

November 8 – SUNDAY - 8:00-11:00 a.m.

FIELD TRIP

Myrtle Grove WMA, Charles County

5625 Myrtle Grove Road, La Plata, MD 20646

“BIRDING FOR ALL LEVELS” –

Youths Welcome

Leader: Fred Burggraf

Easy walking. Great for beginning birders! Diverse habitat for hawks, sparrows, woodpeckers, and other fall and winter residents. From Rte. 301 in La Plata, take Rte. 225 west about 4.5 miles to the WMA on the right. From Rte. 210 take Rte. 225 east about 4 miles to the WMA. Follow the dirt road to the end, about one mile. Meet in the parking lot near the lake. RSVP by the 7th to Fred at fburggraf0625@gmail.com or 301-934-8042.

November 22 – SUNDAY - 8:00 a.m. - 12 Noon

FIELD TRIP

Mattawoman Wildlands, Marbury, Charles County

George Wilmot Trail, Rte. 224

“EARLY WATERFOWL AND LATE MIGRANTS ON THE GEORGE WILMOT TRAIL”

Leader(s): Gwen Brewer

This is a joint trip with the Audubon Naturalist Society and the Southern Maryland Audubon Society. We usually expect large concentrations of waterfowl on the Mattawoman Creek, along with songbirds, woodpeckers (some red-headed), and raptors. Dr. Gwen Brewer is one of our top waterfowl identifiers with great eagle eyes! Meet time/place: 7:30 a.m. at Burger King (3165 Marshall Hall Rd, Bryans Road, MD 20616), on right at MD Rte. 210/227. Bring waterproof shoes or low boots, and dress for possible wind. Be prepared for a one-mile walk to and from the head of the trail, and then a half-mile walk on uneven forest trail. RSVP by the 21st to Gwen Brewer at 3wigeons@verizon.net or 410-741-9129.

December 2 – WEDNESDAY – 7:30-9:00 p.m.

MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAM

Washington Square Community Center, Charles County

101 Kennedy Place, La Plata, MD 20646

Book Presentation - “The Miracle Pond”

MIDDLETON EVANS – Maryland Photographer

Come and enjoy an evening with one of Maryland’s most noted photographers. Middleton will give a presentation of his newly released 344 page book featuring nearly 800 photographs of nature’s finest. Years in the making, Middleton captures amazing nature all at Baltimore’s

Patterson Park. He documents numerous aspects of the Wood Duck’s life cycle, waterbirds, migrating Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, songbirds, and raptors. Come and enjoy an evening of holiday refreshments and a journey of discovery from this amazing urban park and dramatic action shot photographer. This newly released book is a great holiday gift idea!! Come early at 7:00 p.m. for refreshments and socializing. Presentation begins at 7:30 p.m.

Southern Maryland Audubon Society

P.O. Box 181 • Bryans Road, MD 20616

The Southern Maryland Audubon Society (SMAS) is a chapter of the National Audubon Society (NAS) and is the largest citizen group involved in nature study and natural resource conservation issues in the Southern Maryland counties of Calvert, Charles, St. Mary’s and southern Prince George’s. SMAS was founded in 1971 and was chartered by the National Audubon Society in 1972. SMAS is a non-profit organization incorporated in Maryland, with activities financed by a membership dues-sharing arrangement with NAS and by SMAS fund raising activities. It operates under the provisions of an approved constitution with business conducted by directors and officers elected by its members.

Monthly Meetings are held from September through June, usually on the first Wednesday of the month. These meetings are publicized in advance, open to the general public, and feature a guest speaker or film dealing with topics of nature and conservation. Arrive at 7:00 p.m. for refreshments and socializing if the program is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

An **Annual Meeting** for election of officers is usually held on the first Sunday of June. The program included a potluck lunch, election, and a late afternoon bird walk. The location varies each year amongst the four counties. Members are encouraged to bring guests.

