



THE BELTED KINGFISHER

Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society, Inc.
Founded 1968 P.O. Box 544, Oneonta, N.Y. 13820

Volume 40, No. 7, Sept. 2008

Editor — Bob Miller

COMING ACTIVITIES

- Sept. 16 Board Meeting. At Stephen Rice's home.
- Sept. 19 DOAS General Meeting. *Wetland Residents: from Beaver and Birds to Dragonflies.*
Speakers Owen Brown PhD. and biologist Sharon T. Brown. See Page 5.
- Sept. 19-21 Annual Meeting of the N.Y. State Ornithological Assoc. in Rochester.
Call Andy Mason.
- Oct. 4 Sanctuary Annual Open House Welcome All ! See page 4.
- Oct. 17 **Charter Dinner.** *Giants of the North Woods* Speaker Mark Picard, wildlife and nature
photographer, will present his 20 years of studying Moose. Please see page 2 for details.
NOTE OCTOBER this year for Charter Dinner.
- Oct. 21 Board Meeting. John Davis' home.
- Nov. 21 DOAS General Meeting. *Global Warming: Science and Solutions.* Pam Musk of
New York State Audubon will present the major areas of concern and current solutions in N.Y.
- Dec. 2 Board Meeting
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IMPORTANT NOTICE

PLEASE BECOME A LOCAL MEMBER OF DOAS

Due to continued costs of printing and mailing *The Belted Kingfisher*, and the loss of the portion of National Audubon Society (NAS) dues that our Chapter receives, we are no longer able to send the newsletter to NAS-only members.

NAS-only members receive the September *Kingfisher*—this issue—each year. However, the other eight issues go only to those who have taken a local membership or are joint local/NAS members.

We encourage all NAS-only members to consider a local membership in order to help defray the costs of the newsletter and support our Chapter's education and conservation activities. Local memberships are \$12 per year or \$20 for two years—a membership form can be found elsewhere in this issue.

Your mailing label will inform you of your membership status: an L indicates a local member, with expiration date (year and month, e. g. '0708' indicates August 2007); an N indicates an NAS-only member; both an L and an N indicates a joint local/NAS member. **If you are an NAS-only member, you will need to take a local membership in order to continue receiving *The Belted Kingfisher*.** If you are a local member or a joint local/NAS member, you will continue receiving the newsletter as in the past.

We appreciate the continued support of all members for our efforts to protect the natural world.

Beavers and Black Maples

Last year we were pleased to find beavers had dammed the old river channel along the east border of our Burlington property. The impoundment enhanced the wildlife habitat in the wetland. When Dave Kiehm and I visited in early June to see if the Black Maples had set seed, we found multiple broods of ducks in the beaver pond Wood Ducks and Hooded Mergansers. When we got to the Black Maples, I learned that beavers don't consider our interests at all. They had completely girdled one of the healthy maples. Since the beaver dam is 200 yards from the nearest Black Maple, it didn't occur to me to be concerned. I went back in a short while later and put wire around the 3 best remaining trees.

Since a high deer population keeps any new maples from growing, we are trying to help grow replacements for these aging trees. The attempt to propagate cuttings was not successful. We hope to gather seed when the trees decide to reproduce. We'll keep checking each spring.

...Tom Salo

Reducing Fossil Fuel Use – Please Car Pool

At the August board meeting, a considerable time was devoted to a discussion of how we could reduce fossil fuel use. The board values the educational opportunities created by a high number of field trips and programs. Without impacting that part of our mission, we feel the best way to reduce our "carbon footprint" is to increase the amount of car-pooling. We have gently encouraged people to do this for years. With fuel costs rising, and concerns about climate change growing, our message will now become a bit more compelling. We do know that it is not always possible to share rides. However, whenever possible, please do whatever you can to reduce fuel use and your impacts on the environment.

Car-pooling for field trips will be arranged by the trip leader. If you want to car-pool to meetings, speak to me or any Director. We may know a member who lives near you.

