



# The Bedford Audubon Society Newsletter

Volume 58, Number 1, Spring 2008  
*Celebrating 95 Years of Conservation 1913-2008*

## President's Letter

Many of our long time members and ardent volunteers worked beside a most gracious gentleman, our own Andrew "Drew" Reynolds. Drew passed away on February 7 at his home here in Katonah. He was always eager and willing to help with Bedford Audubon projects and did so with pride and joy. Drew was a long time member, board member, and spent many hours developing our sanctuary trails. Our hearts go out to his wife, Barbara, and family. This edition of our newsletter has traditionally been the kickoff for a very busy spring schedule here at Bedford Audubon Society. It is my honor on behalf of our Board of Directors to take a moment to remember Drew each and every spring with a walk through the trails of our Franklin-Fels Sanctuary. This year will be the first annual "Walk for Drew" and will be held on Tuesday, March 18 between 9 and 11:00 a.m. Please see the field trip list for details.

I received a letter from Al Caccese, Executive Director of Audubon New York, in late January. While this letter carried the official news that Bedford Audubon Society had been re-certified as a chapter of the National Audubon Society, it also reflected on the fact that Audubon is a grassroots organization and along with the partnership bond of all of the local chapters, is making a difference in establishing a new, as Al said, "culture of conservation" in our communities. Let's all applaud our joint efforts. In serving to inspire other chapters as well as our community, Al thanked Bedford Audubon Society for our own work toward energy efficiency and sustainability.

As everyone looks to reduce their carbon footprint and reduce the effects of global warming I am happy to report that the town of Bedford is making great progress in this endeavor. I encourage everyone to look at the town of Bedford's Energy Advisory Panel's great new website. It is chock full with helpful tips, resources, and news on how to save energy and money. We applaud the town's commitment to reduce their own carbon footprint by 20% by 2020 and thank them for providing resources that will help the rest of us as well.

Bedford's Green Page<<http://www.bedfordny.info/html/green.htm>>

Our ambitious list of spring projects reminds me of our continuous quest for volunteers to staff them properly. We are nothing without our volunteers. Please help us by offering some time for the following upcoming tasks. Even if you can participate only for a small amount of time, it will give some of our regular volunteers a break and allow us to continue to offer quality programs and trips and public service information.

- Science Committee - Stream monitoring from June through early October
- Science Committee – Night Migration coordinator – The migration periods are May and October, but we need to ramp up our system to be ready soon. This involves data uploading and getting familiar with the software program.
- Science Committee – Eagle counting on the Hudson – We have been counting eagles since early January and can use some help on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays through March.
- Events Committee – Hospitality – Each month we serve drinks and cookies at our Katonah Library programs. Valerie can use some help either setting up at 6:30 p.m. or cleanup after the meeting at around 9:00 p.m. The next programs are on March 12, April 9, May 14 and June 11.
- Events Committee- Field trip leaders – For various trips throughout the year
- Bylane Garden - Bedford Audubon is in the early stages of developing a large native garden. Our vision for the garden is to create a haven for birds and butterflies. We would welcome help with the entire garden design and plant selection. In past years, volunteers have helped plant and maintain the early stage of The Bylane Native Garden. Please contact Tait Johansson at (914) 232-1999 if you would like to learn more about how you can volunteer in this effort. Our development committee seeks volunteers to help find funding for this native garden as well.
- Communications Committee – Newsletter Senior Editor - coordinate emails, and help edit the quarterly newsletter articles and then send them on to the layout person.

Enjoy the spring with Bedford Audubon.

