

New Hope Audubon Society Newsletter



Volume 32, Number 1: January-February 2006

Weymouth Woods and Sandhills Game Reserve Field Trip

Tom Driscoll and Patrick Coin

On October 15, 2005, Marty Girolami, Chad Schoen, Collier Durovitch, and Tom Driscoll went on a field to Weymouth Woods State Park, near Southern Pines. There we met Patrick Coin. We also got there in time to go on a scheduled bird walk with Park Ranger Scott Heartley.

Our target birds were the Red-cockaded Woodpecker and Bachmann's Sparrow. Both species prefer pine forests that are regularly burned. Spirits were high as we heard the Red-cockaded Woodpecker from the parking lot as we started. However, we did not see either of the target birds at Weymouth Woods. We did see several woodpeckers (Pileated, Downy, and Hairy), however, including a "first-of-the-season" Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. We also saw a first-of-the-season Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Other birds seen included many Common Grackles, a late Scarlet Tanager, and a Blue-headed Vireo.

After the walk was over, we drove down to Sandhills Game Reserve. I had seen Red-cockaded Woodpeckers and Bachmann's Sparrows there on other visits. However, we were

shutout again. We did see a possible Bachmann's Sparrow, but we couldn't get good looks at it. We also saw a Loggerhead Shrike which was a life bird for some. We saw



first of the season White-throated Sparrow and Golden-crowned Kinglet, as well. Sunny warm weather starting at about noon brought out a good crop of butterflies, mostly nectaring on Chaffhead, *Carphephorus*. This light purple flower was found everywhere...it resembles the more familiar Blazing Star, *Liatis*. Several Monarchs were seen, as well as beautiful, but worn, Gulf Fritillaries. Suddenly sulfurs were everywhere: Yellow or Common Sulfur, Cloudless Sulfur, Sleepy Orange, and Little Yellow. A group of fresh Buckeyes and both American Ladies and Painted Ladies were seen taking salts from the road. Afterwards, we had a delightful lunch in downtown Southern Pines.

Spotlight on...Conservation Council of North Carolina

www.conservationcouncil.org

Susan Pratt

The Conservation Council of NC (CCNC) is a statewide lobbying organization dedicated to advocating on behalf of North Carolina's environment.

The Conservation Council:

- Supports a full-time lobbyist at the General Assembly.
- Provides environmental representation before state agencies and commissions.
- Keeps environmentalists across the state informed of developments in the legislature, including timely action alerts on key issues.
- Publishes the *Carolina Conservationist*, a quarterly newsletter.
- Hosts an annual Fall Conference on key issues, and other workshops and briefings.
- Publishes the *Legislative Scorecard* to educate citizens about the records of legislators and hold legislators accountable for their environmental decisions.
- Motivates voters and gives them the tools they need to support strong conservation candidates.

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CCNC's mission is to restore, enhance, and protect North Carolina's environment. CCNC is involved in projects which serve to educate the public on environmental issues and to promote participation through the democratic process in making changes or supporting political candidates who might be involved in the rulemaking process.

The New Hope Audubon Society has recently become a member of CCNC, as agreed and voted on by the NHAS

Board of Directors. As members of CCNC, NHAS will receive a subscription to the quarterly newsletter, *Carolina Conservationist*, email updates and alerts on critical environmental issues, invitations to special events and annual conferences and gain membership in the NC Action Network for online members.

For more information, visit the CCNC website at:
www.conservationcouncil.org

or email them at:
info@conservationcouncilinc.org

Duke Primate Center Field Trip



Ringtails

Imagine a dark kitten-like face encircled in a corona of white fur. Then picture a long dark brown and white body resembling a monkey sock-doll. That's the image of a Coquerel's Sifaka, one of several kinds of lemurs that we saw on our November field trip to the Duke University Primate Center (DUPC).

Our tour began with an entertaining video of the

lemurs, lorises, and bushbabies that reside at the DUPC. The video effectively whetted our appetite for seeing the fascinating creatures, and it described some of the research conducted there by scientists and students from around the globe. We learned about the lemurs' natural forest habitat in Madagascar and how the habitat is rapidly being destroyed, primarily by slash-and-burn agricultural practices. The DUPC has established an environmental education program in Madagascar to change some of these practices.

