

# The Bedford Audubon Society Newsletter

Volume 55, Number 4, Winter 2005-2006  
*Celebrating 92 Years of Conservation 1913-2005*

## The Rediscovery of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker

With

Ron Rohrbaugh of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology

Wednesday, December 7, 7:30 p.m. at the Katonah Village Library

The April 28, 2005 announcement of the rediscovery of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker in the swamps of Arkansas will go down in history as one of the most important and significant accomplishments in the arena of modern-day conservation research. Saving “extirpated” wildlife in North America is an opportunity that previously would have been thought of as being highly unlikely, by even the most veteran scientists and conservationists. But it happened. How this species survived after an almost 70 year absence is a question that scientists across the continent are asking themselves.



Colorized Arthur Allen Photo  
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Cornell Lab of Ornithology

The bigger concerns about the Ivory-billed Woodpecker’s future need to be answered as well. How many birds are there? Is the population a viable one? How much land and what habitat needs to be preserved in order to ensure that there will be a future for the species?

Our distinguished guest, Ron Rohrbaugh, Director of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology’s Ivory-billed Woodpecker Research Project, will present a lecture on the rediscovery of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, and will answer these and other questions. We invite you to join us for a fascinating discussion about the “fall and rise” of one of America’s oldest and newest species of birds, the Ivory-billed Woodpecker.

For additional information on the life history and the rediscovery of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker please visit our website at [www.bedfordaudubon.org](http://www.bedfordaudubon.org).

## 2005 Water Monitoring Program

By Denise Carey

The second season of Bedford Audubon’s involvement in the citizen science water quality monitoring project, in cooperation with the County of Westchester, was in full swing from the beginning of June until the last week in October. Three teams of dedicated BAS citizen scientists actively participated in this valuable project to establish a baseline of water quality. The data collected measured physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the waterways.

We continued the monitoring activities at two of the stream sites as last year, Mianus River at Miller’s Mill Road in Bedford, and Brady’s Brook in Goldens Bridge, Lewisboro. The continued collection of data at these sites is essential for the long-term value of this project, which is expected to be funded for the next several years.

This year also saw the addition of a lake monitoring site, the

Blue Heron Lake, a 100-acre lake set in the town of Pound Ridge.

Bedford Audubon is already gearing up for next year’s season with two new sites. We anticipate monitoring on the newly formed 654-acre preserve known as the Eagle River property in Somers. This property contains a large portion of the Angle Fly, a vibrant trout-spawning stream which we have been eager to monitor. The other site is the 386-acre Leon Levy Preserve on the former Bell property in the town of Lewisboro, through which the Mill River flows. Both of these properties have been protected from development and represent an important element for the preservation of open space and natural habitats in our community.

The result of this year’s testing is currently being compiled and will be available in mid November.

Please contact Denise Carey at [dcarey@bedfordaudubon.org](mailto:dcarey@bedfordaudubon.org) if you are interested in joining us in this valuable project.

## The Bedford Audubon Society Newsletter

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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

12/7/05	7:30 p.m.	The Rediscovery of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker With Ron Rohrbaugh of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology/Katonah Library
12/14/05-- 1/5/06		106th Annual Christmas Bird Counts
1/11/06	7:30 p.m.	Saving Birds: Heroes Around the World With Pete Salmansohn/ Katonah Library
1/14/06	9:00 a.m.	Pruyn Sanctuary Walk
1/22/06	9:00 a.m.	A Winter Hike at Hunt-Parker Sanctuary
1/28/06	2:30 p.m.	Birds of the Adirondacks With Jeff Nadler at Bylane Farm
2/3/06- 2/5/06		The Catskill Bald Eagle Weekend
2/4/06	1:00 p.m.	Lunch With the Birds /Westmoreland Sanctuary
2/12/06	8:00 a.m.	The Great Hudson River Excursion
2/15/06	7:30 p.m.	Wildflowers in Winter With Carol Levine/Katonah Library
3/18/06	7:00 a.m.	Jones Beach With the Beckers

### A warm welcome to new members.....

And we look forward to meeting you at future BAS programs and field trips.

