



As in other years, we are excited about Discovery Day and look forward to new displays and activities. We are joining with the KC Edwards Library, and will be holding our event at their Grand Opening Celebration. We are looking forward to lots of fun exhibition tables. You'll recognize some of the tables from past years. Ann Walter-Fromson will be helping young bird-watchers, Tom Duckwall will be showing off the stream table for the Deep River Project, Michael Morales will be encouraging kids to get up close and personal with some reptiles, and we will still have children

**IT'S DISCOVERY DAY TIME AGAIN**  
Join us at the new  
Edwards Family Library at Price Park  
Date: September 11, 2004  
Time: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

flapping their wings to see if they can achieve hummingbird velocity. We are hoping to add displays from the Haw River Watch, ideas on home

ecology, and some tables generated by high-school students.

This day promises to be another fun and interesting day. You just need to show up and join in the festivities as we get to see the new "green" library and to learn about our environment.

When the Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch Library opens at Price Park on Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, you will see a beautiful wooden bench in the rotunda of the library that TGPAS has sponsored in honor of T. Gilbert Pearson. The bench, made from an oak tree that had to be removed from the site of the original Jefferson clubhouse, will bear a plaque with a memorial statement about Pearson. The founder of the Audubon Society of North Carolina (1902), president of the National Association of Audubon Societies, an author and conservationist, Pearson helped pass the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (1912) and founded what is now called the International Council for Bird Preservation (1922).

**NEW BRANCH LIBRARY MEMORIALIZES  
T. GILBERT PEARSON**

us meet our goal. All donations for the memorial bench are tax-deductible. If you would like to contribute, please write a check

payable to *T. Gilbert Pearson Audubon Society, Inc.* with the notation "Pearson memorial bench" and send it to: Treasurer, T. Gilbert Pearson Audubon Society, P. O. Box 10157, Greensboro, NC 27404.

In February the TGPAS Chapter Board approved a \$500 donation to the library for the Pearson memorial bench. So far we have received \$370 in donations. At this time, we would like to thank all those who have made contributions and to invite others of you to help

The new branch library offers an environmental focus and also honors another Guilford County citizen who has led the way on environmental issues--Father Thomas Berry. As a partner with the library, the T. Gilbert Pearson Audubon chapter will hold monthly evening programs at the facility. We are also hosting a Discovery Day at Price Park [see article above] to celebrate the opening of the library. We hope you'll join us for this celebration and for our monthly programs at the Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch Library [see the Calendar in this issue.] and come and admire the T. Gilbert Pearson memorial bench.

*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.*

## DEEP RIVER NOTES

By Tom Duckwall

It's been a busy spring and summer for events on and involving the river, beginning with the national River Rally in May. People from river groups all over the country converged on the Wintergreen Resort near Charlottesville for inspiration, education and practical ideas that will help their home river basins to be conserved and restored. I completed the course led by the Center for Watershed Protection and picked up lots of good ideas from their very capable staff. (Several westerners had never seen a real lightning display like we had on our second night there--they were watching into the wee hours, and the next day we were provided with an excellent storm runoff case study there on the grounds.)

On the home front, statewide efforts to establish strong stormwater rules were not successful due to the pervasive influence of development interests; however, a minimal bill was passed and a lawsuit by the Environmental Management Commission remains to be settled.

Friends of the Rocky River has been reorganized and incorporated, with interest spurred by Siler City's efforts to greatly expand its reservoir and by tremendous development pressure in Chatham County, especially near Jordan Lake where the area is a residential satellite of the Triangle. We were able to assist in this process by helping to clarify the group's options and have made many new friends in that corner of the Deep River basin, and wish them well as DENR's decision on the new dam approaches. (Special thanks to Nancy Poole for attending several meetings in Pittsboro and helping clarify the organizational issues.)

Our Deep River Cruise continued due in part to the request of a reporter for the Fayetteville Observer, resulting in an excellent article, which we will prominently display at future events. Thanks to writer Nomee Landis and to Candace Williams of Sandhills Area Land Trust, who sent encouragement and extra copies, and especially to Emily Shepard, our paddling coordinator, for a super job in promoting safety and efficiency! Please let me know if you'd like to join us next time.

A very important national issue these days is mercury pollution via air deposition from coal-fired power plants--the effects are well-known and very serious, especially for fetuses and children, but commercial interests are in no hurry to make this right. You may have heard about the current study, testing fish from around the country for mercury content--one location is in western NC--which among other things may firmly establish that the danger is much higher for people closest to that type of facility. For more information see p. 126ff of

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.'s new book Crimes Against Nature, or contact local pediatrician Debbie Fields who is working on this issue.

