

# Seneca Rocks Drummer



April, 2006

Newsletter of the Seneca Rocks Audubon Society

Volume 22, No. 8

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

[www.senecarocksaudubon.org](http://www.senecarocksaudubon.org)

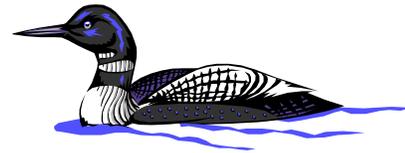
**Next Meeting – April 10**  
**Room 249, Peirce Science Center**  
**Social - 7:00 p.m. Program begins at 7:30 p.m.**

**John M. Karian,**  
**Nature Photographer**

by Gary Edwards

We are fortunate to have SRAS member John Karian presenting our April program. He is a dedicated naturalist and conservationist whose prints and images have been widely acclaimed and published. John is also a member of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and the North American Nature Photographers Association.

John Karian is living his dream. For the past few years he has devoted his time to capturing on film the natural beauty of northwestern Pennsylvania's wetlands and the Allegheny River. While his portfolio includes scenes at all time of day and night, early morning and twilight images are his specialty. John invites you to "take the time to experience the wonderful natural tapestry which can unfold during a sunrise or sunset. It is at these times that light can both define and mystically transform the landscape." Please join us for an evening of inspiring and breathtaking scenes from our local area captured by the imagination and ability of our talented guest.      🐾🐾🐾



**Field Trips**

by Jim Wilson

Following are the dates for our upcoming field trips and activities:

Sat 4/1 Presque Isle  
Sat 4/8 Conneaut Marsh & Pymatuning  
April 20 – 22 National Wildlife Week  
Fri 5/5 Oil Creek State Park  
May 6 – 14 Birdathon  
Mon 6/19 Block Busting in Region 45

For the Presque Isle directions, please see the February *Drummer*; for the Conneaut Marsh directions, consult the March *Drummer*.

**Oil Creek State Park Warbler Walk**

Friday May 5, 2006 at 8:30 A.M.

Led by Gary Edwards

On May 3, 2003, the Oil Creek Warbler Walk produced 34 species, including 10 warblers; on April 26, 2004, we tallied 44 species. Last year, the walk was scheduled for the end of April and was cancelled because of snow.

We're looking forward to good weather and seeing lots of warblers and other migrants on May 5!

We meet inside Oil Creek State Park. Go north on Route 8 out of Oil City, through Rouseville. The park entrance is on the right about a mile north of Rouseville, immediately after you cross Oil Creek. The park entrance sign is about thirty-two miles or fifty minutes from the Court House in Clarion. We meet in the Blood Farm day use area parking lot, on the right less than a mile into the park.

Restrooms are available in the day use area and at the park office approximately three miles away. Food is available in Oil City and near the Cranberry Mall. ☕☕☕

## Cook Forest historical photo request



Cook Forest State Park is on the lookout for various historical photos of the park and the Clarion River. We are currently in the process of gathering and recording historical evidence of events that have happened before and after the inception of Cook

Forest State Park. We would be very interested in viewing or possibly accepting donations of photos, 35mm film, or video that may contain some of the following historical attributes: lumber era including raft and railroad, C.C.C., iron furnace, tornado damage, floods, historic structures, noteworthy individuals, Forest Cathedral photos before 1960.

Please call us if you would like to set up a meeting.

Best Regards,

Dale J. Luthringer  
Environmental Education Specialist  
Cook Forest State Park  
(814)744-8475  
[dluthringe@state.pa.us](mailto:dluthringe@state.pa.us)

"Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!'"  
- Robin Williams



## Crow's Nest

by President Deb Freed

**A**pril will literally begin for me at Mill Grove, John James Audubon's home from 1803 to 1806. Audubon PA is hosting an assembly of state chapter representatives to reinvigorate the statewide organization. There will be sessions on member recruitment, fund raising, conservation issues and public policy. Of particular interest will be the focus on public policy affecting our IBAs (Important Bird Areas). Mt. Zion/Piney Tract is IBA # 21. Flo McGuire and I will attend with Kathie Goodblood from Bartramian. We expect to have some fun birding the grounds of Mill Grove in the early morning then meeting with other chapter leaders. We'll report back in the next issue.

