



# The Fledgling

Newsletter of the Southern Adirondack Audubon Society  
[www.audubon.noncommercial.org](http://www.audubon.noncommercial.org)

Vol. 24 No. 3

Mar - May 2007

## President's Message

As I look out my window at 36 inches of new fallen snow, it is hard to believe that spring is just around the corner. What a peculiar winter it has been, a warm December lacking our usual snowfall, followed by a mild January. Just when we thought we would escape a long, snowy winter, Mother Nature hit us with a cold snap and then dumped an enormous amount of snow on us all at once.

Spring is a time of rebirth, revitalization and regrowth. SAAS has been experiencing a revitalization of its own. I would like to welcome three new members to our Board of Directors: Jason Goldsmith, Mona Bearor, and Pat Fitzgerald. Each brings expertise, knowledge and new ideas and will be very valuable to our local chapter. Spring also brings the Audubon Council of New York State Spring Assembly Meeting, which will be held in Saratoga Springs again this year. I am looking forward to meeting and networking with representatives from the 30 Audubon Chapters and the staff of Audubon New York. I attended my first Spring Council last year and found it very informative and inspiring. The focus of the assembly is on conservation and policy resolutions. In keeping with this theme, this year's agenda will include an advocacy skills workshop and a conservation agenda panel discussion with officials from our newly elected State government.

Thank you for your generous response to our letter of appeal; we received \$1,725.00 in donations! Several members elected to receive a signed photograph of a Common Loon for a contribution of \$50.00 or more. I still have a few photos left; donations can be sent to me at 55 Lambert Dr., Queensbury, N.Y., 12804.

A new Audubon experience for me was the 2006 Christmas Bird Count. This dawn-to-dusk event was held on December 17 in our area. On a personal level, it was fun to spend an entire day identifying, counting, and recording birds that we saw. Knowing that we were participating in a huge scientific conservation effort

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## SAAS Calendar

### Important Changes – Please Note!

We have arranged for use of the Moreau Community Center for our public meetings during the months of Crandall Library's reconstruction. Beginning with the meeting on March 28, we will meet at the Moreau Community Center located at 144 Main St. in South Glens Falls. A short business meeting will be held at 7pm, followed by the public program. Please join us and bring a friend!

#### Programs at the Moreau Community Center:

March 28 "Invasive Species in the Landscape"  
with Drew Monthie

April 25 "Birding in Texas" with Pat Fitzgerald

May 23 "Wet Feet" with Denise and Scott Stoner

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was gratifying. The number of birds were said to be low this year, probably because of the unusual weather.

I look forward to next year's count.

The Fort Edward Grassland IBA survey continues, and is very organized, thanks to co-coordinator Mona Bearor. Participants, myself included, have used the new scope, recently donated to SAAS by Wild Birds Unlimited, to identify winter raptors for this survey.

Mona has also organized and conducted an owl survey in the Fort Edward IBA. See her report in this newsletter. Thanks, Mona, for all that you do.

In closing I would like to send out an appeal for help. SAAS is only as effective as its members. We currently have a small group of people who put in an enormous amount of time to make this chapter work. We need volunteers to lead field trips, present programs, chair committees, or help organize a community event. If you would be willing to give us some of your time, please contact one of the Executive Board members listed in this newsletter.

## From the Membership Chair Claire Hunter

**CELEBRATING SAAS ANNIVERSARY:** The spring Fledgling celebrates the 24<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the meeting that organized our "fledgling" chapter. With the enthusiastic leadership of our first president, Garry Stone, we "flew" into the myriad requirements to become a chapter of National Audubon. By August, 1984, we had our first charter. Garry taught in Glens Falls and after a few years relocated to be a school administrator in western New York. Organizing members who are still on the board of our chapter are Linda White and I; Joan Robertson, who recently stepped down from the SAAS board, was also with us in those early days. Barb Putnam, also active as we organized the chapter, still maintains both the computer records of our membership and the mailing list and is our webmaster.