On every level there is evidence of how badly we need to reverse the many negative measures of environmental quality. We have AmeriCorps in operation now, and many of their volunteers are working on river and other environmental problems, e.g. Stacy Fowler in Virginia who arranged our Clinch River paddling trip recently. But so much more should be done that some of us are thinking in terms of a new Civilian Conservation Corps especially for river and stream work, with job and training opportunities to help in a struggling economy. There is an active proposal along these lines at the state level now, and a national candidate has mentioned something similar; please be alert for ways to promote this concept.

Finally, I should mention that state environmental groups and Hispanic leaders will meet in Raleigh this month to consider our common interests; I've been invited to attend and will let you know what happens. As always, please contact me if you'd like to get involved in any part of our river program: TomFDuckwall@cs.com or (336) 337-0811.

## CALENDAR

(Thurs. evening programs will be held in the new KCE Library at Price Park\*; field trips will be held on Saturdays unless otherwise noted.)

**Sept. 11** — Discovery Day at Price Park (See article, pg. 1)

**Sept. 15, Wed.** — Election of Board of Directors; Board meeting, 5:00 pm. (See article, pg 4.)

**Sept 18** — Field trip to Mahogany Rock with PBC\*\* to view hawk migration

**Sept 25** — Field trip to Pilot Mountain with PBC\*\* to view hawk migration

**Oct 2** — Big Sweep stream clean-up. 9:00 a.m. Mendenhall Plantation, Jamestown.

**Oct. 9** — Fall Bird Seed Sale (See order blank)

**Oct 14** —Program at KCE Library at Price Park, 7 – 8:30 p.m.: Dr. Brant Touchette, Biologist

**Oct 23** —Field Trip to Triad Park

**Nov 6** —Black River Boat Trip, Wilmington

**Wed., Nov 10** ---Program at KCE Library, 7 – 8:30 pm

**Dec 9** —Holiday Slide Show, KCE Library, 7– 8:30 pm

**Dec 18**—Christmas Bird Count with PBC\*\*

\*Entrances to Edwards Family Library at Price Park are off of Hobbs Rd. and New Garden.

\*\*Piedmont Bird Club



## Chapter Officers

*Co-Chair* Gregg Morris, 883-3270  
gregg.morris@ci.high-point.nc.us

*Secretary* Alice McCall, 698-0220  
alyb68@hotmail.com

*Treasurer* Sue Cole, 854-3346

## Chapter Board

*At Large* Ann Walter-Fromson, 299-9494  
walterfromsona@gborocollege.edu

*Membership and Deep River Project*  
Tom Duckwall, 337-0811,  
TomFDuckwall@cs.com

### *Natural Area*

*Chapter historian & Bird Seed Sale*  
Sherri Forrester, 851-0354  
bouncerm@msn.com

*Newsletter* Karen Hogarth, 292-4598  
khogarth4@triad.rr.com

*Web Page* Robb Fulkerson

## BLACK RIVER TRIP PLANNED

The T. Gilbert Pearson Chapter of the Audubon Society is planning a trip to the Black River. The trip will be by boat operated by Cape Fear River Tours and will take place on Saturday, November 6, 2004, with boarding in Wilmington at 9:30 a.m. for a four-hour cruise beginning at 10:00 a.m. Andy Wood, NC Audubon Director of Education, will be the trip leader.

As we travel up the Black River, we'll see remaining bits of the Bald cypress habitat that once sustained Carolina parakeets and Ivory-billed woodpeckers. A rich array of birds still anoints these majestic swamps, and bear, bobcat and alligator are possible, but unlikely, sightings. Weather should be pleasant, though perhaps brisk in the morning, so dress accordingly.

We will leave on Friday, and those who wish to stay after the cruise will bird in the area on Saturday afternoon and Sunday with folks from the Piedmont Bird Club, who have been invited to join us on the trip. A block of rooms is being arranged at a local motel.

The cost of the cruise is \$40 per person. Because of space limitations and the need to secure

the reservation, please send a check made out to T. Gilbert Pearson Audubon Society to P.O. Box 10157, Greensboro, NC 27404 by October 8, 2004. Call Gregg Morris at 883-3270 for accommodations and other information.

## ELECTION FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS SET

An election of Board of Directors of the T. Gilbert Pearson Chapter of the Audubon Society for the 2004/2005 program year will be conducted at the September, 2004 board meeting. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 15, at 4808 Starmount Dr., Greensboro, beginning at 5:00 p.m. The Nominating Committee nominated the following for membership on the board: Co-chair, Gregg Morris; Secretary, Alice McCall; Treasurer, Sue Cole; At-large, Ann Walter-Fromson; Deep River and Membership Coordinator, Tom Duckwall. A position remains open for the other Co-chair position. Interested persons should contact Tom Duckwall.