After the video, we visited the Nocturnal Building, housing some of the center's most unusual-looking creatures. The building was dark, and the animals were in natural habitat enclosures with tree limbs for climbing and foraging and boxes for nesting and sleeping. Our guide carefully focused a flashlight so we could get a glimpse of lorises, bushbabies, and aye-ayes foraging and feeding. A few, aware of our presence and the light, escaped into nesting boxes or retreated back into the corners of the enclosures. The "slender loris" with very long arms and legs, moved slowly and deliberately along the tree limbs and put on quite a good show for us. The aye-ayes and bushbabies seemed shy and were rather still while we were observing them. According to the DUPC website, some consider the aye-aye the strangest primate in the world – it has very large ears relative to its head and a long tail of thick fur. There are only 32 aye-ayes in captivity, world-wide, and DUPC has 20 of them.

From the Nocturnal Building, we walked a short distance to the Diurnal Building. We noticed bamboo groves and a variety of trees and special plants cultivated to provide residents with their particular dietary needs. Most of the species at the center are diurnal. During the winter, they are housed in enclosures with heaters and canvas walls to provide warmth and skylights to provide light. Zippered openings in the canvas provide observation portals. During other seasons, the animals are allowed to range freely in an area of about 80 acres. The free-range area is enclosed with electrified fences, and the tree limbs near the fences are cut back to prevent lemurs from jumping the fence. (Yes, a few animals have successfully jumped the fence, but they were returned shortly to the safety of the enclosure!)

Diurnal species that we observed include Coquerel's sifakas, diademed sifakas, black-and-white ruffed lemurs, blue-eyed lemurs, and ringtailed lemurs. As we approached the portals, two black-and-white ruffed lemurs made loud alarm calls, presumably to warn each other of intruders. We learned that populations of wild ruffed lemurs are critically endangered in Madagascar. Fortunately, they thrive in captivity and are ideal species for reintroduction to the wild, as protected habitat becomes available. In 1997 the DUPC released five ruffed lemurs born and raised at the primate center into a protected habitat preserve in Madagascar. Since then, two more groups of ruffed lemurs born at the center and raised there have been introduced into the wild of the preserve. We also heard about the scent glands of the male ringtailed lemurs. Some males have scent glands on their wrists, and they use them in "stink fighting" with a rival male. The two rivals face each other, drawing their tails through the scent glands, and wave the tails over their heads. The activity along with some hostile staring will cause one of the males to eventually retreat. Another fascinating behavior of ringtails is their way of keeping group



Sifaka

members together when traveling. They keep their tails raised in the air, like flags!

All of the lemurs were fascinating, but the species that I most enjoyed was the Coquerel's sifaka. They are unique and beautiful, and are distinguished from other lemurs by their graceful form of locomotion. They maintain a vertical posture and leap through trees using just the strength of their back legs. This spectacular mode of transportation is known as "vertical clinging and leaping." Their long, powerful legs can easily propel them distances over 20 feet from tree to tree. On the ground, they move across treeless areas just as gracefully, by an elegant bipedal, sideways hopping. Although we didn't witness the leaping behavior since the sifakas were in their more confined winter



Slenderloris

enclosures, we had good views of these elegant creatures grooming themselves. The Malagasy name "sifaka" comes from the distinct call the animal makes ("shif-auk").

The tour was delightful, and we are grateful to our well-informed guides for sharing their knowledge with us. Several participants expressed interest in returning in the spring or summer to observe the animals in their free-ranging habitat. I urge members to join us for our return visit in 2006. If you can't join us, call the DUPC and register for one of its public tours on a date that is convenient for you. You'll be glad you did! For an additional treat, visit the center's website at www.primatecenter.duke.edu and enjoy the sights and sounds of the remarkable residents.

A Triangle Naturalist's Almanac

Patrick Coin

Shrews: Life Under the Leaves



Twice I have surprised shrews on a winter day when raking large piles of leaves near my house in Durham. Unlike many mammals,

shrews do not hibernate, and actively seek their invertebrate prey throughout the winter. They usually stay under cover during daytime, so are seldom seen. During both of my encounters with shrews, the animals were confused to be suddenly swept into the open by my rake, and ran about, disoriented, for some time. Their eyes are tiny, and I suspect their eyesight is poor. I was able to corral each shrew into a box for photography and then to release it. One individual gave soft chirp-like calls while captive.

