

Avian Haven: Hope for the injured, sick, orphaned

**Kim Chavez, Clinical Director,
Avian Haven**

As its name implies, Avian Haven is a refuge for injured, sick and orphaned wild birds. The highly-trained staff provides the necessary care to rehabilitate the birds. The following is an example of mission accomplished!

Summers are always the busiest part of the year for us at Avian Haven — and this year was no exception! This past July, our team received a call about a raptor, reportedly unable to fly at a paper mill. The bird was securely set up in a rescue box and one of our amazing volunteer transporters responded to the scene bringing the bird directly to Avian Haven.



On arrival, the bird was identified as a mature Red-tailed Hawk and it was clear that the bird had been subject to some sort of chemical contamination. Despite being coated head to toe, the patient seemed to be in otherwise good body condition. The bird was stabilized and set up in our quarantine space to decompress while the team prepared a special bath to remove the chemical substance.

Donned in full PPE garb, our team was able to effectively bathe the patient, removing the contaminating substance, and returning #24-1674's feathers to their former glory.



After a brief round of treatment for the patient's gastrointestinal parasites and a few good meals, #24-1674 was upgraded out to a flight enclosure, proving to us that flight was absolutely no issue for this bird after all. After gaining almost one hundred grams in our care and earning a clean bill of health from our clinic team, #24-1674 was released by our Rehab Manager, Marcy DeCoff, back near home turf.



Avian Haven is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the rehabilitation and release of Maine's sick, injured, and orphaned wild birds. Taking in nearly 3,000 birds annually, we treat a multitude of species from a variety of situations. While permitted to do our work on both the state and federal level, Avian Haven receives no funding from either agency to perform our critical work, but instead are available as a service through donations by supporters like you! Thank you!



If you have found a sick, injured, or orphaned bird in need of help, please call our office as soon as possible at 207-382-6761. We are open every day from 9 am-5 pm so if you call after hours listen to the detailed instructions on our outgoing voicemail and leave your contact information.

Top priority: advocating to protect Maine wildlife

Nick Lund
*Advocacy & Outreach Manager,
Maine Audubon*

Maine Audubon has been advocating on behalf of Maine wildlife for more than a century, and in that time we've worked with officials from across the political spectrum. However, the next four years are shaping up to be especially challenging, as both the Trump Administration and the incoming Congress have clearly and repeatedly stated their opposition to a variety of environmental protections.



Coupled with a Supreme Court that has already signaled its willingness to overturn important precedents, wildlife laws are at significant risk.

We will continue to fight. Among our priorities is the defense of the [Endangered Species Act](#) and [Migratory Bird Treaty Act](#), two laws repeatedly targeted during President-elect Trump's first administration. Maine Audubon has relied on both of these laws for decades to protect birds and other sensitive wildlife in the state and around the country. We are also gearing up to protect the [National Environmental Policy Act](#), a vital if lesser-appreciated law that requires the federal government to monitor the environmental impacts of its actions. As always, we'll rely on the support of our thousands of members and supporters to ensure the continued protection of Maine wildlife.

Merrymeeting Audubon Chapter

Officers

Ann Manson, *President*
Dee Miskill, *Vice President*
Donna Salko, *Secretary*
John Berry, *Treasurer*

Board of Directors

Karen Carlisle • Glenn Evans
Susan Fenn • Peggy Page
Jane Robinson • Gordon Smith
George Sergeant • Luci Timblin

The Call

Dee Miskill, *Editor*

Scholarship Committee

Peggy Page (chair)
Karen Carlisle • Ed Caswell
Glenn Evans • Joan Newkirk

Coordinators

Maurice & Cathie Dauphin, *Bird ID*
Peggy Page, *Christmas Bird Count*
Glenn Evans, *Hamilton Sanctuary*
Donna Salko, *Social Media*
Gordon Smith, *Field Trips Coordinator*
Ed Caswell, *Webmaster*
Susan Fenn, *Membership*

PHOTO ATTRIBUTIONS:

RED-TAILED HAWK: AVIAN HAVEN; PIPING PLOVER CHICK, DONOR
BACKGROUND, BIG SIT! BLUE JAYS, YELLOW WARBLER: DONNA SALKO;
PAGE-TURNING: LUCI TIMBLIN; YELLOW WARBLER: JOHN BERRY;
WHALE FLUKE, BOAT: BOB DUCHESNE; ANDREW TUFTS: MAINE
AUDUBON.

