

PSO Newsletter



July 2002

The Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology

Volume 13, Number 2

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK....

See the Whole Bird!

Our new motto: We see the whole bird! Not just the beak or the tail. Not just the flashy field marks indicated in field guides. We see the whole bird.

On a field trip to Long Pond at the 2002 annual meeting, a male American Redstart flitted to the ground right next to our parked cars along Hypsy Gap Road. It was a cold morning in the Pocono barrens, so that was one fluffed-up, cold little warbler. It isn't every day that a string of vehicles full of birders parks along your personal territory. So, Mr. Redstart performed the whole show only a few feet from all of us. He flared his wings and spun around in a circle, letting us see all of his red flags before flitting back into the oak scrub. Redstarts may not be rare birds, but that was an uncommon experience.

Many warblers and vireos later, we scanned a hayfield for the local Bobolinks. Bubbling and gurgling overhead, male Bobolinks sang with wings flopping and legs dangling. One chased another and fought over a female in front of our group. Everyone got terrific views of the whole display, chase, and fight.

Each of the several field trips had its magical moments. We had great trip leaders who really gave us a fine show. Despite a little "heavy dew" on Saturday morning, the trips proceeded to give everyone an introduction to one of the state's best ecotourism areas, the Pocono Mountains. All the trips were very successful and produced long lists of birds.

Saturday's presentations gave us a whole picture of what's happening to birds. We will never look at glass the same way after Dan Klem's illuminating presentation. Glass may be the greatest human-caused bird mortality next only to

habitat destruction. Bob Ross and Jim Sheehan ably taught us about the value of hemlocks to birds of the Upper Delaware River watershed with their excellent slide presentations. The creeping spread of the hemlock woolly adelgid may be fatal to the future of several breeding bird species dependent upon hemlocks for their breeding habitat in Pennsylvania. Our state tree is special and deserves an aggressive conservation campaign. Finally, Bud Cook showed us what the Nature Conservancy is doing to protect one of "the last great places" in the Poconos. In a quick show of hands, Bud found that more than half of our attendees are also members of TNC. As we found all weekend, the Poconos is a great place for birding so the Conservancy's work is extremely valuable. We should all pitch in. John Serrao gave us many reasons to enjoy the special habitats of the region in his inspirational slide presentation Saturday night. John showed us everything from mushrooms to rattlesnakes. The local birders showed us the whole Poconos.

If you missed something that weekend, you can always go back and enjoy the Poconos at another time. The upper Delaware's hidden hollows and the plateau's high elevation forests and barrens are great places to escape the hot summer months. Thanks to Chris Turn, attendees also have a hand-made tourist guide to the birding hot spots, complete with maps to the field trip locations. I'm sure Bud would welcome you to the Nature Conservancy's Long Pond office. We hope we see Terry and his fantastic graduate students at future meetings.

At PSO meetings, we take the time and the trouble to see the whole bird, and we look at the big picture. We are grateful for the fantastic tour of the Poconos given us by Terry Master, Chris Turn, and the other local bird experts. If you want to see the whole bird, come to our next meeting May 16-18, 2003, in Indiana, PA.

— Douglas A. Gross, President

2002 Poole Award Given Posthumously to Phillips Street

Long before the days of atlasing and cyberbirding, some Pennsylvanians called themselves "birdwatchers" and pursued the gentlemanly hobby with their friends. A few wrote books or journal articles when inspired. Some reported on their rare finds. And some championed the sport of birding and the conservation of bird habitat in places others ignored or took for granted. They were the real pioneers of birding and bird conservation.

The PSO honored one of those pioneers this year by recognizing the contributions of Phil Street, the Dean of Poconos birding. Phil was a long-time member of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club (DVOC) and several national ornithological societies. His father was J. Fletcher Street whose passion for birds rubbed off on him. Phil earned a bachelor's degree in Ornithology from Cornell University in 1935. With few job openings and meager funds, Phil did not go to graduate school but pursued a career in investment banking. He used his professional skills to provide sound advise to the endowment funds of ornithological societies to their great benefit.

Phil made his greatest mark on Pennsylvania ornithology with a series of publications on the birds of the Poconos. These began in 1954 with the "Birds of the Pocono Mountains, Pennsylvania" that was published in DVOC's journal, *Cassinia*. This extended article, essentially an annotated checklist, was later published as a book in 1956. Phil updated this milestone three times, the last two publications collaborated with Rick Wiltraut of Nazareth. The sweep of these publications chronicle the changes in the avifauna of the Pocono Mountains as well as the growth of birding. Phil documented the growing threats of development to bird habitats throughout the region, including the birth of the Long Pond raceway as a threat to the unique ecosystems of the High Poconos.