**Tony Ianniello**

## The Bedford Audubon Society Newsletter

Spring 2008, Volume 58, No. 1  
The newsletter, USPS #61 is published quarterly by the  
Bedford Audubon Society, Inc.  
35 Todd Road, Katonah, NY 10536

### Board of Directors 2007-2008

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Our E-Mail address is: [Info@BedfordAudubon.org](mailto:Info@BedfordAudubon.org)

### 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

3/9	4:30-5:30 p.m.	Bald Eagle Survey at the Croton Dam and Visit to Black Rock Park
3/12	7:30 p.m.	<b>Evolution: The Most Important Theory in Biology/ Katonah Village Library</b>
3/15	7:30 a.m.	Field Trip to Jones Beach
3/18	9-11 a.m.	The First Annual Walk for Drew Nature Hike at Franklin-Fels Sanctuary
4/9	7:30 p.m.	<b>Red Knots and Horseshoe Crabs - A Delicate Balance Overthrown/ Katonah Village Library</b>
4/10	9:15 a.m.	Spring at the Bronx Zoo
4/23	7:30-9:30 a.m.	Early Morning Bird Walk at Hunt-Parker Sanctuary
4/26	8-10 a.m.	Early Spring Bird Walk at Muscoot Farm
4/26	7:15 p.m.	Dance of the Woodcock at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation
4/29	9-11 a.m.	Field Trip to the Ice Pond in Putnam County
5/1,3,15,29	7:30 a.m.	Early Morning Bird Walks at Maple Ave
5/6,13,27,31	7:30 a.m.	Early Morning Bird Walks at Bylane
5/8	7:45 a.m.	Bird Walk in the Ramble, Central Park
5/9-10		Birdathon
5/14	7:30 p.m.	<b>All About Bluebirds - and More/ Katonah Village Library</b>
5/17	8-10 a.m.	Spring Bird Walk at Muscoot Farm, Somers, NY
5/20	7:30 a.m.	Early-Morning Bird Walk at North County Trailway
5/22	7:30 a.m.	Early-Morning Bird Walk at Angle Fly Preserve
6/11	7:30 p.m.	<b>An Overview of the Life of Carolus Linnaeus and His Contributions to Biological Taxonomy/ Katonah Village Library</b>

## In Fond Memory of Drew Reynolds

By Jackie Jones



On February 7, 2008, Bedford Audubon Society lost a good friend, long-time member, and supporter when Andrew Reynolds, known to us as “Drew,” died suddenly. Over the years, Drew had been a BAS Board member and served on several of our committees. One of his greatest gifts to our Chapter was the hours he

spent surveying and marking the trail system in our Franklin Fels Sanctuary.

Friends and family will remember Drew as a person who was always ready to pitch in, one who had a love and dedication to understanding and improving our environment, and a man with a gentle voice and ready smile. Our hearts go out to his wife Barbara and other family members.



## 2008 Birdathon May 9-10

The Bedford Audubon Society is gearing up for its annual Birdathon. It will take place Friday May 9 at 5 p.m. - Saturday May 10 at 5 p.m. The purpose of this event is to help raise money for Bedford Audubon’s Scholarship Fund, local school environmental education projects, and membership programs.

Visit our website [www.bedfordaudubon.org](http://www.bedfordaudubon.org) for more information and to sign up.



## The Common Raven and the American Crow

By Tait Johansson



The American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) is familiar to everyone. One of the most common and visible birds in our area, this crow is found in almost every habitat, including towns, forests, fields, and suburbia. A less familiar bird to many is the Common Raven (*Corvus corax*), formerly extirpated from the area, and now making a comeback, especially in Putnam county and northern Westchester County. Many birders find it difficult telling

crows and ravens apart, but the two species can be readily distinguished with experience.

Telling ravens from crows by sight has much in common with raptor identification. Shape, proportions, and size are the important characteristics to focus on, since the plumage color of both species is an identical black (barring the occasional bird of both species with manifestations of albinism, often just a few white flight feathers).

Compared to the familiar crow, the raven is a considerably larger bird, approaching almost twice as large in some cases. But since there is a good deal of size variation between individuals in both species, and because of the inherent difficulty of judging size at a distance, this character is really only useful when the bird in question is right next to another bird of known size. One result of this size (or, in this case, weight) difference is that, when flushed, a crow standing on the ground tends to fly directly into the air, while a raven has to take a few hops before it can get its greater bulk into the air and flying.

