

QUITTAPAHILLA AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

FALL 2012

P. O. Box 123, Palmyra, PA 17078-0123

www.QASAudubon.org

Upcoming QAS Events

Join Us! Everyone Is Welcome!

Upcoming 2012 Programs . . .

The Quittapahilla Audubon Society holds its programs in the Chapel of the Lebanon Valley Home at 7:30pm every fourth Wednesday of the month from September through April (with the exception of November and December). Due to the holidays, the programs are held another week in these two months. Programs are free and open to the public. They are designed for a general audience and children are welcome when accompanied by an adult.

Lebanon Valley Home is located one half mile east of the intersection of Routes 422 and 934 at 550 East Main Street, Annville, PA. There is limited parking in front of the Home with additional parking available on the adjacent streets. Please use the main entrance at the end of the covered walkway in the front of the Home. The Chapel is handicap accessible.

September 26 – *Adventures of our QAS Campers*

From Hog Island and Costa Rica, our Campers will return to regale us with their tales at our first membership meeting of the 2012-2013 season. Come hear their stories, and support the future of conservation!

October 20 – *Paws, Claws, Scales and Tails*

*****Note:** this program will be held at a different location and time. It will be held at 11am at the Salvation Army Gymnasium at 1031 Guilford Street, Lebanon 17046.

This variety program focuses on the adaptations that animals use for survival in the wild. Paws, claws, scales and tails are important for defense, finding food, eating, swimming and escaping predators.



2012 Campers (from left to right): Nicholas Silvis, Lizzy St. Clair, Alyssa Cole, Cecelia Martin, and Michaela Wolf

October 24 – *Rivers of Garbage*

Dr. Michael Schroeder is Assistant Professor of History at Lebanon Valley College and the Executive Director of the Quittapahilla Creek Garbage Museum. He will talk about the Garbage Museum's efforts to raise public awareness about the ridiculous amount of rogue plastic garbage fouling our waterways throughout South-Central PA and the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The Garbage Museum is located on the north bank of the Quittapahilla Creek about 100 yards east of Route 934 in Annville, and it boasts more than 1,000 plastic garbage artifacts plucked from the banks of the Quittie.

This presentation will open your eyes to the mass amounts of garbage dumped into our waterways. Schroeder looks into the who, what, where, why and how.

November 14 – *Shakespeare's Birds*

Shakespeare filled his works with bird imagery, drawing upon renaissance, medieval, Roman, Greek, and biblical sources, as well as his own experience. For his

time, he was quite the birder, mentioning over 60 different species.

Dr. Martin Hyatt is a biologist who has tracked radio-tagged homing pigeons from a small plane and chased down gorged albatrosses from an inflatable boat. Now, he pursues Shakespeare's birds.

December 12 – Member Nature Slides & Digitals

Join us as members share their favorite slides and digital photos with the group. This is our holiday social, so please bring a plate of holiday treats to share after the program. Drinks will be provided.

And Our 2012 Field Trips at a Glance . . .

Please join us for as many as your calendar will allow.

September 15 – Swatara State Park

Observation of migrating songbirds. This field trip is in conjunction with the Friends of Swatara State Park. Meet Saturday 8 AM at intersection of routes 72 and 443 (we will carpool from this meeting place to the site of the walk). Leader Gary Kinkley 503-4027.

October 6 – Memorial Lake & Second Mountain

Observation (in conjunction with the Lancaster County Bird Club) of late migrant birds. Bring lunch and a chair for the hawk watch. Meet Saturday 7 AM along Rte. 934 just north of I-81. Leader Rosemary Spreha, 657-0271

October 2 – Memorial Lake & Second Mountain

Observation of waterfowl and migrating raptors. Bring lunch and a chair for the hawk watch. Meet ...? Leader Fritz Heilman 273-0487

December 15 – Christmas Bird Count

QAS thirty-second annual. Event includes walking and driving to count birds within prescribed area. Contact Fritz Heilman, 273-0487.

How Much Do You “like” QAS?

