



The Bedford Audubon Society Newsletter

Volume 60, Number 2, Summer 2010
Celebrating 97 Years of Conservation 1913-2010

Manakins and Their Amazing Audible Courtship Displays

With Kimberly S. Bostwick, Ph.D.

Wednesday, June 16, 7:30 P.M.

Katonah Memorial House, 71 Bedford Road, Katonah

THE AUDIENCE WILL BE INTRODUCED to some incredible mating rituals performed by manakins, a family of small bird species of subtropical and tropical Central and South America. One species in particular, the Club-winged Manakin, which inhabits the western slopes of the Andes in Colombia and Ecuador, “violins” its wings in order to make sound, which requires both a special instrument (its feathers), and special “skills,” in this case extremely rapid wing motions (faster than the wings of hummingbirds or other manakins or the vibration of a rattlesnake’s tail), and unusual wing postures. Dr. Bostwick has captured sound-producing displays of numerous different species of manakin with high-speed video. These video recordings show that different evolutionary groups, or clades, of manakins produce sound differently and that even within a given species a male can use multiple mechanisms to produce wing-sounds.

Dr. Kim Bostwick is the Curator of Birds & Mammals at Cornell University. Her main interest is in understanding the evolutionary processes underlying macroevolutionary patterns, especially as they relate to sexually selected characteristics of organisms. Her dissertation research focused on both the morphological and behavioral aspects of a unique, sexually selected character found in the manakins. The high-speed videos can be accessed on the web at <http://www.cumv.cornell.edu/staff/bostwick.html>.



This program is free and open to the public. Katonah Memorial House is wheelchair accessible. Please do not block the Fire Department access. Park alongside the meeting house side of the driveway.

Please see page 6 for the complete schedule of Bedford Audubon events



President’s Letter—Farewell



On June 30, in accordance with Bedford Audubon’s bylaws, I will leave the board after having served as board president for the last three years and as a board member for the past six years.

I could not possibly leave without letting you know what a pleasure it has been to be part of this organization. Furthermore, you should understand that I have been only a small part of a group of society members, volunteers, board members, and board officers who continuously and selflessly devote their time and attention to making Bedford Audubon what it has become today and laying the groundwork for what it will be in the future.

We have come a long way in these six years. The decision to hire an executive director in 2009 was a big step in allowing us to fully realize the limitations of a small board in running an expanding organization. Now, under the competent guidance of Jim Nordgren, we have been able to offer even more events and programs reaching a steadily growing segment of the community. Lots of exciting things are happening at Bylane and beyond. Come see for yourself how we protect habitats, educate the next generation, and explore exciting bird locations, or simply come and enjoy the beauty of Bylane Farm.

Please support our efforts, embrace our new volunteers, and get involved with Bedford Audubon Society! We are making a difference in our community and in this world, and with your help and involvement we will continue to do so for generations to come.

Please stay well, have a great summer, and I hope to see you on a field trip!
Tony Ianniello

The Board of Bedford Audubon expresses its sincere gratitude to Tony Ianniello. He has indeed worked tirelessly for the organization and brought it through a period of profound change. Thank you, Tony! We look forward to welcoming you back after a well-deserved break.



The Bedford Audubon Society
Newsletter

Summer 2010, Volume 60, No. 2
The newsletter, USPS #61, is published quarterly by the
Bedford Audubon Society, Inc.
35 Todd Road, Katonah, NY 10536

Board of Directors 2009-2010

Tony Ianniello: *President*, 914-556-8817
Walter Fowler: *Vice President*, 914-962-2177
Mark Patek: *Treasurer*, 914-763-8078
Janet Andersen: *Recording Sec'y*, 914-763-3615
Joan E. Becker: 914-232-4806
Linda Burke: 914-533-6343
Carol Cioppa: 914-764-1549
Arthur W. Green: 914-752-2993
Christopher W. London: 914-764-5105
Nannette F. Orr: 914-232-3334
Helle Raheem: 914-962-4344
Marilyn Shapiro: 914-764-4270