Tom Salo

CHARTER DINNER Oct. 17, 2008

DOAS will be having its annual Charter Dinner Friday Oct. 17, 2008, at Sunset Junction (formerly Falco's) in Colliersville on Rt. 7 east of Oneonta. The social hour begins at 5:30, dinner is at 6:30 and the program begins at 7:30. All people are welcome to come to the program.

The speaker will be Mark Picard, a well known wildlife photographer from Williamsburg Massachusetts whose work has appeared in many publications including Audubon, Nature Conservancy and Sierra Club. His presentation will cover his 20 years studying and photographing moose.

Reservations must be made by October 13. Menu choices are Herb Encrusted Pork Loin, Chicken Marsala, or Vegetable Lasagna. The cost is \$27.50 each. Please mail your reservation to : Julia Gregory, P O Box 641, Unadilla, N.Y. 13849-0641 or call 607-563-2924.

Name(s) 1 _____
 2 _____
 3 _____
 4 _____

Menu Choice
 1 _____
 2 _____
 3 _____
 4 _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Amount enclosed _____
 (checks payable to DOAS)

Conservation and Legislation

by Andy Mason

Good news for boreal birds from Canada--Ontario, Canada made a major commitment to the environment this summer, with the announcement of its intention to set aside half the province--about 55 million acres--for permanent conservation.

This immense area is largely boreal forest--an ecotype rapidly disappearing in Canada and elsewhere due to logging and other resource extraction. This forest land is crucial habitat for many species of birds, particularly neotropical migrants that breed in the region. Coarse estimates of bird numbers in the planned protected area include 2 million Tennessee Warblers, a million Swainson's Thrushes, and 5 million juncos, to name a few. In addition, protection of the vast forest lands will maintain an important carbon sink. It is estimated that 12.5 million metric tons of carbon are absorbed each year.

The conservation initiative announced by Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty also requires resource industries to work with the government and native First Nations communities to create sustainable development plans for the balance of the province's land. Over the next 10 to 15 years, the province will work with scientists and communities to map out the specific lands that are the most valuable as carbon storehouses and for species protection and which lands have the greatest resources and should be developed. This is a great commitment to environmental protection and a model for other undeveloped lands in North America and beyond.

What you can do--Write Premier McGuinty and thank him and the province of Ontario for this forward-looking act: Legislative Building, Queen's Park, Toronto, ON M7A 1A1; www.premier.gov.on.ca/feedback/feedback.asp. For further information on this issue, visit the Boreal Songbird Initiative at www.borealbirds.org.

Possible movement on Better Bottle Bill--Recent leadership changes in the NY State Senate may bode well for the long-stalled and overdue update of NY's returnable container law. Legislation to add water, juice, sports drinks, etc. to the soda and beer that presently require a deposit is well-supported across the state, and even in the state legislature. However, the bill was always blocked from a vote by Senate Majority Leader Joe Bruno who has close ties to the bottling industry.

In July, Sen. Bruno stepped down from his position and resigned his Senate seat, and was replaced as majority leader by Sen. Dean Skelos of Long Island. Albany environmentalists are cautiously optimistic that Sen. Skelos, who voted for the original deposit legislation, will be less antagonistic towards the Better Bottle Bill, and at

least allow the issue to be debated and voted on in the Senate. There have been discussions on compromise on the bill, with the possibility of only including water bottles, and of leaving the millions of dollars in unclaimed deposits with the bottlers. Whether this weakening of the legislation is justified is debatable, but the conversation at least indicates a break in the stalemate.

With non-deposit containers making up a larger and larger portion of roadside trash and landfill capacity, this bill is needed more than ever.

What you can do--Contact Sen. Skelos and ask him to stop the stranglehold on the Better Bottle Bill. Also let our local state senators know that this is important legislation that deserves a vote. During this fall's campaigns for the state legislature--particularly the closely balanced Senate--ask the candidates if they support expanding the bottle bill.

