



Arkansas Birds

Newsletter of the Arkansas Audubon Society

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Full-color newsletter available at <https://arbirds.org/AAS/Newsletter.aspx>

Bird-Friendly Arkansas

By PAM and JACK STEWART

AAS Bird-Friendly Arkansas Committee

With spring migration ramping up, making your windows visible to birds an easy way to help protect migrants and make your yard more bird friendly. Below is an article with tips on how you can make your windows bird safe. This article was reprinted from the Bee Friendly Gardening newsletter: <https://mailchi.mp/43184dda79ad/protecting-pollinators-through-collaboration-13858040?e=c8bbddde14>

Ways to Make Windows Visible to Birds

By PAM STEWART

Recent research has shown that windows are responsible for billions of bird deaths annually. These studies take into account not only multi-story buildings, but typical one- and two-story homes. Unless windows are treated so that birds will avoid them, a yard planted with bird-friendly trees, shrubs, and pollinator attractants may just lead birds into a death trap. Birds don't see glass! They see reflections of sky and trees, and fly directly into the glass. Several methods have been found to help prevent bird crashes. At our home, near the Buffalo River in Newton County Arkansas, we have used various methods. While the deterrents are visible, they don't block the view when looking out your windows from inside. Note that the camera "sees" the reflections that the birds see, shown in the photos taken from outside (see photos on page 2).

Perhaps the cheapest do-it-yourself method is Parachute Cord Curtains. On the outside of the window, a small screw was placed at each corner and middle top of the frame, and a cord was strung across, attached to the screws. Cords the length of the window from top to bottom with extra for knotting were cut, and tied to the horizontal cord, so that they hung about two inches apart. Birds recognizing that their wing span is too large to fit between the strands, slow down and veer away. Note, the camera "sees" reflections on the outside as birds do.

Feather Friendly is one of several companies that produce a tape containing sticky dots designed to adhere to the window as the tape is removed. The process requires starting with clean windows, measuring the tape and attaching it to the window, and rubbing the dots so that

Newly Certified Properties:

Yards

Ladd Conner	Washington Co.
Lisa Johnson	Saline Co.
Karen Watts	Faulkner Co.
Megan Foll	Stone Co.
Margaret Clancy	Pulaski Co.

Businesses

Emerson Grown Company (LeRoi Emerson)	Pulaski Co.
Pink House Alchemy (Matt Wilson)	Washington Co.

Newsletter and Membership Information

The Arkansas Audubon Society Newsletter is a quarterly publication of Arkansas Audubon Society Inc., a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organization, 472 Rock Creek Rd., Hot Springs, AR 71913-9261. Issue dates are March, June, September, and December. The newsletter is provided to those who pay membership dues to AAS.

PLEASE NOTE: Announcements, articles, information, and/or photographs to be considered for an upcoming edition of *Arkansas Birds* should be submitted to the editor no later than the 15th of the month prior to publication. Please send newsletter submissions to emilyrdonahue@gmail.com.

Membership renewals are due January 1st of each calendar year.

REGULAR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS	Jan – Sept*	Oct – Dec**
Regular member	\$15.00	\$15.00
Regular Family	\$20.00	\$20.00
Contributing Member	\$30.00	--
Contributing Family	\$35.00	--
Sustaining Member	\$20.00	--
Sustaining Family	\$25.00	--
Student member	\$5.00	--

* Memberships paid in this quarter will cover membership through the end (Dec) of that year

** Memberships paid during this period (Oct – Dec) will include full membership for the following calendar year

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIPS

Life Member (may be paid over a two-year period)	\$250.00
Patron of Arkansas Audubon Society	\$500.00

Payment of Dues:

Members have two options for payment:

- 1) Online credit card or PayPal payment through account created on the AAS website: <https://arbirds.org>
- 2) Check made to Arkansas Audubon Society and sent to:

