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What Do Box Turtles Do in January?

Meeting: Thursday, January 10

7:00 p.m. at KCEF Library

Speaker: Jessica Foti

Get out of your box and join us on Thursday evening, January 10, to find out the latest researched information on box turtles. Jessica Foti, from the North Carolina Zoo, will have a PowerPoint presentation to share with us, “Are Box Turtles Boxed In?” ❀



photo of Eastern Box Turtle courtesy of Savannah River Ecology Laboratory Outreach office

Walk the Bluffs and Wetlands Along Mears Fork

Saturday, January 5

Two years ago the Guilford County Open Space Program made its first purchase, about 50 acres along the Mears Fork of the Haw River. This land, formerly owned by Edith Conrad, is characterized by steep 100-foot bluffs and a wonderful bottomland forest through which the creek and tributaries meander. The oak-hickory woods above the creek are very open and give the impression of being in the Blue Ridge Mountains. It is hard to believe that this site is only 10 miles from downtown Greensboro. The Open Space Committee is working hard to acquire more land along Mears Fork to provide a corridor from Summerfield to the Haw River State Park.

Join us for a winter walk in the woods and a glimpse of what we hope will be preserved for all to enjoy. We might see the usual winter-woods birds, but may also see some waterfowl in the large lake across the road from the Conrad tract. The tract has wide trails and a minimum of up-and-down walking, but wear good walking shoes in case the trails are wet. Total time on the walk itself should be about two hours, with 30 minutes travel time each way. Meet in the Sears parking lot in Friendly Center, SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 10:00 am. Call Jack Jezorek to let him know that you are coming. 272-6664. ❀

Our Mission: TO FOSTER APPRECIATION, KNOWLEDGE, AND ENJOYMENT OF NATURE, AND WORK FOR THE PRESERVATION OF OUR NATURAL HERITAGE ON THE LOCAL AND GLOBAL LEVEL



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Winter Work in the Wet Meadow

Saturday, January 12

Our chapter has been working to maintain the wetland below the KCEF Library in Price Park as a wet meadow, a type of habitat that is rapidly disappearing in the Piedmont. Last year we removed a significant amount of woody vegetation, but there is more work to be done. So we will return to the meadow this year to continue the removal process and to treat selective woody plants with an herbicide. This will be carefully done under the supervision of Ken Bridle of the EcoLogic company. The meadow is a pleasant place to work on a winter morning, and if the present trend continues, it may not be very wet. Bring pruning tools, gloves and wear shoes that can get wet, just in case.

Please join other TGPAS members to help maintain this site for birds that need a wet area. **SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 10:00 am**, down the hill from the KCEF Library, Price Park. ❀

Field Trip to the Virginia Mountains

January 19 - 21

TGP Audubon Society will join the Piedmont Bird Club on its annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend Field Trip, this year to the mountains of Virginia. The trip will center on the Bluegrass Valley in Highland County, an area known as the Little Switzerland of Virginia.

Target species include Bald Eagle, Golden Eagle, Rough-legged Hawk and Loggerhead Shrike. Other possibilities are Black-capped Chickadee, Horned Lark and several species of winter finches. Birding will be done at feeders and along roads, so walking should be minimal. Saturday departure time and location will be determined at a later date. Respond ASAP (accommodations may be filling up) to trip leader George Wheaton, [540-8953 \(h\)](tel:540-8953), [392-3652 \(w\)](tel:392-3652), gcwheaton@earthlink.net. ❀



Golden Eagle



Loggerhead Shrike

Come One, Come All: Chapter Day at the Zoo

Saturday, February 2, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Come to the North Carolina Zoo in Asheboro for Audubon NC's Chapter Day. This annual event for chapter members and leaders provides a great opportunity for folks to hear updates on Audubon initiatives and get to know people from other chapters around the state. Held in a beautiful setting noted for its wildlife conservation efforts, this meeting offers an inspiring and informative program.



For details on the day's events and to reserve a spot, contact Kelley Wiley, the new administrative assistant in the Chapel Hill office of Audubon NC, at kwiley@audubon.org. If you would like to carpool to the zoo on February 2nd, please contact Ann Walter-Fromson at walterfromsona@gborocollege.edu ❀

Waterfowl on the Greensboro Lakes

Field Trip – Saturday, February 9

TGPAS will join the Piedmont Bird Club in February on a field trip to view waterfowl on Greensboro area lakes. Ducks, geese, grebes, mergansers and gulls are the targets this time. Dress warmly and bring something hot to drink, as wind off the lakes can be chilling. Spotting scopes are useful. We'll meet at 9:00. Contact the trip leader, Henry Link, 273-4672, linkh@bellsouth.net for the location. ❀

Great Backyard Bird Count

February 15-18

The GBBC is one of the most successful citizen science projects in history. It's a great activity to do with children. It's free. It only takes a minimum of 15 minutes to observe, though you can profitably



photo by James Hendricks

spend a great deal more time on the count than that. You can count from inside your home, office, or school. You can count on your daily walk or your visit to your local park. It is easy, fun and helps scientists with information about bird population trends.

