

Gloucester County Nature Club

Monthly Newsletter

www.gcnatureclub.org

Nature Club meetings are open to the public
April 2004

Program—Birding in New Jersey—Thurs, Apr. 15th at 7:00 PM at EIRC, Sewell

Program Coordinator- Bob Cassel 478-2496

Lloyd Shaw believes the state of New Jersey is unique for its opportunities to enjoy birding. Lloyd will highlight many locations within the Garden State as he presents his program. His infectious enthusiasm, sprinkled with original humor, will convince you that we truly live in a remarkable State, even if it is the most densely populated state in the Union. If you're not already a member of the band of Birder Brothers (and Sisters), you're likely to get the bug as Lloyd takes you on a virtual tour with his binoculars and scope around the State of New Jersey.



The 2004 Gloucester County Bird Quest BirdQuest: May 1

The Gloucester County Nature Club and many area businesses, industries, and local environmental commissions invite club members and area residents to participate in the **2004 (fifth annual) Gloucester County Bird Quest. The 2004 Bird Quest** will take place on **Saturday, May 1, 2004 from 7 AM to 12 noon in Gloucester County.**

During this time, teams will visit parks and natural sites in Gloucester County and find as many different bird species as they can. The purpose of the Quest is to discover natural areas of Gloucester County, to learn to identify birds by sight and sound, and to have fun with friends, family, and colleagues. **The Quest is an educational event: novices are encouraged to participate.** At noon, all participants gather at Atkinson County Park on Delsea Drive to report results and for **(free) lunch, t-shirts, posters and prizes.**

Most people organize their own team with family, friends, and/or colleagues. Last year's Gloucester County Bird Quest attracted over two hundred participants made up of families, friends, teachers, school groups, scout troops, environmental commissions, residents of Gloucester and neighboring counties. This year with support from Wheelabrator, LP of Gloucester County, the Club will operate two (free) guided buses for people who are unable to form their own team and are willing to join a larger group.

The **2004 Gloucester County Bird Quest** highlights the importance of International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD), a nation-wide effort to draw attention to the plight and needs of migratory birds. The 2004 IMBD theme, "*Conservation of Colonial Birds*", explores the fascinating variety, habits and conservation issues of colonial birds, some of which live in Gloucester County.. The colorful IMBD T-shirt and poster can be viewed at <http://birds.fws.gov/imbd>

A county map and other materials are provided to registered teams. **A \$10 fee per participant includes lunch, a T-shirt, posters, prizes etc.** For more information and registration forms, go to the Gloucester County Nature Club's website at



www.gcnatureclub.org To join a team or to ride a bus fill out the registration form below. If you have questions or need more information contact Anne Rossell at EIRC, 606 Delsea Drive, Sewell NJ 08080 or by phone (856-582-7000 X110) FAX (856-582-4206) or e-mail at anner@eirc.org. **Participants can attend any of a series of free field trainings in the evenings, mornings and weekends before the Quest; see the list that follows the registration form:**

To register a team, **complete the form below.** Registering as an individual/couple? **Be sure to include your name, address, phone # and T-shirt size on the form.** Mail the form (or deliver it in person to EIRC on Rt. 47 near Wacker's Trading Post, north of Pitman) **prior to April 28** with a check (\$10 per person) payable to *Gloucester County Nature Club* to: **GC BirdQuest 2004, c/o EIRC, 606 Delsea Dr., Sewell NJ 08080, Attn: Erik Mollenhauer** If you have questions, call 582-7000 X128 or X110

Name of Team _____ (ex: Costello's Cardinals)

Team Leader's Name (person #1) _____ T-shirt size _____
 (Contact person)

Address _____ Telephone _____

Person #2 _____ T-shirt size _____

Person #3 _____ T-shirt size _____

Person #4 _____ T-shirt size _____

Person #5 _____ T-shirt size _____

Person #6 _____ T-shirt size _____

Attach sheet of additional names and T-shirt sizes

Note:

- At least half of the team must be rank novices. If your team includes persons under the age of 18, we recommend that you obtain parental permission and include two adults as part of your team.
- **T-shirt sizes are small, medium, large, X large, XX large.**
- A series of free trainings is being offered from April 13-29 before the Quest. See schedule for details.
- If you want to ride the bus, you must reserve a seat in advance. **Room on the bus is limited, first come, first served.** *Bus leaves at 7 am from Atkinson Park.*

List names of people, if any, who wish to ride a bus: _____

BirdQuest 2004 Training Sessions

April 13 – Tuesday 6:00 – 7:00 AM BirdQuest Training

Heritage Road, Sewell

Meet at Bob's house at 407 Heritage Road, Sewell. For directions call Bob at 478-2496.