Field Trips are arranged for various weekends throughout the year and are led by experienced members. Special youth trips are also featured. If you are a new birder we strongly recommend you to join our trips as it is the best way to learn and lots of fun. You will discover the wonderful birding spots in Southern Maryland while learning more about our avian friends. A telephone and/or email address is listed with each leader. Most trips require guests to **RSVP**. Cancellation notification may be arranged directly from the leader or via the website.

Our **Raptor Conservation** is a primary effort of SMAS. The Raptor Conservation committee, aided by members, conducts research and enacts conservation activities in Southern Maryland. It is supported by our Adopt-a-Raptor program and currently includes four species: Osprey, Barn Owl, American Kestrel, and Northern Saw-whet Owl. Please see our website or newsletter for adoption details and assist our cause.

OFFICERS

President, Michael Patterson 301-752-5763	Vice-President, Bob Lukinic 301-283-6317
Secretary, Lynne Wheeler 301-743-3236	Treasurer, Will Daniel 301-274-5756
Past President, Mike Callahan 240-465-5192	

DIRECTORS

Jean Artes 240-274-9789	Andy Brown 443-624-3687
Melissa Boyle 443-340-3035	Margarita Rochow 240-577-1748

Open

Open

COMMITTEES

ARCHIVES Carol Ghebelian 301-753-6754	NEWSLETTER EDITOR Tyler Bell 301-862-4623
CONSERVATION Chair: Bob Lukinic 301-283-6317	PUBLICITY Nancy Megas 240-377-6024
EDUCATION Chair: Michael Patterson 301-752-5763	SOCIAL MEDIA Nancy Megas 240-377-6024
FIELD TRIPS David Moulton 240-278-4473	PROGRAMS Jean Artes 240-274-9789
FINANCE Paula Willoughby 301-862-9631	MEMBERSHIP Co-Chair: Carol Ghebelian 301-753-6754 Co-Chair: Lynne Wheeler 301-743-3236
RAPTOR CONSERVATION Mike Callahan 240-765-5192	HOSPITALITY Robbi Ross 703-402-9121
Adopt-a-Raptor Melissa Boyle 443-340-3035	Habitat Stewardship–Open Fundraising–Open

You can become a member of SMAS automatically by joining the National Audubon Society (SMAS receives a fraction of NAS dues) or by joining as a Chapter-only member (SMAS retains all dues received). A National membership provides you six bi-monthly issues of the award winning Audubon magazine. Your membership helps support regional and statewide conservation issues and research studies, along with environmental education and outreach. Membership dues are as follows. Please check your preference and mail to: Southern Maryland Audubon Society, P.O. Box 181, Bryans Road, MD 20616.

Chapter-Only (SMAS) Membership

Make check payable to: Southern Maryland Audubon Society.
Individual/Family: 1 yr \$20 2 yr \$38 3 yr \$56 Lifetime \$500

National Audubon Society Membership

Make check payable to: National Audubon Society.
Note Chapter Code #C9ZL000Z on check.
Introductory Offer: 1 yr \$20

FREE EVENTS

Southern Maryland Audubon Society



2015 FALL FIELD TRIPS AND PROGRAMS

Find us on...



www.somdaudubon.org

*All Southern Maryland Audubon Society
program events are open to
members and the general public.*

September 2 – WEDNESDAY – 7:30-9:00 p.m.

MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAM

Charlotte Hall Library, St. Mary's County

37600 New Market Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

**A Southern MD Audubon Feathered Friend Film:
"The Lost Bird Project"**

Gone and nearly forgotten in extinction, the Labrador Duck, the Great Auk, the Heath Hen, the Carolina Parakeet, and the Passenger Pigeon leave holes in our collective memories. *The Lost Bird Project* film follows the road-trip sculptor Todd McGrain and his brother-in-law, Andy Stern, take as they search for the locations where extinct birds were last seen in the wild and negotiate for permission to install McGrain's large bronze sculptures there. This is a film about public art, extinction and memory. Witness an elegy to five extinct North American birds in a thoughtful, moving, and sometimes humorous look at the artist and his mission. Mingling and refreshments start at 7:00 p.m.

