

November 19 - SUNDAY - 8:00 a.m. - 12 noon

FIELD TRIP

Mattawoman Wildlands, Marbury, Charles County
“EARLY WATERFOWL AND LATE MIGRANTS
ON THE GEORGE WILMOT TRAIL”

Leader: Lynne Wheeler

This is a joint trip with the Audubon Naturalist Society and the Southern MD Audubon Society. We usually expect large concentrations of waterfowl on the Mattawoman Creek, along with songbirds, woodpeckers (some red-headed), and raptors. Meet at Lackey High School parking lot, 3000 Chicamuxen Road, Indian Head, MD 20640 at 7:45 a.m. 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. Make reservation with Lynne at 301-751-8097 (prefer text) or somdaudubon@yahoo.com.

December 1 - FRIDAY - 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

FIELD TRIP – YOUTHS WELCOME!

Myrtle Point Park, St. Mary’s County
“WINTER OWL PROWL ON MYRTLE POINT”

Leader: Bob Boxwell

This trip is co-sponsored with the Friends of Myrtle Point Park and is an annual event which attempts to “call out” the resident owls of the park. Owls are nocturnal, and therefore, not easy to spot. We will meet in front of the park gates and attempt to attract owls by having them respond to recorded calls. Please dress for the weather, but avoid “noisy” clothing (please no snowsuits!). This event is weather dependent. Rain or high winds will result in cancellation, so please RSVP with good phone/email address. To find Myrtle Point Park, take Rt. 4 in St. Mary’s County to Patuxent Boulevard, and follow to the end. RSVP to Bob Boxwell at (410)-610-5124, or Bobboxwell@hotmail.com.

December 6 – WEDNESDAY – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAM

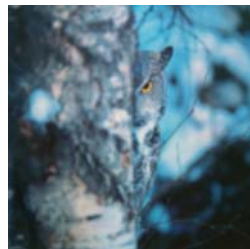
Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park Education Center,
Prince George’s County

3400 Bryan Point Rd, Accokeek, MD 20607

“OWLS IN MYTH AND CULTURE – A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE”

DAVID H. JOHNSON, Director, Global Owl Project (GLOW)

Every society on earth has myths and legends about owls. What people believe about owls makes a difference in how they protect and conserve owls. The GLOW project interviewed about 6,000 people in 30 countries, using a 4-page interview form translated into 18 languages. The answers gave remarkable and wildly varied insights about the current ecological knowledge and cultural perspectives about owls. In this presentation our speaker will describe the methods, cultural insights, and powerful results of the projects findings. Attendees will find that this is a ‘deep dive’ into the beliefs about owls. The Global Owl Project (GLOW) is a non-profit consortium of some 450 researchers, museum curators, MS & PhD students, and passionate volunteers working in 65 countries on the science and conservation of owls. Light refreshments and mingling start at 7 p.m. Public invited. Inquiries to Lynne Wheeler, somdaudubon@yahoo.com. or 301-751-8097 (prefer text). Directions: see accokeekfoundation.org>visit>location>directions.



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.

2017-2018 OFFICERS

President, Lynne Wheeler
301-743-3236, 301-751-8097
Secretary, Julie Daniel
240-346-1931

Vice-President, Bob Lukinic
301-283-6317
Treasurer, Will Daniel
571-237-1122

Past President, Michael Patterson
301-752-5763

DIRECTORS

Tim Wells
(301) 643-0928
Margarita Rochow
(240) 577-1748
Carole Schnitzler
(301) 266-3966

Tiffany Farrell
(301) 609-1345
Julie Simpson
(301) 743-9243
Lee Vines
(301) 752-4976

COMMITTEES

- Archives** Lynne Wheeler
- Bird-Friendly Communities** SMAS Board
- Conservation** Chair: Bob Lukinic
Calvert County – Bob Boxwell
Charles County – Bob Lukinic
Prince George’s County – Millie Kriemelmeier
St. Mary’s County – Greg Klesch
- Education** Chair: Nicole Patterson
Charles County – Jean Artes
St. Mary’s County – Hester Burch
Calvert County – Sue Hamilton
Prince George’s County – Millie Kriemelmeier
- Field Trips** David Moulton
- Finance** Nancy Megas
- Fundraising** **Open**
- Hospitality** Robbi Ross
- Membership** Lynne Wheeler
- Newsletter Editor** Tyler Bell
- Programs** Tiffany Farrell
- Publicity** Nancy Megas
- Raptor Conservation** Mike Callahan
- Adopt-a-Raptor** Carole Schnitzler
- Social Media** Nancy Megas
- SMAS Special Advisor** Carol Gheblian
- Youth Outreach** Chair: Lee Vines

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. Or you can visit our website and Join, Renew, or Donate via PayPal.