Leader: Bob and Carol Cassel

Co Leader: Maria Musciano

April 14 – Wednesday 6:00 – 7:00 AM BirdQuest Training

Greenwich Lake, East Greenwich

Directions: From 295/130 take exit 15. At the top of the ramp make a left onto Tomlin Station Road (607). Parking lot is on your right less than a mile.

Leader: Dr. Dick Ebert

Co Leader: Barry Bengel

April 14 – Wednesday 6:00 – 7:00 PM Birding by Ear Part I

EIRC Building, 606 Delsea Drive

This classroom training session is the first of four, two classroom and two outdoor sessions, with a focus on identifying bird song and calls. *Directions: Located right on Delsea Dr. (47) in Washington Twp next to the old Dairy Queen and the Italian Bistro.*

Leader: Erik Mollenhauer

Co Leader: Karen Kravchuck

April 16 – Friday 6:00 – 7:00 AM Birding by Ear Part II

Old Pine Farm, Deptford

The second of the Birding by ear series, this session applies the knowledge gained through the first classroom session. You will put the study to practical use. *Directions: Access from Good Intent road (534), turn North onto Pine Ave. Follow to end and park. Walk down woods road to the Big Timber Creek.*

Leader: Erik Mollenhauer

Co Leader: Joan Tracy

April 18 – Sunday 8:00 – 9:00 AM BirdQuest Training

West Deptford Scenic Park, West Deptford

Directions: From South on 130/295 take exit 21; make a left at the light onto Crown Point Road. At the next light make a right onto Grove St. At the next light, the intersection of Grove St. and Delaware St (640), make a left into Riverwinds. Meet in the parking lot on your right about 300 feet.

Leader: Jeff Holt

Co Leader: Ed and Millie Cleary

April 19 – Monday 6:00 – 7:00 PM BirdQuest Training

Redbank Battlefield, National Park

Directions: From Red Bank Road (644): make a left on to Hessian Ave (642). Follow until entering the park. Meet in main parking lot on the left.

Leader: Loretta Dunne and Jonathan Stillwell Co Leader: Marge Dolente

April 20 – Tuesday 6:00 – 7:00 AM BirdQuest Training

Glassboro Woods, Clayton

Directions: Meet at Carpenter Ave. off Rt. 47. Carpenter Ave. is about 1.7 miles south of Rt. 322 on Rt. 47. Carpenter Ave. is a dirt road.

Leader: Bob Baruzzi

Co Leader: Kris Mollenhauer

April 21 – Wednesday 6:00 – 7:00 AM BirdQuest Training

Wenonah Lake, Wenonah

Directions: From Woodbury/Glassboro road (553) in Wenonah, turn onto Maple Ave. At the second stop sign turn right into the lake parking lot.

Leader: Gale Cannon

Co Leader: Bob Bevilacqua



April 22 – Thursday 6:00 – 7:00 PM BirdQuest Training

Scotland Run Park, Clayton

Directions: From Delsea Dr (47) in Clayton take 610 Clayton-Williamston Rd. East towards Williamston. Meet at park headquarters on the right across from Wilson Lake.

Leader: Jeff Holt

Co Leader: Doris and Dwight Weir

April 25 – Sunday 8:00 – 9:00 AM

BirdQuest Training

Floodgate Road, Greenwich

Directions: Access from Rt. 44 South of Gibbstown. Turn right onto Floodgate road (at the racetrack) and meet all the way down at the gate by the river.