Shrews make up the family *Soricidae* in the order *Insectivora*, generally considered to be among the most primitive, or earliest-evolved order in the mammalian tree of life. We have several species of shrew here in the Piedmont of North Carolina, including the Southeastern shrew, *Sorex longirostris*, Southern Short-tailed Shrew, *Blarina carolinensis*, and Least Shrew, *Cryptotis parva*. Both individuals I have found in Durham appeared to be Southern Short-tailed Shrews. The short-tailed shrews, genus *Blarina*, are reported to have venomous salivary glands, perhaps unique among placental mammals. (The Australian platypus, an oddball egg-laying mammal, has venomous spurs on its legs, but I'm unaware of any other mammal with a venomous bite!) Another odd character of that same genus of shrews is the ability to find prey by echolocation. This character they share with the order Chiroptera (bats), but no other mammal. The soft chirps I heard from my captive shrew were probably echolocation sounds, and not distress cries.

Look and listen for shrews in almost any Triangle woodland. One should be able to find their tunnels, if not the animals themselves, by carefully lifting the upper layer of leaves in leaf litter of deciduous woods. Careful searching should reveal the narrow (one inch) meandering tunnels made by shrews. They are also known to use the larger tunnels of field mice.

For more information on shrews, see: *Stokes, A Guide to Animal Tracking and Behavior*, Animal Diversity Web (animaldiversity.umich.edu), and Webster, *Mammals of the Carolinas, Virginia, and Maryland*.

Bird Seed Sale

Many thanks to all of you who purchased bird seed this year enabling us to pursue our educational goals. The seed sale raised about \$3,000.00 for the club this year. Some members approached friends, co-workers and neighbors with sale forms and as a result turned in multiple orders...many thanks to Robin Moran, Bobbie Collins-Perry, Marty Girolami and Tom Driscoll for the extra effort. Also, I want to thank those members who helped on the pick-up day loading cars and delivering seed...Tom Driscoll, Kate Finlayson, Phil Johnson, Susan Pratt, Karsten Rist, and Pam Timmons. Last but not least a huge thank you to Cynthia Fox of The Wild Bird Center in Eastgate Shopping Center for allowing us to use her store for the bird seed and coffee sale.



Adopt-a-Highway
Saturday, January 14, 2006
8:30 a.m.

***Interested folks should call
Phil Johnson to confirm.***

Birding Under the Tucson Sun

Dianne Byrne

For years, I've heard about the exceptional bird watching opportunities and spectacular scenery in Arizona. When I had the opportunity to be in Tucson in early November with Ted (an ideal traveling companion), I immediately began researching nearby locations where I could see some wintering birds. With the help of several excellent guides for southeastern Arizona and a good map of birding trails from Tom Driscoll, I was off to a good start!

Our hotel was at the foothills of the Santa Catalina Mountains, one of four mountain ranges surrounding Tucson. The heavily landscaped grounds provided a desert oasis, full of large Saguaro cacti, ocotillo, prickly pear, and agaves with tall flower stalks, mesquite, and palo verde trees. The amazing Saguaro, which cannot withstand more than 24 hours of continuous frost, live only in the Sonoran Desert. Also on the hotel grounds were bright flowers that attracted hummingbirds. Chihuahuan sage was blooming with purple flowers, and there were bougainvillea and other colorful flowers. With all this vegetation, I didn't have to wait long to see my first Arizona birds. Shortly after checking into the room, we saw a group of 10 Gambel's Quail right below our balcony. When walking along the resort paths, I was thrilled to see Gila Woodpeckers, Cactus Wrens, Black-throated Sparrows, Verdins, Curve-billed Thrashers, and Anna's Hummingbirds. The hummingbirds were a special delight, since the last Ruby-throated Hummingbird left our yard in Chapel Hill five weeks earlier. Cactus Wrens had created fascinating nests on the pads of tall prickly pear cacti. The nests of loosely-woven grasses and plant fibers were large and somewhat globular, with an entrance at one end. They resembled an oriole's pendulous nest turned on its side.