### HELPING US CELEBRATE – NEW MEMBERS:

Welcome to new Chapter Supporter members who have joined since the last Fledgling:

Dan Brown	Bolton Landing
Zoe and Lea Riell	Poultney, Vt.
Jon Sharp of SolarWrights	Saratoga Springs
Jane Sweet	Argyle

The green enrollment forms for Chapter Supporter memberships remind us that the entire \$10 fee funds local conservation and education programs. This is increasingly important as National Audubon support for chapters has been very much reduced.

THANKS, THANKS, THANKS to those generous and loyal members who contribute to SAAS as Chapter Supporters as well as maintaining membership in National Audubon.

GIFT MEMBERSHIPS are always available. On request, we will supply the appropriate card.

Your calls and notes are always welcome. I've heard about some special owl sightings. I had reports from several members that they had bluebirds visiting their yards, so I questioned Linda White and she reported that there were 40 found on the Christmas Bird Count. I appreciate hearing from you; membership is a people job and I enjoy contact with our members.

"It is horrifying that we have to fight our own government to save the environment."

-Ansel Adams

## Editor's Ramblings



It's early morning as I write this; only moments ago I heard a cardinal whistle for the first time in 2007. It made me smile to realize how much joy a simple, natural sound can add to my life when I must be indoors on days such as this. I can hear the chickadees and titmice singing also, and the woodpeckers have begun drumming to attract mates. If the Valentine's Day snowfall caused you to doubt that spring would come, these birds will make a believer of you once again. Enjoy the spring...it WILL come...

This issue of the newsletter marks the completion of my fifth year as editor of the Fledgling. We've made some changes in the looks and content of the Fledgling in that time and we hope you, the readers, approve. However, I'd like to see this publication continue to evolve and grow and I would welcome suggestions from readers. Please let me know what you'd like to see in the newsletter. Perhaps you'd like to see more factual articles on natural history subjects, such as Jason's Spotted Salamander article on page six; maybe you prefer travelogues like Emily DeBolt's "Galapagos!" in the last issue, or nature essays such as those submitted by Liza Porter. You may have entirely different ideas that you'd like us to pursue; I know someone out there has a great suggestion - I'd like to hear it! Please contact me with any ideas you have for making this chapter publication what you, the members, would like it to be.

This issue definitely speaks of spring. On page three you'll find that Joan Robertson is ready for Birdathon; also that the chapter has several interesting field trips scheduled. We've included information about North Country Wild Care in this issue; spring is the time when orphans and injured wildlife start appearing in backyards. The Spotted Salamander is a harbinger of spring - read about the species on page six; and while you're there, choose a nursery to visit so you can purchase those native plants to enhance your garden or yard. Liza Porter's nature essay on page seven will be sure to put you in the mood for spring, as well. We hope that this issue will tide you over till that first day of sunshine and warm breezes.

### SAAS NEEDS YOU!

In order to offer more diverse field trips, we need members who study Butterflies, Insects, Rocks and Minerals, or other natural history subjects. Please contact any board member listed on the last page of this newsletter if you'd like to help lead field trips.

## It's Time for Birdathon!

by Joan Robertson



Wednesday, May 16, through Sunday, May 20, 2007, has been designated as Birdathon 2007!

Birdathon is one of the more important and most interesting activities of Southern Adirondack Audubon. During this period of peak migration we try to cover all the territory in our SAAS chapter to seek out birds coming to nest or passing through on their way north. It is an ongoing attempt to learn how each of the species is doing and which ones seem to be getting more scarce.

Pick the day and times that are most convenient for you and enjoy some time in the field in search of birds. The event is open to all, no matter what level of birding you do. Half a day is fine or, if you are more energetic, you can bird from dawn to dusk. So pack a lunch, grab your binoculars and help us with this annual attempt to gauge the variety of our bird population. We ask that you stay within chapter boundaries - Warren, Washington, Northern Saratoga counties.