Phil had a deep and abiding interest in bird conservation. Much of his work went unnoticed behind the scenes. He was a leader in the movement to provide legal protection to hawks migrating along the state's famous ridges. Phil also promoted bird habitat conservation around Pocono Lake Preserve and Long Pond.

The competitive juices flowed in Phil until the very end. He was very displeased at missing any of his regulars during each spring birding round-up trip, and he left no doubt about how he felt about it. His personal warmth and willingness to share his knowledge also did not diminish with age. I remember that last time I saw Phil at the edge

of a hay field at Long Pond eagerly showing new birders their first Bobolinks that were only a few feet from our roadside post. While watching the Bobolinks singing in flight with legs dangling, his unbridled joy at observing one of his favorite birds was infectious.

Earl Poole Award Recipients

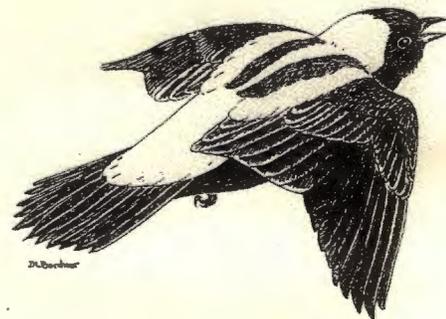
1995	Jean Stull
1996	Bob Leberman
1997	Paul Schwalbe
1998	Ralph Bell
1999	Ed Fingerhood
2000	Bill Reid
2001	Frank and Barb Haas
2002	Phillips Street

Unfortunately for us and for Phil, he died at his beloved Pocono Lake on 5 August 2000. At the 2002 PSO meeting at East Stroudsburg University, the Poole award was presented to his personal friend, Bud Cook, of the Nature Conservancy. In a private ceremony at Pocono Lake, Bud and I will present the Poole award to members of Phil's family who are very appreciative of the honor.

We are very grateful for the many contributions of Phil Street and all the other recipients of the Earl Poole award. Phil's spirited life inspire all of us to go a little further in our efforts to promote bird study and conservation in Pennsylvania.

[Note: Some information for this article was gleaned from Jerome Jackson's obituary for Phil published in the *Auk* 118 (4): 1033-1034 and from conversations with Bud Cook.]

-- Douglas A. Gross, President



PSO Website Input Requested

The PSO website (www.pabirds.org), which contains information on the society, membership and reporting forms, annual meeting announcements, and more, went online last fall. An extensive section is devoted to the Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee, including the official state list, reporting tips, and a list of species that require documentation.

One of the biggest – and most work intensive parts – is the **Birding Locations** section. The goal of this portion of the website is to have information on all of the birding locations in Pennsylvania on a county by county basis. This section also includes information on the list of species for each county and county list records.

To see an example, go to the website, click on “Birding Locations” and select “Erie County.” This will show you several sites in Erie County. The maps of the individual sites are not yet finished but will be soon.

The task of inputting this information into the website is a relatively easy one. However, the task of gathering this information is not. We need our members to submit information on the birding locations with which they are familiar for inclusion in this list. The site for which you provide information does not have to be in “your” county. Anyone can submit a site.

The following is a list of the information that should be provided for each site. I realize that not everyone is capable of providing everything on this list, but the more you can include, the better.

- Official Name** (for instance: Moraine State Park)
- Local name** (for instance: Lake Arthur)
- Address** (if applicable — Park Office, Sanctuary address, etc.)
- Township(s), borough(s), or city(s)** in which site is located (not the address – the physical location)
- Directions** from nearest major intersection or town (include mileage: i.e. 2.5 miles east on Route 45 to Route 6, then 1.5 miles north)
- Expected typical species** (representative species found at this location on a typical trip. This could be broken down by seasons)
- Specialties** (species that are not found commonly elsewhere in the state or are more easily found here)
- Rarities** (a short list of the better rarities that have been found here)
- General description** (overview of the location: i.e. “A deciduous forest along a ridgetop with a forest road providing the primary birding and access route”)
- Specific description of points of interest** (a list of the best places at this location to look for birds. The list should be in geographic order, if possible. A loop is best. However, many sites do not lend themselves to a linear or loop route. In those cases, list the points of interest in the order that you would access them if you were going to bird it.)
- Map** showing all points of interest mentioned in description. (It is essential that all points listed in the description are labeled on the map.)
- Lodging and dining** (optional, but should be included for more remote sites.)

Please send the information to haas@pabirds.org or snail mail to Frank Haas, 2469 Hammertown Rd., Narvon, PA 17555-9730.

-- Franklin C. Haas
PSO Webmaster

Pocono Packets Still Available

Special thanks to Chris Turn who assembled helpful Poconos packets for the annual meeting attendees. These packets included helpful maps for Delaware State Forest and Nature Conservancy lands, birding directions to Lake Minsi and the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, information concerning restaurants, and a campground directory as well as a plethora of other interesting hand-outs and brochures.