In the Spring 2006 edition of Audubon PA, Education Project Assistant Holly Smith has an article on migration. She reminded me of the fun and challenge of observing migration by focusing on the full moon. Somewhere between the moon and your binoculars or spotting scope, you may be lucky enough to see the silhouettes of migrating birds. If you can open a window, you might even hear the birds vocalizing while they fly. The full moon appears on April 13 and May 13 this year.

I'm hoping that I will get a preview of spring at Mill Grove before the main event in Clarion County. Many of the safe dates for birds begin April 1. Check our website [www.senecarocksaudubon.org](http://www.senecarocksaudubon.org) for the safe dates by clicking Bird Count, then Breeding Bird Atlas. Two sites to begin watching are the Peregrine Falcon web cams on our Links page. An additional web cam mounted on the Rachel Carson State Office Building in Harrisburg shows the Peregrine checking out the nesting

platform at [www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/falcon/](http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/falcon/). (Ed. note - this site is also on our website Links page now). It's a race for the first egg among the nesting sites at Rachel Carson and the two sites in Pittsburgh, the Cathedral of Learning and the Gulf building. Ahh, spring. Enjoy the season!



## 2006 Birdathon

--Janice Horn

Seneca Rocks' annual fundraiser, the Birdathon, is scheduled for the second week of May, the 6<sup>th</sup> through the 14th. This event is our largest fundraiser, bringing in money that pays for educational activities such as Audubon Adventures, Audubon Camp, special presentations, and other education and conservation programs. In addition we support Audubon Pennsylvania.

The people who participate in the Birdathon change from year to year, as well as the type of participation. Most of the people who get pledges, spend a day sighting birds, and follow up with a report are eager to find more people to support them. Those of you who are unable to spend a day birding are probably quite willing to make a pledge and may not know who to give it to. With that in mind I am developing a list of those who are seeking pledgers for their Birdathon project. I will be distributing that list and asking you to lend your support to the birder of your choice.

Birdathon materials including the list of those who plan to spend a day birding will be available at the April meeting. You will have a chance then to make your pledge. There will be

other opportunities also to help you decide who to support.

For a taste of what birders find during their Birdathon day you can read their reports on our web site: [www.senecarocksaudubon.org](http://www.senecarocksaudubon.org). Enjoy and plan to lend your support.

*The following is one of the Birdathon reports now on our website.*

## BIRDATHON 2005

– Margaret Buckwalter

Friday, the 13th of May

Shortly after 5 a.m. our car pulled up at the Rapp Farm outside of Shippenville. The sky was just paling and a few stars were still out. A chilly wind blew across the old reclaimed strip mine making the three of us shiver and zip up our jackets. Janice Horn and I were initiating Janice Grunenwald into the rituals and practices of the Birdathon. To hear better we left the cars and stood, backs to the wind, to listen. Robins were already singing their chorus and then a brown thrasher joined in. Overhead we could hear the twittering of a woodcock, our target bird for this early rising. Soon it landed and we could hear it “peenting” too. Song sparrows and chipping sparrows were chiming in as we left for Paint Mills Road.



As the road descended through the woods to Paint Creek we heard many wood thrushes, a chickadee, several ovenbirds, tufted titmouse and blue jays. Unexpectedly, the long, bubbling song of a winter wren rang from the undergrowth. Scarlet tanagers, Baltimore orioles, a white-breasted nuthatch, mourning doves, a rose-breasted grosbeak, European starlings, downy woodpecker, barn swallow and wild turkey, many red-winged blackbirds plus a cardinal, crows and, at the bridge, rough-winged swallows swelled our list.

Our rookie birder, Janice G., was the first to spot the bobolinks in a field outside Shippenville where we weren't even expecting them. Then we headed to my



house for breakfast, to watch the feeders, and to warm up after a chilly morning. We picked up a late dark-eyed junco, a hairy woodpecker and a ruby-throated hummingbird in my yard.

On the go again, in Game Lands 63 near the old clear cut we picked up northern flicker, tree swallow, common grackle, chestnut-sided warbler, and indigo bunting. At the Beaver Creek ponds we tallied our first red-tailed hawk, killdeer, Canada geese, and yellow warbler.

