



WARIOTO WARBLER



CLARKSVILLE NATIONAL AUDUBON CHAPTER

VOLUME 39, NUMBER 6

MARCH 2008

WARIOTO AT A GLANCE

REGULAR MEETING: Thurs., March 6, 7:30 p.m., Sundquist Science Bldg, conference room, D126, APSU.

PROGRAM: Joe Davidson, Manager of Habitat for Humanity's "ReStore" center for recycling building materials

BOARD MEETING: Sundquist Science Building, Biology Conference room, D126 at 7:00 p.m.

Visit our webpage at http://www.apsu.edu/schillers/Audubon/Warioto_Chapter.htm

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, Joe Schiller

Warioto Audubon is soliciting nominations for its executive committee. This includes the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, membership officer, program officer, newsletter editor, conservation chair, publicity chair, field trip chair, hospitality chair, webmaster, and board members at large. While this seems like a long list, there are members filling many of these positions at present, but they all would be willing to step down or moving into other positions in the interest of bringing new members into the process of administering this organization. Do not be intimidated from considering running for any of these positions because you "have never done this before" or because you think "I don't think I know enough," there will be plenty of former office holders that will help you learn the ropes. All organizations benefit from fresh blood and new ideas. Please consider taking an active role in your Warioto Audubon chapter by standing for one of these offices. If you want more information about the responsibilities of any of these offices just contact me or the members of the nominating committee, Debbie Hamilton, Barbara Wilbur, or Sally Schiller.

A slate of nominees is presented below.

PROGRAM, Steve Hamilton

The presenter for the March Warioto Audubon meeting is **Joe Davidson**, Manager of Habitat for Humanity's newly opened building materials recycling store, **ReStore**. Located in the old IGA grocery store on Madison Street near the downtown post office, the store accepts material salvaged from buildings being torn down and from remodeling projects. They also resell some furniture and appliances. You can read more about it in the Thursday, February 28 "Living" section of the Leaf-Chronicle.

On a related note, there is a new recycling company in Clarksville called Recycle Clarksville. For a monthly \$10 fee they come by your home and pick up your recyclables, something the local waste disposals services do not do. Their e-mail address is recycleclarksville@gmail.com and their telephone number is 931-338-5027.

CONSERVATION LETTER, Joe Schiller

The national primaries have winnowed the field to one Republican and two Democratic candidates for president. It is very possible that by the time of our next meeting there will be

only a single Democratic candidate as well. It is not too soon to start thinking about the candidate's positions on environmental issues important to most Audubon members.

On the Republican side John McCain has a reputation as a "maverick" when it comes to following his own course even when this conflicts with the policy of his party. For example, he has supported legislation for campaign finance reform and against the use of prisoner interrogation techniques that most countries consider to be torture. So does this independent streak extend to environmental policy? The answer is yes, and no. McCain has bucked his party and opposed drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. He also opposed the 1995 energy bill crafted by vice president Cheney that gave billions of dollars of subsidies to the fossil fuel and nuclear industries. McCain has been one of the early advocates of climate change legislation. He cosponsored the first such senate bill with Joe Lieberman, a maverick of sorts on the democratic side of the aisle. However, when the new energy bill came up for a vote, a bill that contained a provision for a national renewable energy portfolio standard (RPS), i.e., a provision that would require all investor owned electric utilities to provide at least 25% of the electricity they sell from renewable energy sources by 2025, John McCain skipped the vote. The bill lost by one vote, and the RPS was stripped from the bill in order to secure passage of a weaker bill. This is very inconsistent with McCain's previous stance in support of climate change legislation because any effective effort to reverse global climate change must also include a significant increase in the use of renewable energy to produce electricity. Does John McCain only support effective environmental legislation when it has no real chance of passage, but abandon that position when he has the power to make it happen. That certainly seems to have been the case in this instance. It is also a consistent pattern. The league of conservation voters (LCV) notes that John McCain missed all 15 important environmental votes in the senate last year, giving him a score of zero in 2007. More importantly, when one looks at McCain's environmental voting record as a whole, it is quite weak. The LCV gives McCain a lifetime score of 24, although this is not bad compared to the scores of many of his Republican colleagues, many of whom have scores consistently hovering in the single digits. For example, Senator Inhofe of Oklahoma, former chair of the senate Environment and Public Works Committee, has a lifetime LCV score of 0%.

What about the two Democrats, Hillary Clinton and Barak Obama? Both these candidates have strong environmental voting records. Both support strong climate change legislation and

aggressive deployment of new renewable energy generation. The climate change legislation proposed by both democrats is stronger than advocated by Senator McCain. While McCain says he supports these things, both these Democratic senators showed up to vote in favor of the energy bill that lost by the single vote John McCain did not cast. On the other hand, Senator Clinton had a 2007 LCV score of 89% and senator Obama had an impressive 96%. Lifetime scores for Clinton and Obama are an impressive 90% and 96%, respectively. As is the case for many of the issues on the Democratic side, the difference in the Democratic candidates has more to do with nuance and style than on substance. It is safe to conclude that if past voting history is any indication of future policy positions, either Democratic candidate is likely to be a much more environmentally friendly president than John McCain.

You do not need to take my word on this subject. If you want to evaluate the candidate's environmental positions for yourself, visit the candidate's web sites and then seek independent evaluations from websites such as the League of Conservation Voters (<http://www.lcv.org>) or the League of Womens Voters (<http://www.lwv.org>). Then let the candidates know how you feel about their positions.