Committee Leadership

Executive: Tony Ianniello, 914-556-8817
Finance: Mark Patek, 914-763-8078
Development/Membership: Joan E. Becker: 914-232-4806
Facilities & Grounds: Walter Fowler, 914-962-2177
Communications: Helle Raheem, 914-962-4344
Events: Carol Gracie
Science: J. Alan Clark, 253-640-1640
Education: Linda Burke, 914-533-6343
Henry Morgenthau Preserve: Marilyn Shapiro, 914-764-4270
Hawk Watch: Arthur W. Green: 914-752-2993

Committee Support

Executive Committee: Walter Fowler, 914-962-2177
Mark Patek, 914-763-8078
Events Committee and Trip Registrar:
Joan E. Becker, 914-232-4806, jebecker@bedfordaudubon.org
Webmaster and Newsletter: Richard Becker, 203-323-0233
Great Swamp: James Utter, 845-878-0081
Newsletter: Tricia O'Donnell, 914-232-5911
Events and Science: Arthur W. Green, 914-752-2993
Hospitality: Valerie Palen, 914-248-7241
Finance and Morgenthau Preserve: Janet Andersen, 914-763-3615
Development/Membership: Vi Patek, 914-763-8078
Morgenthau Preserve: Christopher London, 914-764-5105
Seed Sale: John Erickson, 914-273-6967
Steve Ricker, 914-234-2934
Hawk Watch Site, Coordinator: Tait Johansson, 914-232-1999
Hawk Watch Historian: Allen Kurtz, 845-628-8061
Hawk Watch and Events: Nannette F. Orr, 914-232-3334
Native Plant Garden: Bonnie Barrett

Staff

Executive Director: Jim Nordgren, 914-403-0846
Naturalist: Tait Johansson, 914-232-1999
Volunteer Office Manager: Laura Jaffe, 914-232-5258

Contact Information

Chapter Office 914-232-1999

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 Website www.BedfordAudubon.org
Our E-Mail address is: Info@BedfordAudubon.org

BAS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please register with Joan E. Becker:
jebecker@bedfordaudubon.org or 914-232-4806

	JUNE-AUGUST	
		Bird Banding at Hunt-Parker Sanctuary Please call Jim Nordgren or Tait Johansson at 914-232-1999 for details about dates and times.
6/11	8:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.	Excursion to Sterling Forest State Park
6/16	7:30 P.M.	Manakins and Their Amazing Audible Courtship Displays/Katonah Memorial House
6/17	7:30 A.M.-10 A.M.	Bird Walk at the Angle Fly Preserve
6/19	8:30 A.M.-10:30 A.M.	North Salem to Watch Bobolinks
6/24	8:45 A.M.-4:30 P.M.	Excursion to New Jersey Meadowlands and a Pontoon Boat Tour
6/29	10:00 A.M.-NOON	Nature Walk at Bylane Farm
6/30	8:00 A.M.-4:30 P.M.	"Nature's Nurseries" Field Trip to Breezy Point
7/10	9:00 A.M.-11 A.M.	The Third Annual "Walk for Drew" Nature Hike at Franklin-Fels Sanctuary
7/15	1:00 P.M.-4:00 P.M.	Field Trip to Lasdon Park Arboretum and Amawalk Farm
7/20	10:00 A.M.-NOON	Nature Walk at Bylane Farm
7/24	11:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.	Members' Picnic at Bylane Farm
8/4	8:30 A.M.-5:00 P.M.	A Special Day for Garden and Meadow Enthusiasts and a Boost for Bedford Audubon
8/5	5:00 P.M.-7:30 P.M.	Canoe Trip on Constitution Marsh
8/7	9:00 A.M.-4:30 P.M.	Field Trip to the Trevor Zoo and to Perry Hill Organic Farm
8/12	10:00 A.M.-NOON	Nature Walk at Bylane Farm
8/14	8:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
8/31	8:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
9/15	7:30 P.M.	Northward Bound: A Six Month Journey on the Appalachian Trail From Georgia to Maine/Katonah Memorial House

Volunteers Wanted

The Hawk Watch Committee needs the assistance of a good typist proficient with MS Excel to help enter historical hawk counts going back to 1977.

Bedford Audubon would like your help in establishing a weather station affiliated with the National Weather Service to participate in nationwide climatological study.

If you would like to help with either of these projects or for more information, please contact Arthur Green at 914-752-2993 or by e-mail to awgreen@bedfordaudubon.org.

