

# **“News from the ‘Hood”**

Newsletter of the Patuxent Bird Club  
of the Maryland Ornithological Society



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**April - June 2015**

Editor: Fred Fallon, [fwallon@ymail.com](mailto:fwallon@ymail.com)

## **April 8 Meeting**

**"Shorebird ID Made Easy"**  
**Presented by Mikey Lutmerding**

**Tuesday 7:30 pm at College Park Airport Museum**  
**Doors open at 7:00**

If you have trouble telling the peeps apart or a Short-billed Dowitcher from a Long-billed Dowitcher, be sure to attend this meeting! Mikey will clarify these points of identification and many others through carefully chosen photos that he has taken, just in time for the spring shorebird migration. Mikey has a degree in wildlife biology from Frostburg State University and currently works at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in the Breeding Bird Survey group. In addition he leads pelagic trips, is an E-bird reviewer, and well known for his ability to spot rare birds wherever he goes.

## **May 12 Meeting**

**“The Wonderful World of Whooping Cranes”**  
**Presented by Ken Lavish**

**Tuesday 7:30 pm at College Park Airport Museum**  
**Doors open at 7:00**

Whooping Cranes nearly disappeared in the wild, and to bring them back the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center (PWRC) raises cranes from eggs until they are ready to be released into an established population. To keep the young cranes from imprinting on humans while being cared for, surrogate parents dressed as cranes carry out all the interactions necessary. Ken Lavish has been a volunteer surrogate crane father for eight years, and will tell us about his adventures in that role, as well as the history of how they became endangered and describe the efforts to save these magnificent creatures and re-introduce them into the wild. In addition, Ken works as an Environmental Education Specialist at PWRC, and runs tours of the facility. See the next item for a chance to visit the facility.

## **PGAS & PBC Whooping Crane Observatory Tour Opportunity**

Attached is a flyer on all the exciting upcoming events for Patuxent Wildlife Research Center's Magnificent Whooping Crane Month - May 2015: puppet shows, presentations, tours, exhibits and more. You will notice that Sunday, May 3, is not one of the Sundays listed on the flyer as a tour day. That is because Ken Lavish, our May 12 speaker and volunteer Crane Dad, has set that particular Sunday aside for our bird club members. Because the tour is limited to 15 people, we will accept reservations on a first come-first served basis, with priority given those who have never been on the Whooping Crane Tour before. Maureen Blades will coordinate the reservation list. You may contact Maureen at 301-262-5148 (h) or mblades5@verizon.net. Please include your home and cell phone numbers and email address. She will confirm receipt of your reservation. And, if that day doesn't work for you, or fills up, all is not lost; call Ken for one of the other Sundays.

### **June 9 Program**

#### **Business Meeting and Members' Night**

**Tuesday 7:30 pm at College Park Airport Museum  
Doors open at 7:00**

In this last meeting of the program year, we review chapter finances, membership, and field trips; and elect officers and board members for the coming year. Then the floor is open for all members to show their favorite nature-themed slides from the past year. Bring you digital slides on a flash drive.

#### **Live VideoCam of Baltimore Peregrine Aerie**

Check out this new live feed from the 33<sup>rd</sup> floor nest of "Boh and Barb" in Baltimore. (At night, one sees merely the city lights below).

<http://www.chesapeakeconservancy.org/peregrine-falcon-webcam>

### **Field Trip Report – Ken Cohen**

On Saturday, 2/28/2015 the last day of ornithological winter, Fred Fallon led 7 birders to Cape Henlopen and Indian River Outlet in Delaware. Fred's first accomplishment was taming the weather. The sun was out, the wind was low, and temperatures were not too cold. The conditions were ideal for using a spotting scope. Fred's best accomplishment was locating where birds could be found, while participants shared in finding them. The trip's highlights included Cedar Waxwings, great looks at Brown-headed Nuthatch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Ipswich subspecies of the Savannah Sparrow, Snow Buntings, and Yellow-rumped Warblers at Cape Henlopen. Indian River produced all three species of Scoters, Common Eider, Horned Grebe, Great Cormorant, and a variety of other water birds. We saw over 50 species on this trip. Another great day in the field!