NAVY BACKS OFF FROM BASE PLANS NEAR NWR

For the past five years, the U.S. Navy has actively sought to build a landing field to practice jet take-offs and landings at a location that is a mere 3.5 miles from Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge in eastern North Carolina. The potentially harmful effects caused by Navy jets could have been highly disruptive to local birds such as the 100,000 migrating and wintering Snow Geese, Tundra Swans, and other waterfowl that regularly use the refuge. (Bird disturbance was one issue, while the potential threats to pilots, risking impact with such large waterfowl, was another.) Fortunately, the Navy is now considering two alternative sites in North Carolina.

See more details from the National Wildlife Refuge Association: <http://www.refugenet.org/new-pdf-iles/1.23.08%20Pocosin%20Lakes%20PR.pdf>

WARIOTO AUDUBON CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

In the February newsletter, Debbie provided a summary of Warioto Audubon's results for the 108th CBC, our 37th CBC. Below is the list of birds counted and the number reported to the National Audubon Society. There were 65 species recorded, one of our lower totals. To view this or previous years results go to <http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/index.html> where you can generate a list of this years birds or compile historical records for our previous counts or any other count.

Common Name	No.	Common Name	No.	Common Name	No.
Canada Goose	254	Rock Pigeon	356	Northern Mockingbird	112
Gadwall	14	Mourning Dove	309	European Starling	979
Mallard	51	Barred Owl	2	Cedar Waxwing	6
Ring-necked Duck	1	Belted Kingfisher	25	Yellow-rumped Warbler	10
Wild Turkey	114	Red-headed Woodpecker	12	Eastern Towhee	82
Northern Bobwhite	1	Red-bellied Woodpecker	49	Chipping Sparrow	18
Pied-billed Grebe	6	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	8	Field Sparrow	84
Great Blue Heron	47	Downy Woodpecker	42	Savannah Sparrow	16
Black Vulture	136	Hairy Woodpecker	8	Fox Sparrow	2
Turkey Vulture	38	Northern Flicker	28	Song Sparrow	77
Bald Eagle	3	Pileated Woodpecker	15	Swamp Sparrow	25
Northern Harrier	1	Eastern Phoebe	4	White-throated Sparrow	265
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	Blue Jay	196	White-crowned Sparrow	55
Cooper's Hawk	1	American Crow	139	Dark-eyed Junco	210
Red-shouldered Hawk	19	Horned Lark	8	Northern Cardinal	415
Red-tailed Hawk	29	Carolina Chickadee	166	Red-winged Blackbird	39
Buteo sp.	1	Tufted Titmouse	131	Eastern Meadowlark	96
American Kestrel	14	White-breasted Nuthatch	22	Common Grackle	301
American Coot	1	Carolina Wren	90	Brown-headed Cowbird	16
Killdeer	3	Winter Wren	2	blackbird sp.	550
Ring-billed Gull	15	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	2	House Finch	110
gull sp.	1	Eastern Bluebird	229	American Goldfinch	98
		American Robin	39	House Sparrow	38

Audubon Officer Nominees for 08-09

Office	Nominee	Contact
President		
1st VP/ Program Chair	Kathy Dewein	648-0293, tora8@hotmail.com
2nd VP/Field Trip Co-Chairs	Elaine Foust	358-5149, Elaine.Foust@state.tn.us
	Daniel Moss	362-4040, dross5@earthlink.net
3rd VP/Membership Chair	Debbie Hamilton	270-265-7125, ammonite@bellsouth.net
4th VP/Publication Chair	Steve Hamilton	270-265-7125, hamiltonsw@apsu.edu
5th VP/CEECs Chair	Danielle Dickerson	221-5270, falconspiral@yahoo.com
Secretary	Yvette Eaton	362-2669, yeaton14@apsu.edu
Treasurer	Gloria Milliken	358-2998
Hospitality	Elvira Roberts	553-0472, ekatie1@gmail.com
Board Members at Large:		
	Barbara Wilbur, 2006-2009	647-4956, 8wi18ur@charter.net
	Suva Bastin, 2006-2009	645-2849
	Marilyn Rachlin, 2007-2010	552-9666
	Sally Schiller, 2007-2010 – Website/Publicity	237-7212, schillers@apsu.edu
	Joe Schiller, 2008-2011	237-7222, schillerj@apsu.edu
	Amy Atkins Wallace, 2008-2011	647-2720, amy.wallace@state.tn.us

NEWS FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Debbie Hamilton, Sally Schiller, Barbara Wilbur)

Above are the nominees for 2008-2009 Warioto Chapter Officers. We still need a nominee for the President. The President presides over the monthly board meetings and facilitates any activities initiated by the committee chairs. Traditionally the President has also written a short article for each newsletter. If anyone would like to serve in this capacity, please contact someone on the nominating committee (contact information in list above). If anyone would like to help with any of the other offices listed above your participation will be more than welcomed! We will vote this slate of officers into position at the May meeting by voice vote of members present. Elected officers will begin their positions in September 2008.

**WARIOTO AUDUBON SOCIETY
C/O STEVE HAMILTON, EDITOR
290 ARDMOOR DR.
CLARKSVILLE, TN 37043**

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ARTICLES AND INFORMATION FOR THE FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER ARE DUE 17 MARCH.

MAIL TO: Steve Hamilton, 3040 Snardon Mill Rd., Allensville, KY 42204 or *hamiltonsw@apsu.edu*

NEW MEMBER FORM

Yes, I would like to become a member of the National Audubon Society and the local chapter: Clarksville Warioto Audubon Society for the introductory rate of \$20.00.

I will receive six issues of National Audubon magazine, the Warioto Audubon society newsletter (9) issues, and help to protect America's Birds, rescue endangered wildlife and preserve vital habitat.

Please Print:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____, State _____ Zip _____

Make Checks payable to National Audubon Society and send this coupon and your check to
National Audubon Society, Membership Data Center, P.O. Box 51005, Boulder, Colorado 80323-1005

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