



THE BELTED KINGFISHER

DELAWARE-OTSEGO AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Coming Activities

September

Septembr 16–Program, Pat Kernan, Bird Art

September 20–DOAS Board Mtg

October

October 1 –Open House at the DOAS Sanctuary

October 16–Montezuma Trip

October 18–DOAS Board Mtg

October 21– Annual Fall Charter Dinner

October 29– Bird Seed Orders Due

November

November 5–Bird Seed Pickup

November 18–Program, Allison Oakes, Return of the American Chestnut

December

December 6–DOAS Board Mtg

More information on page 11

DOAS programs are free & open to the public

September Program

Pat Kernan, Wildlife Illustration Curator, NYS Museum

On September 16th, Patricia Kernan will present a program of bird art from the collections of the New York State Museum in Albany. The State Museum was born from natural history surveys that started in 1836. Out of these surveys soon came illustrated publications that were among the first comprehensive works to document biology and geology in the USA. Many of the original illustrations are still in the collections of the New York State Museum. Emphasizing birds, our speaker will share a few of the historic and contemporary illustrations that are in the collection. She will focus on items from the collection by bird artists working and living in New York State in the past and present.

Patricia Kernan has been staff illustrator for Research and Collections at the New York State Museum for 28 years. In that capacity she is also the curator of the illustration collection of the



biennial, international exhibition *Focus on Nature*. She is currently working on *Focus on Nature XIV* that will be held at the Roger Tory Peterson Institute from December 2016 to April 2017 which involves 65 artists from 11 countries and includes many artworks of birds.

Pat Kernan's program is scheduled for 7:30 PM, Friday, September 16, at the Elm Park Methodist Church, 401 Chestnut Street, in Oneonta. The meeting is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. We look forward to seeing you!

Save the Date- October 21! Join us for the DOAS Annual Fall Charter Dinner at the Holiday Inn in Oneonta, with bird photographer Warren Greene as our featured speaker.

President's Message

Birding By Ear: Tons of Fun!

An enthusiastic and focused group of "bird folks" gathered at the Betty and Wilbur Davis State Park on the morning of June 5 to hone their skills at identifying birds through their songs and calls. Our guests came from near and far bringing diverse life stories and interacting with their love of nature drawing them together. DOAS volunteers Andy Mason (BBE educator and trail guide), Charlie Scheim (trail guide and "app" specialist), Becky Gretton (event coordinator and trail guide) worked with Sandy Bright, Eleanor Moriarty and Diane Graf to facilitate the morning's activities. Mother Nature was kind to us, as rainy weather skirted our location for most of the event!

We had a guest from Australia who kindly volunteered to share his professional photos of Aussie birds with expert commentary.



Photo by Janet Potter



Photo by Janet Potter

What a bonus for everyone.

Our delicious "Bruncheon" was provided by the Tally Ho Restaurant in Richfield Springs. Breakfast casseroles, muffins, chicken salad, green salad, croissants, coffee and juice were enjoyed after our first trail hike. Those who were able to remain on site enjoyed another hike after the meal.

Park staff was characteristically helpful in the planning and set-up stages of the BBE, and thanks go out to them as always.

We thank our loyal and talented DOAS members and those good folks who responded to our publicity for finding the time to come to our BBE.

As we parted company having made new friends and renewed old friendships and acquaintances, there was cheerful consensus: "Let's do it again next year!"

And so we shall!!

Becky Gretton

THE DELAWARE - OTSEGO AUDUBON SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1968

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Janet Potter

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Bob Donnelly
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Bird Counts:	Sandy Bright
Charter Dinner:	Julia Gregory
Finance:	Gray Mason
Historian:	Vacant
Sales:	Vacant

ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Delaware Otsego Audubon
Society

P.O. Box 544
Oneonta, NY 13820

Email: info@doas.us

ON THE WEB:

www.doas.us

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To contribute notes or articles for
The Belted Kingfisher, email:
editor@doas.us

Conservation and Legislation

Global warming—from our food? The documented sources of greenhouse gases from fossil fuels are well-known and make up the primary focus of efforts to reduce growing global temperature rise and resulting climate change. Direct release of carbon dioxide and methane from combusting coal, oil and natural gas is the target of environmentalists, governments and regulators, with modest success at best.

