

South Mountain Airs

The Newsletter of the South Mountain Audubon Society

August – September 2016, Volume XXXVII #3 – The E-mail Edition

UPCOMING BIRD RELATED / OTHER EVENTS

SMAS Annual Picnic

All members should have received information on the Annual SMAS Picnic via a separate emailing which was sent out to the membership earlier, and again on August 3rd, 2016.

This information is reproduced here and it should be noted that the *location of the picnic has been changed* and the *date has been moved* to the third Monday in August; this is in line with our recent change in regular public club meetings from the 2nd Monday of the month to the 3rd Monday of the month.

Here is the full message:

Hello, South Mountain Audubon Members!

The need has arisen to **change the venue for our annual picnic** that will now be held on **Monday, August 15**.

Carole and Barry Simon have graciously offered their home and yard for our gathering this year. Their address is **336 Schriver Road, Gettysburg**.

DIRECTIONS FROM THE SQUARE IN GETTYSBURG:

South on Business 15 (Baltimore Street); turn right at Steinwehr Avenue. (Steinwehr Avenue changes to Emmitsburg Road.)

Travel approximately 5 miles and turn right onto Cunningham Road.

In 1.2 miles, bear right onto Schriver Road.

The Simons' driveway will be on the right within the first half mile.

We will tie balloons at the entrance.

All are welcome to arrive anytime after 5 PM and the picnic dinner will begin at 6 PM. Please bring a dish to share, your drink(s) of choice, and a place setting for all in your group.

Also, don't forget to psych yourselves up for the "Annual SMAS Bean Bag Competition!"

PLEASE RSVP to Linette at southmountainaudubon@gmail.com if you plan to attend. Also, if you need any further information, please contact Linette at [717-495-8137](tel:717-495-8137).

Hope to see you at the picnic!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS

Unless indicated otherwise, all SMAS Programs are held at the Adams County Agricultural Resource Center, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg, PA at 7:30 PM. Refreshments, when served, are usually available at 7 PM. A room number for the SMAS meeting will be posted on the front lobby entry inner door.

We've posted the information on our total activities' schedule throughout the year at the end of this edition.

September 19th - **Tanzania Safari: Birds and Other Wildlife**

Presented by Deb and Ralph Siefkin and Linette Mansberger

The program will feature photos of many species of birds, mammals and other animals taken during a recent trip to Tanzania. Arusha, Tarangire, Serengeti, and Lake Manyara National Parks and Ngorongoro Conservation Area were the areas visited. Refreshments served at 7:00 PM; program begins at 7:30.

October 17th - **Birding in Bhutan and Cambodia**

Presented by Mike Bertram and Kathy King

Mike and Kathy will describe their March trip to Southeast Asia where they birded and visited many historical and cultural sites. Refreshments served at 7:00 PM; program begins at 7:30.

November 21st - **Planetarium Presentation at Masters Hall, Gettysburg College**

Presented by Ian Clarke

There will be no refreshments served; program begins at 7:30 PM. More information on the program will appear in the next (4th Quarter) SMAS newsletter.

UPCOMING SMAS FIELD TRIPS

Contact Mike O'Brien, Field Trip Chair, as necessary for more information on all Field Trips, the annual Christmas Bird Count and the Spring Migration Count: 717.642.6676 Res / maddogobrien@gmail.com E-mail.

Please let the Leader know in advance if you plan to attend any field trip, especially if you plan to go direct. Trips are subject to weathering out, especially in the colder months, or otherwise being changed. In addition, if we have only one or two known attendees, we may cancel or reschedule a given field trip. We cannot alert you unless we hear from you.

Tuesday September 27th - **The "Pulpit" Hawk Watch at Tuscarora Ridge**

Hawk watching 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.

This is a joint trip with the York Audubon Society.

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 at this time. Short and easy access from where we will park to the observation area. No facilities (McConnellsburg within driving distance). 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.

This trip is subject to weathering out especially in the event of precipitation.

Saturday December 17th - **Annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC)** - Gettysburg Areas

All are invited and welcome to join SMAS for the 2016 CBC. Complete information will appear in the 4th Quarter SMAS newsletter under upcoming events.

Feathery Factoid (The Quiz Version) ; Three items this quarter:

1. What is a downy goose called?
2. Which American sandpiper may dive and remain under water if attacked by a hawk?
3. How many doves do North American hunters shoot annually?

HEY!! Checkout our South Mountain Audubon Society Website!!!

SMAS has a Website which is being added to on a regular basis.