The most interesting find here was not of the avian kind. Janice G. pointed out something swimming in the water. "Beaver?" she asked. It didn't look quite right for a beaver and I thought maybe it was a snapping turtle. I was half right. It was two snapping turtles copulating with much rolling over, and splashing of tails, heads, and feet. None of us had ever seen this before. They weren't paying any attention to us, so we went closer. The action continued but it puzzled us how they were actually accomplishing anything. Janice H. figured that the largest turtle was about two feet from head to tail. Ducklings and goslings are probably not going to last long in this pond.

Walt Fye's ponds were our next stop and produced turkey vultures, a kestrel, mallards and purple martins for our list. It was turning out to be a beautiful day, sunny but not hot. We said goodbye to Janice G. here. She had proved to be a great addition to our team – sharp-eyed and enthusiastic.

At the Mehrten, also part of Beaver Creek, Janice H. and I pulled out our lunches and lawn chairs to relax and survey the pond. On the way in we had been surprised by a very vocal yellow-breasted chat and a noisy pileated woodpecker. Red-eyed vireos and swallows were abundant but we didn't find many other species not already on the list.

Our next stop at Kahle Lake proved a bit more productive. The scope picked up a great blue heron fishing on the far shore, ring-billed gulls, a couple of common loons, and one eastern bluebird on the road around the lake. It was getting harder and harder to find new birds so we decided to eat dinner with Roger Horn at Gringo's North in Knox.



Hunger appeased, we stopped at the dairy farm pond near BiLo in Knox and were delighted to find a least sandpiper feeding on the shore. We still hadn't hit much grassland habitat so we headed for Mt. Airy and Mt. Zion. On the way a northern mockingbird quite literally thrust itself on us as it was defending its territory from some red-winged blackbirds. We had a great, close-up view of the mocker.

Mt. Airy provided us with eastern kingbird and the unmistakable wolf-whistle of an upland sandpiper. In hopes of seeing a short-eared owl we returned to Mt. Zion. We didn't find any owls but in the dusk we added Henslow's sparrows, the representative grassland sparrow and a fitting way to end a good day.

We saw 64 species of birds on our Birdathon. Janice calls it our "laid back Birdathon" because we didn't go very far very fast, but we had a great time. Please send your checks made out to "SRAS" as soon as possible if you haven't already. We would like to complete this Birdathon as soon as we can.

SRAS is a 501(c)3 organization so yours is a tax-free donation. Thank you for helping to make our Birdathon a success.

Sincerely,  
Margaret Buckwalter

## 2nd Annual Hawk Watch at Erie Bluffs State Park, Saturday, April 15, 2006

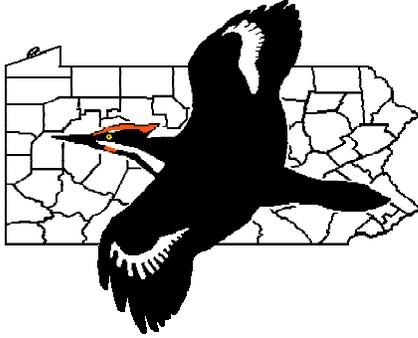
Presque Isle Audubon and Presque Isle State Park are sponsoring this family event from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Erie Bluffs, our newest state park, 20 miles east of Erie on Route 5. Please see the March *Drummer* for more information or call 814-835-8069, Ext. 102.



### Bird Tails

A local Summerville birder, Jim Randolph, reports that he baited a live trap with sardines to capture a marauding raccoon. The following morning a Carolina Wren was going in and out of the trap eating the sardines.

*Have an interesting tidbit about birds? Please send to [fmcquire1@verizon.net](mailto:fmcquire1@verizon.net) for this column.*



## PSO Annual Meeting at Powdermill May 19-21, 2006

**P**owdermill Nature Reserve is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> year by hosting the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology Annual Meeting this year. The programs will be held at Powdermill, while the banquet will be at the Ramada Inn in Ligonier.

