



# The Bedford Audubon Society Newsletter

Volume 54, Number 3, Fall 2004  
*Celebrating 91 Years of Conservation 1913-2004*

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

By John Hannan

In opening my first letter to you, I want to start by saying it is a great honor to lead an organization with a 91-year history of conservation and environmental education. The National Audubon Society held its inaugural meeting just down the road in New York City 99 years ago, so you can see that our chapter has been around almost from the very beginning. During this whole time Bedford Audubon has been known for its active membership and excellent educational programs.

But enough about the past as I'm sure you want to know what we have been doing since you last heard from us, and what our plans for the future are. Last Spring the Board went through a series of strategic planning sessions. We wanted to clarify how this all volunteer chapter can continue to provide high quality programs and field trips while maximizing the stewardship opportunities that ownership of more than 550 acres of sanctuary property provides us. We decided that the answer is to build strategic partnerships and we have already begun to develop some fantastic ones. The following paragraphs will provide you with a small snapshot of how your chapter is growing and expanding on its 91-year record of conservation and environmental education.

We have begun to expand our Citizen Science and Educational program areas. For starters, we partnered with Westchester County this summer and provided them with thirty volunteers who have been helping to monitor local streams and rivers. Utilizing materials designed by scientists at Cornell Lab of Ornithology, we have had a high school intern counting woodland species such as the Veery and Eastern Wood-Pewee, checking the productivity of our bluebird boxes, and other projects that are giving us baseline data for further research we intend to conduct at our sanctuaries. We are also in discussions with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and other Audubon chapters on how best to utilize technologies that record night migration patterns so we can track these patterns throughout the Hudson Valley. Meanwhile, we continue to run our Project Feeder Watch, another partnership with Cornell, in elementary schools.

As I mentioned before, we are assessing how we can best use our sanctuaries to provide critical habitat for the hundreds of animal species that live in them, or simply use them as a rest stop on their long migratory paths. Towards this end, we have started a forestry management study for bird conservation purposes. Through a generous grant, the NYC Watershed Agricultural Council is doing this work, which will include a full animal and plant species inventory. This is just the first of this type of partnership. We also anticipate receiving support from the Department of Agriculture towards restoring some of our wetlands and improving the condition of some of our fields so that they will attract more species such as Prairie Warbler and Field Sparrow.

Literally right outside our office door, we have partnered with the Cornell Cooperative Extension and their Master Gardener Program. The Bylane gardens have already been classified as a Master Gardener's site, and our Garden Committee is working to make this area into a multifunctional native garden. First, it will be a beautiful garden, providing the visitor with a perfect place for rest and contemplation. Secondly, it will be a demonstration site for teaching best practices for developing a garden using native plants to attract and provide habitat for birds and butterflies. It will also be a place where young gardeners can learn the ABCs of gardening, and a love of nature. And, because we are Audubon, of course it will provide a healthy habitat for the scores of bird and butterfly species that visit our sanctuaries. The gardens will also be the centerpiece

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Fall 2004, Volume 54, No. 3

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### Our Mission

The mission of the Bedford Audubon Society is to promote conservation and protection of wildlife habitats in the northern Westchester and eastern Putnam region through education, advocacy, nature study, and birdwatching.

## BAS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

9/8	7:30 P.M.	<b>Raptor Identification/Katonah Village Library</b>
9/11	7:00 A.M.	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
9/18	8:00 A.M.	Hook Mountain, Nyack, NY
9/25	7:30 A.M.	A Bird in the Hand
9/26	9:30 A.M.	Butterflies at Bylane
10/1-10/3		Cape May Weekend
10/9	10:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.	Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch
10/13	7:30 P.M.	<b>Digital Camera Workshop/Katonah Village Library</b>
10/17	9:00 A.M.	Fall Foliage in the Shawangunks
11/10	7:30 P.M.	<b>Project Feederwatch Slide Presentation/Katonah Village Library</b>
11/7	8:00 A.M.	Croton Point Park
11/13	9:00 A.M.	Clarence Fahnestock Walk
11/13	1:00 P.M.	Tiny Tots Birdfeeder Workshop
11/21	8:00 A.M.	Franklin Mountain-Oneonta, NY Area

