

# “News from the ‘Hood”

Newsletter of the Patuxent Bird Club  
of the Maryland Ornithological Society



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**November – December 2015**

Editor: Fred Fallon, [fwoffallon@gmail.com](mailto:fwoffallon@gmail.com)

## Programs

Our meetings are held at the College Park Airport Museum, as last year. Doors open at 7 pm; meetings start at 7:30 pm, every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Sep thru June.

### Tuesday November 10

#### “THE BIG TRIP: Don Messersmith’s Cross-country Birding Adventures”

In 2013, Don decided to get away for a while after his wife, Sherry, died unexpectedly. What was to be a short trip of a couple of months became a five-month, 20,000+ mile trip that visited 30 states and four Canadian Provinces. Driving mostly alone (except when each of his four daughters joined him for a week or more), he had no itinerary and no time table. Don visited many family members and friends as well as every National Wildlife Refuge he came across and other natural reserves, historical sites and scenic areas. He recorded 355 species of birds, many mammals and other wild life as he drove across the northern tier of states, down the West Coast to San Diego and back across on a southern and central states route. This illustrated talk will cover some of the natural highlights and adventures he experienced.

Dr Messersmith, Professor Emeritus at the U. of Maryland, taught course in entomology and ornithology for 45 years – some of you will have taken his classes. He and Sherry led birding tours to many countries, opening some of them up to visiting birders for the first time. He has given many talks at our meetings over the years on his travels to far-flung parts of the world. He has also written *A History of Birding in Prince Georges County, 1634-2010*.

### Tuesday Dec 8

#### Holiday Movie Night - “A Murder of Crows”

Long associated with darkness and foreboding, crows are collectively called a "murder." But they're actually monogamous, highly social and some of the most intelligent animals on the planet, as explored in this eye-opening edition of "Nature." Among other take-aways, you'll learn about crows' remarkable ability to recognize and remember individual human beings ... to the point of being able to pick them out of a crowd up to two years later.

Program starts at 7:30 PM, doors open at 7:00 PM to mingle and enjoy holiday refreshments. Bring a treat to share.

## **MDBirding – How to sign up!**

Did you know that there is a web site on which up-to-date bird sightings are posted? This is how MD birders find out about rarities, sometimes within minutes of their being posted! You can read them on the web site, or have them sent directly to your e-mail address. You may also post your own sightings.

To sign up, go to [www.MDBirding.com](http://www.MDBirding.com). There, go to the Info tab on left, then Sign up on the bar at the top, and follow the simple instructions. Go to the Home tab to read current postings.

After signing up, you can post your own sightings with an e-mail to [MDBirding@googlegroups.com](mailto:MDBirding@googlegroups.com)

## **MOS Conference Chair Wanted Now with \$3k/yr stipend**

The annual MOS Conferences are a high-light of the birding year. Held every year since 1945, over a week-end usually in May or June, they feature 2 full days of a wide choice of field trips to a variety of sites, or sometimes around an entire county. There is also a banquet, a famous keynote speaker, a wine and cheese social where you can chat with other birders, a simultaneous display of research posters, a workshop covering some special topic e.g. warbler ID or sketching birds in the field, and a silent auction of bird-related books and gear. At the close over Sunday lunch a tally is made of all the birds seen.

Naturally, running the Conference is a lot of work. So much so, that when Janet Shields finally resigned as conference chair after many years' service, no one else has volunteered to take that position. So now MOS is faced with the prospect of the Conferences coming to an end, and that would be a tragedy!

The MOS executive committee has responded with a plan to make the Conference Chairmanship more palatable. First, the responsibilities have been greatly pared down: Registration, Field Trips, Silent Auction, Workshop, Poster Session, and the Species Tally have been split off and will be manned by other volunteers. Moreover, to sweeten the deal, a stipend of \$3,000 per year will be included.

If you would like to learn more send an e-mail to me at [fwfallon@ymail.com](mailto:fwfallon@ymail.com), and I will reply with MOS' official statement of responsibilities. If then you wish to pursue your interest in the position, send a message to that effect to the MOS President, Tom Strikwerda.

Fred Fallon, PBC "state director" (delegate to MOS)

## Field trips, Entire remaining 2015-2016 Season

Thur Nov 5 – Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon . Meet at 3 pm. Meet at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich <mozurk@bellAtlantic.net for more information.

Sat Nov 7 - Walk at the Fran Uhler Natural Area, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 7:30 AM at the end of Lemon's Br Rd, off Rt 197 just n. of Bowie State College, in Bowie. No reservations needed. Contact Bill Sefton at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.

Thu Nov 19 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon . Meet at 3 pm. Meet at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich <mozurk@bellAtlantic.net for more information.

Sat Nov 21 - Walk at the Gov Bridge Park, jointly with PG Audubon . Meet at 7:30 at the parking lot off Gov Br Rd, ~ 1 mile from Rt 301. Contact Bill Sefton at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.

Fri Nov 27 ("Black Fri") – Field trip to Blackwater Wildlife Refuge, joint with Anne Arundel Bird Club. Meet at 0900 hr at "Bay 50" lot off Rt 50, last exit before Bay Bridge. Leader : Barbara Ricciardi <barbara.ricciardi27@gmail.com>

Thu Dec 3 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon . Meet at 3 pm. Meet at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich <mozurk@bellAtlantic.net for more information.

Sat Dec 5 - Walk at the Fran Uhler Natural Area, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 7:30 AM at the end of Lemon's Br Rd, off Rt 197 just n. of Bowie State College, in Bowie. No reservations needed. Contact Bill Sefton at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.

Sun Dec 6 – Trip to Piscataway Park. Meet at the end of Wharf Rd, off Farmington Rd (which off Indian Head Hwy) at 8 AM. Leader: David Mozurkewich <mozurk@bellAtlantic.net.

