half between the introduction of DDT in the US (about 1946) and Carson's writing of *Silent Spring* (about 1961).

First, CBC data are not truly scientific (only in the last decade, when CBC data reached a sample size and longevity to be useful, and computers that can analyze immense quantities of raw data have been invented, can the CBC yield any meaningful conclusions). Counts at any given venue vary greatly from year to year, depending on weather and the skill and dedication of those who count. Counts in the era before DDT was introduced (pre-1941), which serve as a control, are so small as to be useless (all CBC data are available on the National Audubon website) Finally, many of the bird species most impacted by DDT are not winter residents, and so are missing from any analysis that uses CBC data. A much more meaningful and scientific monitoring protocol, the Breeding Bird Survey, was not designed until after Carson's death.

The authors show a CBC graph that they say shows bald eagle numbers did not vary significantly nationwide between 1939 and 1961. As I noted before, the sample size is so small and variability so large as to render such a conclusion meaningless. The authors did not use a statistical analysis of the data to make their conclusion, as any scientist would. They ignored the fact that DDT was not directly killing bald eagles, but was affecting their reproductive potential, meaning that population size reductions would not show up for years in these long-lived birds. The recovery of bald eagle populations after DDT was banned is well known. And it's not just a statistical connection; cause and effect has been proven.

The authors totally ignore the immense literature and reams of scientific data that prove DDT was impacting bird populations. The best-documented species declines from DDT include the bald eagle, brown pelican, osprey, and peregrine falcon. Research definitively showed that DDT breakdown products like DDE caused eggshell thinning in these species, resulting in eggs that broke under the weight of an incubating parent. Among bald eagles in Maryland in 1962, for example, only 0.2 young per active nest were fledged. Since 1980, almost a decade after DDT was banned in the United States, that number has been about 1.6, as it was before DDT was introduced.

This chapter of *False Crises* is a classic case of selective use of a few facts taken out of context to support a pre-determined conclusion based on political prejudice. The goal is to confirm the prejudices of like-minded readers and confuse readers who are unwilling to investigate the facts for themselves. *False Crises* is journalism at its unethical worst. ■■

What I'm Reading

by Bryan MacKay

Book Review : *Silent Spring at 50: The False Crises of Rachel Carson*

Editors: Andrew Morriss, Roger Meiners and Pierre Desroches

The title of this 2012 book caught my attention at the public library, because it seemed so incongruous with what I understand of the role *Silent Spring* has played in the modern environmental movement. When I read that it was published by the Cato Institute, a libertarian think tank, I decided to look at the book more closely.

This book is revisionist history; a long essay that promotes a particular predetermined mindset and presents a few facts, taken out of context that support the author's point of view, while ignoring the huge corpus of data that do not support this view. In that sense, *Silent Spring at 50* uses the same approach that the conservative movement has used with some success in criticizing global warming science.

For Audubon members concerned with birds, the most salient chapter is "The Selective Silence of Silent Spring: Birds, Pesticides and Alternatives to Pesticides". The two authors are an economic geographer and a policy consultant. Clearly, the Cato Institute could not find a scientist to refute Rachel Carson's original work.

The central argument of this chapter is that Carson willfully ignored the National Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count (CBC) data when she argued that DDT was killing birds. The authors argue that DDT must not have been killing birds, because CBC data for bald eagles and brown thrashers specifically, and birds in general, did

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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!

Friday, February 8, 8:00-9:30pm **Canton, MD**
Patterson Park Friday Walk Leader: Hugh Simmons
More than 180 species visit Patterson Park each year. Meet at the fountain in the northwest part of the park to search for winter residents. No need to register. Call or email Patterson Park Audubon if you need binoculars: ppaubudon@gmail.com, 410-558-2473

