



The Bedford Audubon Society Newsletter

Volume 55, Number 3, Fall 2005
Celebrating 92 Years of Conservation 1913-2005

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John Hannan

Well it's time to write the end of summer letter. Summer's end is always a little bitter sweet in the mid-Atlantic region. We've all been complaining about the oppressive heat for at least a month, but at the same time we are not really ready to pull out our sweaters and fleeces. Still, in the midst of our complaints and trepidations, we know we are entering one of the most beautiful times and natural phenomenon nature has to offer; for in a few short weeks we will be entering the fall foliage and peak winged migration season.

The change in season creeps up practically without us even noticing. I begin to first see it early in the morning. A month ago when I put my kayak into the Long Island Sound at 6 A.M. the sun was already in the sky, now it is just creeping over the horizon. A month ago when I paddled out to the egret rookery on Great Captain Island it was teeming with young Great and Snowy Egrets along with Black-crowned Night-Herons. Now the young are dispersing and each day the adults forage further from the nest. Out on the rock outcroppings that dot the Sound, they have been joined by Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Willets, Ruddy Turnstones, along with a full assortment of plovers and sandpipers.

On the ridges the first Broad-winged Hawks have been spotted making their annual journey south. If you go to our hawk watch you may already encounter Osprey and juvenile Bald Eagles streaming by. As the leaves turn a beautiful amber, gold and blazing red, so to will come many more species of birds and butterflies moving from as far north as the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to as far south as Tierra del Fuego in Argentina.

Each year this annual migration, which has been occurring for centuries, provides us with a brief but inspiring glimpse into the beauty and diversity of the winged species populating the Americas. For over a century Audubon has been at the forefront of a bipartisan movement to ensure that this spectacle will be enjoyed and appreciated by generations to come. This is because, no matter your political stripe, wise people know that protecting our natural resources is simply an inherent function of every religion, philosophy, or political thinking; from Conservative to Liberal.

Unfortunately, the current administration in Washington is blind to this bipartisan consensus. A consensus that has been developed as sound science proved that certain products like DDT needed to be banned, certain species like the Bald Eagle needed to be protected, our water and air needed protections from certain pollutants, and unique habitats like the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge desperately need to be protected. In direct contradiction of the opinion of more than 73% of the population, this administration wants to open up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling.

The current Washington administration is discarding the majority of scientific evidence that has been compiled on the amount of oil the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge might contain, the revenues drilling there would provide the nation, and the adverse impacts on countless species that drilling would cause.

Knowing how strong the opposition to opening the refuge is, the Administration is trying to obtain the drilling rights by attaching its inclusion onto the overall budget rather than to something that it could be deleted from like the Energy Bill. So this September, our elected representatives like Sue Kelly will be asked to vote on a budget that will, if passed, open the way for oil companies to obtain the right to drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. What this will do is set a precedent, for if the most wild and pristine refuge in the United States is opened to drilling and resource exploitation than no other national park, refuge, or sacred land will be off limits.

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Fall 2005, Volume 55, 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

9/10	8:00 A.M.	The Wonders of Migration at Muscoot Farm, Somers
9/14	7:30 P.M.	Butterflies, Caterpillars, & Plants / Katonah Library
9/17	7:00 A.M.	Jamaica Bay
9/25	7:00 A.M.	Audubon Center at Bent of the River
9/30-10/2		Cape May Weekend
10/12	7:30 P.M.	Why Watch Birds? / Katonah Library
10/15	8:00 A.M.	Fall Foliage in the Shawangunks
10/15	9:00 A.M.	Hawkwatch at Butler Sanctuary
10/16	2:00 P.M.	Live Birds of Prey at Bylane Farm
10/22	9:00-3:00 P.M.	Seed Sale Pickup Day
11/1	7:30 P.M.	Owls and Their Adaptations / St. Matthew's Church, Bedford, NY
11/12	1:00 P.M.	Tiny Tots Birdfeeder Workshop at Westmoreland
11/19	7:00 A.M.	Franklin Mountain, Oneonta, NY area / Note: alternate weather day Sunday, Nov. 20
12/7	7:30 P.M.	The Ivory-billed Woodpecker / Katonah Library

Seed Sale 2005

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 914-234-2934 or print out an order form from our website.