It would be helpful to the tabulator to know the general places you covered and the weather/temperature. You should make a note of each species and compile a list for the day. Remember, in this survey we are counting species, not numbers of individual birds as in the Christmas Count. If you want to use Birdathon as a fund raiser for the SAAS chapter, please contact the compiler, Joan Robertson at 656-9223.

This past December we had great participation in our Christmas Bird Count, and I am hoping for the same - plus good weather! - for Birdathon.

Lists should be sent to Joan Robertson, PO Box 51, Cleverdale, NY 12820.

Cut Here and Save! -----

### **SPRING FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE**

#### **Sunday, March 18**

Hudson River/ Washington County Waterfowl

Led by Joyce Miller and Mona Bearor

This trip last year tallied 13 species of waterfowl - We'll try to beat that record this year!

The trip is co-sponsored by Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club. We will meet at 8am at the Schuylerville High School parking lot on Route 29; please call Mona at 745-8637 to register for this trip and for possible carpooling.

#### **Evenings in April**

American Woodcock Courtship Display—Come experience the magical "sky dance" of the American Woodcock as the male calls for the females' attentions from the ground, takes off, spiraling high into the sky, then falls back to the ground and starts the routine again. Variable dates and times based on observations. Call Jason at 642-9983 for more info.

#### **Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>**

Birding at Bog Meadow Trail in Saratoga Springs

Led by Jason Goldsmith

Meet at 7:30am at trailhead off Meadowbrook Rd. in Saratoga. Waterproof footwear is recommended. Call Jason at 642-9983 to register.

*Directions: Take Exit 14 of I-87 and head east on Route 9P (Union Ave.). Turn Left on Meadowbrook Rd. (CR 65) and continue to Bog Meadow entrance, which is a short distance before reaching Stafford's Bridge Rd (CR 67).*

#### **Saturday, April 28**

The Wildflowers of Pack Forest with Drew Monthie

Meet at 1pm at the trailhead parking area.

*Directions: Take I-87 to Exit 23, proceed through the town of Warrensburg. Approximately a mile past the intersection of Routes 9 & 28, you'll see the sign for Pack Forest on your left. Continue on this access road to the trailhead parking area on your right.*

#### **Saturday, May 12**

Gull Bay Preserve - Birding as we walk the trail into the heron rookery; led by Mona Bearor

This trip is limited to ten participants because of the sensitive nature of the rookery. When you register with the trip leader you will be given trip details. Register by calling 518-745-8637.

#### **Saturday, June 2**

Spring Bird Walk at Harmony Wildflower Farm in Comstock

Led by Joan Robertson

Birds should be abundant as this property has meadow, marsh, woodland, and wetland habitats. The fee required to visit this beautiful area has been waived for our group. A visit to the gift shop after the walk, or a small donation, would be appreciated. Meet at 7:30am at the Harmony parking area. Please call Joan at 656-9223 to register for the walk.

*Directions: From Fort Ann head north on Rt. 4, proceed three miles to traffic light and turn right (east) onto Rt. 22. Continue 2.8 miles to Harmony on the left.*



## **Bald Eagle in Ft. Miller**

by Jason Goldsmith

I recently received an email from a local photographer, with stunning photos attached. I contacted some friends, and the next morning we were on our way down the east side of the Hudson River in search of Bald Eagles.

After turning onto Ft. Miller Road, we crept along at a snail's pace, scanning all directions for a large white-headed raptor, either soaring above, or perched, ready to attack some prey. While not our main objective, we enjoyed the presence of the more common chickadees and juncos that flittered around us, while the Common Mergansers and Canada Geese greeted us from the river. Eventually, while scanning the trees on the riverbanks, we spotted a Bald Eagle perched high on the far side. We marveled at its snow-white head and tail and the massive bill that demands respect because of its terrific flesh tearing ability.