But what if a bigger cause was right under our noses?



Turkey Farm—Mercy for Animals

A study by the Worldwatch Institute shows that the greenhouse gas emissions attributable to livestock are 51% of the worldwide total—the largest single cause of climate change.

The primary contribution from livestock is the increase in CO₂ from respiration—the breath animals exhale. It may be difficult to grasp, but the hundreds of millions of cattle, pigs, chickens and other animals raised for human food put out nearly 9 billion tons of CO₂ annually. This amounts to 13.7% of all greenhouse gases.

Added to this is the methane produced by enteric processes and manure management from livestock. Methane is a much more potent greenhouse gas than CO₂. (Also the reason natural gas is not the “clean” replacement for oil and gas promoted by industry.) When converted to CO₂ equivalency, methane from raised animals totals over 7 billion tons each year.

Another major impact from meat production is the CO₂ released from land cleared for grazing and that used to grow feed. This activity and others related to production, such as manufacturing fertilizer, are estimated to put 6 to 7 billion tons of CO₂ into the atmosphere. Twenty-six percent of ice-free land worldwide is used for grazing livestock and 33 percent of arable land for growing feed. Much of this area was originally forested, with immense amounts of carbon released when cleared and often burned. Regenerating vegetation on this land could reduce CO₂ by 2.7 billion tons.

Other related atmospheric impacts from livestock bring the total greenhouse gas CO₂ equivalency to 32 billion tons,

over half of all such anthropogenic emissions worldwide! And livestock production has been rising—a trend expected to continue.

These effects on our air are in addition to degradation of land, water, wildlife and health that arise from meat production.

Of course, humans have to eat. But there are alternatives that create a significantly lower greenhouse gas cost than livestock. Growing legumes and grains produces a small percentage of the CO₂ per unit of protein as producing meat. It is estimated that a 25% reduction in animal farming would bring about an equivalent amount of greenhouse gas reduction of 12.5%—in the range of reductions discussed at last year’s Paris Agreement to limit global temperature rise.

What you can do? Think about what you eat.

Relatively small changes in our diets including replacing some animal and dairy products with soy, grains and other vegetables can have a positive effect on the environment, and likely our health too.



Soybean Field —Dwight Burdette

Update on Constitution Pipeline

There has been little action regarding the proposed Constitution Pipeline over the summer, and what there is has taken place in the courtroom. The pipeline has appealed NY State’s decision to not issue a water quality permit for the project. This action is pending.

Also, NY Attorney General Eric Schneiderman had petitioned the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to stop the project and to investigate Constitution for its part in the premature felling of trees by landowners along the pipeline route in NY, including locally in Sidney and Summit. FERC rejected the stop request, but has referred the investigation to its staff. Attorney General Schneiderman has appealed the decision, which is also pending.

Next month Elections 2016.

Andy Mason

DOAS Releases Ammunition Video

With funding from a grant from the American Eagle Foundation, DOAS produced and released an educational video explaining the reasons lead ammunition is a threat to humans, eagles and scavengers. The video – titled *Lead Ammunition: A Needless Danger to Eagles and Ourselves* – should help convince hunters to switch to non-toxic, high performance copper and copper alloy bullets and slugs. A link to the video can be found on our website home page – doas.us.



An eagle that was lead-poisoned in Delaware County last winter after feeding on deer butchering scraps appears in the film. This bird was rehabilitated and released but died from starvation. The brain damage it sustained from the lead was too severe for it to survive in the wild.

We encourage all members to share the link with hunters they know.

DOAS Bylaws Revised

The bylaws changes submitted to the DOAS membership for review in our last issue were approved by the Board of Directors at their August meeting. The revisions include allowing more than one president, as is the current practice, creation of an Executive Committee to make urgent decisions between board meetings, and requirement that all directors, officers and committee members comply with our new Conflict of Interest Policy. Our newly revised bylaws can be viewed at <http://doas.us/about-doas/constitution-and-bylaws/>

John G. New Audubon Summer Day Camp 2016



August Session Campers with Andy Mason

Twenty two nature campers entering grades 3 through 6 had fun in the outdoors this summer during our two exploration-focused sessions at the DOAS Sanctuary. The sessions ran beautifully under the continued direction of educator Megan Langan (nee Gigandet).