QAS is now on Facebook! Please stop by and “like” us. We are starting to add content about meetings and field trips as well as links which may interest QAS members. In addition, you can still sign up for the **QAS-Announce** mailing list to receive e-mail reminders for our public meetings, field trips, and other announcements of interest. Just go to our website at www.qasaudubon.org!

Plant Natives this Fall!

There will be two native plant sales this fall at Meadowood Nursery in Hummelstown. Both the Manada Conservancy and the Appalachian Audubon Society (our sister chapter in Dauphin/Cumberland Counties) will hold native plant sales this September. Here are the dates:



- **September 8, 2012 – The Manada Conservancy's fall native plant sale**
- **September 15, 2012 – Appalachian Audubon Society's fall native plant sale**

For more information on the sales and for general nursery hours, go to Meadowood Nursery's website at <http://www.meadoodnursery.com/> or Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/MeadoodNursery>.



QAS Annual Bird Seed Sale

Look for the sale flyer in your mailbox in September or early October for this event – the 34th annual QAS bird seed sale. We will again provide the same great variety of high quality bird seed at competitive prices. All profits will support local QAS projects for youth and environmental education. When you receive your flyer, please invite friends, neighbors, and other bird lovers to also take advantage of this sale. The birds thoroughly enjoy the seeds!

Welcome to our new QAS members . . . Hope to see you at many of our events!

Christina Abramowicz, Joan Alger, Patricia Ellison, Glenn Gockley, Margaretta Hartwell, Amy Long, Lorrie Long, Ronald Mann, Dr. Ruth Mott, Deanna Sanborn, Sarah Starr, Karin Tyler, Morgan Trella, Ngoy Tuon, Barbara & Charles Wagner

A Word from QAS President Jim Fiorentino

It's July 1st and my term as QAS President has just begun and as I was thinking about a subject for my first "A word from the President" newsletter column it dawned on me that one of the first things I should do is thank you, our membership. Why? Because without your continuing support of QAS, we would not be able to run many of our field trips, maintain the quality of our monthly programs, support Audubon Adventures in our elementary schools and local libraries, support the Envirothon throughout our middle and high schools, or award scholarships to deserving youth and adults so they can attend summer camps and continue their environmental education – just to name a few of the activities QAS actively supports or sponsors throughout the year – none of these would be possible without you – our membership.

QAS has a 'core' group of individuals that work year in and year out to make QAS the successful organization that it is; however, we are always looking for new ideas and those new ideas should in part come from you our membership.

If you haven't recently visited our web site – please do so, if you haven't attended a field trip or a monthly program recently – please do so, if you haven't visited our face book page and liked us – please do so, if you wish to offer your ideas or help by volunteering some time or serving on a committee – please do so, if you have any questions and wish to contact me – please do so - my email address and phone number are listed in this newsletter and on the QAS website.

Additionally, I again wish to offer my personal thank you to outgoing President Gary Kinkley and Newsletter Chair Dottie Leach for their past service and to all past, present and new Board members for their continued service and commitment to QAS.

In closing, I wish to thank each QAS member for your continued support and hope to see every one of you at an upcoming QAS event, program or meeting. I am very much looking forward to serving as President of QAS and maintaining QAS's active role in maintaining our mission statement throughout the coming year and beyond.

And remember, if you have any questions or concerns and wish to contact me – **please do so!**



Have you heard? 

Over FIFTEEN HUNDRED Youth in Our Community ...

... have benefited from QAS programs, scholarships, and the Audubon Adventures educational materials over the last three years. Wouldn't you like to become a part of it? We are still looking for a Chairperson for our Education Committee. Our Education Chair position is responsible for coordinating our *Audubon Adventures* program with local schools as

well as our Nature Camp Scholarship Program. These duties would include contacting teachers, ordering education materials, delivering education materials, reviewing scholarship applications, and contacting scholarship applicants. The position can be filled by co-chairs, and you can seek out committee members or helpers from the QAS membership. Chairpersons may also decide whether they would like to be voting Board members or simply work within their respective committees. If you are interested or want more information on the Education Committee position, any other Board position, or if you want to help out in some other way – we would love to talk to you. You can contact any officer or board member for more information!