Your Purchase Helps Fund BAS Projects

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That is why I am asking you take a moment in the next 14 days and write or call our Representative Sue Kelly and ask her to side with the majority of her constituents and the nation in opposing any loophole to allowing drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. We realize that it will be difficult for any legislator to vote against the overall budget, and that is exactly what the Administration is counting on, but right now it is the only moral choice to make. Rep. Kelly has voted the right way before. Therefore we expect that if she hears that her constituents will support her in a difficult choice, she will truly represent us and vote down the overall budget because it contains the provision to allow drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Audubon and several other national organizations have pooled their resources and created a coalition to stop this dangerous, misguided move that the Administration is hell bent on taking. For those who need more information on this issue, see the coalition's website at www.arcticrefugeaction.org. There you can find all the data and information to help you feel more confident when talking about this issue with others. Representative Sue Kelly's local number is (845) 897-520021 and her local office address is Old Main Street, Suite 107 Fishkill, NY 12524.

Ever since Rachel Carson produced groundbreaking evidence on the disastrous effect that DDT was having on the environment, those who wanted to make quick profits and not worry about the long-term effects of their greed have tried to discount sound science. That is why Audubon takes great pains to ensure the validity of our research and provide solutions that can stand the test of time. At the state and national level, Audubon employs PhDs like Dr. Michael Burger who directs Audubon NY's Bird Conservation Program, a program that in coalition with private entities along with state and federal agencies has identified and protected more 136 critical Important Bird Areas (IBAs) throughout NY State.

In these pages you will read about local efforts, Citizen Science such as stream monitoring, bird counts in IBAs, and summer bird counts. Besides getting local residents more involved and aware of their local natural resources, these projects provide long-term, on-going data to our science teams that ensure their hypotheses and recommendations for conservation and environmental policies are still valid and up to date.

We at the chapter level should be proud of our efforts for it is we, the local activists, who have contributed more than 100 years of Christmas bird counts along with other more recent bird surveys. Put together and compiled on a national level, these local efforts give scientists empirical data to plot declines and increases in bird species. And it is these projects that foster the interest and create great conservationists, people like President Theodore Roosevelt who kept bird lists from childhood, and even had a White House garden list. This great Republican had such a respect for the environment as governor of NY he wrote, "I would like to see all the harmless wild things, but especially all birds,

protected in every way. I do not understand how any man or woman who really loves nature can fail to try to exert all influence in support of such objects as those of the Audubon Society... The destruction of the Wild Pigeon and the Carolina Paroquet has meant a loss as severe as if the Catskills and the Palisades were taken away. When I hear of the destruction of a species I feel as if all works of some great writer had perished."

If the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is opened to drilling not only one species, but countless species, face extinction. As we set to our Fall tasks, I ask you to join in the voice of President Roosevelt, who started the Wildlife Refuge system, and call Rep Sue Kelly. Ask her to stand by her values and continue to protect this precious resource by voting against the budget and stopping any drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from ever happening. I know I can count on you in this time of need.

Book Review

By John Askildsen

(Editor's note: with this edition of The Newsletter, we welcome the addition of an occasional natural history book review.)

A review of *Butterflies of the East Coast—An Observer's Guide*, by Rick Cech and Guy Tudor. Published by Princeton University Press, 2005.

I recently obtained a copy of this much talked about publication. Being a somewhat experienced "butterflyer," having a number of field guides and references on North American butterflies, I recently obtained a copy of this much talked about publication. Upon hearing that the Audubon Center of Greenwich had procured just a few copies, I reserved the remaining copy and raced down there with my \$50 in hand. And I was not disappointed! Butterfly watchers who have set out to write field guides have seen the evolution of birding field guides and have pretty well applied what works and what doesn't work to their craft. Nonetheless, butterfly guides have gone through some growing pains themselves. A few the recent additions to these printed works leave something to be desired.