**Armonk:** Hida Berkelhamer, David Grove, John Heimerdinger, Eileen Herbert, John Lombardi, John Stamatov DDS. **Bedford:** John and Marilen Beck, Bedford Garden Club, Mike Millius, Valerie Perez, Edward Raymond, Lindley and Paul Tomasset. **Bedford Hills:** Stan Telega. **Brewster:** Beverly Elgar, Tony C. Wilkinson, Betty and William Wilson. **Carmel:** Maureen Caplan Grey, Chris Hendershot, Edris Scherer, Pat Schwartz. **Cross River:** Liam Brennan, Brenda Freeman Bates, Eric D. Tucker, Brooke Van Gerbig. **Katonah:** Connie Brickson and Michael Zarin, Huguette Crumpler, Santo and Carol Curro, Marc Feldman, Ken Kohlhof, Mr and Mrs Paul Llewelyn, Maraeen Maguire and Michael Hess, Gerald Mayer, Peter Pralle, Charles Small, Alexi Wierdsma, Sarah MacDonald. **Kent Lakes:** Beth Herr. **Larchmont:** Jennifer Reidy, **Lincolndale:** Irene and Said Reda. **Mahopac:** Daneen Kallstrom, Patricia A. Miller, Carol Ubriaco. **North Salem:** Cicily Grand, Francis Schell and Page Dickey. **Pound Ridge:** Paul Finkel, Elizabeth Sinnott, Betty Wund, Nicholas and Martha Spofford. **Somers:** Ann S. McIntyre. **South Salem:** Llynn E. Bustle, Francis and Ann Leowald, Gladys Wolkoff. **Waccabuc:** Eugene Albert. **White Plains:** Marie Basso. **Yorktown Heights:** Tatiana Ferraro, Helle Raheem, Milady Valdez, Elizabeth Weiss.

## President's Message

Although the editor is probably not too happy with me for delaying our print schedule, I'm glad I took my time writing this letter as I can open it by announcing a victory. Late last night, Congressional House leaders abandoned their attempt to push through a hotly contested plan to open the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) to oil drilling, fearing it would jeopardize approval of the overall budget

Thanks to the efforts of many of you, along with thousands of other concerned people, sound science and common sense prevailed when 25 moderate Republicans told their leadership they would not be able to vote for a budget bill that included drilling. We ask everyone reading this to call Rep. Sue Kelly's office and thank her for being one of those who left party politics behind and stood for what is right.

The reaction against drilling was so strong that House leaders also dropped from the budget document plans to allow states to authorize oil and gas drilling off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts — regions currently under a drilling moratorium. But we cannot relax yet as the Senate still has ANWR drilling in its budget bill and Republican leaders in the Senate say they will push hard for the final House-Senate budget bill to include it.

This latest turn in the on-going effort to protect one of the last pristine habitats for so many species of wildlife exemplifies how Audubon's Centennial year has been one of both outstanding achievements and cataclysmic natural disasters.

On the disaster side, from tsunamis to hurricanes and earthquakes one lesson has been driven home; we cannot continue to exploit our natural resources without suffering dire consequences. And at the national and international level National Audubon is working with scientists and policy makers to develop sound science and legislation to address this issue. In the Hurricane Katrina affected area, Audubon is working to ensure rebuilding and future planning includes restoration of coastal wetlands and floodplains.

At the local level your chapter is making huge progress in helping our neighbors understand responsible environmental stewardship of our communities. In this issue you will read about just a few of our efforts to connect people with nature while promoting conservation and preserving the ecosystems that allow birds, wildlife – and people – to thrive together.

In this month's issue you will read about our water monitoring efforts and hopefully you will join the team as we continue to expand Westchester County's capacity to document and ensure excellent water quality for its residents. Peruse the field trip section and sign up for some great outings that will give you insights into the birds and wildlife both locally and afar. And, of course, read about your chapter's involvement in keeping the Artic National Wildlife Refuge pristine and protected.