Chris still has several of these packets available. If you are interested in obtaining one, please contact her at birder@ptd.net or by regular mail at:

Chris Turn
P.O. Box 231
Bushkill, PA 18324-9801

The Conservation Corner

Here are a few items for the Conservation Corner that I hope are of interest to PSO members. First, last year, I wrote about global warming and its potential impacts on wildlife. Since then, a report has been issued by the American Bird Conservancy and the National Wildlife Federation entitled "The Birdwatcher's Guide to Global Warming." This report gives some disturbing estimates of the impacts of global warming on birds. In projecting the impacts on neotropical migrants, the report estimates that different regions of the country will have a net loss of species. Examples are the New England states having a net loss of 15%, Southeastern states losing 22%, and the Mid-Atlantic states losing 23% of the species of neotropical migrants.

What is even more ironic is that several states could see a major reduction in the range of their state birds or even lose them entirely. Examples include the Brown Thrasher in Georgia, the American Goldfinch in Iowa, the Black-capped Chickadee in Massachusetts, and of all things, the Baltimore Oriole in Maryland.

PSO members interested in this report can find it at the website of either organization mentioned above. They are www.nwf.org and www.abcbirds.org.

The second item is a recent poll showing public support for conservation. Lately, there has been a great deal of activity involving conservation and the environment – much of it has been attacks by the current administration on the environment and a lack of funds to carry out needed projects and programs. This, unfortunately, is contrary to what the public wants and supports.

In April 2002, a poll commissioned by the Trust for Public Land (PA) and other conservation groups in Pennsylvania found that nearly two-thirds of Pennsylvanians oppose scaling back the state's current environmental funding programs. The poll found that 85% of Pennsylvanians support the Keystone Program, 88% support Growing Greener, and 82% support additional and permanent state funding for preserving natural land as wildlife preserves.

Further, when Pennsylvanians were asked about a proposal to increase the solid waste tipping fee by \$5.00 per ton with the money to be used for conservation, the support was both strong and crossed all segments of society. The increase was supported by 64% of Democrats and 62% of Republicans. The increase was supported by 55% of those who consider themselves to be conservatives, 70% of those considering themselves to be moderates, and 81% of those who are liberals. And there was no significant difference

between urban, suburban, and rural residents.

Other findings include support for local parks (82%), preserving land as fish and wildlife habitat (79%) and preserving land to manage growth and development (76%). Seventy-four percent of respondents supported additional funding to the State Game Commission and the Fish and Boat Commission to manage and protect game and non-game species.

With all this support, why aren't the elected officials aggressively moving ahead with passing the necessary legislation to implement a permanent state fund for wildlife. As residents and voters, why don't we, the members of PSO, visit with our state representatives and remind them that Pennsylvanians want funding for conservation and we want it this year.

– Mark Henry
PSO Conservation Chairperson

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Threatens State's Hemlocks

A stand of eastern hemlock trees growing along the entrance road to the Conyngham borough cemetery in Luzerne County is under attack. And so are hemlocks in Hazleton's Memorial Park, as well as some of the nation's oldest hemlocks standing along the famous Falls Trail at Ricketts Glen State Park in northern Luzerne.

The invader is a small, slug-like critter known as the hemlock woolly adelgid, and by the scientific name, *Adelges tsugae*. Trees with heavy infestations appear at a distance to be covered with dusty snow.

Introduced to North America in the mid-1920s, probably from Japan where it's a native insect, the woolly adelgid reached eastern Pennsylvania in the 1960s. Now infestations of the aphid-like insect, which kills hemlocks by sucking the sap at the base of needles, have spread across Luzerne and neighboring counties after destroying entire hemlock groves in New Jersey and in Monroe and other eastern Pennsylvania counties.

Each individual adelgid has a white cottony egg "sac" that can be brushed off onto the ground, but they quickly reinfest a tree by hitchhiking on the feathers of birds or riding on the wind. Hemlocks die three to six years after becoming infested, and only certain insecticides are effective in saving individual trees, not entire groves.

For a variety of reasons, including the fact that the eastern hemlock is Pennsylvania's state tree, federal and state agencies are counterattacking by introducing another Asian insect, a tiny predacious beetle that's known to eat only woolly adelgids. The battlegrounds include Hickory Run State Park – an Important Bird Area – where on May 7 a total of 2,592 of the tiny “lady beetles” were released onto heavily infested trees as part of a pest management study being conducted by the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Bureau of Forestry.

Park Manager Kevin Fazzini and visitors hiked to one of seven area release points for the beetles. Fazzini led the trek to a mature hemlock tree at the end of a well forested path that looked like an old logging road. “He brings them in a little pillow case,” Fazzini explained as he leaned over and grasped a bundle of hemlock branches that had been pulled together. A fist-sized green “brick” of sorts lay in the middle and bits of the white flocculence or “frast” left behind by adelgids was visible on many of the half-inch-long needles of the coniferous tree.