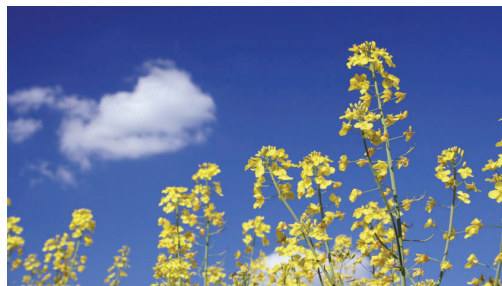
Friday, February 15 **Easton, MD**
3:00-5PM Pickering Creek Great Backyard Bird Count
5:30-7pm Feederwatch Celebration
This fun-filled, family-friendly event is a great way to get involved in wildlife monitoring. Join Pickering Creek volunteers for a bird count (done from the display room at main office and along the trails). Experienced birders will be on hand to help with identification. This event is followed by a Feederwatch Celebration. **To register for these events, please call Samantha at 410-822-4903 or email spitts@audubon.org. Registration is required 3 days in advance of the event.**

Saturday, February 16, 8:00am **Easton, MD**
Great Backyard Bird Count and e-Bird Monitoring at Pickering Creek Leader: Ruth Bergstrom
Help find and count the winter birds at Pickering Creek and help scientists learn about the bird populations. We'll search the wetlands and woods for resident birds, then warm up with hot chocolate as we tally the results. **Please register with Ruth at 443-752-1967 or ruthb22@yahoo.com. Carpool with us from the 'western' shore.**

Saturday, February 23, 8:00-9:30am
Patterson Park Urban Birding
Patterson Park hosts over 180 bird species each year. Meet at the fountain in the northwest part of the park to search for the winter residents. No need to register. Call or email Patterson Park Audubon if you need binoculars: ppaubudon@gmail.com, 410-558-2473.

Saturday, March 2 **Aberdeen, MD**
Evening Woodcock Watch Leader: Tim Houghton
Meet Tim at Harford Memorial Gardens **30 minutes before sunset** for an evening of Woodcock watching. Just a hop, skip and jump from I-95, this location has hosted a good number of courting woodcocks in recent years. If you've never seen this interesting bird, or would like to see it again, **contact Tim by e-mail thoughton@loyola.edu or call 410- 510-7504.**

Friday, March 8, 8:00-9:30am Leader: Bryan MacKay
Patterson Park Friday Walk: Signs of Spring
Join our Friday walk in Patterson Park and look for signs of spring and early migrants. Meet at the fountain in the northwest part of the park to search for the winter residents. No need to register. Call or email Patterson Park Audubon if you need binoculars: ppaubudon@gmail.com, 410-558-2473



Saturday, March 9, 9:00-11:00am
Patterson Park Garden Team
Flex your green thumbs while helping us take care of native plants in Patterson Park. Volunteers are needed to make sure these plants remain and provide healthy habitats for the park's birds and insects. Practice gardening techniques, learn identification skills, and spend a nice morning outdoors with friends and family. **Helpful students can earn community service hours.** No need to register. Email ppaubudon@gmail.com with any questions.

Saturday, March 23 — Two events today!
10:00am-1:00pm **Signs of Spring Walk**
Join naturalist, Bryan MacKay, in search of signs of the vernal season: birds, wildflowers, weeds and maybe even amphibians. We will walk 4 miles or so in Patapsco State Park (**Ellicott City area**) on both paved and muddy trails. **Please register with Bryan at 410 747 7132 or mackay@umbc.edu by March 21.**

8:00-9:30am, Patterson Park Urban Birding & Open House
More than 180 species visit Patterson Park each year. Meet at the fountain in the northwest part of the park to search for the winter residents. After the bird walk join Patterson Park Audubon and Chesapeake Audubon at an open house at the Audubon office! **Please RSVP if you are attending the open house or need binoculars by calling or emailing Patterson Park Audubon at ppaubudon@gmail.com, 410-558-2473.**

Saturday, April 6, Leader: Ruth Bergstrom
Blackwater NWR: Saltmarsh Experience
Join Ruth for a saltmarsh experience at the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge in **Cambridge, Maryland**. Learn about the importance of salt marshes by observing the birds and other wildlife and plants at the refuge. **Contact Ruth at ruthb22@yahoo.com or 443-752-1967 to register and for car-pool information.**

Friday, April 12, 8:00-9:30am
Patterson Park Friday Walk
More than 180 species visit Patterson Park each year. Meet at the fountain in the northwest part of the park to search for residents and early migrants. No need to register. Call or email Patterson Park Audubon if you need binoculars: ppaubudon@gmail.com, 410-558-2473.