Arkansas Audubon Society, P. O. Box 241421, Little Rock, AR 72223



Examples of bird-friendly window options from Pam Stewart, bungee cord method (left) and Feather Friendly sticky dots (right)

they remain stuck to the glass as the tape is peeled off. The dots are visible from the outside. Looking from the inside out, they are visible without blocking the view. Visibility of the dots depends to some extent on the lighting inside and out. Very important: Any of these methods must be applied to the outside of the window. Blinds and curtains inside do not prevent the reflections being visible to birds, as can be seen from the photos taken from the outside. They can block inside light, or views across a room to another window, which might indicate to a bird that it could fly through to the other side. Screened windows are protective only if the screens are obviously visible. Newer screens may be invisible. There is now glass made commercially with various embedded designs that are nearly invisible to humans, which have been found to be effective in preventing bird collisions.

A reminder: [Arkansas Sun Solutions](#) has announced that it will provide a 10% discount on bird-friendly window film purchases and installation (including Feather Friendly film) to Arkansas Audubon Society members!

Comments from Bird-friendly Arkansas Applications:

Newly certified yard on half an acre

"We have many native trees and large water sources, and we are starting to document and photograph the diverse and abundant wildlife. So many birds, it's beautiful!!!"

- Submitted by Ladd Conner

This description, edited for brevity, describes the transformation of a yard in a subdivision.

"...I have planted probably 10 trees, trees that will be large, plus many smaller trees, I've got a huge old oak that houses many birds and squirrels, I've left trees to grow that came from

seeds birds pooped out." *(The bird-friendly yard committee's only suggestion, since birds do not discriminate native from invasive species, is to keep an eye on what grows and be ready to remove any suspicious vegetation.)* "I have many branch and brush piles where birds play and eat, tons of bird feeders, bird water sources, bird houses, numerous nests, etc. I have a fruit and veggie garden in the back and the birds help themselves. I don't mind sharing :). I have created several flower beds with native plants and tons of pollinator plants. I am in the process of having only native plants and no grass."

- Submitted by Lisa Johnson

One-acre bird oasis

"I have mature maples, hackberries, and a crabapple tree. I grow native plants in my demonstration garden in the front yard. I have a raised vegetable garden in my backyard. I have many bird feeders that I maintain throughout the year. I have documented 67 different species of birds that visit my property. I have squirrels, opossums, armadillos, and rabbits. Occasionally, I will see a turtle, snake, or skunk."

- Submitted by Ginny Murray

This business application describes a campus with three buildings, including Pink House Alchemy Cafe, Presley and Paige, a card, stationary and gift shop, Pink Fern, an independent specialty plant shop, and Soot and Sage, a spiritual and wellness shop.

"All of these businesses help Pink House further our stewardship and conservation-minded business goals by engaging in our recycling programs and selecting ecological packaging whenever possible. Pink House has made plastic waste a focus by also having custom recycled fiberboard inserts, made to the shape of our bottles, so we can eliminate plastic bubble wrap from our process."

- Submitted by Matt Wilson

Distribution and Abundance of Arkansas Birds

By CHRIS KELLNER
AAS Curator

The Summer Season 1 June – 31 July, 2024

We did not have very many summer records in 2024. Two Black-bellied Whistling Ducks were photographed in Etna Arkansas/Radcliff in Franklin Co 24 Jun (Rebecca Howell). These continue to be seen on a fairly regular basis.

The only report of a White-winged Dove was a vocalization heard on Arkansas Dr. in Benton in Saline Co 13 Jul (Devon and Jennifer Moon).

Several White-throated Swifts were observed including one in Hot Springs National Park on the North Mtn. in Garland Co 29 Nov (Steven Warmack).

A rare King or Virginia Rail (Rail Spp) was seen along the Buffalo National River near Erbie in Newton Co on 29 Jul (Jack Stewart).

Two very early Upland Sandpipers were photographed at Bald Knob National Wildlife Refuge in White Co on 1 Jul (Michael Linz).

A rare visiting Laughing Gull was observed at Lake Dardanelle, Nichols Property (restricted access), Yell Co 4 Jun (Kenny & LaDonna Nichols).

A very early Ring-billed Gull was observed at the Dardanelle Lock and Dam in Yell Co 6 Jul (Kenny and LaDonna Nichols).

