

## South Mountain Airs

### The Newsletter of the South Mountain Audubon Society

August – September 2017, Volume XXXVIII #3 – The E-mail Edition

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

##### **Monday August 14th** - - South Mountain Audubon Society (SMAS) Annual Picnic

SMAS members Kathy King and Mike Bertram are hosting our annual picnic this year.

All are welcome to arrive anytime after 5:00 PM and the picnic dinner will begin at 6:00 PM. Please bring a dish to share, your drink(s) of choice, and a place setting for all in your group.

Also, don't forget to psych yourselves up for the "Annual SMAS Bean Bag Competition!"

PLEASE RSVP to Mike Bertram at [mike@the2nomads.org](mailto:mike@the2nomads.org) if you plan to attend.

Directions to the Bertram-King home are attached. Hope to see you at the picnic!

#### UPCOMING REGULAR MEETINGS

Unless indicated otherwise, all SMAS Programs are held at the Adams County Agricultural Resource Center, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg, PA . Refreshments, when served, are usually available at 7 PM with a social time followed by the scheduled program / presentation at 7:30PM. A room number for the SMAS meeting will be posted on the front lobby entry inner door.

We've posted the information on our total activities' schedule throughout the year at the end of this edition. Please let the Leader know in advance if you plan to attend any field trip, especially if you plan to go direct. Trips are subject to weathering out, especially in the colder months, or otherwise being changed. In addition, if we have only one or two known attendees, we may cancel or reschedule a given field trip. We cannot alert you unless we hear from you.

##### **Monday September 18th** - - Drones & Birds - How Unmanned Aerial Vehicles are changing Ornithology Presented by Andy Wilson.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, better known as drones, are a rapidly emerging technology that will impact many aspects of our lives in the near future. Mr. Wilson will provide a brief overview of the many applications of drones in the study of birds. He will report on an innovative study conducted by Gettysburg Students to test the feasibility of using drones to count songbirds, He hopes to convince you that this isn't as silly a proposition as it sounds!

**Monday October 16th** - - The status of the Ruffed Grouse and other ground-nesting birds presented by Lisa Williams of the Pennsylvania Game Commission.



Photo by Cheryl Miller.

### UPCOMING Bird Walks and Field Trips

**Friday August 11th** - - Bird Walk at Oakside Park, 2880 Table Rock Rd (Route 394), Biglerville, PA

Meet at the parking lot off Route 394 at 8:00 AM. Any questions - contact Mike Bertram via email. If you are without on-line / E-mail capability, Mike's phone number is (717) 352-7936

**Friday September 8th** - - Bird Walk at Oakside Park, Biglerville.

Meet at the parking lot off Route 394; time: 8:00 AM. Any questions - contact Mike Bertram via email at [mike@the2nomads.org](mailto:mike@the2nomads.org) (Telephone number above)

**Friday October 13th** - - Bird Walk at Oakside Park, Biglerville.

Meet at the parking lot off Route 394; time: 8 AM. Any questions - contact Mike Bertram at [mike@the2nomads.org](mailto:mike@the2nomads.org) / (717) 352-7936

**Thursday October 26th to 28th** - - Visit to Audubon and Tinicum (John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge) near Philadelphia. 3 day trip with 2 over nights.

Please contact Mike Bertram at [mike@the2nomads.org](mailto:mike@the2nomads.org) / (717) 352-7936 for details, questions, etc.

**Saturday December 17th** - **Annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC)** - Gettysburg Areas

All are invited and welcome to join SMAS for the 2017 CBC. Complete information will appear in the 4th Quarter SMAS newsletter under upcoming events

**HEY!! Checkout our South Mountain Audubon Society Website!!!**

SMAS has a Website which is being added to on a regular basis.

The home page has some general information and synopses of Chapter activities as well as a number of links to other informational aspects. These include the Calendar, Board members and officers, Chapter meeting minutes, current and archival newsletter editions, and links to a number of other Adams County organizations as well as

other county, state and national groups and organizations.

We are also working to put up some location specific area checklists. Many of these are in place. All are encouraged to offer suggestions on what you would like to see on the website. Contact info is on the site.