Bedford Audubon Elects Directors and Officers

At the Bedford Audubon Annual Meeting on May 19, BAS members elected Adam Zorn, naturalist at Westmoreland Sanctuary, to the Board of Directors for his first three-year term. Adam has been an active volunteer with us and we are looking forward to his input on the Science Committee and other areas of interest. Janet Andersen, current secretary, was re-elected to a second three-year term as was J. Mark Patek, current treasurer.

At the board meeting, the next night, Walter Fowler, current board member and vice-president, was elected as the incoming president of the board. Walter brings a wealth of experience as a non-profit executive and will serve BAS well. Joan E. Becker, current board member, will take over as vice president. The treasurer position is currently open.

Dr. Linda Rachele Burke, will leave the board on June 30 but will retain her positions as our education chair and water-monitoring expert. We appreciate her input at the board level and thank her for her service. Tony Ianniello, current board president, will step down as board member and president on June 30 after a six-year term, as per the BAS term-limits policy. (See article on page 1.)

BAS Pioneers Organic Lawn Care Workshop for Latino Day Laborers

How do you spread the message that pesticides and herbicides have so many dangerous side effects? How do you convince homeowners to switch to benevolent organic lawn care treatment? Bedford Audubon decided the solution has to start with those who are exposed to the problem on a daily basis.

Inspired by journalist Diane Lewis, who has produced a pamphlet on organic lawn care, BAS Executive Director Jim Nordgren approached the organization Neighbors Link, whose mission is "to strengthen our



community by actively enhancing the healthy integration of recent Latino immigrants" and invited twelve of their workers to attend a free workshop at Bedford Audubon's headquarters, Bylane Farm, in Katonah. Jim developed the content of the class after researching and attending workshops and practicing organic lawn and garden care for 15 years on his own property. An organic lawn care brochure was printed in Spanish and English and a simultaneous translator was used to facilitate communication with the day laborers.

The workshop, held on March 27, stressed the safety of the workers themselves and suggested precautions they can take to avoid contact

with toxic lawn chemicals. Jim gave them suggestions for alternatives that they could recommend to their contractors and to homeowners. These included using natural compost instead of chemical fertilizers, and over-seeding and mowing grass high instead of applying cancer-causing herbicides. Rather than using broad-spectrum pesticides that kill birds as well as beneficial insects, spot treating of grubs and building up soil with healthy microbes was recommended.

Next, BAS plans to do a workshop for the Hispanic owners of lawn care companies followed by programs for area homeowners, thereby reaching all relevant stakeholders on this vital issue, with the distinct goal of changing minds and practices. With the adoption of more environmentally friendly practices, day laborers and their families will be less exposed to dangerous chemicals, and, with added skills in organic lawn care, may be able to demand more than the modest wages they currently earn as unskilled workers.

About Birds: The Wood Thrush and the Veery

By Tait Johansson

Of the breeding birds of our area, probably the two most accomplished singers are the Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) and the Veery (*Catharus fuscescens*). These species are both brownish, fairly secretive thrushes that mostly stay in the shadows of the woods, but reveal their presence by their lovely, melodic songs. The voice box in birds (the "syrinx") is two-parted, which in both these species enables a singing male to produce two different notes at once, giving him the ability to harmonize with himself.



John James Audubon's Wood Thrush

The Wood Thrush prefers extensive woods with a thick understory of shrubs and young trees (a dwindling habitat in our area because of massive overbrowsing by deer), where it forages for small invertebrates. Its upperparts are a rich chestnut brown, the underparts are white, with extensive black spotting extending from the throat down the entire length of the belly.

The Wood Thrush winters in southern Mexico through Central America, and deforestation in these areas has resulted in a steady decline in the numbers of birds returning to us each spring. The fragmentation of forest habitats in the United States has also contributed to its decline.

The Veery is slightly smaller than the Wood Thrush, with upperparts a uniform warm reddish-tawny color, and underparts white, with the breast speckled lightly with spots of the same tawny color as the upperparts. This species inhabits more upland forests with a dense understory. The Veery's song is perhaps not quite as melodic as its larger upland relative, still it gives an extraordinary musical performance with an ethereal quality all its own.

The Veery migrates all the way to southern Brazil, where until recently the habitat has been largely undisturbed. However, previously uncultivable areas are being opened to agriculture, which likely bodes ill for Veery wintering habitat in the future and for one of the most evocative sounds of summer in our part of the world.