Addresses

Senate Majority leader Dean Skelos
NY State Senate, Albany, NY 12247 518-455-3171
skelos@senate.state.ny.us

State Sens. James Seward/John Bonacic
NY State Senate, Albany, NY 12247 Seward--
5188-455-3131 seward@senate.state.ny.us
Bonacic--518-455-3181 bonacic@senate.state.ny.us

Successful Hike for Bicknell's Thrush

The DOAS field trip to Plateau Mt. in the Greene Co. Catskills on June 22 was a success, despite rain, lightning and thunder. Five participants made the climb up the 3800 ft. peak to find the state endangered Bicknell's Thrush--present only at the highest elevations in the Catskills.

Three Bicknell's Thrushes were seen--two with very good views. Other species included Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, and numerous Swainson's Thrushes and Blackpoll Warblers, along with Magnolia, Black-and White, Blackburnian, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green Warblers, redstarts, Ovenbirds, Louisiana Waterthrush, White-throated Sparrows, etc. Wood Thrush and Hermit Thrush were also present, and Veery was found later near the trail head, for a sweep of all the expected spotted thrushes.

In addition, a bobcat crossed the trail in front of one hiker on the way down the mountain.

--Andy Mason

Gas Drilling

Concerns about the impacts of horizontal drilling for natural gas were brought to our attention last spring. Since our last newsletter, regional news media has started paying attention to the issue. The Daily Star has been giving it good coverage. In early August, they reported that hundreds of landowners in both Otsego and Delaware Counties have sold leases to energy companies.

A ProPublica investigative report titled "Toxic gas-drilling technique" appeared in the Albany Times Union on July 22. It detailed concerns about the chemicals used, how they might contaminate water wells and the environment, the use of huge quantities of water, the disposal of the contaminated waste water, and, how unprepared the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation is for safely regulating this new technology. Check the ProPublica site – www.propublica.org or go to the Times Union story at <http://timesunion.com/AspStories/story.asp?storyID=705332>.

Where this new drilling technology using toxic chemicals has been used, hundreds of wells have been poisoned. Since the industry was exempted from all federal environmental regulations by the U. S. Congress on the advice of Vice President Cheney's secret energy task force, we only have New York State environmental laws to protect us.

In July, on the heels of this report, Governor Patterson signed legislation to streamline the permitting process for these wells. His office then issued a news release stating they would update the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for gas drilling to consider the new technology. At our board meeting on August 19, the board approved a letter to the Governor calling for a moratorium on the issuing of any drilling permits until the addendum to the GEIS is completed.

... *Tom Salo*

Young Birders July Walk

A "Walk for Young Birders," led by Sandy Bright, took place July 19th at Wilber Park. Only two birders showed up, a father and son from Jefferson, and both were relatively experienced birders, so the walk was tailored to their interests.

The focus was on bird families and bird vocalizations, as we watched and listened to adults and begging juveniles of several species, including chickadees, tufted titmice, juncos, chipping sparrows, and white-breasted nuthatches. Killdeer families scurried around the football practice field at the high school, and an owl pellet was found under one of the goalposts. The highlight of the walk was the show put on by the newly-fledged merlins as they practiced their flying skills, calling and interacting with each other.

... *Sandy Bright*

SANCTUARY OPEN HOUSE

DOAS will hold its annual Open House on Saturday, October 4, 2008 from 10AM to 2PM, at our sanctuary on Franklin Mountain. Hawk watching, a trail walk and a hawk identification workshop for beginners are scheduled. Refreshments will be available at the barn.

The DOAS Sanctuary is the home of the Franklin Mountain Hawkwatch - one of the best locations in the Northeast for fall migrations of Red-tailed Hawks and Golden Eagles. Our dedicated volunteers record thousands of raptors each season. Fall of 2007 brought more than 6000 birds past the site. On average, counters record over 200 Golden Eagles heading south each season. The hawkwatch started its 20th year of counting on August 16.