Scholarship Donors 2023 - 2024

Peggy Page, Scholarship Committee Chair

On behalf of our Scholarship Committee, and all the campers who benefit from the summer camp experiences, we express our heartfelt gratitude to all of you who so generously contribute to our Scholarship Funds. More than the money, you enable generations of students and educators to experience life-changing opportunities in leadership, skill-building and learning about their natural world.



Marilyn M Ackley • Ellen Asherman • Ronald Beyna
Bob Bittenbender • Howard & Nancy Bliss
Beth Bullock • Karen Carlisle • Ed Caswell
Ron Christensen • The Davenport Foundation
Diane Delaney • Stan DeOrsey • Glenn Evans
Susan Fenn • Kathryn Flannery • Bruce Found
Karin Frazer • Janet Galle • David Glazer
Paula Greenlee • The Harpswell Garden Club
Susan C. Heyward • Janet John • Ann Manson
John McKeon • Robert Miller • Dennis Minichiello &
Ray Sweeney • Diana S. Miskill • Bronda Niese
Peggy Page • Donald & Honor Page • Michael Perry
Tina Phillips • Liz & Jan Pierson • Karen Robbins
Sue & George Sergeant • Ben Swan • Barbara
Trafton • Adelaid F. Trafton • Barbara Tucker
Ben Tucker • David Vail • Jean Whitney

Local campers revel in another “awesome” summer camp season

Peggy Page, Scholarship Committee Chair

As a kid, did you ever go to summer camp? Were you lucky enough to go to a camp here in Maine? If so, then you know what an incredible experience it can be!

As members of and donors to Merrymeeting Audubon, you have been enabling kids to enjoy this opportunity every summer, and 2024 was no exception! Thanks to you, 18 young campers experienced a variety of residential programs at one of the UMaine 4H Camps. Our Chapter's **Stella Walsh Fund** sent two teens to the world-renowned Hog Island Camp, and one local educator, scholarship recipient, attended Hog Island as well.

Here is what the kids told us about camp: It was “super amazingly awesome!”, “legendary” and “fun and terrific!”. Sam, age 11 of Phippsburg, told us “My experience at camp was really great...and I am so grateful for the scholarship. We had lots of fun at camp, but best of all was paddleboarding and canoeing”. Nerissa, age 10 of Georgetown, says “I will always remember how I felt when we heard a coyote at night and I will really miss sleeping in a tent.”

This year, we were able to send our first new American to camp. Fourteen-year-old Frank was reluctant at first, nervous about his English (he has only

been in Maine for six months)! He chose the Ocean Adventures Program at Blueberry Cove Camp in Tenants Harbor and was unsure what to expect. But he told us “My experience was really great because of the people and the area.” His mother tells us that he is now fearless in a canoe!

If you know a child who might enjoy a summer camp in 2025, or a teen or educator who would benefit from a Hog Island experience, check out the Scholarship page at our website www.merrymeeting.maineaudubon.org. Details for the 2025 season will be posted in January. Your generous gifts provide

See **DONATIONS** page 6

The joys of Patch birding

Peggy Page

Veteran or novice, we birders are always looking for ways to spice up our birding adventures and enrich our understanding of the avian world. One of my favorite ways to do this is maintaining Patch Lists, now made so much easier and more fascinating by **eBird**.

What is a Patch? It should be any fairly small area that you bird regularly, or where you walk often. It could be your local park or land trust property, the neighborhood where you walk the dog, or a wildlife refuge you visit often. My favorite patch is one I call Pennellville Loop, a 3.5 mile circuit I walk several times a week. It begins at Simpson's Landing in Brunswick, cuts past the fields of Pennell Way and ends at Barnes Landing on Pennellville Road. Though a small area, it has a great mix of habitats — bay waters, hayfields, and wooded edges — so offers a remarkable seasonal variety of birds.

