

Pittsburg State University

Pittsburg State University Digital Commons

Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society Newsletters

Organizations

4-2010

News From the Flock, Vol. 2010 Issue 4

Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/sgasnewsletter>

Recommended Citation

Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society, "News From the Flock, Vol. 2010 Issue 4" (2010). *Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society Newsletters*. 20.

<https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/sgasnewsletter/20>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Organizations at Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society Newsletters by an authorized administrator of Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@pittstate.edu.



NEWS FROM THE FLOCK . . .

Newsletter of the Sperry Galligar Audubon Society serving Bourbon,
Crawford, and Cherokee counties in Kansas.

April, 2010

Volume 2010-4

Calendar of Events:

Next Meeting: Slide program on "Breeding Biology of the Upland Sandpiper". by John Dorio - retired U.S. Forest Service forest ranger and wildlife biologist .

April 29 at 7:00 PM, Room 102, Yates Hall , PSU Campus. Refreshments served. Guests welcome. Open board meeting at 5:45, 3rd Floor Hecket-Well Hall.

Field Trips:

—No field trips are planned at time of publication. Watch for email announcement.

Consider Going To

—Kansas Birding Festival, Wakefield, KS, April 23-25. See web-site for details.

—Joe Collins will present "Snakes and Things People Do," May 1 at 2 PM at Schermerhorn Nature Center, Galena.

FYI—

Website:

<http://pwp.surfglobal.net/rmangile/Sgas/>

Mailing Address:

SGAS
PO BOX 205
Pittsburg, KS 66762-0205

Articles for submission for May newsletter may be sent to hartley@mobil1.net by May 7, 2010. Articles should be in WORD or in the body of an e-mail; pictures as JPEG. Newsletter is published monthly September thru May.



Snickerdoodles & Timberdoodles

March 14, Ford's Farm—The word *doodle* originally meant a fool or to waste time or to swindle or to make a fool of. The woodcocks or timberdoodles fooled 20 hardy birdwatcher who sat and stood quietly in 45 degree overcast weather, waiting for a glimpse of these elusive shorebirds. The birds were heard twittering occasionally for 45 minutes but failed to show. Steve Ford finally called "time" and the birders headed for the *snickerdoodles*—in the case hot coffee and tea and desserts that included pie, cake,



candy, cookies, brownies and muffins in a warm house. Last year these bog suckers avoided auditory detection. This year they were heard. Maybe next year, they will be seen.

WWF's Most Endangered Species

Once threatened primarily by oil spills, magellanic penguins (*Spheniscus magellanicus*), now face a larger threat as fish are displaced by warming ocean currents, forcing the birds to swim farther to find food. Last year hundreds of magellanic penguins washed up on beaches around Rio de Janeiro, many emaciated or dead. Scientists have speculated that changes in ocean currents or temperatures, which may be related to climate change, could have been responsible for their movement more than a thousand miles north of their traditional nesting area in

the southern tip of Argentina. Twelve out of the 17 penguin species are currently experiencing rapid population decline. World Wildlife Federation's list of "10 to Watch in 2010" includes such well-known and beloved species as tigers, polar bears, pandas, and rhinos, as well as lesser-known species such as bluefin tuna and mountain gorillas. WWF scientists say these, and many other species, are at greater risk than ever before because of habitat loss, poaching, and climate change-related threats. This year's watch list includes five species directly impacted by climate



change, as well as the monarch butterfly, the species at the center of an endangered biological phenomenon

Minutes of Meetings—

BOARD MEETING MINUTES 3rd Floor, Heckert Wells Hall, PSU March 25, 2010

Attending: Mavis Benner, Cindy & Steve Ford, Delia Lister, Bob & Liz Mangile, Diane McCallum, Carol Newcomb, Barb Robins, Emmett Sullivan, Jeff Switlik.

Call To Order By President Lister: Done so at 5:55 p.m.

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report (Liz): Checking account balance of \$4,884.20. \$2,635.97 is in the CD currently up for renewal—do we want to transfer an additional \$2,000 from checking to that CD? Moved, seconded, and approved.

Field Trips (Diane & Mavis): Rookery trip is postponed due to water and mud; we'll try for April 10 or 17. Perhaps we'll go to Marais Des Cygnes April 24.

Earth Week Events (Delia): Of special interest to Auduboners might be "Dirt: The Movie" showing on April 20 at 6:30 p.m. The bike ride to the reserve is April 24 at 9:30.

