

South Mountain Airs

The Newsletter of the South Mountain Audubon Society

August / September 2010 Volume XXXV #3 - Email Edition

UPCOMING SMAS EVENTS

SMAS Annual Picnic

Monday August 9th – The Annual SMAS picnic will be held at Laura Hershey's home, 8164 Carlisle Pike, York Springs, PA, 17372. Dinner will be at 6pm. Please bring a dish to share. All are welcome to come at 5pm. Bring a place setting for yourself.

Directions: Northbound on US #15 at the York Springs exit, go East on PA #94, Carlisle Pike. #8164 will be on the right shortly East of the interchange.

UPCOMING SMAS PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS

Unless indicated otherwise all SMAS Programs will be held at the Agricultural Resource Center, 1670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg, PA at 7:30 PM. Assigned room number will be posted on the front door.

Monday September 13th ***Marci Mowery***, president of Pennsylvania Parks & Forests Foundation, will present a program about the history of our state park and forest system. This presentation explores the evolution of our state forests from desert-like conditions in the post lumber boom to the rich natural resource heritage we have today. A combination of interactive and lecture, it serves as a celebration of our natural heritage. The program also explores the benefits of state parks and forests to local economies, human health, and quality of life, and some of the threats facing our resources today.

Please note this meeting is at 2:00 PM vice 7:30 PM.

Monday October 11th: “***Birds of the Boreal Barrens of Northeast Pennsylvania***”

The Pocono plateau in northeastern Pennsylvania embodies the region's boreal heritage, harboring species tolerant to cooler temperatures reminiscent of its glacial past. It is a vast landscape of glacial till barrens interspersed with swamps, bogs, marshes and shallow ponds surrounded by red spruce, balsam fir and eastern hemlock – woodlands more characteristic of Canada's northern climate. The bird life has a decidedly northern flavor, including many species that are rare or absent elsewhere in the state. ***Bud Cook***, Director of The Nature Conservancy's Northeastern Pennsylvania Office, will describe the three major barrens sites in the region: Long Pond, Moosic Mountain, and Arbutus Peak. They have many similarities, but each has its own distinctive features, its own rarities. Each has public access, trails and great birding. The Nature Conservancy and other organizations have been actively conserving and managing habitat at each place.

Monday November 8th ***Conrad Richter***, a retired veterinarian and Gettysburg resident, will share his photos of several trips to Africa. See details in next SMAS Newsletter.

UPCOMING SMAS FIELD TRIPS

Contact Mike O'Brien, Field Trip Chair, as necessary for more information on all Field Trips and the annual Christmas Bird Count: 717.642.6676 or maddogobrien@gmail.com

Thursday September 30^h **The "Pulpit" Hawk Watch at Tuscarora Ridge**

Hawkwatching trip to Tuscarora Ridge summit where US #30 passes over the crest of the ridge near McConnellsburg, PA. Long called "The Pulpit," this site provides good views of approaching raptors. Broad-winged Hawks will still be going through at this time. Kestrels and Red-tailed Hawks should be present in good numbers and most other raptors are possible. Short and easy access from where we will park to the observation area.

Meet in parking area between Burger King and CVS on US Rte #30 (York Street) near its intersection with US #15 in the shopping area where Staples and CVS are located - across the street from Walmart. We will carpool to the extent possible. Bring a chair if you wish as well as personal/food/drink items. Bring apparel as dictated by the weather. Meeting time is 8:30 AM with return in mid-afternoon.

Thursday October 14th **Antietam National Battlefield**

We will visit the Antietam National Battlefield at Sharpsburg, MD. We hope to see resident birds and mid-fall passage migrants. Bring binoculars, appropriate clothing per the weather and snacks/drink as per personal needs. Call the leader at 717.642.6676 as needed / for additional info. Meet at the leader's house, Mike O'Brien, #231 Carroll's Tract Rd, Fairfield, PA at 8 AM. We plan to return by 2 to 3 PM.

Directions: To reach the leader's house: Coming from Gettysburg on PA Rte 116 (Fairfield Rd) turn right on Carroll's Tract Rd at the "Tee" intersection at the Fairfield Post Office immediately before entering the town. Proceed about 1/2 mile to #231 passing an intersection with Mt. Hope (on left) and Bullfrog (on right) Roads. #231 is the second driveway after this intersection..

November Field Trip: **TBD.** Details in next SMAS Newsletter.

Saturday December 18th **Annual SMAS Christmas Bird Count - Gettysburg Areas**

All are invited and welcome to join the South Mountain Audubon Society (SMAS) in the 2010 CBC. Contact Mike O'Brien at 717.642.6676 or maddogobrien@gmail.com for information for new participants or confirmation of areas/times for previous & returning individuals and team participants. Complete details in next newsletter

Other SMAS related information

PA Birds Compiler:

There is a New PA Birds Compiler for Adams County: **Phil Keener**

Contact info: 198 Jacobs Street, East Berlin, PA 17316. 717.259.9984 / pittche74@yahoo.com

Wildlife Rehabilitator Contacts and Information

If you find an injured bird or animal call one of the following rehabilitators for help.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Species Accepted</u>
Michele "Mitzi" Eaton	York	717.757.4420	R, End
Barbara Gregory	Otter Habit/Wildlife Rehab Ctr	814.237.6548	M, P, R, RVS, End
Wendy Locher	Rehabitat, Inc. / Dillsburg	717.443.5348	R, End
Beth Carricato	Harrisburg	717.566.2613	M, S, R, End
Johanna Appel	Waynesboro	717.749.0485	R, S, M
Teresa Deckard	Bird Refuge of York County	717.843.4914	S, H, End

Species codes: R = Raptors (hawks / eagles / vultures / owls) M = Mammals
End = Species officially listed as Endangered Species RVS = Rabies Vector Species
P = Passerines (perching birds - crows and smaller) H = Herons
S = Songbirds (songbirds are passerines)

SMAS Board Member Officers

President	Nancy Locher (Acting)	334-4768	nclocher@embarqmail.com
Vice-President	Frances Parker	334-6823	fparker43@comcast.net
Secretary	Frances Ann Gilbert	339-0414	frangbrt1@comcast.net
Treasurer	Mike O'Brien	642-6676	mike@maddogobrien.com
Director at Large	Arlene Sandstedt	334-2805	
Director at Large	Carole Simon	337-1662	carolesimon@embarqmail.com

Committee Chairs

Conservation	Rusty Ryan	642-9293	rryan@adamscounty.us
Education	Open		
Field Trips	Mike O'Brien	642-6676	mike@maddogobrien.com
Hospitality	Frances Parker	334-6823	fparker43@comcast.net
Membership	Judie Hogan	642-5718	judie685hogan@yahoo.com
Programs	Deb Siefken	677-4830	siefkend@embarqmail.com
Publications	Mike O'Brien	642-6676	mike@maddogobrien.com