

# Audubon News

Audubon News is published nine times a year, September – May by Mecklenburg Audubon Society  
Serving Cabarrus, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg and Union Counties in NC and York County SC.

May 2005

A publication of Mecklenburg Audubon

Volume 10, Number 9

## OH NO! THERE GOES THE NEIGHBORHOOD

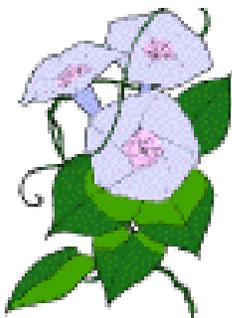
Invasive exotic plants, those that have been introduced either intentionally or accidentally into areas not part of their native range, today pose one of the greatest threats to the environment and our biological diversity. Join Marek Smith, Environmental Education Supervisor with Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department, as we learn how these “green invaders” impact water resources, reduce habitat for native plants and animals, dramatically alter the function of ecosystems, and cost our country billions of dollars each year as governments and businesses try to control their growth and stop the destruction of crops and other valuable resources.

We'll explore the “Top Ten” plants affecting our local natural areas and learn how you can help prevent their spread throughout your own backyards. Join us on Thursday, May 5th in the fellowship hall of the Sharon Seventh Day Adventist Church [920 Sharon Amity] at 7:30 PM.



## EXOTIC AND INVASIVE PLANTS

TAKEN FROM CHARLOTTE/MECKLENBURG STORM WATER SERVICES WEB PAGE  
[<http://www.charmeck.org/Departments/Stormwater+-+City/Stream+Management/Exotic+and+Invasive+Plants.htm>]



### WHAT ARE “INVASIVE” PLANTS?

Invasive plants are those plants that spread rapidly with little or no assistance from people. They can be expensive to remove and often difficult to control. They often grow where they are not wanted, replacing more desirable plants. Most invasive species are exotic, but some are native to this area.

### WHAT ARE “NATIVE” AND “EXOTIC” PLANTS?

Native plants occur naturally in a particular area. Species native to North America are generally recognized as those here before Europeans arrived. These plants grow well in our climate. They require less care when used for landscaping, and they provide the preferred food and shelter for wildlife.

Exotic, introduced, alien, or non-native plants, on the other hand, have been moved by people from their native habitat to a new area. Some exotic plants are imported for human use such as landscaping, erosion control, or food crops. Other exotic plants arrive as “hitchhikers” among shipments of other plants, seeds, packing materials, or

fresh produce. While many exotic plants have little or no harmful impact on our communities, they are more likely than native plants to escape their intended habitat and become invasive.

### HOW DO GOOD PLANTS GO BAD?

Most invasive exotic plants have certain traits that allow them to replace other plants. Invasive exotic plants generally

- survive a wide range of soil, water temperature, and light;
- reproduce early, often, in large numbers, and in multiple ways;
- grow rapidly for a long part of the year; and
- are difficult to control or kill.

[continued on page 6]



## FIELD TRIPS

*Please, remember to contact the trip leader several days before the trip. If you don't, you may not receive information about last minute changes or cancellations. Also, if we don't know you are coming we might leave without you!!*

### SUNDAY, MAY 1ST:

#### LATTA PARK [1/2 DAY]

Back by popular demand, this field trip is really just a stroll around the park, a very slow stroll at that. If the birding gods are with us, this should be peak time for neotropical migrants - orioles, tanagers, rose-breasted grosbeaks, thrushes, and of course warblers!!! It is not unusual to see Ovenbirds, Veerys and Swainson's Thrushes walking around the park with you! We have had as many as 20 species of warblers.

We will meet at the park at 7:00 AM near the playground area. Be prepared to do a little walking and a lot of standing looking up into the trees. If you want to join the group contact Judy Walker at 704-537-8181 [leave a message] or birdwalker@mac.com.

### SATURDAY, MAY 7TH:

#### ANNE SPRINGS CLOSE GREENWAY [1/2 DAY]

With over 2000 acres and 12 miles of walking trails, the Anne Springs Close Greenway in Ft. Mill, SC, has the potential of an excellent variety of spring migrants as well as water birds. The area includes the historic Nation Ford trail across Steele Creek and several historic sites.