John James Audubon called the Veery a "Tawny Thrush"

Bedford Audubon Helps Establish Garden at Pound Ridge Elementary School

After last summer's successful start of a pesticide-free and bird-friendly vegetable garden at Bedford Audubon's Bylane Farm, BAS is extending the gardening project into the community, to Pound Ridge Elementary School. A generous grant from the Henry Morgenthau Preserve endowment (the 36-acre Henry Morgenthau Preserve is now part of the Bedford Audubon Society) has enabled the creation of this innovative environmental education program. Teachers, students, the local garden club, parent volunteers PTA members Camille Prisco and Jennifer Lyon,



who were the indefatigable go-betweens between the school and BAS, are all involved in the program, which is being incorporated into the regular curriculum. BAS Executive Director Jim Nordgren and environmental educator Cathy Clare, who was in charge of the BAS garden, planned and built the garden at Pound Ridge Elementary School, including the fence and the raised beds. Cathy, Camille and Jen will teach classes in how to use birds as pest control instead of pesticides, companion planting, how to attract beneficial insects, etc., according to a lesson plan developed by Cathy Clare. More than 100 children and teachers attended the garden's opening on April 15. The final plans call for a butterfly garden, sensory and "storybook" garden beds, and a sunflower room.



I Promise Only Hawks, Foliage, and Cloudform

By Arthur W. Green

When the lushness of summer quickens and gives way to the stunning skies and foliage of autumn, hawk migration season will begin anew.



This year, the annual hawk count at Chestnut Ridge Hawk watch begins on August 15, and we've assembled a strong roster of events we think you'll enjoy. Please watch our website and the next newsletter for the date of our Raptor ID Workshop, which we will cast light on the often-murky subject of hawk identification. Or join one of our Sunday morning get-togethers with our friends from Westmoreland Sanctuary, where we'll enjoy

excellent hawk flights over coffee and donuts from our watch platform (across the street) at the Arthur W. Butler Sanctuary. Or visit us any time and help us count! Not long after our count season draws to a close on December 1, we will hold a special presentation to discuss the season's results and how they fit into raptor population trends observed across the northeastern U.S. No matter what your experience, bring your binoculars and join us! Hawks are fascinating. The coffee is good. And the view is, without a doubt, the best in town!

The author chairs BAS's program at Chestnut Ridge and will be returning as Hawk Counter this fall.



William Dingee Wins Marty McGuire Scholarship

William Dingee, from John Jay High School, will be awarded Bedford Audubon's Marty McGuire Scholarship at the BAS general meeting on June 16. Mr. Dingee is passionate about environmental conservation and has been an ardent volunteer for the Westchester County Citizens' Volunteer Monitoring Program for the past two years. He will use the funds from the scholarship (\$1,000) to support work this summer on a research project, under the auspices of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, focused on an effort to restore the American Chestnut through the use of transgenic plant technology (aka genetic engineering). If successful, the laboratory work done this summer will support subsequent field trials. It is Mr. Dingee's hope that his research efforts will help bring the vision of restoring the American Chestnut closer to realization.

This scholarship is named after Marty McGuire of Putnam County, N.Y., who died in a car accident in August of 2007. He was an active and enthusiastic young birder and naturalist filled with a love of nature.



Pre-K Programs at Bylane



This spring BAS launched their first nature programs for pre-kindergarten children at Bylane. With veteran environmental educator Andrea Sauro leading the classes, young scientists learned about pond ecology—netting tadpoles, snails, worms, and other larvae—around Bylane's ponds set amidst a meadow filled with tree swallows and bluebirds. Future lessons include vegetable gardening, butterflies and dragonflies, and tree and bird identification. Summer classes will run from July 8–July 29. To sign up call BAS at 914-232-1999.



Bobolinks in North Salem

Last year, BAS started a collaboration with several North Salem landowners and the North Salem Open Land Foundation to conserve Bobolink nesting areas in meadows in North Salem. Research has shown that these meadows are probably the only known Bobolink nesting sites in the entire three-county area. The Bobolink is a remarkable, charismatic grassland bird that demands at least 25 acres of grassland to nest successfully. The species has declined by 50% over the past decades, one reason being that the nesting fields are now being mowed before the chicks fledge as spring arrives earlier now. BAS's study found that from an initial count of 23 male Bobolinks in early June 2009, the population increased to 116 Bobolinks in early July in the same fields, astounding proof of the success of meadow management through delayed mowing. Had mowing taken place as scheduled in June, virtually all fledglings would undoubtedly have perished.