Swatara State Park Is a Friendly Place

There is a new organization in our area. *The Friends of Swatara State Park* was organized last year, and habitat days, field trips, and other activities have already begun. More information on the Friends group and upcoming activities can be found at www.friendsofswatara.org. Gary Kinkley, QAS Vice-President, will be leading a joint field trip with the Friends of Swatara State Park on September 15th at the park. So please come out to enjoy one of our two great state parks!

HersheyPark Fundraiser – Rosemary Spreha

QAS will once again participate in the HersheyPark Food Service fundraiser. Volunteers work at food booths in the Park, Stadium, or Giant Center. HersheyPark makes a donation to QAS for every hour worked and the volunteer receives a voucher good for a day pass at the park. Shifts are from 5 to 8 hours in length. If you are interested in helping with this fundraiser, please contact Rosemary Spreha at rspreha@excite.com or 717-657-0271.



On the Web

While the focus of Facebook may be socializing with family and friends, it has also provided an excellent tool for various organizations to expand their web presence and for Facebook members to interact with those organizations. If you are on Facebook, after you check out the QAS page, check these pages out...

You can keep up with the latest bird sightings, see pictures of rare birds from around the state, and communicate with other birders from Erie to Philadelphia (and everywhere in between) by going to <http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/PABirders/> and asking to join the group.

For a wide range of information on various nature and conservation related topics, you can check out the PA Wild Resource Conservation Program's page at <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/PA-Wild-Resource-Conservation-Program/118760868153449>.

Maybe you are thinking about planting a few native plants in your garden this fall? Meadowood Nursery

also has a helpful online website page at <http://www.facebook.com/#!/MeadowoodNursery>.

Whether you are a birder, an amateur entomologist, a botanist, or just a *naturally* curious person, there are new websites waiting out there to be explored. Share some of your favorites with us by emailing your links to qas@qasaudubon.org. We may share one of your links in a future newsletter.

2012 Pa Migration Count – Randy Miller

The 2012 PAMC was held on May 12th in Lebanon County. Susan Wheeler added a new species to the count with a Little Blue Heron counted at Camp Shand. We had 139 species for the day, and here are some more highlights:

- Least Sandpiper – 90
- Dunlin – 2
- Whip-poor-will – 8
- Pileated Woodpecker – 12
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher – 1
- Alder Flycatcher – 1
- House Wren – 66
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 1
- American Pipit – 1
- Worm-eating Warbler – 11
- Scarlet Tanager – 41
- Baltimore Oriole – 43

8 teams participated in this year's count, and I would like to thank the team leaders: Gerry Boltz, Fritz Heilman, Jonathan Heller, Gary Kinkley, Dave McNaughton, Rosemary Spreha, and Susan Wheeler.

2012 Birdathon – Fritz Heilman

The 2012 QAS Birdathon was held this past May, and two teams raised a total of \$514.25! Thanks again to all who supported this endeavor to gather additional funds for QAS chapter educational purposes. Thanks as well to my team member Art Schiavo, and to Dave McNaughton and his team for participating. We did find some good birds along the way. My team had a Marsh Wren,

while Dave's team had a nesting pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers.

Art and I tallied 53 species for the day (12 of those were warblers) out in Ohio in the

Lake Erie area (Crane Creek, Magee Marsh...). Dave



and teammate Jerrod Derr far surpassed that number with 115 species recorded for the day (25 of those were warblers) all in our area here in PA. Numbers aside, it was again enjoyable just to be taking note of what migrating and resident birds can be seen at this special time of year. (Photo of female Prothonotary Warbler by Fritz Heilman)

A New Strategy from National...

Atlantic Flyway Initiative from Audubon Pennsylvania's e-newsletter

Q: What kind of conservation program do you design when you think like a bird?

A: Flyways!

Over the past year, teams of Audubon staff have been meeting around the country to design a new conservation strategy that will better coordinate the work that we all do for birds at the national, state, chapter, and Audubon center levels.