A wide variety of birds can be found in the greenway's wooded hillsides, open fields, old railway bed, creek bottomland and 7 ponds. The largest of these ponds covers 25 acres; the other six range from 1 to 5 acres. The bird checklist for the area, compiled in 1995, identifies 160 species -- including summer and scarlet tanagers, a number of ducks, 8 hawks, and 25 warbler species. The Greenway's naturalist has asked

our aid in reporting species not previously included on the list. There is an entrance fee of \$2 per person. Although there are some rolling hills, paths are clear and clean so walking is not very strenuous.

We will meet at the Bojangles on Carowinds Blvd. at 7 AM. [Turn left when you exit from I-77.] The Greenway is just a short distance but can be difficult to find if you are not familiar with the area. If you are interested in going on the walk contact Dennis Lankford at 704-541-6909 or Harecubed3@carolina.rr.com.

### SATURDAY, MAY 14TH: IMBD FIELD TRIPS SEE PAGE 3 [1/2 DAY]

### SATURDAY, MAY 21TH: BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY [PISGAH AREA] [FULL DAY]

The past few years we have taken a trip to Blue Ridge Parkway in the Boone area. This year we thought we would try a different part of the parkway south of Asheville. We'll start the morning birding at the Cradle of Forestry and Fishery near Brevard. Then work our way up the mountain and down the parkway to Graveyard Fields, Devil's Courthouse, Balsam Gap and perhaps the Heintooga overlook in the Great Smokey Mts.

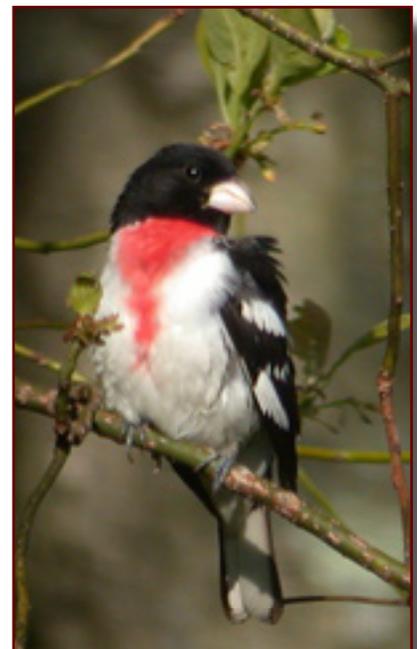
Birding this part of the Parkway is like birding in New England. We will encounter a variety of birds including the Black-capped Chickadee which can be found only in this area of North Carolina. Target birds will include: Alder and Least Flycatcher, Veery, Rose-breasted Grousebeak, and warblers galore.

Unfortunately, Brevard does not have very good accommodations so we will meet at the McDonalds on Rt. 64 in Hendersonville at 6:15 AM. This is the same place we meet for the Jackson Park trip in the fall. There are a number of motels nearby. So you can roll out of bed pretty easily. If you are interested in going please contact Judy Walker at 704-537-8181 or birdwalker@mac.com.

## CHANGES AT RIBBONWALK

This is a time of transition for RibbonWalk Conservancy. On June 30th of this year the conservancy will give up its management lease with the county who owns the land. The non-profit has been unable to attract enough funding and leadership to sustain our mission of preserving and enhancing the forest through stewardship and education. On July 1st the Natural Resources Division of Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation will take over the management of the forest including trail maintenance, leadership of volunteers and environmental education. By the end of this year with the support of RibbonWalk Conservancy's board and the County Commission we fully expect the forest to be designated a nature preserve which is the highest level of protection a piece of county land can receive.

