

Northeast Pennsylvania Audubon Society

Eco~Notes

Fall 2010

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Photo by Georgette Pascotto

Camp Scholarships Awarded to Two Local Teens

Ethan Mansfield of New Milford received a scholarship to attend the Pennsylvania Wildlife Leadership Academy Drummer's Camp in June. Ethan said, "This camp was an outstanding experience and a way to prepare me for my future and career in the outdoors. WLA was very informative and sent me home with a better understanding of the life and habitat of the ruffed grouse."



Photo by Christina Mansfield

Ethan Mansfield

Devan George of Honesdale was awarded a scholarship to attend the Environmental Studies Summer Youth Institute held at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in July. Devan told us, "I didn't even realize what I was looking for in all of the other environmental programs until I found it at ESSYI. I wanted to change the world for the better and it was at ESSYI that I learned how. By focusing on not only the knowledge needed but also the practical way to use it, I learned more than just the facts. Albert Einstein once said that experience is the only true learning, which proves that I truly learned while at ESSYI." Devan received college credit for her course.



Photo by Devan George

Devan George

College Scholarship Recipient for 2010

Each year the Northeast Pennsylvania Audubon Society presents a \$4000 scholarship to a graduating senior who plans to pursue a career in an environmental field. The funding for the scholarship is generated from the annual Art and Craft Festival which was held July 17 and 18.



Photo by Kathy Dodge

Kelsey Kohrs is presented with a \$4000 scholarship by Chris Weigand, Scholarship Committee Co-Chair.

Kelsey Kohrs is this year's scholarship winner. She is a 2010 graduate of Honesdale High School and will be attending Juniata College to major in environmental science. Kelsey is the daughter of Sue and Randy Kohrs of Honesdale. Kelsey told us, "I'm really excited about going to college to study environmental sciences, and the Audubon scholarship will help get me there."

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Camp and college scholarships are funded by our annual Art and Craft Festival. Please see page 3 for a report on this year's Festival.

Our Mission Statement

Our goal is to conserve and restore our environment to benefit humanity as well as birds and other wildlife through education, action, and advocacy.

Message from the President

My two-year term as president has come to an end. I could not have done it without the help of our very dedicated and talented board of directors, officers, and committee chairs. I thank them for their hard work and camaraderie that made my job so much easier.

We stand upon the shoulders of many very committed people who have come and gone since our chapter's founding in 1971, helping our group mature into an important and respected voice for nature in our community.

We have won some significant victories over the years, but as environmentalists know, our battles are never really over. We helped to stop Tocks Island Dam on the Delaware right after our founding, but the threat of a new one is always a possibility. We played a leading role in stopping that crazy energy park idea back in 1975, but, other nutty projects can be hatched at any time. We face even more monumental obstacles now: climate change, oil spills, and gas drilling impacts, which make our voice and actions even more vital.

Long-time board member Bob Campbell is your new president. Let us all help him by volunteering some time and energy to continue the important work of this chapter! Call us at (570) 253-9250 or e-mail audubonworks@gmail.com to help.

—Katharine Dodge

Up Close and Personal with Worms

On May 9, Francis Willard Elementary School in West Scranton held a day-long program devoted entirely to the environment. As a member of Audubon, I gave a presentation on worm composting to six classes of children. Students used magnifying glasses to observe worms, chose appropriate items that can be placed in a worm composting bin, found worm cocoons in the compost, and learned about the anatomy of a worm. Constructing a worm composting bin is a great way for anyone to discover why worms are beneficial to soil, plants, and people!

—Phyllis Terwilliger

How to Talk to Kids About the Oil Spill

The oil spill may seem like old news, but its effects will be with us for a long time. It is important to remember this disaster and learn from it. On the web, National Wildlife Federation's (NWF) *Ranger Rick Magazine* gives kids straight facts and actions they can take, here: www.nwf.org/Kids/Ranger-Rick/People-and-Places/Oil-Spill-Latest.aspx They also offer "How to Talk to Kids About the Oil Spill, a Guide for Teachers and Parents," here: www.nwf.org/Kids/Ranger-Rick/Parents-and-Educators/How-To-Talk-With-Kids-Gulf-Oil-Spill.aspx

—Kathy Dodge

Welcome New Members

Richard Adams	Michael Gadowski	Richard Laurito	Christine Olick	Jean Taylor
Mary Baker	Barbara Geiger	Diana Ligi	Marie Owens	Patricia Tomasetti
Sharon Bebout	Linda Gelderman	Lori Lufty	John P. Parducci	Lee Uhlig
Linda Bernarsky	Robert Gercken	Joan Mallery	Lois Pfurr	Edith Walters
Douglas Bill	Virginia Goerlitz	Melva Meyer	Geraldine Pinker	Mary L. Wasylyk
Jeanne Kilmer Chadee	Gail Gracia	Tom Meyer	Effie Potter	Cortney Whitmore
Daniel Colangelo	Maria Grzybowski	M. Moffat	Lee Redican	Alison Wigley
Finbarr Collins	Janet K. Hale	Patricia Moran	Joseph Reviello	Winston Wood
Joan Craig	Carl Henry	Roy Morsch	Stefanie Saunders	Margaret Young
Roger Ellis	Sandra Hobbs	Mary L. Mushenski	Gino Silvestri	Donna Zagraban
Nina Edward Flanagan	Benjamin Holbert	Savannah Norton	F. M. Sladky	
Theresa Freiermuth	J. Imlay	Antoinette Notartomas	Michele D. Smigiel	

Art & Craft Festival a Great Success

The 25th annual NEPAS Art and Craft Festival was held on July 17th and 18th, and was again a well-attended event. As always, the festival offered entertaining educational programs as well as the work of outstanding artists and crafters.