An excellent introduction to the flora and fauna of the region is a visit to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, just 13 miles from Tucson. The museum is a combination botanical garden and zoo, with several aviaries. In the summer, the Hummingbird Aviary typically houses 8 species in a flower-filled garden, but I could identify only 2 species in November. There were both male and female Anna's Hummingbirds, and the male's brilliant rose-red gorget was beautiful. I caught only brief glimpses of a male Broad-billed Hummingbird as it quickly flew throughout the aviary. Its sapphire blue gorget, emerald green breast and belly, and long red bill with black tip were unmistakable! Other species that I identified in two additional aviaries or in the surrounding desert include Cactus Wren, Pyrrhuloxia, Phainopepla, Northern Cardinal, Gila Woodpecker, Acorn Woodpecker, Gilded Flicker, Yellow-rumped warbler, Western Tanager, Yellow Grosbeak, and Elf Owl. Museum staff brought a Barn Owl, a Western Screech-Owl, and a Harris' Hawk to visitors for close-up encounters.

To learn the best birding sites for the week, I visited the Tucson Audubon Society's office for advice and was told that the deserts, grasslands, and valley riparian areas offer the best

winter birding. The very helpful staff suggested an easy loop tour that would allow me to observe wintering Sandhill Cranes, hummingbirds, and other winter residents. I was given clear directions to several places, including Ash Canyon (to view winter residents coming to feeders) and the Sulphur Springs Valley where I could see one of the day roosts of the Sandhill Cranes. I asked about the likelihood of seeing an Elegant Trogon, often observed in several of the canyons, but was told that none had been detected in Madera Canyon or other of their well-known habitats since September.

On the way to Ash Canyon, we stopped to visit San Xavier del Bac mission, founded in 1700, and one of the oldest mission churches in Arizona. It was a lovely white church (called the White Dove of the Desert) known for its murals and carved wooden statues. A Greater Roadrunner was at the end of the parking lot, and we were able to get within a few feet before he ran away. I had seen a Greater Roadrunner once before, in California, but seeing one a second time was just as thrilling.

The road to Ash Canyon was through desert scrub, with mountains of multiple shapes and sizes in the distance. The air was clear, it was sunny, and the temperature was in the low 80's. The Ash Canyon Bed and Breakfast has about a dozen seed, suet, and nectar feeders. Birders are welcome to take a seat on the back patio or walk the grounds near the feeders. While we were there, the nectar feeders were visited frequently by Anna's Hummingbirds and by a female Magnificent Hummingbird. Since it was sunny, there were more opportunities here than in the museum aviary to see the brilliant rose gorget of the male Anna's. The Magnificent was easy to identify by its large size, but I was pleased that a local birder happened along and confirmed my identification. Three Mexican Jays noisily arrived and drank water from a drip bath. Over a dozen Lesser Goldfinch flew in frequently for thistle seeds, and an Arizona Woodpecker and an Acorn Woodpecker came to the suet feeders twice during the 90 minutes while we were there.

From Ash Canyon, we drove south to the former copper mining town of Bisbee (now a picturesque artists' community). Bisbee is a fun town to visit with its many shops, good restaurants, and thousands of steps leading up the hillsides where the artists' houses are located. The next morning, we drove through grasslands to the Sulphur Springs Valley, specifically the Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area. The volunteer at Tucson Audubon had told me the feeding schedule of the Sandhill Cranes - they lift off at dawn to feed on nearby farm fields and return to the shallow waters of the Whitewater Draw, their day roost, beginning about 10:30 am. We arrived shortly after 10 am and saw hundreds of Sandhill Cranes already standing in the shallows and 50 or so in the sky, just coming in. It was thrilling to watch flocks of Sandhill Cranes circling in the air, with their necks and long wings extended, and then dropping their legs for landing. They stood almost

side by side, in a long line extending the length of the shallows. They were tall, heron like in shape, gray, with black feet and legs, and a dull red patch on the forehead. Their loud rolling sounds (“garrooo, garrooo”) were unique and unforgettable.

