



# Kingfisher Courier

MAY 2016

APPALACHIAN AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

## Proposed Changes to Chapter Constitution and Bylaws

by Paul Zeph

When AAS came into existence in the early 1970s, a Constitution and Bylaws document was created to state our mission and provide a set of operating instructions to ensure openness, fairness, and stability as a non-profit organization. Now, more than 40 years later, there are a number of procedures that need updating and some things that were left out of the first version that should be added.

Various AAS Boards have suggested changes over the years, so we have

taken their ideas, added a few of our own, and produced an improved document that we hope will help guide future AAS boards for many decades to come.

Two documents are available to help you review the proposed changes before our annual banquet: 1) a marked-up version of the Constitution and Bylaws showing additions and deletions; and 2) a shorter document that explains, section by section, why each change is needed. These two documents are available for

you to download or review on the AAS website, or you can obtain electronic or paper copies by contacting Kathy Kuchwara at [kathykatbird2@comcast.net](mailto:kathykatbird2@comcast.net), 761-2169, or 207 Conodoguinet Avenue, Camp Hill, PA, 17011.

There will be a member vote on these proposed changes at the AAS Banquet (our annual member meeting) on May 19. If you have questions regarding any of these changes, feel free to contact Paul Zeph, Bylaws Committee Chair, at [pzeph1@verizon.net](mailto:pzeph1@verizon.net) or 574-6668.

## Gardening — It's for the Birds

by Jane Webster

As habitat for wild birds shrinks, people are taking a second look at the wildlife value of their own yards. Birds eat not only berries and seeds, but also caterpillars and other insects that thrive on native plants.

Considering fossil fuel burned while mowing, chemicals used for maintenance of non-native plants, proliferation of invasive species, and storm water runoff from pavement and grasses with shallow roots, a well-manicured lawn looks more like a liability than an asset. You can address these problems by adding native plants to your yard.

Going native is becoming easier. DCNR has extensive planning resources at [iConservepa.org](http://iConservepa.org). County-based Master Gardener Programs offer free advice. The Cumberland County Master Gardeners' series "Gardening with Nature" is at the Frederickson Library in Camp Hill. A schedule and information are at <http://extension.psu.edu/plants/gardening/events/gardening-with-nature>.



Photo courtesy William B. Webster

### Following are the upcoming native plant sales in our area:

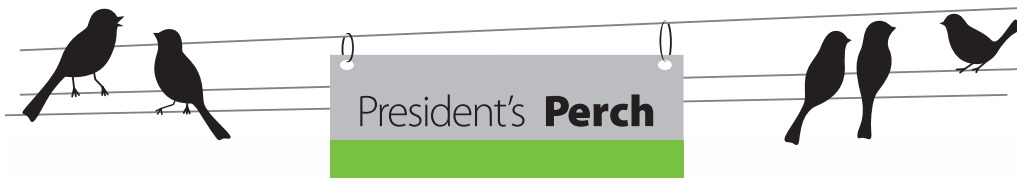
Saturday, May 7, 8:00am–4:00pm: Manada Conservancy, Schaffer Park, Hummelstown

Saturday, May 7, 10:00am–4:00pm and Sunday, May 8, 12:00–4:00pm: Friends of Kings Gap Native Plant Sale, Kings Gap Environmental Education Center

Saturday May 14, 8:30am–2:00pm: MAEscapes Native Plant Fest and Sale, County Annex, 112 Pleasant Acres Rd, York

Saturday, May 21, 8:00am–1:00pm: Master Gardener Plant Fest, Penn State Extension Building, 310 Allen Road, Carlisle

Saturday & Sunday, May 21 & 22, 10:00am–4:00pm: Hawk Mountain Native Garden & Plant Sales, Kempton