Mike Blumenthal, a forest entomologist with the Bureau of Forestry, placed the beetles on the tree. This and other release sites will be watched and studied for three years to determine just how effective the beetles are at reducing or eliminating local adelgid populations.

Oddly enough, another nearby hemlock tree showed barely a trace of any adelgids. But a tree at another site in the park was nearly white due to a heavy infestation. “They've been on this tree for several years,” said Diane Madl, a DCNR environmental education specialist.

More than half of Pennsylvania's 67 counties now have forest and ornamental hemlocks infested with adelgids. Cold winters and wet summers are known to reduce local populations of the adelgid.

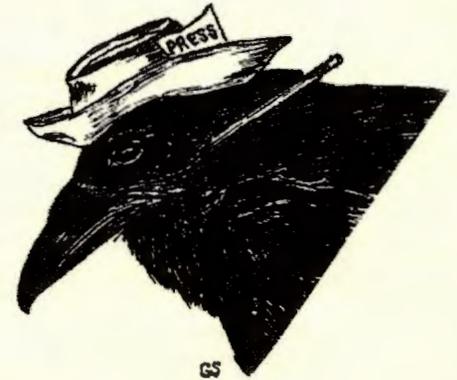
EcoScientific Solutions LLC of Scranton has been raising thousands of the prey beetles under contract with the U.S. Forest Service.

Scientists in federal and state agencies are concerned that the loss of hemlocks growing in riparian and bottomland forests could harm brook trout populations. Hemlock trees shade streams and keep their waters cool during the hot summer months.

Individual hemlock trees can be treated with insecticides, but commercial spraying and injection are expensive treatment strategies, according to the DCNR.

– Alan Gregory

The Raven Reporter



Tales of Discovery from the Special Areas Project

SAP Progress

The PSO Special Areas Project database has grown to 120 locations. By mid-June, there were 5803 field trips entered into the SAP database. These field trips represent approximately 16,469 party-hours (I say approximately because many of us round off a little). State parks represent 35% of the locations adopted for SAP by birders. Almost half (46%) of the total SAP trips have been taken in state parks. The second most popular type of area is state game lands (N = 28) where 25% of the SAP trips have been taken. If you add the state park, natural area and environmental education centers together, DCNR lands account for a total of 58% of the SAP trips.

At least 55 SAP locations are part of Audubon Pennsylvania's Important Bird Areas. Volunteers have conducted 3370 field trips to IBA locations that are in the SAP database. In 2001, the OTC accepted McConnell's Mill State Park, the Lower Trail, and the Canoe Creek Watershed based in part on SAP data. The two projects continue to act synergistically with each other. Many IBA point count contributors “cut their teeth” by doing SAP surveys.

More Checklists Planned

The PSO is working with the Bureau of State Parks to publish more bird checklists. We will concentrate on parks with the most field trips. The state park checklist format is sophisticated and very informative but demands a lot of data to fill in the phenograms (the seasonal bar graphs). The checklists also include verbal descriptions of good birding locations in the park. The Yellow Creek State Park checklist credited both the PSO and the Todd Bird Club for contribution to the list. We are targeting the following state parks next: Codorus, Cook Forest, Prince Gallitzen, Promised Land, Ricketts Glen, Whipple Dam, and World's End.

Ceruleans in PA: A Tale of the Wild West Moving East

The sky blue warbler has become increasingly a focus of conservation for the continent's ornithologists. Cerulean Warbler has been given the designation as an Extremely High Priority Watch List species. Its population is spiraling downward in most of its range, especially in the center of its range in the Mississippi and Ohio valleys. Although the decline in quality riparian and hillside forest are probable contributing factors to its decline, the wintering ground in the foothills of the Andes must also be a suspected cause.

The Special Areas Project has documented some of the state's Cerulean Warbler breeding populations. Some are obvious, but others are tantalizingly poorly known. As you can see by a quick perusal of SAP cerulean spots (see the table below), most are in western counties. It seems as if most western Pennsylvania riparian forests have ceruleans. In the West, there seems to be a fairly low threshold for forest size for ceruleans with some woodlots supporting a few ceruleans; however, in the East, it is a different story. I have

spent hundreds of hours doing breeding bird surveys in northeastern counties without hearing a cerulean. But, there are a few colonies scattered here and there. Ironically, this declining species may be expanding and increasing in numbers in eastern Pennsylvania. The first documentation of ceruleans in eastern Pennsylvania was by Earl Poole along Hay Creek in 1952. The Baird Ornithological Club SAP team found that they still nest along Hay Creek today. There are small populations in the vast tracts of St. Anthony's Wilderness north of Harrisburg. They are also found scattered on oak hillsides like Game Lands 55 north of Berwick. The Delaware Water Gap Recreational Area, an area that was a focus of our last meeting's field trips, may contain the largest Cerulean Warbler population in the eastern part of the state. This population extends into New Jersey.