An extremely rare Brown Booby was photographed on the Arkansas River in Conway Co 18 Jul (Nathan Mansor).

Two juvenile Black-crowned Night-herons were photographed in a backyard in Sherwood, Pulaski Co 20 Jun (Natalie Alexander).

Two unusual Roseate Spoonbills were photographed at Bald Knob National Wildlife Refuge in White Co 23 Jun (Daniel Denman).

One unusual Swallow-tailed Kite was observed along Highway 9 in Bradley Co on 6 Jun (Brent Deschamp).

A Vermillion Flycatcher was photographed in open fields within Jessieville in Garland Co 7 Jun (Elmore Loretta).

Finally, a very late Pine Siskin was observed in Hot Springs Village in Garland Co 12 Jun (Janis Rowe).

The Fall Season August 1 – November 30, 2024

Black-bellied Whistling ducks continue to expand within Arkansas. Two were photographed at Williams Lake in Vilonia, Faulkner Co 31 Aug (Theresa Wright). One was also observed at Lake Dardanelle, Nichols Property (restricted access) on 22 Nov Yell Co (Kenny & LaDonna Nichols).

An unusual American Black Duck was observed at Lake Dardanelle, Nichols Property (restricted access) on 22 Nov Yell Co (Kenny & LaDonna Nichols).

An unusually large group of 20 rare Black Scoters was observed at the Alma Water Treatment Plant in Crawford Co 27 Nov (Sandy Berger).

A rare Long-tailed Duck was observed at Lake Dardanelle, Nichols Property (restricted access) on 23 Nov. Yell Co. An additional one with different coloration was observed on 24 Nov at the same location (Kenny & LaDonna Nichols).

Five-hundred and ten Chimney Swifts were observed entering a Chimney Swift Tower in Cabot in Lonoke Co 2 Oct (Kenny & LaDonna Nichols).

A very unusual leucistic Rufous/Allen's hummingbird was photographed at a residence in Crittenden Co 24 Sep (Gail Kyzar).

One Rufous/Allen's hummingbird was photographed at 474 Madison St. in Huntsville in Madison Co 14 Sep (Randy Ridgeway).

A Limpkin was photographed in Bois d'Arc Wildlife Management Area in Hempstead Co on 23 Oct (James Vaitkus).

Twenty-two American Avocets were recorded at Beaverfork Lake in Faulkner Co on 23 Oct (Bill Burnham).

A rare Piping Plover was observed at the Little Rock Port Authority in Pulaski Co on 2 Aug (Kenny and LaDonna Nichols).

Two unusual Ruddy Turnstones were photographed at the Oxidation Ponds in Clark Co 31 Aug (Renn & Terry Tumilson).

Two uncommon Sanderlings were observed at Bald Knob National Wildlife Refuge in White County on 12 Aug (Kenny and LaDonna Nichols).

A very rare Red-necked Phalarope was photographed at Bald Knob National Wildlife Refuge White Co 29 Aug (Dawna Stirrup).

A rare but regular fall transient Sabine's Gull was observed at Lake Dardanelle, Nichols Property (restricted access) on 29 Sep Yell Co (Kenny & LaDonna Nichols).

Three rare laughing Gulls (different ages indicated by plumage) were observed on three different dates (one bird on each occasion) at Lake Dardanelle, Nichols Property (restricted access) on 13 Aug, 26 Sep and 27 Nov Yell Co (Kenny & LaDonna Nichols).

Three rare Lesser Black-backed Gulls were observed at Lake Dardanelle, Nichols Property (restricted access) on 19 Aug Yell Co (Kenny & LaDonna Nichols); two more were seen at the same location on 10 Oct and then another observation of 1 was made on 25 Nov at the same location.

A very early Common Loon was photographed at Norfolk Lake Baxter Co on 14 Aug (Kristy Shockley).



*Ruddy Turnstones | Clark Co.
Photo by Renn and Terry Tumilson*

An Anhinga was observed 8 Aug (Joanie Patterson) and photographed 14 Aug farther north than usual at Lake Sequoia in Washington Co 14 Aug (Todd Ballinger).

