

“News from the ‘Hood”

Newsletter of the Patuxent Bird Club
of the Maryland Ornithological Society



Jan – Feb 2017

Editor: Fred Fallon, fwallon@ymail.com

Programs

Starting this season our meetings will be held at the College Park Airport *Operations Building* off Paint Branch Parkway, every 2nd Tuesday Sep thru June. From Paint Branch Parkway turn onto Cpl Scott Dr at the light; after 3 blocks turn right on College Ave, which ends at the parking lot on left by the Museum. Walk leftward past the museum to the entrance to the adjoined new Operations Bldg and inside, bear left. Our meeting room is up the stairway (or elevator) to the 2nd floor. Doors open at 7 pm for refreshments and informal discussion; formal program with guest speaker starts at 7:30 pm and ends by 9:15; doors close at 9:30 pm. Our meetings are held jointly with the Prince Georges Audubon Society (PGAS).

January Program

Tuesday, January 10, 7:30 p.m.

“The Azores and Madeira Islands: Endemics and Island Beauty”

Presentation by Phil Davis

Doors open 7:00 p.m.

Phil Davis and wife Barbara have visited these off-the-beaten track islands twice in search of their endemic species and sub-species. Phil has long been fascinated by the Azores and Madeira Islands role as stepping stones for vagrant European and African rarities to appear in North America and, more recently, in the status of these islands' many endemic bird species and sub-species. In 2014, Phil and Barbara travelled to the Azores and Madeira to observe these islands' birds and take in the island landscapes and culture. In 2016, they returned to the islands to lead a group of birders on a grand tour of seven islands where they targeted 12 endemic bird species and 24 endemic subspecies. A key objective was to observe the endemic subspecies and put them "into the bank" since genetic analyses continue to dominate avian taxonomy and endemic island subspecies have high potential as future splits. This multimedia presentation focuses on the endemic species (including the rare Azores Bullfinch and Zino's Petrel), endemic subspecies (including the three endemic Azores Goldcrest subspecies), and the overall beauty and culture of these infrequently-visited islands.

February Program

Tuesday, February 14, 7:30 p.m.

“Gearing Up: Apps, cameras, etc for Birding”

Presentation: Kenneth Cohen

Doors open 7:00 p.m.

Hear about the latest birding apps for your smart-phone such as field guides, birdsongs, e-bird notifications; cameras for bird photography; and much more in live demonstration. If you find high-tech a little intimidating, bring along a 9-year old kinsman for assistance.

Field Trips, Jan - Feb

Contacts for regularly scheduled walks at Fran Uhler Nat Area and Governor’s Bridge Park: Bill Sefton, kiwisuits@msn.com.

At Lake Artemesia: David Mozurkewich (mozurk@bellAtlantic.net)

Thu January 5 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 3 pm at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich for more info.

Saturday, January 7: Bird Walk at the Fran Uhler Natural Area. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the end of Lemon’s Bridge Road, off Route 197 just north of Bowie State University. No reservations needed. Contact Bill Sefton for more information

Thursday, January 19: Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 3 pm at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact Fred Fallon <fwfallon@ymail.com> for more info.

Saturday, Jan 21, 7:30 am. Regularly scheduled walk at Gov Br Park in conjunction with Prince Georges Audubon Society. Meet inside the gate at Gov Br Park on Gov Br Rd, 1 mile from Rt 301. No reservations needed. For more info, contact Bill Sefton at kiwisuits@msn.com.

Thu February 2 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 3 pm at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich for more info.

Sat February 4 - Bird Walk at the Fran Uhler Natural Area. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the end of Lemon’s Bridge Road, off Route 197 just north of Bowie State University. No reservations needed. Contact Bill Sefton for more information.

Saturday-Sunday, February 11-12 - Overnight Trip to Ocean City. This trip duplicates one we held last winter and proved popular. It offers a variety of birds – land and sea - not found in spring and summer, and takes advantage of off-season rates and reduction in crowds. The Anne rundel chapter may join us on this trip.

Those who wish to start early will meet Sat pm at the Ocean City jetty where our party will be posted until dark, then convene to our hotel, the Holiday Inn at 66th St, for dinner and overnight stay. Call 410-524-1600 to make reservations there, ask for the \$71 rate agreed for our group. Sunday AM we will have breakfast there and proceed to the jetty to meet any new arrivals human and avian, then go on to bird local hotspots. Field leaders Marcia Watson, Jean Scarpulla, and David Mozurkewich will all assist in bird ID. Please contact trip organizer Fred Fallon fwfallon@ymail.com before month's end with your indication of interest.

Thu February 16 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 3 pm at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich.

Sat February 18 - Walk at the Gov Bridge Park jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 7:30 am at the parking lot off Gov Br Rd, ~ 1 mile from Rt 301. Contact Bill Sefton for more info.

Saturday February 25 – Field trip to local area ponds for wintering waterfowl. Meet at the Bowie P&R at 8 AM. Reservations required. Trip will be cancelled if ponds are frozen over, so be sure to check e-mail after 5 pm the day before for notification to that effect. Trip leader: Fred Fallon, <fwfallon@ymail.com>.

News items from MOS

- The Teacher/Naturalist Workshop in Ecology and Ornithology scheduled for this summer at Washington College has been cancelled. The reason is that too much liability had devolved onto the person in charge. Perhaps this popular program can be re-structured in the future to remedy the problem but meantime the pending applications have to remain unprocessed.
- Our state organization's newsletter, the *Yellowthroat*, has a wealth of information, including news of notable sightings, book reviews, and especially a list of all the chapters' upcoming field trips. Some may be in locales as yet unknown to you or feature unusual habitat. Most trips are open to MOS members from other chapters, so it pays to look them over and pick some that look interesting.
- This year's MOS "Conference" (now re-named "Convention" as a better description) will be held at the WISP resort at Deep Creek Lake in Garrett County near Oakland. The dates are May 19,20,21. There will be more seminars than usual, including ones on bird photography, moth ID, how to use e-bird. There will be an excellent line-up of field trips to both traditional and new sites. A new innovation will be an optional extension thru Sunday pm and informal field trips Monday am. So if far western MD is new to you, this will be an excellent introduction to the area and its birds.



**M OS/Patuxent Bird Club
Membership Application/Renewal
2016/2017**



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip code:** _____

Phone(s): _____

E-Mail: _____

Full dues include Chapter and MOS State membership, and subscriptions to *Maryland Yellowthroat*, *Maryland Birdlife*, and the Patuxent Bird Club Newsletter. (The newsletter will be sent by email unless US mail requested). Dues are tax-deductible; see note below.

Choose Membership category:

Chapter and State combined membership:

or

Chapter membership only:

(must be a full-paying member of another MOS chapter - indicate primary MOS chapter: _____)

- Household \$33
- Individual \$26
- Junior (Age < 18) \$6

- Household \$8
- Individual \$6
- Junior \$1

In addition, I have enclosed a tax-deductible contribution

to Patuxent Bird Club in the amount of _____

to Maryland Ornithological Society in the amount of _____

Make check payable to **Patuxent Bird Club** with this application to:

Jane Fallon, Treasurer PBC
6711 Venus Dr
Huntingtown, MD 20639

“The benefits received from Maryland Ornithological Society membership dues are not considered to be substantial, as determined by criteria in IRS Publication 526. Therefore, members can claim a tax deductible charitable contribution for the full amount of their membership dues.”