You may already be using the "Yard List" function in **eBird**, which helps you track the history of observations at home. **eBird** defines a Yard List as simply the patch where you reside.

The real joy of tracking a patch is the information that builds up over time. In the five years since I began my patch, I have observed 132 species. Some, like American Crow and Eastern Bluebird, I see almost every time all year long.



DONATIONS from page 2

these life-changing opportunities for kids and adults. We welcome your donations to the Scholarship Fund year-round. Make checks payable to: **Maine Audubon (write Merrymeeting Scholarship Fund on the memo line)** and mail to: **Merrymeeting Audubon, P. O. Box 51, Brunswick, ME 04011**. Thanks for making wonderful memories for campers of all ages!

Others, like a Snowy Owl on a rooftop in April 2021 or a Lincoln's Sparrow in 2020 were (so far!) one-time wonders.

eBird automatically creates bar charts which display the monthly distribution of every bird you have recorded. I can easily see that Buffleheads disappear from May until October, and American Kestrels pass through only during April and September in migration. These bar charts tell a rich story of the avian community I visit year round and deepen my understanding and appreciation.

Of course, we birders love to challenge ourselves to find "new" birds, and adding species to your patch list is cool. My latest at Pennellville Loop was just a month ago: a preening Wilson's Snipe taking a break from migration at tiny "Lake Biette", a seasonally flooded roadside pond.

You can, of course, keep track of "patch birds" on paper, but creating a Patch List in **eBird** is easy and provides a rich record as well as those great bar charts — and adds your valuable sighting info to a huge global database, making you a Citizen Scientist! To get your own Patch Lists started, just go to the Help function in **eBird**, search for "patch" and begin your own deep dive into the ecology of your local patch!

MORE AVIAN HAVEN, from page 1

Avian Haven, established in Freedom, Maine in 1999, is one of the largest avian rehabilitation programs in New England. To date, it has treated more than 34,000 orphaned, sick or injured birds through a network of volunteers, interns and transporters.

Karen Carlisle, MMA Board member, has first-hand experience with Avian Haven. While driving in Harpswell, she noticed a double-crested Cormorant sitting in a bush — a very uncharacteristic behavior. Circling back to investigate she realized something was very wrong. The bird was weak and unable to fly. With only a blanket available she was able to wrestle it into her car and called Avian Haven for help.

They quickly arranged for her to meet with a transporter in Brunswick. As she began driving, she suddenly realized the bird had escaped the blanket and was perched on her shoulder. She noticed a fishing line coming out of its beak and realized it had probably swallowed a fishhook. With the bird as her co-pilot, she made it to Brunswick where it was transferred to an experienced transporter with a crate. The transporter then drove the patient to Freedom — some 90 minutes away.

While the bird was, sadly, too ill to recover, Karen took comfort in the fact that it was humanely euthanized instead of facing a slow and painful death. The transporters are a critical link in Avian Haven's mission and Karen is grateful for their quick and caring assistance.

A little avian humor. . . .

The Grackle by Ogdan Nash

The grackle's voice is less than mellow,
His heart is black, his eye is yellow,
He bullies more attractive birds
With hoodlum deeds and vulgar words,
And should a human interfere,
Attacks that human in the rear.
I cannot help but deem the grackle
An ornithological debacle.

Weird-Bird by Shel Silverstein

Birds are flyin' south for winter.
Here's the Weird-Bird headin' north,
Wings a-flappin', beak a-chatterin',
Cold head bobbin' back 'n' forth.
He says, "It's not that I like ice
Or freezin' winds and snowy ground.
It's just sometimes it's kind of nice
To be the only bird in town."

Sitting still is for the birds

Luci Timblin

Before the sun's rays touched the horizon, a few members of Merrymeeting Audubon made their way to Wharton's Point in Brunswick. It was Sunday, October 13, 2024, and The Big Sit! Over the course of the weekend, groups from around the country set up in a 17-foot diameter circle, for up to 24 hours, and record all the species that are seen or heard from within that circle.