A Tricolored Heron was photographed farther north than usual at the Little Rock Port Authority in Pulaski Co 17 Aug (Lance Runion).

A rare Glossy/White-faced Ibis was observed at Lake Nimrod in Perry Co 13 Aug (Kenny and LaDonna Nichols).

Two Swallow-tailed Kites were photographed over agricultural fields near the Morriss Cemetery along Hwy 303 in Washington Co 24 Aug (Todd Ballinger).

A very early Northern Harrier was observed at Bald Knob National Wildlife Refuge in White Co 12 Aug (Kenny & LaDonna Nichols).

A rare Say's Phoebe was photographed at Bull Shoals Lake at the Lead Hill Public Use Area in Boone Co 17 Aug (Heather Cook).

An extremely rare Ash-throated Flycatcher was photographed at the Beaver Lake Nursery Pond Benton Co on 10 Oct (Robert Langston).

Vermillion Flycatchers are showing up more regularly in Arkansas. One was observed on the University of Arkansas Experimental Farm in Fayetteville Washington Co 25 Sep (Robert Caulk) and another was photographed along Hardin Rd in Crittenden Co 14 Nov (Devin Moon).

A very rare Bewick's Wren was observed on Loop Road in Sherwood in Pulaski Co 9 Oct (Guy Luneau).

Two Red Crossbills were observed on Loop Road in Sherwood in Pulaski Co 21 Oct (Guy Luneau).

A very rare Lesser Goldfinch was photographed at Mill Branch Park in Goshen in Washington Co 28 Nov (Chris Dillard).

Finally, a very early fall migrating Bobolink was observed along Frazier Pike in Pulaski Co 2 Aug (Aster Droste).



*Say's Phoebe | Boone Co.
Photo by Heather Cook*

Member News: Local Management to International Teaching

By DOTTIE BOYLES
AAS News of Members Editor

Birding in Panama

Jack Stewart shared, "Pam and I visited Panama (my 6th trip to the country) for three weeks in January. Arkansas is 1.8 times larger than Panama, yet this little country has a bird list

New AAS Members

Nancy Young	Hensley
Dazman Karales	Fayetteville
Herschel Springfield & Rose Kirkpatrick	Little Rock
Pam Doughty	Conway
Corbin Cannon & Beth White	Little Rock
Diana & Ethan Saffle	Alexander
Martha Ragar	Rudy
Tracie Guthrie	Paragould
Alexander Worm	Jonesboro
Rob, Ellis, Ramsey, & Jessica Reep	Warren
Michael York	Benton
Leslie, Ryan, Cole, & Bobby Allison	Cabot
Steven Jarvis	Fayetteville
Chaz, Austin, & Ginny Murray	Morrilton
Colin Dobson	Jonesboro
Savannah Wise	Russellville
Sarah Elizabeth	Bentonville
Stephen, AnnaBelle, Brody, Sunny, & Jo Beth Carl	Rogers

New Life Members

Joshua & Robyn Dye	Harrison
Kim Hillis	Little Rock

of 1,020 species. When we went to pick up our pre-booked rental car, we were informed anyone 80 years old or above could not rent a car. We adjusted well to the setback with cheap taxis, Uber, and the bus system, except on the day we hiked the famous Pipeline Road. The taxi we had arranged to meet us at 11 a.m. never returned to pick us up. One thing you look forward to after a hike in a humid forest, is the breeze generated by the open windows of your vehicle. We trudged along looking with hope at every passing car until we were suddenly "refreshed" by buckets of rain so intense that we could only hunch over and

wait for the storm to pass. That was a 5-mile day.

We made our second visit to the Barro Colorado Island site of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, the most intensively studied tropical rainforest reserve in the world.

At the shoreline in Panama City, we observed Wilson's Plover and other shorebirds foraging among the most garbage-strewn beaches we'd ever seen. National Audubon, working with Audubon Panama, has several notable programs in the country. These include coastal resilience efforts to restore mangroves, help drive policy changes at the government level, protect shorebird habitat, and support a Green Classroom program. Funding comes from the Inter-American Development Bank and other sources.