Thu Dec 17 - Walk at Lake Artemesia jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 3 pm. Meet at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich <mozurk@bellAtlantic.net for more information.

Sat Dec 19 - Walk at the Gov Bridge Park, jointly with PG Audubon . Meet at 7:30 at the parking lot off Gov Br Rd, ~ 1 mile from Rt 301. Contact Bill Sefton at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.

Fri Jan 1 – Bowie Christmas Bird Count. Contact compiler David Mozurkewich <mozurk@bellAtlantic.net for more information and an area to cover. Tally afterwards at T J Eliot's on Rt 19, between Rt 450 and Old Chapel Rd in Bowie.

Sat Jan 2 - Walk at the Fran Uhler Natural Area jointly with PG Audubon . Meet at 7:30 AM at the end of Lemon's Br Rd, off Rt 197 just n. of Bowie State College, in Bowie. No reservations needed. Contact Bill Sefton at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.

Thu Jan 7 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 3 pm. Meet at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich <mozurk@bellAtlantic.net for more information.

Sat Jan 16 - Walk at the Gov Bridge Park, jointly with PG Audubon . Meet at 7:30 at the parking lot off Gov Br Rd, ~ 1 mile from Rt 301. Contact Bill Sefton at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.

Thu Jan 21 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 3 pm. (Note change in time.) Meet at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich <[mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net) for more information.

Thu Feb 4 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 3 pm. Meet at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich <[mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net) for more information.

Sat Feb 6 - Walk at the Fran Uhler Natural Area, jointly with PG Audubon . Meet at 7:30 am at the end of Lemon's Br Rd, off Rt 197 just n. of Bowie State College, in Bowie. No reservations needed. Contact Bill Sefton at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.

Fri Feb 12 - Mon Feb 15 –19<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC). Fun and easy event for birders of all ages to count birds and create a real-time snapshot of bird populations. Count as little as 15 min., or as long as you wish on one or more days and report findings online at [www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org). For beginning birders to experts. Can participate from your backyard, or anywhere in the world.

Sun Feb 14 (President's Day weekend) – Trip to Ocean City, Indian R inlet, Burton's I. Park, and adjacent areas. Meet at 7 am at the Bowie P&R off Rt 197. Dinner and overnight stay the night before a possible option. Leader: Fred Fallon [fwfallon@ymail.com](mailto:fwfallon@ymail.com) .

Thu Feb 18 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon . Meet at 3 pm. Meet at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich <[mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net) for more information.

Sat Feb 20 – 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 at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info

Thu Mar 3 - Walk at Lake Artemesia. Meet at 3 pm, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich <[mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net) for more information.

Sat Mar 5 - Walk at the Fran Uhler Natural Area, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 7:30 am at the end of Lemon's Br Rd, off Rt 197 just n. of Bowie State College, in Bowie. No reservations needed. Contact Bill Sefton at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.

Sat Mar 12 – Field trip for displaying Woodcock at location to be decided soon before trip; meeting at ~ 5:30 pm, place to be determined according to conditions. Reservations required. Contact leader: David Mozurkewich [mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net).

Thu Mar 17 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 3 pm. Meet at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich [mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net) for more information.

Sat Mar 19 - 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 at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.

Sat Apr 2 - Walk at the Fran Uhler Natural Area, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 7:30 am at the end of Lemon's Br Rd, off Rt 197 just n. of Bowie State College, in Bowie. No reservations needed. Contact Bill Sefton at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.

Thu Apr 7 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon . Meet at 6 pm – note change in time. Meet at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich ([mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net)) for more information.

Sat Apr 16 - Walk at the Gov Bridge Park, jointly with PG Audubon . Meet at 7:30 at the parking lot off Gov Br Rd, ~ 1 mile from Rt 301. Contact Bill Sefton at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.

Thu Apr 21 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 6 pm – note change in time. Meet at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich ([mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net)) for more information.

Sun May 1 – Trip to National Arboretum. Meet at Bowie P&R at 7 am. Leader: Jeannine Dorothy [OZ-Girl2@verizon.net](mailto:OZ-Girl2@verizon.net).

Thu May 5 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 6 pm at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich ([mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net)) for more information.

Sat May 7 - Walk at the Fran Uhler Natural Area, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 7:30 am at the end of Lemon's Br Rd, off Rt 197 just n. of Bowie State College, in Bowie. No reservations needed. Contact Bill Sefton at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.

Sun May 8 – Trip to McKeldin area of the Patapsco SP for migrants and breeding Cerulean Warblers. Meet at Bowie P&R at 6:30 am (1 hr drive to park.) Leader: TBA.

Sat May 14 – May Count. Count all day at a park/ WMA or just a few hours around your yard and n'hood. Contact compiler FredFallon ([fwfallon@ymail.com](mailto:fwfallon@ymail.com)) for information, and coordination of areas covered.

Thu May 19 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon . Meet at 6 pm. Meet at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich ([mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net)) for more information.

Sat May 21 - 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 at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.

Thu Jun 2 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon . Meet at 6 pm. Meet at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich ([mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net)) for more information.

Sat Jun 4 - Walk at the Fran Uhler Natural Area, jointly with PG Audubon. Meet at 7:30 am at the end of Lemon's Br Rd, off Rt 197 just n. of Bowie State College, in Bowie. No reservations needed. Contact Bill Sefton at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.

Thu Jun 16 - Walk at Lake Artemesia, jointly with PG Audubon . Meet at 6 pm – note change in time. Meet at parking lot, at end of Berwyn Rd in Berwyn Hts. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich ([mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net)) for more information.

Sat Jun 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 at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.



**MOS/Patuxent Bird Club  
Membership Application/Renewal  
2015/2016**



**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.”