Below is a list of SAP locations of Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*) breeding populations. In addition, I have found some breeding Ceruleans along the new Susquehanna Warriors Trail along the North Branch Susquehanna which have not yet been added to the database.

Cerulean Warbler SAP Locations

SAP Location	County	Coordinator	Notes
Crooked Creek Lake Park	Armstrong	Margaret Higbee	Riparian forest
Raccoon Creek State Park	Beaver	Bob Hintze	Riparian forest
Hay Creek Watershed	Berks	Larry Lloyd	Riparian forest
Plummer's Hollow	Blair	Marcia Bonta	Oak slope
Game Lands 95 – "The Glades"	Butler	Suzanne Butcher	Riparian
Jennings Environmental. Education Center	Butler	Deb Yovanovich	Prairie, riparian
Game Lands 55 "Jonestown"	Columbia	Scott Killam	Oak slope
Game Lands 110 "St. Anthony's Wilderness"	Dauphin	Grace Randolph	Riparian
Ohiopyle State Park	Fayette	Alan Clarke	Riparian
Ryerson Station State Park	Greene	Roy Ickes	Riparian
Game Lands 362 – "Enlow Fork"	Greene & Washington	Marjorie Howard	Riparian
*Lower Trail	Huntingdon	Dave Kyler Nick Bolgiano	Riparian and hillside
Conemaugh Dam	Indiana	Margaret Higbee	Riparian
Callen Run Study Area	Jefferson	Ian Hartler, John Fedak	Mature forest
McConnell's Mill State Park	Lawrence	Barb Dean	Riparian
Game Lands 296 "Jacob's Creek"	Westmoreland	Donald Koch	Riparian

*Probably largest population

Where Are Our Golden-wings?

The Golden-winged Warbler is one of the other Watch List birds of great interest in Pennsylvania. It is also considered an Extremely High Priority Watch List species. Golden-wings are birds of early successional forests. Once much more common in Pennsylvania, this species is now very scattered across the state. In my own study plots in western Luzerne County, the "old field" habitat has grown in and been replaced by young forest. The mix of young trees, shrubs, and herbaceous openings seem best suited for golden-wings. This combination of habitat characteristics sometimes occurs where forests are disturbed by wind, storm, or fire. A very few locations have been disturbed by occasional floods, too. Fire repression may be one of the major causes of the decline in Golden-winged Warbler habitat. During the last several decades, the conversion of old fields and marginal farmland to forest has also deprived this species of its preferred home.

Management that favors young forest, sometimes targeting game birds like Ruffed Grouse and American Woodcock, inadvertently provides habitat for this beleaguered species. Some of the best Golden-winged Warbler habitat is provided by right-of-ways that cut through extensive forest. Scrub oak barrens is another good place to find golden-wings, especially the barrens near State College which might have the greatest concentration in the state. We have little data on Golden-winged Warbler populations on ridgetop barrens in remote mountainous areas. Paradoxically, timbering on a large scale also temporarily creates early successional forest that this species prefers. Although there is a lot of speculation that competition with the closely related Blue-winged Warbler is to blame for the decline of this species, my own preferred explanation is the decline in wintering habitat in South America. Any way you cut it, this species is in steep decline and deserves more conservation priority.

Golden-winged Warbler SAP Locations

SAP Location	County	Notes
Game Lands 137	Armstrong	Early successional
Canoe Creek State Park	Blair	Early successional, riparian
Game Lands 166	Blair	Early successional
Plummer's Hollow	Blair	Early successional
Beltzville State Park	Carbon	Early successional, riparian
Game Lands 176	Centre	Barrens, high densities
Beaver Creek Nature Area	Clarion	Early successional, wetland
Tamarack Swamp	Clinton	Bog, right-of-way
Game Lands 213	Crawford	Early succession, wetlands
Colonel Denning	Cumberland	Early successional
Game Lands 211	Dauphin	Right-of-way, early succession
Ohiopyle State Park	Fayette	Disturbed riparian
Lower Trail	Huntingdon / Blair	Riparian, early successional
Blue Spruce County Park	Indiana	Early successional
Yellow Creek State Park	Indiana	Riparian, early successional
Nescopeck State Park	Luzerne	Early successional, riparian
Long Pond Macrosite	Monroe	Barrens
Little Buffalo State Park	Perry	Early successional

On the previous page is a list of locations of breeding populations of Golden-winged Warblers (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) in Special Areas Projects. These locations might give an indication of where we can start to focus conservation activities on behalf of this beautiful warbler. I have simplified this table because of some redundancy with the previous one. I apologize if I have misrepresented any location or habitat.

