

Fall 2020

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Stanton
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For more information see our website at www.stantonbirdclub.org



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The President's Perch

Jeri Maurer, President

“We have such a brief opportunity to pass on to our children our love for this Earth, and to tell our stories. These are the moments when the world is made whole.”

Richard Louv, *Last Child in the Woods*



In the middle of a pandemic that can feel overwhelming, this photograph gives a glimpse of what has been happening in our Sanctuaries over the last six months. Both Thorncrag and Woodbury Sanctuaries have been used more than ever by community members, especially families seeking a place to relax and enjoy nature with their children and to put their worries and fears on hold for a brief period of time. With over 800 acres between both Sanctuaries, physical distancing has not been a problem. We have distributed hundreds of scavenger hunts for families to enjoy. Thanks to the efforts of Penny Jessop and her husband, David Chittim we have also created a storybook trail along the White Trail. As you can see, learning about the life of a log can really capture a child's imagination.

MEMBERSHIP

DUES

As noted last year we have eliminated the Spring membership renewal and returned to one membership drive in the Fall. You will see a donation envelope in this newsletter which you can use for renewal. We'll also send a reminder later this year.



Monthly Education Meetings on Hold

USM has informed us that they will not be able to host our monthly program meetings for now. Please check our website in the new year for an update.

Annual Meeting

After a great deal of discussion, the Board has decided to hold our annual meeting outdoors at Thorncrag this year to help keep all of us safer.

We ask that everyone who plans to attend please wear a face mask and to keep 6 feet apart. The meeting itself will be in the area of the springhouse foundation near the beginning of the Yellow Trail. We will have some chairs available but ask that those who have them available bring their own lawn chairs.

Reservations are required and we will be limiting attendance to 50 members. See below for details.

ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY OCTOBER 4th Raindate Sunday October 11th THORNCRAG NATURE SANCTUARY

Time: 2pm -3:30 pm
Booksale/Silent Auction
Plant Sale
2:30 pm "A Short History of Thorncrag"
3pm Business Meeting and Auction Results
No charge to attend
ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Paula Curtis Everett Carla Essenberg
Betty Dube Nancy Long
Jeri Maurer

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

PLEASE RSVP before September 28 by emailing Jeri Maurer at jerigary@fairpoint.net or calling 207-524-2060. When you contact us please provide an email address in case we have to postpone due to inclement weather or a change in the COVID 19 situation in Maine

New Stewards at Thorncrag

After almost 20 years of overseeing the stewardship of Thorncrag Nature Sanctuary, Gary Maurer has turned over the day-to-day responsibilities for the Sanctuary to Irene Mailhot and John Myrand. Both have served on the Stewardship Committee for a number of years and walk in the Sanctuary almost daily. Irene has been on the Board for several years as well.

Our thanks to Gary for his years of dedication to the Sanctuary. He will continue in an advisory role for now and will also continue as chair of the Stewardship Committee.



Pictured Gary, Irene and John

Late Summer/Fall 2020 Wednesday Walks

The Stanton Bird Club is pleased to continue our 14th year of Guided Wednesday Bird Walks.

Walks will be held even if it is drizzling, but if there is a steady rain at 7am projected to last through 9am, the walk is cancelled. Walks are approximately 2 miles on a generally even surface. **Face masks are required for everyone.**

Sept. 9 YMCA Outdoor Education Center, 167 Stetson Rd., Auburn

Property is on the right before Schooner Estates. Park on gravel at entrance.

Sept. 23 St. Peter's Cemetery, Lewiston

Enter on Deer Rd. off outer Main St., proceed to last roadway beyond the mausoleum.

Oct. 7 Mt. Gile, Auburn (*this is a harder walk than usual – details in reminder email*)

Meet at the end of Blanchard Road off Route 4 (across from Roy's Golf)

Oct. 21 Packard-Littlefield Farm, Lisbon

Meet at the farm, 76 Littlefield Rd. off of Rt. 196

Nov. 4 Sabattus Pond, Sabattus

Meet in the parking lot of former Sabattus Antique Mall, 519 Sabattus Rd. (Rt. 126)

All walks start at 8am at the walk location and end by 11am.

All walks are free and open to everyone, beginning naturalist and advanced birder.

For any questions or to receive a detailed email reminder, call Stan or Joan DeOrsey at 406-4741 or e-mail jsmd@att.net.



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THANK YOU!

Our thanks to Dan Hamann and Bruce Damon

who recently donated their time, skill and equipment when it was discovered that the directional pillar for Thorncrag on Sabattus St. had been damaged. With help from the stewardship crew the pillar has been repaired.

Lewiston / Auburn

Christmas Bird Count

JANUARY 2, Saturday: DAWN TO DUSK

Help us with this annual census of our resident bird population. A fun day of birding. Contact Linda Seamans to participate, 240-1380 or

seamans.linda@gmail.com