Saturday, April 13, 8:30am Leader: Ruth Bergstrom
Fort Smallwood Hawk Watch for Beginners
Beginning birders are especially welcome as we search the park (**Pasadena, Maryland**) for songbirds, then join the spring hawk watch and learn how to identify raptors flying north during migration. Park entrance fee is \$6.00. **To register contact Ruth ruthb22@yahoo.com or 443-752-1967.**

Calendar continued on page 3

Visit us at 

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More Field Trips & Programs!

Sunday, April 14, 8:00am Adkins Arboretum

Eastern Shore of MD

Leader: Kye Jenkins

Join us to spot some early spring migrants at the Adkins Arboretum. Meet in the Adkins parking lot. Beginners are welcome! To register contact Kye Jenkins at 410-628-7257 or kyebird46@yahoo.com

Saturday, April 20

Cambridge, MD

Marsh Restoration Project at Blackwater NWR

Come help restore habitat at the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge. We'll be planting marsh grasses, so wear boots or old shoes. This program is funded by an Audubon grant. Contact Ruth at ruthb22@yahoo.com or 443-752-1967 to register and for carpool information.

Monday, April 22, 7:30am

Old Rag Hike

Leader: Kevin McCahill

Celebrate Earth Day and enjoy the beauty of nature on the premier day hike in the Washington area. We will meet at 7:30am at the Park-n-Ride at I 70 and RT 32 (located just north of I 70) and car pool to the trail head in the Shenandoah National Park. 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. For more information call Kevin McCahill at 443-831-3111.

Saturday, April 27 Two events today!

Patterson Park Urban Birding, 8:00-9:30am

More than 180 species visit Patterson Park each year. Meet at the fountain in the northwest part of the park to search for residents and migrants. No need to register. Call or email Patterson Park Audubon if you need binoculars: ppaubudon@gmail.com, 410-558-2473.

Annual Spaghetti Dinner, 6:00pm

Join Chesapeake Audubon for their famous and delicious spaghetti dinner. Details on page 4.

Sunday, April 28, 8:00am

Milford Mill Birdwalk

Leader: Tim Houghton

Milford Mill has proven 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, thoughton@loyola.edu, or call 410-510-7504. LIMIT OF 12 PEOPLE!

Saturday, May 4 Two events today!

Susquehanna State Park, 7:30am

Leader: Tim Houghton

Susquehanna State Park is Harford County's best place to find Cerulean Warblers, many other warbler, and songbird species. What birds will the river, creek, woods, and fields reveal for our list? This spectacular park has a little bit of everything. E-mail Tim for information at thoughton@loyola.edu or call 410-510-7504. LIMIT OF 15 PEOPLE! Tentative meeting place will be at Rock Run Mill (corner of Stafford Rd. and Rock Run Rd.).

May 4, 8:00-10:00am

Patterson Park Youth Bird Monitoring

Middle and high school students have the opportunity to be citizen scientists, collecting data on bird species and sharing what they find with the greater scientific community. No prior experience is necessary and you can borrow binoculars if you need them.

Helpful students can earn community service hours.

Register by emailing ppaubudon@gmail.com or calling 410-558-2473.

Friday, May 10, 8:00-9:30am

Patterson Park Friday Walk

More than 180 species visit Patterson Park each year. Meet at the fountain in the northwest part of the park to search for residents and migrants. No need to register. Call or email Patterson Park Audubon if you need binoculars: ppaubudon@gmail.com, 410-558-2473.

Saturday, May 11, 8:00am

Bel Air, MD

International Migratory Bird Day

Come to the Harford Glen Environmental Education Center and help with the May bird count for the Harford Bird Club at the Glen. Last year, 19 warbler species were spotted with a final tally of 91 species. Snacks will be provided, limited to 8 participants, beginners welcome! Please RSVP Ruth via email ruthb22@yahoo.com or phone 443-752-1967.

Sunday, May 12

Chesapeake Audubon Birdathon

How many bird species can you see in 24 hours? The Chesapeake Audubon Birdathon is an opportunity to raise money for the Patterson Park and Pickering Creek Environmental Centers. It is an all day event to spot as many bird species as possible. You can form a team and solicit others to sponsor you, or you can sponsor an existing team. We already have one team signed up! There is no limit on the donation amount. Contact Ruth Bergstrom for more information (email: ruthb22@yahoo.com, call 443-752-1967).