If you wish to continue financial support, funds can be designated for use at RibbonWalk and sent to Partners for Parks Foundation, another non-profit set up to support our natural areas, at PO Box 411371, Charlotte, NC 28241 or donate online at [www.parkandrec.com](http://www.parkandrec.com)

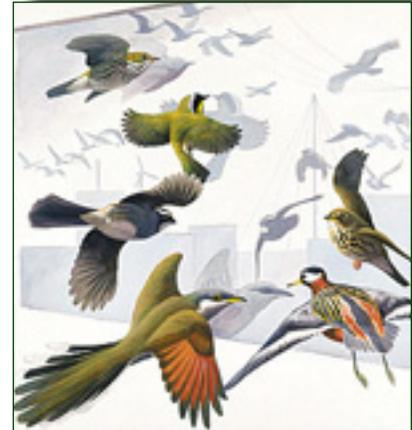


# BIRDS OF A FEATHER, NESTING TOGETHER

## INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY

### SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2005

On May 8, 2004, all over the country, National Wildlife Refuges, National Forests, state and local parks, bird clubs, nature centers, conservation groups, chambers of commerce, and many other groups will host events attracting thousands and thousands of people. Why? To celebrate the return of millions and millions of migratory birds from their non-breeding grounds in Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean, to their North American nesting habitats. This year, the Division of Natural Resources and Mecklenburg Audubon Society are offering the following free birdwatching hikes and programs. Ages 15 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. To register call 704-588-5224, 704-875-1391 or 704-598-8857 between 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday.



#### Birding For Kids [9845]

Reedy Creek Nature Center

Ages 5 – 13 \* 10:00 a.m. - noon

#### Bird Banding Demonstration [9902]

Cowan's Ford Wildlife Refuge

Ages 7+ \* 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.

#### Birds of the Grassland Hike [9908]

McDowell Nature Preserve

Ages 7+ \* 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

#### Birds of the Prairie Hike [9903]

Latta Plantation Nature Center

Ages 7+ \* 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.

#### Birds of the Greenway [9907]

McMullen Creek Greenway

Ages 7+ \* 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

#### Birds of the Woodlands Hike [9904]

Evergreen Nature Preserve

Ages 7+ \* 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.

#### Birds of the Forest Hike [9905]

Reedy Creek Nature Center

Ages 7+ \* 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.

#### Birding for Tots [9833]

McDowell Nature Center

Ages 3 - 5 \* 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

#### Nest Box Hike [9906]

Cowan's Ford Wildlife Refuge

Observation Deck

Ages 7+ \* 10:00 a.m. – noon

#### Eco-Trekkers: Birding Bonanza

[9834]

McDowell Nature Center

Ages 6 - 8 \* 11:00 a.m. – noon

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Are you looking for a good excuse to get outdoors or brush up on your naturalist skills while providing a valuable service to the community? Reedy Creek, Latta Plantation and McDowell Nature Centers are currently looking for responsible, creative and energetic people to help with various aspects of all three nature centers.

All necessary equipment and training will be provided. We are currently recruiting volunteers to assist in areas of animal care, native plant gardening, programming, traveling exhibits, administration, photography, trail monitoring, and litter prevention. The choice is yours!

Hours are flexible and the rewards are endless. Volunteers receive our quarterly newsletter, discounts on gift shop purchases and program registrations, admission to special naturalist workshops, an invitation to our annual picnic, and much more. Please contact the nature center nearest you for more information or to sign up for our next orientation session.

Reedy Creek 704-598-8857

McDowell 704-588-5224

Latta Plantation 704-875-1391

# JOURNEY TO THE MOUNTAINS

12TH ANNUAL AUDUBON NORTH CAROLINA MEETING

JUNE 3RD & 4TH, 2005 ASHEVILLE, NC

Come to the mountains and hear the birds sing! While colder weather may be uppermost in your mind just now, it's high time for Audubon members around the state to begin thinking about Audubon North Carolina's annual meeting next June.

Elisha Mitchell Audubon Society, the Audubon chapter in the Asheville area, will host the meeting. It will focus on the pleasures and challenges of birding in the mountains, with opportunities for enjoying wild flowers and area attractions too.

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Field trips will take place along the Blue Ridge Parkway, at Elisha Mitchell Audubon's Beaver Lake Bird Sanctuary in north Asheville and at other mountain birding hotspots. Warbling Viero, Peregrine Falcon, and Cerulean Warbler are just a few of the exciting birds we'll search for. A non-birding field trip will visit mountain crafts locations in and near Asheville.