Local Chapter-Only (SMAS) Membership

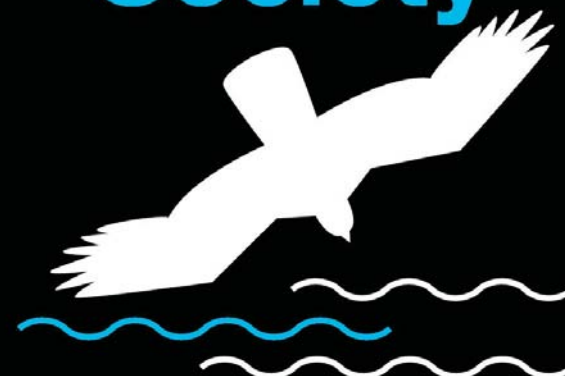
Make check payable to: Southern Maryland Audubon Society.
Individual/Family: 1 yr \$20 2 yr \$35 3 yr \$45 Lifetime \$500

National Audubon Society (NAS) Membership

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

FREE EVENTS

Southern Maryland
Audubon Society



2017

SEPT-DEC
FIELD TRIPS
AND
PROGRAMS

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www.somdaudubon.org

Southern Maryland Audubon Society

Field Trips, Programs, Meetings & Events

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

September 6 – WEDNESDAY –
7:30 p.m. – 9:00 pm

MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAM

College of Southern Maryland,
La Plata Campus, Charles County
8730 Mitchell Road, La Plata, MD 20646
Business Classroom Bldg, Room 106
“THE DEVASTATING EFFECT
OF FREE-RANGING CATS”
PETER MARRA, *Conservation*

Ecologist, Director, Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center

Members of the birding and conservation community have long suspected that free-ranging cats pose a threat to birds and other wildlife. Little did we know that they also threaten the health of countless people around the globe, and pose a management conundrum that's nearly as contentious as the debate over climate change. “Cat Wars: The Devastating Consequences of a Cuddly Killer,” a book he co-authored with Chris Santella. He explores the science of cat predation, extinction and feline-borne diseases, as well as the legal, political and ethical considerations surrounding the issue. Light refreshments and mingling start at 7 p.m. Public invited. Inquiries to Lynne Wheeler, somdaudubon@yahoo.com, or 301-751-8097 (prefer text).

September 10 – SUNDAY – 8 a.m. – 12 noon
FIELD TRIP

Patuxent River Naval Air Station, St. Mary's County
21866 Cedar Point, 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 – contact kyle.rambo@navy.mil, 301-757-0005. Open only to US citizens. Must bring a photo ID.

September 16 - SATURDAY – 8 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 jtylerbell@yahoo.com.



September 17 – SUNDAY – 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
SPECIAL FUNDRAISER EVENT - AUDUBON ADVENTURE TOUR
“A Taste of History, Nature, Food and Wine”
Rosaryville State Park, Mount Airy Mansion and Romano
Winery, Prince George's County

Please join us for our fundraising adventure combining many of our favorite things! Our day begins with a private tour of historic Mount Airy Mansion, followed by visit to Chesapeake Natives plant nursery, where we will learn about native plants of our ecoregion. We then take a leisurely bird and nature walk around the park. Afterward we head to Romano Winery for a wine tasting and Mediterranean cuisine lunch. Tickets: \$40 per person/ \$75 per couple. See our website for more details at www.somdaudubon.org or email somdaudubon@yahoo.com.

September 23 – SATURDAY - 8 a.m. – 11:00 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 Rt. 235, go north on Sotterley Road; turn right through gates to the Sotterley Plantation visitors' center parking lot. RSVP to David at moulton.davidh@gmail.com or 240-278-4473.

September 23 – SATURDAY – 8 a.m. – 12 noon
FIELD TRIP – NEW PARK!

Port Tobacco River Park, Charles County
7685 Chapel Point Road, Port Tobacco, MD. 20677
“MULTI-HABITAT TRAILS – FIELDS, FORESTS AND WETLANDS”
Leaders: Lynne Wheeler

Join us for the very first bird walk at this fantastic new county park! It offers 4 miles of multi-habitat trails and multiple observation decks. Charles County Recreation, Parks & Tourism has granted just for us to check out this new park prior to its formal opening. Our peek at these trails has us very excited – they did a fabulous job! Come and walk the Eagle Trail, Butterfly Trail, Wetlands Trail, and the Pond Loop. RSVP to Lynne at somdaudubon@yahoo.com or 301-751-8097 (prefer text).