## Seed Sale 2004

By John Erickson

The Bedford Audubon's annual seed sale is fast approaching. Whether you buy one or many bags of seed or if you are thinking about starting to feed the birds, this is the time to consider how much seed you will need. Buying seed from Bedford Audubon accomplishes two things. First, you are guaranteed HIGH quality seed that will surely delight your backyard visitors. Second, your money goes to support your local Audubon Chapter. The brochures will be mailed out in late September. If you don't receive one by the first week in October, call Steve Ricker at (914) 666-8448 or print out an order form from our website.

**Your Purchase Helps Fund BAS Projects**

of our newest partnership with National Audubon and Audubon NY through the National Audubon at Home initiative. Please read the article in this newsletter about this exciting new program.

Meanwhile, even with all this new programming, once you check out our calendar of monthly programs and field trips, you'll see we are continuing to offer the same excellent level of events you've come to expect from us. So please come join the fun.

In short, a lot is going on, and more is just around the corner. The success of our chapter rests on all of us. The more people who attend our programs, go on field trips, help us with our studies, or volunteer at the office, the more we will be able to do to serve our community, making it a better place for we humans and the wildlife with which we share this wonderful land.

Please give us a call or drop by the office if you would like to learn more. As the incoming Board President, I would love to get to know you better, so don't be shy, and as always, thank you for your support.

## **Wetlands and Watershed Protection - What You Can Do!**

By Don Pachner, BAS Conservation Committee

BAS has been following two particularly important regional issues, the potential construction of an ill-conceived drinking water filtration plant for the Croton Watershed and crucial state fresh water wetland legislation S4480-a.

The city's Croton Watershed lies in BAS territory. New York City has pronounced an enormous industrial-scale chemical filtration plant for Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx as a done deal and is preparing to release its determination any day now. Bedford Audubon Society believes that the best means of protecting NYC's drinking water and at the same time protecting valuable habitat in the Croton Watershed would be acquisition of open space buffers within the watershed. The city has allocated roughly \$10 million for this and has spent much less than that.

At the same time, the city is on the verge of spending \$900 million to build the enormous chemical filtration plant, which would indirectly allow much of the wild open spaces to be developed, entering into an ever-increasing need for larger and larger chemical filtration plants. BAS is a member of the Croton Watershed Clean Water Coalition (CWCWC) that intends to sue the city the moment it officially approves the inadequate environmental impact statement for the plant. BAS has signed onto the CWCWC's Watershed Plan...you or your business can also do this! It can be found on their web site at [www.newyorkwater.org](http://www.newyorkwater.org) Log on to find out what else you can do to help!

A recent federal court case (SWANCC vs. Army Corps of Engineers) has pulled back protections from all wetlands that

are not connected to navigable surface waters of the U.S. These types of wetlands represent over 20% of all wetlands in our region. We see these in fragile, local wet areas covered with skunk cabbage, false hellebore and tussocks that are not located on our rivers, lakes or streams.

Although the Bush Administration backed down from a rule-change that would have allowed developers to fill many of our nation's isolated wetlands, they left similar guidance in place that instructs government agencies not to enforce the current rules without first obtaining permission from their headquarters.

New York's wetlands are especially threatened by these federal rollbacks because of a weak state law. While every other state in the Northeast protects wetlands regardless of their size, New York State's fresh water wetlands laws only protect wetlands 12.4 acres or larger. Many of our state's smaller wetlands are left entirely unprotected as a result of the SWANCC court decision and the Bush Administration's "guidance."