Birds don't care about political boundaries or whether a habitat area is protected as public land or is privately owned. So, if we think like a bird, we begin to look at the landscape as a whole and work on regional and flyway programs that help the habitat of species of concern throughout their annual travels. Where do they nest? What migratory stopovers are critical for refueling and resting along the way? Where do they spend winters? What can we do with partners in our states and throughout the hemisphere to ensure nesting success and safe passage?

Audubon staff and chapter leaders gathered recently in Baltimore from throughout the "Atlantic Flyway" to begin the process of answering that last question. This was the first time in many years that Audubon staff and volunteers came together for two days representing conservation, education, policy, chapters, and fundraising--all talking and thinking about the Atlantic Flyway and the species that need our help: coastal dwellers, deep woods and young forest nesters, Appalachian Mountain migrants, and grassland residents.

Through this periodic "Flyway Update" we'll keep you informed as this initiative takes shape and turns into meaningful action steps that we all can do together.



The Atlantic Flyway

Sponsors Always Appreciated for Audubon Adventures for Classrooms

Each year, students in classrooms in Lebanon County and the Hershey/Hummelstown area benefit from reading *Audubon Adventures*. This activity helps them to improve their informational reading skills and broadens their awareness of the environment. The classroom kits are provided by our local Quittapahilla Audubon Society and are sponsored through donations.

If you would like to continue making this valuable resource available to local children, please complete the form below and mail it to QAS. A label indicating your sponsorship will be placed on the *Audubon Adventures* kit.

AUDUBON ADVENTURE SPONSORSHIP FORM

Yes, I wish to sponsor an *Audubon Adventures* classroom for a donation of \$45. I understand a label indicating my sponsorship will be placed on the kit.

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Mail to: Quittapahilla Audubon Society
PO Box 123
Palmyra, PA 17078

July 17 – Butterflies, Dragonflies, and Their Habitat – Fritz Heilman

There were seven participants for the field trip on July 15th for the observation of butterflies, dragonflies, and their habitat at Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area. Fortunately, the butterfly garden adjacent to the visitor center has been well tended in these dry conditions, and it was in good shape thanks to the manager of the garden, Ellen – who happened to be doing desk duty that day at the center! Butterfly numbers were low,



but several species were seen including tiger and spicebush swallowtails, monarch, silver-spotted skipper and the ever present cabbage white. Several clearwing moths were observed (probably snowberry clearwing – a small sphinx moth).

The hillside heading down to the pond had butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) and what appeared to be wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*) growing throughout, which provided additional observations of the above mentioned species. The joe-pye weed in this area was not yet in bloom.

Dragonflies seen nearby and at sunfish pond included the common whitetail, widow skimmer, a female twelve-spotted skimmer and numerous eastern amberwings. Also of note, all participants were treated to observing ruby-throated hummingbirds at the two nectar feeders by the visitor center. (Photos by Fritz Heilman)



July 28 – Amphibian Amble – Fritz Heilman

Here are some highlights from our “amphibian amble” field trip to the former railroad bed of State Game Lands 211, off Gold Mine Road. We had nine participants on the trip which was about three hours long. There were two new species seen on the trip this year that were not spotted on past trips to this location. The first was a northern red salamander, being held by a young participant in the first photo, and the second appeared to be a two-lined salamander! We also had dusky salamander and green frogs on the trip.



In addition to the amphibians, we also spotted a broad-winged hawk, red-spotted purple and tiger swallowtail butterflies, a turks-cap lily, and a crowned-tipped coral mushroom to round out the flora and fauna highlights.

Before departing, we checked on the status of the beaver pond that we have kept an eye on for the last few years. We found the pond intact, but it was about a foot lower than it was during our last visit – reflecting the low



levels of rainfall in the first half of the summer. Overall, it was another successful visit to a beautiful location in our area!

Conservation Contributions

At the May 8th Board meeting, your QAS Board voted in favor of several financial contributions to conservation initiatives.