September 24 – SUNDAY – 8 a.m. – 12 noon
FIELD TRIP

Calvert Cliffs State Park, Calvert County
9500 H.G. Trueman Parkway, Lusby, MD 20657
“FALL MIGRATION”

Leaders: Judy Ferris and Jan Degeneffe

Neotropical migrants should be near their peak. We expect to see 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 to Judy at 410-326-1965 or jferris11@gmail.com



October 1 – SUNDAY – 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 and we are limited to ten guests. RSVP by September 28th to Bob at 443-610-5124, bobboxwell@hotmail.com

October 4 – WEDNESDAY – 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAM

Kings Landing Park, Tom Wisner Hall, Calvert County
3255 Kings Landing Road, Huntingtown, MD 20639
“RADAR ANALYSIS OF NE U.S.
FALL BIRD MIGRATION STOPOVER SITES”

DEANNA DAWSON, *Wildlife Biologist, USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center*

Deanna will describe research conducted with University of Delaware collaborators that uses data collected by weather surveillance radars in U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Region 5 (the 13 states from Virginia north to Maine) to map landbird use of stopover sites during the fall migration. Learn about this research which supports the idea that preserving existing patches of natural habitats, particularly forests, in developed landscapes and in coastal areas should be a conservation priority to address the stopover requirements of migrant landbirds. Light refreshments and mingling start at 7 p.m. Public invited. Inquiries to Lynne Wheeler, somdaudubon@yahoo.com or 301-751-8097 (prefer text).

October 7 – SATURDAY – 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
FIELD TRIP

Mallows Bay Park, Charles County
1440 Wilson Landing Road, Nanjemoy, MD 20662
“GET INTO MALLOWS BAY”

Leader(s): Lynne Wheeler and Tiffany Farrell

Come and spend an afternoon for a special event prepared by the Friends of Mallows Bay. We are joining in with a one hour bird walk to help kick off an afternoon of scheduled events. No registration required. Youths welcome. Binoculars will be available. Inquiries to Lynne Wheeler, somdaudubon@yahoo.com or 301-751-8097 (prefer text).

October 14 – 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. Bob 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. Directions: 49300 St. James Road, Dameron, MD 20628. Take Rt 235

south, then left onto St. James Church road (opposite Mattapany Road). You will see the sign for the Elms Environmental Education Center. We will meet in the “hunter's parking lot” on the right about 100 yards before the gate. RSVP to Bob Boxwell at 410-610-5124, or Bobboxwell@hotmail.com.

October 22– SUNDAY – 8 am – 12 noon
FIELD TRIP

Newtowne Neck State Park, St. Mary's County
Church address: 21370 Newtowne Neck Road,
Leonardtown, MD 20650
“BIRDING NEWTOWNE'S FIELDS, FORESTS AND BAYS”

Leader: David Moulton

A peninsula defined by Breton Bay, the Potomac River and St. Clements Bay, this 776-acre property of woodlands, wetlands and agricultural fields offers a wide variety of birding habitats. Newtowne was the first settlement in the Maryland province after St. Mary's City. Owned for nearly 3 centuries by the Jesuits, the land was reclaimed as a state park in 2009 to protect it from development. Take Rte. 5 West from Leonardtown. Turn left (south) on Rte. 243 (Newtowne Neck Road) go about 4 miles to a small parking lot on the left just after entering the park. RSVP to David Moulton at 240-278-4473 or moulton.davidh@gmail.com.

October 28 – SATURDAY – 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
FIELD TRIP – YOUTH TRIP

Mallows Bay Park, Charles County
1440 Wilson Landing Road, Nanjemoy, MD 20662
“BOO!! THE GHOSTS OF MALLOWS BAY”

Leader: Lee Vines

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 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, snatch final peeks at our summer friends, and welcome in our winter residents. RSVP to Lee at leevines3@gmail.com (preferred) or 301-752-4976.

November 1 – WEDNESDAY – 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAM – YOUTHS WELCOME

Mount Aventine at Chapman State Park, Charles County
3452 Ferry Place, Indian Head, MD 20640
“HAPPY OWL-O-WEEN”

MIKE CALLAHAN, *Raptor Conservation Committee Chair, Environmental Educator*

Be a night owl this Halloween. Join us for a night about owls. In today's culture, owls are strongly associated with Halloween alongside the black cat and the witch on her broomstick. So, in honor of the upcoming festivities of All Hallow's Eve, please come and commune with this fabulous bird species. See website for additional details. Public invited. Inquiries to Lynne Wheeler, somdaudubon@yahoo.com, or 301-751-8097 (prefer text).