This year, initial sightings confirm that a large number of Bobolinks are back. Several landowners, including NSOLF, are again working with BAS to manage fields for Bobolink and other wildlife. Together, we can all help protect and preserve these delightful birds for our children and grandchildren to enjoy.

(See Page 6 for June 19 BAS field trip to North Salem)



Trip Highlights



BAS birders Jan Linskey (l) and Nannette Orr check out a sighting on our April 11 trip to the Forsythe (Brigantine) NWR, Oceanville, N.J.



Happy BAS members pause at the World of Birds during our annual trip to the Bronx Zoo, March 18.



On March 27, Bedford Audubon's leader Paul Lewis (left with container) revealed amphibian life at the Mountain Lakes Park vernal pools in North Salem to 15 enthusiastic hikers. Peter Becker, with Mark Patek in background, holds a salamander for inspection by young Orestes Rellos.

Peabody Museum and Piping Plovers at Milford Point

At the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History in New Haven, tour leader Nannette Orr guided the Bedford Audubon group through the division of Vertebrate Zoology with its impressive, world-renowned bird collection.



The inland temperature was a balmy 75 degrees, but once the BAS group reached Connecticut Audubon's Milford Point Preserve a cool easterly breeze swept over the sunny, still sparsely populated beach. The marsh side provided close-up looks at the nesting Osprey and a few water birds. We had great sightings of American Oystercatcher and other shorebirds on the far banks of the beach side, but the absolute highlight was a pair of Piping Plovers scurrying around, seeking out a suitable nest spot, not 10 feet from the group.



Bedford Audubon Plants Butterfly Garden at Library

Bedford Audubon took its "Audubon at Home" program to the community of Mt. Kisco this spring, building a butterfly garden at the newly expanded Mt. Kisco Library for people not used to having much contact with nature. With a generous donation from the Mt. Kisco Library Foundation and A&J Home Care, BAS board member Nanette Orr and Native Garden Chair Bonnie Barrett designed and built the garden with help from Neighbors Link and BAS volunteers.



Volunteers (from left) Jim Nordgren, Willy Gomez of the Mt. Kisco DPW, Polly Goodwin, Michelle DuRivage, and Bobbie Walkley helped plant the garden

Librarian Deirdre Johnson plans to weave the garden, and its butterflies and birds, into the library's programs through books, DVDs—even raising monarch butterfly and luna moth caterpillars with the children and then releasing them into the garden once they emerge from their chrysalis stage.



Volunteer Spotlight—Valerie Palen



It all began with a Bald Eagle. One day, about 10 years ago, Valerie was driving home from work crossing the Croton Reservoir, when a majestic adult Bald Eagle flew passed her car, so closely “I could see it blink,” she says. She was hooked. A friend suggested she contact Bedford Audubon to tell them about her sighting. Valerie started attending BAS’s monthly lectures and went on several trips to the Catskills and to Cape May with BAS. When the BAS hospitality chair resigned, Valerie stepped in and she has now been in charge of refreshments at the monthly programs for close to nine years.

A manicurist by profession, Valerie retired eight years ago and embarked on a second career as a wildlife rehabilitator. She is licensed by the NYS-DEC, and, like most rehabilitators, her services are voluntary and based out of her home. Valerie and her husband, Andy, have lived in Somers for 29 years.

Valerie receives referrals through word of mouth, but also through a wildlife hotline (914-967-0511). Three local vets donate their services. She treats injured or abandoned animals—mostly squirrels and rabbits (70% of these are victims of cat attacks) and nurses them back to health, when possible, after which they are released into the wild. Her business operates entirely through donations, and depending on the number of animals in her care, she spends between \$400 and \$500 a season on feed (e.g., lettuce and other greens) and on formula for the babies.

In addition, Valerie works as a part-time nanny for several families in the area, and in her “ample” spare time, she loves to go antiquing, especially for old Fiesta pottery and Depression-era glass—at one time she and her husband contemplated opening an antiques store.