- \$300 was contributed to Audubon Pennsylvania to support their conservation and education work throughout the Commonwealth.
- \$250 was contributed to Bat Conservation International for their continued efforts to combat White-nose syndrome and for other bat-related issues.
- \$300 was contributed to Coleman Memorial Park which serves as the site for several of our field trips and citizen science efforts. The funds are to be earmarked for reforestation efforts.
- \$300 was contributed to the Friends of Swatara State Park to be earmarked for the Natural Resources Committee.
- \$500 was contributed to the Lebanon Valley Conservancy for their educational efforts as well as the effort to create stopover habitat for Tundra Swans around Middle Creek.
- \$400 was contributed to the Ned Smith Center’s Northern Saw-whet Owl research project which has long been supported by QAS and several members as volunteers.
- \$200 was contributed to the organization SOAR to continue to support the energy development-related research by our April 2012 program presenter Kim Van Fleet.



Stormy Weather Meeting Cancellations

When bad weather forces our chapter meetings to be cancelled, you can hear about it on CBS-21 or CW-15. These TV stations have agreed to broadcast cancellation announcements. They will also have this information available on their station websites: www.cbs21.com and www.cw15.com.

Lookout for details about the new QAS Grant Program!

At the July 10th QAS Board Meeting, your QAS Board voted in favor of adding \$1000 to the 2012-2013 QAS Budget to be earmarked for a new QAS Grant Program. More details will follow this fall. Make sure to look for it on our website in the coming months!



Wanted: Campers for Summer 2013 – Rosemary Spreha

QAS is looking for qualified local students to attend nature-related summer camps. Scholarships are available for students in first through eleventh grade. Anyone interested in attending summer camp and applying for a QAS scholarship needs to choose a camp appropriate to their age group and submit a scholarship application to QAS. Updated applications will be available this fall online at www.QASAudubon.org.

Suggested camps include Governor Dick Explorers' Camp, ZooAmerica Day Camp, Mass Audubon Camp, Teen Adventure Camp of Audubon Pennsylvania, and Hog Island Audubon Camp. Parents are responsible for a portion of the camp tuition and transportation to and from camp.

International Vulture Awareness Day

Celebrate nature's clean-up crew! – Hawk Mountain Sanctuary website

September 01, 2012
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Held rain or shine – Vulture programs held indoors in the event of rain.

Hawk Mountain loves vultures! Besides being the focus of our long-term research programs, vultures are social, graceful, incredibly sanitary, and critically important to the ecosystem. You'll also find they have interesting behaviors and personalities as well. Join us for a full day



of celebrating this common scavenging raptor. Activities will include:

- Free children's vulture book for the first 150
- Vulture-themed activities and information in the Visitor Center
- Vulture counting activity at the lookout
- Live vulture program at **Noon** courtesy of our friends at Red Creek Wildlife Center.

Trail fee applies. Check out <http://www.hawkmountain.org/events/international-vulture-awareness-day/page.aspx?id=683> for more details. (Photo by Gary Kinkley)

Program Rewind



Did you enjoy our March and April meetings so much that you had to know more? Did you miss the meetings – leaving you inconsolable ever since? Our speakers have suggested a few great websites to check out related to their topics.

You can read more about the research discussed by our March presenter, Eric Miller, by going to



<http://pennsci.org/publications/journal/dec2011/V84N04.pdf>. Eric also suggests another great resource for more information about American Woodcocks: <http://timberdoodle.org/>. Lastly, just for fun,

check out this great video on youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Owj52XhoxI> – it is sure to make you smile! (Woodcock photo by Gary Kinkley)

To find out more about the topics that Kim Van Fleet covered in April, you can start at <http://stateimpact.npr.org/pennsylvania/>. Kim also suggested <http://fracfocus.org/> and <https://www.paoilandgasreporting.state.pa.us/publicreports/Modules/Welcome/Welcome.aspx>. Penn Future also provides a lot of information at <http://www.pennfuture.org/content.aspx?MenuID=12&SectionID=328>, and their explanation of the key provisions of Act 13 starts on page 4 of this newsletter. Finally, the

Nature Conservancy has a lot of information including maps that detail the



impact of all forms of energy development across the state. Go to <http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/pennsylvania/explore/the-energy-equation.xml>, and check out the maps in particular. (Turbine photo from Nature Conservancy PA website) ... and don't miss the next QAS Meeting!