Leader: Dr. Dick Ebert

Co Leader: Karen Kravchuck

April 26 – Monday 6:00 – 7:00 AM

BirdQuest Training

Alcyon Lake Park, Pitman

Directions: From 322 take Lambs road (635) to W. Holly Ave. Make a right on W. Holly to Track Ave (Alcyon Park). Take Track Ave past sports fields; meet at the pavilion.

Leader: Bob Baruzzi

Co Leader: Deb Maka

April 26 – Monday 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Birding by Ear Part III

EIRC Building, 606 Delsea Drive

This training session is the second classroom session and third of four total trainings with a focus on identifying bird song and calls. *Directions: Located right on Delsea Dr. (47) in Washington Twp next to the old Dairy Queen and the Italian Bistro.*

Leader: Brian Hayes

Co Leader: Marge Dolente

April 27 – Tuesday 6:00 – 7:00 AM

Birding by Ear Part IV

Lake Narraticon, Swedesboro

The last of the Birding by ear series, this session applies the knowledge gained through classroom and independent study. This is a great time to ask questions about bird song.

Directions: From Kings Highway (551) in Swedesboro turn onto Lake and then turn onto Park Ave. Access is from the end of Park Ave.

Leader: Brian Hayes

Co Leader: Paula Hayes

April 28 – Wednesday 6:00 – 7:00 PM

BirdQuest Training

Wheelabrator, Westville

Directions: Access from 130, opposite Hazel Ave in Westville, just south of Big Timber Creek. Meet in parking lot on the right just before the guard station.

Leader: Bob Duke

Co Leader: Doris & Dwight Weir

April 29 – Thursday 6:00 – 7:00 AM

BirdQuest Training

Ceres Park, Mantua

Directions: From 322 take Lambs Rd (635) to Pitman-Barnsboro Rd (553A). Make a left onto 553A. Watch for Ceres Park sign on your left after crossing over route 55.

Leader: Kris Mollenhauer

Co Leader: John Sullivan

May Plant Sale

Just a reminder to all the gardeners in the Club that our annual plant sale will be held just before the start of our regular May meeting at EIRC. Much of what is offered at the sale comes from our own gardens. As you make your way to your flower beds now that spring has finally arrived, keep an eye out for those perennials that need dividing; so bring any "volunteers" in not quite the right spots, extra seeds, trees and shrubs are all welcome. Whatever you can share, bring it with you and be part of the



plant sale. The sale will start at 6:30 PM and the proceeds will benefit the Nature Club and its programs. Questions? Call Karen at 468-6536.

Do you Know Where the Paper You Use Comes From?

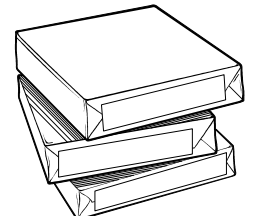
By Paula Hayes

According to the Sierra Club, the average American uses over 700 pounds of paper products each year. Paper products include copy paper, magazines, newspaper, paper towels, napkins, paper plates, cups, toilet tissue, facial tissues, and boxes. Even with recycling, paper makes up 40 % of our garbage. Producing paper products consumes not only trees, but also large amounts of energy and clean water. The process uses many chemicals that create toxic waste, as well.

All papers are not created from the same raw materials. Many consumers don't consider the source before buying. Most paper products made today are made from cut trees that are ground into pulp. A small percentage of all paper products made will include recycled materials or tree free fibers. This is true even though it takes 60% less energy to produce paper from recycled paper than from virgin pulp. It is possible to find toilet paper; napkins, coffee filters, copy paper and many other common household products not made from freshly harvested trees. I've listed some definitions the end of this article to help you shop smarter.

Another thing to consider when choosing paper products is that when paper is made white, or even into colors, chlorine is usually used. This bleaching process releases the cancer causing chemical dioxin as well as other toxins. Dioxins pollute our air, water, and soil. The dioxins are found in red meat, fish, milk, and even breast milk. There are many other persistent chemicals such as lead, arsenic, mercury, and others that are also released when paper is made. These toxins are passed up the food chain accumulating in the fatty tissue of the animals at the top of the food chain such as trout, eagles, and humans. Paper can be purchased that is totally chlorine free (TCF) or processed chlorine free (PCF). The process used to create these products does not add toxins to our ecosystems. Think about how important it is to have white paper products: does a brown napkin work any less than a white one?

