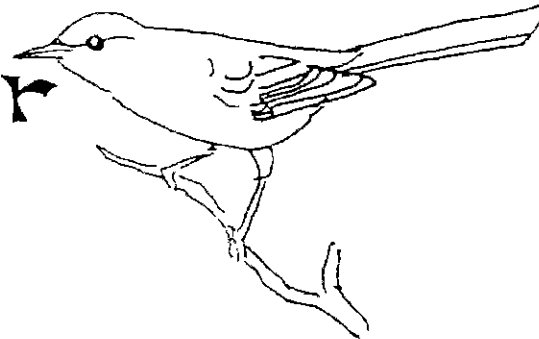


The Gnatcatcher



Newsletter of the Juniata Valley Audubon Society

P.O. Box 32, Tyrone, Pennsylvania 16686

Vol. 34, No. 5 – September/October 2002

New Membership Innovations; New Audubon Chapter Policy

At the JVAS planning meeting in August, two major motions approved by your Board of Directors are the adoption of the new One Audubon Membership Policy and the adoption of the new Audubon Chapter Policy, both of which had been recognized in December 2001 by National Audubon Society President John Flicker.

Audubon membership now consists of two categories of members: *National Members* and *Chapter-only Members*.

Note that all current JVAS members in good standing are National Members. The JVAS never has had "Friends of" members, which would have been in violation of the previous Audubon Chapter Policy. Over the years, however, the Chapter did have a few newsletter subscribers, but they were not considered as JVAS members. The National Audubon Society now officially recognizes Chapter-only Memberships and seeks to support them while attempting to improve communications between those members and National.

National Members

- The regular annual membership dues presently established by the National Audubon Society are \$35. A special introductory membership rate for new members is presently \$20 (\$15 for seniors and students).
- National Members may vote for officers and directors of the National Audubon Society as well as for officers of the JVAS.

[Cont'd on page 3]

– September Program –

"RIVER OF RAPTORS." Michael Lanzone, of Penn State University, will present a slide show on the five million migrating raptors that pass through the State of Veracruz, in eastern México, every fall. The program will describe the "River of Raptors" hawkwatch program. In addition, the fall passerine/non-raptor migration monitoring project conducted at the La Mancha Biological Station will be examined.

7 P.M., Tuesday, Sept. 17 in the chapel at Alto-Reste Park, on Plank Rd., Altoona – directly across from Wal-Mart.

– September Field Trip –

TROUGH CREEK STATE PARK. Join park naturalist Heidi Boyle and enjoy the advent of cooler weather and change of seasons with a walk through the fall woods of Trough Creek State Park. Take a walk by Rainbow Falls to Balanced Rock to learn about this amazing geologic formation. Take a step back into history as you visit the ice mine and discover its origins. The walk to Balanced Rock crosses a suspension bridge; the trail is steep and does not have railings. For more information, phone Heidi at 949-9302.

9:30 A.M., Saturday, Sept. 21. Meet at the Park Office in Trough Creek State Park.

– October Program –

"IMPORTANT MAMMAL AREA IN THE CANOE CREEK WATERSHED?" Pennsylvania Game Commission biologist Cal Butchkowski will discuss the nomination of the Canoe Creek Watershed as an Important Mammal Area. He will focus on the Indiana bat foraging areas and Canoe Creek State Park, which includes the drainage area to the headwaters of the Frankstown Branch of the Juniata River.

7 P.M., Tuesday, Oct. 15 in the chapel at Alto-Reste Park.

– October Field Trip –

STONE MOUNTAIN HAWKWATCH. View many species of migrating raptors on a hawkwatch platform located at the Huntingdon-Mifflin Co. line, near Allensville. For more information, phone trip leader Dave Kyler at 643-6030.

9 A.M., Saturday, Oct. 5. Meet outside McDonald's Restaurant on Rt. 22, Huntingdon. Bring binoculars, lunch, and sturdy shoes.

[RAIN DATE – SUNDAY, OCT. 6]

The Gnatcatcher

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JUNIATA VALLEY AUDUBON
 Charlie Hoyer, Editor
 P.O. Box 32
 Tyrone, PA 16686-0032

Juniata Valley Audubon is a chapter of the National Audubon Society, serving members in all of Blair and Bedford Counties, and portions of Cambria, Centre, Clearfield, Fulton, and Huntingdon Counties. The membership comprises National Members along with Chapter-only Members.