The Saturday banquet will take place at one of the area's special places, the North Carolina Arboretum. Before dinner, you will have the opportunity to stroll

through the arboretum's lovely and spacious gardens. After the meal, Curtis Smalling, Audubon NC's mountain specialist, will speak on protecting North Carolina's special mountain birds, and Chris Canfield, Audubon NC executive director, will bring us up to date on statewide advocacy and bird-protection efforts.

Dates are June 3-4, 2005. Registration is \$45 per person and includes the Saturday night banquet and field trips. Please use the form in this newsletter to register for the meeting and to sign up for field trips. Registration deadline is May 10th.

Early June in the mountains promises mild weather, wonderful wild flowers and great birding. Elisha Mitchell Audubon hopes lots of Audubon NC members will come join the fun. For further information, contact Elisha Mitchell board member Len Pardue at (828) 254-7618 or send him e-mail at [eljeep@mindspring.com](mailto:eljeep@mindspring.com).

The Fairfield Inn Biltmore Square will be the headquarters motel for out-of-town folks, at a special rate of \$79 a night plus tax. Telephone (828) 665-4242. Reservations should be made by May 10.

[Directions: From east or west of Asheville, take I-40 to I-26 east; follow I-26 to NC 191 south (exit 33). The Inn is on Rocky Ridge Road, opposite the exit ramp on the south side of I-26. From north of Asheville, take I-240 west to I-26 east; then as above. From I-26 south of Asheville, take exit 33.]

## ANNUAL NC AUDUBON MEETING SCHEDULE

### FRIDAY, JUNE 3: 4 - 9 PM

Check in at Fairfield Inn, pick up meeting packets, view chapter exhibits, enjoy light refreshments.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 4

7:30 AM - 3 PM

Field trips depart from the Fairfield Inn.

4:30 - 6:00 PM

Chapter Leader's Meeting

6:30 PM

Banquet at NC Arboretum

### SUNDAY, JUNE 5

Birding on your own, and departure.



# FIELD TRIP DESCRIPTIONS

**TRIP #1: BRP NORTH TO MT. MITCHELL**  
**7:30 A.M. - ALL DAY - BRING BEVERAGE AND LUNCH**

Bird the middle and high elevations of the Craggy and Black Mountains looking for a wide variety of breeding warblers, vireos, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Scarlet Tanager, and several high-elevation mountain specialties. Some moderate hiking trails.

**TRIP #2: BRP SOUTH TO DEVIL'S COURTHOUSE**  
**7:30 A.M. - ALL DAY - BRING BEVERAGE AND LUNCH**

Head southwest to the Balsam Mountains on the Blue Ridge Parkway where most of the same species as trip #1 can be found. Additional species on this trip include nesting Peregrine Falcon, and Alder and Least Flycatcher. Birding will be mostly at overlooks, but may include some easy to moderate hikes.

**TRIP #3: HEINTOOGA SPUR ROAD**  
**7:30 A.M. - ALL DAY - BRING BEVERAGE AND LUNCH**

This road off the Blue Ridge Parkway is on the northeastern edge of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. High-elevation species commonly found include Black-capped Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Winter Wren, Pine Siskin, Least Flycatcher, Veery, Hermit Thrush, Raven, and Red Crossbill. Black-billed Cuckoos have also often been found along this road. A wide variety of warblers are also common. Birding will be mostly at overlooks but may include some easy to moderate hikes.

**TRIP #4: BIG IVY OLD LOGGING ROAD**  
**7:30 A.M. TO NOON**

Big Ivy is a rich cove forest with a wide variety of wildflowers, clear rushing streams, beautiful waterfalls, and many species of woodland birds. Ovenbirds, Black-throated Green, Black-throated Blue, Black-and-white, and Canada Warblers abound. At the higher elevations birds such as Veery, Winter Wren, Brown Creeper, Raven, and Red-breasted Nuthatch are found. Families of Ruffed Grouse can sometimes be seen on the logging road, and Dark-eyed Juncos nest along the road bank. Moderate hiking trails.