We celebrated our 25th anniversary with the motto "25 Years, 100 Scholarships." Voni and Joe Strasser, aided by Sue Spuhler, started the festival in 1985 to fund scholarships for promising young people interested in environmental studies. On Saturday a plaque was presented to Voni and Joe in recognition of their efforts.

Thanks to the following volunteers who helped this year: Raynell Bates, Colette Ballew, Sandy Boguski, Marge Brion, Bob and Jeannie Campbell, Joyce Carey, Amanda Curtis, Kathy Dodge and Pete Snyder, Nancy Dymond, Lisa Edwards, Joe Ehrenhardt, Emi, Kevin, Emily, and Olivia Funk, Jill and Jeff George, Lindsay George, Nadine Greco, Barbara Hutchins, Kelsey Kohrs, Sharon Lang, Barbara Leo, Mary Ann Lunniss, Mel and Paul Myers, Georgette Pascotto, Marileta Robinson, Lillian Rollison, Pat and Jim Sanders, Nancy Savage, Pete Schliessman, Debra and Walker Temperton, Betty Truncale, Donna Vinton, and Chris Weigand. Your work made it happen again!!
—Jim Sanders

Audubon's Response to Gulf Oil Spill

To find more information on Audubon's response to the Gulf oil spill, or to volunteer or donate money, go to www.audubon.org. You will find two links: Gulf Coast Disaster How You Can Help, and Donate to Gulf Oil Spill Recovery. Volunteers can also contact the Volunteer Response Center in Mississippi at (228) 474-3290. Donations may also be mailed to the following address:

National Audubon Society
225 Varick Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10014
Attn: Gulf Coast Oil Spill Recovery Fund

Good Recycling News!

We encourage the three R's: "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle," in that order. When you DO have stuff to recycle, here is some good news:

Waste Management's Beach Lake Transfer Station in Wayne County now takes single stream collection of recyclables including #1 through #7 plastics, corrugated cardboard, chipboard (like cereal boxes), cans, mixed paper, and glass. They even take aluminum pie plates or roasting pans and those yogurt or cottage cheese containers and lids. (Single stream means that you don't have to sort the stuff, but it should be clean.) The hours are 7-5 weekdays, 7-noon on Saturdays. It is free for residents of Wayne, Pike, and Sullivan (NY) Counties.

Nature's Grace Health Foods, 947 Main Street, Honesdale, takes cell phones and batteries (9 volts or less) for recycling. Remember to thank them for this service!

For now, hang on to those screw-on caps that don't have a number. There may be a place to take them in the near future. Stay tuned.

—Kathy Dodge

Board Officers and Directors Announced

Your new officers and directors are:

Bob Campbell, President

Katharine Dodge, Vice President

Nancy Savage, Treasurer

Ronnie Fischer, Secretary

Janice Pierson, Director

Pete Snyder, Director

Joan Thirion, Director

Mary Ann Lunniss and Chris Fischer are incumbent directors.

Eco-Notes by E-mail

Eco-Notes is available by e-mail. It appears in the same colorful, easy-to-read format as the paper version, but without the cost, the paper, or the ink. Go to our Web site, nepaaudubon.org, to sign up.

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The date on the address label is the date your national and/or local chapter Audubon membership expires. National Audubon will send you reminders well before your national membership expires.

Editor: Marileta Robinson

Contributors: Katharine Dodge, Jim Sanders, Phyllis Terwilliger, Chris Weigand. Thanks to Barbara Leo, Mary Ann Lunniss, Georgette Pascotto, Pat Sanders.

Mark Your Calendars

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, September 17-19: Renewable Energy & Sustainable Living Festival. Modest entrance fee. We will carpool to this popular Kempton, PA, event. Please make reservations early. Camping available. Call Audubon at (570) 253-9250.

Friday, November 22: Saw-Whet Owl Banding. 8 PM. Witness humane capture, banding, data collection, and then the release of these small owls. This date may vary according to the owls' schedule, so call Bob at (570) 676-9969 for up-to-date information and details.

Monday, December 6: Audu-Bonding. 5:30 PM. Pat and Jim Sanders' house in Dyberry. Join in the festivities at our annual holiday potluck board meeting. All members are welcome. Bring a covered dish to share. Call Pat & Jim at (570) 253-4032 for details or directions.

And a final note . . . Let's try to use fewer fossil fuels! A local sister organization called SEEDS is encouraging families to save kilowatt hours on their electric bills using incentives and prizes (including a \$5,000 solar thermal installation!). For more details, call Kathy at the Audubon number (570)253-9250.