Saturday, May 18, 8:00am-12:30pm

Baltimore County

Oriole Day at Cromwell Valley Park

Don't miss Oriole Day at beautiful Cromwell Valley Park. We have a busy day planned for children and adults. There will be bird walks, including a Bluebird



Baltimore Oriole, female



Baltimore Oriole, male

walk, a bug walk, a five senses walk, and a nature photography walk. The kids don't want to miss the games, crafts, and prizes. There will also be short talks by experts of birds, bats, native plants, and more! Visit our website for more information (www.chesapeakeaudubon.org).

Sunday, May 19, 10:00am

Canoe Trip at Marshy Point

Leader: Ruth Bergstrom

Join our annual trip to honor Rachel Carson's birthday, where we'll learn about the Chesapeake watershed by paddling the tidal creeks and dense marshlands. Bring a lunch and picnic on the grounds after our trip. All equipment provided. Register with Ruth by emailing her at ruthb22@yahoo.com or calling 443-752-1967. Cost: \$10 per adult, \$5 per child (8-15 years old)

Chesapeake Audubon Society
Annual Spaghetti Dinner

6:00 p.m., Saturday April 27, 2013

Featuring
Hugh Simmons



Birding Panama: A Glimpse into International Bird Conservation

From lowland tropical forests and coastal marine ecosystems to montane cloud forests, dry forests, grasslands and arid lands, Panama is both a migratory route and wintering ground for our Neotropical migrants. The majority of our birds spend from 6 – 8 months of the year in tropical America!

Would it make sense to protect one habitat but not the other? To protect both the birds' temperate habitat and their tropical habit, organizations have come together to provide the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of Panama's wetlands, forests, and wildlife. Monkeys, trogons, toucans, sandpipers, and our very own warblers live in these intact forested watersheds.

Join Hugh Simmons (past president of Chesapeake Audubon), currently a Board Member of the National Audubon Society, as he shares a glimpse into this work in Panama and the delicate balance between environmental, economic and political concerns in the region.

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

Cost: \$10.00 per person for dinner and the program, \$13.00 for a glass of wine or a beer with dinner.

Reservations: Call (410) 203-1819; specify if you prefer vegetarian spaghetti sauce. Please send checks payable to The Chesapeake Audubon Society PO Box 3173, Baltimore, MD 21228 or call (410) 203-1819 and leave a message with your name, telephone number and number of people you will be bringing.

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

Please note: we ask that you reserve your meal ticket in advance. As always, walk-ins are welcome, but we can't guarantee there will be enough food for them.

Field Trip Journal

Read about some of the trips you attended or missed!

Our second field trip for fledgling birders was to North Point State Park in Edgemere. The park covers 1320 acres by the Chesapeake Bay and has an interesting history. It was the sight of skirmishes between the locals and British during the war of 1812, and an amusement park between 1906 and 1947. Bethlehem Steel bought the land in the 1940's, eventually demolished the amusement park, and then sold it to the Maryland DNR in 1987.

Since this was a bird walk for



Photo by Fred Brundick

beginners, we concentrated on seeing and identifying both dabbling and diving ducks. We enjoyed walking along the Black Marsh Trail and then the jetty to spot not only ducks but some other nice winter visitors. One of the best bird species we spotted was the White-winged Crossbill, which perched very close to us before flying down to take a drink. Other birds noted along the trail were the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Gadwall, Pied-billed Grebe, Red-shouldered Hawk, Belted Kingfisher, Hairy Woodpecker, and Hooded Merganser. Along the jetty we spotted a Bald Eagle, Bufflehead, Lesser Scaup, and Long-tailed Duck.

Our next fledgling bird walk will be at Fort Smallwood on April 13th!

Kid's Corner by Susan Hutson

Harry Potter's Owls



Many people who know about owls have discussed the types of magical owls that fly noiselessly through the 7-book Harry Potter series. Between the pages, some rather remarkable owls carry notes, packages, and even a Nimbus 2000 between muggles, wizards, or wizards-in-training at Hogwarts. At the top of the list is Hedwig, Harry Potter's messenger and companion. Hedwig is a **Snowy Owl** and has yellow eyes, a wingspan (distance between the two wing tips) from 56" to 66," and a call that can be heard up to 2 miles away. Although the heaviest of the owls, the Snowy Owl is fast, clocked once at 50 miles per hour.