Marcellus Shale Update

Legislation regulating Marcellus Shale Drilling in the Commonwealth was signed into law in the form of Act 13 this past February. Penn Future has provided the following summary of the law. Act 13 is currently being litigated, and further updates will be provided in future newsletter if there are significant changes.

Key provisions of Pennsylvania's New Oil and Gas Law (Act 13) from PennFUTURE

- County governments must decide whether a fee should be imposed on shale gas drilling in Pennsylvania. If the county resists imposing a fee, that county would not benefit from the income derived from the fee.
- The fee is not used solely to address the direct and indirect impacts of shale gas drilling. Income from the fee will go to a wide range of recipients, from state agencies and local government to private entities, and for a complex group of purposes, including water and sewer projects, the treatment of acid mine drainage, and promoting private development.
- The Public Utility Commission is responsible for collecting and distributing the fee. The PUC is also responsible for deciding whether local zoning ordinances violate the restrictions imposed by the law on local government.
- The PUC's review of the local zoning ordinance is exempt from the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act and other state statutes designed to ensure transparency and fairness in administrative agency proceedings, so the public will not be able to oversee the proceedings.
- There are a number of instances where Act 13 does not allow the public access to drillers' records – including records used by the Public Utility Commission to determine how much money is to be collected from shale gas producers.
- By law, income from the lease of oil and gas rights on public lands must be deposited in the Oil and Gas Lease Fund. These funds go to conservation projects associated with public lands. Act 13 diverts a portion of that money to

other purposes, such as to fund the Environmental Stewardship Fund and Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund.

- Act 13 establishes new environmental protection requirements for unconventional gas development that differ from the rules for traditional gas wells in Pennsylvania. For example, drillers of unconventional wells must identify water wells within 3000 feet from an unconventional gas well, as opposed to 1000 feet for conventional gas wells.
- There are new setback requirements for the location of unconventional gas wells near houses and natural resources. However, these setback distances can be waived by the private property owner or the state DEP.
- The setback requirements do not protect small wetlands or intermittent streams.
- Under most environmental statutes, DEP inspectors – the persons trained to observe violations of law – have the right to stop unlawful conduct by issuing field orders to the person suspected of violating the law. Under the new law, DEP inspectors cannot cease drilling operations – only the secretary of the DEP can take that action.
- The right of municipalities to make local decisions such as imposing zoning restrictions on the development of unconventional shale gas is now severely limited, and the right of local government to appeal individual permit decisions is eliminated.
- Act 13 requires that all oil and gas operations other than surface impoundments, processing plants and compressor stations shall be allowed in all zoning districts, including residential districts. Impoundments and compressor stations must be allowed in residential districts as a conditional use. Only processing plants need not be allowed in a residential district.
- Act 13 imposes strict time limits on when a municipality must issue a decision on any permitted or conditional use application. The municipality must decide permitted use applications within 30 days; and conditional use applications within 120 days. These timelines only apply to applications associated with the oil and gas business.
- Act 13 requires that unconventional gas wells be constructed in a manner designed to protect fresh groundwater zones through the use of multiple casings and cement.
- Well operators must keep track of where their wastewater from drilling operations is

transported and disposed or reused, but the public may never have access to those records. DEP only gets to review them if they request their production.

- Operators do not need to identify chemicals or additives, or concentrations of chemicals in fluids used for hydraulic fracturing if the company claims the information to be a Trade Secret or confidential business information.
- Emergency personnel and health professionals can obtain this confidential information, but they themselves must keep it confidential – even where a medical emergency exists.
- There is no obvious way to challenge the company's claim that a specific chemical or concentration of chemicals is a Trade Secret or confidential business information.
- The natural gas industry must submit annual air emission reports to the DEP that explain how the operator calculated the emissions. There is no requirement that the companies determine their emissions using a uniform standard or procedure.
- Private companies now have the power of eminent domain to promote the development of gas storage facilities.