A perched raven, compared to a crow, has a longer, heavier bill, slightly shaggier throat feathers, and a longer, more wedge-shaped tail than a crow (the end of a crow’s tail is basically straight). But the shape differences between the two are most apparent in flight, where both the greater length of the more pointed tail of the raven and its longer, more pointed wings can be better seen. Combined with the raven’s longer neck and slightly longer bill, the overall effect is more “stretched out” looking than a crow.

The two species also act differently in flight. Crows are rather staid: they don’t experiment with their powers of flight much.

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Ravens often soar; crows won't for more than a second or two. Ravens also are often wackily acrobatic when flying, and when around other ravens will sometimes perform impressive tumbles and rolls in mid-air which crows would be embarrassed to even attempt.

The best "field mark" of all, though, is voice. While both are capable of a wide array of vocalizations, the raven's typical call is a croaking "RRRUK", given singly or in a series, quite different from the American Crow's familiar "CAWW."\*

\*I hate to complicate things, but there's another species to worry about in all this: the Fish Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*). This species is, for all practical purposes, identical to the American Crow in appearance, but gives a nasal "UH-UH" call. This is quite distinctive, but care should be taken if there are begging juvenile American Crows around, which give a similar nasal call (usually not two-noted). This species is found throughout our area, but is less common than the American Crow.



The following article was written by Jack Kozuchowski. Jack is a faithful volunteer at many Bedford Audubon functions and often seen enjoying our field trips and programs. Thanks for sharing!

### Discovery

By Jack Kozuchowski

When I was in the fifth or sixth grade, I attended a summer day camp. One of the assignments was a "paint-by-number" project, and I was given a bird to create with paint. I labored at it, and, as the project was coming to completion, I was working on my "masterpiece" outside on a windy day. A gust of wind came up behind my bird painting palette and took it in the air; when it hit the ground face down my "masterpiece" was a smeared mess. So I cleaned off the paint and painstakingly started over. When the work was finally completed, it was worth the re-do, as I admired this handsome bird with strikingly contrasted colors of red black and white (**RBW**), I said to myself (and the painting): "***This was worth the effort, but before I die, I must see you live sometime.***" Thus started my life obsession with seeing a Red-headed Woodpecker (**RBW**). The last day of my life's quest to see an **RBW**, live, is described in the field notes that follow.

Unlike many bird enthusiasts, I do not keep a "list." Partially, it is due to the fact that I have been obsessed, my entire life, on finding one bird: the Red-headed Woodpecker, which I have recently nicknamed "**RBW**." The **RBW** is not endangered or even threatened, but the Breeding Bird Survey data show the species is declining over much of its breeding range. An edge species, it declines where forests mature. Hence, the century-long transition from farmland to forest in the Northeast may be contributing to its demise. It is also one of the few birds that are often hit by cars as they wing across the increasing vehicle traffic of our landscapes.

**RBWs** love dead trees. It is one of only four woodpeckers known to store food, and it is the only one known to cover the stored

food with wood or bark. The **RBW** hides insects and seeds in cracks in wood, under bark, in fence posts, and under roof shingles. Grasshoppers are regularly stored alive, but wedged into crevices so tightly that they cannot escape (Cornell Lab of Ornithology, see website:[http://www.birds.cornell.edu/AllAboutBirds/BirdGuide/Red-headed\\_Woodpecker\\_dtl.html](http://www.birds.cornell.edu/AllAboutBirds/BirdGuide/Red-headed_Woodpecker_dtl.html).)

In my mission to find an **RBW**, I have learned that there are only a few "hot spots" in the Eastern US: one in Northern Virginia, one in Southern Illinois and the entire state of Kansas. Hence, I had planned to take an "RBW" trip in 2009 to one of these locations. Last spring, however, my plans changed. I was invited to go on a history tour of Gettysburg National Monument – and I decided to join at the last minute. That is where my story begins and I will frame it as "field notes."

