



WARIOTO WARBLER



CLARKSVILLE NATIONAL AUDUBON CHAPTER

VOLUME 39, NUMBER 8

MAY 2008

WARIOTO AT A GLANCE

REGULAR MEETING: Thurs., May 1, 7:30 p.m., Sundquist Science Bldg, conference room, D126, APSU.

PROGRAM: Mike O'Malley, a local birder will report on **A Birding Excursion to Attu**.

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

FIELD TRIP: Spring Bird Count, May 10, see details below.

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, Joe Schiller

Last month the Tennessee Legislature killed a bill in committee that would have restricted mountaintop removal mining in Tennessee on the grounds that restricting this form of mining would be an infringement on the traditions of people living in those regions of the state where this mining occurs. These parts of the state are not coincidentally also the poorest parts of the state and growing poorer. Mountaintop removal mining will only accelerate that process. Senator Kurita was one of the cosponsors of this legislation. Please thank her and ask her to continue the effort.

PROGRAM: STATE OF TENNESSEE'S BIRDS

Scott Somershoe, TWRA State Ornithologist, was unable to provide the program at our April meeting owe to some last minuet issue. We all hope we can get him on the calendar early on our 08-09 Warioto Year. In lieu of our scheduled program, we viewed a DVD of Bill Moyer's Journal on Rachel Carson. How appropriate to the month in which we celebrate Earth Day. Thanks to Joe and Sally Schiller for providing the DVD.

Mike O'Malley will provide our May 1st program on his 2006 **birding expedition to Attu**, the western most of Alaska's Aleutian Island chain. Mike is a partner in a Wendy's franchise that operates more than 35 stores, including those in Clarksville. Mike is relatively new to birding, starting in 1993 when he began trying to put names on the birds coming to his backyard feeders. In spite of his relatively recent introduction to birds, he has become an avid birder and has traveled widely to some great birding locations throughout the US. He counts high among these excursions three trips to southeastern Arizona guided by Stuart Healy. He now has 119 birds on his yard list including the 2nd Tennessee record of the White-winged Dove (May 2001). His life list from the ABA area is now almost 600 birds. Not bad for 15 years of birding. Please join us for what should be a very interesting and entertaining program.

SPRING FLING AT DUNBAR CAVE

This note is just a brief reminder that **April 26** is Spring Fling at Dunbar Cave. The program was mailed last month and is posted on our webpage (link above below "Warioto at a Glance").

SPRING BIRD COUNT

Once again, our chapter chooses to celebrate International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD) with a spring bird count. You can learn more about the celebration of this amazing biological phenomenon by visiting the IMBD site <http://www.birdday.org/> and the Fish and Wildlife site <http://www.fws.gov/birds/IMBD/>. **This year we will count birds on May 10.**

The spring count tallies species and numbers of individuals much like the Christmas Bird Count (CBC). You must keep a record of your activity on the count. That is, record distance traveled on foot and in the car and time in and out of the car just as you would for the CBC. Also, similar to the CBC are the count week records. This allows you to **report observations of birds that were seen in the 3 days before and 3 days after the count day.**

The count is organized differently from the Christmas Bird Count. We (1) do not meet at Shoney's, (2) do not have a post-count meeting, and (3) are not restricted to the 15-mile count circle, only by the **county boundaries**. While it is an all-day count, you are not required to put in a full eight hours as you are with the CBC. It is organized as follows: (1) **You MUST call Gloria Milliken (931-358-2998) in advance to select your count areas/locations.** You pick the areas/locations were you plan to count and she makes sure there is not an overlap or duplication of efforts with other birders. **Gloria may be able to direct you to an area or pair you with someone.** (2) **Call Gloria and report the results** of your count. Gloria will compile and submit Warioto's results. (3) The count is **restricted to Montgomery County**. If you have any questions about the count, call Gloria at the number provided above.

CONSERVATION LETTER, Joe Schiller

The single most important federal legislation that would help to end mountaintop removal mining and protect Tennessee's mountains is the Clean Water Protection Act sponsored by Representative Frank Pallone (D-NJ). This "Act" is actually an amendment to the Clean Water Act that would explicitly prohibit the dumping of mine waste into streams. You can learn more about this legislation and send an email to our representatives at his site: <http://www.appvoices.org/index.php?mtr/cwpa/>. While the bill currently has 87 cosponsors, to date, Representative Jim Cooper is the only Tennessee congress member to cosponsor this important legislation. Please write our Tennessee delegation urging them to cosponsor and support this legislation.

AUDUBON OFFICER NOMINATION

See the March Warioto Warbler for 08-09 chapter nominees <http://www.apsu.edu/schillers/Audubon/NewsLetters/2008%20MARCH.pdf>. Since that newsletter, Barbara Wilbur has been nominated for the position of president. Additional nominations from the membership are welcome. Elections will be held by voice vote at the May 1 meeting.

BIRDING WORKSHOP AT DUNBAR CAVE

Dunbar and TWRA (Polly Rooker and Susan Lanier) are hosting our third annual birding workshop this May. Several of the Friends have participated in the last two, and we would love to have any of the Friends of Dunbar Cave involved this year. It is always a lot of fun. Here is the information-

Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and Dunbar Cave State Natural Area present our "Beyond BOW Birding Workshop" Saturday, May 17 from 9 am to 3 pm. For ages 18 and older. This is part of the Becoming an Outdoors Woman program, but we won't discriminate against any men who want to participate. Learn to identify birds by sight and sound, take a bird walk through a variety of habitats, see a bird banding demonstration, and learn about backyard bird habitat basics. Fee is \$20, which goes to Dunbar Cave to be used for educational materials. Lunch is included in the fee. In the past, participants have received educational materials and freebies such as T-shirts, mugs, bird call CD's, Birds of Tennessee laminated i.d. folders, and other items. Stop by the Visitor Center and pick up a registration form, or call 931-648-5526 or e-mail amy.wallace@state.tn.us if you would like to be mailed a form. Call Don Hosse of TWRA at (615)781-6541 if you have any questions.

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

WARIOTO WARBLER NEWSLETTER is published nine times a year by the Warioto Chapter of the National Audubon Society, Clarksville, TN 37040. All National Audubon members in our area receive it. Please notify us of any CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

ARTICLES AND INFORMATION FOR THE JUNE NEWSLETTER ARE DUE 14 May.

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

V51
7XCH