Not so for authors Cech and Tudor's recent landmark work. Although hardbound and large in size, eliminating it from the field guide class, this book is the "missing link" for one's reference library on butterflies, their food plants and habitats. Most of the recent publications address mainly identification of butterflies, and spend little ink if any on caterpillar or larva identification, habitats, host plants, etc.

The introduction briefly touches upon the where tos and how tos of finding butterflies. The assumption is that if this publication is in your library, you already have this sort of foundational infor-

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mation. The species accounts are wonderful, with fabulous photography, excellent range maps with a well thought out and logical order to the presentation of information in each account. The bottom of each species account displays a red bar indicating actual length of wingspan, leaving the reader with little to wonder about what the actual size is of each species. Photographs can be misleading in this area.

Intermingled with the species accounts, in a relatively logical order, are occasional discussions on conservation issues. For example one page treats "Eastern Prairies in Decline: Implications for Grassland Butterflies." Another highlights "Violets and Fritillaries: A Close Association." This sort of conservation information vaults this book beyond yesterday's humdrum field guide and opens new doors for the reader, which illuminates the issues surrounding the future of the very species that is being researched. This decision by the authors is logical, needed, and a very progressive step towards leading the "butterfly observer" into becoming a "butterfly conservationist." This is a natural metamorphosis for the amateur naturalist to make, and one that we are really obligated to undergo as a culture and a community.

But of course no book is without its flaws and as wonderful as this book is, it has a couple that are worth mentioning. But they are by no means a serious detriment to the overall high quality of the book.

First, although some of the species accounts have photos of caterpillars or "larvae," and some have photos of host plants, and some have photos of habitats, none have all three. There will be a time when this hurdle will be jumped, when a reference book gives the complete snapshot of the life history of each species, with a complete set of illustrations. The other criticism concerns the indexing of species. The index is a bit awkwardly laid out, where all skippers are not listed under skippers, and some are listed alphabetically. But even at that there seems to be some inconsistencies and discrepancies in the alphabetizing. The indexed pages for a given species should have bolded page numbers for the species account. This most unfortunately leaves the reader to thumb through the pages, hither and yon, to find the actual species account.

That having been said, Cech and Tudor have produced a wonderful new reference for the butterfly enthusiasts of North America to enjoy. *Butterflies of the East Coast* is required reading and reference for the beginner to the professional naturalist.

(Editor's note: Join Bedford Audubon Society on September 14 when author Rick Cech will present a program on the life histories of our native butterflies. See page 6 of this newsletter for details.)

Bylane Nature Notes—Summer 2005

By Tait Johansson

At Bylane, Bedford Audubon's headquarters in Lewisboro, late spring and early summer were rainy and cool. This depressed butterfly numbers during this period, but bird migration here seemed about average, although late. As the summer progressed, drier weather provided an assist to emerging butterflies and dragonflies, and their numbers seemed to return to normal.

May saw many new bird arrivals from the south, as usual. Blue-winged Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, and Indigo Bunting returned here on May 9, followed by Solitary Sandpiper and American Redstart the next day. The night of May 10 had some night migration, with at least two Swainson's Thrushes and a flock of Brant heard passing overhead around midnight. On May 11, Great Crested Flycatcher, Veery, Magnolia Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Common Yellowthroat and Bobolink arrived, accompanied by a lingering Ruby-crowned Kinglet. A lone Wilson's Warbler stopped by the garden on the 16th, and the first Blackpoll Warbler and Canada Warbler on the 18th and 19th, respectively. Late lingerers included a White-throated Sparrow on the 17th and a Lincoln's Sparrow on the 26th. An arriving Black-billed Cuckoo followed on the 27th. A seemingly lost White-eyed Vireo appeared on June 14.

A butterfly field trip at Bylane on July 16 found good numbers of skippers, especially, notably Mulberry Wings and Black Dashes, two localized species that breed in the sedge meadows at Bylane, mainly nectaring on the abundant Swamp Milkweed at the edges of the meadows. There seemed to be more migrating Monarchs than in the past few years this August, a welcome sign, as this species has been having problems recently with habitat destruction on its Mexican wintering grounds.