Date of sighting: April 21, 2007

Location: Gettysburg Battlefield, Houck's Ridge

Habitat: Woodland edge near hay field

Weather: Sunny, 72 degrees

**Field Notes** (4/21/07): When I first sighted my much-longed-for **RBW**, I had caught a flash of black and white wings on the profile of a woodpecker shape flitting through the woods, as the professor was explaining the civil war battle at this location. "***Could it be?***" was my first reaction. So I called my wife Nancy over to verify. When she said "***Jack, I think I see red on its head,***" my spirits soared. So I lingered, as the group moved on to the next battlefield site, and I waited ... soon to be paid off with a front row profile of the **RBW** that landed on a branch right in front of me! Time stood still for a brief moment, as I watched the **RBW** hammer away at the tree trunk at mid-canopy level .... and I watched as long as I dared, resisting the urge to "not get lost" from the group that was also my ride home. The moment was certainly enough to savor the sense that I always knew that I would feel when I finally spotted this elusive bird: "**Red, Black, White**" (**RBW**) in stunning contrast of colors and emotions that swirled at this edge between forest and field. Of course I will always treasure this moment of discovery, but there is a certain sense of sadness, as well as release. Hopefully, I have many more years to enjoy this earth, and many more observations of birds and wildlife, but I am now at peace in my lifelong quest of **RBW** and will never again be so obsessed with a discovery. Though I am somewhat relieved of the pressure of having to find the "bird that I must see before I die," I am a bit wistful that the quest is over. Nevertheless, the Gettysburg, Pa. discovery of **RBW** on 4/21/07 was most certainly worth the wait.

**Supplementary Field Note** (4/22/07): It so often happens that after a first sighting of a bird others soon follow. On 4/21/07, this thought crossed my mind and I looked forward to seeing **RBW** again. The encore came just one day later on Earth Day, 2007, 8:30 a.m., as the professor was explaining the battlefield tactics of "Pickett's Run" at Seminary Ridge in Gettysburg. I suddenly heard the trademark "*queeah, queeah*" call that could only be a Red-bellied Woodpecker or another **RBW**. To the edge of the wood-

land known as "Pitzer's Woods" I went, planted myself and had five more sightings of at least two individual Red-Headed Woodpeckers ( aka RBWs).



## Bedford Audubon's Hawk Watch Visited by John Jay High School

By Linda Burke



On Monday, October 1, 2007, 65 students and 7 parents from John Jay High School's AP Environmental Science course visited Chestnut Ridge at Butler Sanctuary to watch the hawks. Bedford Audubon's Hawk Watch intern, Allisyn Gillet, oriented everyone to the site, talked to the students and parents

about the ecological significance of the study and gave everyone pointers on how to spot the different types of birds of prey that could possibly be viewed. The vista presented from the top of the ridge is truly incredible, and the students were amazed that their view extended to Long Island Sound. The students trained their binoculars to the sky and were rewarded by sightings of Osprey, American Kestrels, and Turkey Vultures. Tait Johansson, BAS' resident naturalist, and Tony Ianniello, president of BAS, assisted the students in their endeavors.



### Helpful Advice May Save a Swallow's Life Tree Swallow Ladder

For any nest box made with relatively smooth lumber, it is important to have a 'ladder' beneath the entrance hole (inside the nest box) to enable tree swallows to exit. Horizontal grooves can be sawed, or a small strip of plastic gutter guard can be stapled. I have used gutter guard for years, and it works great.

I will gladly mail a few pieces free of charge if a SASE is sent.

John Rogers  
9641 Bauer Rd.  
Brewerton, NY 13029

*John, a naturalist, will be offering a program for us on the Eastern Bluebird, Wednesday, May 14, 2008 at the Katonah Village Library.*



## FIELD TRIPS

**Registration:** Please register for all field trips (except where noted) with trip registrar, Joan Becker, (914) 232-4806 or by e-mail to [jebecker@bedfordaudubon.org](mailto:jebecker@bedfordaudubon.org).