This stunning icon of power and grace is more frequently sighted in recent years. In 1967, its population reached critically low levels, causing it to be listed as federally endangered. All its strength and beauty didn't prevent the negative effects of pesticides, habitat destruction, and other humanly caused hazards on its reproductive success. Thankfully, with the ban of DDT in 1972 and other measures, the Bald Eagle is soaring prominently once more. There are currently approximately 7000 breeding pairs nationwide, and this species is being considered for removal from the federal list of threatened and endangered species.

It's truly wonderful that conservation measures were so successful, and that we can see and appreciate the Bald Eagle in our own local region, knowing that taking action is a worthwhile endeavor.

## **The 107<sup>th</sup> Christmas Bird Count**

by Linda White

The Southern Adirondack Audubon Society sponsored the 107<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas Bird Count on December 17<sup>th</sup>. From dawn to dusk and beyond, Mona Bearor, Andrea Bello, Beth and Brad Bidwell, Russ Hillard, Linda Hoyt, Gerry and Lynn Lemmo, Joyce Miller, Don and Nan Polunci, Barb Putnam, Joan Roberston, Jacquie Tinker, Ginny Vogel, and Linda White observed a total of 52 species, tallying 11,498 individuals. The weather was unusual, with warmer-than-normal temperatures, and no snow or frozen bodies of water. With snow cover and ice we would have expected a greater variety of species and more individual birds, but instead we experienced low activity, particularly in the afternoon hours. Each group reported how quiet it seemed out there.

A greater number of volunteers allowed us to form more teams, and this definitely provided for better coverage of our count circle, the best since we began in 1983. The teams traveled a total of 514 miles by car and 5.5 miles on foot. There were 41 hours put in by the group, and the team of Mona and Andrea spent nearly 12 hours in the field - way to go! The fun continued with dinner at Linda and Blake White's home to tally the counts. Many thanks to all the volunteers!

Listed below are all the species seen during our count day. In addition there were two Bald Eagles observed during count week. If you would like to view

this count or any others online, you may go to [www.audubon.org/bird/cbc](http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc). Our count is identified as Hudson Falls.

Canada Goose (3565), American Black Duck (14), Mallard (404), Common Goldeneye (69), Hooded Merganser (7), Common Merganser (7), Wild Turkey (56), Great Blue Heron (2), Northern Harrier (13), Sharp-shinned Hawk (1), Cooper's Hawk (1), Red-shouldered Hawk (1), Red-tailed Hawk (1), Rough-legged Hawk (6), Ring-billed Gull (67), Herring Gull (3), Rock Pigeon (595), Mourning Dove (340), Great Horned Owl (1), Belted Kingfisher (3), Downy Woodpecker (51), Hairy Woodpecker (2), Northern Flicker (11), Pileated Woodpecker (3), Blue Jay (150), American Crow (1364), Common Raven (3), Black-capped Chickadee (308), Tufted Titmouse (95), Red-breasted Nuthatch (2), Brown Creeper (3), Carolina Wren (1), Golden-crowned Kinglet (2), Eastern Bluebird (44), American Robin (2), Gray Catbird (1 and a first time for our count), Northern Mockingbird (4), European Starling (3180), Cedar Waxwing (4), American Tree Sparrow (3), Song Sparrow (3), Dark-eyed Junco (252), Northern Cardinal (53), Brown-headed Cowbird (2), Purple Finch (1), House Finch (109), American Goldfinch (90), and House Sparrow (360).

## **Governor Spitzer Proposes Increased Environmental Funding**

by Sean Mahar of Audubon New York

In his first Executive Budget proposal, Governor Eliot Spitzer has proposed increasing the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) by \$100 million over the next two years, backed by revenues from the expansion of the Bottle Deposit Law. The EPF is the state's primary funding source for environmental projects that protect and restore our air, water, wildlife, and open space resources. Governor Spitzer has also proposed the restoration of critically important General Fund staff positions in the Department of Environmental Conservation (109 new positions, including a new office of Climate Change), the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (52 new positions), and in the Adirondack Park Agency (5 new positions). These agencies have been drastically cut over the years and are in dire need of staffing assistance.