Evening program meetings are held in the chapel at Alto-Reste Park, Plank Road, Altoona (directly across from Wal-Mart) on the third Tuesday of the month in January, February, March, May, and September through November at 7 P.M. The public is invited to attend.

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 <davidkyler@pennswoods.net>
 CBC Coordinator Debbie Wentz 692-4224
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From the Gnatcatcher's Nest

Now that the long, hot summer of 2002 is history, welcome to a new season of Juniata Valley Audubon activities!

And let's all welcome the return of Sarah Jane Miller, former conservation chair for the JVAS. She now holds the newly created position on the Board as chair of the Wetlands Committee. The committee will advise the JVAS on issues pertaining to wetland conservation and protection. It will serve on an as-needed basis to provide professional guidance, education, and interpretation to the JVAS on local, state, and national government policies and actions affecting wetlands. The Wetlands Committee also will keep the JVAS apprised of local projects that may adversely impact wetlands and serve as a lead for any local wetland conservation campaigns identified by the JVAS. Sarah is a botanist with the Cooperative Wetlands Center at Penn State, and we are very pleased to have her back in the fold.

Another newly created standing committee is that of JVAS Historian. Canoe Creek State Park Manager and JVAS past president Terry Wentz has been serving as our Historian; now, the newly revised Bylaws formally recognize the Board position.

Be reminded that beginning with the 9/2002 issue, *Audubon* magazine will be published quarterly instead of bimonthly; the 5/2002 issue was the last bimonthly issue. In June, National Audubon mailed a postcard explaining the change to all active members. Any member who had one or more issues of *Audubon* remaining on their membership record after delivery of the 5/2002 issue has had his or her membership extended. The extension applies to all members whose membership was current as of the end of June. Members will note their new extended membership expiration date printed on the label affixed to the 12/2002 issue. Every member will receive the full number of issues promised.

Those interested in hawkwatching definitely should attend September's program meeting on the raptors that pass through Veracruz, México every fall. The following listing gives some of the migration count that had formed the "River of Raptors" last year.

Turkey vulture	2,015,903
Osprey	3,727
Swallow-tailed kite	286
Mississippi kite	188,556
Northern harrier	689
Sharp-shinned hawk	3,535
Cooper's hawk	3,764
Red-shouldered hawk	12
Broad-winged hawk	2,156,458
Swainson's hawk	1,063,587
Red-tailed hawk	201
Harris hawk	12
Gray hawk	519
American kestrel	5,194
Merlin	140
Peregrine falcon	718

CONSERVATION

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By Mark Henry

Interested in conservation?

Interested in birding?

Interested in learning more about conservation and birding and what others are doing? Well, there's a new e-mail dialogue that has started this year that may just be the thing for you. It's called Conservation Through Birding, or CTB, and it's available to anyone with access to the Internet.

CTB isn't another organization or board that asks you to do something or asks you to send in a donation. Rather, it's a place for birders who recognize the importance of conservation to discuss local, state, and national issues with other like-minded birders. And it costs nothing.

The birders who founded this e-mail discussion started the dialogue around a broad set of principles that will allow a discussion of many different issues among many different birders.

These principles are:

- Recreation is the pathway of choice for Americans who find their way to nature.
- Recreation endows nature with value.
- People conserve only what they value.
- Bird conservation is intrinsically linked to the recreation of birding.

The future of wildlife conservation, therefore, will be ordained by trends in wildlife-related recreations.

Members of Juniata Valley Audubon have long recognized the importance of conservation, both locally and nationally, and have taken action many times. And I suspect that many JVASers can identify with the foregoing principles. If you're one of those members, visit the CTB Web site . . .

<www.conservationthroughbirding.org>

. . . and become a supporter. Give it a try; join in the listserv discussions and I think you'll enjoy the dialogue. ☼

. . . New [Cont'd from first page]

- National Members will receive the quarterly *Audubon* magazine.
- National Members will receive *The Gnatcatcher*, bimonthly newsletter of the JVAS.
- The National Audubon Society will continue to service and renew National Members and determine what benefits apply to National Members.