**TRIP #5: BEAVER LAKE BIRD SANCTUARY**  
**7:30 A.M. TO NOON**

The Beaver Lake Bird Sanctuary and Beaver Lake in North Asheville are home to a variety of breeding birds including Baltimore and Orchard Oriole, Yellow Warbler, American Redstart, Yellow-throated Warbler, Warbling Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Brown-headed Nuthatch, and Cedar Waxwing. All trails are easy.

**TRIP #6: NORTH CAROLINA ARBORETUM**  
**8:00 A.M. TO NOON**

For those who enjoy a mix of ornithology and botany, this is the perfect trip. This trip will include easy to moderate walking trails through extensive gardens in a natural mountain setting and includes some good birding. Breeding birds include Acadian Flycatcher; Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, and Kentucky Warblers; and Red-eyed and Blue-headed Vireo.

**TRIP #7: BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY WILDFLOWERS**  
**1:00 - 4:00 P.M.**

The Blue Ridge Parkway is one of the premier places to see spring wildflowers. The changes in elevation from Asheville and on the Parkway itself provide a variety of microclimates that host a diversity of wildflowers. Participants can expect to see forty or more species in bloom including several types of trilliums. A wildflower checklist will be provided. The field trip will begin at Craven Gap, near north Asheville, and continue to the Craggy Visitor Center. Trails are easy to moderate hiking.

**TRIP #8: ARTS AND CRAFTS TOUR**  
**1:00 - 4:00 P.M.**

Visit the Folk Art Center, New Morning Gallery, Bellagio, and several of the many art galleries in the Asheville area. The trip includes visits to working artists studios. Expect to see some birds and wildflowers in route, and wonderful works of art. Wear walking shoes and bring lots of money! Meet in the lobby of the hotel.

## AUDUBON NC ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION

Please print and send this form with a check for \$45 made payable to Audubon North Carolina to: 123 Kingston Drive, Suite 206A, Chapel Hill, NC 27514. If you have questions regarding the annual meeting, please contact Len Pardue at (828) 254-7618 or via e-mail at [eljeep@mindspring.com](mailto:eljeep@mindspring.com), or call the state office at (919) 923-3899.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, St. & Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Participants \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$45 = \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed

**FIELD TRIP PREFERENCES** [If you register for an all-day field trip, do not register for an afternoon trip.]

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ All Day Trip#: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt# \_\_\_\_\_ AM Trip#: \_\_\_\_\_ ALT# \_\_\_\_\_ PM Trip#: \_\_\_\_\_ ALT# \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ All Day Trip#: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt# \_\_\_\_\_ AM Trip#: \_\_\_\_\_ ALT# \_\_\_\_\_ PM Trip#: \_\_\_\_\_ ALT# \_\_\_\_\_

# EXOTIC PLANTS

[continued from page 1]

## HOW DO INVASIVE EXOTIC PLANTS HARM OUR COMMUNITY?

Exotic plants lack natural enemies in their new environment. They cause economic, environmental, and human harm by:

- becoming weedy and overgrown;
- killing established shade trees;
- obstructing pipes and drainage systems;
- forming dense beds in water;
- lowering water levels in lakes, streams, and wetlands;
- destroying natural communities;
- promoting erosion on stream banks and hillsides; and
- resisting control except by hazardous chemical.

## WHY DOES CHARLOTTE STORMWATER SERVICES CARE ABOUT INVASIVE PLANTS?

These plants can obstruct the safe and efficient flow of stormwater. Drainage systems may provide a pathway for seeds and seedlings of invasive plants to float downstream and spread to other areas. Through the Invasive and Nuisance Plant Management Program, CSWS identifies invasive species and works to control their growth. Examples of targeted plants are: kudzu (*Pueraria Montana*), Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*), Japanese and Chinese wisteria (*Wisteria* spp.), Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), privet (*Ligustrum sinense*), mimosa (*Albizia julibrissin*), and tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*).