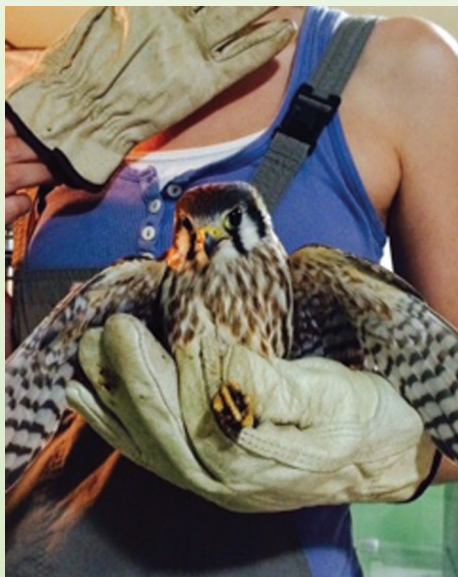
Each year our Board of Directors selects a birding and/or conservation cause that they designate as recipient of our Annual Appeal. This year the board has decided to break with tradition and name two recipients: Red Creek Wildlife Center, the only rehab center in the area for injured birds and other wildlife; and the LeTort Spring Run, a land protection purchase of 30 acres managed by the Central PA Conservancy. Both of these causes are important in different ways and deserve your consideration.

Red Creek provides a variety of services, including rehab of injured birds and other wildlife, rehabilitation training, and educational programs about wildlife. Operating Red Creek is costly, and it is totally dependent on donations to survive. It literally has made the difference between life and death for many animals.

It is well known that land use and protection has become an important issue for Central Pennsylvania. The LeTort Spring Run is known for its fly-fishing stream and perfect habitat for the proliferation of terrestrial insects that feed a variety of bird species. The land acquisition will protect its headwaters, wetland, meadow, and upland buffer. Other conservation organizations such as Trout Unlimited already have pledged their help in this acquisition.

Please consider making a gift to one or both of these designees. In different ways they contribute to the quality of the natural world of Central PA and help insure that those who come after us can still enjoy its beauty.

Thank You,  
Kathy Kuchwara



This juvenile female American Kestrel was found injured and severely malnourished in Swatara Township, Dauphin County. She was taken to Red Creek where she was successfully rehabbed and released.

*Photo courtesy Annette Mathes*



This photo shows the beauty of the Headwaters of LeTort Spring Run. If the CPC land acquisition is successful it will continue to provide much needed habitat for trout, birds and other wildlife.

*Photo courtesy Central PA Conservancy*

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**Publicity**  
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**Trout Run**  
Vacant

This is the last newsletter of the 2015–2016 year. The next issue, which will be the first for the 2016–2017, will be published in late August. Have an enjoyable summer.

# 2016 Appeal Designees

**Red Creek Wildlife Center** is a non-profit that is licensed to rehabilitate injured birds, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles. Located in Schuylkill County, Red Creek is the closest rehab to the AAS area that accepts a wide variety of species. This is where the Harrisburg Peregrine fledglings are taken if they require any care or monitoring. These valuable services, offered at no charge to the public, are supported by donations. Red Creek also provides training in the art of rehabilitation and presents educational programs about wildlife using animals that can't be released.

A 30-acre parcel at the headwaters of **LeTort Spring Run** in Carlisle is set to be protected by the Central PA Conservancy with financial support from Trout Unlimited and other sporting and conservation organizations. The acquisition will protect the headwaters of LeTort Spring Run and its wetland, meadow, and upland buffer. This renowned fly-fishing stream provides prime habitat for wild brown trout, while the surrounding land supports terrestrial insects that feed birds.

With the help of conservation-minded organizations like AAS and individuals like you, valuable land can be protected from development and injured wildlife will receive urgently needed care. Please consider joining other AAS members in support of protecting the headwaters of LeTort Spring Run and assisting Red Creek Wildlife Rehab.