Ron's owl, Pigwidgeon, is the tiny **Eurasian Scop Owl**. Pigwidgeon has yellow eyes, but unlike Hedwig, is largely nocturnal (only active at night) and has eartufts.



The Weasley's depend on Errol, a **Great Gray Owl**. While Errol is shown to be clumsy in the movies, a Great Gray Owl is not really clumsy. Errol belongs to the largest of the owl species, which is about an inch longer than the Snowy Owl, but, surprisingly, about half as heavy. Errol has yellow eyes and a wingspan up to 60". Unlike Hedwig, it most often moves short distances, and seldom glides.



Percy's owl is a **Screech Owl**, small, about 8" to 9" long, with bright yellow irises and eartufts. Like Pigwidgeon, Percy's Screech Owl is nocturnal. Malfoy owns a powerful and fierce **Eurasian Eagle Owl**, the largest and heaviest of the owls in Europe and Asia. Like Hedwig, the Eagle Owl can fly great distances, and like Pigwidgeon and Errol, it is nocturnal and has eartufts. The Eagle Owl's orangish eyes make it different from the other owls in the Harry Potter stories. Learn more about owls at the following web sites.

Five WOW Owl Facts!

- Owls have **4 toes**, and the outer 2 toes are reversible. An owl can perch with 2 toes forward and 2 toes back, or 3 toes forward and 1 toe back.
- Each **ear** of an owl is a different size, which helps in accurately locating a sound.
- The **facial disks** of an owl collect and focus sound.
- A third **eyelid** protects the owl against bright light.
- Owls fly silently because of serrations on the front edge of the primary **wing feather**.

Meet Archimedes, a screech owl, and Professor McGonagowl (Laura Erickson), and learn how a Snowy Owl can carry a Nimbus 2000 at *The Owls of Harry Potter* at <http://www.lauraerickson.com/bird/Species/Owls/HarryPotter/HarryPotter.html>

Compare the hoots of the Snowy, Scop, Great Gray, Screech, and Eagle Owl at <http://www.owlpages.com/sounds.php>
Discover descriptions and photos of more owl species at <http://www.owlpages.com>, <http://allaboutbirds.org/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=1077&q=Owls>, and <http://owling.com>

Noteworthy Information

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 information@chesapeakeaudubon.org if you'd like to become more involved with our chapter. Visit our Web site for a peek: <http://www.chesapeakeaudubon.org/Volunteer.html>.

Community Service Opportunities! There are plenty of opportunities for school-aged children to earn community service hours. Read about the field trips on March 9th and May 4th for two opportunities.

Bryan MacKay's Audubon Nature

Blog: Parking Lot Gulls

Winter brings an incongruous sight to shopping mall parking lots: flocks of medium-sized gulls, loafing, resting, and occasionally squabbling over discarded scraps of human food. What brings these gulls to suburban parking lots, so distant from their usual coastline haunts?

Most parking lot gulls are ring-billed gulls, a common and widespread species that winters along the East, West and Gulf Coasts, and into the Mississippi Valley. With a catholic diet, ring-bills have found landfills and garbage dumps to be a plentiful source of food when their summer provender of insects and earthworms fails. However, other animals, including predators like foxes and peregrine falcons, are also attracted to dumps and landfills, so ring-bills depart for safer locales between bouts of feeding. Parking lots are flat and open, where predators can be easily and promptly sighted, and harassment, save by the occasional reprobate motorist, is minimal. In snowy weather, mall parking lots are promptly cleared to blacktop so the birds don't have to stand in snow. On sunny days, that same blacktop absorbs heat, and is a much warmer surface than grass, dirt or concrete. Finally, many such parking lots are brightly lit at night, improving visibility and discouraging owls.

Ring-bills are by far the most numerous gull species found in parking lots. As their common name implies, a blackish band encircles the bill near the far end. Adult ring-bills have white bodies and yellow feet, with pale grey wings tipped with black. Juveniles have

grey or brown streaks on the head and body, with a black band on the tail.