And for those who attend our monthly lectures you know that you have been treated to some of the country's most renowned naturalists and authors sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm. Our most recent event with Denver Holt from the Owl Research Institute was attended by almost 100 people. Please get your seats early for our **December 7** evening with Ron Rohrbough of Cornell Lab when he shares firsthand the Ivory-billed Woodpecker discovery.

So, with all this activity, I hope to see you soon at an event, a field trip, or on a water monitoring team. And, in this season of giving, with all the incredible work going on here at Bedford Audubon I know I can count on your financial support as well. If you have not done so already, please renew your support for our science and conservation projects so 2006 can be an even better year than 2005. Thank you and best wishes to you this holiday season.

John Hannan

## Latest From the Hill

### **The Clean Air Act Under Attack**

On October 14, the House of Representatives passed a bill allegedly to increase refinery capacity for gasoline and other petroleum products in the wake of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The bill gives sweeping powers to the Department of Energy to be the lead agency for coordinating all federal refinery authorization and related environmental reviews.

The EPA is instructed to "expeditiously" reform programs under the Clean Air Act and use "maximum legal flexibility" to enable energy industry facilities promptly to undertake projects in the least-costly manner. The bill also authorizes the President to waive any control or prohibition governing the use of fuel or fuel additive.

Another provision recommends "streamlining" certain requirements under the Clean Air Act, particularly with regards to states whose requirements are more stringent than federal ones (e.g. New York).

Environmentalists have characterized the bill as a blatant attempt to circumvent the Clean Air Act and recently introduced attempts by Northeastern states to curb emissions from polluting Mid-west power plants.

Please contact your senator and let him/her know of your opposition to this "Dirty Air Bill."

### **Attempt to Weaken The Endangered Species Act**

On September 29, after an unusually short period of debate, the House of Representatives voted 229-193 in favor of a bill sponsored by Rep. Pombo (R-CA) introducing a sweeping overhaul

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of the 1973 landmark Endangered Species Act (ESA). Rep. Pombo was the one who once proposed leasing 15 National Parks to oil and mining operations.

The content of the bill can be summed up as: less regulation and more support for landowners and developers. The bill

- offers 50% compensation for demonstrated loss of property value due to the ESA.
- considerably restricts the federal response time when determining whether a proposed project would harm a protected species.
- removes protection for species like the manatee in favor of dock building in Florida.
- eliminates the role of independent scientists in determining Endangered Species status.
- makes the Secretary of the Interior the final authority regarding what constitutes “critical habitat” based on “best available science.”
- exempts the use of pesticides from regulation under ESA for five years.

This disastrous bill would effectively destroy 30 years of protecting endangered and threatened species and their habitat. The bill faces considerable opposition in the Senate. Still, the public should contact their local senators to make sure this bill is defeated.

## Bylane Library Expands

The Bylane Natural History Library continues to grow through donations of books received from some generous members. The library now stands at approximately 4,000 volumes, conservatively speaking. The following members have generously donated books since the library’s inception:

The Christian A. Johnson Endeavor Foundation, Julie and Will Kidd, Mimi Mitchell, Phyllis Tillinghast, Stan and Rita Wecker, Patricia Humphreys, and John Askildsen.

While much of the library collection remains in storage, future plans are still being worked on for use and display of the entire collection. The Library Committee hopes to initially bring as many books as possible into Bylane and provide adequate temporary shelving for them in order for membership and the community to have access to at least a part of the collection.

If you are interested in becoming involved with the Library Committee, or you have natural history books that you wish to donate, please call John Askildsen at 914-232-1701 or e-mail him at [jaskildsen@bedfordaudubon.org](mailto:jaskildsen@bedfordaudubon.org).