New Signage for Bird Seed Sale (Delia & Steve): After checking, they find that a 3' x 5' banner for inside is \$4/square foot, or about \$200 for 3 banners. An outside banner for the truck 4'4" x 10', would be \$360 (\$4/square foot). After much discussion, it was decided that Delia will talk with Todd, the mall manager, about the possibilities of posting a sign somewhere outside near the street or the door.

New Business:

Summer Camp (Delia): This year, she plans to invite ten second graders the third week in July. The format will be the same as last year, and she needs to replenish some supplies and give each set of parents a book of at-home projects. She needs \$87.60 and ten bags. The board moved, seconded, and approved to donate \$100.

Nominating Committee: Bob, Carol, and Mavis will present a slate of officers at next month's general meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:50.

SUMMARY General Meeting, Yates Hall, Room 102 March 25, 2010

Bird Sightings: Cedar waxwing, Killdeer, Ring-necked Duck.

Announcements:

President Delia Lister: The rookery trip is postponed till possibly next week.

Our thanks to Steve & Cindy Ford for hosting the woodcock watchers last week; at least they heard them.

A summer day camp will once again be conducted in July, this time for ten Second graders. Please feel free to refer interested children. A signup sheet listing needed items is going around; you wish to donate, sign and bring items to the May picnic.

The PSU Earth Week events comprise two that might interest members: the showing of "Dirt: The Movie" on the Jungletron on April 20, and the bike ride to the research reserve on April 24. Delia then showed a clip from the movie.

Bob Mangile: He presented a pin to Rhea Hartley, via John and Julie, for 200 birds seen and listed. Bob then reviewed the process of earning pins.

Steve Ford: The deadline for our photo contest is the April meeting; the rules are on the website, and you can

get an entry form from Steve. The National Audubon Society's *Guide to the Birds of North America* DVDs are now in our lending library.

Nature Moment: Delia showed a video clip about the lyrebird.

Featured Speaker: Mavis Benner introduced Dana Hoisington, a staff member at Prairie State Park. He talked about disappearing prairie species as well as commonly seen ones, then focused on reptiles and amphibians seen at the park. Characteristics shared by all or most of them, and differences among them were presented. Dana showed us photos of individual species and gave fascinating details about them. We heard about their beneficial traits and some reasons why they need our assistance. The highlight of the evening for snakeophiles was the live viewing (and touching) of two species. Dana made



available some free brochures on snakes from the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Door Prizes: Peg Doria and Kaitlin Sellars

Submitted by Barb Robins, Secretary

From My Nest —

By Delia Lister, President



A big congratulations to Dr. Cindy Ford who is the 2009 recipient of the National Association for Interpretation (NAI) Region 6

Distinguished Professional Interpreter's Award. This award is a six state regional award and is given to someone who shows "mastery of interpretive tech-



niques, program development, design of creative projects and has the ability to pass these skills on to others." Congratulations again, Cindy!

Don't miss out on one of the best documentaries produced in a long time. Join Nature Reach and PSU for a special showing of "Dirt! The Movie" on the PSU Jungletron. It will begin at 6:30 PM on April 20th at Carnie Smith Stadium. You are welcome to bring a snack, however food is not allowed on the playing field. You'll never believe how a movie about dirt could be so interesting! Check out the website for a preview at www.dirtthemovie.org.



Bring on the Butterflies—

Although in my perfect world butterflies live on nothing less magical than flower nectar, ambrosia, and an occasional marshmallow, the truth is that many butterflies feed on rotting fruit, tree sap, dung, carrion, urine, and other not-so-pretty, non-nectar sources of nutrients. You can allow fruit from your fruit trees to decay on the ground, leave your pet's droppings where they drop, or place a bit of raw meat or fish in a discreet part of your garden. Sweet! Or you can use beer to make this awesome butterfly bait to get some flutter-action in your garden



3 mashed overripe banana
1 cup of molasses or syrup
1 cup of fruit juice
1 shot of rum

INGREDIENTS

1 pound sugar
1 or 2 cans stale beer

Mix all ingredients well and splash on trees, fence posts, rocks, or stumps—or soak a sponge in the mixture and hang from a tree-limb