Our communities rely on fresh water wetlands for natural water filtration, flood prevention and to provide habitats for fish, birds, amphibians and other wildlife. We cannot let these valuable resources disappear. The New York State Assembly has passed a bill that would allow the state to protect smaller fresh water wetlands.

Don't let the State Senate and Governor Pataki end the legislative session without taking action on Bill S-4480-a the State Wetlands/Watershed Protection Act. Senator Vincent Leibell has been supportive of efforts to pass this legislation. Let him know you appreciate his support, and also write to Governor Pataki and Senate Majority Leader Bruno explaining why this legislation is important to you.

## **BAS Volunteers Monitor Area's Waterways**

By John Askildsen

This spring over 30 volunteers banded together at Bylane Farm in the name of conservation through "sound science." BAS's streamwater monitoring project was launched in May and continues through late fall. Teams of volunteers are sampling water quality on the Mianus River in Bedford, Brady's Brook in Katonah and the Angle Fly Brook in Somers.

This being a cooperative effort between BAS and the County of Westchester, the data collected are entered on the County's website and will be available for everyone to view and use. Measurements such as turbidity, pH, salinity, average mean temperature, and stream bed and invertebrate studies are being conducted by BAS volunteers. To learn more about this project, check out the data results or even volunteer, log onto [www.bedfordaudubon.org](http://www.bedfordaudubon.org) and click on "water" on our homepage.



*BAS Education Chairman David Albano (l) congratulates Sean Prockter*

## **My Visit to the Vermont Audubon Research Camp**

By Sean Prockter

Recently, I was awarded the 2004 BAS Education Scholarship, which allowed me to attend the Vermont Audubon Research Camp in Huntington, Vermont. Here, students between the ages of 14 and 18 traveled to conduct real scientific research for Audubon Vermont. Upon arriving, we were split into two groups of ten. One group, the herpetology group, learned and conducted studies on all types of reptiles and amphibians that inhabit Vermont. The second group, in which I participated, focused on animal tracking. The first four days of camp were geared towards teaching us the essentials of reading the signs of the outdoors: from prints in the mud to claw marks on a tree. By the time we hit the road for the Northeast Kingdom (the northeastern most part of Vermont), where the actual data was being collected, every student knew how to track every mammal inhabiting Vermont as well as how to use a compass and a GPS unit (Global Positioning System).

In the Northeast Kingdom, we were given a plot of land abandoned by logging companies. Our goal was to find tracks or signs of animals that would give reason to turn the land into a preserve. These animals are called indicator species—they indicate certain characteristics about the area that some species such as the rabbit would not be able to indicate. For example, if an otter is present in the area, it is an indication that there is clean, healthy water nearby. Our group did find otter signs as well as many other signs that we documented using the GPS unit. The most important discovery that our group made was of bobcat tracks in the exact same location where trackers found bobcat tracks two years ago. This tells us that there is a steady population of bobcats in the area, an indication that there are a good number of rabbits in the

area, and that there is suitable habitat for bobcat dens. This particular area may be turned into a preserve in the future for two reasons: bobcats, a species not too common in Vermont, inhabit the area as well as the fact that the ecosystem is in balance.

In the end, we collected 35 data points that will all go towards protecting the allotted land in northeastern Vermont. The trip taught me several things about tracking. I gained a new awareness of signs from wild animals as well as how to use a GPS unit and mark data points. I will continue to use the information I learned there for the rest of my life. It was an experience that I will never forget.

## **About Birds—the American Kestrel**

By Tait Johansson

One of the commoner fall migrant raptors in eastern North America is the American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*). This brightly colored small falcon is now almost gone from Westchester and Putnam counties as a breeder, but continues to migrate through our area in fairly good numbers. It is often seen hovering above open fields as it hunts. Its European counterpart, the Eurasian Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*), is called the “windhover” in parts of Britain because of this habit.