## Bittersweet

By Carol Gracie

The brightly colored fruits of bittersweet are a common decorative accent on holiday tables and doorways in autumn. Although commonly called berries, the fruits are actually capsules. When the fruits mature in fall – generally after the first frost, the yellow-orange capsules split into three valves revealing three bright red fleshy arils, each surrounding 1-2 small seeds. Arils are fleshy outgrowths of the structure that attaches the



Native American Bittersweet  
by Carol Gracie

seed to the fruit wall. This colorful display of contrasting colors serves to attract birds, and perhaps small mammals, that eat the oil-rich arils and later excrete the seeds. Thus, the plant has evolved an effective method of ensuring dispersal for its seeds. The fruits are generally not a preferred food of birds in fall, but rather remain on the plant into winter when they serve as a welcome resource for bluebirds, chickadees, starlings, and other birds.

In the Northeast two species of bittersweet may be encountered, one quite rare, the other all too common. It’s important to learn to distinguish the two species so that one knows which to encourage and which to eradicate. Our native American bittersweet (*Celastrus scandens*) was once a common element of the local landscape. It is now rare in our area due both to over-collecting for decorative purposes and competition from its alien relative, Oriental (Asiatic) bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculata* – note the recent correction in name from the former erroneous *C. orbiculatus*).

American bittersweet is native in 39 states and five Canadian provinces (but now extirpated in New Brunswick). It is a woody, deciduous vine that climbs by twining around any suitable object it contacts or around itself, thus the species name, *scandens*, meaning climbing. The plants are mostly dioecious, that is they have either male or female flowers. The most reliable way to distinguish our native species from the introduced one is by the location of the flowers and fruits on female plants. In American bittersweet, the clusters of flowers and resulting fruits occur at the tips

of the branches. Oriental bittersweet produces its smaller clusters of flowers and fruits along the stems where the leaves are attached. This arrangement results in a greater number of fruits being produced. Also, the capsules of *C. scandens* are usually more orange than those of *C. orbiculata* (see photos on [www.bedfordaudubon.org/seasons/bittersweet01.html](http://www.bedfordaudubon.org/seasons/bittersweet01.html)). Other than the difference in the location of flowers and fruits, the plants are much the same in appearance with brownish stems dotted with small, light spots (the lenticels) and shiny, green, slightly toothed leaves that become yellow in late fall. The leaves are variable in size and shape, but those of American bittersweet are generally longer than broad while those of Oriental bittersweet are more rounded in outline giving rise to the species name, *orbiculata*. Both produce inconspicuous, green, five-petaled flowers in spring. Bees are the most frequent visitors and the most likely pollinators. In addition to being grown for its attractive appearance, *C. scandens* was used medicinally by Native Americans and early settlers, and its stems were used in the production of rope and weaving materials. If you are fortunate enough to locate a site with American bittersweet, it should be protected and encouraged to grow by the removal of competing vines. New York State DEC includes *C. scandens* on its list of Protected Plants, categorizing it as “exploitably vulnerable.” It is on their review list to determine if it should be officially designated as rare in the state. The picking or removal of any species on the Protected Plants list growing on public property is in violation of state law and subject to penalty. On private property, permission of the owner must be obtained.

Oriental bittersweet was introduced into the U.S. in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, both for its ornamental beauty and for its effectiveness in controlling erosion on roadsides. It is native to Korea, Japan, and parts of China. It spreads aggressively, not only by seed-dispersal, but also vegetatively through root-suckering. Broken stems and pieces of the bright orange roots left underground quickly resprout. By the second decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Oriental bittersweet was already noted to be naturalized in several states. It’s now found in 25 states from Maine to South Carolina and west to Montana. Twenty-two of those states report it as an invasive.

Bittersweet can kill plants on which it grows by girdling them as it twines tightly around the trunks such that the vascular tissue of the host can no longer transport water and nutrients. If the vines are killed or removed, their former host trees can often be recognized by the spiraling scars on their trunks. Bittersweet may also kill its hosts by over-shading them so that they can’t effectively photosynthesize. Masses of vines in the canopy of a tree may cause the tree to become top-heavy and, thus, more prone to being toppled by wind.

Studies have shown that Oriental bittersweet can absorb light in a wider range of the spectrum than American bittersweet

and is, therefore, more efficient in photosynthesizing. In addition, it has a much higher germination rate (70% vs. 20% mean rate) than its native counterpart. Although Oriental bittersweet is found most often on the edges of woods with plenty of sunlight available, it can tolerate shade and is therefore adaptable to a variety of ecological conditions.