Valerie, we want to thank you for all your efforts on behalf of BAS. Your delicious refreshments always start the lectures off on a pleasant note. We encourage you to consider a donation to Valerie’s wildlife rehabilitation efforts. Call her at 914-462-2664 or by email to valeriepalen@mac.com.



Save the Date!

Wednesday, September 15, 2010, 7:30 P.M.
Katonah Memorial House, 71 Bedford Road, Katonah

**Northward Bound: A Six-Month Journey on the
Appalachian Trail From Georgia to Maine
With Dan Aitchison**

FIELD TRIPS

Unless otherwise indicated, please register with Joan E. Becker:

jebecker@bedfordaudubon.org or 914-232-4806.

Many trips meet at or leave by carpool from Bylane Farm, 35 Todd Road, Katonah. (From Route 35, take Route 22 north. Go ½ mile and turn right on to Todd Road. Follow to #35.)

Note: Each trip is given one of three levels of difficulty: Easy, Moderate, or Strenuous. Please discuss your level of mobility with the registrar to ensure that the trip is appropriate for you.

Bird Banding at Hunt-Parker Sanctuary With Tait Johansson

Bedford Audubon will again participate in an ongoing continent-wide scientific study of North American landbird populations. Every ten days from early June until early August, the public will have the opportunity to observe birds being banded and released. To see some images from last year’s banding, see www.bedfordaudubon.org/banding. Please call Jim Nordgren or Tait Johansson at 914-232-1999 for details about dates and times.

Excursion to Sterling Forest State Park With Tait Johansson

Friday, June 11, 8:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M. Carpool from Bylane Farm at 6:30 A.M.

The 21,935-acre Sterling Forest State Park is a new field trip destination for BAS. This state park contains one of the largest contiguous forests in New York State with a rich species diversity. It is a nearly pristine natural refuge for a variety of hawks and songbirds in addition to mammals, many rare invertebrates, and plants. A special attraction is its population of breeding Golden-winged Warblers, which we will make a special effort to see. Cerulean Warblers also breed here. Bring lunch. *Level of difficulty: Easy to moderate.*

Bird Walk at the Angle Fly Preserve, Somers With Tait Johansson

Thursday, June 17, 7:30 A.M.–10:00 A.M. Carpool from Bylane Farm at 7:15 A.M.

This preserve, one of the newest in Westchester County, covers 654 rolling acres of forest, wetland, and meadow as well as the Angle Fly Brook for which it is named. Hosting an extensive wildlife population, it is particularly noteworthy for its turtle and bird life. Expect a nice array of shrubland and woodland birds—past walks here have found such species as Yellow-billed Cuckoo and Blue-winged, Chestnut-sided and Prairie warblers. *Level of difficulty: Easy to moderate.*

Trip to North Salem to Watch Bobolinks—Co-Sponsored by the North Salem Open Land Foundation

Saturday, June 19, 8:30 A.M.–10:30 A.M. Carpool from Bylane Farm or meet in the first field on the right at Keeler Lane just off Route 116 (Titicus Road) in North Salem at 9:00 A.M.

See “Bobolinks in North Salem” on page 4. *Level of difficulty: Easy.*

Excursion to New Jersey Meadowlands and a Pontoon Boat Tour With Naturalists Michael Newhouse and Tait Johansson

Thursday, June 24. Carpool from Bylane at 8:45 A.M. or meet at the Meadowlands at 10:00 A.M.; return 4:30 P.M.

This unique, 900-acre urban wildlife preserve supports an amazing diversity of vegetation, waterfowl, shorebirds, and much more. We will visit the award-winning nature center, enjoy a trail walk, and have our picnic lunch. Then, with the New York City skyline as backdrop, we’ll have a privately guided, two-hour pontoon boat tour of the Hackensack River and its tributaries, spotting wildlife and learning about the salt marsh’s history. Bring binoculars, lunch, and water. There is a \$15 charge for the boat tour. *Level of difficulty: Easy to moderate.*

Nature Walk at Bylane Farm With Tait Johansson

Tuesday, June 29, 10 A.M.–12:00 noon

Join us on a leisurely walk through the meadows of Bylane where we will focus on the butterflies and dragonflies. Wildflowers will be in bloom, and we should also see some birds. Bring binoculars, water, sunscreen, and a hat. *Level of difficulty: Easy to moderate.*

“Nature’s Nurseries” Field Trip to Breezy Point, Queens, N.Y., With Joan B. and Richard Becker

Wednesday, June 30. Carpool from Bylane Farm at 8:00 A.M.; returning at about 3:30 P.M.