Though Americans are only 5% of the world's population we consume 27% of the world's paper products. By carefully purchasing or asking stores to carry post-consumer recycled, chlorine free, and tree free paper you can take a step toward a healthier planet. I know when I see a paper pulp mill it makes me sick to think of the trees that once stood so majestically waiting to be pulped and made into tissues and napkins. In the future I hope you will give some thought to the paper products you buy.



Here's what to look for when purchasing paper products:

Recycled Paper- paper that has 30% post-consumer content

Post Consumer Waste- paper that has been printed on, went to the ultimate consumer, was used, and now the choice for this waste is to recycle it, burn it, or recycle it

Pre-Consumer Waste-paper that was not printed on, was not sent to the ultimate consumer, and should not be considered in your purchasing decision when you are considering recycled paper, the mills don't send it to the landfill because it is valuable.

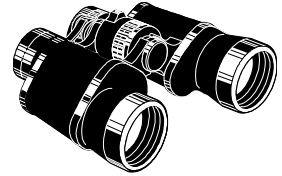
Chlorine Free- recycled paper that has not been re-bleached, or mixed with unbleached virgin pulp is considered Processed Chlorine Free (PCF) or pulp that has never been bleached is called Totally Chlorine Free (TCF). Chlorine produces a dioxin that accumulates in our air, water, and soil.

Rescheduled -Photography Exhibit at Palmyra Cove-

Club member, Bob Baruzzi's photography will be featured in the coming weeks at Palmyra Cove Nature Center beginning on March 22. The opening reception will be Friday, March 26 from 4- 9 PM. Bob is a talented photographer and volunteers as a field trip leader for the club. The exhibit is open to the public. Call the Nature Center for more information 856-829-1900

The World Series of Birding

On May 15, 2004, the Gloucester County Nature Club will compete in the New Jersey Audubon Society's prestigious World Series of Birding. The object of the WSB is to identify, by sight or sound, as many species of birds as you can within 24 hours. Our team, The Gloucester County Ruffs, will compete in the Limited Geographic Area (LGA) part of the World Series of Birding, they will spend their entire 24 hours in Gloucester County. The team will consist of Jeff Holt, Dick Ebert, Gale Cannon and Bob Baruzzi. While the World Series of Birding is a competition, it also serves another, more important, purpose. Each competing team raises money through pledges based on the number of birds correctly identified by the team. (e.g. \$1.00/species) You may also do a flat pledge.



Individuals may help the team by providing them information on the location of unusual or nesting birds by calling Jeff Holt at 429-1802 (day) or 845-8925 (evening) or by making a pledge. If you'd like more information on making a pledge you may contact Marge Dolente at 384-6214 or visit www.gcnatureclub.org for a pledge form. Club members may also choose to collect pledges from friends and family on behalf of the team. You can do this by downloading the form from the website. Checks should be made out to the Gloucester County Nature Club and will be South Jersey land Trust. Donations should be sent to Marge Dolente at 1001 Stonybrook Drive, Deptford, NJ 08096.

Looking Ahead:

Programs-

May 13th-Rails to Trails (converting railroad right of ways to multi-use trails) & Plant Sale

June 10th-Picnic at Washington Lake Park 6:00 PM

September 9th- A Journey through the Looking Glass with Kevin Karlson

Field Trips-

May 1st – The 5th Annual Gloucester County Bird Quest

June 12th - Fort Dix for Bobolinks

Club Notes:

-Executive Meeting-Sunday, may 2nd at 7:00 PM at Karen Kravchuck's House 25 Barlow Ave, Sewell, NJ. Call Karen at 468-6536 for directions. Executive Committee Meetings are always open to club members.

-As spring approaches we will be looking for members to help out at a community event. If you are interested in volunteering for a few hours please call one of our Community Events Coordinators- Jackie Partridge 848-4852, Bonnie Dann 845-4650, or Elaine Dzeima 227-0839

-Information for the next newsletter should be sent to Barry Bengel at sharkeyes@comcast.net or 6 Greenwood Drive, Sewell, NJ 08080 by the 15th of April.