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Audubon jointly sponsor the GBBC, which tallied more than 11 million birds during the 2007 count. Participants across the United States and Canada recorded 616 species and submitted more than 80,000 checklists, 33 percent more than the previous high. Let's work together to make 2008 even more successful.



photo by Jean Kuns

To learn more about this exciting event, go to <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc> ❀



Jan/Feb Calendar

Sat, January 5 - Field Trip: Mears Fork with PBC.

Thu, January 10 - Meeting: "Are Box Turtles Boxed In? The NC Zoo Box Turtle Population and Land Use Study." Speaker: Jessica Foti

Sat, January 12 - Work Day: Price Park Wetlands

January 19-21 - Field Trip: Virginia Mountains with PBC.

Sat, January 26 - Audubon Bird Seed Sale: New Garden Nursery Gazebo, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Sat, February 2 - Audubon NC Chapter Day: NC Zoo

Sat, February 9 - Field Trip: Greensboro lakes with PBC

Thu, February 14 Meeting: "Wyoming: Horse Packing, Fly Fishing, and High Country." Speakers: Kathy and Lary Treanor

February 15-18 - Great Backyard Bird Count

Wyoming: Horse Packing, Fly Fishing, and High Country

February Meeting

Thursday, February 14,
7:00 p.m. at KCEF Library

Speakers: Lary and Kathy Treanor

A Valentines Day treat is coming your way. Kathy and Lary Treanor have pictures to show and tales to tell about one of their adventures. They love to go to wonderful places and get close to nature. This is a warm way to spend a chilly February evening. Many of you know Kathy as one of the founding members of the Piedmont Land Conservancy.



SAVE THE DATES: May 30 - June 1, 2008

Audubon NC Annual Meeting – The Summit at Haw River State Park near Greensboro, NC

Nature at the Summit – Hard to Top

The Haw River State Park was born in 2003 and is still in its infancy, but already includes one of the state park system's crown jewels, The Summit Environmental Education Center. Purchased by the state in 2005, this facility is where the T. Gilbert Pearson Audubon Society (Guilford County) will host the 2008 ANC Annual Meeting. Formerly owned by the Episcopal Church, the Summit provides one-stop conferencing, with newly renovated meeting facilities, motel-style lodging, and dining rooms.

The Summit also is replete with great birding opportunities on the wonderful trails around its 6-acre lake, and along the boardwalk leading through the wetlands to the Haw River. From this incredibly beautiful 300-acre place just 10 miles north of Greensboro a variety of other great birding areas and nature walks are easily accessible.

For history buffs, a short drive into Greensboro will provide access to Pearson's bird and egg collections as well as a visit to his grave site in Green Hill Cemetery.

The Pearson Chapter invites all Auduboners in NC to join us for our annual gathering at a truly exceptional place, the Summit at Haw River State Park. The 2008 Annual Meeting, we are sure, will be great fun for all. Mark your calendars for MAY 30–JUNE 1, 2008, and plan to stay "out in the woods" for the whole weekend. We'll "wine and dine" you, and dish up great birding right outside your door.

Winter 2008 Bird Seed Sale

Saturday, January 26 New Garden Nursery Gazebo 9 a.m. - noon

If you missed our Fall Sale or will need additional seed to carry the birds through the winter, you will have an opportunity to stock up at Pearson Audubon's Winter Sale on January 26. Your pre-order will help in our planning, and the amount of seed available for walk-in purchasers will be limited.

Your order needs to be in our hands by Wed. January 16.

Seed **MUST** be picked up at New Garden Nursery Gazebo, 3811 Lawndale Dr., on Jan. 26 during the sale hours. If you are unable to pick up your order personally, please arrange to have someone else do so. Orders not picked up by noon will be cancelled, as we want to avoid inconveniencing the Gazebo staff.

For more information, or to volunteer to help at the sale, call Sherri Forrester at 851-0354, or Sue Cole at 854-3346.

Make check payable to <i>Pearson Audubon</i> and mail to:	Pearson Bird Seed Sale c/o Sherri Forrester 4909-A Tower Road Greensboro, NC 27410-5720
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Keep the top part as a reminder to pick up your order on January 26.



Mail the order form and your check so they are received by January 16.

Wt.	Seed Type	Unit Price	Quantity	Subtotal
25#	Black Oil Sunflower	\$14.00		
50#	Black Oil Sunflower	\$25.00		
20#	Wild Bird Premium Mix (contains no milo)	\$11.00		
40#	Wild Bird Premium Mix	\$20.00		
5#	Thistle Seed	\$10.00		
5#	Safflower Seed	\$ 7.50		
	Suet Cake	\$ 1.50		

Total Paid	\$
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Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

E-mail _____