A warm thank you goes out to DOAS Co-President, Andy Mason and DOAS member, Eileen Kline for their time in sharing their expertise with our groups during each session.

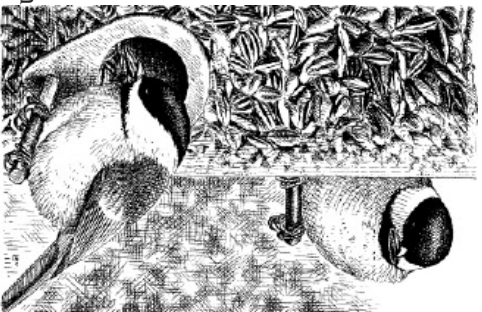


July session campers collecting pond life for study with Eileen Kline

Four partial scholarships were able to be awarded this summer due to the generous donations of those who responded to our request in the Spring. Thank you to all those who contributed to the DOAS Camp Scholarship Fund! For information on how to donate, contact Susan O’Handley, DOAS Education Chair at 607-643-5680 or by email at sjohandley@gmail.com.

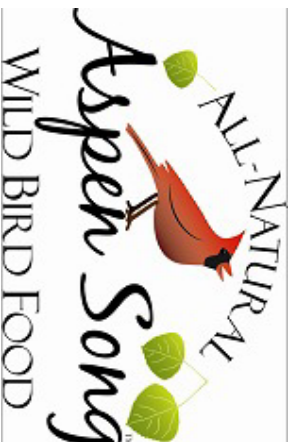
How it Works

1. Complete the order form (also available online at DOAS.us/store).
 2. Send order form and payment for full amount to: Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society, Bird Seed Sale PO Box 544 Oneonta, NY 13820
 3. Make sure we receive your order and payment no later than Oct. 29, 2016. (To order by phone, please call it in to Susan O'Handley, 607-643-5680.)
 4. Pick up your order on Saturday, November 5, between 9am and 11am at Walmart Parking Lot, Route 23 (Southside) in Oneonta (just off I-88 at Exit 15).
- NOTE: Please ensure that you pick up your seed on the pickup day! Our storage space is limited, but in an emergency, we will try to hold your order. Call Andy Mason at 607-267-8491 with any problems and/or questions.



Featuring Products from Aspen Song

Aspen Song mixes have been designed to provide the best possible nutrition with the broadest possible appeal to your backyard visitors. Great, but does it make a difference? ABSOLUTELY! Why? A healthy diet is a matter of survival for songbirds. They innately seek food sources that provide needed energy, and balance their nutritional needs. They are free to choose where they find these essentials. Most of their diet comes from natural sources. The best way to get them to choose YOUR feeder is to satisfy their nutrition requirements with ASPEN SONG. Aspen Song has mixes formulated for the broadest appeal to seed eating birds and mixes designed for specific bird groups. For more information, bird feeding tips, a bird photo gallery and more visit www.aspensong.com.



2016 DOAS Bird Seed Sale



The DOAS Bird Seed Sale Fundraiser is your opportunity to buy quality bird seed, and help support DOAS programs including guest speakers at member meetings, field trips and events, the Franklin Mountain Hawk Watch program, and more. We urge you to buy as much seed as you need for the entire winter!