One of the long time Franklin Mountain hawk watchers will conduct a 45 minute beginner's workshop called "Identifying Flying Hawks" at 10:30 by the barn. This will include the basics of hawk identification, focusing on the species typically seen in the area. The ID workshop can be complimented by the immediate use of the newly acquired skills at the hawkwatch. The watch will be staffed through the day.

The trail walk will start at 11:30AM and participants are encouraged to arrive 10-15 minutes early so as not to be left behind. For more information contact Andy Mason 607-652-2162, andymason@earthling.net or Tom Salo at 607-965-8232, tomsalo@localnet.com.

To find the DOAS Sanctuary, travel south on Oneonta's Main Street to Route 28 and go straight at the light. After crossing Route 28 turn immediately left at the T onto Southside Drive. Turn right on Swart Hollow Road (.8 mile). Go 1.5 mile and take a sharp right on Grange Hall Road. After .2 mile take a sharp left into the driveway or park nearby on Grange Hall Road.

All are welcome.

... *Tom Salo*

The New Birds in Town: Merlins

by Sandy Bright and Charlie Scheim

The merlin glided into a leafy tree. All was silent as he perched, cocking his head, listening, looking. He tried another perch, then another tree, quietly searching. He moved just out of sight, then suddenly, with no warning, no screeches of alarm from prey, he reappeared with a bird clutched in his talons. The need for stealth over, shrill cries broke the calm as he communicated with his mate. They met; a transfer was made, and a storm of feathers ensued as she prepared the meal before taking it to the nest.

This is not typical merlin hunting behavior, but then, these merlins are not nesting in traditional territory. Twenty years ago these raptors were only seen in New York State during migration; there wasn't a single incidence of merlins reported in the 1985 Breeding Bird Atlas. As merlins began recovering from DDT-caused decimation of their rural populations, many began to live more urban lives. The presence of humans seems not to disturb them. In June, just days after a pair was discovered in the village of Cooperstown, another pair was found enjoying life in one of Oneonta's picturesque parks.

Merlins are small falcons, only slightly larger but bulkier than the American Kestrel. They have been called the Jack Russell Terrier of the bird world, because they pack so much power and energy into a compact body. They are swift and aggressive, often harassing larger birds. They have been known to take prey larger than themselves, such as pigeons, sometimes hunting in cooperative pairs. In their typical hunting behavior, they can take prey in mid-air, and often hunt from an exposed perch. Any bird (within a size limit) is fair prey, but in urban areas that are often over-run with the non-native species of starlings and house sparrows, they probably take a high proportion of these invasive species.

Males and females differ in coloring and size, with the smaller males having a grey back, females brown. The difference can be hard to see from below, but if you're looking at one of the Oneonta merlins, look for the ring, worn by, of course, the female.

The "ring" is really a band, placed on the female by researcher Christopher Niven. Chris is studying mercury levels in hawks, and came to the area from Maine in June to collect DNA samples from nesting raptors. After setting a mist net and activating a robotic owl, he and his entourage (which included Sandy Bright, Charlie Scheim, Bill Hurley, Dave Kiehm and Gerianne Carillo hid and listened. In less than two hoots of a robotic owl, the female began indignantly shrieking. Moments later, she dove at the owl, dove again, then once more and she was in the net. She was untangled, banded, weighed, measured, donated a blood sample, then posed for pictures before being released.

Sunday, July 13th: we go to check the nest. It's empty; the chicks must have fledged. We search and listen, but see and

hear nothing at first. The still silence doesn't last long. If there are merlins in the vicinity, they will eventually let you know. The air filled with the cries of the three juveniles and the encouraging calls of the adults. We enjoyed watching the young practice flying from tree to tree while the proud parents stayed close by.

Since fledging, the merlins have steadily expanded their hunting territory. During August, we saw merlins flying over our house several times, about a mile from their nest site, and once saw one go after a grackle in a nearby tree. It will soon be time for their migration south. We'll hope that they return to Oneonta again next spring.



