



WARIOTO WARBLER



CLARKSVILLE NATIONAL AUDUBON CHAPTER

VOLUME 41, NUMBER 2

OCTOBER 2009

WARIOTO AT A GLANCE

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

PROGRAM: "Cedar Glades and Xeric Barrens" by Dr. Dwayne Estes, a botany professor at APSU.

FIELD TRIP: On Saturday, **OCTOBER 17**, Dr. Dwayne Estes will lead a trip to two nearby **Kentucky glade communities** near Russellville, KY. Meet in the APSU's Trahern lot by 7:00 a.m. See info below.

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, Kathy DeWein

Once again we started the new year with a great meeting. The representative of TVA let us know they are looking into solar and wind energy for future use. They are not the total answer yet, but we're on our way. We had several new attendees and hope they will return again.

One of the other ways we are trying to inform the public about our chapter will happen Saturday, September 26th (we hope) when the Rails to Trails will have its grand opening. Audubon is such a wonderful organization and we hope to let others know we are about birding, but also about conservation, community involvement in environmental issues, and fun. Come join us this month and bring a friend.

CHAPTER PROGRAMS, Michelle Rogers

September Program:

Dr. Dwayne Estes, APSU Assistant Professor of Biology and Principal Investigator in the Center of Excellence for Field Biology will present "Cedar Glades and Xeric Barrens." Dr. Estes will discuss this unusual habitat with many unique species.

Previous Program:

Randall Johnson of TVA presented "Integrated Resource Plan: TVA's Environmental and Energy Future." The meeting was well attended and some pointed questions and challenges about TVA's energy plans were made.

Upcoming programs:

November 5 – Potluck Banquet – TBA

December – Charles Cook of C-Bees, "Beekeeping and Colony Collapse Disorder." Visit the Montgomery County Beekeeping Association online at <http://mcbaonline.ning.com>.

January – No meeting

February 5 – Randy Hedgepath, "Wildflowers and Folklore (with an ornithological twist)."

March 4 – TBA

April 1 – Diann Nance, "Herbs that Attract Birds and Bees."

May 6 – TBA

June 3 – TBA

Editor's Note: If you have program suggestions and can provide some assistance with making contacts, please let Michelle know. Her e-mail address is rogersm@apsu.edu.

FIELD TRIPS, Daniel Moss and Chris O'Bryan

Dr. Dwayne Estes, Assistant Professor of Biology and Principal Investigator in the Center of Excellence for Field Biology as Austin Peay State University will lead the field trip on **Saturday, October 17**. Dr. Estes, an expert in glade and barren plant communities, will lead a **trip to two Kentucky glade communities in Kentucky** near Russellville. Flat Rock Glade State Nature Preserve (SNP) near Auburn is more typical of those cedar glades found in the Nashville Basin while Logan County Glade SNP in Russellville is a more sloping limestone glade and has a different plant community.

The group will gather in the parking lot behind the Trahern art building on the APSU campus (<http://www.apsu.edu/map/>). We would like to leave at 7:00 a.m.

Dr. Estes is planning a day-long trip so bring water or other drink, lunch, sturdy shoes, suitable clothing for walking in the "weeds," and binoculars (You can't just look at plants!).

CONSERVATION LETTER, Joe Schiller

The US senate has delayed its release of a climate protection bill somewhat as it grapples with health care legislation. However, the science on climate change reveals that the risks of climate change catastrophe are increasing at a much faster rate than previously believed. There is no time for delay. Keep urging your senators to get on the ball and do something about the greatest risk to you and your children's future of any other issue before our country. Procrastination on this issue is the height of folly.

Also, the EPA is taking comments on their review of mountaintop removal permitting. you can submit a comment easily right here: <http://ilovemountains.org/epa-permit-list/action.php>. Please tell EPA that science demonstrates that mountaintop removal mining severely degrades water quality permanently and you believe that EPA is legally required to prevent that from happening by blocking mountaintop removal mine permits.

Lastly, and on a brighter note, the Middle Tennessee Tour of Solar Homes has been announced. There are several homes you can tour in the Nashville area. For more info see: <http://www.tectn.org/>.

OUR 2009-2010 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

A REMINDER: The following officers and committee Chairs were elected by acclamation at the May membership meeting.

President:	Kathy Dewein	Board Members:
Programs:	Michelle Rogers	Sally Schiller
Field Trips:	Daniel Moss & Chris O'Bryan	Marilyn Rachlin Duane Rice
Newsletter:	Steve Hamilton	Amy Wallace
Memberships:	Debbie Hamilton	Bill Milliken
Conservation:	Joe Schiller	Paul Schwab
Treasurer:	Gloria Milliken	
Hospitality:	Elvira & Gene Baker	
Secretary:	Barbara Wilbur	

ADVENTURES IN BLUEBIRDING, Duane Rice

On September 9 through 14, 2009, my wife, daughter, and I attended the 31st Annual North American Bluebird Conference in Grantville, PA, which is just outside the Harrisburg./Hershey area. It was a dream come true for me personally, being it was my first conference, after having been a member of NABS for approximately ten years.

I got to meet many other bluebird enthusiasts from all over North America, some of whom I had become acquainted with via the Cornell sponsored internet listserv, Bluebird L, but had never met in person. It was quite a thrill!

We enjoyed a field trip to the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, where we hiked to the North Overlook to watch for migrating raptors. Although it was a not a great birding day, due to the winds coming from the east, we all enjoyed ourselves immensely. I highly recommend checking it out, if you're ever in the area.

Also worth checking out is the Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area. Somewhat similar to our Cross Creeks, it is a major stopping point for all sorts of migrating birds, especially Snow Geese, in the tens of thousands!

Of course we also had to go to Hershey, where we toured the Hershey Gardens (awesome), and the chocolate factory (yum!). There were other more historic tours, but we opted for the more nature oriented ones, including Stony Creek, which is in need of rescue from development. Google it and help.

I can't say which of our many speakers I enjoyed the most, but Dick Tuttle stood out, with his hypothesis relating beavers and their

impact on the environment created ideal habitat for bluebirds and other wildlife, before modern man put up the first nest box. Not all the speakers used bluebirds as their topic. We learned about American Kestrel and Saw-Whet Owl research, and how to better identify raptors soaring overhead.

There were vendors galore, and food without end. But most of all, I felt I was in a world full of friends. All aware that nature, all of nature, is needing us and our children to care.

There's much more to tell, but time won't allow for now. Let's just say I came back to Tennessee tired, but inspired.

Next year, the conference will be held in Ontario, Canada. If you love bluebirds, like I do, you must go. If you just care about nature in general, you will be among friends, lots of friends. What a wonderful place to be. Hope to see you there!

I wish you Bluebirds, in blue skies.



From the Cornell Lab of Ornithology



Audubon

Warioto Audubon Society is a Chapter of National Audubon Society, Inc.

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ARTICLES AND INFORMATION FOR THE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER ARE DUE 16 OCTOBER.

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 _____

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Make Checks payable to National Audubon Society and send this coupon and your check to
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