This alien invader is difficult to eradicate. It’s best to manually remove all traces of it as soon as it’s noticed. Broken off pieces of the underground portions must be dug up and discarded where they won’t be able to regrow. In the case of massive invasions, the use of herbicides may be necessary. When discarding decorative arrangements containing Oriental bittersweet, don’t add them to the compost pile or otherwise dispose of them where the seeds could germinate. This serves to perpetuate the problem.

## About Birds—The Great Horned Owl

By Tait Johansson

The Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) is one of our most widely distributed birds. Almost our entire area is potential Great Horned Owl habitat. These fierce, powerful predators range over large areas in search of prey, which can range in size from insects to skunks and Wild Turkeys. Like most owls, Great Horned Owls are more often heard than seen. Their call is a deep, rhythmic hooting, which can be rendered roughly “hu hu-hu-hu, hu-hu hu.” The best way to actually see this owl is probably to keep an ear out for any hysterical-sounding chorus of crows, who noisily “mob” horned owls when they find them.



Photo by Richard L. Becker

This species is a large bird, marginally bigger, and considerably stockier than, a Red-tailed Hawk. As with most raptors, the female is slightly larger than the male, size being the only visible difference between the sexes. The upperparts are generally a mottled brownish-gray, while the underparts are tawny with dense dark horizontal barring. A

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white patch on the front of the neck contrasts with a brownish-orange facial disk, which is bisected by a whitish area around the short, hooked bill. This hooked bill and the large, sharp talons are telltale indicators of this species' predatory nature. The eyes are yellow, with black pupils, giving the bird a rather fierce, glaring aspect, and the two ear tufts, or "horns," that project above the top of the head give the species its name.

The Great Horned Owl is the earliest nester of all of our birds. It lays its two to three white eggs sometimes as early as January, typically in an unused stick nest of some other large species of bird, often those of the Red-tailed Hawk or American Crow. Readers should probably simply take my word for this, as it's not recommended to investigate the nesting habits of this species too closely unless equipped with full body armor. For example, consider this passage from Bent's *Life Histories of North American Birds*:

Donald J. Nicholson (in *Oologist*, vol.43, p.14) received ...[rough] treatment when he climbed to within 6 feet of a nest containing eggs; he writes: "Swiftly the old bird came straight as an arrow from behind and drove her sharp claws into my side, causing a deep dull pain and unnerving me, and no sooner had she done this than the other attacked from the front and sank his talons deep in my right arm causing blood to flow freely, and a third attack and my shirt sleeve was torn to shreds for they had struck me a third terrible blow on the right arm tearing three long, deep gashes, four inches long; also one claw went through the sinew of my arm, which about paralyzed the entire arm."

No, crossing a Great Horned Owl is not recommended. But unless climbing a nest tree, people have little to fear from this magnificent predator. Unattended cats and miniature poodles, however, may be a different story—and there's another reason among many to keep cats inside.

## **FIELD TRIPS**

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

### **Prepare for the 106th Annual Christmas Bird Count December 14-January 5**

The phrase "think globally, act locally" is on the mark when it comes to the Audubon Christmas Bird Count. With over 500 counts being conducted nationwide in a three week period, everyone can join in and participate in the world's single largest scientific research project. There are six "CBCs" being conducted right here in our area for you to participate in. Please visit our website, [www.bedfordaudubon.org](http://www.bedfordaudubon.org), for further details including dates and

contact information for each count. Whether novice or expert, there is a place for you on our local counts. Check it out!

### **Pruyn Sanctuary Walk**

**Saturday, January 14 at 9:00 a.m.**

Join Saw Mill River Audubon at Pruyon Audubon Sanctuary. Meet at the Woodmill Road trail entrance. The two-hour walk will explore various trails in the sanctuary. No registration is necessary; suitable for all ages and will be held rain or shine. Call office phone at 914-666-6503 for directions or visit <http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/Pruyn.html>.