Audubon New York joins with the *Friends of New York's Environment*, a coalition of over 200 diverse organizations, in strongly supporting the increased EPF by expanding the Bottle Deposit Law to include non-carbonated beverages like water and sports drinks, and the restoration of the critically important staff for State Agencies. This proposed budget brings the state closer to meeting the growing demand for projects that restore New York's natural heritage, and closer to our goal of a \$500 million EPF by 2010.

Before April 1<sup>st</sup>, we need Audubon members to call or write their Senate and Assembly members and express their support for increasing the EPF by expanding the Bottle Deposit Law. For more information please contact Sean Mahar, Associate Director of Conservation for Audubon New York at [smahar@audubon.org](mailto:smahar@audubon.org).



### **American Kestrel Nest Sites Needed for DEC Study**

NYS DEC will be conducting research on American Kestrels in light of PCB contamination and is looking for information on nest sites in the Hudson River valley from Troy to Fort Edward. GPS coordinates would be a plus but are not mandatory.

Sean Madden is gathering the data, and anyone having nest site information is asked to forward it to him at: [ssmadden@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:ssmadden@gw.dec.state.ny.us) or 518-402-8977.

**North Country Wild Care**  
is a network of home-based  
wildlife rehabilitators  
located in New York's  
Adirondack region.



**NCWC HOTLINE: 518-964-6740**

This phone is staffed by volunteers between 8 am and 10 pm. If you reach a recording, please leave detailed information; repeat your phone number so that we can call you right back. Messages are checked every one to two hours. If you have an injured or orphaned animal in your possession, please be sure it is secured in pet carrier or cardboard box in a quiet, dark room and do not offer food or water. Keep babies & injured animals warm. The use of a heating pad set on low and placed underneath 1/2 of the cardboard box or carrier will be sufficient. Be careful not to overheat. Do not handle any animal with bare hands and do not attempt to capture an animal unless you are sure it is safe to do so.

North Country Wild Care has member rehabilitators in Warren, Washington, Saratoga, Albany, Schenectady, Schoharie, & Franklin Counties. We will do our best to find prompt assistance for you.

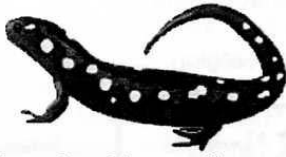
### **The SAAS Board of Directors, Officers and Committee Chairs will meet on the following dates:**

March 18	All meetings will be held at
April 22	the LARAC building on
May 20	Lapham Place on Glens
June 24	Falls City Park from 2-4pm

Members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please come and offer your comments on how we can further develop our chapter. We'd like to hear your suggestions for public programs, how we can grow our chapter, and offer more conservation education programs to the residents of our area. If you can't attend the meetings, but do have suggestions, please contact any Board member listed on the last page of this newsletter.

## Observing the Spotted Salamander

by Jason Goldsmith



The Spotted Salamander is unlikely to be encountered by chance, even though it is more abundant than most realize, perhaps due to its nocturnal habits.

To enjoy these creatures, venture out into hardwood or mixed forests at night, in late March or early April. Your best chance is the first warm night, above about 40° F, when it has been raining throughout the evening. This is prime time for breeding and a time when this normally secretive species will be more conspicuous.

Try to seek out a vernal pool or other shallow body of water ahead of time. The key here is the body of water's temporary nature, which prevents predators such as fish and reptiles from taking residence and feeding on salamander eggs. With the right temperature, moisture, and habitat, this species of salamander will be making its mass migration to reproduce. At these breeding sites you could see hundreds of salamanders in a single night! While lesser numbers could be seen days before or after this peak, spotted salamanders tend to consolidate their efforts to improve breeding success.

Spotted salamanders are fairly easy to identify. Look for a large, thick body (up to 8 inches head-to-tail) with two rows of irregular yellow spots on its back. The underside is a bit lighter than the dark back, and, if you get a good look, you'll notice vertical indentations on the sides, called costal grooves.