Powdermill Nature Reserve was established in 1956 to serve as a field station of Carnegie Museum of Natural History for long-term studies of natural populations - their life histories, behaviors, and ecological relationships. The reserve includes 2,200 acres of woodlands, streams, open fields, ponds, and thickets. The Avian Research Center will be open for banding on Friday as well as on Saturday and Sunday. Anyone interested may stay at Powdermill instead of participating in a field trip on Saturday or Sunday mornings. Those who arrive early on Friday are invited to walk the trails at Powdermill.

The Ligonier Ramada Inn is the location for the Friday evening social/business meeting and the Saturday banquet, as well as the departure point for the field trips.

Saturday morning field trips include Keystone State Park, Linn Run State Park, Hunter's Lane, Laurelville Reclaimed Strips, Roaring Run Natural Area, New Alex-Loyalhanna Game Lands, and Spruce Flats Bog & Wolf Rock Trail.

Sunday morning field trips include The 981 Strips, Linn Run State Park, Hunter's Lane, and Spruce Flats Bog & Wolf Rock Trail.

SRAS members should note that there will be 2 grassland trips to reclaimed surface mine areas. We may gain valuable information for our 2007 Conference, "Bird Conservation on Non-native Grasslands", by attending these outings.

Saturday Afternoon Programs will be held at Powdermill - they include:

- Ridgetop Important Bird areas, Raptors, and Wind Turbines presented by Kim Van Fleet, Audubon PA.
- Birds and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid presented by Terry Master, East Stroudsburg University.
- Non-invasive Population Studies of Threatened Raptors presented by Todd Katzner, Director of Conservation and Field Research, National Aviary
- Why a High-tech 2<sup>nd</sup> PBBA? presented by Trish Miller, Powdermill, Penn State.
- Bioacoustic Monitoring Research at Powdermill presented by Emma DeLeon and Annie Lindsay, Univ. of Pittsburgh, Powdermill Avian Research Center.
- Five Decades of Bird Study at Powdermill presented by Bob Mulvihill, Powdermill Avian Research Center.

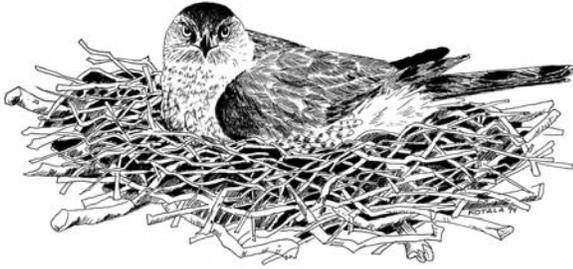
Margaret Higbee of Indiana, PA is the 2006 winner of the Earl Poole Award, and Tom Dick of Somerset County, PA will be presented with the PSO Conservation Award.

Our Banquet Speaker will not be a long program as in years past, but a short one: Mike Lanzone - Firsthand Account of the Search for the Ivory-billed Woodpecker.

You do not need to be a member to attend this event. (Members register for \$25, and annual dues are \$28.50. Non-member registration of \$35 includes a 1-year membership to PSO).

Registration is due by April 30, 2006. You can download a registration form from the PSO website, <http://www.pabirds.org/> or call any PSO member for a copy: Margaret Buckwalter, Ron Montgomery, Gary Edwards, Walter Fye, Janice Horn, Mike Leahy, Carole Willenpart, or Flo McGuire.





Artwork by Stan Kotala

## Help! Atlas Coordinators Request Your Assistance!

by Ron Montgomery

Recall that Regional Coordinators are responsible for the Atlas work on specific pages (regions) of the PA Gazetteer. Our Coordinators are: Flo McGuire p30, Gary Edwards p43, Carole Willenpart p44, and Pat Conway p45. Many of the Blocks, particularly on pages 44 and 45, have little or no birding data yet recorded, so with 3 years yet to go, we have our work cut out for us.

So we are planning a massive blitz this summer to catch up. We hope to have a team do a different block each week during June and July. The basic approach will be to meet somewhere in the target block in the morning of the chosen day and bird until noon; then go to lunch and turn our data in to the Coordinator. We may follow up with some night outings as well (owls, whip-poor-wills, woodcock).

We pick June and July because virtually all birds are within their safe date then. That means that every bird we see can be counted as at least a “possible” breeder and we should see over 50 species in each block.