# Magnificent Whooping Crane Month - May 2015



**Celebrate the Whooping Crane, one of North America's most endangered birds. ADMISSION is FREE. Enjoy these fun family activities:**

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- **Kids' Day** (All ages welcome) May 9, 10 AM to 2 PM: Puppet Shows; Story Times; Crafts; and More!
- Interpretive **Tours of the Whooping Crane Observatory** on Sundays (May 10, 17, 24, 31), from 1 PM to 2:30 PM. *(Registration is required; call 301-497-5887 for reservations.)*
- Exciting **Whooping Crane Presentations** by Dr. John French, Research Manager at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center - May 2; Ken Lavish, Volunteer Crane Technician - May 16; Brooke Pennypacker of Operation Migration - May 23; Dr. Glenn Olsen, Veterinarian, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center - May 30. All presentations will be at 1:30 PM.
- **Measure Up:** compare how tall you are to the height of a Whooping Crane; see if "your wingspan" is as wide as a Whooping Crane's.
- Fascinating **Whooping Cranes Videos** of these endangered birds – see them dance!
- Free information at **Exhibits on saving Whooping Cranes.**
- See entire calendar of activities at: [http://www.friendsofpatuxent.org/images/Calendar-MWCM\\_2015.pdf](http://www.friendsofpatuxent.org/images/Calendar-MWCM_2015.pdf).

**Location:** National Wildlife Visitor Center, 10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop, Laurel, MD 20708, just off Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197, see detailed directions at: <http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent/visit/directions.html>. Call [301-497-5887](tel:3014975887) for information.

**Coordinated by the Friends of Patuxent Adopt A Whooper Committee. Contact person:** Ken Lavish; 301-384-4557; [devish@verizon.net](mailto:devish@verizon.net). All programs and activities are FREE; donations to the Adopt A Whooper Program are greatly appreciated and tax deductible!



## Coming Field Trips

**Saturday April 4: regularly scheduled Field Trip to Fran Uhler NA.** Joint trip with PGAS. Habitat includes brushy fields, woods and hedgerows for a good mix of species. Side trip to freshwater wetland at Horsepen Branch also possible. Meet 7:30 AM at the end of Lemon Bridge Rd off MD 197, just north of Bowie State U. and the MARC line. No reservations required. If you have questions, contact trip leader Bill Sefton at [ki-wisuits@msn.com](mailto:ki-wisuits@msn.com) or David Mozurkewich at [mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net) or 301-509-2212 for more info.

**Thursday April 9: regularly scheduled Field Trip to Lake Artemesia (Luther Goldman Birding Trail).** Joint trip with PGAS. We will walk the paved trail around the lake as well as the trail through the woods along Indian Creek. Meet 6 PM (**note later time**) at the parking lot at Berwyn Rd and Ballew Ave in Berwyn Heights. No reservations needed. Call or email David Mozurkewich, 301-509-2212/ [mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net) for more info.

**Saturday April 11: Field Trip to Governors Bridge Wildlife Area. Regularly scheduled Field Trip Meet at 7:30 am.** No reservations required. The Natural Area is located on the south side of Governor Bridge Rd, approximately 1 mile east of MD 301 in Bowie.

**Sunday April 12: Field trip to Jug Bay (PG side) Park.** Meet at 7:30 am at parking lot **at the end of Croom Airport Rd** (not the road into the Jug Bay VC) just before the first gate. We will cover river landings, fields, and woods at Jug Bay and over the driving tour into Merkle WMA for early Spring migrants. You may want to carpool from your home to the destination. Call or email David Mozurkewich, 301-509-2212/ [mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net) for more info.

**Thursday April 16: Regularly scheduled Field Trip to Lake Artemesia (Luther Goldman Birding Trail).** Joint trip with PGAS. We will walk the paved trail around the lake as well as the trail through the woods along Indian Creek. Meet 6 PM at the parking lot at Berwyn Rd and Ballew Ave in Berwyn Heights.

**Saturday April 25: Regularly scheduled Field Trip to Governors Bridge Wildlife Area. Regularly scheduled Field Trip Meet at 7:30 am.** No reservations required. The Natural Area is located on the south side of Governor Bridge Rd, approximately 1 mile east of MD 301 in Bowie.

**Saturday May 2: Regularly scheduled Field Trip to Fran Uhler NA.** Joint trip with PGAS. Habitat includes brushy fields, woods and hedgerows for a good mix of species. Side trip to freshwater wetland at Horsepen Branch also possible. Meet 7:30 AM at the end of Lemon Bridge Rd off MD 197, just north of Bowie State U. and the MARC line. No reservations required. If you have questions, contact trip leader Bill Sefton at [<ki-wisuits@msn.com>](mailto:ki-wisuits@msn.com) for more info.

**Thursday May 7: Regularly scheduled Field Trip to Lake Artemesia (Luther Goldman Birding Trail).** Joint trip with PGAS. We will walk the paved trail around the lake as well as the trail through the woods along Indian Creek. Meet 6 PM at the parking lot at Berwyn Rd and Ballew Ave in Berwyn Heights. No reservations needed. Call or email David Mozurkewich, 301-509-2212/ [mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net) for more info.

**Saturday May 9: Regularly scheduled Field Trip to Governors Bridge Wildlife Area. Regularly scheduled Field Trip Meet at 7:30 am.** No reservations required. The Natural Area is located on the south side of Governor Bridge Rd, approximately 1 mile east of MD 301 in Bowie.