For more information about the PSO Special Areas Project, please contact:

Douglas A. Gross, Coordinator
4804 Salem Boulevard
Berwick, PA 18603

570-542-2191 (office)
dougross@sunlink.net

PSO Bird Quiz

How well do you know our Pennsylvania Birds?

1. Of the species found on outings at the PSO annual meeting (listed on page 9), one was last confirmed nesting in the state in the 1930s and one was first confirmed nesting in 1994. Which are they?
2. Pennsylvania has only one specimen and two sight reports of a large and beautiful bird that created taxonomic disagreement among ornithologists for generations. Some have considered it merely a color morph and others a full species. What is the bird? And for a bonus, what is our only county where this bird has been reported?
3. Males of what breeders in large marshes are known for building 1-10 dummy nests in their colonies?
4. Two species that appear regularly in Pennsylvania were once thought to hatch from something other than eggs. For that myth from the Middle Ages, one is commemorated in its English name and one in its Latin name. Which species are they?
5. Another PSO outing question: Of the 27 warbler species found on the annual meeting outings, which three have not been known to nest in Pennsylvania?

(Answers on page 10)

PSO Annual Membership Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2002

President Doug Gross called the annual membership meeting to order at 8:15 p.m. at East Stroudsburg University. Doug thanked Shonah Hunter for handling meeting registration and Terry Master for hosting the meeting. The field trip leaders who were present were introduced, and all of the weekend's field trips reviewed.

Treasurer Gene Zielinski gave the treasurer's report indicating a current balance of \$16,116.93. A motion was made to accept the report, seconded, and passed.

A motion was made to forego the reading of the minutes from last year's meeting. The minutes were made available to anyone who was interested in reading them.

Doug thanked Frank and Barb Haas for giving *Pennsylvania Birds* to our organization. Dan Brauning discussed the journal and mentioned that there will be some changes in the near future.

Frank discussed the PA birds website and his plans to expand and improve it. One of the improvements will be the addition of county site guides.

Doug reported that Alan Gregory has designed a new PSO brochure which is at the printer's and will be available very soon.

Next year's annual meeting was discussed. Doug suggested Indiana, and all seemed to be in agreement that the Todd Bird Club will host it.

Doug briefly discussed the Special Areas Project. There are currently 5,941 trips in the database. These trips represent 121 locations. The Yellow Creek State Park checklist has been completed and is available to park visitors thanks to SAP data. The state will be making checklists for several more state parks this year. Sixty percent of the SAP trips have been made to IBAs.

(continued on page 9)

Birds Listed at 2002 PSO Meeting

Common Loon	Barred Owl	White-breasted Nuthatch	Black-and-white Warbler
Double-crested Cormorant	Chimney Swift	Brown Creeper	American Redstart
Great Blue Heron	Ruby-thrted Hummingbird	Carolina Wren	Worm-eating Warbler
Green Heron	Belted Kingfisher	House Wren	Ovenbird
Turkey Vulture	Red-headed Woodpecker	Golden-crowned Kinglet	Northern Waterthrush
Canada Goose	Red-bellied Woodpecker	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Louisiana Waterthrush
Mute Swan	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Eastern Bluebird	Common Yellowthroat
Wood Duck	Downy Woodpecker	Veery	Hooded Warbler
American Black Duck	Hairy Woodpecker	Gray-cheeked Thrush	Wilson's Warbler
Mallard	Northern Flicker	Swainson's Thrush	Canada Warbler
Hooded Merganser	Pileated Woodpecker	Hermit Thrush	Scarlet Tanager
Common Merganser	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Wood Thrush	Eastern Towhee
Osprey	Eastern Wood-Pewee	American Robin	Chipping Sparrow
Bald Eagle	Acadian Flycatcher	Gray Catbird	Field Sparrow
Northern Harrier	Alder Flycatcher	Northern Mockingbird	Vesper Sparrow
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Least Flycatcher	Brown Thrasher	Savannah Sparrow
Cooper's Hawk	Eastern Phoebe	European Starling	Song Sparrow
Red-shouldered Hawk	Great Crested Flycatcher	Cedar Waxwing	Swamp Sparrow
Broad-winged Hawk	Eastern Kingbird	Blue-winged Warbler	White-throated Sparrow
Red-tailed Hawk	Blue-headed Vireo	Golden-winged Warbler	White-crowned Sparrow
American Kestrel	Yellow-throated Vireo	Tennessee Warbler	Dark-eyed Junco
Ring-necked Pheasant	Warbling Vireo	Nashville Warbler	Northern Cardinal
Ruffed Grouse	Philadelphia Vireo	Northern Parula	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Wild Turkey	Red-eyed Vireo	Yellow Warbler	Indigo Bunting
Killdeer	Blue Jay	Chestnut-sided Warbler	Bobolink
Solitary Sandpiper	American Crow	Magnolia Warbler	Red-winged Blackbird
Spotted Sandpiper	Fish Crow	Black-thrted Blue Warbler	Eastern Meadowlark
Short-billed Dowitcher	Common Raven	Yellow-rumped Warbler	Common Grackle
Bonaparte's Gull	Purple Martin	Black-thrted Green Warbler	Brown-headed Cowbird
Ring-billed Gull	Tree Swallow	Blackburnian Warbler	Orchard Oriole
Forster's Tern	N. Rough-winged Swallow	Pine Warbler	Baltimore Oriole
Rock Dove	Bank Swallow	Prairie Warbler	Purple Finch
Mourning Dove	Cliff Swallow	Bay-breasted Warbler	House Finch
Black-billed Cuckoo	Barn Swallow	Blackpoll Warbler	American Goldfinch
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Black-capped Chickadee	Cerulean Warbler	House Sparrow
	Tufted Titmouse		