Audubon To Present Program on Wetland Residents: From Beavers and Birds To Dragonflies

Beavers and their place in our ecology will be the topic of our next general meeting of the Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society, on **Fri, Sept 19, 2008** at 7:30pm in the Elm Park Methodist Church, Chestnut St., Oneonta.

Owen J. Brown, Ph.D., and biologist Sharon T. Brown, leaders of nonprofit Beavers, Wetlands & Wildlife will present their important work to bring lasting environmentally sound solutions to the beaver/human conflict.. This husband and wife team has continued to ensure the Beaver is recognized as the keystone species of North America's wetlands.

The meeting is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.. For further information, please contact; Eleanor Moriarty, Program Chair at; e-mail eleanor@dmcom.net, Home phone: 607-278-5896.

JOHANNA KOENIG

Johanna Koenig died June 16, 2008, after a long struggle with cancer. She was a co-founder of our Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society Chapter, along with Elizabeth Feldheusen. In August of 1968 they called the first organizational meeting to form the new chapter, and then in October our Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society chapter was named, with eighteen members signing up at the first meeting, and Thomas Benjamin presenting a program 'The Ecology of a Wildlife Community'.

Many field trips and local meetings with speakers quickly followed and the chapter was on its way. By 1969 there were 60 members, and by then the chapter was holding Christmas Bird Counts, May Bird Counts, and field trips to many places including parks, reservoirs and National Wildlife Refuges.

Jo was President of the Chapter in 1971 when we presented \$250 to the Nature Conservancy, to help finance the acquisition of Emmons Bog as a Preserve. The Chapter still holds frequent field trips to the bog. Jo led many field trips for the chapter, and helped to set up the highly successful Audubon Wildlife Film Series, which brought Roger Tory Peterson here as narrator for his film Wild Africa Today, in 1972.

Jo was always active in the Oneonta community, helping to set up the Oneonta Co-op Nursery School in 1952, teaching at Oneonta High School, and teaching as an adjunct professor at Hartwick College. She was a long time member of MUG ONE, the Macintosh computer group, and served as its librarian. She shared with her husband the ownership of Century 21 real estate brokerage for many years.

Jo always loved teaching others about nature, loved hiking and cross country skiing, and was a long time member and leader of the Adirondack Mountain Club. She also led and participated in nature outings in the United States and abroad. She was ever a teacher, inspiring others to learn about and love the outdoors.

She is survived by her husband Charles and three sons, wives and grandchildren and even one great grand child. She leaves a legacy of love and inspired appreciation of nature with many many former students and friends.

... Jean T. Miller

A Trip to the Bog

The July day was clear and bright when we started up the trail to the bog on top of the small mountain at the edge of the Catskills. It was a 2 mile hike up through the maple, beech, hemlock, oak woods, and the recent rains had brought out many white Indian Pipes (Monotropa uniflora) along the trail. This little saprophytic plant is in the Wintergreen family, and has unique translucent, white, waxy nodding pipes which stand 3" to 6" tall. In the main forest we heard songs of Common Yellowthroat, Winter Wren, Redstart, Least Flycatcher, Wood and Hermit Thrush.

Bogs are found at high elevations (3,000' - 3130') in depressions left by glaciers, ("kettleholes") and they have a thin layer of stony glacial till on the bottom. They usually have open water in the middle, and have a floating mass of sphagnum moss around the edge. This floating mass also has a lovely confusion of other plants growing on it, and

will usually support the weight of a human if you step cautiously. These plants are very fragile, so it is best to walk only on one little trail out into the bog. There are often water lilies growing in the open water.