Pam Stewart recognized for Buffalo River work

The Buffalo National River Partners (BNRP) recognize Pam Stewart's (Arkansas Audubon Society's Bird-friendly Arkansas Committee) efforts to protect native plants in the Buffalo National River.

From the Buffalo National River Partners winter newsletter: "Since September 2016, BNRP has sponsored an annual stiltgrass removal event at Lost Valley in the Boxley area of the upper district. This project was initially spearheaded by longtime former BNRP board member Pam Stewart, who has deep knowledge of the plants that grow in the Buffalo National River region. Lost Valley has historically been a place of great diversity of wildflowers, and the invasive stiltgrass has been steadily taking over wildflower areas. BNRP volunteers have pulled stiltgrass at Lost Valley for nine years. It is a long-term project since seeds can lie dormant for four years or more before sprouting. For all of those nine years, we've had volunteers show up to work".

Searching for Northern Owls

Michael Linz and Patty McLean made a quick trip to Duluth, MN to see some of the northern owls in this winter's irruption. With a slight break

in the snow and cold wind, they were able to find the top three, Great Gray, Boreal, and Northern Hawk Owl.

While there, they also made a trip to Sax-Zim Bog where they enjoyed seeing many of the regular wintering birds, such as Canada Jay, Redpoll, White-winged Crossbill, and Black-capped Chickadee.



Boreal Owl | Photo by Michael Linz

Malaysia—a bountiful biodiversity buffet

Ragupathy Kannan, Professor of Biology
University of Arkansas—Fort Smith

Fulbright Scholar to India (2007), Sri Lanka (2020) and Malaysia (2024) & Fulbright Specialist to India (2019)

When news came of my fourth U.S. Fulbright Scholar award, I was elated, especially since I was headed to Malaysia, one of the best places on the planet for biodiversity. My three-month teaching project aimed at promoting citizen science applications like iNaturalist to enable Malaysians to appreciate, monitor, and conserve their wild flora and fauna. Sunway University in Kuala Lumpur was my host institution. Their Jeffrey Sachs Centre for Sustainable Development (JSC) was an ideal springboard from which I could launch my outreach activities. In three months I traveled the length and breadth of the nation. Here is a narrative of my chief accomplishments.

I gave a presentation on iNaturalist at a conference for upcoming nature guides. I told

them the importance of having an online presence to promote their passions and thus their businesses, and at the same time contribute their mite to wildlife documentation and conservation. I also donated about 25 new and used binoculars (given generously by Arkansas Audubon Society members) to a local NGO for free distribution among nature guides and other Malaysians.

Some of my most productive times in Malaysia were with the scientists at a local company, Malaysia Environmental Consultants (MEC), an organization dedicated to providing sustainable solutions to reduce anthropogenic impact on our environment. MEC staff are passionate about their work, and travel heavily performing Environmental Impact Assessments and other services. They are very knowledgeable, represent a gamut of skills from field identifications to GPS/GIS, and above all, sheer fun to be around.

One of my most well attended and productive talks was at the delightful campus of Nottingham University on the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur. At the mixer and reception at the end, I had several students approach me expressing their desire to start or build on their iNaturalist activities.

To enable my Arkansas students, colleagues, and friends track my activities, I launched an iNaturalist project entitled [Dr. R. Kannan's Fulbright Malaysia Biodiversity Blitz](#). In three months, the project amassed 843 photographs or audios of wild organisms of nearly 500 species, readily available for anyone at the click of a button. Over 150 volunteers identified my media uploads from around the world. Over half my observations were confirmed by experts and elevated to Research Grade status (scientifically vetted and valid for research purposes).

To publicize my ornithology field work, I created eBird trip reports and made them publicly available. The reports have been used by MEC scientists, among others, to further their survey activities. Naturalists headed for the

peninsula near Kuala Lumpur can use my [3-day intense birding blitz](#) in that area, in which I recorded 164 bird species, supported by photos of 69 species and audios of 47 species. It will also help promote birding tourism to that area.