### **A Winter Hike at Hunt-Parker Sanctuary,**

**Sunday, January 22 at 9:00 a.m., Bylane Farm**

Bedford Audubon's 318-acre Hunt-Parker Sanctuary is a beautiful place in winter. Wintering birds like nuthatches, chickadees and goldfinches are foraging in the trees for food, and red fox and coyote patrol the field edges for small mammals. Join Tait Johansson for a brisk winter walk and some hot chocolate afterward at Bylane, Bedford Audubon's headquarters, located on the property. Bring binoculars.

### **The Catskill Bald Eagle Weekend Returns With John Askildsen**

**Friday-Sunday, February 3-5**

Once again we'll visit the scenic foothills of the Catskills and the Delaware River Valley in search of the numerous wintering Bald Eagles that inhabit the area. We'll spend the weekend at the Victorian period "Mike Fraysse's Resort" for two whole days of eagle-watching and exploring this classic winter landscape. Mike is our fabulous winter host and chef and is a world-class bicycle training coach. Other wildlife found in the past included red fox, Wild Turkey, owls, hawks, Golden Eagle, and colorful winter finches. By far though, close views of majestic Bald Eagles will be the highlight. Total cost for the 2-night trip is \$140 per person based on double occupancy and \$180 single-occupancy. These prices include a wine and cheese greeting on Friday night, 3 meals Saturday and breakfast and lunch on Sunday. Rest assured that you will be home in time for the Super Bowl!

For more information visit our website at [www.bedfordaudubon.org](http://www.bedfordaudubon.org) or call Trip Registrar, Ginny Powers at 914-764-4320.

### **Lunch With the Birds**

**Saturday, February 4, at 1:00 p.m., Westmoreland Sanctuary**

Join Steve Ricker, Director at this popular sanctuary in Mount Kisco, as we learn how to identify our local feeder birds. Westmoreland, truly a place of beauty with seven miles of trails, is home to an abundance of wildlife. We'll be snug and warm as we observe the feeders through a picture window! Please register with Steve Ricker at 914-666-8448.

### **The Great Hudson River Excursion With John Askildsen**

**Sunday, February 12, 8:00 a.m. start from Bylane Farm**

The Hudson River is teeming with wildlife. The river is winter home to thousands of ducks, geese, and swans and a variety of birds of prey including eagles, vultures, hawks, and even ravens. This trip will focus on the wildlife that is found right here in our own backyard—the Hudson River. Join us for a leisurely and entertaining day of wildlife watching on the banks of the Hudson River.

### **Jones Beach With the Beckers**

**Saturday, March 18, suggested start time from Katonah area is 7:00 a.m. to arrive by 8:30 a.m.**

Most people think of Jones Beach as the place to go in summer for swimming and sunbathing. But when the sun worshippers are gone, it is

a fantastic place to watch birds. It is not uncommon to find many of the northern species of ducks, sandpipers, and owls spending the winter here. Since it is located on the Atlantic Flyway, we hope to see some early migrants. Joan and Richard Becker will greet the group at Jones Beach's Marina/Coast Guard Station at 8:30 a.m. You may want to pack a morning snack plus lunch.

## PROGRAMS

### **Saving Birds: Heroes Around the World With Pete Salmansohn Wednesday, January 11, 2006, 7:30 p.m., Katonah Village Library**

Pete Salmansohn and co-writer Steve Kress spent a year researching unique and intriguing bird preservation programs, and their results are now in a book called *Saving Birds: Heroes Around the World*. Join us for a colorful trip to Mexico, China, Israel, Sarawak, California, and New Zealand where birds like quetzals, cranes, falcons, hornbills, murrelets, and black robins are the subject of ongoing and often heroic human efforts to preserve species diversity. Pete will give a PowerPoint presentation, using photographs from the book to illustrate the six different stories. He will also talk about the successful program of reintroducing the Atlantic Puffin to Eastern Egg Rock in Maine establishing the southernmost breeding colony of puffins on the east coast of North America.