They laid our circle out around the large monument rock overlooking the bay and set up a table (with yummy goodies), chairs, a white board and spotting scopes, and were soon listing species on the board. As the sun rose and the day wore on, more observers trickled in. Some stayed most of the day and others for just a couple of hours. We had a fairly nice day with overcast skies, temps averaged in the high 40s and the wind wasn't too bad.

The final tally came to 69 species with over 3,100 individuals, the last being a flock of red-winged blackbirds that flew over as the sun set. The highlight of the day was a rare marbled godwit that had been first spotted the day before. We also saw a pair of American golden plovers, 6 American wigeons and one northern pintail. In addition to the unusual species, it's interesting to note the birds we didn't see or hear: red-breasted nuthatch, red-bellied woodpecker, wild turkey, and many migrating warblers failed to make an appearance.

Since 2012, other rarities observed have been an American white pelican (2012), a Leach's storm-petrel (2015), and a Hudsonian godwit (2022, 2023). Our record of 70 species occurred in 2014 and again in 2022.

You can see our full checklist at ebird.org/checklist/S198913738.



Flipping the (Audubon) birds



We are very fortunate that the Special Collection and Archives department at Bowdoin College has one of only 120 complete sets of John James Audubon's double-elephant portfolio of *The Birds of America*. Join librarian Marieke Van Der Steenhoven and the staff on the first Friday of the month for the "page-turning", followed by a special guest speaker. The "page-turning" refers to the procedure of flipping a single panel each time and learning specifics about the subject of the work.

Learn more at:
sca.bowdoin.edu/audubon-birds-of-america

Project FeederWatch

Donna Salko

It's happening in backyards, nature centers, community areas, schools, really anywhere you like to watch birds. **Project FeederWatch**, operated by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Birds Canada, has become a class one citizen science study.

The purpose of this project is to collect a data base of winter bird distribution and abundance, changes in ranges and abundance of birds over time. It began with the Ontario Bird Feeder Study in 1976 with 500 participants. Ten years later, after expanding to the USA in 1987, 4,000 people were included in the study. Today, over 30,000 people pick up their binoculars on November 1 and continue collecting data.

The project runs each year from November 1st to April 29th, and is available to any skill level. It's open to families, individuals, classrooms and bird clubs. With its built-in flexibility, ideally, you count birds two days in a row each week for at least 15 minutes, or you can count only once a winter, every other week, or whatever fits your schedule.

Check out the **FeederWatch** website feederwatch.org for birding tips, blogs, bird guides, photo contests and data entry contests. The cost of the project is \$18 for the season. You can enter at any time to join.

Sponsored by **Wild Birds Unlimited**, this project is also supported by the U.S. National Science Foundation, Virginia Tech, Cornell, Ohio State and University of Georgia.





Field Trips & Nature Programs 2025

Please Take Note: If inclement weather (rain/snow/ice/strong winds/extreme temperatures) is predicted, the Field Trip may be rescheduled to the next day (Sunday) or canceled. Please check our website (<https://merrymeeting.maineaudubon.org>) or call the Trip Leader before venturing out.

Possible Healthcare Restrictions: For all upcoming field trips, Maine and/or federal CDC outdoor guidelines then in effect will be followed. However, if you have any symptoms of illness, please stay home.

Tick Warning: Please be aware, ticks could be encountered at any location we visit. Precautions are advised.

FEBRUARY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10,
6:00 - 8:00 P.M.

Guest Speaker: Kenn Kaufman
Topic: The Hidden History of American Warblers

This is a special event is sponsored by Maine Audubon Chapters, and is **online only**. Please use this link to register: <https://maineaudubon.org/events/an-evening-with-kenn-kaufman/>.