ORDER DEADLINE:

October 29, 2016 - 5pm



ORDER PICK UP DATE:

Saturday, November 5, 9am-11am
Walmart Parking Lot, Oneonta NY

NAME:		PHONE NUMBER:	
EMAIL ADDRESS:		PAYMENT TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____	
PRODUCT DESCRIPTIONS	Quantity	Price each	Total
Locally Grown Black Oil Sunflower Seed - Grown locally, this seed purchase supports critical local grassland bird habitat as well as local family farms. 30 LB. BAG - \$20	_____	30 LB @\$20	\$ _____
Aspen Song Ultimate Blend - This is a corn free-mix that includes Black Oil Sunflower, White Proso Millet, Black Stripe Sunflower, Peanuts, Sunflower Kernels, Safflower, Tree Nuts and Shelled Pumpkin Seeds. 20 LB. BAG - \$19/40 LB. BAG - \$35	_____	20 LB @\$19	\$ _____
Aspen Song Premium Blend - This mix includes Black Oil Sunflower, White Proso Millet, Cracked Corn, Peanuts, Tree Nuts, Safflower, Canola, Small Yellow Millet, Canary Seed, Nyjer Seed and Dehydrated Cherries. 20 LB. BAG - \$18/40 LB. BAG - \$34	_____	40 LB @\$35	\$ _____
Aspen Song Choice Blend - This blend contains over 30% Sunflowers & Peanuts and includes White Proso Millet, Black Oil Sunflower, Cracked Corn, Peanuts, Safflower and Black Stripe Sunflower. 20 LB. BAG - \$15/40 LB. BAG - \$26	_____	20 LB @\$18	\$ _____
Aspen Song Just Desserts - This is a shell-less mix for those who don't want shells, waste, germination or mess. It contains Peanuts, Tree Nuts, Sunflower Kernels, Hulled White Millet, and Shelled Pumpkin Seeds. 20 LB. BAG - \$31	_____	40 LB @\$34	\$ _____
Aspen Song Nut & Fruit Woodpecker Blend - A shell-less mix designed for woodpeckers and wire mesh tube feeders, this mix includes Peanuts, Tree Nuts, Sunflower Kernels, Steam-crimped Corn, Shelled Pumpkin Seeds, Raisins, Dehydrated Cherries, Dried Cranberries and Dried Blueberries. 20 LB. BAG - \$35	_____	20 LB @\$15	\$ _____
Nyjer Seed - To primarily attract finches, siskin & redpoll, this is used in feeders with tiny seed ports. 25 LB. BAG - \$45	_____	40 LB @\$26	\$ _____
Suet Cakes - Made from rendered beef kidney fat with peanut butter, sunflower seed, white millet, cracked corn, peanuts & cashews. Order single units or by the case. Refined to maintain a high melting point for year-round feeding. Nut & Fruit 11 oz.. (SINGLES - \$2.5 EA. OR CASE OF 12 - \$25) / Hi Energy 12 oz. (SINGLES - \$2 EA. OR CASE OF 12 - \$20	_____	20 LB @ \$31	\$ _____
Birds & Beans Bird Friendly Coffees - 12 oz \$12; Decaf: 12 oz \$13; Wood Thrush, Breakfast Roast American Redstart, Light Roast Chestnut-sided Warbler, Medium Roast Scarlet Tanager, French Roast Baltimore Oriole, French Roast Decaf	_____	20 LB @ \$35	\$ _____
DOAS Membership (1 year): \$15 Individual or \$20 Family DOAS Membership (2 year): \$25 Individual or \$30 Family	_____	25 LB @ \$45	\$ _____
Would you like to include an additional donation to support DOAS Programs? Enter amount.	_____	N/F \$2.50 EA N/F \$25 (12) H/E \$2 EA H/E \$20 (12)	\$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____
	_____	Breakfast \$12 Light \$12 Medium \$12 French \$12 DECAF \$13	\$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____
	_____		\$ _____
	_____		\$ _____
TOTAL (Please enclose check for total amount made out to DOAS with 2016 Bird Seed Sale in memo section)	_____		\$ _____

Charter Dinner Keynote Speaker: Warren Greene, Photographer

Mark Your Calendars for the Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society's Annual Charter Dinner on Friday October 21, 2016 at the Holiday Inn on State Highway 23 in Oneonta. A social hour begins at 5:30 PM, buffet at 6:30 PM, and the program at 7:30 PM. The program is open to the public. Warren Greene, of Gloversville, New York, will present bird and nature photographs

with a mainly Adirondack theme. His work has been well published. Since 1976, Warren has used a Leica film camera. Three years ago, he switched to digital, using a Nikon D10 camera. His presentation on October 21 will consist of ALL NEW photos, unseen by anyone until that special night! Please join us by making a reservation using the form below. .



