

## **South Mountain Airs**

**The Newsletter of the South Mountain Audubon Society**

**April – June 2018, Volume XXXIX #2 – The E-mail Edition**

### UPCOMING BIRD RELATED / OTHER EVENTS

#### **SMAS Annual Luncheon**

**It's Not Too Late** to sign up for the annual SMAS Luncheon.

The luncheon will be held at our traditional site, the Hickory Bridge Farm Restaurant located in Orrtanna, PA, on Saturday 21 April; meal at 12 Noon; social time at 11:30 AM.

You may have received an earlier email regarding the SMAS Luncheon with a sign up / information flyer. That flyer is again provided, in .pdf format, as a separate attachment to the email for this Newsletter edition.

Upon receipt of this, you should have time to return the sign-up form and make your payment. If it gets too close to the luncheon date to depend on the regular mail and you want to attend, you can also call the phone number on the flyer for the Point of Contact, Deb Siefken, to sign up and let us know you want to attend and are sending the form and payment to us. You may be able to make arrangements to pay at the door. We have to provide the restaurant a head count to allow the correct number of meals to be prepared and we are then on the hook to pay.

We will have a program presentation at the luncheon titled “Journey Across South Africa: From Penquins to Leopards” presented by Linnette Mansberger of SMAS. See attached flyer for more information.

All are cordially invited to attend.

#### **International Migratory Bird Day**

What is International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD)?

IMBD celebrates and brings attention to one of the most important and spectacular events in the Americas – bird migration. IMBD is a Western Hemisphere-wide event and is celebrated in Canada, the United States, Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. Held each year on the second Saturday in May, this year it will be on May 12th, 2018.

This IMBD date is also used for the Pennsylvania Migration Count (the PAMC), Pennsylvania's way of celebrating IMBD. People all over the state count birds and the totals are collected to form a “Snapshot” of the great spectacle of migration across our portion of the Americas. Virtually every county and province in every country carry out some type of celebratory event, festival, or other undertaking on this day. No matter where you are on this day you can find an IMBD event taking place. Just go to your internet browser and type in International Bird Day (optionally add 2018 to limit the search to current items) and you can find myriad goings-on across the country and beyond. For more information on IMBD, the url for the IMBD Home Page is:  
<http://www.birdday.org/>

BUT, you can join us right here in the Gettysburg area. The South Mountain Audubon Society (SMAS) counts our local birds right here adjacent to downtown Gettysburg on the Spangler Spring portion of the Gettysburg National Battlefield and elsewhere across the region. See details below under field trips.

## Earth Day

This year Earth Day is Sunday April 22nd, 2018. Founded in 1970 as a day of education about environmental issues, Earth Day is now a globally celebrated holiday that is sometimes extended into Earth Week, a full seven days of events focused on green awareness. The brainchild of Senator Gaylord Nelson and inspired by the antiwar protests of the late 1960s, Earth Day was originally aimed at creating a mass environmental movement. It began as a "national teach-in on the environment" and was held on April 22 to maximize the number of students that could be reached on university campuses. By raising public awareness of air and water pollution, Nelson hoped to bring environmental causes into the national spotlight. Earth day has continued to grow and is now recognized and participated in around the planet.

Please become more attuned to this area and its related issues. Just go to your internet browser and type in Earth Day and surf some of the wealth of available information.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS

Unless indicated otherwise, all SMAS Programs are held at the Adams County Agricultural Resource Center, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg, PA . Usually, there is social time and light refreshments from 7:00 to 7:30 PM. The program presentation is at 7:30 PM. 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 at the end of this edition.

## UPCOMING SMAS MONTHLY PROGRAMS

### Saturday April 21st - **SMAS Annual Luncheon**

We do not have April Program meetings as we hold our annual SMAS club luncheon in April. It is held on a Saturday at noon, not a Monday evening. See general info on the luncheon above and on an attached or embedded flyer. We do have a program presentation / speaker(s) at the luncheon. See attached flyer for this info.

### Monday May 21st - **"Dare 2B Tick Aware" – A PA Lyme Prevention Program**

This program, sponsored and presented by the PA Lyme Resources Network, will cover ticks and tick-borne diseases, how to prevent tick bites, recognition of early Lyme Disease symptoms, how to seek help, and much more.



Monday June 18th - **“Hawk Mountain, American Kestrel Nest Box Program”**

Ph.D.Biology. Joined Hawk Mountain in 2011.

After completing an academic internship with Hawk Mountain in the fall of 2002, JF returned nine years later as Senior Research Biologist. He now leads the Sanctuary’s research projects in the Arctic and is also involved in several studies including the movement ecology of New World Vultures and Peregrine Falcons across the Americas.

When he's not monitoring the long-term American Kestrel Nest-box Program or helping with the migration counts from the Sanctuary’s lookout, JF can be found teaching statistics to Sanctuary trainees and enjoying life with his wife and two young children.

### **Jean-Francois Therrien, Ph.D.**



**Senior Research Biologist**

570-943-3411 x104 or [therrien@hawkmountain.org](mailto:therrien@hawkmountain.org)

#### UPCOMING SMAS FIELD TRIPS and BIRD WALKS

**Wednesday April 18th** - **Michaux State Forest Michener Cabin**

Meet at 8:00 AM at Mike Bertram and Kathy King's residence.