Kenn Kaufman is an American author, artist, naturalist and conservationist, known for his work on several popular field guides of birds and butterflies in North America. Kenn writes for *Birds and Blooms*, and *Bird Watcher's Digest*.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Location: Curtis Memorial Library, Morrell Room, Brunswick

Board Meeting: 5:30 P.M.- 6:30 P.M.
Public Program: 7:00 P.M.- 8:00 P.M.
Guest speaker: Bob Duchesne, "What's out there in the Gulf of Maine?"

For more details please refer to NATURE PROGRAMS on **page 5**.

MARCH

MONDAY, MARCH 24

Location: Curtis Memorial Library, Morrell Room, Brunswick

Board Meeting: 5:30 P.M.- 6:30 P.M.
Public Program: 7:00 P.M.- 8:00 P.M.
Guest speaker: TBD

For more details please check our web site: www.merrymeeting.maineaudubon.org

SATURDAY, MARCH 22,
9:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Field Trip: Reid State Park, Georgetown

Reid State Park is a magnificent site in early spring. We'll search for all manner of coastal waterbirds, including scoters, grebes and loons, as well as sanderlings and purple sandpipers. Walking the beach to Todd's Point is optional, but often worth the effort.

❖ Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Park's main parking lot overlooking The Lagoon.
FMI Gordon Smith 449-8206.

APRIL

SATURDAY, APRIL 5,
8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Field Trip: Scarborough Marsh/ Biddeford Pool

Join the search for early spring waterfowl at two of Maine's premier birding locations. Birding hotspots at Scarborough Marsh we may visit include Dunstan Landing, Nature Center, Pelreco Building and Pine Point; hotspots we may visit at Biddeford Pool include Hattie's Restaurant, Vines Landing & Yacht Club, East Point Sanctuary and Great Pond. Bring lunch/snacks. A stop at McDonald's in Saco is planned. The number of vehicles is limited on this trip. Morning meeting location to be decided. Call John Berry at 632-7257 to **reserve your spot**.

MONDAY, APRIL 28

Location: Curtis Memorial Library, Morrell Room, Brunswick

Annual Meeting: 5:30 P.M.- 6:30 P.M.
Public Program: 7:00 P.M.- 8:00 P.M.
Guest speaker: Andrew Tufts, "Bringing Nature Home in Maine"

For more details please refer to NATURE PROGRAMS on **page 5**.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26,
7:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Field Trip: Brunswick Landing Perimeter Trail, Pine Street Entrance

In addition to observing early returning woodland migrants, we'll be on the lookout for hunting kestrels on the airfield grassland. Also, we'll be listening for singing field and savannah sparrows, as well as eastern meadowlarks. We'll walk paved/gravel roads and easy paths (up to 2.5 miles)
❖ Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Brunswick Landing Perimeter Trail, Pine Street entrance. **FMI** Gordon Smith 449-8206 or Peggy Page 650-0549.

MAY

SATURDAY, MAY 3,
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Field Trip: Work Morning at Hamilton Sanctuary, West Bath

As conditions allow, we will be removing invasive plants and doing trail maintenance.

Directions: Take the New Meadows exit off US Route 1 in West Bath. Turn left onto New Meadows Road and go straight ahead to the traffic signal at Bath Road. Proceed across Bath Road onto Foster's Point Road and follow it nearly to the end. You will see the Sanctuary sign and a parking area on the right. If you plan to participate, please contact the Sanctuary manager, Glenn Evans, at 443-9652 prior to the day, for planning purposes.

SATURDAY, MAY 3,
7:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Field Trip: Fitzgerald Recreation and Conservation Area / Bay Bridge Landing

We'll explore these two town-owned properties for early spring migrants. The Fitzgerald Preserve is one of the few sandplain grasslands remaining in Maine. We'll walk easy sandy paths (up to 2 miles) exploring this unusual natural area. Following, we'll visit the nearby Bay Bridge Landing Wetland Park on the Androscoggin River.

❖ Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the iron gate at the end of Lindbergh Crossing Road (off Old Bath Road), 1.3 miles northeast of the Bath Road/Old Bath Road intersection. **FMI** Gordon Smith 449-8206 or Peggy Page 650-0549.