**Bald Eagle Survey at the Croton Dam and Visit to Black Rock Park, Croton-on-Hudson**  
With Bedford Audubon Volunteers  
Sunday, March 9, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Please join the BAS eagle survey volunteers on Sunday, March 9 to learn more about Bald Eagles and their increasing presence in our area and to see how the data is collected. We may also take a trip to nearby Black Rock Park, where an impressive number of duck species usually congregate in winter. (Contact Joan Becker by e-mail to [jebecker@bedfordaudubon.org](mailto:jebecker@bedfordaudubon.org) or by telephone at (914) 232-4806 for directions). No registration necessary.

**Field Trip to Jones Beach  
With Joan and Richard Becker  
Saturday, March 15.**

**Expect to leave the greater Katonah area by 7:30 a.m. to meet Joan and Richard Becker at Jones Beach's Marina/Coast Guard Station at 8:30 a.m.**

Jones Beach is usually associated with leisurely summer days. But the deserted winter and early spring beach attracts an impressive number of birds. The shoreline will likely reveal many of the northern species of ducks and sandpipers, and wintering sparrows and finches. We also hope to see loons and grebes. Since Jones Beach is located on the Atlantic Flyway, we should see some early migrants. You may want to pack a morning snack plus lunch and dress warmly.

**The First Annual Walk for Drew  
Nature Hike at Franklin-Fels Sanctuary  
With Tait Johansson**

**Tuesday, March 18, 9-11 a.m.**

**Meet at Bylane Farm, 35 Todd Road, Katonah. Carpool to Franklin-Fels.**

Join Bedford Audubon naturalist Tait Johansson for a walk through this lesser known 204-acre Bedford Audubon sanctuary. The preserve provides for easy walking with few steep inclines. Bring binoculars. This walk will be held in memory of Andrew Reynolds, known to us as "Drew," who died suddenly on February 7, 2008. Drew was a long-time friend and member and supporter of Bedford Audubon. Since one of Drew's main contributions to BAS was surveying and marking the trail system in Franklin Fels Sanctuary, we feel it appropriate to honor him with an annual walk there.

**Spring at the Bronx Zoo  
With Joan and Peter Becker**

**Thursday, April 10. Departure (carpool) from Bylane Farm 9:15 a.m.**

Join long-time Bedford Audubon members and bird enthusiasts Joan and Peter Becker on a trip to one of the Tri-state's premier attractions. We will experience the best this wonderful zoo has to offer, with special attention to the bird exhibits. Bring binoculars and lunch (or you can purchase lunch at the Zoo). Admission fee applies. Return to Bylane by 4:30 p.m.

**Early-Morning Bird Walk at Hunt-Parker Sanctuary  
With Tait Johansson**

**Wednesday, April 23, 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.**

**Meet at Bylane Farm, 35 Todd Road, Katonah**

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Start the day with a nature hike in Bedford Audubon's most popular sanctuary with our knowledgeable naturalist, Tait Johansson. Bring binoculars.

### **Early Spring Bird Walk**

**With Naturalist Jeanne Waful, Sponsored by Friends of Muscoot Farm**

**Muscoot Farm, Route 100, Somers**

**Saturday, April 26, 8 – 10 a.m.**

Meet at the picnic tables between the Reception Center and the Concession Stand. Bring binoculars, if possible. Suitable for experts and beginners alike. Jeanne's walk will focus on signs of spring manifested by birds, insects, plants, etc. Information and registration (914) 864-7282.

**Dance of the Woodcock at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Routes 35 and 121, Cross River**

**With John Askildsen**

**Saturday, April 26, 7:15 p.m.**

**Meet at the parking area just before the toll both inside the Reservation.**

Observe the American Woodcock's energetic love antics, as he "peents" struts and hurls himself into the sky and glides acrobatically down again, all to attract a mate.

**Field Trip to the Ice Pond in Putnam County**

**With Tait Johansson**

**Tuesday, April 29, 9 – 11 a.m. Departure (carpool) from Bylane Farm 8:15 a.m.**

Join our naturalist on a trip to this 33-acre preserve adjoining the Town of Patterson's Clough Preserve and the Great Swamp IBA, a refuge for migratory songbirds and Neotropical species. The preserve provides for easy walking along the marsh trail.