For the full report, "Pennsylvania's New Oil and Gas Law (Act 13): A Plain Language Guide and Analysis," go to www.pennfuture.org/marcellus

QAS Members in the News

QAS member, Tom Powers, was featured in the July 15th edition of the Lebanon Daily News. Chris Sholly's article "Just Folks: Cornwall man an advocate for nature" highlights Tom's efforts to educate area residents of all ages about the riches of our natural world as well as to instill in them a desire to preserve those riches.

Tom has been exploring and observing nature since childhood – searching for snakes, amphibians, and birds throughout the county and beyond. When his children were in grade school, he began presenting programs highlighting those very interests, and he has continued to make presentations for more than 20 years! Today, Tom regularly presents at the Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick in Mt. Gretna, at Gretna Glen children's camps, at Sweet Arrow Lake, and at local schools.

As many of you may already know, Tom also features his passion for nature in his artwork. Tom has donated several original paintings and prints to QAS for fundraising efforts – just another way that Tom shares his love of nature with the community. If you want to

check out the article online, go to this link: http://www.ldnews.com/announcements/ci_21078646/just-folks-cornwall-man-an-advocate-nature.

More Barn Owls Fledged!

The QAS Barn Owl Box Project continues to be a great success! The original box at the Lebanon County Landfill continues to be very productive. Owls fledged again from the original box – but that isn't the end of the success story. A second box on landfill property fledged another five owls! All of the young owls were banded by the PA Game Commission with an appreciative audience and with the assistance of QAS members. Thank you to all of the QAS members



who have participated in this project over the years – your work has really paid off! If you know of a potential location for a nest box, please contact any board

member. (Photos by Fritz Heilman)

From the Pages of



...QAS History

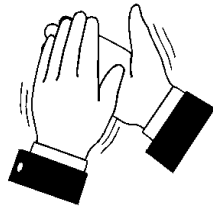
In the fall of 1978, Jessica Creter contacted the Mid-Atlantic Regional Offices of the National Audubon Society to inquire about the formation of a local Audubon chapter in Lebanon County. On November 9th of that year, National Audubon Representative Frank Dunstan traveled to Lebanon County for an organizational meeting at the Lebanon Municipal Building. A list of attendees was not made, but Ms. Creter and Lorraine Gioia (who took the minutes) were in attendance. Mr. Dunstan explained what was required to start a new chapter. One of the main requirements was to establish a minimum membership of 35 people.

The decision was made by the attendees to move forward, and a Steering Committee was organized.

During the third meeting on November 28th, Jessica Creter, Lorraine and Leonard Gioia (her son), Anna and Jim Hehn, Cathy Housman, and Gary and Maxine Smith gathered together to continue laying out the framework for our chapter. Officers were nominated and elected by those present.

President – Jessica Creter
 Vice-President – James Hehn
 Treasurer – Anna Hehn
 Secretary – Lorraine Gioia

The suggested names for our chapter included Union Canal, Quittapahilla, Blue Mountain, Swatara Creek, Deep Run, Black Raven, Clear Spring, Berry Mountain, and Snitz Creek Audubon. Can you guess which name received the most votes? The answer may surprise you. Check out the Winter Newsletter to find out!



**Thank You
 to
 Our Departing Board Member**

Special thanks go out to Dottie Leach for her excellent work on the newsletter over the last few years. Dottie even worked past the end of her term to keep the newsletter going, and she has offered to continue to help out in any way needed. We have truly been lucky to have her on the board!

If you are interested in a board position, please see any officer or board member.

QAS Winter Newsletter Deadline

If you have an item or article you would like to submit for inclusion in the next issue of the Quittapahilla Audubon Society Newsletter, please send them to Gary Kinkley by November 30, 2012. Articles may be emailed to cathartesaura@live.com or mailed to him at 3 Clark Road, Annville, PA 17003. Comments are also welcome. This is your chapter and your newsletter, and we want to hear from you!