September 13 – SUNDAY – 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon

FIELD TRIP

Naval Air Station Patuxent River,

St. Mary's County

21967 Cuddihy Road, Patuxent River, MD 20670

"GRASSPIPERS"

Leader: Kyle Rambo

This trip will visit some excellent grassland habitat on restricted access runways. Target species include Buff-breasted Sandpiper and American Golden-Plover. Meet in the parking lot at NAS Gate #1. We are limited to 10 participants, and PRE-REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY. RSVP by the 10th. Contact kyle.rambo@navy.mil or 301-757-0005. US citizens only, photo ID required.

September 19 – SATURDAY – 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon

FIELD TRIP

Point Lookout State Park, St. Mary's County

11175 Point Lookout Road, Scotland, MD 20687

"MIGRATION ON THE POINT"

Leader: Tyler Bell

Join us at Southern Maryland's premier birding hotspot as fall migrants funnel south to cross the Chesapeake Bay and the Potomac River. Loblolly pines, mixed hardwoods, beaches, marshes and broad water

views regularly deliver a wide variety of species and occasional rarities. From Lexington Park drive south on Rte. 235 for 13 miles. Go left on Rte. 5 for 5 miles to the end. Meet leader at park entrance parking lot. Fee area. RSVP to Tyler at 301-862-4623 or jtylberbell@yahoo.com

September 26 - SATURDAY – 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon

FIELD TRIP

Calvert Cliffs State Park, Calvert County

10540 H G Trueman Road, Lusby, MD 20657

"FALL MIGRATION"

Leader: Judy Ferris and Jan Degeneffe

Neotropical migrants should be near their peak. Warblers, tanagers, grosbeaks, and other songbirds. Good trails through wooded habitat and along the creek. Take Rt. 2/4 south of Prince Frederick for about 14 miles. Follow signs to the park. Meet leaders in parking lot. Facilities and fee, 3 mile round trip. RSVP by the 25th to Judy at jferris11@gmail.com or 410-326-1965.

September 27 – SUNDAY – 8:00 a.m. – 11 a.m.

FIELD TRIP

Sotterley Plantation, St. Mary's County

44300 Sotterley Plantation, Hollywood, MD 20636

**"BIRDING THE FIELDS AND
TRAILS OF SOTTERLEY"**

Leaders: David Moulton and Michael Patterson

Join us for a fall excursion to this scenic and historic Patuxent River property. Bald Eagles, migrant songbirds and lingering meadowlarks and sparrows can be found via Sotterley's trails and river views. Directions: From Rte. 235, go north on Sotterley Road, turn right through gates to the Sotterley Plantation visitors' center parking lot. RSVP by the 26th to David at moulton.davidh@gmail.com or 240-278-4473.

October 3 – SATURDAY – 8:00 a.m. – 12 Noon

FIELD TRIP

Cove Point Beach and Marsh, Calvert County

Exact location and directions given upon reservation

**"SHARP-TAILED SPARROWS
AND MIGRANTS"**

Leader: Bob Boxwell

Cove Point beach and marsh is a unique habitat on the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay. A living shoreline project is helping to restore the fresh water marsh from salt water incursion. We will target sparrows, marsh inhabitants and migrants. This is a restricted area; directions will be given upon reservation, limited to ten guests. RSVP by September 30th to Bob at bobboxwell@hotmail.com or 443-404-5549.

October 7 – WEDNESDAY – 7:30-9:00 p.m.

MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAM

Calvert County Fairview Branch Library

8120 Southern Maryland Boulevard,

Owings, MD 20736

"Sri Lanka – Exploration of a Biodiversity Hotspot"

Dr. Gwen Brewer, *Ecologist*, and

George Jett, *Naturalist/ Photographer*

Lying within the Indomalaya ecozone, Sri Lanka is one of 25 biodiversity hotspots in the world. Although the country is relatively small in size, it has the highest biodiversity density in Asia. Come and enjoy our favorite local Audubon pair as they present their latest travel finds. Come early at 7:00 p.m. for refreshments and mingling. Presentation begins at 7:30 p.m.

October 10 – SATURDAY – 8:00 a.m. – 12 Noon

FIELD TRIP

Indian Head Rail Trail, Charles County

MD Rte. 224, Mason Springs Parking Lot

"RED-HEADS AND MIGRANTS"

Leader(s): Michael Patterson and Lynne Wheeler

There are areas on the Indian Head Rail Trail (IHRT) that provide us with one of the best hot spots in the region for Red-headed Woodpeckers. This fall trip enables you to enjoy hearing the chatter of Red-headed juveniles and of course the fun of fall warbler identification. Meet /park at the parking lot off of MD Rte. 224 and the IHRT (just east of MD Rte. 225). NO RSVP required. This is an open field trip to enable last minute joining. Inquiries to Lynne at comstockel@aol.com.

October 17 – SATURDAY – 8:00 a.m. – 12 Noon

FIELD TRIP

Elms Environmental Education Center,

St. Mary's County

49300 St. James Road, Dameron, MD 20628

"BIRDING 101"

Leader(s): Bob Boxwell and Margarita Rochow

Calling on all wannabe birders!! **Youths Welcome!!** Are you tired of wondering and saying "What bird is that?" Do you want to get better at knowing what birds you are seeing? Birding 101 is the field trip for you! The more you walk the walk, the better you become! The location at the Elms Environmental Education Center offers a great habitat for birds. Dean and Margarita will point out helpful identification points such as: bird bill and facial markings, plumage details, field marks, flight patterns, sound, behavior, and habitat and seasonal expectation. Learn about birding apps too. Call or email Bob to register: bobboxwell@hotmail.com or 443-404-5549.

October 31 – SATURDAY – 12:00-3:00 p.m.

FIELD TRIP

Mallows Bay Park, Charles County

1440 Wilson Landing Road, Nanjemoy, MD 20662

"BOO!! THE GHOSTS OF MALLOWS BAY"

Youths Welcome

Leader(s): Lynne Wheeler

What better way to enjoy Halloween than to visit the "Ghost Fleet" of Mallows Bay and scare up some birds! Walk with the Southern Maryland Audubon Society at Mallows Bay Park and learn about shipwrecks, archaeological sites, and wildlife all situated in a unique wetland, woodland and aquatic habitat which includes an evolving ecosystem. Come and enjoy the numerous Osprey and Bald Eagles soaring above along with a discussion of the history of the fleet. The trip will include a bird walk on the parks one-mile trail where we will look for migrants, final peaks of our summer friends, and welcome in our winter residents. RSVP to Lynne up to 10:00 a.m. Saturday at comstockel@aol.com or 301-751-8097.

November 4 – WEDNESDAY – 7:30-9:00 p.m.

MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAM

Charlotte Hall Library, St. Mary's County

37600 New Market Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

"Behind the Scenes –

Maryland /DC Records Committee"

Phil Davis, *Secretary, MD/DC Records Committee*

Phil Davis has been the Secretary of the MD/DC Records Committee for 20 years. In his presentation, he first addresses some obligatory "dull" records committee topics, including the history, role, and functions of the committee. Next, he segues into describing the committee's "historical canvass" and shares intriguing images of and anecdotes about some of our region's more unusual and interesting records. Finally, in a masterful crescendo, he divulges some behind the scenes "dirty little secrets" with some tales of MD and DC's little-known vintage records that will eventually comprise the committee's future publication, *The History of the Rare Birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia*. Come early at 7:00 p.m. for refreshments. Presentation begins at 7:30 p.m.

*Please check our website
prior to attending any event
in case of cancellation.*