The Whitewater Draw location has 3 observation decks, each with a viewing scope, connected by a trail skirting 2 ponds. We saw dozens of American Coots, a Ring-necked Duck, a Green Heron, and a Great Blue Heron in the ponds. Several Killdeer were also near one of the ponds. To my great delight, there was a Vermilion Flycatcher at the top of a mesquite tree near the trail. The brilliant red crown and body were spectacular. Although these birds are common in Arizona, this was a life bird for me! As we were leaving, three fellow

birders from a local Audubon group, just finishing a field trip to observe the cranes, met us in the parking lot. They advised checking the nearby shelter for a Great Horned Owl. Sure enough, the owl was near the roof, perched on a support beam, and looking down at us as intently as we watched him. An exciting way to end to a very special and memorable bird watching adventure!

Note: The Sandhill Cranes will continue their migration, and about twenty thousand will winter in Arizona. At Willcox, east of Tucson, there will be a celebration of Sandhill Cranes, raptors, and sparrows from January 12-15, 2006. Information and online registration for the event, called Wings Over Willcox, are available at www.wingsoverwillcox.com

Winter 2006 Membership Meetings

Tom Driscoll

We have some exciting membership meetings coming up and hope to see you there! Our January 5, 2006 speaker is Jeff Hall of the Cool Springs Environmental Center in eastern North Carolina. The environmental center is sponsored by Weyerhaeuser. His topic will be Reptiles and Amphibians of Eastern North Carolina. He will also be speaking about the environmental center. We hope he will invite us to the center (maybe in the spring) and maybe he can show us some of the “herps” in person.

Our February 2, 2005 speakers are Will Cook and Jeff Pippen who will tell us about butterflies in North Carolina. Both Will and Jeff work in the Biology Department at Duke University and are extremely knowledgeable about most anything found in nature, but they are experts in butterfly and bird identification.

2006 New Hope Audubon Membership Meeting Presentations

DATE	PRESENTATION*	SPEAKER	CONTACT INFO
January 5, 2006	Reptiles and Amphibians in Eastern North Carolina	Jeff Hall, Weyerhaeuser's Cool Springs Environmental Ctr.	jeffhall@coolsprings.org (252) 633-7698, ext. 4017#
February 2, 2006	Butterflies in North Carolina	Will Cook and Jeff Pippen	Cwcook@duke.edu
March 2, 2006	Making Your Backyard a Wildlife Habitat Area	Chris Moorman, NC State	chris_moorman@ncsu.edu
April 6, 2006	Birds of the Blue Ridge Mountains	Curtis Smalling, North Carolina Audubon	csmalling@audubon.org
May 4, 2006	Flora and Fauna of El Salvador	Loren Hintz, Chapel Hill High Biology Teacher	lhintz@chccs.k12.nc.us

**New Hope Audubon Society Monthly Meetings begin at 7 PM at the Totten Center in the North Carolina Botanical Gardens located at the Intersection of 15-501 and Old Mason Farm Road in Chapel Hill. Meet & Greet and Chapter Business begins at 7:15; and the Program begins about 7:45. All are welcome to attend, Audubon members or not! If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Tom Driscoll, the programs chair, at 932-7966 or btdriscoll@bellsouth.net.*

Christmas Bird Count

At the turn of the century on Christmas day some folks would go outside to see how many birds they could shoot. Then the idea arose not to shoot but to count the birds. The first year there were 27 counters. Last year 50,000 people participated nationwide. This year will be the 106th year that the National Audubon Society has sponsored the Christmas Bird Count. If you are interested in past results you can go to the website <http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/>. Audubon asks for a \$5.00 (or more) donation for participating in the count. If you participate and give the compiler your name and address, you should receive in the mail the results of the national (including Canada, Mexico, West Indies and parts of Central America) count organized by state. Last year the cost of publishing the results was \$500,000.00 of which only \$200,000.00 was raised from count participants...the rest came from grants and donations. We encourage you to participate. You do not have to be an expert birder...even a novice birder can spot birds or help with recording information. If you feel you are a novice you would be assigned to a birder with some experience. If you've never done it before, you will find it is a fun way to spend a day. Check the list below to see in which count you would like to participate and contact the coordinator.

Raleigh/Wake County: Sat., Dec. 17; contact John Connors, John.Connors@ncmail.net • (919) 755-0253

Durham: Sun., Dec. 18; contact Mike Schultz, ross.gull@verizon.net • (919) 490-6761

Chapel Hill: Mon., Dec. 26; contact Will Cook, cwcook@duke.edu • (919) 382-9134

Jordan Lake: Sun., Jan. 1; contact Carol Williamson, cncbrdr@yahoo.com • (919) 383-2364

Falls Lake: Mon., Jan 2; Kerr Lake: Thurs., Jan. 5; contact Brian Bockhahn, brian.bockhahn@ncmail.net (919) 676-1027 (Brian is the contact for both Falls and Kerr Lakes.)