## WHAT CAN I DO TO CONTROL INVASIVE PLANTS?

The first line of defense is prevention. Often, the cheapest and easiest way to control the spread of invasive plants is to keep them from growing in your yard in the first place.

Avoid planting exotic species. Select native North Carolina plants and trees for home landscaping. If you do select exotic species, avoid plants

that are described as “fast growing” or “rapidly spreading.” Remember wind, animals, and/or streams can carry seeds far from your home to other areas.

Remove invasive plants from your yard. Replace them with native non-invasive varieties. In addition, support large-scale efforts to remove invasive plants from your community parks and public areas.

## WHY SHOULD I USE NATIVE PLANTS FOR LANDSCAPING?

Native plants

- resist drought, require less maintenance, and are cost-effective;
- require fewer pesticides and fertilizers due to their natural adaptations;
- provide food and shelter for native wildlife; and
- reduce the chances for invasive plants to grow in your backyard.

Monitoring the expansion and impact of exotic and invasive plants is a task that can be accomplished at various levels. Traditionally, activities to study and monitor exotic plants have been the domain of research scientists, biologists and other professionals within government agencies, academic institutions and museums. The increasing impact of exotics on natural habitats requires that a broader level of participation in monitoring their spread is required. Naturalists, in particular, could greatly assist by contributing to the development of a comprehensive base of information that would facilitate efforts to control or slow the spread of exotic plants.

For more information:

Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council  
[www.se-eppc.org](http://www.se-eppc.org)  
(919) 962-0522

National Invasive Species Council  
[www.invasivespecies.gov](http://www.invasivespecies.gov)  
(202) 513-7243

The Plant Conservation Alliance  
[www.nps.gov/plants/alien/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/index.htm)  
(202) 452-0392

The Nature Conservancy, Wildlife Invasive Species Team - [tncweeds.ucdavis.edu](http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu)  
(919) 403-8558

# LIST OF EXOTIC PLANTS OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY

- Bradford Pear
- Mimosa
- Princess Tree
- Tree-of-Heaven
- Autumn Olive
- Multiflora Rose
- Nandina
- Chinese Privet
- Rose-of-Sharon
- Bamboo
- Chinese Lespedeza
- Common Reed
- Ground Ivy
- Japanese Knotweed
- Japanese Stiltgrass
- Johnsongrass
- Air potato
- English Ivy
- Japanese Honeysuckle
- Kudzu
- Silverberry
- Hydrilla
- Morning Glory
- Periwinkle
- Porcelainberry
- Chinese/Japanese Wisteria





# FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH

Well, another Audubon year is drawing to an end. It's been a good year with lots of new faces and new activities. But before everyone scatters to the four corners of North Carolina and perhaps further, don't forget to renew your local membership and ensure you continue to receive news of Audubon activities in the future.

For those of you who are new members let me take a minute to explain why we have a local membership. If you a member of National Audubon you are considered a member of our chapter. However, we receive only a very small portion of your national dues [2-3%], which does not cover the administrative costs of producing a newsletter, our meeting room and the web site. The local membership helps us cover these costs. As a National Audubon member you are not required to pay for a local membership. But if you want to receive the newsletter in the mail or via internet you will need to be a local member.

If you are not a National Audubon member you do not have to pay the national dues to be a local member,

although there are a host of reasons why you should support National Audubon as well as our local chapter. Whatever your status, please don't forget to renew before other summer activities take over your life!

As you are completing your renewal, I would like you to think seriously about your involvement in our chapter. As a chapter of National Audubon we have a mission: we are dedicated to the conservation and restoration of natural ecosystems, focusing on birds and other wildlife for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity. Efforts to have Evergreen designated a nature preserve insuring it receive the highest level of protection is an example of what can be done if we put our mind and heart to it. Participating in citizen science projects such as Christmas bird counts, the Great Backyard Bird Count, International Migratory Bird day, etc. are also evidence of our work.

The ability to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, however, starts with education. Education about ecosystems [flora and fauna], how they impact our daily lives and what threatens them. Monthly meetings and field trips provide some of that education, especially in educating

folks about what we love the most – birds and other wildlife. But we need to do a better job of getting our message out. That's why we need your help.