At the breeding site, male spotted salamanders will form "congresses" and wait for the arrival of the females. When the females arrive, the males will attempt to impress them by nudging their bodies with their snouts and rubbing their bodies against them. Eventually a male will slowly walk away, wiggling the tip of his tail back and forth, and, if lucky, the female will follow. If this happens the male will deposit spermatophores (jelly-like masses containing sperm) periodically. The female will then move over them and make contact with the spermatophores with her reproductive opening, thereby transferring the sperm to her oviducts. Within two to three days the female will lay her eggs. They are in masses of about three inches in diameter, surrounded by an outer jelly membrane, and attached to underwater twigs, allowing the viewer additional opportunity for observation.

After about six weeks, the eggs will hatch, and the salamanders will live their first couple months as larvae in the depths of the pond, breathing oxygen through their gills. Eventually, when the salamanders grow to about two inches long, and their gills start to be reabsorbed, they will leave the pond for the first time. They will then take residence in the soil or among the leaf litter, feeding on insects and worms. Three years later, when the salamanders have reached maturity, they'll return to the pond on a warm, damp, spring night and start the cycle again.

For more information see *Stokes Guide to Amphibians and Reptiles* by Thomas F. Tynning and *Salamanders of the United States and Canada* by James W. Petranka

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### **WHERE TO PURCHASE NATIVE PLANTS IN OUR LOCAL AREA**

As a result of our recent series of articles on invasive plant species, we've had several requests for local nurseries that carry native plants. The following is a list kindly provided by Drew Monthie. We hope you will support these local businesses as you plan for natives in your home landscape.

Mead's Nursery  
361 Ridge Road  
Queensbury, NY 12804  
518-792-6533

River Road Gardens  
2975 River Road  
Niskayuna, NY 12309  
(518) 377-3129

NYSDEC Saratoga Tree Nursery  
2369 Route 50  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866  
(518) 581-1439

Schroon Falls Farm  
Route 9  
Schroon Lake, NY  
518-532-9492  
[www.schroonfalls.net](http://www.schroonfalls.net)

Rockydale Gardens  
806 Rockydale Road  
Bristol, Vermont 05443  
802 453-2782  
<http://www.rockydalegardens.com>

The link below has more listings throughout the state  
<http://www.ipcnys.org/sections/resources/nurseries.htm>

## "I'm a Thrush, I'm a Thrush!"

by Liza Porter



One day in mid-May, we suddenly hear the obsessive, repetitive song of the mockingbird. When I was young, mockingbirds had not extended their range up this far north. I heard the old Civil War songs about the joys of the mockingbird's song and wondered how it must sound. Well, now I have heard it, sometimes more than I want to. Loud, insistent -- I'm not sure our mockingbird is quite the lovely companion of the romantic songs. He says "LOOKA ME, LOOKA ME, LOOKA ME, I'M HERE, I'M HERE, I'M HERE, I'M A MOCKINGBIRD, I'M A MOCKINGBIRD, I'M A MOCKINGBIRD, LOOKA ME, LOOKA ME..." by the hour on warm, bright spring afternoons. Sometimes he is the only audible accompanist to my weeding and watering in the garden. Long after the other little birds have greeted the day and moved on to hunt the plentiful fat grubs in my lawn, the mockingbird is still holding forth like a politician! He does sometimes sing other birds' songs identifiably. I have heard him run through a list of the birds in our area, chickadee (very good), blue jay (excellent, several different calls), phoebe (almost perfect), cardinal, chipping sparrow, hairy woodpecker, on and on, all at 90 decibels and all at the manic mockingbird speed. The funniest is when he imitates a thrush.