Ring-billed gulls display a variety of behaviors that can be readily studied by a patient observer. Most interactions between gulls occur during squabbles over food. Threat behaviors include head bobbing, open-wing charges, and even physical contact like pecking and wing-pulling, but by far the most common threat behavior is the aggressive display. The bird lowers his head to his feet, and extends his body while calling and raising his head to shoulder level. Appeasement displays include assuming a hunched posture accompanied by high-pitched cries, and head flagging, where the head jerks away from an opponent.

By April, ring-bills leave Maryland for nesting grounds in southern Canada and the northern tier of states west of the Great Lakes. Here they nest in colonies on the ground, usually on islands where four-legged predators are absent. While the hemispheric population is now several million birds, persecution by humans between 1850 and 1920 made the species uncommon.

The next time the winter blahs get you down, remember that relief is as close as your nearest mall parking lot, where ring-billed gulls display some fascinating behaviors for you to observe from the warmth of your car. Be sure to bring your binoculars and a favorite bird identification guide, too, since other species of gulls, including the occasional rare vagrant, sometime loaf with their ring-billed relatives. For example, a black-headed gull has frequented the parking lot at Hunt Valley for the past two winters. ■■

What Our Members are Reading

by Fred Brundick

Book Review: *A-Birding on a Bronco*
Author: Florence A. Merriam, 1896

In the spring of 1889 and the spring and summer of 1894 Florence Merriam went bird watching in Southern California. She wrote about some of her adventures in various publications then compiled them in a book. Each chapter in her book is about a different pair of nesting birds or the residents of a grove of trees. Merriam treats each bird as if it were a small human, calling them "her tenants." She sat and watched her tenants building their nests or tending them while her horse, either Mountain Billy or Canello, grazed nearby. Merriam's style is informal and I enjoyed her stories as she went calling on her feathered neighbors. As a rider, I appreciated her anecdotes about the horses as much as her detailed descriptions of the birds and their habits.

Ms. Merriam started the practice of observing birds in the wild, concentrating on nesting. Before Merriam, bird identification was done on dead specimens. One of her birds was never positively identified because she refused to kill it so it could be studied. She recounts rescuing a pair of young woodpeckers when their parents were accidentally poisoned, and writes about unpopular birds and how she learned that they are also "people."

I listened to the free Audiovox recording of the book (available at <http://librivox.org/a-birding-on-a-bronco-by-florence-a-merriam>). The female reader did a good job and I laughed at some of her bird calls. A free text version, with woodcuts and photos

from the original book, is also available from Project Gutenberg (available at <http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/33410>). This publication provides a list of all the birds mentioned in the book, plus a list of illustrations. Some of the figures show two bird heads at half size, often comparing Eastern and Western species.

In summary, while Ms. Merriam writes about bird identification, the book mainly tells about her adventures with her horses and the birds that they encounter. ■■

Chesapeake Audubon wishes to thank and gratefully acknowledge recent donors!

William Beil	Estate of Agnes Berz
Joan Burke	Janet Decker
Barbara Engelke	Timothy Houghton
John Love	Bryan MacKay
Melissa Mackey	Kevin and Mary McCahill
Paul Noell	Richard Schurmann
Steven Thompson	Albert Urbina
Evelyn and David Taylor	
Roger & Priscilla Waldman	
Karen & Norman Meadow	
Richard Worsham & Deborah Geisenkotter	
Wild Bird Center of Timonium (Mays Chapel)	

Thank You!

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!