**May 9: Annual May Count/Migratory Bird Day, all day.**

**May 15 – 18. Annual MOS Conference - Hagerstown MD.** See the March/April issue of the *Maryland Yellowthroat* for more information, or the MOS website at [MDBirds.org](http://MDBirds.org), “Activities & Events” on left, to “Annual Conference” for brochure. Registration and payment can now be made from the MOS site.

**Thursday May 21: Regularly scheduled Field Trip to Lake Artemesia (Luther Goldman Birding Trail).** Joint trip with PGAS. We will walk the paved trail around the lake as well as the trail through the woods along Indian Creek. Meet 6 PM at the parking lot at Berwyn Rd and Ballew Ave in Berwyn Heights. No reservations needed. Call or email David Mozurkewich, 301-509-2212/ [mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net) for more info.

**Saturday May 23: Regularly scheduled Field Trip to Governors Bridge Wildlife Area. Regularly scheduled Field Trip Meet at 7:30 am.** No reservations required. The Natural Area is located on the south side of Governor Bridge Rd, approximately 1 mile east of MD 301 in Bowie.

**Monday May 25 (Memorial Day): Field trip to Watkins Park.** Leader: Marcia Watson. Meet at the far end of the Nature Center Parking Lot at 7:30 AM. Entrance to Watkins Park is off Enterprise Rd, ~ 1 mile s. of Central Ave.

**Sunday May 31: Field trip to Delaware beaches** for the annual phenomenon of shorebird feeding frenzy on Horseshoe Crab eggs. Reservations required. Leader: Fred Fallon, [fwfallon@ymail.com](mailto:fwfallon@ymail.com), 410-286-8152.

**Thursday Jun 4: Regularly scheduled Field Trip to Lake Artemesia (Luther Goldman Birding Trail).** Joint trip with PGAS. We will walk the paved trail around the lake as well as the trail through the woods along Indian Creek. Meet 6 PM at the parking lot at Berwyn Rd and Ballew Ave in Berwyn Heights. No reservations needed. Call or email David Mozurkewich, 301-509-2212/ [mozurk@bellAtlantic.net](mailto:mozurk@bellAtlantic.net) for more info

**Saturday Jun 6: Regularly scheduled Field Trip to Fran Uhler NA.** Joint trip with PGAS. Habitat includes brushy fields, woods and hedgerows for a good mix of species. Side trip to freshwater wetland at Horsepen Branch also possible. Meet 7:30 AM at the end of Lemon Bridge Rd off MD 197, just north of Bowie State U. and the MARC line. No reservations required. If you have questions, contact trip leader Bill Sefton at [kiwisuits@msn.com](mailto:kiwisuits@msn.com) for more info.

**Saturday Jun 13: Regularly scheduled Field Trip to Governors Bridge Wildlife Area. Regularly scheduled Field Trip Meet at 7:30 am.** No reservations required. The Natural Area is located on the south side of Governor Bridge Rd, approximately 1 mile east of MD 301 in Bowie.

The regularly scheduled trips to the Fran Uhler Natural Area, Lake Artemesia, and Governors Bridge Park continue thru the summer on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturdays, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays, and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays, respectively.

## **Patuxent Bird Club Chapter of MOS List of Officers and Board**

President – Marcia Watson

Directors, 1st year

Directors, 2<sup>nd</sup> year

Vice-president – Fred Fallon

David Mozurkewich

Mike Sampson

Secretary – Lynette Fullerton

Joanna Lutmerding

Terri Watson

Treasurer/membership – Jane Fallon

Jeannine Dorothy

Elwood Martin

Field Trips – David Mozurkewich

State director – Fred Fallon

Newsletter – Fred Fallon

(Chapter “Directors” are board members. “State Directors” are the chapters’ delegates to the MOS.)

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## MOS/Patuxent Bird Club Membership Application

**2014/2015**

**Name:**

**Address:**

**City:**

**State:**

**Zip code:**

**Phone:**

**E-Mail:**

Dues include Chapter and MOS State membership, and subscriptions to *Maryland Yellowthroat*, *Maryland Birdlife*, and the Patuxent Bird Club Newsletter. (The newsletter will be sent by email unless US mail requested).

Chapter and State combined: Household \$33, Individual \$26, Junior (Age < 18) \$6

Chapter membership only (must be a member of another MOS chapter): Household \$8, Individual \$6, Junior \$1

Make check payable to **Patuxent Bird Club**. Please send application and check to:

Jane Fallon, Treasurer PBC  
6711 Venus Dr  
Huntingtown, MD 20639

“The benefits received from Maryland Ornithological Society membership dues are not considered to be substantial, as determined by criteria in IRS Publication 526. Therefore, members can claim a tax deductible charitable contribution for the full amount of their membership dues.”