Up until a few years ago, we always had hermit and wood thrushes out back in the woods. They would sing like fairy flutes back there, and we would listen, hands cupped around our ears to amplify the spine-tingling beauty of their song. Then one day I heard the mockingbird rehearsing a new little whistle. He was quite good at imitating the actual notes. But like a rock band playing Brahms, he didn't quite get the spirit right. The thrush's notes were the essence of spirituality -- gentle, yearning for righteousness and for possibility made real. The spaces between the song phrases gave a moment for contemplation, a moment for the beauty to sink in, even as the bird thought through the next beautiful comment. The mockingbird was only able to say, "I'M A THRUSH, I'M A THRUSH, I'M A THRUSH, LOOKA ME, LOOKA ME, LOOKA ME, I'M A THRUSH, I'M A THRUSH..." He just didn't have it down. No one would confuse him with a thrush. But he certainly is a fine mockingbird, with a strong, energetic air. Good luck to him in finding a mate and establishing a territory, and having young to enliven the air in another May.

© 2007, Liza Porter, from "Essays for Our Time".

## Update on the Raptor Monitoring in the Fort Edward IBA

As this newsletter goes to press, 12 weeks of raptor surveys have been completed, with five weeks remaining. Teams of volunteers - interested birders from Capital Region Audubon, Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club, and staff from Audubon New York, as well as SAAS members - have withstood biting winds to record raptor sightings for this project in the Fort Edward Grasslands IBA. This well-known wintering area for Rough-legged Hawks and Short-eared Owls is currently under the threat of development, and your Audubon chapter is collecting data to support future conservation efforts. Southern Adirondack Audubon would like to thank those who have given their time and energy to help collect data that will aid in future efforts at conserving some of this important habitat.

Our heartfelt thanks to:

Hope Batcheller	Rich Merritt
Mary Batcheller	Betsy Neal
Andrea Bello	Paul Novak
Jason Goldsmith	Nan Polunci
Betty Hill	Don Polunci
Honey Hollen	Joan Robertson
Laurie LaFond	Susan Stewart
Ruth Lamb	Don Wharton
Sandy Lamb	

## Short-eared Owl Survey

On Sunday, February 18, the volunteers listed below manned ten locations in the Fort Edward IBA at 3pm to survey for Short-eared Owls. The weather was nasty - temperatures in the teens accompanied by high winds producing sub-zero wind chills - but that did not dissuade these hardy birders from their task of recording owl sightings for the survey. Staying until dark, the volunteers gathered valuable information on the owls to be shared with Audubon New York and NYS DEC in efforts to learn more about this species, which is listed as Endangered in New York State. A special thanks to:

Andrea Bello	Carrie Kirkton
Jim Druller	Laurie LaFond
Nancy Eustance	Sandy and David Martin
Matt Fenelly	Rich Merritt
Jason Goldsmith	Joyce Miller
Don Gresens and Family	Sue Stewart
Jennifer Hamilton	Don Wharton
Honey Hollen	Earla Woodworth
Alison King	Don Woodworth



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#### **2004-2007**

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Drew Monthie	792-9557
Ginny Vogel	584-3936

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Linda Hoyt	494-2380
Claire Hunter	793-9088
Linda White	792-4446

#### **2006-2009**

Ramona Bearor	745-8637
Pat Fitzgerald	792-6846
Jason Goldsmith	642-9983

### **APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

National membership in the Audubon Society includes the magazine, *Audubon*, and the SAAS newsletter, *The Fledgling*. The cost is \$20 annually for regular membership and \$15 for seniors and students. Make checks payable to "National Audubon Society" and send with name, address, and phone number to the address listed below. Membership as a "Chapter Supporter" is \$10 annually and includes *The Fledgling* and all chapter activities. Make check payable to "Southern Adirondack Audubon Society" and send with name, address, and phone number to:  
**Claire Hunter, 3 Edgewood Dr., South Glens Falls, New York 12803.**

#### **Newsletter Submission Policy**

We welcome submissions to *The Fledgling*. Please email your articles to the editor if possible and include your name and contact information. We reserve the right to edit as necessary. If you cannot email, please contact Barb or Mona at the numbers listed above.

## **The Fledgling**



4 Windy Lane  
South Glens Falls, NY 12803

**Vol. 24 No. 3 – Spring 2007**

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**Sean Mahar**  
**Liza Porter**  
**Linda White**

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