Minutes (continued from page 8)

Steve Hoffman discussed the IBA program and introduced his assistant, Rob Blye. He also introduced Kim Van Fleet who is organizing point counts for IBA areas.

Dan Brauning reported that we are planning to do another Breeding Bird Atlas beginning January 1, 2004, and mentioned that more information will be forthcoming in the near future.

The next item on the agenda was the election of officers and board members. The slate of officers includes:

President	Doug Gross
Vice President	Greg Grove
Secretary	Roger Higbee
Treasurer	Gene Zielinski

Frank made a motion to close nominations for officers. Len Hess seconded the motion which passed. Three positions on the board needed to be filled. The following nominations were accepted:

Shonah Hunter
Mark McConaughy
Nick Bolgiano

Barb moved to close nominations. The motion was seconded and passed. Frank moved to accept the slate by acclamation. Gene seconded the motion. The persons listed above were elected. Because there was no further business, Frank made a motion to adjourn at 9:10.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger V. Higbee, Secretary

2002 PSO Meeting Registrants

The following 68 persons registered for our meeting at East Stroudsburg:

Jon Beam	Barb Haas	Katrina Knight	Bob Ross
Richard Beck	Frank Haas	Cara Martinez-Williams	Ken Sandri
Gloria Bickel	Anna Harvey	Terry Master	Chuck Sovetsky
Matt Bickel	Cindy Harvey	Mark McConaughy	Daisy Sovetsky
Carolyn Blatchley	Leonard Hess	Patrick McElhenny	Darryl Speicher
Rob Blye	Linda Hess	Andrew McGann	Chris Turn
Bruce Bonta	Margaret Higbee	Florence McGuire	Genevieve Tvrdik
Marcia Bonta	Roger Higbee	James McGuire	Kim Van Fleet
Dan Brauning,	Deuane Hoffman	Bernard Morris	Carole Vangrin
Michael Carey	Steve Hoffman	Pauline Morris	Joe Vangrin
Bud Cook	Shonah Hunter	Marci Mowery	Linda Wagner
Robert Cook	Dory Jacobs	Tim O;Connell	Mary Walsh
Ruth Cook	Joseph Jacobs	Willis Ratzlaff	Philip Walsh
Glenn Czulada	Mick Jeitner	Bill Reid	Larry Waltz
Jane Earle	Rudy Keller	Margaret Reid	John Zalot
Trudy Gerlach	Nick Kerlin	Carol Reigle	Mary Zalot
Doug Gross	Dan Klem	Peter Robinson	Gene Zielinski

The New, Improved PSO Brochure

PSO has a new membership brochure, thanks to the efforts of Alan Gregory. We need to spread the word about our organization. If you have access to state parks, county parks, nature centers, environmental education centers – any place birders visit– contact Alan for some of these brochures. Alan may be reached at alangregory@standardspeaker.com or through the mail at:

Alan Gregory,
PO Box 571
Conyngham, PA 18219-0571

Thanks for your support in distributing the new, improved PSO pamphlet!

Answers to Bird Quiz on page 8:

1. Olive-sided Flycatcher and Blackpoll Warbler. Though the flycatcher had four reports classified as possible and two as probable in the Atlas, there were no confirmations of breeding. The first warbler's nest was found in Wyoming County by Doug Gross and Dan Brauning.
2. "Great White Heron." Crawford County.
3. Marsh Wren.
4. Barnacle Goose and Brant. The Brant's Latin name *bernicle* means barnacle.
5. Tennessee, Bay-breasted, and Wilson's.

Notes from PORC

(Note: This article is a regular feature of the Newsletter in which the Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee reports on its policies, procedures, and progress.)