At our April meeting I will ask who would like to be informed of the day and place for each outing. If you will not be at the next meeting, please call me or send an email to get on the list. Signing up does not mean that you will participate every time, or even most of the time. I am hoping that this will become kind of a party situation and that we will get together to have fun for a purpose.

Some have told me that there is much they do not understand about the Atlas Project. Last month Gary and I gave an explanatory PowerPoint presentation to Trout Unlimited in Oil City. Pat, Carole and I will give this

program again if there is interest. If we do it, we may open it up to the community.

## Atlassing in April

- Flo McGuire

Following is part of the Chronological Safe Date list prepared by Gary Edwards. You can see that quite a few species will be “Safe” before May 1. That means that if you see any of these birds in your block (after its Begin Safe Date), you can code it as a Possible breeder. If it is still there 5 days later or you see a pair, you can code a Probable breeder. Any species seen at any time carrying nesting material or performing any of the other “Confirmed” behaviors would be coded “Confirmed”. (Disregard safe dates for Confirmed Behavior). The complete Chronological Safe Date list can be downloaded from the Seneca Rocks website or obtained from any Regional Coordinator. Field cards on our website also include the safe dates for each species.

| Common Name            | Begin Safe Date | End Safe Date |
|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Great Horned Owl       | 12/20           | 7/31          |
| Rock Pigeon            | 1/1             | 12/31         |
| Barred Owl             | 1/15            | 7/31          |
| House Sparrow          | 2/1             | 9/30          |
| Common Raven           | 3/1             | 7/15          |
| Downy Woodpecker       | 3/15            | 7/31          |
| Hairy Woodpecker       | 3/15            | 7/31          |
| Pileated Woodpecker    | 3/15            | 7/31          |
| Red-bellied Woodpecker | 3/15            | 7/31          |
| Tufted Titmouse        | 3/15            | 8/15          |
| Northern Cardinal      | 3/15            | 9/30          |
| American Woodcock      | 4/1             | 7/15          |
| Ruffed Grouse          | 4/1             | 7/31          |
| Carolina Wren          | 4/1             | 9/30          |
| Common Grackle         | 4/15            | 6/30          |
| Red-winged Blackbird   | 4/15            | 6/30          |
| Belted Kingfisher      | 4/15            | 7/15          |
| Louisiana Waterthrush  | 4/15            | 7/15          |
| European Starling      | 4/15            | 7/31          |
| House Finch            | 4/15            | 7/31          |
| Northern Bobwhite      | 4/15            | 7/31          |
| Ring-necked Pheasant   | 4/15            | 7/31          |
| Wild Turkey            | 4/15            | 7/31          |
| Black-capped Chickadee | 4/15            | 8/15          |
| Eastern Screech-Owl    | 4/15            | 8/15          |

April is a good time to scout your block – e.g., mark your map with road names, wetlands, ponds, coniferous woods... Check the boundaries and make a note where each road leaves your block.

Even atlasing in March can be productive – we found a Common Grackle carrying nesting material on March 23 (about 3 weeks before the safe date, but that observation confirmed it).

## Wind Turbine Forum at Presque Isle

A Wind Turbine Forum will be held on Friday, April 14, at the Stull Interpretive Center at Presque Isle State Park from 7-8:30pm. Presque Isle Audubon is offering this forum *Wind Turbines: Are they Safe for Birds?* so that we and the general public can become better informed about the growing issue of renewable energy, the benefits of wind energy and potential dangers to birds and bats.

Forum participants on the panel include:

- Bill Evans, Cornell Lab of Ornithology
- Gil Randell, Ripley Hawk Watch member and Co-Chairman of the Conservation Committee of the Hawk Migration Association of North America.
- Len DeFrancisco, Director, Ripley, NY Hawk Watch.
- Ernesto Ruelas, Ph. D., Raptor Population Index manager, Hawk Migration Association of North America.
- Lisa DiFrancisco, North Coast Energy Systems
- Tim Ryan, Manager, Renewable Strategies LLC

Attorney Paul Burroughs, Presque Isle Audubon President will moderate the panel. There may also be a representative from the PA DEP.