The kestrel is our smallest diurnal raptor, roughly the size of a Blue Jay. The intricately patterned plumage of male and female kestrels is markedly different. Female kestrels average slightly larger than males. The back, tail and upper surfaces of the wings are rufous with thin horizontal black barring. The underparts are white, with vertical, smudgy rufous streaking on the breast and belly. The head has a dark gray cap, with two vertical gray stripes pointing down from the cap onto the side of the head, and a single gray spot on the nape of the neck, all against a white background. The male shares the female’s barred rufous pattern on his back, but his wings are slate-gray, and the tail is all rufous, with the exception of a thick black band at the very end of the tail, and the outermost tail feathers are white. The male’s underparts are a very light tan, broken up by scattered gray spotting, except for the undertail coverts, which are pure white. The male’s head pattern has the same two vertical stripes and single spot, but they are a darker gray, almost black, and his gray cap is adorned with a single rufous spot on the very top of the head.

A few pairs of this beautiful bird still nest in the area, preferring large open fields with dead trees or other suitable sources of cavities for nesting, such as old buildings. Like almost all grassland-inhabiting birds in the Northeast, kestrels have declined due to reforestation and the loss of open fields to development. The cutting of dead trees and competition for scarce nest sites with starlings also pose problems.

Kestrels are largely insectivorous in the warmer months, and the peak of their migration in September seems to be timed to coincide with the peak of dragonfly migration, providing these birds with an abundant source of food as they make their way south to the southern U.S. and Mexico to spend the winter.

## Audubon At Home

By John Askildsen & John Hannan

Bedford Audubon is launching a new program as part of the National Audubon At Home initiative. Very simply, this program's vision can be summed up in the old adage "Think globally, Act locally."

The five main principles of Audubon At Home are: establishing native plants, removing exotic invasive plants, reducing pesticides, conserving water, and protecting water quality. Following these five main principles can have far-reaching effects on our backyards, our local environments, and open doors to a deeper understanding of the interconnectivity of our communities to the greater environment.

Within our chapter area, most of us live next to the most sensitive wetlands of a reservoir system that daily supplies more than 9 million New Yorkers with their drinking water. Many of us have our own septic systems and wells on our property. Literally, whatever our neighbors and we put into the ground, we drink and bathe in every day. That's why the actions we take to improve the health and habitat of our backyard can have resoundingly positive effects on wildlife, people and the entire health of our surrounding community. Through this new program, National Audubon has given us a powerful tool to engage our entire community in conservation at home.

Due to Bedford Audubon's unique situation of having both a very active membership and a sanctuary with highly diverse habitat, all three tiers of the Audubon family have agreed to make our Bylane Farm a demonstration site for the Audubon At Home program. This means that you as a chapter member will have the opportunity to get involved in this program at a multitude of levels. If you are just curious about the program and how it might help you, check out our website ([www.bedfordaudubon.org](http://www.bedfordaudubon.org)), our state office's ([www.ny.audubon.org](http://www.ny.audubon.org)), or the national's ([www.audubon.org/index.html#](http://www.audubon.org/index.html#)).

Each site emphasizes and explains key concepts and provides concise action plans to facilitate the conversion of "backyards" into thriving habitat, good for wildlife and people alike. As we progress, the sites will take the reader to a deeper level of knowledge, the national providing the macro level of scientific concepts, while the state and local will provide practical local information on how to implant the program right here in Westchester and Putnam Counties.

For those who want more than a cyber tour of our program, we encourage you to come to our office at Bylane Farm. We have established a "Master Gardener Program" there and you can volunteer to work on the project or simply learn what to plant and how to treat your garden in order to maximize its potential while making it a vibrant wildlife habitat and healthy ecosystem for your family and for nature.

As this initiative unfolds, we will have programs where people will learn how all our actions can help or hinder the health of our community. The project will really pick up steam as people begin to understand that their backyard is just the beginning of a much wider area in whose stewardship they must play a role. On a recent visit to our Bylane Farm property, National Audubon's Director of Citizen Science, Dr. Paul Green, remarked that this property makes a perfect demonstration site as people can actually see how a garden gently rolls down into a wetland which then becomes a meadow and finally meets the forest. Bylane drives the point home that the backyard is simply the beginning of a larger interconnected set of diverse habitats.