We will obtain permits to park in a restricted area at Breezy Point. We’ll walk along the beaches to find nestling and juvenile Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Common Terns, and Black Skimmers. The walk can be hot, so bring sunscreen, hats, lunch, and plenty of water. *Level of difficulty: Moderate to strenuous.*

Rescheduled: The Third Annual “Walk for Drew” Nature Hike at Franklin-Fels Sanctuary, North Salem With Tait Johansson

Saturday, July 10, 9:00 A.M.–11:00 A.M. Carpool from Bylane Farm at 8:45 A.M. or meet at Franklin Fels entrance on Lakeview Road at 9:00 A.M.

This walk is in memory of “Drew” Reynolds, who died suddenly on February 7, 2008. Drew, a long-time friend, member, and supporter of BAS, surveyed and marked the trail system in the Franklin-Fels Sanctuary. Bring binoculars. *Level of difficulty: Easy to moderate.*

Field Trip to Lasdon Park Arboretum and Amawalk Farm, Katonah With Carol Levine and Joan E. Becker

Thursday, July 15, 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Carpool from Bylane at 12:45 P.M. or meet at 1:00 P.M. at Lasdon’s entrance court/fountain garden.

Enjoy a leisurely, educational stroll through this horticultural hub of Westchester, admiring woodlands, meadows, formal gardens with flowers and tree specimens from all over the world, as well as the Chinese Friendship Pavilion. Then we will visit nearby Amawalk Farm to hand pick sensational organic raspberries. Bring water and cash for fruit/veggie purchases. *Level of difficulty: Easy*

Nature Walk at Bylane Farm With Tait Johansson

Tuesday, July 20, 10 A.M.–12:00 noon

Join us on a leisurely morning walk along the newly established meadow trails at Bylane where we will focus on the butterflies and dragonflies of the area. We’ll look at wildflowers as well. Bring binoculars, insect repellent, sun hat, and plenty of water. *Level of difficulty: Easy to moderate.*

Members’ Picnic at Bylane Farm

Saturday, July 24, 11:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M.

BAS members are invited to join us at Bylane Farm for a summer picnic featuring nature walks, garden tours, birdhouse building, and *lots of food and lots of fun!* There is a \$5 suggested donation. Call Jim Nordgren at 914-232-1999 or e-mail rsvp@bedfordaudubon.org to register.

**A Special Day for Garden and Meadow Enthusiasts
...and a Boost for Bedford Audubon**

Wednesday, August 4, 8:30 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

Escape for a full day to see two magnificent private gardens. The first is an award-winning private property located in Salisbury, Connecticut. Your personal host will be Larry Weaner, famed landscape architect who designed the extensive meadows and native gardens on the property. Larry will give us insider tips on what it takes to grow a meadow. In addition to the meadows, which should be in full bloom, you will have the opportunity to visit the walled vegetable garden, the pond garden, and all the perennial and formal gardens.

After visiting this magnificent property, enjoy a relaxed and excellent lunch with Mr. Weaner and BAS friends at the nearby White Hart Inn. Their fresh produce and organic meat come from their own Twin Lakes Farm down the road!

We then head back into New York where we will get the rare treat to tour another special property. Horticulture, garden art, and natural design all gracefully intermingle at this garden. More information will be posted on our website at www.bedfordaudubon.org/events.html as it becomes available.

Finally, enjoy refreshments back at Bylane in our own Native Plants Garden. A (mostly tax-deductible) donation to Bedford Audubon of \$85 is required for participation. This includes lunch. Registration is very limited so please contact Carol Cioppa by phone at 914-764-1549 or by email to carolacioppa@cioppaarchitectsllc.com for more details and to register for this special BAS event.

Late Afternoon Canoe Trip on Constitution Marsh, Garrison With Arthur Green

Thursday, August 5, 5:00 P.M.–7:30 P.M. Carpool from Bylane at 4:00 P.M.