**Early Morning Bird Walks in May**

**With Tait Johansson**

**Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 7:30 a.m.**

**THESE WALKS ORIGINATE FROM DIFFERENT LOCATIONS. PLEASE NOTE THE DATES!!**

Starting at Bylane, 35 Todd Road, Katonah: **May 6, 13, 27, and 31.**

Starting at Maple Avenue, Katonah (intersection of Reservoir Road, off Route 22): **May 1, 3, 15 and 29.**

Starting at the North County Trailway, Yorktown (intersection on Route 118): **May 20.** Starting at Angle Fly Preserve (Off Route 139, Somers): **May 22.**

**Rain will cancel the walks. No registration necessary.**

**(For more detailed directions, contact Joan Becker by e-mail to [jebecker@bedfordaudubon.org](mailto:jebecker@bedfordaudubon.org) or by telephone at (914) 232-4806.**

**Bird Walk in the Ramble, Central Park, New York City**

**With Peter Becker**

**Thursday, May 8, 7:45 a.m. Meet at the entrance at 72nd St. and Central Park West (Car pooling available, leaving Bylane at 7:00 a.m.)**

Bedford Audubon member and avid birder Peter Becker will lead a morning walk through one of the top ten birding spots in America. More than 200 species pass through Central Park on their migratory routes each spring and fall, close to one third of the bird species found in the United States. Bring a bag lunch or buy lunch at the boathouse cafe. Return to Bylane approx. 3:30 p.m.

### **Spring Bird Walk**

**With Naturalist Jeanne Waful, Sponsored by Friends of Muscoot Farm**

**Muscoot Farm, Route 100, Somers**

**Saturday, May 17, 8 – 10 a.m.**

Meet at the picnic tables between the Reception Center and the Concession Stand. Bring binoculars, if possible. Suitable for experts and beginners alike. We'll talk about migration and look and listen to the Neotropical birds that are returning. Information and registration (914) 864-7282.



## **PROGRAMS**

*All programs are free and open to the public.  
Katonah Village Library is wheel chair accessible.*

**Evolution: The Most Important Theory in Biology**

**With Dr. Douglas J. Futuyma, Distinguished Professor of Ecology and Evolution at Stony Brook University**

**Wednesday, March 12, 7:30 p.m.**

**Katonah Village Library, 26 Bedford Road, Katonah**

Evolution is the central unifying principle of the biological sciences. It has been thoroughly documented by vast amounts of diverse evidence, and is one of the most important discoveries of science. It provides an explanation of a vast variety of biological phenomena, and is the foundation of many applications of biology to human health, welfare, and self-understanding. In contrast, "Intelligent Design," which is simply creationism under another name, provides no insights and has no supporting evidence whatsoever. To include Intelligent Design in public school science curricula would not only violate the U. S. Constitution, but would also undermine science and rationalism, to the detriment of society.



**Douglas J. Futuyma's** research is motivated by an abiding interest in the evolutionary origins of biological diversity. He uses herbivorous insects (which account for more than a quarter of the known species of organisms) as vehicles for studying speciation, the evolution of ecological specialization, and

the evolution of interactions between species (*viz.*, insects and their food plants). He is the author of numerous books, including the widely used college textbook *Evolutionary Biology* (3 editions), *Science on Trial: The Case for Evolution* (1982, 1995), and *Evolution* (2005), which concern the conflict between science and creationism, in addition to scores of scientific articles. Dr. Futuyma is the editor of *Annual Review of Ecology, Evolu-*

*tion and Systematics*, and he has been the editor of *Evolution* magazine, the leading international journal of evolutionary research. He is also past president of the Society for the Study of Evolution and of the American Society of Naturalists, from which he received the Sewall Wright Award in 1997. He has often contributed to courses in tropical biology offered in Costa Rica by the Organization for Tropical Studies. His other major activities have been in the service of integrating and promoting the study of evolutionary biology. He is an avid naturalist.