Green Tips—

Here are "6 best ways to live a 'greener' life from *Richmond Green Living Examiner*. (abstracted from <http://www.examiner.com/x-41048-Richmond-Green-Living-Examiner~y2010m3d24-6-best-ways-to-practice-environmentalism-while-preparing-for-Earth-Day-2010>) 1. Eat natural and organic foods. One of the most important things you can do is purchase food and groceries that are organic or natural. 2. Make your own foods. While this may sound daunting, it's really very easy. Many stores and farmer's markets which provide fresh natural ingredients to be used in cooking. Making your own bread, salsa, dressing, and condiments can be a healthy choice that uses fresh ingredients and contributes to a healthier environment. 3. Eat at home. While it may be hard to see how this is "green living" at first glance, a little closer examination and you'll see that it's the smart way to live. Instead of eating fast food that is poorly prepared, using gas to drive, and causing more fuel emissions, and contributing to traffic jams and stress, prepare healthy, fun meals at home. 4. Shop locally and support local business. This is a great way to be "greener". Small farmers, farmer's markets, local markets, and small businesses depend on local residents. You're guaranteed fresher foods and you're supporting your local community. You're also cutting down on the amount of foods that must be transported around the city. 5. Stop printing. Instead of hard copies of everything, opt for online versions. Read magazines online. Check the news on your favorite website. Do what you have to do to avoid printing anything from your computer. 6. Switch off. Turn off your small appliances, computers, and hand-held devices when not in use and unplug chargers. With an estimated 190 million cell phones in the U.S. alone, the combined stand-by usage of all those cell phone chargers

Fatter is Better, Sometimes!

could add up to 190 megawatts per day. That's enough to power approximately 100,000 homes! About 5% of a phone charger is actually used and 95% is wasted when the charger is plugged into the socket

Source: excerpts from <http://www.livescience.com/animals/fat-birds-migrate-faster-100217.html>

Usually the first migrating birds to arrive in nesting areas get the more productive sites. A little extra weight may be a good thing if you're a small migrating bird. Fatter birds may migrate faster than thinner ones, because the chubby birds need less time to stop and replenish their fat reserves, a new study from Europe suggests. Ten fat garden warblers and ten thin garden warblers were fitted with temporary adhesive radio transmitters. That morning, the birds had landed for a stopover on the Italian island of Ventotene. Then, the researchers monitored, at regular intervals, whether the signal emitted by the transmitters could still be heard on the island

(to figure out the stopover time). Nine out of the 10 fat birds flew off the island



on that same night. But the thin birds remained on the island an average of 40 hours before resuming their journey. The results suggest that the duration of a bird's stopover is not just influenced by environmental factors, such as wind and weather conditions, or the innate urge to migrate. The ability to process the stopover resources may be an important factor in migration speed.

Membership in National Audubon and Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society

—For an introductory rate of \$20, you can become a member of both the National Audubon Society and the local chapter—SGAS. You will receive four copies of the national magazine Audubon and all local SGAS newsletters.

—For \$15 you can become a member of the local chapter only and receive only local newsletters.

—If you wish to join both National Audubon and SGAS, please complete this form and submit it to the SGAS Treasurer along with a check for \$20 made out to National Audubon Society.

—If you wish to join only the local SGAS, complete this form and submit it to the SGAS Treasurer along with a check for \$15 made out to SGAS for yearly dues.

This form and the accompanying check should be sent to SGAS, PO Box 205, Pittsburg, KS 66762

Membership Application Form

I wish to join both National Audubon Society and SGAS and am enclosing \$20.

I wish to join only the local SGAS and am enclosing \$15.

Personal Information (please print):

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Chapter Code: COZJ100Z



Financial Statement March 2010

Beginning balance-----\$4762.28

Credit

Local membership dues-----\$90.00

Direct Deposit Nat'l Audubon-----\$20.00

Total-----\$110.00

Debit

March newsletter printing-----\$18.86

Labels for newsletter-----\$ 9.22

Total-----\$28.08

Ending balance-----\$4844.20

Submitted by Liz Mangile, Treasurer

Bird Facts: Cattle Egret

This birds migrates through the 4-state area in April on its way from the Gulf Coast, US to breeding as far north as Canada. It was first identified in the West Indies in the 1930's, probably migrating by winds from Africa. By the 1980's it had found breeding areas throughout the North America. It generally moves in flocks. This one was found near US 400 in Crawford County.



Return Address
SGAS
PO Box 205
Pittsburg, KS 66762



April

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

**Dues
Due**

If the box is marked, our records indicate your membership has expired. Please consider rejoining as a member of the local SGAS only. The local chapter receives 100% of the dues paid.