SATURDAY, MAY 10,
7:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Field Trip: Cousins River Field and Marsh, Yarmouth

We'll be searching for spring migrants on this new Maine Coast Heritage Trust preserve as we walk easy loops and spurs (up to 2 miles) in an old farm field and upland forest, with views of the Cousins River salt marsh. There are picnic tables and benches along the way, as well as a porta-potty at the parking area.

❖ Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the preserve off Granite Street in Yarmouth. From Route 1 in Freeport, turn on Old County Road and head northwest. Follow it, as it crosses over I-295 and reaches Granite Street in 1.5 miles. Turn left and drive less than ¼ mile to the preserve entrance and parking area on the left. **FMI** Gordon Smith 449-8206 or Peggy Page 650-0549.

SATURDAY, MAY 17,
7:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Field Trip: Green Point Farm WMA, Dresden

Expect a wide variety of spring migrants in the woodlands, fields and wild rice flats of this diverse State Wildlife Management Area. We'll walk easy paths, farm roads and open fields (up to 2 miles).

❖ Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Green Point Farm by the green shed off Route 128. **FMI** Gordon Smith 449-8206 or Peggy Page 650-0549.

SATURDAY, MAY 24,
7:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Field Trip: Kate Furbish Preserve—West, Brunswick Landing

We'll search for spring land migrants, as well as waterbirds in Harpswell Cove. Expect to walk easy paths on former Navy security roads (up to 2.5 miles).

❖ Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the new town-owned parking lot off Merriconeag Road, .1 mile east of the 4-way Stop at Harpswell Road. The preserve trail begins on the opposite side of Merriconeag Road. **FMI** Gordon Smith 449-8206.

SATURDAY, MAY 31,
7:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Field Trip: Androscoggin River Trail, Lisbon

We'll walk an easy paved path (up to 3 miles) along the river to observe spring migrants and early breeding birds.

❖ Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Sabattus River boat launch parking lot off Route 196 at Frost Hill Avenue. **FMI** Gordon Smith 449-8206.

JUNE

SATURDAY, JUNE 7,
7:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Field Trip: Cousins River Field and Marsh, Yarmouth

We'll be searching for breeding birds on this new Maine Coast Heritage Trust preserve as we walk easy loops and spurs (up to 2 miles) in an old farm field and upland forest, with views of the Cousins River salt marsh. There are picnic tables and benches along the way, as well as a porta-potty at the parking area.

❖ Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the preserve off Granite Street in Yarmouth. From Route 1 in Freeport, turn on Old County Road and head northwest. Follow it, as it crosses over I-295 and reaches Granite Street in 1.5 miles. Turn left and

drive less than ¼ mile to the preserve entrance and parking area on the left. **FMI** Gordon Smith 449-8206.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14,
8:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Field Trip: Birds and Butterflies Mitchell Field, Harpswell

We'll walk paved and gravel paths around the perimeter of this 120 acre town-owned property searching for those flying wonders, whether they be birds or butterflies. Jack Collins, our butterfly expert, will be joining us providing commentary and insight into the butterflies we may encounter. Following, as time allows, we may visit the Curtis Farm Preserve nearby.

❖ Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the parking area near the bay and pier. Mitchell Field is located in West Harpswell, off Harpswell Neck Road (Rt 123). **FMI** Gordon Smith 449-8206.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21,
8:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Field Trip: Work Morning at Hamilton Sanctuary, West Bath

As conditions allow, we will be removing invasive plants and doing trail maintenance.

Directions: Take the New Meadows exit off US Route 1 in West Bath. Turn left onto New Meadows Road and go straight ahead to the traffic signal at Bath Road. Proceed across Bath Road onto Foster's Point Road and follow it nearly to the end. You will see the Sanctuary sign and a parking area on the right. If you plan to participate, please contact the Sanctuary manager, Glenn Evens, at 443-9652 prior to the day, for planning purposes.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21,
7:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Field Trip: Auburn Lake Nature Trail (Whitman Spring Road Trail), West Auburn

We'll walk (up to 2.5 miles) an easy, discontinued gravel town road along the northwestern shore of Lake Auburn. Lake Auburn is the water supply for Lewiston/Auburn, consequently no human contact is allowed. We'll be

looking (and listening) for various breeding forest birds along the trail.