Hardcover and softcover copies of *Saving Birds: Heroes Around the World* will be available for purchase, to be signed by the author. There will also be copies of another book Pete wrote with Steve Kress, *Project Puffin: How We Brought Puffins Back to Egg Rock*.



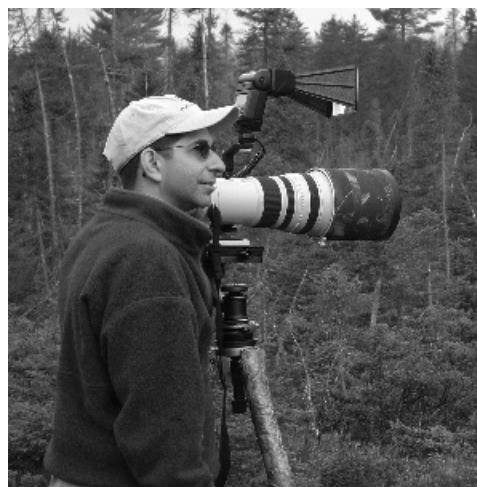
Jon Reis Photo and Design

Pete Salmansohn, Left, the speaker  
with co-author, Steve Kress, right.

Pete Salmansohn started working as an intern for Audubon in 1979 at the Sharon Audubon Center in Connecticut. He has been on the staff of Hog Island Camp, Maine, since 1980 where he has taught at adult, youth, and family camp sessions. He has worked with Steve Kress on the Puffin Project since 1989, and currently serves as the program's Education Coordinator. Each summer he works in Maine, leading public boat cruises to view Atlantic Puffins and other seabirds at Eastern Egg Rock, off the Pemaquid Peninsula. His winters are spent at the Audubon Center at Constitution Marsh, Putnam County, where he serves as lead educator, visiting local schools, and guiding those classes that visit the 270-acre sanctuary.

### **Birds of the Adirondacks With Nature Photographer Jeff Nadler Saturday, January 28, 2006, 2:30 p.m. Bylane Farm, 35 Todd Road, Katonah**

Jeff Nadler's "Birds of the Adirondacks" is a breath-taking show of big screen digital photography and relaxing music featuring the birds, wildlife, and wilderness scenery of New York State's Adirondack region. The program gives you intimate views of the many bird species found on wilderness lakes, mountain summits, boreal bogs, Lake Champlain, as well as those winter visitors from even further north. Enjoy intimate views of Common Loon, Spruce Grouse, Boreal Chickadee, Great Gray Owl, and numerous warblers, hawks, wading birds, and more. Jeff will also have an assortment of large, framed and double-matted prints available for purchase, which were recently on display at art centers in the Adirondacks.



Speaker, Jeff Nadler

Jeff is a part-time freelance professional nature photographer who specializes in bird photography. His work has recently appeared in Audubon New York's IBA book, the new Hudson-Mohawk bird guide, *Adirondack Life*, the *Conservationist*, *Adirondack Explorer*, and the Hamilton County birding guide. He is a regular contributor to *Natural New England* magazine, based in Portland, Maine. Jeff's work is used by the Cornell Ornithology Lab, the Boreal Songbird Initiative, the Wilderness Conservation Society, National Wildlife Federation, Lake Champlain Birding Trail, National Geographic Books, and NatureServe. He lives in Saratoga County and is employed by GE Energy as a financial analyst.

### **Wildflowers in Winter With Carol Levine Wednesday, February 15, 7:30 p.m., Katonah Village Library**

Learning to identify the remains of wildflowers in winter can add much enjoyment to winter walks and cross-country ski trips. The dried stems, fruits, seeds, or other plant parts can be used to determine which wildflowers once adorned the now brown or snowy fields and roadsides. This slide program will show the plants both in flower and as they appear in winter. Dried specimens also will be on display.

Carol Levine is the author of *A Guide to Wildflowers in Winter*, published by Yale University Press in 1995. The book describes and illustrates over 500 species that may be found in the northeastern U.S. Ms. Levine has taught field botany at The New York Botanical Garden for over 30 years.

## 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.

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