Chapter-only Members

- The JVAS Board of Directors will determine the membership dues structure for Chapter-only Member. Presently, the annual dues are:
 - Individual Membership, \$15
 - Family Membership, \$20
 - Supporting Membership, \$35
 - Friend of the JVAS, \$50
- The JVAS will retain all contributions made payable to the chapter, which will be used for local conservation efforts and environmental education.
- The JVAS will share the names of Chapter-only Members with the National Audubon Society on a regular basis.
- The JVAS will service and renew Chapter-only Members.
- The National Audubon Society may solicit Chapter-only Members no more than three times annually. The names of Chapter-only Members won't be sold to outside organizations through list rentals. (Chapter-only Members may opt out of receiving solicitations from the National Audubon Society by notifying either National or the JVAS.)
- Chapter-only Members may vote for JVAS officers.
- Chapter-only Members will receive *The Gnatcatcher*, bimonthly newsletter of the JVAS.
- Chapter-only Members won't receive the quarterly *Audubon* magazine.

The National Audubon Society encourages chapters to recruit and retain National Members. However, considering the significant reduction by National in the amount of chapter dues share, it's expected that many of you may wish to renew as Chapter-only Members so that the JVAS will receive full benefit of your dues.

To this end, when you receive your renewal notice from National, indicate on the notice that you wish to become a Chapter-only Member, and write a check payable to "Juniata Valley Audubon" in the amount of \$15 (Individual Member), \$20 (Family Membership); \$35 (Supporting Membership), or \$50 (Friend of the JVAS). Then, instead of mailing the notice to National, mail it to:

Alice Goodlin, Membership Chair
JUNIATA VALLEY AUDUBON
R.R. 3, Box 127
Altoona, PA 16601-9207

Please note that all requested conversions of National Memberships to Chapter-only Memberships received through the end of 2002 will be adjusted to expire on January 1, 2004. Those conversions received in January through June 2003 also will be adjusted to expire on January 1, 2004. Conversions received in July through December 2003 will be adjusted to expire on January 1, 2005. And so on. In other words, in future years, all Chapter-only Memberships will come up for renewal on January 1.



Audubon's Chapter Policy, which hasn't been revised since September 1986, clarifies the relationship between National (including state offices) and chapters, defines the essential elements of a chapter, defines chapter participation in decision-making, updates annual chapter requirements and review, and describes National's commitment to chapters.

In light of the changes made to the Audubon Chapter Policy, many of the provisions in the previous JVAS Bylaws now are deemed optional. Items such as membership dues, required number of meetings, committees and activities, binding com-

mitments, probation, and discontinuance are no longer required by National Audubon.

Under the revised Audubon Chapter Policy, only two provisions are required; one is on commitments (unchanged) and the second is a revised provision on discontinuance. However, both of these provisions are omitted from the revised JVAS Bylaws since a provision has been added stating that the relationship between the JVAS and the National Audubon Society is governed by the Audubon Chapter Policy.

By a vote of the JVAS Board of Directors, however, the JVAS will retain certain provisions that now are deemed discretionary by National. That is, our standing committees will continue to function as before. They are: Membership Committee, Programs Committee (to coordinate at least six open meetings each year), Conservation Committee, Education Committee, Field Trips Committee (to offer at least six field trips each year), Publications and Publicity Committee (to publish and mail a newsletter to every member at least six times each year) and Hospitality Committee. Two new standing committees now called for in the revised Bylaws are the Wetlands Committee and the Historian.

It's agreed that neither the JVAS nor the National Audubon Society shall enter into any commitment binding on the other without written authorization to do so.

Finally, the JVAS, by a majority vote of its Board of Directors, may revoke its charter and cease to be a chapter of the National Audubon Society by way of sixty days written notice of such decision to the State Director, Audubon Pennsylvania. Conversely, the National Audubon Society, for just cause, can de-certify the JVAS with sixty days written notice to the chapter president.