A new focus on inventory of the property's dragonflies and damselflies led to several additions to the sanctuary's odonate list this summer, including new records for Fragile Forktail, Azure Bluet, Sedge Sprite, and Slaty Skimmer, all found right around the two dragonfly-rich ponds in the valley just below the main house.

Reptiles and amphibians seemed not much in evidence this year, the reptiles perhaps affected by the cool, damp weather. A few exceptions included a Spotted Turtle killed on Todd Road in June and a baby Ring-necked Snake near the garden in July.

And... providing an early reminder that summer doesn't go on forever, the first southbound Solitary Sandpiper her-

alded the coming autumn in late July, stopping briefly at the ponds to forage at their muddy edges before continuing south to Latin America.

Bylane Bluebirds

Sean Prockter
South Salem, New York

For the last two years, Sean Prockter of South Salem, New York, has been monitoring the 10 Eastern Bluebird nest boxes and also the Tree Swallow population at Bedford Audubon Society's property, Bylane Farm, in Katonah. Sean has just started as a freshman at Colby College, where he studies biology with a concentration in environmental science.

This summer I returned to Bedford Audubon Society to monitor their 10 Eastern Bluebird nest boxes at Bylane Farm in Katonah. The Eastern Bluebird, *Sialia sialis*, is a species of thrush that requires nesting cavities in dead or dying trees. A nest box, in lieu of a dead tree, is an ideal situation for the Bluebird that they readily accept near open fields.

Approximately, seven inches in length, the bluebirds is a handsome birds, with a blue back and head and a contrasting rust-colored breast. It has a cheerful, warble-like song.

The results of my monitoring project this year found that there were a total of 28 fledged bluebirds compared to 16 last year and 30 fledged tree swallows compared to 8 last year. Bluebirds can nest up to three times in a nesting season, from May through early August.

The biggest threat to the success of bluebirds is the presence of the House Sparrow, a non-native, invasive and aggressive bird. The House Sparrow is commonly associated with human development, especially livestock barns. This species is known to not only evict bluebirds from nest boxes, but, given the opportunity, they will trap and kill bluebirds and their chicks in the nest box. Then, seemingly without a care in the world, they will build a nest right over their victims' lifeless bodies. Bylane's resident population of House Sparrows certainly had an impact on the resident bluebird population there. However, I did my best to evict House Sparrows from nest boxes as soon as they tried to establish residency. As a result, last year I managed to allow only 2 House Sparrow chicks to be fledged compared to other years where several chicks were fledged. This year, I have not seen one House Sparrow attempt at establishing a nest

For more information on the Eastern Bluebird and Bedford Audubon's nest box monitoring program, please visit the Society's website at www.bedfordaudubon.org.

New York Dragonfly and Damselfly Survey

By Tait Johansson

Dragonflies and damselflies, collectively known as odonates, have been receiving more attention recently from those of us interested in the natural world. Several good new field guides have been published recently (Ed Lam's *Damselflies of the Northeast* is especially nicely done), making their identification far more accessible to more of us than previously. But these beautiful and fascinating insects are still little-known compared to birds and butterflies.

In order to better understand the distribution of odonates in New York, the New York Natural Heritage Program, in cooperation with the state's Department of Environmental Conservation, is embarking on a three-year survey of the state's dragonflies and damselflies. The state's Audubon chapters are playing an active part in this, and Bedford Audubon's involvement this year has included odonate surveys in the Hunt-Parker Sanctuary, the Great Swamp (with Constitution Marsh Audubon Center), and Bog Brook Unique Area in Patterson.

The next two years should see an expansion of our efforts in the area, with more areas surveyed at more times of the year. There should be some surprises, especially in Putnam County, the less-studied of our two area counties. Stay tuned.

FIELD TRIPS

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

The Wonders of Migration Saturday, September 10, 8-10 A.M., Muscoot Farm, Route 100, Somers, NY

Many birds have finished breeding and are riding Autumn's cold fronts back to their winter grounds. Let's see what's flying through and discuss the wonders of migration. Maybe we'll see the Solitary Sandpipers that stop at Ice Pond every year on their way back south. Please bring binoculars and wear tick protection. We will meet at the reception barn.