The Ornithological Technical Committee has elected Bob Leberman and Eric Witmer to three-year terms on the Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee, succeeding Bill Reid and Paul Rodewald. In addition, the records committee itself as allowed in the bylaws has recruited Dan Heathcote to complete the year remaining in the term of Doug Couchman, who moved to Texas.

The committee was served with distinction by Bill's and Paul's expertise and experience. They deserve the gratitude of Pennsylvania's birding community for their hard work to maintain the high standards of the state's ornithological record.

About the new members:

Bob was a charter member of the committee when it held its first meeting in 1989. He is the Senior Bird Bander at Powdermill Nature Reserve at Rector in Westmoreland County, the field station of Carnegie Museum of Natural History. He started the banding program there in 1961 as one of the first professional nongame banders in the United States. His research interests include the distribution of the birds of Pennsylvania and Belize, bird-banding techniques, differential migration timing, patterns and rates of skull pneumatization, and avian body mass dynamics. Two of his major publications are *Birds of the Ligonier Valley* (1976) and *A Field List of the Birds of Western Pennsylvania and Adjacent Regions* (1988), both published by the Carnegie Museum. Bob also wrote 23 of the species accounts in the PA Breeding Bird Atlas. Among many professional memberships and services, he is an Elective Member of the American Ornithologists' Union and the Appalachian Region Editor of *North American Birds*.

Eric, of Ephrata in Lancaster County, began birding seriously at age 12, when he met several members of the Lancaster Bird Club and went on many field trips with Harold Morrin around the mid-Atlantic, Northeast, Midwest, and Texas. Eric commented, "I owe a lot to Harold and my parents in developing my birding skills and the opportunity to travel in pursuit of birding adventures." He is a co-author of *The Birds of Lancaster County*, for which he wrote the Middle Creek WMA chapter and more significantly the annotated checklist with R. M. Schutsky, T. Amico, and J. Book. He has participated in the Lancaster County and Southern Lancaster County Christmas Bird Counts for 30 years, and he compiled the Lancaster count from 1975 through 1978. He was a Breeding Bird Atlas volunteer in the

county, has conducted about 25 waterbird surveys for Safe Harbor Dam, and has birded in most of the lower 48 states and parts of Canada.

Dan, from York County, is an active birder in south-central Pennsylvania including the Conejohela Flats and the shorebird monitoring project there. He was raised in Florida and participated in his first CBC at age 10. Among those who tutored him during his early birding years were the legendary wildlife photographers Allan and Helen Cruickshank. Dan moved to Pennsylvania in 1978 and has participated in the Southern Lancaster County CBC since 1979. He has birded throughout the U.S. and Canada, as well as in Mexico, Venezuela, the Bahamas, and England. A historic chapter in his birding background was his discovery in Arizona of the first Crescent-chested Warbler for the United States in 1983, an occasion he and Kenn Kaufman described in an article in *American Birds* the following year (39:9-11).

Finally, an important note for those who wish to mail documentation of rarities, our secretary has a new address (his e-mail address is unchanged, nickpul@bellatlantic.net):

Nick Pulcinella, PORC Secretary
613 Howard Ave.
West Chester, PA 19380

– Paul Hess, PORC Chair

Don't Miss Out!!!

Fourteenth Annual PSO Meeting

May 16-18, 2003

Holiday Inn, Indiana, PA



hosted by the Todd Bird Club

Upcoming Events

Saturday, August 3 – Shenango Reservoir for shorebirds. Meet leader Bob Machesney at the Golden Run Access area at 8:00 a.m. From I-79, take the Grove City exit. Turn onto Route 258 and follow it northwest through the town of Mercer to the reservoir. Turn right at the obscure Golden Run Access sign. (This sign is set parallel to the road and is difficult to see until you're past it.) Follow this road to the t-intersection. Turn right and follow the road to the parking lot on the left at the end. Bring water and food. Boots are recommended as it will probably be muddy. *Three Rivers Birding Club*.

Sunday, August 11 – Shorebird Outing to Pymatuning area. Meet leader Mark McConaughy at 9:00 a.m. at the I-79 rest area between Exits 130 and 141. Bring lunch. *Westmoreland Bird and Nature Club*.

PSO Newsletter

This newsletter is published four times a year by the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology.

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Greg Grove – Vice President gw2@psu.edu
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Eugene Zielinski – Treasurer eez55@earthlink.net

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Carmen Santasania – csantasania@cs.com
Dennis Smeltzer (no e-mail)
Linda Wagner – lwagner342@aol.com

Best Wishes, Deuane and Carolyn!!!

Congratulations to PSO members Carolyn Blatchley and Deuane Hoffman who were united in marriage on Saturday, June 29, 2002. A Scarlet Tanager sang during the entire service – what a brightly colored soloist! We wish you many happy years birding together! Congratulations!

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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