In any case, each National Member of the JVAS will remain a member of the National Audubon Society for as long as his or her Audubon membership is current. ☞

Canoe Creek Watershed IBA Point Counts Conducted

It's been almost a year since the Pennsylvania Biological Survey declared the Canoe Creek Watershed an Important Bird Area, certifying its importance to the Keystone State's birdlife. Under the direction of Steve Hoffman, Audubon Pennsylvania's Director of Bird Conservation, the JVAS began monitoring breeding birds in the watershed this past June.

Using point-count methods recommended by Audubon Pennsylvania, JVAS members documented healthy breeding population of numerous Neotropical migrants, wetland-dependent species, and area-sensitive, forest-interior birds in the 15,000-acre Canoe Creek Watershed.

To date, more than 220 species of birds have been seen in the watershed, including more than 110 breeding species. This tremendous diversity of birdlife is a reflection of the high-quality habitats that make up the Canoe Creek Watershed.

JVAS members who collected data for this year's point counts are Heidi and Roy Boyle, Alice Goodlin, Steve Hoffman, Charlie Hoyer, Helena and Alice Kotala, Maxine Leckvarcik, Cindy and Luis Moore, Spring Riley, and Terry Wentz. Special thanks go to Roy Boyle for plotting the point coordinates with his GPS unit.

Bird monitoring in the Canoe Creek Watershed will continue annually, with breeding-bird point counts being conducted each June. If you'd like to help with next year's counts, phone Canoe Creek Watershed IBA Coordinator Dr. Stan Kotala at 946-8840.

Thanks for your help! ☘

— Dr. Stan Kotala

CCSP Bluebird Fact

With the help of JVAS members over the past twenty years, 2,151 eastern bluebirds have fledged from boxes monitored at Canoe Creek State Park.

— Terry Wentz

Canoe Creek Bat Viewing Area Expanded

Many JVAS members have enjoyed watching bats at the Turkey Valley Church, which had been purchased for Canoe Creek State Park by the Wild Resource Conservation Fund in 1995. The viewing area now will be enhanced because of the park's acquisition of 2.4 acres adjacent to the church, where an amphitheater specifically designed for bat observation will be constructed.

JVAS member Heidi Boyle, who is Canoe Creek State Park's environmental education specialist, said, "The addition of the Denver Traxler property will help us to accommodate the large numbers of people now gathering around the 'bat church' on summer evenings to watch the bats emerge. Crowds of up to 150 people are not uncommon."

The Turkey Valley Church is home to the largest bat maternity colony east of the Mississippi River. Most of the bats in the church are little brown bats (*Myotis lucifugus*), but the federally endangered Indiana bats (*Myotis sodalis*) also call this site home.

Canoe Creek State Park Manager Terry Wentz said that he hopes to see all JVAS members take advantage of the new bat viewing area next year! ☘

— Dr. Stan Kotala

Pa. Game Commission Approvals

The Commissioners unanimously approved allocating the remaining federal Wildlife Conservation and Restoration funds to help finance development of a new "Breeding Bird Atlas" for Pennsylvania and the acquisition of critical habitat for Indiana bats, an endangered species, in Blair County. For the second Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas project, funds are being directed to the Penn State Cooperative Wetland Center to develop the infrastructure (sampling processes, Web site, databases, handbook, etc.). It's expected that field work will begin in January 2004. Fund-raising is ongoing to cover the operational costs. ☘

Unsolved Mysteries

For several days in late May, I had heard a new bird song at the edge of our two-acre Norway spruce grove. Then on May 30, I finally identified it. A pair of golden-crowned kinglets flitted among the spruce branches, and the female had nesting materials in her beak. As far as I knew, this was a new nesting species for Blair County. It certainly was for our property.

I was ecstatic, but surprised. Golden-crowned kinglet nesting trees usually range from thirty-five to seventy feet in height, and only a few of ours are as tall as thirty feet. But as I sat in the shade of a spruce tree beside a mowed path, I watched the female continuing to gather nesting material, even landing directly over my head, while the male sang his beautiful, complex, high-pitched warbling song that seemed to go on and on.