Jamaica Bay with John Askildsen Saturday, September 17, 7:00 A.M. Start from Bylane Farm

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.

The Audubon Center at Bent of the River, Southbury, CT Sunday, September 25, 7:00 A.M. Start from Bylane Farm

The Audubon Center at Bent of the River, a 700-acre sanctuary and nature center, offers a wonderful diversity of habitats. In late September, migration is still at a peak in numbers of species. Many hawks will be moving overhead. We will search for bird species

in the shrubby meadows. In past years the banding station in these meadows has captured many migrating warbler and sparrow species as well as local year-round residents. The center is in Southbury, CT approx. 40 miles from Katonah.

Autumn Migration at Cape May with John Askildsen and Tait Johansson

Friday, September 30 – Sunday, October 2

Join John and Tait, our resident birding experts on our annual jaunt to Cape May. Cape May requires no introduction other than it being one of the world's great "crossroads of migration." Expect to find up to 160 species of birds and enjoy the Jersey Shore's wonderful autumn weather. Lodging cost for a two-night stay is \$150 per room and includes tax. This is a pre-paid rate based on a limited number of rooms that will be held for us subject to prior reservations. Please make plans as soon as you can.

Fall Foliage at The Shawangunks with Tait Johansson

Saturday, October 15,

Leaving Bylane Farm at 8:00 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, the cliffs, summits and plateaus of which, 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 ability level, we will pick a route that offers beautiful views but allows everyone to participate. This location is just north of the Newburgh, NY area.

Hawkwatch at Butler Sanctuary

Saturday, October 15, 9:00 A.M.,

At Butler Sanctuary

Join Bedford Audubon Society and Saw Mill River Audubon Society for a day of hawkwatching at Butler Sanctuary. Saw Mill board member George Shakespear will be on hand to greet participants to help identifying migrating hawks and other species. A short, but moderate trail leads up to the hawk watch from the parking lot. At the top is a set of bleachers for easy viewing. We should see the tail end of the American Kestrel and Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawk migration. Late October typically brings Red-shouldered and the beginning of peak Red-tail migrations.

Live Birds of Prey at Bylane Farm

Sunday, October 16 at 2:00 P.M.,

Bylane Farm, 35 Todd Rd., Katonah, NY 10536

Please join us as Wendy Miller, Wildlife Rehabilitation and Outreach Coordinator of the Sharon, CT Audubon Center, presents a live birds of prey program at Bylane Farm. Various species of hawks and owls will accompany Wendy to demonstrate their beauty, power and connection with the natural world. Similarities and differences of these amazing birds of prey will be discussed. Through this program, the audience will understand why raptors and their environment should continue to be protected and respected.

Tiny Tots Birdfeeder Workshop at Westmoreland

Saturday, November 12, 1:00 P.M.

Please make reservations for this workshop at Westmoreland Sanctuary with Steve Ricker, Director, at 914-666-8448. This is a favorite with the kids and Bedford Audubon is pleased to co-sponsor this program with the Westmoreland Sanctuary.

Franklin Mountain-Oneonta, NY area

Saturday, November 19

Start from Bylane

Weather alternate Sunday, November 20 – 7:00 a.m.

At 2,150 feet 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 and expect to be out the entire day. The trip is approx. two and one-half hours each way.

PROGRAMS



photo by Emily Peyton

Rick Cech

Butterflies, Caterpillars, & Plants with Rick Cech

Wednesday, September 14, 7:30 P.M.,

Katonah Village Library

Butterflies and plants live in intimate rapport, their lifestyles intertwined by millennia of close interaction. What are the strategic aims pursued by butterflies in associating with particular host plants? How does host plant choice affect every facet of a butterfly's life, from growth rate to the over-wintering stage? How do host plants fight back to avoid butterfly predation? The many subtleties of these time-tested relationships are discussed in "Butterflies, Caterpillars and Plants" by Rick Cech.