Baker's dozen, wild turkey nest.
Meleagris gallopavo (Photo Ruth Krebs)



No fur, no feathers, still fun. Upland chorus frog
(Pseudacris feriarum) (Photo Fritz Heilman)



Backyard image, Cecropia moth
(Hyalophora cecropia) (Photo Fritz Heilman)



LEAVE A LEGACY FOR QAS

You, as a member or friend of QAS, can leave a legacy that will help save the special areas you have explored and loved long after you are gone. Remember Quittapahilla Audubon Society, your LOCAL Audubon connection, through a bequest in your Will or through a gift annuity that will specifically support QAS programs while paying you a monthly income for life.

To learn more about how you can make a bequest and create a permanent legacy in your name or in someone's memory, as well as tax benefits for planned giving options, please contact your attorney or financial advisor.

In supporting a cause that you hold dear, you can have peace of mind that your time on this planet has mattered.

Chapter-Only Membership Application Information

Quittapahilla Audubon Society offers a local Chapter-Only membership that differs from the current National Audubon membership in these ways:

- 1. The annual fee of \$20.00 will go directly for QAS activities only.
- 2. The membership period runs from July 1st to July 1st, regardless of when you join.
- 3. You will receive the chapter newsletter informing you of upcoming events, but you will not receive the *Audubon* magazine.

If you are interested, please issue a check to QAS for \$20 and mail to: Chapter-Only Membership, c/o Jim M. Logan, Chairman, 810 Hill St., Lebanon, PA 17046. Do not mail to the National membership address in Palm Coast, FL.

QAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Rosemary Spreha (2014)..... 657-0271
- Art Schiavo (2014)..... 533-1978
- Fritz Heilman (2014)..... 273-0487
- Ruth Krebs (2014) 867-4884
- Jim C. Logan (2014) 865-5522
- Stephanie Butler (2013)..... 867-4377
- Vera Freed (2013)..... 507-0958
- Jo Ann Yeagley (2013) 865-4787

OFFICERS/CHAIRPERSONS for 2011-2012

- President - Jim Fiorentino..... 274-2305
- Vice Pres. - Gary Kinkley..... 503-4027
- Secretary - Maggie Hummel..... 865-6232
- Treasurer - Brenda Gish 367-1926
- Conservation - Art Schiavo..... 533-1978
- Education - Open
- Field Trips - Fritz Heilman 273-0487
- Membership - Jim M. Logan 273-8438
- Newsletter - Gary Kinkley..... 503-4027
- Programs - Board Members
- Publicity - Ruth Krebs..... 867-4884

The QAS Board meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday in January, March, May, July, September, and November at the Lebanon Valley UCC Home, Annville, PA. Meetings are open to interested persons. If you would like to attend a meeting or are interested in finding out about any of the open positions listed here, please contact Gary Kinkley, President.

Please send **ADDRESS changes and corrections** to Jim M. Logan, 810 Hill St., Lebanon, PA 17046.

**National Audubon Society
CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Local Chapter Quittapahilla Audubon (C0ZU16OZ)

Yes, I would like to join. Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society and my local chapter at the **INTRODUCTORY MEMBERSHIP** cost of \$20. Please send **AUDUBON** magazine, my membership card, and the chapter newsletter to the address below.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Introductory Membership \$20.00

My check for \$_____ is enclosed.

Please make all checks payable to:

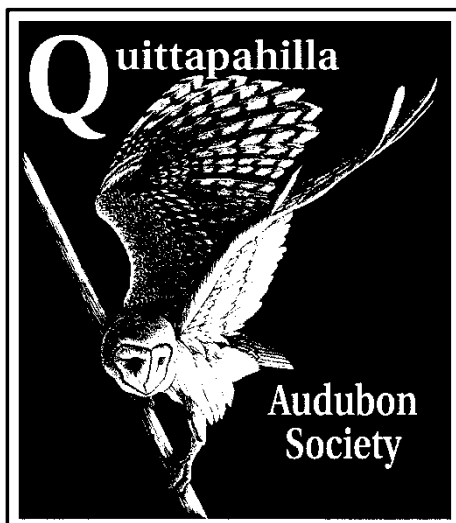
National Audubon Society
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QUITTAPAHILLA AUDUBON SOCIETY
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Your local Audubon chapter,
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preserve nature and the environment,
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our programs and field trips.