Currently there are five folks on the board. All of us are busy but are committed to the mission of the chapter. Several other folks help out with field trips and meeting arrangements. To continue the work of this chapter we need everyone to help out. Here is where we really need help:

**1. Conservation:** We need someone on the board who can keep us abreast of conservation issues as they relate to our mission. We would like to re-establish a conservation column in the newsletter and provide information via our web site and list-serv. It doesn't have to all doom and gloom stuff. It can include information about how we can be more 'green' in our everyday life. I know many of you already keep up with this information. Please consider helping the rest of us up-to-date.

**2. Education:** Although we definitely need an individual on the board to coordinate our Audubon Adventures program, education is much bigger and encompasses much more. Every year I receive calls asking if someone from our group could do a presentation. The folks at Wing Haven, Park and Rec, and even Wild Birds Unlimited have taken up some of this slack. But I hate to see

## LOCAL MEMBERSHIP

**JOIN NOW AND YOUR MEMBERSHIP WILL BE EFFECTIVE UNTIL JUNE 2006.**

Because of changes in National Audubon membership structure, Mecklenburg Audubon now must offer a local Chapter Membership to cover the cost of the newsletter, web site and cost of meetings.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address [Street, City, ST, and Zip] \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Membership [\$10]     Family Membership [\$15]

Please, save trees and send me[us] the newsletter electronically.

I[we] would be willing to lead a field trip.

I[we] would be interested in participating in a work day at one of the local preserves.

I[we] would be willing to do a program.

Return to: *Lucy Quintilliano, Treasurer, Mecklenburg Audubon Society, P. O. Box 221093, Charlotte, NC 28222*

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## SPRING WINGS

MAY 12 - 15, 2005

Join birders this Spring for a new experience on the Outer Banks. There will be plenty of the familiar programs and trips from Wings Over Water, except with a 'Spring' flavor.... and there will be additional opportunities only available seasonally. Several birding trips will focus on birding by ear. There will be extra programs featuring wildflowers and butterflies. For more information go to <http://www.fws.gov/alligatorriver/springwings.html>



### MECKLENBURG AUDUBON

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CHARLOTTE, NC 28222  
MECKBIRDS.ORG

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louise@lbarden.com

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704-362-1635

Mecklenburg Audubon is a chapter of National Audubon. Meetings are held at Sharon Seventh Day Adventist Church, 920 N. Sharon Amity Rd. on the first Thursday of each month, September through May at 7:30 PM.

### PRESIDENT'S PERCH

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them doing it all since we are the 'Audubon folks'. As I tell my students who are preparing to be teachers, you don't have to know a lot, you just need to know more than your audience. And I know many of you know a lot more than the average person. I would love to have a list of folks I could call when I get these requests. I even have some canned presentations if you want to use them and can get you equipment.

**3. Outreach:** Similar to education, outreach is a little different. I probably get even more calls asking if Audubon would take part in festivals that are somehow related to ecology, the environment and/or nature. If we want folks to support our mission,

we need to let them know what the mission is!!! But five people can't be everywhere. So I would like to put together a list of folks who would be willing to go to some of these festivals and spread the word about birds, bird watching and how to protect habitat for birds. We have the display and literature. We just don't have anyone to sit at the table.

Please, think carefully about what you want this chapter to do and how you can help. As a group, you have always been willing to open your wallets to help worthy conservation projects. What we really need now is your time. Time to spread the word about a wonderful pastime and important conservation issues. Hopefully you will be as generous with your body as you are with your soul.

### ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

- 5/1 - Latta Park [1/2 day Field Trip]
- 5/5 - Wildflowers [Monthly Meeting]
- 5/7 - Anne Springs Close Greenway [1/2 day Field Trip]
- 5/14 - International Migratory Bird Day
- 5/21 - Blue Ridge Parkway/Mt. Pisgah Area [Full Day Field Trip]
- 6/3-5 - Audubon North Carolina Annual Meeting [Asheville]



Keep an eye on our Web site [meckbirds.org] and/or electronic discussion list for any summer activities that might crop up.