The forum is designed to give each panel member about 5 minutes to share information with the audience and then Attorney Burroughs will ask prepared questions. Any questions the audience may have will be written on index cards and submitted to the moderator. 🐾

"If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder, he needs the companionship of a least one adult who can share it, rediscovering with him the joy, excitement and mystery of the world we live in."  
- Rachel Carson, naturalist and author



Photo by Janet Lawrence

## The Birds and the Bees

by Pat Conway

A good friend called me last fall and said, "Help! We have honeybees in our wood duck box. Can you come and get them out?"

Naturally I said, "Yes," because I never say "No." That's the reason I ended up being a regional coordinator for the BBA too. Anyway...

My friend Jan and her husband Frank were worried that when the wood ducks came back in the spring, (the safe date for wood ducks is May 1), the bees would be in their home and the ducks wouldn't be able to nest. I explained to Jan that I wouldn't be able to remove the bees in the fall because it would destroy the honey they had cached for the winter. They wouldn't be able to build new comb and store more honey before winter set in. She and Frank understood. I told them I would come in the spring and get the bees, although I didn't know how I would do it. The nest box was at least twenty feet up and nailed to a tree. (I didn't know how I would do the

BBA either, and still don't) but hey, I'm always up for an adventure.

In February, (not exactly spring yet) but it was a warm day, Jan called me to see when I could come to get the bees. "It's still too cold to remove them," I said, "but I'll call my friend Dale, the bee man, and maybe we can figure something out. As luck would have it, my bee mentor, Dale, came to the library (where I work) one day and we talked about what we usually talk about, bees. I told him about Jan and Frank's bees in the wood duck box. He agreed that it was still too cold to move them. We made plans for the next reasonably warm day to take the box down so Frank could put another one up.

The first day we planned to go get the bees, it snowed. We cancelled. The next day was a Monday and it was a sunny day but the wind was blowing and it was cold. We decided to do it, even though we had to wear warm clothes and gloves. It was a bit cumbersome to work in heavy clothing in a bee veil, but it worked out okay.

Dale had a plan. A plan is always good when you are working with bees. Actually, two or three plans would be better. Dale's first plan was to throw a rope over the limb above the duck box, attach two ratchet straps around the box, tie the rope through the straps at the top and then pry the box from the tree without dropping it.

Getting up the tree was not a problem. Frank had placed an extension ladder up to the box for us. Dale climbed the ladder first and secured it to the tree with a small rope. He went up again with the larger rope to throw over the limb. I stood below to catch him if he fell and handed him the ratchet straps and pry bar, as needed.

Dale and I knew that there was a chance the bees had died over the winter from freezing, starvation or the mite, but as soon

as Dale touched the box there were several bees at the entrance hole defending their lair. As he worked, more bees came pouring out of the hole and we soon smelled the sweet aroma of honey. It was a good sign.

Dale worked as fast as possible while on a ladder, twenty feet up. He has had over fifty years of experience at removing just about every kind of beehive imaginable. He attached the straps quickly but carefully and came down the ladder once more to stretch out the lowering rope. We wrapped it around a tree so that I could get leverage to hold the rope and lower the box to the ground. Two friends of mine were standing by, one to take pictures and one to observe. I handed Ann the rope since we didn't know how heavy the duck box would be. (I didn't want to be dangling in the air if the box weighed more than me!) We held on tight while Dale guided the box down the ladder to a safe landing.



*Photo by Pat Conway*

By now the bees were boiling out of the hole. We were prepared for this with a square of wire mesh. I held the box, while Dale stapled it over the hole. He also used a roll of duct tape to seal the large crack by the lid from which bees were escaping. Only one of us got stung. I can't tell you who though, and we didn't have to resort to plan B or C. It took two of us to carry the box, which weighed about sixty pounds to

the back of Dale's truck. Our mission was a success!

We had two vehicles. Jan rode with me and Ann rode with Dale to my dad's farm in Sigel. We unloaded our sweet smelling cargo and placed the wood duck box next to my other two hives in the barn. The bees will be fine there until Dale and I can transfer them to a regular hive when the weather warms up in April. Once the box is cleaned out, I will return it to Frank and Jan. They will be happy. The wood ducks can come back and raise their ducklings in peace, the bees will have a new home and a fresh start and for all our effort there will be sweet, golden honey in the fall.

