

# “News from the ‘Hood”

Newsletter of the Patuxent Bird Club  
of the Maryland Ornithological Society



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**Nov – Dec 2016**

Editor: Fred Fallon, [fwfallon@ymail.com](mailto:fwfallon@ymail.com)

## Programs

Starting this season our meetings will be held at the College Park Airport *Operations Building* off Paint Branch Parkway, every 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 new Operations Bldg and inside, bear left. Our meeting room is up the stairway (or elevator) to the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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).

**Tuesday, Nov 8**

### **Sea Ducks Wintering in the Chesapeake**

Presentation: Alicia Berlin

7:30 p.m.

Birders will have a unique opportunity to learn about the ecology of sea ducks and other seabirds from Dr. Alicia Berlin. Dr. Berlin, a research wildlife biologist at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Laurel, is an expert on life cycle requirements of ducks. She received her doctorate at the University of Maryland on a special work-study program sponsored by the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Dr Matt Perry – long-time friend of PGAS- as an adviser.

Her current research focuses on ducks wintering on Chesapeake Bay. Her specialty is the “bioenergetics” of ducks, which comes down to: are the ducks getting optimum quality and quantity of food? Her studies include the use of satellite telemetry to learn about habitat use and migratory movements of the ducks. She has also studied the hearing abilities of sea ducks in air and underwater to determine the impacts of underwater noise. Her most recent work deals with the impact of wind turbines on ducks and loons, and also the effect of rising sea levels on black ducks in the Chesapeake Bay.

Dr. Berlin manages a captive colony of seabirds at Patuxent that includes Surf Scoters, Harlequin Ducks, Ruddy Ducks, Black Ducks, and Red-throated Loons, and others. The techniques she uses are state-of-the-art and her talk will provide new and exciting information for all who want to expand their understanding of some of these unique birds that share our natural world.

**December Program**  
Tuesday, December 13, 2016  
**Movies Night**  
**& Holiday refreshments**  
7:30 p.m

Continuing our recent tradition of movie night for the last meeting of the calendar year, we will be showing 3 interesting movies: “*Puffin Patrol*”, a documentary on the life cycle of the Atlantic Puffin as studied at remote coastlines in Maine, Canada, and Wales; “*Following a Snowy Owl from Maryland to Ontario*”, an NPR segment on “Baltimore”, a Snowy Owl tagged on Assateague and fitted with a GPS locator/transmitter as part of Project SNOW; and “*Ospreys – Marine Sentinels*”, a documentary on the recovery of the Osprey back to its former high numbers after a steep decline during the era of DDT use.

**Field Trips, Nov – Dec**

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

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

**Saturday, November 5:** 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, November 10:** 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, November 12:** Bird Walk at Governor Bridge Natural Area. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the parking lot off Governor Bridge Road, a mile east from Route 301. Contact Bill Sefton for more information.

**Sunday, November 13.** Field trip to Jug Bay and points south. A good time for sparrows and raptors. Meet at the parking lot at the end of Croom Airport Rd, Jug Bay Park, at 7:30 am. Bring water and lunch for 1/2 day trip. Contact leader David Mozurkewich, ([mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net)) in advance.

**Sunday, November 20** – Field trip to Blackwater Refuge. Drive along the impoundments of this famous refuge for waterfowl, raptors, late migrants, and possible surprises. All-day trip – bring water and lunch; possible stop in Cambridge on return for dinner. Scopes recommended. Meet at Bowie P&R at **9 a.m.** for car-pooling. Limit of 10; reservations required. Contact trip leader Barbara Ricciardi, <[Barbara.ricciardi27@gmail.com](mailto:Barbara.ricciardi27@gmail.com)>.

**Sat December 3** - 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.

**Sunday December 4** – Field trip to Piscataway Park and vicinity for waterfowl on the Potomac and Piscataway Creek. Meet at Bowie P&R at 7:30 to car-pool to site or meet at end of Wharf Rd in Piscataway at 8 am. Contact leader David Mozurkewich <(mozurk@bellAtlantic.net)> in advance.

**Thu December 8** - 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 December 10** - 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.

**Thu December 22** - 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.

### **Area Christmas Bird Counts**

Sunday, Dec18. Jug Bay. Compiler: Sam Droege

Sunday, Jan 1, 2017. Annapolis; Compilers: Hal Wierenga & Lynn Davidson, 410-647-7439, [hal.lynn@comcast.net](mailto:hal.lynn@comcast.net), or Sue Ricciardi, 410-647-9513.

Monday, Jan 2, 2017. Bowie; Compiler David Mozurkewich [mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net)

### **Overnight Trip to Ocean City ! Feb 11-12 (week-end before President's Day)**

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.

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 66<sup>th</sup> St, for dinner and overnight stay. 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. Several leaders will assist in bird ID. Please contact trip organizer Fred Fallon [fwfallon@ymail.com](mailto:fwfallon@ymail.com) before year's end with your indication of interest to let us secure sufficient accommodation. Further details will follow.

# **Teacher/Naturalist Workshops in Ecology and Ornithology**

Sponsored by Maryland Ornithological Society

Many of Maryland's finest teachers and naturalists have expanded their ecology and birding knowledge through these workshops. Join educators from around the country for a hands-on wildlife or ornithology camp.

## Ecology and Ornithology Workshops

The Maryland Ornithological Society (MOS) is accepting applications from Maryland teachers, youth leaders, park rangers and nature center staff for scholarships to attend week-long ecology and ornithology workshops on Audubon's beautiful Hog Island in Maine or on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Each award covers the cost of tuition, room and board for an intensive course of field study and instruction covering ornithology, ecology, conservation and natural history. Scholarship recipients must be working with young people. Teachers, camp counselors, park rangers, naturalists, and others who intend to make nature education a part of their careers are eligible. Applicants need not be members of MOS, but must be endorsed by a chapter or a member of MOS. For more information about the Audubon workshops, please refer to:

<http://hogisland.audubon.org/programs/registration>

## Scholarship Information

Travel expenses are the responsibility of the recipient. For additional information check the MOS website links (below) or contact the Scholarship Chairs.

Four Maine workshops and one in Maryland are offered for 2017. These may be subject to change.

June 4 - 9, Joy of Birding, ME

June 18 - 23, Field Ornithology, ME

July 9 - 14, Raptor Rapture, ME

July 16 - 21, Sharing Nature, an Educators' Week, ME

June 25 - 30, Maryland Birds & Habitats, Washington College, MD



## Application Process and Requirements

Applicants to the Maine workshop need not be members of MOS, but must be endorsed by a member or chapter. Applications for Maine workshops must be submitted via electronic mail by November 15, 2016. Recipients will be notified in January, 2017. Please refer to the MOS website for the complete application process.

<http://mdbirds.org/education/scholarships/ScholarshipPage2017.pdf>

Maryland workshop applicants should go to the YMOS website listed below for application instructions. The Maryland program scholarship application deadline is March 15, 2017.

<http://www.ymos.org/educator-resources/Scholarships>

Maryland Scholarship Chair: [radclifg@gmail.com](mailto:radclifg@gmail.com)



**MOS/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.”