Roberta Ahmed	Lawrence Conelius	Frank Goldsmith	Marie Lemmon
Margaret Albertsen	Janet Conte	Jimmy Goodman	Hope Leuchter
Gerald Altman	Alene Crenson	Donald Guevara	Jacqueline Lewis
Dawn Ament	Carolyn Croaston	Theresa Hage	Janet Lezon
Wayne Arvin	Sue Currence	Barbara Hall	Joanne Linder
Glenn Baker	Neil Dampier	E. Hall	Bruce Lindstrom
Jeff Bartel	Benjamin Dehaven	J Alex Haller	Isabelle Lundberg
Amelia Barthel	Leslie Deickman	Jennifer Hamilton	Jason Maax
Ed & Lori Bartholomey	John Devlin	Nancy Hamilton	Amy MacDonald
Leszek Basek	Chinh Doan	Janet Hartka	Jennifer Macek
Liz Battin	Rosalie Dodson	John Hashim	Mary Magalhaes
Wayne Bell	Jacqueline Donaldson	Ida Havard	Charles Martin
Lee & Phil Bertoldi	Connie Ducroix	Anthony Henson	Florence Martin
Nancy Biser	Craig Duerling	Joan Herder	Roger Martin
Bill Boyd	Sheila Dyer	Sherry Hill	David & Mary Draut
Linda Boyd	Curtis Eargle	Tammy Hoffer	Charles Mathews
Dennis Bozzell	Marcia Eisenstein	Susan Holt	Rosalie Maurer
Roland Brawley	Tricia Ellis	Will Howard	Kathleen Mayfield
Betty-Jane Brendel	Louise Emmert	Nancy Hull	M. Mays
Alma Brigger	Hartley Etheridge	Christopher Jakubiak	Anne Mc North
Maryellen Brooke	John Fitzpatrick	Mr & Mrs Robert Johnson	Marge McCarthy
Richard Buehner	Jeffrey Fones	Paul Johnson	Sara McCarty
John Bugan	James Formwalt	Martha Johnston	Ann McGuirk
Gwynnette Bull	Elizabeth Frazier	Richard Jones	Barbara McMahan
Charlene Burton	James Freeman	Deb & Kurt Kalb	Susan Meushaw
William Burton	Ron Frey	Nancy Kass	A.T. Michalak
Sue Champion	Ronald Froede	Mary Kelly	Claude Migeon
Tim Carney	B. Fromm	A. Klages	Evan Miles
Jaki Carol	Dave-Debbie Fuller	Joanne Kline	James Miller
Beverly Carswell	Amy Gaffney	Richard Kopro	Joyce Miller
Marc Cherbonnier	? Galkins	Chris Kozak	M. Miller
Mark Cherwien	John Gallagher	Bettijane Krall	J. Molz
Pauline Chronowski	Stephan Gegala	Alan Krupp	James Morgan
Rosemary Ciaudelli	Cynthia Goad	Dick Lance	Albert Moschetto
Ruth Coleman	Archie Golden	Heidi Lasher-Oakes	Robert Mueller
Lucille Coleman	Barbara Goldsmith	Cynthia Lauster	Keith Murphy
		Charles Leaver	Maria Musotto

Citizen Science Project

If you would like to help monitor Cerulean Warblers during breeding season email information@chesapeakeaudubon.org and sign up for this exciting event. We will meet at the McKeldin area of Patapsco State Park during breeding season (specific date to be determined). Expert birder, Tim Houghton, will lead this citizen science project to monitor a bird species of great concern in an IBA (Important Bird Area) in Maryland.



Naturalist Mondays with Pickering Creek staff

The staff at Pickering Creek have developed a program to improve their naturalist skills, and they invite you to join them. A staff member will conduct each session. Call the office at 410---822---4903, ext. 26 or email spitts@audubon.org if you want to join any or all sessions. Times will vary; the schedule is as follows:

February 4, Patterson Park trip (Canton, Balto. City)
February 11, Forest Walk (Pickering Creek's forest)
February 25, Nature Photography
March 4, Herp Search
March 11, Storytelling

CAS Archives....Do you remember?