Photos by Warren Greene

Annual Charter Dinner – October 21, 2017

The Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society will have their annual Charter Dinner on Friday October 21, 2016 at the Holiday Inn on State Highway 23 in Oneonta. A social hour begins at 5:30 PM, buffet at 6:30 PM and the program at 7:30 PM. The program is open to the public.

This year's speaker is bird photographer Warren Greene who will present bird and nature photographs.

The buffet cost is \$28 per person

*Reservations must be made by October 15th by calling 607-563-2924
or mailing a check to: Julia Gregory, PO Box 641, Unadilla, New York 13849*

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Amount enclosed: _____

“Bird Sightings” Continued from page 11

Tom Salo discovered a Pileated Woodpecker nest in the woods in West Burlington. He then watched as a Hooded Merganser did a distraction display to get him away from her clump of fuzzy babies. He hoped they all made it to water, as they had quite a hike in front of them!

Later in June, Angelika Rashkow enjoyed watching a Cedar Waxwing on one of her young pine trees in Cooperstown. In early July, Dorian Huneke reported the Treadwell Eaglet had fledged. In Wilber Park, Oneonta, a Sapsucker nest I had been watching was finally quiet. The Merlins were busy feeding juveniles, and families of Kingbirds vocalized.

In mid-July to early August, Great Egrets were roaming, with three reported by Andy Mason along the Fraser-Treadwell Rd. (Delaware Co.), one found on Clarke Pond and two on the Otsego Golf Club by Becky Gretton (Cooperstown), and one in Harpersfield by Randy Lynch, along with Green Heron, Great Blue Heron, and Belted Kingfisher.

Randy also reported that the local leucistic Red-tailed Hawk and its mate had one fledgling (standard plumage), and observed a number of Eastern Meadowlarks and a pair of Solitary Sandpipers, many Kestrels, and one Merlin. One young and very loud

Hairy Woodpecker hung around our suet feeder for days, demanding food from its harried parents.

Kathy Dawson was thrilled to return from an extended trip to find that Kestrels had taken up residence in her yard in Guilford, possibly having used the box she had installed several years ago.

In Delhi, Kathryn Davino had juvenile Purple Finches, House Finches, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Mourning Doves, Nuthatches, and Blue Jays at her feeders. She delighted in tracking the progress of a family of Broad-winged Hawks, and watching the young try their wings. She found the sound of begging Barred Owls a bit spooky in the wee hours of the morning.

In mid-August, Suzanne Gaynor reported a large group of blackbirds lined up on wires on Route 23. It's hard to believe another breeding season has come and gone. Seems like our summer visitors just got here, and they're getting ready to leave.

Sandy Bright



*photo by
David Kiehm*

Hawkwatch Underway

The 28th consecutive season of counting at the Franklin Mt. Hawkwatch began at the end of August. The Hawkwatch, located on the DOAS Sanctuary off Grange Hall Road, will continue into early January, covering portions of six months, one of the longest



*Franklin Mountain
Hawkwatch --DOAS photo*

seasons of any raptor migration site.

Last year, 4312 hawks were tallied during 100 days of coverage—an all-volunteer effort. Fifteen different species

were sighted, with 1458 Broad-winged Hawks and 1486 Red-tailed Hawks leading the totals. In addition, 124 Golden Eagles and 231 Bald Eagles were spotted. The first big push of migrating hawks comes during the middle two weeks of September as Broad-winged Hawks gather into flocks for their long journey to South America. This is the most concentrated flight of any raptor species, with typically three or four big days making up the bulk of the count. Last year's biggest day was 480 broad-wings on Sept. 15. Seeing a large flock or “kettle” of these birds is a great sight. Visitors and spotters are always welcome at the hawkwatch. We are particularly seeking individuals looking to become counters, to enable us to continue full coverage at the lookout.