Rick Cech is an active naturalist, nature writer and photographer. He is the principal author and photographer of *Butterflies of the East Coast: An Observer's Guide* (Princeton, 2005). He wrote *A Distributional Checklist of the Butterflies and Skippers of the New York City Area* (1993), and co-authored the *National Audubon Society Regional Guide to Florida* (1998), *The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior* (2001), and National Audubon Society Interactive CD-ROM *Guide to North American Birds* (1996). His photos have been featured in a variety of

books, magazines and exhibits. He has been a frequent contributor of articles and photographs to *American Butterflies*, and edited *The Anglewing*, an early NABA publication. Rick will have supplies of his latest book for purchase and signing. Please bring cash or a check.



E. Vernon Laux

**Why Watch Birds? with E. Vernon Laux,
Wednesday, October 12, 7:30 P.M.,
Katonah Village Library**

E. Vernon Laux, noted author and NPR radio program host, will present a program entitled “Why Watch Birds?” Mr. Laux will take us on a journey into the world of birds and birding. Vernon has birded on all 7 continents, and resides on Martha’s Vineyard, where he is a columnist for the *Martha’s Vineyard Times*. He is also the author of *Bird News-Vagrants and Visitors On A Peculiar Island*. Vernon also does a monthly National Public Radio show on birds. He discovered last summer’s Red-footed Falcon on the Vineyard, a bird that generated a huge response and prompted nationwide news coverage in North America. Vernon will have supplies of his latest book for purchase and signing. Please bring cash or a check.



Denver Holt in Action

Owls and Their Adaptations

**Tuesday, November 1, 7:30 P.M.
St. Matthew’s Church, 382 Cantitoe St. (Rte 22),
Bedford, NY**

Everyone knows owls can see well, hear well, and fly silently. This program explains why owls have these and other abilities. Other aspects of adaptations such as camouflage, posturing, plumage coloration and pattern, vocalizations, will be discussed.

A wildlife researcher, founder and president of the Owl Research Institute and the Ninepipes Wildlife Research and Education Center in Charlo, Montana, Denver Holt has been researching owls and their ecology since 1978. He is the author of *Owls: Whoop Are They?* and the owl CD, *Hoots, Toots, Calls, Clacks and Hisses*. His work has been nationally acknowledged and featured on CNN, Disney, PBS, and in David Attenborough’s *Life of Birds*, among others. His research on Snowy Owls was featured on *National Geographic Explorer* and in *National Geographic Magazine*.



George M. Sutton/Copyright Cornell Lab of Ornithology

The Ivory-billed Woodpecker in Singer Tract, Louisiana in 1935

**The Ivory-billed Woodpecker with Ron Rohrbaugh,
Cornell Lab of Ornithology
Wednesday, December 7, 7:30 P.M.,
Katonah Village Library**

Ron Rohrbaugh, one of the project’s co-managers, has worked at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology since 1996, most recently as the director of natural resources and visitor services. Rohrbaugh has been instrumental in developing and implementing the team’s search strategy — from writing search and study protocols to interpreting aerial photography and joining the searchers in their day-to-day work. Although not previously involved with ivory-bill searches, Ron has spent years studying and searching for rare, difficult-to-find species, such as Northern Goshawks, Short-eared Owls, and Henslow’s Sparrows. He is taking the lead on developing an exhibit focusing on the ecology and conservation of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker. This will be featured in the Cornell Lab of Ornithology’s Johnson Center for Birds and Biodiversity. A native of central Pennsylvania, Ron resides in Van Etten, NY (B.S. and M.S. in Wildlife Science and Ecology, Pennsylvania State University). Join us for a fascinating evening!

“The ivory-billed woodpecker epitomizes the resiliency of our natural world. If recoveries of the bald eagle and peregrine falcon weren’t enough, anyone who still doubts the efficacy of three decades of conservation need only look to the ivory-billed woodpecker for inspiration. I hope that the discovery and continued survival of this magnificent bird will finally galvanize Americans to become unified stewards of our world’s natural resources.”

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**

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