Ivory-billed Woodpecker

One of the few people who have seen the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, Bobby Harrison, will talk about his experiences at the Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh on Feb. 4, 2006 at 7:00 PM. Admission is \$10.00, but there are only 250 seats available. For ticket information please call: 733-7450 x307 or visit their website: www.naturalsciences.org/friends/friends.html. This is the only venue Bobby is visiting in North Carolina.

Partners In Flight

The North Carolina chapter of Partners in Flight is an active group of dedicated folks working for the conservations of birds not only in our state, but nationally and internationally. Currently they have several birding conservation projects being conducted in North Carolina involving Swainson's Warblers, American Woodcocks and Painted Buntings.

For more information and how you can help go to their web site: <http://www.faculty.ncwc.edu/mbrooks/pif/>. Their next meeting will be March 28, 2006, 9:30 am-4:30 pm at Blue Jay Point County Park on Falls Lake. Some presentations are: Painted Bunting Monitoring-Jamie Rotenberg; Singing rates of Ovenbird and Black-throated Blue Warbler-Jerome Brewster.

The Eagle Platform Trail

The Eagle Platform Trail area that New Hope Audubon maintains at Jordan Lake will be in need of trail maintenance and clean up next Spring. We have set a date of Sat., March 18th to do this. If you feel up to trimming branches, hammering a few nails and picking up trash please join us on that date at 8:30 am. You will need work gloves and if you have a hammer, small saw and pruning shears that would be a big help. Bring water and snacks. The trail is located off Hwy. 751 about 10 miles south of I-40. Any questions please call Judy Murray: 942-2985 or email jmurray@unc.edu

Feeder Watch

Tom Driscoll

When our new newsletter editor, Pat Reid, asked me what birds could be currently seen at our feeders, she also asked me to write a column on birds seen at the feeders during the different seasons. So, Feeder Watch will report on birds you could be seeing at the bird feeders and/or in your backyard. If you have ideas about what to write, want to report on the birds you are seeing, or have questions about the birds you are seeing, please send me an email at:

btdriscoll@bellsouth.net.

You should be receiving this newsletter in mid-December. The leaves are mostly gone from the trees now, most insects are dormant, the days are much shorter, and the temperatures are colder (if you believe old wives tales about a good mast crop, then this could be a very cold winter). All these factors make birds feed intensively at feeders. Also, our winter visitors, migrants from the north, are here now, so there are new birds here to complement our year-round residents.

Our year-round residents that frequent feeders include Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Northern Cardinal, House Finch, American Goldfinch, Blue Jay, White-breasted Nuthatch, and Brown-headed Nuthatch. Can you recognize these birds? Of course, the Northern Cardinal is the state bird and the male is very red. These birds are chiefly seed eaters, so you can see them at your seed feeders. Eastern Towhees, a colorful black and orange, eat seeds as well, but usually on the ground. Sometimes, I put millet on the ground for towhees and some of our winter visitors. Do you put up suet? If so, then you may see woodpeckers. We have several species, including Red-bellied and Downy Woodpeckers that regularly dine at suet feeders. Other woodpeckers, including the Pileated Woodpecker, and other residents, such as Eastern Bluebirds and Brown Thrashers may also eat suet.

Some residents, such as American Robins and Eastern Bluebirds, eat berries from the Holly Bushes and juniper trees in your yard. You may not be the only one watching the birds at your feeders. Hawks, such as Cooper's and Sharp-shinned Hawks, feed on small birds and may also be "feeding" at your feeders. Have you seen any smallish hawks?

I suggest you pick one a bird guide that are available in many stores. In our next article, we'll talk about some of the winter migrants, such as White-throated Sparrows, Purple Finches, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Pine Siskins, and Dark-eyed Juncos, we've been seeing. Remember that cold winters sometimes force northern birds to come further south, so we could also rarer birds such as Evening Grosbeaks.