**Saturday April 28th** - **Oakside Park**

Meet at 8:00 AM at the park near Biglerville, PA

**Saturday May 5th** - **Spring Migration Bird Walk at Harrisburg State Hospital.** Info below.

Don Gilbert, who works and birds in Harrisburg on almost a daily basis, will lead us on a spring migration walk at the Harrisburg State Hospital on Saturday, May 5. (Rain date is Sunday, May 6.) Don has sighted well over 120 species of birds on this campus, including 28 species of warblers. Time permitting, we will also stop at Wildwood for additional birding.

Tentative plans are to carpool, leaving the Gettysburg area around 6 AM. Please reply to [southmountainaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:southmountainaudubon@gmail.com) or to Linette at 717-495-8137 if you plan to attend. Specific meeting times and places will be announced after the number of participants has been determined. Preregistering for this trip is important - even if your participation is not definite.

**Saturday May 8th** - **Michaux State Forest Milesburn Road**

Meet at 8:00 AM at Mike Bertram and Kathy King's residence.

**Saturday May 12th** - **Spangler Spring Area At Gettysburg National Military Park (GNMP)**

Meet at 7 AM at the Spangler Spring area, GNMP.

May 12th is International Migratory Bird Day and SMAS participates with the Pennsylvania Migration Count (PAMC) at the Spangler Spring area.

Turn right off Middle Street at its intersection with Liberty Street in Gettysburg and go one short block to a left at the park entry. Follow the one-way road to the Spangler Spring parking area. This outing is a SMAS tradition coinciding with International Migratory Bird Day (See above). Easy walking on mostly paved areas. We'll be there into the afternoon, so depending on your schedule, you can always join us anytime beyond the stated start time. Bring a chair if you wish and hang out.

Do not forget personal items including food, drink and appropriate apparel. This is prime spring migration time and we should see a good selection of passerines and near-passerines as well as a mix of other species. Call the leader for additional information, clarification, or with any questions. Facilities should be open.

**Saturday May 18th** - **Michaux State Forest Michener Cabin**

Meet at 8:00 AM at Mike Bertram and Kathy King's residence.

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.

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

SMAS has a Website. 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. The url for the SMAS website is [southmountainaudubon.org](http://southmountainaudubon.org).

## 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.

Second, we archive the electronic edition on the internet at the following url: [perch.es](http://perch.es)

Simply copy the url and paste it into your browser search box or just type it in (Clicking usually will not work).

The first header that appears is for the current (most recent) issue. In addition, there is a heading, by year, for past quarter issues which we archive on the site. We have put the past issues here since we started the electronic edition.

Third, you can access it on the internet at the Yahoo.com Chat Group site, Adams County Nature Chat (AdCoNaChat). Presence of the information on this site may lag the Newsletter somewhat.

We post our SMAS field trips, meeting dates and topics, special events like an annual picnic, annual luncheon, and other club news on the calendar. There are directions uploaded to the files section for some areas we have trips to, and also, we often upload the species list from completed field trips and Christmas Bird Counts on the Files area.

You can access the AdCoNaChat web-site at the link provided below. This is the link to the home page and from there you can access posts and messages by members, the Calendar and Files section, and much more. Copy and paste the following url into your browser search box:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AdCoNaChat/>

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

### OTHER SMAS RELATED INFORMATION

<u>Board Members</u>	Point of Contact	Telephone	Email address
President	Linette Mansberger	495-8137	<a href="mailto:lmcopperhead@aol.com">lmcopperhead@aol.com</a>
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>
Director At Large	Nancy Locher	334-4768	<a href="mailto:nclocher@embarqmail.com">nclocher@embarqmail.com</a>
Director At Large	Jon Griffiths	334-3824	<a href="mailto:griffjon630@gmail.com">griffjon630@gmail.com</a>
Director At Large	Cy Deitz	253-0297	<a href="mailto:sdeitz1630@comcast.net">sdeitz1630@comcast.net</a>
Director At Large	Carole Simon	337-1662	<a href="mailto:carolesimon@embarqmail.com">carolesimon@embarqmail.com</a>
<u>Committee Chairs</u>			
Education	Betsy Griffiths	334-3824	<a href="mailto:elizabeth.griffiths@stockton.edu">elizabeth.griffiths@stockton.edu</a>
Conservation	Vacant		
Publicity	Kathy Gelner	(202) 471-0300	<a href="mailto:klgelner@hotmail.com">klgelner@hotmail.com</a>
Membership	Mike O'Brien	642-6676	<a href="mailto:maddogobrien@gmail.com">maddogobrien@gmail.com</a>
Programs	Vacant		
Newsletter	Mike O'Brien	642-6676	<a href="mailto:maddogobrien@gmail.com">maddogobrien@gmail.com</a>

## **SMAS Annual Schedule Information**

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

Unless indicated otherwise, are all meetings are held on Mondays at 7:30 PM at the Adams County Agricultural Center. 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 Jan / 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 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. Drinks and some type of main dish(es) will be provided. See the summer 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).