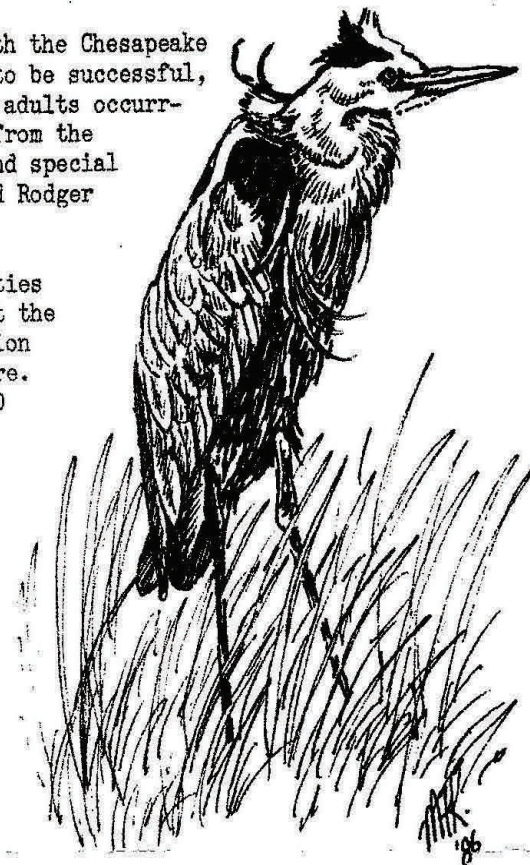
PICKERING CREEK AUDUBON EDUCATION SANCTUARY 1986—Bryan MacKay

The year 1986 closes on another successful year at the Pickering Creek Sanctuary. We have not chronicled the life of the many plants, animals and other organisms that live there, but visitation by humans, both Audubon members and guests, was frequent and thoroughly enjoyed. Nine separate events were sponsored, ranging from open houses to

education programs. Our cooperative venture with the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michaels continues to be successful, as a variety of programs for both children and adults occurred. A day-long education program for children from the Country School of Easton was enjoyed by all, and special thanks are due for help from Robin Wightman and Rodger Waldman.

The major focus of Chesapeake Audubon's activities involved fund-raising for the Endowment Fund at the Sanctuary. By setting a firm financial foundation now, expanded activities can occur in the future. Indeed, the expansion of the fund from \$121,000 to \$150,000 will allow us to hire a director-naturalist in 1987. This significant step augurs great things for our Sanctuary. Expanded interactions with local groups is another goal for 1987, and will allow us to magnify our impact. In summary, the consolidation of 1986 ensures the financial and educational success we expect in 1987 and the future.

Finally, the Education Chairperson and the Executive Board of the Chesapeake Audubon Society wish to thank the many members and friends who have contributed their time and money in 1986. Without you, the activities and programs at Pickering Creek Audubon Sanctuary would only be a dream. If we dedicate ourselves to a still stronger effort in 1987, the even greater rewards of preservation and education will have a far-reaching impact.



Welcome New Members!
continued....

Nandini Muthusubramanian	Anita Spiegel	Nancy Umphlett
Anne Neibaur	Mary Stabnow	Albert Urbina
Jay Nelson	Otis Staley	Mark Vidor
Amy Nesspor	Dan Stewart	Sheila Wainwright
Regina Niedermeyer	Rebekah Stutzman	Cynthia Wang
Vivian Nusholtz	Cheryl Sullivan	Elisabeth Ward
Evelyn Olesky	Michael Sullivan	John Ward
Dawn Opie	Donna Suwall	Peter Whebee
Patsy Parent	Betsy Tait	Linda Williamson
Sandra Parker	Betty Anne Taylor	E. Wilsey
Jade Perdue-Puli	Ellen Taylor	Frances Wilt
Jean Price	Richard Toohey	Charles Wright
Kate Primm	Susan Truitt	Ming Yang
Fred Quimby	Randy Turco	Sarah & Andy Young
Mary Redman	Janet Tuttle	Vera Zymis

Wanda Reed
 Kathy Reeves
 Donald Resch
 June Risley
 Huguette Rivet
 Joann Robey
 Joyce Robinson
 Emily & Robert Rody
 Mildred Rogers
 Louis Rosenthal
 Robert Royal
 Terry Ruffatto
 Frederick Runge
 Gary Sautter
 Beatrice Schirmer
 Mary Scholl
 James Schreier
 Marie Schwartz
 Paulette Scauder
 John Scudder
 Joshua Sharlin
 Mary Shuler
 Lonnell & Jen Skelton
 Amanda Smith

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Birdathon Coordinator: Kye Jenkins
Original artwork: Mary Kokoski

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 Richard Schurmann Bryan MacKay
 Henry Aguirre Owen Bamford

Director Emeritus: Rodger Waldman
Wildlife Rehabilitator: Kathy Woods, phone: 410-628-9736;
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