“Hawkwatch” Continued on page 9

DOAS Sanctuary Open House



Photos from Open House 2015

On Saturday, October 1 from 10 AM to 2 PM, the Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society will host an open house at the DOAS Sanctuary on Grange Hall Spur Road, Oneonta. The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be available throughout the day. Thousands of raptors of 15 species are counted each fall as they concentrate along the ridges overlooking Oneonta during their migration south for the winter months. The Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society has operated the Franklin Mountain Hawkwatch to survey hawks and eagles migrating past their wildlife sanctuary in the Town of Davenport for over 25 years. Volunteers count hawks, eagles and vultures passing the site on most days from late August through December. The site is noted for its flights of Golden Eagles and Red-tailed Hawks. In some years, over 200 Golden Eagles and more than 2000 Red-tailed Hawks have been recorded passing the site on their way south. The best flights generally occur on days with north or northwest winds, usually following cold fronts.

At 10:30 AM, learn how to identify flying hawks, followed at 11:30 by a trail walk through the Sanctuary. At 12:30 PM, guests will enjoy a special program with live raptors presented by Wildlife Rehabilitator, Missy Runyon of Friends of the Feathered and Furry Wildlife Center in Hunter, NY. The Hawkwatch will be staffed

throughout the day, and visitors can enjoy walking the Sanctuary property during the afternoon. The open house event is designed to be interesting for bird watchers of any age. The Hawkwatch will be staffed through the day.

“Hawkwatch” Continued from page 8

For more information, contact Andy Mason, (607) 652-2162, AndyMason@earthling.net, or Tom Salo, (607) 965-8232, salothomas@gmail.com. Forecasts of anticipated good flights at the hawkwatch are sent out by email a day or two in advance. To receive these alerts, visit www.franklinmt.org 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.franklinmt.org.

Andy Mason



*Red-shouldered Hawk--
photo by Janet Potter*

DOAS Officers Elected

The Board elected its officers for the 2016-2017 term. They are:

Becky Gretton, Andy Mason, Susan O’Handley--Co-Presidents; Dorian Huneke--Secretary; and Charlie Scheim--Treasurer.

DOAS Board Changes

Long-time DOAS Director Stephen Rice stepped down from the board this summer. Stephen has been a positive presence in the leadership of our Chapter for many years, always advocating for thoughtful and compassionate positions in the group's discussions. He has handled our sales of books and other items—carrying a heavy suitcase of inventory to meetings—the equivalent of a gym workout!

We thank Stephen for his service and friendship and

look forward to his presence at DOAS events in the future.

As is often the case when a treasured Auduboner departs, we gain new faces. We are pleased to announce the addition of two new board members, Jeanne Keahon of Treadwell and Kathryn Davino of Delhi. Both bring talents and interests to our group and expand our Delaware County contingent that often is short-handed on the board. We will have profiles of Jean and Kathryn in future Kingfishers and we extend them a hearty welcome!

Important Notice to National Audubon Society Members

Please Join Our Local Chapter

- If you are a member of the National Audubon Society, you are receiving this issue of *The Belted Kingfisher*, compliments of our local Chapter, the Delaware-Otsego Audubon Soc. Due to printing and postage costs and the loss of the portion of National Audubon Society (NAS) dues that our Chapter receives, we are not 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 \$15 per year or \$25 for two years; family memberships are \$20 per year or \$30 for two years—use the membership form below.
- Your mailing label will inform you of your membership status: an L indicates a local member, with expiration date (year and month, e.g. '1611' indicates November 2016); an N indicates an NAS-only member. If you are an NAS-only member, we ask you 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.

View membership benefits and download application from our website: doas.us/join-us/

DOAS Membership Application

Membership in the Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society includes 9 issues of our newsletter, *The Belted Kingfisher*.

Cost is \$15 annually or \$25 for two years; family memberships \$20 annually or \$30 for two years.

Make check payable to "DOAS" and mail payment with this form to: DOAS Membership Chair, PO Box 544, Oneonta, NY 13820-0544.

Note: Please mail National Audubon renewals to address on renewal notice.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Upcoming Activities

September

September 16– DOAS Public Program: Pat Kernan, Curator of Scientific Illustrations at the New York State Museum, will present a program about the Museum's illustrations with an emphasis on birds. The program begins at 7:30 PM at the Elm Park United Methodist Church, 401 Chestnut Street, Oneonta.