If you don't recognize these birds or the bird names, then may

New Hope Audubon Society Field Trips Calendar

DATE/TIME	ACTIVITY	CONTACT
Saturday, Jan. 7 8:00 a.m.	Bird Walk: We will meet at 7:55 a.m. at the Wild Bird Center (Eastgate Shopping Center) Destination: Local birding spot. Notes: All levels welcome.	Trip Leader: Cynthia Fox
Saturday, Jan. 7 9:00 a.m.	Stream Watch	Trip Leader: John Kent
Sunday, Jan. 15 1:00 p.m.	Bird Walk: We will meet at 12:55 p.m. in the parking lot in front of Mardi Gras Bowling Lanes, Hwy 54 and Farrington Rd. Intersection Destination: Lakes in the Triangle Area to see ducks and eagles Notes: will involve large amounts of walking, but not too strenuous; beginners welcome	Trip Leader: Tom Driscoll
Saturday, Jan. 21 8:00 a.m.	Bird Walk: We will meet at 7:55 a.m. at the Wild Bird Center (Eastgate Shopping Center) Destination: Local birding spot. Notes: All levels welcome.	Trip Leader: Cynthia Fox
Saturday, Feb. 4 9:00 a.m.	Stream Watch	Trip Leader: John Kent
Sunday, Feb. 12 1:00 p.m.	Bird Walk: We will meet at 12:55 p.m. in the parking lot in front of Mardi Gras Bowling Lanes, Hwy 54 and Farrington Rd. Intersection Destination: Butner Gamelands to see sparrows, winter migrants, ducks, woodpeckers Notes: will involve large amounts of walking, but not too strenuous; beginners welcome	Trip Leader: Tom Driscoll
Saturday, Feb. 18 8:00 a.m.	Bird Walk: We will meet at 7:55 a.m. at the Wild Bird Center (Eastgate Shopping Center) Destination: Local birding spot. Notes: All levels welcome.	Trip Leader: Cynthia Fox
Friday, Feb. 24 8:00-9:30 p.m.	Look at the Stars! Guest Night at Morehead Planetarium Destination: Astronomical Observatory at the Morehead Planetarium, UNC Campus on East Franklin St. Using high-powered telescopes, we will observe stars and the night sky. Free. No registration required, but group size is limited. Dress warmly.	Please call Dianne Byrne by Feb. 17 if you plan to come
Saturday, Feb. 25 8:00 a.m.	Bird Walk: We will meet at 7:55 a.m. at the Wild Bird Center (Eastgate Shopping Center) Destination: Local birding spot. Notes: All levels welcome	Trip Leader: Cynthia Fox

We are revising the New Hope Audubon constitution and bylaws. If you wish to provide input or receive a copy by e-mail, contact Tom Driscoll, Judy Murray or John Kent.

New Hope Audubon Society 2005-2006 Officers

OFFICE	NAME	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
President	VACANT		
Vice-President	Robin Moran	383-3514	robomo@earthlink.com
Secretary	Pat Reid	542-2433	photopr@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Martha Girolami	362-5759	Mgirolami@cs.com
Education Chair	Kate Finlayson	545-0737	katefin@yahoo.com
Conservation Chair	Susan Pratt	967-0593	sepratt@email.unc.edu
Field Trips Chair	Dianne Byrne	929-8266	DianneByrne713@aol.com
Newsletter Editor	Pat Reid	542-2433	photopr@yahoo.com
Webmaster	Patrick Coin	544-3239	web@newhopeaudubon.org
Stream Watch	John Kent	933-5650	jkent@tmug.org
Adopt-a-Highway	Philip Johnson	933-0144	pjphilip@earthlink.net
Eagle Count	Stewart Pearce	942-7660	spearce@yankelovich.com
Hospitality Chair	Joanna Hiller	968-3791	hille006@mc.duke.edu
Eagle Platform	Judy Murray	942-2985	jmurray@unc.edu
Membership Chair	VACANT		
Birdseed Sales Chair	Judy Murray	942-2985	jmurray@unc.edu
Wildathon Chair	VACANT		
Director	Philip Johnson	933-0144	pjphilip@earthlink.net
Director	Judy Murray	942-2985	jmurray@unc.edu

New Hope Audubon Society
 Box 2693
 Chapel Hill, NC 27515
www.newhopeaudubon.org

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