The home page has some general information and synopses of Chapter activities as well as a number of links to other informational aspects. These include the Calendar, Board members and officers, Chapter meeting minutes, current and archival newsletter editions, and links to a number of other Adams County organizations as well as other county, state and national groups and organizations.

We are also working to put up some location specific area checklists. Many of these are in place. All are encouraged to offer suggestions on what you would like to see on the website. Contact info is on the site.

Accessing the SMAS Newsletter

A great feature of having the Newsletter on-line and receiving it via e-mail, is that you can always access a misplaced or discarded issue at a future date. You can access the Newsletter in several ways.

First, if you do not routinely discard your emails or you retain selected items in your in-box or transfer them to a saved information folder or similar, you can always access them at a future date on your own system.

Also, you can access it on the internet at the Yahoo.com Chat Group site, Adams County Nature Chat (AdCoNaChat). Presence of the information on this site may lag the Newsletter somewhat.

We post our SMAS field trips, meeting dates and topics, special events like an annual picnic, annual luncheon, and other club news on the calendar. There are directions uploaded to the files section for some areas we have trips to, and also, we often upload the species list from completed field trips and Christmas Bird Counts on the Files area.

You can access the AdCoNaChat web-site at the link provided below. This is the link to the home page and from there you can access posts and messages by members, the Calendar and Files section, and much more. Copy and paste the following url into your browser search box: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AdCoNaChat/>

And, of course, per information above re the new SMAS Website, you can reference current & past issues there.

SMAS Annual Schedule Information

Regular SMAS Monthly Program Meetings are usually held Jan / Mar / May / June / Sept / Oct / Nov.

Unless indicated otherwise, all meetings are held on third Mondays of the month at 7:30 PM at the Adams County Agricultural Center. Please see complete information at the beginning of this and every Newsletter in case there is any variation by quarter. Please check individual programs in each issue in the event of a change in times and / or venue.

Field Trips are normally held monthly in Feb / Mar / April / May / Jun / Sept / Oct / Nov. In December we substitute the annual Christmas Bird Count for the monthly field trip.

Some of these monthly field trips traditionally repeat each year, such as the Christmas Bird Count and the Migration Count in May. We usually go to a nearby hawk watch site in late September or early October.

The Annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC) is held by design between 14 Dec and 5 Jan. For SMAS, this is in lieu of a regular field trip. We schedule our SMAS CBC on the first available Saturday after 13 Dec. In the event of really bad weather, we may cancel and reschedule.

The Annual Luncheon has been traditionally held in April, in lieu of, the regular monthly meeting.

Our SMAS Annual Picnic and get together is held in August on the third Monday. This is "Bring A Dish" to share and the kickoff is 5 PM with dinner at 6 PM. In addition to bringing a dish to share, attendees should bring their own place setting materials as well as their drink(s) of choice. See the information below in this Newsletter edition for details on times and directions.

All meetings, field trips and other activities are subject to weathering out or other cancellation reasons. If you are on our email list (receiving our Newsletters and other information) you will get an email notification as soon as the decision is made. Otherwise, if there is some question based on the weather or some other issue, please contact the field trip leader or someone from the list of Board Members / Committee Chairpersons applicable to your question(s).

Feathery Factoid Quiz Answers:

1. A gosling.
2. The Spotted Sandpiper.
3. As many as 50 million (50,000,000) out of a population of 500 million.

OTHER SMAS RELATED INFORMATION

<u>Board Members</u>	Point of Contact	Telephone	Email address
President	Linette Mansberger	495-8137	Lmcopperhead@aol.com
Vice-President	Deb Siefken	677-4830	siefkend@embarqmail.com
Secretary	Kathy Gelner (202)	471-0300	klgelner@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Mike Bertram	352-7936	the2nomads@centurylink.net
<u>Directors At Large</u>	Nancy Locher	334-4768	nclocher@embarqmail.com
	Jon Griffiths	334-3824	griffjon630@gmail.com
	Cy Deitz	253-0297	sdeitz1630@comcast.net
	Carole Simon	337-1662	carolesimon@embarqmail.com
<u>Committee Chairs</u>			
Education	Betsy Griffiths	334-3824	elizabeth.griffiths@stockton.edu
Field Trips	Mike O'Brien	642-6676	maddogobrien@gmail.com
Membership	Mike O'Brien	642-6676	maddogobrien@gmail.com
Publicity	Cynthia Chambers	624-5504	cynthiachambers@embarqmail.com
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