The water is harsh, acidic, and mineral-poor, so plants must expend energy drawing in fresh water while exuding the acid, and then holding the purer water. Plants here have developed strategies for conserving water. Heaths have small, leathery, evergreen leaves. These include Bog Cranberry and Leatherleaf. Some plants such as the Bog Rosemary and Bog Laurel have revolute leaves, with rolled-under margins. Labrador Tea, found in the ADKs, has brown "wool" on the underside of revolute leaves. Bog plants must survive with the deficiency of essential soil nutrients needed for vigorous growth.

The vegetation of a bog grows in concentric rings, starting with trees at what used to be the ancient shoreline, and moving into rings of progressively shorter shrubs. Trees surrounding the bog are Tamarack and Black Spruce, that grow among hummocks of soil, so as you approach the bog, walking becomes a challenge of hopping from one hummock to another to keep dry. Tall shrubs of High Bush Blueberry and Juneberry make up the next ring, along with smaller heaths and large Cinnamon and Interrupted Ferns. Then you break into the open and find you are on a floating mat, bouncing up and down and getting very wet feet.

The sphagnum moss mat that extends beyond the small shrubs supports many small plants such as sedges, orchids, and insectivorous plants. We were delighted to find that the pitcher plants still had tall red nodding flowers, and we could see the new leaves in the moss, formed into the pitcher shape and with water at the bottom. This plant is known as carnivorous as its bright colors and nectar attract insects which are enticed by downward pointing hairs into the pitcher, only to end up in the water with digestive enzymes in it. The plant benefits from the animal nutrients. Another carnivorous plant we saw was the round-leaved sundew. It has a little rosette of small round leaves at the base of the plant, and each leaf is covered with sticky hairs that attract, catch, and digest insects. Its small white flowers are borne on a separate curved stalk.

Bog Cranberries were still green, Leatherleaf and Bog Rosemary were about a foot tall, and groups of yellow Bladderwort were seen scattered here and there. This carnivorous plant has yellow flowers similar to the butter and eggs. Its filamentlike leaves are full of tiny bladders that entrap minute water life and are submerged in the water or moss. Orchids are always special to find growing in the wild in our temperate area; they require the acidic mossy environment. We saw the brilliant rose-purple Purple Fringeless Orchis, and the pink Calapogon. Many others can be found in bogs, such as the Purple Fringed Orchis, and Rose Pogonia and white Round-leaved Orchis.

As we turned to leave, we couldn't resist filling up with handfuls of delicious blueberries! A last gift from the ancient glacial kettlehole, a truly magical place.

... Jean T. Miller

NATIVE BEES and MAN

As I took my annual wildflower walk in a small nearby State Park, I saw some upsetting changes. The beautiful path circumvents the lake, and the ever encroachment of man was apparent. Wider path in places, a bit of 'paving' here and there, mowing nearby areas too early, which compromised the lovely patch of bluets and decimated the wood anemones. Perhaps more pesticides were used to keep some these lawns greener. Sadly, the pink lady-slippers seem to diminish slowly in numbers every year. I found an explanation for that.

Bees and a few wasps deliberately visit flowers to gather pollen, making them a major group of animal pollinators in the world. Without these pollinators, many ecosystems unravel. Our pink lady-slippers are pollinated by native bumble bees, and as bumble bees decline, the orchids produce fewer seeds and may eventually die out. Orchid populations in general are falling, perhaps due to declines of bumblebees.

We all know that our native bees are in trouble. Populations of some of them are declining worldwide due to habitat loss and pesticide use, as well as climate change, competition with introduced species, and imported diseases. Since non-native honeybee colonies are also facing problems and are struggling to survive, our native bees become ever more important pollinators.

We gardeners can help by planting bee-friendly flowers. The bees will return the favor by pollinating our plants. To attract native bees you need water, food, and a safe, healthy place to live (so cut out the toxic chemicals). Select noninvasive nectar and pollen providers such as goldenrod, purple lupine, sunflowers, blanket flower, raspberries, blackberries, fruit trees, rosemary, lavender and thyme. Select plants that flower at different times through the season. And it helps to have nest habitat such as dead branches for boring bees and bare ground for ground-nesting bees.