❖ Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the gated entrance at the south end of the trail. Parking is allowed here (Do not block the gate!). The trail is the discontinued portion of Whitman Spring Road (see Map 11 in the Maine Atlas and Gazetteer). To get to the trail, drive a short distance on Whitman Spring Road (newly paved), which can be accessed off West Auburn Road. **FMI** Gordon Smith 449-8206 or Peggy Page 650-0549.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28,
7:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Field Trip: Pineland Farm, New Gloucester

We'll walk easy farm roads and paths along fields and forests, looking and listening for breeding birds. Restrooms available at the Welcome Center.

❖ Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Pineland Farm Market and Welcome Center parking lot off Morse Road.

FMI Gordon Smith 449-8206 or Peggy Page 650-0549.

AUGUST

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23,
7:30 A.M. - 9:30 A.M.

Field Trip: Shorebird Saturday Wharton Point, Brunswick

Join us for Shorebird Saturday as we search for shorebirds at Wharton Point (Maquoit Bay) in Brunswick. We'll be observing the shorebirds as they forage on the mudflat on the **incoming** tide.

❖ Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Wharton Point (head of Maquoit Bay) at the intersection of Maquoit Road and Woodside Road. **FMI** Gordon Smith 449-8206 or Peggy Page 650-0549.

Advocacy: step one

Dee Miskill, Editor, The CALL

When important issues, regarding the missions of Maine Audubon and its chapters, face degradation or disappearance, it's paramount to take the necessary steps to curtail those adverse possibilities.

Nature Programs



Kenn Kaufman February 10 "The Hidden History of American Warblers"

Kenn's interest in birds began at age 6. Over the years his interest intensified until he dropped out of high school to hitchhike around North America in pursuit of birds. In 1973 he set the record for the most North American bird species seen in one year (671) while participating in a Big Year competition. His cross-country journey covered some 80,000 miles, and was recorded in a memoir, "*Kingbird Highway*".



Bob Duchesne February 24 "What's out there in the Gulf Maine?"

Bob's been doing a lot of boat trips into the Gulf of Maine, and created a new program he refers to as "what's out there in the Gulf of Maine". There's more out there than what can be seen from the beach. Sea creatures from all over the Atlantic, stream into the Gulf to take advantage of the abnormally cold, food-rich waters. The Gulf just offshore is like an oceanic Serengeti, if you know where to look.



Andrew Tufts April 28 "Bringing Nature Home in Maine"

Bringing Nature Home is Maine Audubon's new community engagement and habitat-stewardship initiative based on the bestselling book by Doug Tallamy. Join Maine Audubon's *Bringing Nature Home* Program Manager, Andrew Tufts, to explore the plants, practices, and perks involved in restoring native food webs in our gardens, yards, and communities. Andrew grew up in Topsham and pursued education and a career devoted to landscape design, municipal planning, habitat stewardship and landscape management.

According to **Andy Beahm**, executive director of Maine Audubon, there are several established environmental policies at risk. Nick Lund mentioned them in his article on the front page.

We can not afford to let decades of diligent efforts to protect our precious environment, now and for the future,

be weakened or destroyed. **Advocacy is step one** to supporting the good we've achieved so far. **Advocacy is** donations to Maine Audubon's efforts, joining Maine Audubon's **Action Alerts** to let your voice be heard and staying current on latest developments. Do now, or forever hold your peace!



Merrymeeting Audubon
P.O.Box 51
Brunswick, ME 04011

E-mail:

merrymeeting@maineaudubon.org

Web Site:

www.merrymeeting.maineaudubon.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/MerrymeetingAudubon

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE

PAID

PORTLAND, MAINE
PERMIT NO. 92

Merrymeeting
Audubon
Chapter

Annual Meeting

Monday
April 28, 2025
7:00 p.m.

Curtis Memorial
Library
Brunswick

The Morrell Room

