

South Mountain Airs

The Newsletter of the South Mountain Audubon Society

January – March 2018, Volume XXXIX #1 – The E-mail Edition

UPCOMING EVENTS

Details and information are covered below, in order, based on the actual event dates and times.

BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED!!

Please consider joining the South Mountain Audubon Society's board. Open positions are Field Trip Chair, Publicity Chair and Program Chair. You do not have to be a good birder to fill the last 2 positions. Field trip chair does take some knowledge about birds, seasons, and habitats but fellow board members are willing to help.

There are only 4 to 5 board meetings a year and attendance is not required but encouraged. If you have any questions about the responsibilities of these positions, please call Deb Siefken at 717-677-4830 or email her at siefkend@embarqmail.com.

UPCOMING REGULAR MEETINGS

Unless indicated otherwise, all SMAS Programs are held at the Adams County Agricultural Resource Center, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg, PA . Refreshments, when served, are usually available at 7 PM with a social time followed by the scheduled program / presentation at 7:30 PM. A room number for the SMAS meeting will be posted on the front lobby entry inner door.

We've posted the information on our total activities' schedule throughout the year at the end of this edition. Please let the Leader know in advance if you plan to attend any field trip, especially if you plan to go direct. Trips are subject to weathering out, especially in the colder months, or otherwise being changed. In addition, if we have only one or two known attendees, we may cancel or reschedule a given field trip. We cannot alert you unless we hear from you.

Monday January 8th - - Movie Night: Screening of "The Central Park Effect."

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MEETING WILL BE CANCELED IF THE WEATHER IS NOT SUITABLE, AND THE MOVIE WILL BE RESCHEDULED FOR MARCH. CHECK YOUR EMAIL BEFORE HEADING OUT THAT EVENING!

The Movie will be shown at 7:45 PM following refreshments at 7:00 PM. The movie lasts 1 hour.

This is a wonderful movie with excellent photography that highlights the amazing array of birds found in Central Park in New York City, as well as the eclectic group of people who bird there. Further details at [Birders](#).

A small donation is requested to cover some of the costs.

UPCOMING Bird Walks and Field Trips

Friday January 12th -- Bird Walk at Oakside Park, Biglerville.

Meet at the parking lot off Route #394; Time: 9:30 AM. Afterwards, lunch at Fidler & Co., for those who are interested. Any questions, please contact Deb Siefken at 717.677.4830.

Thursday January 25th -- Children's Program presented by "Hersey Zoo America" and sponsored by South Mountain Audubon Society (not open to the public).

Friday February 9th -- Bird Walk at Oakside Park, Biglerville.

Meet at the parking lot off Route #394; Time: 9:30 AM.
Any questions, please contact Deb Siefken at 717.677.4830.

Friday March 16th -- Bird Walk at Oakside Park, Biglerville.

Meet at the parking lot off Route #394; Time 8 AM.
Any questions, please contact Mike Bertram at 717.352.7936.

Monday March 19th -- Member's Best

Saturday April 21st -- Annual SMAS Luncheon at Hickory Bridge Farm. Details to follow.

Saturday May 5th -- Spring Migration Bird Walk at Harrisburg State Hospital. Info below.

Don Gilbert, who works and birds in Harrisburg on almost a daily basis, will lead us on a spring migration walk at the Harrisburg State Hospital on Saturday, May 5. (Rain date is Sunday, May 6.) Don has sighted well over 120 species of birds on this campus, including 28 species of warblers. Time permitting, we will also stop at Wildwood for additional birding.

Tentative plans are to carpool, leaving the Gettysburg area around 6 AM. Please reply to southmountinaudubon@gmail.com or to Linette at 717-495-8137 if you plan to attend. Specific meeting times and places will be announced after the number of participants has been determined. Preregistering for this trip is important - even if your participation is not definite.

Checkout our South Mountain Audubon Society Website!!!

SMAS has a Website which is being added to on a regular basis.

The home page has some general information and synopses of Chapter activities as well as a number of links to other informational aspects. These include the Calendar, Board members and officers, Chapter meeting minutes, current and archival newsletter editions, and links to a number of other Adams County organizations as well as other county, state and national groups and organizations.

We are also working to put up some location specific area checklists. Many of these are in place. All are encouraged to offer suggestions on what you would like to see on the website. Contact info is on the site.

Accessing the SMAS Newsletter

A great feature of having the Newsletter on-line and receiving it via e-mail, is that you can always access a misplaced or discarded issue at a future date. You can access the Newsletter in several ways.

First, if you do not routinely discard your emails or you retain selected items in your in-box or transfer them to a saved information folder or similar, you can always access them at a future date on your own system.

You can also print out a hard copy and keep it for quick reference.

And, of course, per information above re the new SMAS Website, you can reference current & past issues there.

SMAS Annual Schedule Information

Regular SMAS Monthly Program Meetings are usually held Jan / Mar / May / June / Sept / Oct / Nov.

Unless indicated otherwise, all meetings are held on third Mondays of the month at 7:30 PM at the Adams County Agricultural Center. We have a social time from 7:00 to 7:30 PM, usually with refreshments available. Please see complete information at the beginning of this and every Newsletter in case there is any variation by quarter. Please check individual programs in each issue in the event of a change in times and / or venue.

Field Trips are normally held monthly in Feb / Mar / April / May / Jun / Sept / Oct / Nov. In December we substitute the annual Christmas Bird Count for the monthly field trip.

Some of these monthly field trips traditionally repeat each year, such as the Christmas Bird Count and the Migration Count in May. We usually go to a nearby hawk watch site in late September or early October.

The Annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC) is held by design between 14 Dec and 5 Jan. For SMAS, this is in lieu of a regular field trip. We schedule our SMAS CBC on the first available Saturday after 13 Dec. In the event of really bad weather, we may cancel and reschedule.

The Annual Luncheon has been traditionally held in April, in lieu of the regular monthly meeting.

Our SMAS Annual Picnic and get together is held in August on the second or third Monday. This is "Bring A Dish" to share and the kickoff is 5 PM with dinner at 6 PM. In addition to bringing a dish to share, attendees

should bring their own place setting materials as well as their drink(s) of choice.

All meetings, field trips and other activities are subject to weathering out or other cancellation reasons. If you are on our email list (receiving our Newsletters and other information) you will get an email notification as soon as the decision is made.

Otherwise, if there is some question based on the weather or some other issue, please contact the field trip leader or someone from the list of Board Members / Committee Chairpersons applicable to your question(s).

OTHER SMAS RELATED INFORMATION

<u>Board Members</u>	Point of Contact	Telephone	Email address
President	Linette Mansberger	495-8137	Lmcopperhead@aol.com
Vice-President	Deb Siefken	677-4830	siefkend@embarqmail.com
Secretary	Kathy Gelner (202)	471-0300	klgelner@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Mike Bertram	352-7936	the2nomads@centurylink.net
<u>Directors At Large</u>	Nancy Locher	334-4768	nclocher@embarqmail.com
	Jon Griffiths	334-3824	griffjon630@gmail.com
	Cy Deitz	253-0297	sdeitz1630@comcast.net
	Carole Simon	337-1662	carolesimon@embarqmail.com
<u>Committee Chairs</u>			
Education	Betsy Griffiths	334-3824	elizabeth.griffiths@stockton.edu
Membership	Mike O'Brien	642-6676	maddogobrien@gmail.com
Publicity	Cynthia Chambers	624-5504	cynthiachambers@embarqmail.com
Newsletter	Mike O'Brien	642-6676	maddogobrien@gmail.com

Conservation, Programs, and Field Trip Chairs are Vacant; Please consider volunteering for these positions.