With their vibrant flowers and potent fragrances, native salvia plants are powerful backyard magnets for pollinators and other wild creatures. Bees love them. These plants are sages, members of the mint family. They are easy to grow and relatively free of disease. Lyreleaf sage is the most common salvia in the east and thrives well, self-seeding readily. Left in place it makes a great ground cover.

Commercial tomato growers prize bumblebees for their "sonification", a high-speed abdominal vibration in the range of middle C that liberates streams of pollen from the anthers of these difficult-to-pollinate flowers, resulting in dramatically high fruit yields.

On the down side, Ozone and other constituents of smog destroy at least some of the floral perfumes that pollinators rely on to find their meals. Bees, bats, and moths may suffer in urban and rural areas alike.

Let's increase our native bee populations.

... Jean T. Miller

Hawkwatch News

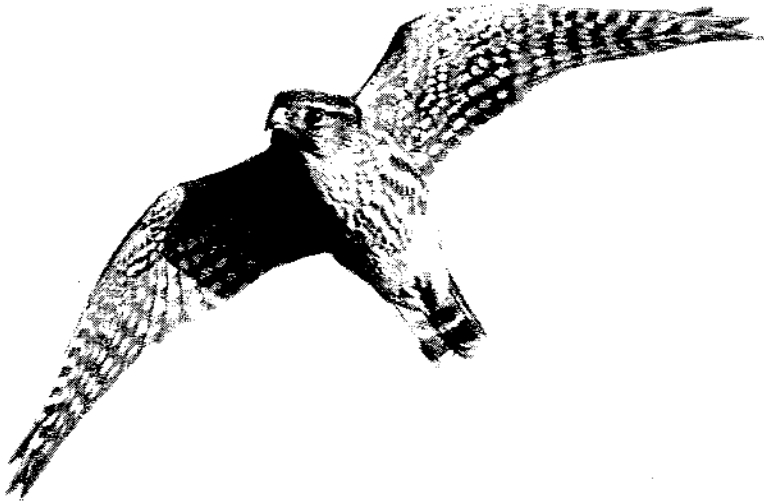
Counting at the Franklin Mt. Hawkwatch on the DOAS Sanctuary began in mid-August and will continue through December. This season marks the 20th consecutive season at the lookouts real milestone.

Dedicated volunteers record thousands of raptors each season. The 2007 season brought over 6000 birds of 15 species past the site, only the second time this threshold has been crossed. This included site record high numbers of Broad-winged Hawks, Sharp-shinned Hawks, and Cooper's Hawks. Coverage was again excellent, with 833 hours over 120 days put in by a great crew of counters. Visitors, spotters and counters are always welcome at the hawkwatch. We currently lack counters for numerous dates this season, which are open for experienced hawkwatchers.

For more information, contact Andy Mason, (607) 652-2162, AndyMason@earthling.net, or Tom Salo, (607) 965-8232, tomsalo@localnet.com. Forecast of anticipated good flights at the hawkwatch are sent out by email a day or two in advance. To receive these alerts, visit <http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/hawkcast/> to sign up. Daily tallies from Franklin Mt. are also available by email. Contact Andy Mason as above. More information and directions to the hawkwatch at the DOAS Sanctuary can be found at www.doas.us/franklinmt.htm.

Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society
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Membership Application

Membership in the Delaware-Otsego Audubon Soc. includes 9 issues of our newsletter, *The Belted Kingfisher*. Cost is \$12 annually or \$20 for 2 years. Please make check payable to DOAS and mail to DOAS Membership Chair, PO Box 544, Oneonta, NY 13820-0544, with name, address and phone.

(NOTE: Please mail National Audubon renewals to address on renewal notice.)

NAME _____

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To contribute notes or articles for *The Belted Kingfisher*, please send to: Kingfisher Editor, DOAS, PO Box 544, Oneonta, NY 13820-0544.

Do you know a good location for a field trip ?

All meetings are free and open to the public