## Yes, I want to support the Annual Appeal as designated below:

(If you are attending our Annual Banquet, you can make your donation on the banquet reservation form – see reverse.)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to donate to help Red Creek Wildlife Rehab \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to donate to help CPC protect the LeTort Spring Run Headwaters \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total included** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**100% of your contribution is tax-deductible.**

Mail this form, along with your check payable to

AAS (Appalachian Audubon Society), to:

John Latsha, AAS Treasurer, 827 Siddonsburg Road, Lewisberry, PA 17339

JOIN US ON MAY 19<sup>TH</sup> FOR THE  
*AAS Annual Banquet!*  
*Antarctic Odyssey*



Photo courtesy  
 Steve Rannels

A journey to the Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctic Peninsula was the realization of a long-time dream for Steve Rannels and his wife, Sharon. Along the way, they retraced some of the path of Sir Ernest Shackleton's epic 1915 journey in its centenary year. Known locally for his inspiring programs and beautiful photographs, Steve will present breathtaking pictures of colonies of King Penguins, Albatrosses, seals, and sea lions observed against the backdrop of icy mountains, glaciers, and icebergs.

Since childhood, Steve has had a fascination for insects. This interest has persisted and developed into an urge to understand the natural world, know its components, and understand its dynamic interrelationships. Steve and Sharon are active in local bird clubs and land conservation groups. His philosophy is to preserve as much of the environment as possible for all species.

Enjoy this memorable evening for only \$28 per person!

**Reservations required  
 by Thursday, May 12th.**

*When:* Thursday, May 19

6:00pm Silent Auction, Appetizers, Cash Bar (Doors won't open until 6:00 sharp!)  
 6:45pm Buffet Dinner, followed by a brief meeting and then the program

*Where:* West Shore Elks Lodge #2257

108 N. St. John's Church Road, Camp Hill, PA (Just off the Carlisle Pike, near Liebman's Furniture)  
 You are encouraged to car-pool if possible.

*Menu:*

Buffet dinner features Braised Roast Beef Burgundy, Golden Italian Marinated Chicken Breast, Rigatoni Marinara with Mushrooms & Fresh Basil, Fresh Steamed Vegetables, Mixed Greens Salad, Rolls, Beverages, and Dessert. Cash Bar.

**REMINDER – We can accept only cash or checks for auction item purchases.**

**AAS BANQUET RESERVATION FORM**

Must be received by Thursday, May 12th!

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please make reservations for \_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$28 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to donate to the AAS Annual Appeal:

Red Creek Wildlife Rescue Center \$ \_\_\_\_\_

LeTort Spring Run property acquisition \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total included** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form, along with your check payable to AAS (Appalachian Audubon Society), to:  
 John Latsha, AAS Treasurer, 827 Siddonsburg Road, Lewisberry, PA 17339



# Membership Update

by Judy Bowman, Membership Chair

**NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP:** There have been changes in the membership process at National Audubon Society (NAS) that may have affected your membership application or renewal. To centralize information, in October NAS moved processing from Palm Coast, Florida, to New York City. This has created delays, especially for new members, and although the delays have lessened, there is often a 2-month delay in your NAS membership being activated.

The benefits of NAS membership include Audubon magazine, emails and mailings concerning important issues. The dues for the first year of NAS membership are \$20 for all new members. When you join NAS, they track your membership and send out renewal notices. If you would like to join you can go directly to the NAS website, click on membership and follow the prompts. You can also download the NAS membership form from our website and mail it to Appalachian Audubon Society, Box 234, Camp Hill, PA, 17001-0234, with your check made out to NAS. You also can join at a chapter meeting or event.

When you join NAS, you automatically become a member of Appalachian Audubon Society (AAS). You will receive our chapter newsletter and relevant updates via email. You are also eligible to hold office or serve as a committee chairperson.

**CHAPTER ONLY:** Chapter-only members are eligible for AAS benefits as described above. Yearly dues are \$15.00. You can become a Chapter-only member by downloading a membership form from the AAS website and mailing it to the above address. Forms also are available at our meetings. Chapter membership runs from July 1–June 30. You will receive a renewal notice yearly.