To learn more and to stay abreast of this excellent program, please visit the Bedford Audubon website and watch our Audubon At Home program grow.

(Portions of this article came from Audubon's Chapter Networker Newsletter)

Bedford Audubon Hosts  
Audubon Council of New York State  
Fall Meeting  
Wellesley Inn, Armonk  
October 22-24  
Friday Evening 8 P.M.  
Event Open to All  
Paul Gallay,  
Executive Director  
of Westchester Land Trust  
Speaks on  
Protecting Open Space

### You're invited...

Twice a year representatives from all 30 New York State Audubon chapters come together to review our work and plan for the future. This time you have the opportunity to participate, as the Council meeting is right in our own back yard, in Armonk, and you are invited. Come hear Westchester Land Trust's Executive Director speak on how Audubon and the Land Trust are partnering to protect vital habitat, or stop in over the weekend to learn more about what Audubon is doing statewide. On Saturday, Bedford Audubon is giving a presentation on its Audubon At Home program and then folks are heading over to Bylane Farm to see our sanctuary, so don't miss the fun. For more information contact us at [info@bedfordaudubon.org](mailto:info@bedfordaudubon.org) or call the office at 914-232-1999.

## FrOGS on the Move

The Friends of the Great Swamp (“FrOGS”) is already in gear for this autumn’s Art Exhibit and Celebration of the Great Swamp. Artist’s invitations have gone out, wildlife exhibits, food and music are all being arranged, and we have been able to add a day this year. It will take place on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, October 15, 16 and 17 at Christ Church on Quaker Hill in Pawling. Last year was a huge success, and this year promises to draw even more visitors. The FrOGS Show has become a major event all around the area! New artists are most welcome. If you are interested or need directions, please contact Nancy Clark at [leebrook@AOL.com](mailto:leebrook@AOL.com) or 845-878-9248, or Edie Keasby at [edie.keasby@verizon.net](mailto:edie.keasby@verizon.net) or 845-878-6169.

### **Bedford Audubon on the Road**

Ed Fehrs – Membership Committee Chair

Bedford Audubon’s programs and activities are growing in leaps and bounds, and we want people all through our chapter’s geographic area to know about them. That is why the membership committee has made participating at local community events a high priority for the chapter. The extremely positive responses we experienced at the Somers Earth Day Fair in June and the recent Cornell Cooperative Extension’s Putnam County 4-H Fair confirmed to us that this is an excellent opportunity to not only present our programs and activities to prospective members but to also meet and catch up with many of our current members. We have assembled all the necessary trappings for an attractive BAS booth, knowledgeable volunteers to staff it, and beautiful and informative materials for visitors to peruse and take with them. We are all packed up and ready to visit your community!

But success comes at a cost; this new program highlights an immediate need for volunteers to serve as Bedford Audubon’s eyes and ears in each of the communities we serve, from Armonk to Patterson. We are asking you to keep us aware of any local events that your chapter should participate in; be it an Earth Day Fair or testifying before your town board on a conservation or open space issue. Our second request is to assist BAS with its efforts to improve communications with its current membership in your community. We know you will find volunteering for BAS to be rewarding and it does not require a huge amount of your time. We would love to discuss this with you further, and to answer any and all of your questions. Please contact John Hannan, Bedford Audubon’s President, at 914-232-1999 or at [Jhannan@BedfordAudubon.org](mailto:Jhannan@BedfordAudubon.org). He looks forward to hearing from you.

### **Project Night Flight Takes Off**

By John Askildsen

By the time you read this article, millions of migrant songbirds will be making their way south to their winter quarters in Central and South America. Your chapter is participating in a major study to learn exactly which species migrate through our region and

when. Thanks to the generosity of our members, Bedford Audubon’s Project Night Flight has been launched.