It took me until June 2 to locate the nest. That day, both parents were working on it. It was a mere twelve feet from the ground — not the average fifty feet that researchers had reported — and well-hidden under a thick, overhanging spruce bough beside the path. I sat beneath the same spruce tree twelve feet away and watched them through my binoculars for almost an hour. The kinglets appeared more cautious than they were when only starting their nest-building. They seemed to be molding the nest to their bodies because they spent much of their time beneath the bough, moving around after they brought in nesting materials.

The following day, they still were working on their nest, flying in every twelve minutes with small feathers to line it. Although both of them sang and called back and forth while gathering nesting material in the far reaches of the grove, they landed quietly and fast near the nest, disappearing into it or sliding up under the bough. I never approached the nest and always sat in the same spot. Sometimes I heard only

the male singing in the distance. But beginning on June 16, I spent many happy hours watching the female come and go, always accompanied by the singing male when she went off to forage for food. The female alone incubates five to eleven eggs for fifteen days.

By Marcia Bonta

Often she foraged in the trees near her nest, but on June 29 she seemed more restless than usual. When she left to feed, she foraged on branches overlooking the nest as if she was afraid to leave it.

I couldn't watch every day because of family obligations, but when I returned on July 1, both parents were feeding nestlings and calling back and forth as they worked.

My next observation day was the Fourth of July. The area around the nest was ominously quiet, although once I heard a faint kinglet song coming from the lower part of the grove. That evening we drove the dump truck up the path next to the grove, and with a stepladder in the bed, I was able to climb up and peer into the exquisite, sack-shaped nest that was wreathed in spider webs, mosses, lichens, dried leaves and grasses and lined with tiny white and dark gray feathers. But it was empty. I was distressed and wondered if the predator had gotten not only the nestlings but also the female.

Four days later I wandered around in the lower part of the spruce grove, still haunted by the male's continual singing. Finally, I sat down and heard and then saw the male close by in a locust tree. Best of all, his "zee-zee" call was answered by the female! She flew in and hovered above me with nesting material in her beak. I looked up at her and spotted the almost completed nest overhead about ten feet from the ground and again under a spruce bough. I scarcely could believe my luck in finding their second nest also.



Once again, I located a good vantage point for watching the nest that was at least as far away and hidden as my first one. Once again I watched for two and a half weeks as she incubated the eggs and they both foraged together. On the 28th of July they were still foraging and singing. The next day I surprised a flock of fifteen turkeys — four hens and eleven half-grown young — foraging in the tall grass beneath the nest tree. At the same time they flew, an adult red-tailed hawk swooped over from the edge of the woods where it probably had been looking for food for its shrieking fledglings.

Once again, the nest area was ominously silent. I never heard or saw the kinglets again. After several days, I checked the nest. It was larger than the first, empty, and intact. Its lining of feathers included those of both a cardinal and a ruffed grouse.

There is little information available on predators of golden-crowned kinglets. The only long-term study of them was done back in the late 1950s in the mixed spruce and tamarack bogs of Minnesota where red squirrels, gray jays, and blue jays preyed on eggs and young. Adults often disappeared too; sharp-shinned hawks and red squirrels were the chief suspects. Since we have neither gray jays nor red squirrels, I have a different list of suspects.

During the first nesting, American crows were feeding their begging nestlings in the deciduous forest nearby. Once, during the first kinglet nesting, I had surprised a crow in the grove. I knew that they had nested there two years ago and often spent time in the area, so they were my chief suspects. And I suspect the red-tail as the culprit the second time around.

I only hope the red-tail did not get the winsome parents too. After hearing their songs and calls for more than two months in the grove, it seemed strangely silent. I know that wintering golden-crowned kinglets will begin arriving here in early October and stay throughout the winter, enriching my daily walks on even the dullest of winter days. But will the pioneer parents return and nest again in our spruce grove? Only time will tell. ☿

Upcoming Nature Programs at Canoe Creek State Park

*For additional program information,
phone park naturalist Heidi Boyle at 696-6025*

Animal Tricks

Sat., Sept. 21 at 1 P.M.

Animals need all the help they can get when it comes to avoiding predators and finding food. Learn how they stay alive on this fun walk.

- Visitor Center -

Stream Study for Kids!

Sat., Sept. 21 at 3:30 P.M.