### Accessing the SMAS Newsletter

A great feature of having the Newsletter on-line and receiving it via e-mail, is that you can always access a misplaced or discarded issue at a future date. You can access the Newsletter in several ways.

First, if you do not routinely discard your emails or you retain selected items in your in-box or transfer them to a saved information folder or similar, you can always access them at a future date on your own system. You can also print out a hard copy and keep it for quick reference.

And, of course, per information above re the new SMAS Website, you can reference current & past issues there.

### SMAS Annual Schedule Information

Regular SMAS Monthly Program Meetings are usually held Jan / Mar / May / June / Sept / Oct / Nov.

Unless indicated otherwise, all meetings are held on third Mondays of the month at 7:30 PM at the Adams County Agricultural Center. We have a social time from 7:00 to 7:30 PM, usually with refreshments available. Please see complete information at the beginning of this and every Newsletter in case there is any variation by quarter. Please check individual programs in each issue in the event of a change in times and / or venue.

Field Trips are normally held monthly in Feb / Mar / April / May / Jun / Sept / Oct / Nov. In December we substitute the annual Christmas Bird Count for the monthly field trip.

Some of these monthly field trips traditionally repeat each year, such as the Christmas Bird Count and the Migration Count in May. We usually go to a nearby hawk watch site in late September or early October.

The Annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC) is held by design between 14 Dec and 5 Jan. For SMAS, this is in lieu of a regular field trip. We schedule our SMAS CBC on the first available Saturday after 13 Dec. In the event of really bad weather, we may cancel and reschedule.

The Annual Luncheon has been traditionally held in April, in lieu of the regular monthly meeting.

Our SMAS Annual Picnic and get together is held in August on the second or third Monday. This is "Bring A Dish" to share and the kickoff is 5 PM with dinner at 6 PM. In addition to bringing a dish to share, attendees should bring their own place setting materials as well as their drink(s) of choice. See the information below in this Newsletter edition for details on times and directions.

All meetings, field trips and other activities are subject to weathering out or other cancellation reasons. If you are on our email list (receiving our Newsletters and other information) you will get an email notification as soon as the decision is made. Otherwise, if there is some question based on the weather or some other issue, please contact the field trip leader or someone from the list of Board Members / Committee Chairpersons applicable to your question(s).

## OTHER SMAS RELATED INFORMATION

<u>Board Members</u>	Point of Contact	Telephone	Email address
President	Linette Mansberger	495-8137	Lmcopperhead@aol.com
Vice-President	Deb Siefken	677-4830	<a href="mailto:siefkend@embarqmail.com">siefkend@embarqmail.com</a>
Secretary	Kathy Gelner (202)	471-0300	<a href="mailto:klgelner@hotmail.com">klgelner@hotmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Mike Bertram	352-7936	<a href="mailto:the2nomads@centurylink.net">the2nomads@centurylink.net</a>
<u>Directors At Large</u>	Nancy Locher	334-4768	<a href="mailto:nclocher@embarqmail.com">nclocher@embarqmail.com</a>
	Jon Griffiths	334-3824	<a href="mailto:griffjon630@gmail.com">griffjon630@gmail.com</a>
	Cy Deitz	253-0297	<a href="mailto:sdeitz1630@comcast.net">sdeitz1630@comcast.net</a>
	Carole Simon	337-1662	<a href="mailto:carolesimon@embarqmail.com">carolesimon@embarqmail.com</a>
<u>Committee Chairs</u>			
Education	Betsy Griffiths	334-3824	elizabeth.griffiths@stockton.edu
Field Trip/Birdwalks	Various individuals		
Membership	Mike O'Brien	642-6676	<a href="mailto:maddogobrien@gmail.com">maddogobrien@gmail.com</a>
Publicity	Cynthia Chambers	624-5504	<a href="mailto:cynthiachambers@embarqmail.com">cynthiachambers@embarqmail.com</a>
Newsletter	Mike O'Brien	642-6676	<a href="mailto:maddogobrien@gmail.com">maddogobrien@gmail.com</a>
Conservation	Vacant		
Programs	Vacant		