With assistance from members of Cornell Lab of Ornithology, we have assembled a low cost/high tech method of tracking nightly migration. Using a simple microphone attached to a computer, every night we will pick up call notes of migrant songbirds. These call notes will be sorted out and identified as to species by the computer and then logged by volunteers. The end result will be a full accounting of all species that migrated over our Audubon Center in Lewisboro.

It is our Science and Education Committee’s hope that this project will be expanded throughout the entire NYC region! Stay tuned and check out our website or stop by the office for further information on this fascinating and cutting-edge project! Log onto [www.bedfordaudubon.org](http://www.bedfordaudubon.org) and click on ‘Night Flight’ for more info.

## **PROGRAMS**

### **Raptor Identification**

#### **Katonah Village Library**

**Wednesday, September 8 at 7:30 P.M.**

With the Raptor Migration in full swing you want to be able to tell the difference between Sharp-shinned and Cooper’s Hawks as they soar above you. Come learn all the tricks that the experts use to pin names on birds, whether they are flying at the limit of conjecture or sitting right outside your window. Slides and other visuals will make you an expert before the night is through.

### **Digital Camera Workshop**

#### **Katonah Village Library**

**Wednesday, October 13 at 7:30 P.M.**

Frustrated by missing that shot of an eagle in your viewfinder? Still unsure how much to pay for a good camera? Local expert Rick Paris will lead us through the ins and outs of digital photography, from snapping shots at backyard feeders to eagles soaring over the Hudson.

### **Project Feederwatch Slide Presentation**

#### **Katonah Village Library**

**Wednesday, November 10 at 7:30 P.M.**

Project FeederWatch is a continent-wide survey designed to study the abundance and distribution of birds in winter. Over 15,000 participants from the US and Canada have been watching their feeders and contributing to our understanding of feeder bird populations since 1987. The amazing FeederWatch database includes nearly one million checklists submitted to date. David Bonter, scientist at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Leader of Project FeederWatch, will discuss what has been discovered by FeederWatchers in New York. Come and learn about the birds in your backyard, and find out how anyone of any age can contribute to science.

## **FIELD TRIPS**

**Registration:** Please call Ginny Powers at 914-764-4320 to register for all field trips unless otherwise noted.

### **Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge**

**Saturday, September 11—7 A.M.**

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge is one of the premier places to watch birds in the USA. Wading birds, such as herons and egrets, shorebirds and land birds can be expected. Depending on weather and the birds we'll explore the West and East Ponds and the gardens. Be sure to bring a lunch and plenty to drink.

### **Hook Mountain, Nyack NY**

**Saturday, September 18—8:00 A.M.**

Hook Mountain is one of the best raptor migration spots in our region. Even on a day of light winds, the visitor may see hundreds of hawks flying by at eye level. We'll drive to the site parking lot and make the moderate climb to the mountain for fabulous views of the Hudson River and migrating hawks.

### **A Bird in the Hand**

**Saturday, September 25—7:30 A.M.**

Putnam County's Great Swamp is a critical migratory stop-over point for a wide variety of bird species. The Swamp's low-lying wetlands supply migrating birds with an abundance of insects, berries and seeds necessary to refuel in preparation for their long autumn journey south. BAS Board Members Dr. Jim Utter and Bill Wallace will provide us with an opportunity to see first hand, some of the bird species that migrate through the swamp. The "science" of bird-banding and techniques used, will be discussed.

### **Butterflies at Bylane**

**Sunday, September 26—9:30 A.M.**

Our very own Bylane Farm is home to 60 species of butterflies. Expert Bill Wallace will lead us on an easy walk to observe and identify these colorful fall gems.