Kids ages 6-10 are invited to find stream critters in an "indoor" stream to learn about stream health. Then we'll walk to Mary Ann's Creek to look at the real thing. Wear old shoes!

Parents must accompany children.

- Visitor Center basement -

Pennsylvania Mammal Challenge

Sat., Sept. 28 at 1 P.M.

Do you know what a skunk eats or what shelter a gray fox uses? Take the ultimate challenge as we test you on the habits of Pennsylvania mammals.

- Amphitheater -

Plant Folklore Walk

Sat., Sept. 28 at 4:30 P.M.

Evil spirits? Folk remedies for sickness? Come learn about the weird and unusual history of plants!

- Visitor Center -

Goodbye Bats!

Sat., Sept. 28 at 7 P.M.

The season of the bats is almost over for Canoe Creek as our bats move into hibernation. Find out what is in store for the bats during the winter.

- Meet at Pavilion #1 to walk to the "bat church" -

Seasonal Science

Sat., Oct. 12 at 9:30 A.M.

Do you know why we have seasons? Find out just what is happening in our environment as the seasons change.

- Visitor Center -

Hike Through History

Sat., Oct. 12 at 11 A.M.

Take a hike to learn about the history of our region and of the limestone kilns of this park. Find out how Indians, the railroad, and geology played a central part in developing this area.

- Visitor Center -

Fall Colors Hike

Sat., Oct. 12 at 2 P.M.

Enjoy the fall foliage as we walk through the woods of Canoe Creek. Wear your hiking shoes and bring water for a hike on Sugarloaf Trail.

- Spillway parking lot -

American Avocets Spotted at CCSP

On the foggy morning of July 13, while on routine patrol of the beach area at Canoe Creek State Park, I spotted two unusual birds wading in the shallow water of the sandy swimming area. I had never seen such colorful shorebirds in the park before. As I was driving to the Park Office, memories of prior bird identifications were running through my head. Surely these two birds must be juveniles of some adult birds I am familiar with, I thought.

I put this picture in the back of my mind until I saw Spring Riley, one of the park's environmental education specialists. She suggested that I look on the Internet for additional help. As Spring peered over my shoulder, I started to look through the

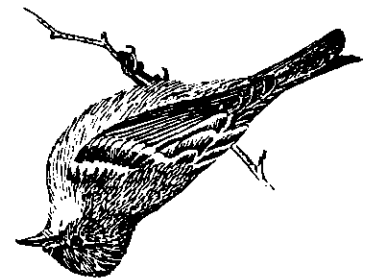
photos on my computer. There it was, an American avocet! No mistake about it.

The word slowly spread over Internet bird list serves. As it turned out, American avocets were seen at two other locations in Pennsylvania that same week. I later learned that this sighting was the first ever for Blair County and very unusual for the entire state.

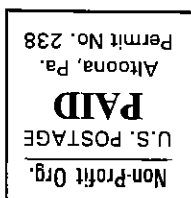
Spring, along with Heidi Boyle and another couple who stopped in the park office that afternoon, also saw the avocets. An unusual cold front for July must have brought the birds down that morning while they were on their migration flight. A little excitement for a cooler-than-normal July morning! ☘

— Terry Wentz

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Juniata Valley Audubon Society
P.O. Box 32
Tyrone, PA 16686-0032



"The Gnatcatcher"

Juniata Valley Audubon's newsletter, *The Gnatcatcher*, published bimonthly, contains articles on local conservation topics and nature themes along with announcements of upcoming events. *The Gnatcatcher* is mailed to all JVAS members — National Members and Chapter-only Members.

JVAS Speakers Bureau

The JVAS can provide speakers for schools, clubs, and other organizations. To arrange for a program, phone Education Chair Jody Wallace at 684-2425. If your group would like a program on a topic that's not listed, Jody may be able to find someone to satisfy your needs.

