

South Mountain Airs

The Newsletter of the South Mountain Audubon Society

January – March 2019, Volume XXXIX #1 – The E-mail Edition

BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED!!

Please consider joining the South Mountain Audubon Society's board. Open positions are Publicity Chair, Program Chair and Field Trip Chair. You do not have to be an accomplished birder to fill the two positions. Field trip chair does take some knowledge about birds, seasons and habitats, but fellow board members are willing to help.

There are only 4-5 board meetings a year and attendance is not required but encouraged. If you have any questions about the responsibilities of these positions, please call Deb Siefken at 717-677-4830 or email her at siefkend@embarqmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Details and information are covered below, in order, based on the actual event dates and times.

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 and/or 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.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS and PRESENTATIONS

Monday, January 28th - BJ Small will provide a presentation from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

(Note that this meeting was moved from the third Monday to the last Monday in January, due to the Martin Luther King holiday on the 21st).

- Monday, March 11th** - Marci Mowery from the Pennsylvania Parks & Forest Foundation
- Ms. Mowery will be presenting on birding and kayaking in the State Parks. (Note that this meeting is the 2nd Monday in March due to other conflicts.)

UPCOMING BIRD WALKS and FIELD TRIPS

- Saturday, January 5th** - Bird Walk from Fuller Lake to Laurel Lake, Michaux State Park
- Meet in the parking lot at Fuller Lake at **8:30 AM**.
We will most likely move some cars to the Laurel Lake area and then shuttle participants back to Laurel Lake after the walk.
For questions or information, contact Deb Siefken at 717-677-4830 or siefken@embarqmail.com

- Tuesday, January 15th** - Bird Walk at Oakside Park, Biglerville, PA
- 2880 Table Rock Road (Route #394)
Meet at the parking lot off Route 394 at **9 AM**.
For questions or information, contact Deb Siefken at 717-677-4830 or siefken@embarqmail.com

- Thursday, January 24th** - Bird Walk at the former Gettysburg Country Club, Gettysburg, PA
- This will be a scouting trip for our February Field Trip where we will be partnering with the Gettysburg National Military Park to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count during Presidents' Weekend.
- Meet in the parking lot of the restaurant - Sidney at Willoughby Run - 730 Chambersburg Road, Gettysburg, PA at **8 AM**.
For questions or information, contact Deb Siefken at 717-677-4830 or siefken@embarqmail.com

- Saturday, February 9th** - Bird Walk at Oakside Park, Biglerville
- 2880 Table Rock Road (Route #394)
Meet at the parking lot off Route 394 at **9 AM**.
For questions or information, contact Deb Siefken at 717-677-4830 or siefken@embarqmail.com

Saturday, February 16th - Great Backyard Bird Count Hike at the former Gettysburg Country Club

South Mountain Audubon is partnering with the Gettysburg National Military Park to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count. Join us for this citizen science project!

Meet in the parking lot of the restaurant - "Sidney at Willoughby Run" - 730 Chambersburg Road, Gettysburg at **8 AM**.

For questions or information, contact Deb Siefken at 717-677-4830 or siefken@embarqmail.com

All of these walks are free and suitable for birders of all abilities, including beginners. None require preregistration. Note that the meeting times vary, so please check each listing for the correct time. We hope you will join us for some winter birding!

(Weather-related cancellations will be announced via email on the evening prior to the walk.)

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.

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	siefkend@embarqmail.com
Secretary	Kathy Gelner (202)	471-0300	klgelner@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Mike Bertram	352-7936	the2nomads@centurylink.net
<u>Directors At Large</u>	Nancy Locher	334-4768	nclocher@embarqmail.com
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	Carole Simon	337-1662	carolesimon@embarqmail.com
<u>Committee Chairs</u>			
Education	Betsy Griffiths	334-3824	elizabeth.griffiths@stockton.edu
Membership	Mike O'Brien	642-6676	maddogobrien@gmail.com
Publicity	Cynthia Chambers	624-5504	cynthiachambers@embarqmail.com
Newsletter	Mike O'Brien	642-6676	maddogobrien@gmail.com

Conservation and Programs Chairs are Vacant; Please consider volunteering for these positions.