### **Red Knots and Horseshoe Crabs – A Delicate Balance Overthrown**

**With Larry Niles, Ph.D.**

**Wednesday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.**

**Katonah Village Library, 26 Bedford Road, Katonah**

For millennia, the Red Knot, a shorebird of the sandpiper family, has traveled from its wintering grounds on the southern tip of Patagonia, Chile to its breeding destination in the high Arctic of Canada, an annual one-way trip estimated at 10,000 miles. The success of this journey depends critically on one food resource: the horseshoe crab eggs of the Delaware Bay, the only stopover on the northward journey. Beginning in the 1990s, commercial fisheries started excessively harvesting horseshoe crab as bait for eel and conch, resulting in a 90% decline in horseshoe crab eggs. Consequently, Red Knots have declined dramatically on Delaware Bay over the last five years, and many birds are failing to reach the Arctic due to insufficient weight gain on the feeding grounds.

Dr. Niles' lecture will focus on the current plight of the Red Knot and his decades-long work to protect this bird and its habitats.



**Dr. Niles**, considered one of the foremost authorities on the Red Knot and other threatened shorebirds, is the former Chief of New Jersey DEP's Endangered and Nongame Species Program. He retired in September 2006 from this position and is now leading The Shorebird Project consisting of an international team of biologists who monitor Red Knots and other shorebirds on their non-breeding grounds in Chile, on

their migration stop-over on the Delaware Bay, and on their breeding areas in Quebec Province, Canada. The group has also monitored migratory shorebirds, including the Red Knot, in northwestern Australia. In addition, Dr. Niles is developing a new project on threat assessments at all important Red Knot wintering areas using The Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network's Site Assessment Tool's modeling of stopover ecology and radio tracking throughout the flyway.

### **All About Bluebirds — and More**

**With Naturalist John Rogers**

**Wednesday, May 14, 7:30 p.m.**

**Katonah Village Library, 26 Bedford Road, Katonah**

John's PowerPoint presentation encompasses the life history of the Eastern Bluebird, nest box management, other birds that nest in bluebird boxes, and more. The theme throughout is nature appreciation. The focus is on bluebirds, but John also shares his passion for the natural world in hopes the audience will absorb some broader and deeper messages.



**John Rogers** has maintained a trail of hundreds of bluebird nest boxes in central NY for decades, and has fledged over 11,000 Eastern Bluebirds. He is a recognized authority on bluebird conservation, and has done slide programs, field trips, and workshops for hundreds of organizations. John was a cofounder of the New York State Bluebird Society in 1982. He is a recipient of the Bluebird Conservation Award from the North American Bluebird Society, and a past

board member of that organization. John holds a BA in Biology from SUNY Oswego.

### **An Overview of the Life of Carolus Linnaeus and his Contributions to Biological Taxonomy**

**With Dr. Gerry Moore**

**Director of Science, Brooklyn Botanic Garden**

**Wednesday, June 11, 7:30 p.m.**

**Katonah Village Library, 26 Bedford Road, Katonah**

Carolus Linnaeus (Carl von Linné), born in 1707 in Sweden, is often referred to as the father of taxonomy. He was the first person to consistently refer to species using a binomial (*e.g. Homo sapiens*); many of the binomials in use today were first coined by Linnaeus over 250 years ago. In his talk, Gerry Moore will provide an overview of the life of Carolus Linnaeus, including methods developed by him that continue to be used in biological taxonomy today.



**Gerry Moore** is currently the Director of Science at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, where he has worked for the past eight years. He also serves as the coordinator for the Garden's New York Metropolitan Flora project that seeks to document and map the occurrences of all vascular plants growing without cultivation in the New York Metropolitan region.

He received his Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University in 1997 and was a postdoctoral researcher at Duke University from 1997-1999. Gerry Moore is an adjunct faculty member of the Pratt Institute and Rutgers University and a research associate at the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia. He grew up in southern New Jersey and has spent much of his life studying the flora of the northeastern United States. He has given presentations on Linnaeus at the American Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, and Uppsala University.



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