The Fulbright program aims at promoting international understanding and long-term exchanges between nations and institutions. The people and places I encountered in Malaysia deepened my understanding of this fascinating and beautiful nation. I intend to build on the contacts and friendships I made and continue my interactions with my Malaysian colleagues. I am about to start a project to digitize and make publicly available all bird banding records of David Wells, a renowned British ornithologist who lived in Malaysia. His historical and invaluable Malaysia records are in hand-written forms filed in folders, perhaps destined to an attic and get lost for science. My good friend Allen Jeyarajasingam, author of a book on the birds of Malaysia, plans to hand them over to me. I also advised four Malaysian students on how to pursue their Ph.D. education in Arkansas. I hope to bring at least one of them here to Arkansas on a fully funded project with field work on biodiversity conservation in Malaysia. My Fulbright has ended but the work will continue.

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR THE SPRING CONVENTION!

If you haven't already registered for the spring convention, take a minute and register now! We're meeting in beautiful Millar Hall at Mt. Sequoyah in Fayetteville. Vice President Cheryl Johnson has been busy planning the meeting, which promises to be outstanding. Taylor Long, the Fieldtrip Coordinator, has planned field trips at some of Northwest Arkansas's best hot spots, capped by a trip to Ninestone on Sunday morning, which will work out perfectly for those of us on our way back to homes in central and northern Arkansas.

Donations to the General Fund

Jan Robert,
In Honor of Becky and Gary Wheeler
 Joyce W. Logan Revocable Trust,
In Memory of Joyce W Logan
 Martha Rimmer,
In Memory of Randolph B. "Randy" Hopkins
 Cathi Kindt
 Sara Caulk

AAS Trust Donations

Endowment-Memorial Fund

Patricia McLean
 Janet Lanza
 Elizabeth Adam, *In Memory of Dr. Doug James*
 Lynn Foster

Max Parker Fund

Joseph Parker

Our Friday night speaker will be Leslie Cooper, coordinator of the Arkansas Monarch Conservation Partnership. She'll be speaking about insect pollinators. If you've never seen a presentation by Leslie, you're in for an information-packed hour. On Saturday night, longtime member, author, and birder extraordinaire Joe Neal will share thoughtful musings on "How to Find Birds New to Arkansas."

Thanks to Jack Stewart for arranging a fascinating symposium speaker. Kevin Pierson, the Chief Conservation Officer for Bat Conservation International, will be speaking about the inner workings of BCI's efforts around the world, including personal stories of BCI staff, and, of course, bats. In Jack's words, this will be a program that is "different, entertaining, educational, and not what people expect."

Still on the Hill, musicians and AAS members Kelly and Donna Mulhollan, will be performing for us on Saturday—you may remember them from our last meeting in Fayetteville!

We'll be voting on long-overdue bylaws changes at the meeting. And as always, the silent auction will feature some outstanding items for sale!

To register for the spring convention, go to <https://arbirds.org/AAS/Meetings.aspx>. To register for lodgings at Mt. Sequoyah, call 479-443-4531 and tell them you're with the Arkansas Audubon Society.

CONVENTION HELPERS NEEDED

We'll need lots of helpers for the spring convention in Fayetteville, the last weekend in April! Volunteers help with:

- Registration
- The silent auction
- Grab n go meals
- Setting up the reception
- Cleanup on Saturday night

Thanks to all who have helped us in the past! If you can lend a hand at our next convention, please contact Cheryl Johnson, cjbluebird@comcast.net.

President's Column

By LYNN FOSTER

AAS President

It's cold and wet and February, and my yard is full of Common Grackles. I'm writing this just before the predicted cold spell. The number of birds in my yard will swell, and I'll happily feed them. And in just a few weeks, spring will be here! Nature's rhythms can be such a comfort.

I hope you've registered for our spring convention in Fayetteville. Northwest Arkansas has so many great hot spots that it's hard to choose locations for our field trips. But Taylor Long, Field Trip Coordinator for the spring convention, has done a fantastic job.