### **Cape May Weekend**

**Friday through Sunday—October 1, 2 & 3**

It's time for our annual pilgrimage to Cape May. It is one that Bedford Audubon Society has been making since the 1930s when our group was led by the great Witmer Stone. Cape May requires no introduction other than it being one of the world's great "crossroads of migration." Call and reserve your space for this very popular trip asap! Cost for 2-night lodging is \$160.00. Meals will be extra.

### **Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch**

**Saturday, October 9—10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

The Nature Conservancy's hawkwatch provides excellent local viewing of hawks throughout the fall season. Come down and learn from the local experts when Ospreys, American Kestrel, Broad-winged Hawk, Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks are

all passing through. Volunteer guides will be on hand from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Take I-684 to exit 4 (Bedford-Mt Kisco-Route 172) and turn off the ramp toward Mount Kisco. Drive about 100 yards and take first left turn on to Chestnut Ridge Road. Take Chestnut Ridge Road for about 1.5 miles and look for the entrance on the right, the sign for the "The Nature Conservancy's Butler Sanctuary" and go across the bridge to the parking lot. The Hawk Watch is up the hill to the left (see sign just inside the fence). No registration is required.

### **Fall Foliage in the Shawangunks**

**Sunday, October 17—9:00 A.M.**

Sam's Point Dwarf Pine Ridge Preserve contains the best examples of ridgetop dwarf pine barrens in the world. It is part of the 90,000-acre Northern Shawangunk Mountains, whose cliffs, summits and plateaus form a unique landscape of extraordinary ecological significance. Home to nearly 40 rare plants and animals, the Northern Shawangunks represent one of the highest priorities for conservation in the northeastern United States. Depending on the group's skill level, we will pick a route that offers beautiful views but allows everyone to participate. This location is just north of the Newburgh, N.Y. area.

### **Croton Point Park**

**Sunday, November 7—8:00 A.M.**

Croton Point Park is one of the top places to birdwatch in Westchester. The capped landfill, once the feeding grounds for thousands of gulls is now the star attractant for birds year round.

In Fall we can expect to see many hawks such as American Kestrel and Northern Harrier. The landfill, now meadow, also hosts a variety of sparrows. We will also stop to look for waterfowl resting in Croton Bay.

### **Clarence Fahnestock State Park Hike**

**Saturday, November 13—9:00 A.M.**

Join us for a hike through some of the most varied and bird rich terrains in Putnam County. We'll hike a portion of the Appalachian Trail, which takes us from lakeside to deep forest and back again. Those with time may want to join us for a great brunch at the nearby Buddhist Temple that houses the largest statue of Buddha in the United States.

### **Tiny Tots Birdfeeder Workshop**

**Saturday, November 13—1:00 P.M.**

Please make reservations for this workshop at Westmoreland Sanctuary with Steve Ricker, Director, at 914-666-8448.

### **Franklin Mountain-Oneonta, N.Y. area**

**Sunday, November 21—8:00 A.M.**

At 2,150 above sea level, the views from the summit of Franklin Mountain are impressive. What is more impressive however is the number of Golden Eagles that migrate by this popular hawkwatching spot every autumn. Some of the highest numbers of golden eagles in the East are seen here. Bring warm clothes.

## Membership

Yes, I would like to join the Bedford Audubon Society. My "Chapter only" membership will help support local conservation efforts, programs, and sanctuaries. \*(Send this form with a check made out to the **Bedford Audubon Society**).

Please check your membership category.

New Member or Renewal    \$20     Supporter    \$50  
 Contributor    \$100     Patron    \$500

I wish to make an additional donation of \_\_\_\_\_

I do not wish to have my name or contact information shared with outside organizations.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** Bedford Audubon Society, 35 Todd Road, Katonah, NY 10536

**Enter your e-mail address here** and we will add you to our e-mail list for alerts on programs, field trips, and other items of local interest. We will not give out your e-mail address to any other organization.

\_\_\_\_\_

Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Does not include membership in the National Audubon Society**

Bedford Audubon Society, Inc.  
35 Todd Road  
Katonah, NY 10536

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