September 20– DOAS Board Meeting: 6:30 PM

October

October 1– Open House at the DOAS Sanctuary: 10 AM to 2 PM, located on Grange Hall Spur Road, Oneonta. The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be available throughout the day.
 10:30 AM Workshop: How to Identify Flying Hawks
 11:30 AM Hawkwatch Visit and Guided Trail Walk
 12:30 PM Live Raptors with Rehabilitator Missy Runyon The Hawkwatch will be staffed through the day. See article on page 9.

October 16th–Field trip to Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge to view migrating waterfowl and shorebirds on their annual journey to wintering habitats. Meet at 7:30 AM, at the Dietz Street parking lot, across from the Oneonta YMCA. Contact Eleanor Moriarty, at 607-435-2054, or eleanormrrt955@gmail.com. for

Bird Friendly Coffee Orders

for pickup at our September 16 Program Meeting must be placed by noon on Sunday, September 10. Contact Susan at 607-643-5680 or sjohandley@gmail.com.



inquiries. This is an all day trip, pack a picnic lunch. Carpooling is available. This is an all-day event, and expected return to Oneonta is approximately 5:00 PM.

October 21– DOAS Annual Fall Charter Dinner: Join us at the Holiday Inn in Oneonta, with bird photographer Warren Greene as our featured speaker. A social hour begins at 5:30 PM, buffet at 6:30 PM and the program at 7:30 PM. The program is open to the public. See article on page 7.

October 29– Bird Seed Orders Due

November

November 5 – Bird Seed Pickup: 9 AM to 11 AM, Walmart Parking Lot, Oneonta.

November 18– DOAS Public Program, The Return of the American Chestnut: Allison Oakes will share her experiences working with the American Chestnut Research and Restoration Project to bring this beautiful canopy tree back to the Eastern United States. The program begins at 7:30 PM at the Elm Park United Methodist Church, 401 Chestnut Street, Oneonta.

December

December 6– DOAS Board Meeting: 6:30 PM

Support Those Who Support DOAS!!

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 Box Office (607) 547-2255
<http://glimmerglass.org>

**Thank you to Glimmerglass Festival,
for being a sponsor!**



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www.doas.us

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Summer Bird Sightings

Ah, summer, a time to relax and enjoy the weather. Not so for birds, who must take advantage of the increased food supply to raise a bunch – and sometimes several bunches – of chicks. Luckily for us, their frenzied activity and the insistent begging of their young often make it easier to find and observe them.

In early June, Jean Petterson enjoyed the antics of a Raven family, which seemed to be playing keep-away in her driveway. Leslie Preston (Oneonta) had looked forward to watching a Cardinal family, but was distressed to find the previously-active nest empty, possibly the result of marauding starlings.

Mid-June brought calling Black-billed Cuckoos, heard in West Burlington by Tom Salo and in Laurens by

Charlie Scheim, who also observed Broad-winged Hawks there throughout the summer. Randy Lynch watched a pair of Common Loons in breeding plumage on Goodyear Lake until a jet skier scared them off. He also reported a Carolina Wren, a male Bluebird singing in desperation next to his last unoccupied nest box, and large numbers of Bobolinks and Eastern Meadowlarks in Stamford, despite much mowing activity. Checking Eagle nests, he found a juvenile at the Lowes' nest in Oneonta and two in Davenport.

On the east side of Otsego Lake, Becky Gretton found a Prairie Warbler and plenty more. Her attempt to flush a possible Yellow-bellied Flycatcher made the woods come alive with alarm. A Barred Owl flew about, checking, then went off, having been “mercilessly mobbed by everything that could fly!”



Black-billed Cuckoo
Audubon.org

If you have bird sightings to report, contact Sandy Bright, brights@hartwick.edu, at 40 Fair St., Oneonta, NY 13820, or at 607 287-4465 for the next issue of The Belted Kingfisher. We regret that not every report can be included due to limited space. Additional information may be requested for sightings of rare or unusual birds.

“Bird Sightings” Continued on page 8