Not to be outdone is Vice President Cheryl Johnson, who has assembled an outstanding convention program. See the article elsewhere in this issue.

During the meeting, we'll be voting on revised bylaws. We last revised our bylaws in 2012, twelve and a half years ago. Our bylaws no longer match what we are doing and need to be brought up to date. You'll be able to vote on the new bylaws at the spring convention during the business meeting. At the time of this writing, it looks like we will be proposing revising our membership categories and also of necessity our dues. Some members will see their dues decreased, and others will see it increased by small amounts. Watch for an email coming very soon with the proposed bylaws revisions and dues changes explained.

Have you bought your AAS tee shirt yet? They are available for sale [here](#) in different colors with long or short sleeves. They sport our classic AAS logo on the front.



That's all for now. Thanks so much for your support of AAS! I hope to see you all in Fayetteville in April!

ANNOUNCEMENT: FALL 2025 CONVENTION

Mark your calendars!
As you are hopefully registering for the spring convention, we have also set a venue for the AAS fall 2025 convention: the Hilton Garden Inn in Conway on the weekend of October 24-26. Stay tuned for more details!

Halberg Ecology Camps: Return of All Sessions

By BARRY HAAS
Ecology Camp Treasurer

For the first time in five years the Arkansas Audubon Society (AAS) youth ecology camps were all held last summer. In June two sessions of the Halberg Ecology Camp were held at Camp Clearfork for first- and second-year campers. Then, in July, the Johnson Advanced Camp was held for third-year campers. Camp was suspended for two years during Covid and it took several years to build back our first, then second and finally third year hands-on nature experience. It was good to get back to normal.

Having had the privilege to serve as volunteer treasurer of the youth ecology camps, I've been witness to the many individuals and organizations that have continued over the years to support them financially. When the first Halberg Ecology Camp session was held in 1980, there was no public internet, no hand held computers, no social media. The camps' learning experience is designed to be immersive for the

many nature-loving fifth, sixth, seventh and sometimes eighth grade boys and girls who attend one or both camps. If you go to the AAS website arbirds.org and then to the Halberg Ecology Camp in the pull down menu, you can watch video summaries of Halberg Ecology Camp activities each session.

Links can be found at the top of this page:

<https://arbirds.org/EcologyCamp/Photos.aspx>

We work hard to make our youth ecology camps as affordable as possible so every youth has an opportunity to attend these exceptional nature camp sessions. We welcome donations of any size that help us keep tuition affordable.

Donations can be made online at the Arkansas Audubon Society website 'arbirds.org/AAS/Donate.aspx', or by mailing a check made payable to "AAS Halberg Ecology Camp" or "Arkansas Audubon Society" to P.O. Box 242088, Little Rock, AR 72223.

To complete a donation online you must complete your method of payment with either PayPal or credit card. If you didn't have to choose a payment method and complete that information, your donation will not go through.

All donations are tax deductible, and are acknowledged by letter or e-mail. If you have any questions regarding donations, please let me know at: bhaas@sbcglobal.net

Ecology Camp Donations

(October 17, 2024 – February 16, 2025)

Annual Fall Appeal

Ed & Sil Pembleton

Ruth Anderson

Keith & Rayma Hawkins

Grindstone Ridge Farm

Rebecca Hardin & Grady Hinton

Susan Hardin & Barry Haas

Ed Laster & Mary Roark

Barbara Baker

Pati & Greg Mitchell

Fall Appeal (Parents/Grandparents)

Fred Berry

Scholarships & Tuition Assistance

Ozark Chapter- Ark. Native Plant Society

Pati & Greg Mitchell

Memorials & Honoraria

Francie Bolter, *In Memory of Jess Setzler*

Dawn Butler Graves, *In Honor of Terry & Judy Butler*

Julie Connolly, *In Memory of Art and Martha Johnson*

To Opt-out of the Printed Newsletter:

Log in to your account at arbirds.org, click "My Web Account" from the drop-down menu, check the box next to "Save the cost and send me the AAS newsletter by email," and click update.

Note: You may still receive a paper copy because there is a minimum number to be printed.