



The Tiadaghton Raven

The Tiadaghton Audubon Society
Box 605, Wellsboro, Pa. 16901
www.tiaudubon.org

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RAVEN GOING DIGITAL

The *Raven* is moving from print to on-line due to rising costs in U.S. postal rates and our chapter's shrinking budget. You can continue reading the *Raven* on line at <http://www.tiaudubon.org/Publications.htm> And if you don't have web access we can arrange to mail you a print copy but only if you request it.

If you wish to continue having the *Raven* mailed to you, please send in your address label to Beth Walker, 63 East Elmira Street, Mansfield, Pa. 16933.

Please check our web page or the listings in the Wellsboro Gazette for meeting topics.

Meetings are held September through May on the third Wednesday of each month.

Board meeting at 6:30 pm, general meeting at 7:30 pm; all are welcome.

Meetings are at the Gmeiner Center unless otherwise announced.

ANNUAL DINNER – NOVEMBER 14TH

DETAILS INSIDE



ANNUAL DINNER

The annual dinner of the Tiadaghton Audubon Society will be held on Wednesday, November 14th at Holy Child church on South Main Street in Mansfield. Social hour begins at 6:30 with wine and cheese followed by dinner at 7 pm.

Dinner will be a choice of chicken, Swiss steak or vegetarian. Cost is \$20 per person or \$35 per couple. Please indicate your choice of entrée with your check and mail to either Beth Walker, 63 East Elmira Street, Mansfield, Pa. 16933 or Martha Copp, 2503 Antrim Road, Wellsboro, Pa. 16901. Deadline: November 10th!

The guest speaker will be Maiken Winter, a Visiting Fellow at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, speaking on "Birds and Global Climate Change."

Literally and figuratively, birds are the canary in the coal mine, indicating that environments are changing. Currently, birds are telling us that climate change will have a severe impact on ecosystems throughout the world. These impacts will not always be negative, but current scientific evidence indicates that negative effects will outweigh positive ones. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology has initiated a task force to address global climate change issues through research, education, and conservation efforts.



Al Gore (center) with Maiken Winter (left), a visiting fellow at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and Caren Cooper (right).

Maiken Winter was one of four Cornellians personally trained by Al Gore to give at least 10 presentations within a year of his Inconvenient Truth slide show. The training sessions, dubbed The Climate Project, were held in Nashville, Tenn., for an assorted group that included teachers and workers in industry, local and federal government.

In April 2007, Winter participated in The Climate Project, a two-and-a-half-day workshop led by Al Gore. Over the course of several months, Gore trained 1,000 people (175 at a time) to give presentations that educate the public about global warming and the dangers of climate change.

At our annual dinner, we will have available for purchase our hand-made bird feeders and Audubon baseball caps.

The smaller feeder is 15" high and costs \$20, while the larger is 22" tall and costs \$30; all proceeds go to TAS. Caps are \$15.



CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

By Gary Tyson

This year's 108th National Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count will be held in Tioga County on December 15. The big change is that Bob Ross, who has been coordinator for the count here in Tioga County since 1994, will be leaving us for the winter, and Gary Tyson will take over as coordinator. We all owe Bob a great deal of thanks for his time, effort, and dedication over these many years, and he will be sorely missed.

Each year volunteers from all over the United States -- last year 55,000 nationally and 21 from Tioga County -- venture out into the sometimes bitter cold and deep snows of winter to count every bird they can find within a predefined area. Tioga County Audubon Society's area is a 177-square-mile circle with its center at Whitneyville, roughly half way between Wellsboro and Mansfield. The circle is divided into seven sectors, and volunteers are assigned to each sector. Last year's count produced 59 species and 4,085 birds. Unlike in many past years, the mild weather kept the lakes and streams open, which led to significant waterfowl reports, including 301 Canada geese, 218 common mergansers, a dozen mallards, 4 ruddy ducks, 4 hooded mergansers, 4 lesser scaup, and 2 ring-necked ducks. The most unusual bird reported was a loggerhead shrike. With luck, we may be able to repeat last year's record sightings.

You can read more about the annual Christmas Bird Count at the National Audubon Society's webpage under Birds and Science/Citizen Science (<http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/index.html>). If you are interested in participating and have not participated before, please contact Gary Tyson at 570-724 5789 or email at gnats3@ptd.net. More details will follow as we work out a plan and make assignments for the count.

WINTER MUCK

By Dianne Franco

The log book is removed from the blind each November, to keep it from getting wet or stolen, but there will be a clipboard inside, so please keep recording winter observations. We duplicate the clipboard notes and put them into the log in spring. From these past observations, we can tell you that at the blind in the winter, mallards, northern harrier, chickadees, white breasted nuthatch, flickers, rusty and redwing blackbirds, American goldfinch, red-tailed, cooper and sharp-shinned hawks have been seen. There's been a great blue heron who hangs out all winter. On some of the open springs there have even been eastern phoebe, Virginia rail and catbird spotted in the snow!

This winter promises, according to the big birders, to be a good one for irruptive species (now you know that's Bob's word!)...which according to Bob Ross means redpoll, purple finch, pine siskin and possibly evening and pine grosbeak may be around. In the blind parking lot, and along the road down to the blind, many of these birds might be found! If this prediction proves correct, there are two lifers in that group for me!

Just a note: if you haven't spent time reading the log book, you've missed out on a treat. People from as far away as Liverpool, England and Australia have visited our little blind and there are many 'Thank you for the peaceful, lovely, well maintained blind' comments. So that's a big pat on the back for all of us who love and maintain this special spot.

The Raven



Officers and Key Members

- * President: Phil Krajewski
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- * Vice-President: Jeff Holbrook
- * Treasurer: Ann Vayansky
- * Newsletter Editor: Emily Rizzo
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- * Conservation Chair: John Kesich
- * Monitoring Programs: Robert Ross
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