## Field Trips

### MAY FIELD TRIPS

**Sunday, May 1, 2016**

#### **Warbler Walk at State Game Lands 230**

Pete Lusardi leads his annual walk along the base of Blue Mountain in Carlisle Springs to look for migrating and resident warblers and other songbirds. Meet at 7:30am in the easternmost parking lot. Contact Pete at 243-6419 or [pjlusardi@aol.com](mailto:pjlusardi@aol.com).

**Saturday, May 7, 2016**

#### **Warbler Walk in Stony Creek Valley**

Join warbler expert Tom Smith on this annual classic trip through the Stony Creek area to see, hear, and learn about many species of warblers and other spring birds. Meet at 7:00am by the PPL substation along Stony Creek Valley Road. Contact Tom at 921-2461 to register. Last year a Golden-winged Warbler was seen.



**Sunday May 8, 2016**

#### **Spring Migration in Perry County**

Join AAS Board member Ted Nichols for some Perry County birding! We will explore Little Buffalo State Park and a nearby bird sanctuary and then proceed to the Tuscarora State Forest to look for breeding Golden-winged Warblers. Meet at the Little Buffalo State Park Office (1579 State Rte 4010, Newport) at 7:00am. Participants must register with Ted at [tanicholsii@gmail.com](mailto:tanicholsii@gmail.com).

**Saturday May 14, 2016**

#### **Pennsylvania Migration Count**

Identify as many bird species as possible during this day. If you wish to help out contact: Carl and Nancy Juris (Dauphin County), 564-1479, or [hbgbdrds@verizon.net](mailto:hbgbdrds@verizon.net); or Vern Gauthier (Cumberland and Perry counties) at 385-9526 or [pabirder@gmail.com](mailto:pabirder@gmail.com).

### JUNE FIELD TRIP



**Saturday, June 25, 2016**

#### **Tri-State Breeding Bonanza**

Join AAS Board Member Ted Nichols II on a day long breeding bird bonanza. The trip will explore the Harpers Ferry Historic Park in WV, the C&O Canal Towpath along the Potomac River in MD and the Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship property in VA. Possible highlights include Yellow-throated, Kentucky and Cerulean Warblers; Yellow-breasted Chat, Grasshopper Sparrows, Bobolinks, and a cliff nesting Peregrine Falcon. Birding starts at 7:00am. Nearby lodging options are available. Participants must register with Ted at [tanicholsii@gmail.com](mailto:tanicholsii@gmail.com).



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Except for the May banquet, AAS monthly programs typically take place on the third Thursday of each month at the **Christ Presbyterian Church** located at 421 Deerfield Road, in the Allendale neighborhood of Camp Hill. Join us at 7:00pm for socializing and refreshments. The program begins at 7:30pm.

### DIRECTIONS

**I-83 southbound** — take exit 40B towards New Cumberland. Stay straight, cross Carlisle Road to Cedar Cliff Drive. Turn left onto Allendale Way and turn left onto Deerfield Road. The Church is on the left. Park in the second lot.

**I-83 northbound** — take exit 40B, turn left onto Carlisle Road/Simpson Ferry Road and go under I-83. Turn left again at the light onto Cedar Cliff Drive. Turn left onto Allendale Way and turn left onto Deerfield Road. The Church is on the left. Park in the second lot.



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**AAS members on the move**



Photos courtesy Kathy Kuchwara

## Annual SILENT AUCTION

Our annual banquet on May 19 will again include a silent auction of nature related items. Past auction items have included books, binoculars and scopes, native plants, artwork, outdoor equipment and clothing, jewelry, and gift certificates. Auction proceeds will support AAS scholarship programs. If you have a new or gently used item to donate for the auction please let us know by May 15. You may contact Susan Miller at 697-6696, Sue Strassner (Carlisle area) at 243-5731, or Kathy Kuchwara (Camp Hill/West Shore) at 319-0828.