All's well that ends well.

---

## Bluebird Boxes at Beaver Creek

Many thanks to Jan and Cindy Meyer and Jim Wilson for the great teamwork on this project. Jan and Cindy surveyed the bluebird boxes at Beaver Creek, drew a map, and reported at our March meeting. Jim Wilson has already used the map to repair the boxes that needed it.



Wise old Proverb:  
Always knock before opening a bluebird house.

## Peregrine Report

Did you miss our March meeting? Publicity Chair/Secretary Dennis Beaver has written a report of Dan Brauning's program on The Peregrine Falcon. It is available on our website - click on "Events", then "Previous Programs" to read or print this pdf document.

## National Wildlife Week

SRAS will again have a display at National Wildlife Week at the Clarion Mall on April 20-22. Perhaps you can sign up to man the booth for a few hours, or if not, stop in and visit. We'll have information and photos of our activities, we'll have birdhouses and *Annotated Lists of the Birds of Pennsylvania* for sale, and lots more!

## Pennsylvania Migration Count

- Bill Etter

Well...it's that time of year again! Spring has sprung, and migration is already in swing. The birds are on their way, so it's time to start planning for the 15th annual Pennsylvania Migration Count (PAMC)! The 2006 PAMC will take place on Saturday, May 13th, International Bird Migration Day. Please save the date. I hope that every serious birder in Pennsylvania will consider helping out this year! The information we've collected since 1992 has constructed a very nice snapshot of birdlife in Pennsylvania at the height of migration! Nearly 1000 Pennsylvania birders participated last year...I hope we can do even better his time around!

To read more about the count and obtain forms, please visit

<http://userweb.netcarrier.com/~etter/pamc2005.htm>

For those unfamiliar with it, PAMC is a county based bird count that takes place on the second Saturday each May. Participants go birding at their favorite spots, and count all birds seen and heard, while keeping track of hours and mileage. The count is very similar to the Christmas Bird Counts, but with nicer weather (hopefully)...and more warblers. Counties with higher numbers of birders have county compilers for the PAMC. County compilers keep track of all data collected locally, and also keep track of who birds where, to avoid duplicate submissions from a single site.

PLEASE HELP!



Coming up -  
 May 8 - Linda Ordiway, "Spring Amphibians"  
 Advance Notice -

At our September meeting Scott Stoleson will present "Mushroom Madness"; he has also volunteered to lead a mushroom-oriented field trip on the following Saturday.



Thanks to Jan Meyer who will be hosting the meeting on April 10. A Host will be needed for May.

JOIN THE GROWING E-DRUMMER SUBSCRIBERS AND GET YOUR DRUMMER ON-LINE, EARLIER THAN MAILED COPY AND IN COLOR. SEND YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS TO [dfreed208@adelphia.net](mailto:dfreed208@adelphia.net)



### SRAS Board Members

- Deb Freed, President, Membership . . . . . 226-4719
- Gary Edwards, Vice-president, programs . . . 676-3011
- Dennis Beaver, Secretary/Publicity . . . . . 676-6564
- Janice Horn, Treasurer, Birdseed, Birdathon 226-7367
- Flo McGuire, Website, Drummer Editor . . . 755-3672
- Ron Montgomery,  
     Field Trips, Community Programs . . . . . 764-6088
- Jim Wilson, Events . . . . . 676-5455
- Paulette Colantonio, Education . . . . . 797-2031
- Pat Conway, History . . . . . 849-6315
- Margaret Buckwalter, Mill Creek Coalition . 782-3925
- Walter Fye, Beaver Creek . . . . . 797-1019

### BBA Regional Coordinators

- Gary Edwards, Region 43 . . . . . 676-3011
- Carole Willenpart, Region 44 . . . . . 745-3818
- Pat Conway, Region 45 . . . . . 849-6315
- Flo McGuire, Region 30 . . . . . 755-3672

Ruffed Grouse artwork in masthead  
 by George Miksch Sutton, used with permission.

Seneca Rocks Audubon Society  
 c/o Deb Freed  
 208 Briar Hill Drive  
 Clarion, PA 16214