Topics Available

Acid Rain	Amphibians of Pa.
Beavers	Biodiversity
Bird Identification	Birds In the Balance
Birds of the Juniata Valley	Black Bears
Bluebirds	Coyotes
Fern Identification	Forest Stewardship
Fossils	Partners in Flight
Plant Biology	Reptiles of Pa.
Ruffed Grouse	Soils
Spring Warblers	Stream Restoration
Water Quality Monitoring	Waterfowl
Wetlands	Wildflowers
Winter Bird Feeding	Wolves

Field Trips Available

Backyard Birds, Trees, and Wildflowers
Fern Identification
Fossil Walks
Nature Hikes, K-12
Water Quality Monitoring

Bluebird Monitoring

During the breeding season, JVAS members monitor nearly 100 nesting boxes for eastern bluebirds at Canoe Creek State Park to record data and to provide for the bluebirds' welfare.

Important Bird Area Monitoring

The JVAS has "adopted" two Important Bird Areas in the region: The Canoe Creek Watershed IBA and the Frankstown Branch, Juniata River (Lower Trail) IBA. In spring, members conduct "point counts" of the birds.

Officers

President	Charlie Hoyer 684-7376
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	<lmoore8227@aol.com>
Secretary	Eugene Zielinski 353-8212
	<eez55@earthlink.net>
Treasurer	Marge Hoyer 684-7376
	<charma@nb.net>

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	<guntgirl2@yahoo.com>
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	<mshenry1@juno.com>
Wetlands	Sarah Miller 947-0339
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Education	Jody Wallace 684-2425
	<jwalshiel@aol.com>
Field Trips	Janet Huber 942-5752
	<avianaooc@aol.com>
Publications and Publicity ...	Charlie Hoyer (see above)
Hospitality	Barb Corle 276-3428
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Historian	Terry Wentz 692-4224
	<dw1999@adelphia.net>

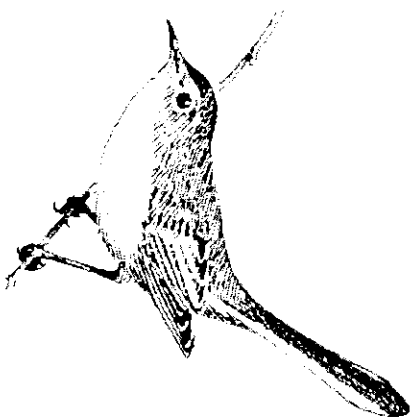
Directors

IBA Coordinator	Dr. Stan Korala 946-8840
IBA Coordinator	Dave Kyler 643-6030
	<davidkyler@pennswoods.net>
CBC Coordinator	Debbie Wentz 692-4224
	<dw1999@adelphia.net>

Board Meetings

This fall's Board meetings will be held 7 p.m. in the Hoyer residence (Mt. Charma on Brush Mountain) on the following Tuesdays:
October 1 and December 3
All members are welcome!

Juniata Valley Audubon Society



Fall 2002

Programs and Field Trips

Juniata Valley Audubon members meet September through November and January through May on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 P.M. (business meeting at 7 p.m.) in the chapel at Alto-Raste Cemetery, Altoona.

Visitors are always welcome!

P.O. Box 32
Tyrone, Pennsylvania 16886

What is the JVAS?

The Juniata Valley Audubon Society, chartered in 1969, is a chapter of the National Audubon Society covering the Southern Alleghenies region. With more than 400 members, the JVAS is one of 24 Audubon chapters in Pennsylvania.

To join, ✂ the coupon, fill out, and mail to:

Alice Goodlin, JVAS Membership Chair
R.R. 3, Box 127

Altoona, PA 16601-9207

Join National/Juniata Valley Audubon

- Option 1 — National Membership provides you with the following benefits:
- Subscription to the quarterly *Audubon* magazine, each one filled with superb nature photography and in-depth reporting on environmental issues.
 - Notification of Juniata Valley Audubon's exciting activities including monthly nature programs, field trips, and other events.
 - Subscription to the bimonthly chapter newsletter, *The Gnatcatcher*.
 - Opportunity to participate in local advocacy efforts to help make a real difference.
 - Opportunity to aid in the preservation of the natural world.
 - Opportunity to have FUN! in joining with fellow nature enthusiasts.

Become a National Member with a special introductory rate of \$20 (\$15 for seniors and students). Basic dues thereafter are \$35 annually. Make your check payable to National Audubon Society.