BAS director Arthur Green and a marsh naturalist will lead participants through winding channels lined with marsh plants. They will identify birds and other wildlife observed in this Hudson River jewel—an Audubon New York designated Important Bird Area. No private canoes are permitted, but favorite paddles are welcome and personal life jackets are encouraged. A \$20 fee applies (\$5 discount for Audubon members). *Level of difficulty: Easy to moderate.*

Field Trip to the Trevor Zoo and to Perry Hill Organic Farm, Millbrook, N.Y., with BAS Leaders Joan E. and Peter Becker

Saturday, August 7. Carpool from Bylane Farm at 9:00 A.M.; returning by 4:30 P.M.

The six-acre Trevor Zoo, established in 1936 on the grounds of Millbrook School, houses more than 120 exotic birds and animals, including seven endangered species. Twelve different exhibits include birds of prey, bamboo groves sheltering red pandas and Asian deer, reptiles, amphibians, arachnids, and much more. Admission \$3. After a lunch stop (bring or buy) at MacEnroe’s Farm and Food Store, we will visit nearby Perry Hill Farm for a Renewable Energy and Sustainable/Green Building tour with owners Jon and Vicki Harkness. Produce, honey, eggs, and medicinal herbs are available for purchase. *Level of difficulty: Easy.*

Nature Walk at Bylane Farm With Tait Johansson

Thursday, August 12, 10 A.M.–12:00 noon

Once again, our knowledgeable resident naturalist will lead a walk through Bylane’s meadows and woods. His late-summer walk will teach you about the birds, butterflies, dragonflies, and damselflies that frequent the property. In addition to binoculars, bring insect repellent, a sun hat, and plenty of water. *Level of difficulty: Easy to moderate.*

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, Queens, New York With Joan B. and Richard Becker

Saturday, August 14. Carpool from Bylane Farm at 8:00 A.M. Return to Bylane will be around 4:00 P.M.

Thousands of shorebirds stop at Jamaica Bay on their journey south. This trip will coincide with high tide in the bay, which sends these birds in impressive numbers to the refuge’s impoundments. We should also see herons, egrets, Glossy Ibis, Ospreys, terns, and many other species. Bring binoculars, lunch, sunscreen, plenty of cold drinks, and boots you don’t mind getting muddy. *Level of difficulty: Easy to moderate.*

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, Queens, NYC With Tait Johansson

Tuesday, August 31. Carpool from Bylane Farm at 8:00 A.M. Return to Bylane around 4:00 P.M.

Here’s another chance to visit this popular birding destination in late summer, this time under the leadership of Tait Johansson. We will be there at high tide, the opportune time to see the continuing shorebird migration. We should see some fall warblers as the songbird migration begins. And many of the summer residents including Osprey, Common and Forster’s Terns, Snowy and Great Egrets, Great Blue Herons will still be at the refuge. Bring binoculars, lunch, sunscreen, plenty of cold drinks, and boots you don’t mind getting muddy. *Level of difficulty: Easy to moderate.*



Bedford Audubon Membership

Yes, I would like to join the Bedford Audubon Society. My local chapter membership will help support local conservation efforts, programs, and sanctuaries. (Send this form with a check made out to **Bedford Audubon Society** or **fill in the MasterCard/VISA credit card information** below.)

Please check your membership category.

- | | | | |
|--|------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member or Renewal | \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter | \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gift Membership | \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributor | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student | \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> 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.

Please see if your company has a matching gifts program!
Your information or gift recipient's information

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____

Credit Card Information

MasterCard VISA
Name as it appears on card _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Account# _____
Expiration date _____ Phone _____
Security code (3 digit number on back of card in signature area) _____
Signature _____ Date _____

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

Enter your e-mail address here and we add you to our e-mail list for alerts on programs, field trips, and other items of local interest.

Referred by: _____

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

Postmaster: Address Correction Requested

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
WHITE PLAINS, NY
PERMIT NO. 4961

Save the Date!

Members' Picnic at Bylane Farm
Saturday, July 24
11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
Nature Walks!
Garden Tours!
Birdhouse Building!
Lots of Food and Lots of Fun!

\$5 suggested donation
RSVP by e-mail to rsvp@bedfordaudubon.org
or call Jim Nordgren at 914-232-1999

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Serving Communities in Northern Westchester and Eastern Putnam Since 1913

Printed on 30% recycled paper