- Option 2 — Chapter-only Membership provides you with all the benefits of Option 1 except for the subscription to *Audubon* magazine.

Become a Chapter-only Member at a minimum annual membership rate of \$15. Make your check payable to Juniata Valley Audubon Society.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ PA _____

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Fall 2002 Schedule

FIELD TRIPS ...

Trough Creek State Park SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Join park naturalist Heidi Boyle and enjoy the advent of cooler weather and change of seasons with a walk through the fall woods of Trough Creek State Park. Take a walk by Rainbow Falls to Balanced Rock to learn about this amazing geologic formation. Take a step back into history as you visit the ice mine and discover its origins. The walk to Balanced Rock crosses a suspension bridge; the trail is steep and does not have railings. Meet at the Trough Creek State Park Office at 9:30 A.M. For more information, phone Heidi at 949-9302.

Stone Mountain Hawkwatch SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

View many species of migrating raptors on a hawkwatch platform located at the Huntingdon-Mifflin Co. line. Meet trip leader Dave Kyler outside McDonald's Restaurant on Rt. 22, Huntingdon at 9 A.M. Bring binoculars, lunch, and sturdy shoes. For more information, phone Dave at 643-6030. [RAIN DATE — SUNDAY, OCT. 6]

Presque Isle State Park & A Visit With Robert Bateman SATURDAY & SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23-24

Join us on an overnight trip to Presque Isle State Park, near Erie, to view diving ducks, gulls, dunlin, and if we're lucky, a jaeger. On the way home early Sunday afternoon, we'll stop at Parker's Gallery, in Edinboro, to meet Canadian wildlife artist Robert Bateman. He is promoting his new book, *Birds*, to be released October 15. Parker's gallery will have a huge display of Bateman's work, both birds and other wildlife. Car pools (perhaps a van?) will depart Altoona at 8 A.M. on Saturday and return by 7 P.M. on Sunday. For more information, phone Charlie Hoyer at 684-7376.

PROGRAMS ... are presented on the third Tuesday in September, October, and November. Program meetings begin at 7 P.M. in the chapel at Alto-Reste Park, on Plank Rd., Altoona.

Take the Plank Road Exit of Interstate Rt. 99 and go south toward Wal-Mart. The chapel is on the right, opposite Wal-Mart. As you enter the parking lot, you'll see two buildings. The meeting room is in the building on the left.

Our programs, designed for a general audience, are free and open to the public.

"River of Raptors"

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Michael Lanzone, of Penn State University, will present a slide show on the five million migrating raptors that pass through the State of Veracruz, in eastern Mexico, every fall. The program will describe the "River of Raptors" hawkwatch program. In addition, the fall passerine/non-raptor migration monitoring project conducted at the La Mancha Biological Station will be examined.

"Important Mammal Area in Canoe Creek Watershed?"

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

Pennsylvania Game Commission biologist Cal Butchkowski will discuss the nomination of the Canoe Creek Watershed as an Important Mammal Area. He will focus on the Indiana bat foraging areas and Canoe Creek State Park, which includes the drainage area to the headwaters of the Frankstown Branch of the Juniata River.

"Allegheny Wild! Road Show"

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

A spokesperson from the Allegheny Defense Project will offer the "Allegheny Wild!" Road Show, a multi-media presentation on the history, threats to, and future of Pennsylvania's only national forest: The Allegheny.

Join National/Juniata Valley Audubon

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- Option 2 — Chapter-only Membership** provides you with all the benefits of Option 1 except for the subscription to *Audubon* magazine. You will not be considered as a member of the National Audubon Society.

Become a Chapter-only Member at one of the annual membership rates as follows:

- Individual Membership, \$15
 - Family Membership, \$20
 - Supporting Membership, \$35
 - Friend of the JVAS, \$50
- $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{The JVAS will retain all contributions made payable} \\ \text{to the chapter, which will be used for local} \\ \text{conservation efforts and environmental education.} \end{array} \right.$

Make your check payable to **Juniata Valley Audubon Society**.

Mail to: Alice Goodlin, Membership Chair
JUNIATA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
R.R. 3, Box 127
Altoona, PA 16601-9207

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____

PA _____

E-mail _____

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