

**2013 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL QUESTIONNAIRE**

Dear Member,

It's hard to believe that a whole year has gone by, but it has. That means that it is time to renew your membership in the Burroughs Audubon Nature Club for next year, Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2013 (unless you are a Life, Honorary or Emeritus Member, or joined since July 1.) Renewals are due by Jan. 1, 2013. Your treasurer thanks all members for their past support. Extra donations are always welcome. A special "Thank You" to all those who give an extra donation with their dues. We urge you to continue your support of our Club, our Sanctuaries, and all our activities. It is easy to set this aside and "forget," but it is extremely important that you renew by January 1st.

Unfortunately some of our members have not yet paid their 2012 dues. Please look at the mailing label on your Tanager. If it says "2012 dues are due", you must pay your 2012 dues by December 31, 2012. Without payment your membership will have expired, your name will be dropped from the membership list and you will no longer receive a Tanager. More importantly, you will lose access to our wonderful facilities and programs.

Please note: If you would like to continue receiving your Tanager in the paper form via the Postal Service, you are asked to pay \$5.00 additional fee for the year. Otherwise, the Tanager will be delivered electronically by e-mail.

2013 Membership Dues

Category:

Individual Membership (18 years & up).....	\$15.00/yr.
Couple Membership.....	\$25.00/yr.
Family Membership, incl. children up to 18 yrs.....	\$30.00/yr.
Supporting Membership.....	50.00/yr.
Life Membership .....	\$500.00/person
For a key to the outside accessible lavatory, add.....	\$2.00
Postal delivery of Tanager, add.....	\$5.00

To help us keep our records up-to-date, please fill in the renewal form on the back of this sheet and enclose it with your remittance, payable to the Burroughs Audubon Nature Club.

(Note to **SNOWBIRDS**: Please give us your winter address, with dates, too!)

The QUESTIONNAIRES have been very helpful in the past, so once again we are asking you to take a few additional minutes to fill in the answers to the questions which are also on the back of this sheet, just below the renewal form.

**Please return this whole sheet together with your check to:**

**Burroughs Audubon Nature Club  
c/o John E. Gordon  
126 Ayrault Rd.  
Fairport, NY 14450**

Thank you,

**The Executive Council**



# The Tanager

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT – 2012

2012 has been a challenging year to be president. Thank you for allowing me to be your president once again. We have, indeed, had a wonderful and dedicated council so I have been honored to work with them!

I feel that a very big change for BANC has been to “enter the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” with our newsletter, The Tanager. In January, it was decided by the council to publish The Tanager on the website, in addition to full details of upcoming programs. As with anything new and innovative, we came across some glitches that needed ironing out, and iron, we did. Many thanks to our webmaster, Paul Dudley, Tanager Editor, Jerry Jenkins and Vice President, Art Trimble for assistance with computer and website changes!

The issue of Hydrofracking was discussed at our January meeting and the Council decided that BANC should join a petition drawn up by Walter Hang of Ithaca to withdraw the revised draft SGEIS. It was agreed that Julie would sign the petition on behalf of BANC against Hydrofracking in New York State. Several council members have been active in taking actions against a process that we feel, in its present form, presents real dangers to our environment.

It is with sadness that I note that the very sensitive portion of the Auburn Trail “Improvement” Project has been completed. Some residents may feel that the Auburn Trail has been greatly improved, but there is no joy from BANC members who wanted to save the flora and fauna near Railroad Mills Road for the butterflies and future generations, for the Town of Victor did not hear our cry for the environment. We certainly did try. My thanks to our concerned members, especially to Steve Daniel, Carol Southby, and Kim Hartquist for the many hours of effort that they put into this project of love for nature.

February 25<sup>th</sup> was a sad day for BANC since long-time and very active member, Lois Jenkins, passed away. She is sorely missed and a wonderful celebration of her life was held at the Sanctuary on May 19<sup>th</sup>. It was quite a memorable event since Lois was so well-loved!

The Allegany Nature Pilgrimage in early June was an amazing success! BANC had several individuals on the planning committee as well as many presenters. They did a fine job! Think about attending next year because it is always an event where Nature is King and people from youngsters to oldsters enjoy themselves and learn a lot about birds, animals of all sorts, plants and the environment!

At the suggestion and urging of member, Harold Stock, we took a look at our sign in the parking lot informing people of our rules. Harold thought it could be friendlier and more welcoming. The Council took a look at this and decided to add to it. The sign now reads, “New Members Welcome” and contains information on how to join BANC. We feel that this is quite an improvement. Thank you, especially, Richard Ashworth for preliminary photos and Carl Benedict who brought this project to fruition!

After a presentation and request from member, Mary Ann Cady, who has been deeply involved with the High Acres Nature Area located in Perinton, and much discussion, the Council voted for BANC to donate \$500 to the work of HANA with the stipulation that a report be presented for publication in the Tanager at the end of each year. We feel that the project will benefit the bird population and environment in the Rochester area.

Every year, BANC donates three family memberships to the WXXI Auction. This year, we have three new family memberships from people who bid on them – Sandra Glantz, Gregory Jones and David Swinton, and we welcome them with open arms!

Finally, my sincere gratitude goes to all of our members who have been helpful throughout the year. BANC is an organization that involves lots of volunteer hours. **THANK YOU** for contributing your time and effort!

*Sincerely,  
Julie Clayton*

## "WANDERINGS"

Frank Crombe has led tree and plant hikes at the Allegany Pilgrimage for many years and on Friday, August 10, after a tasty potluck supper hosted by Jon and Sandra Dombrowski, Frank shared his knowledge and love of trees with other BANC members and guests. Frank took us on a photographic tour of his yard where he has planted a great variety of trees, tupelo, black, chestnut and white oaks, and some southern species like the Fothergill. He also showed us trees in their autumn splendor at some of his favorite local places. Then we were off on a journey with him to Souz, France, where we saw a chestnut woodland, reminiscent of our own American chestnut trees that were wiped out by the chestnut blight. Next we viewed the majestic beech trees lining the streets of Almelo in the Netherlands and then went on to the resort area of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, in the UK. Frank explained that the autumn colors in England are much more subdued, so the British like to plant some colorful species such as Japanese maples that are not native there. One stop on the trip was at the traditional Sunday Boot (car trunk) Sale at the Cheltenham Racecourse, like a big flea market. Frank shared more of his botanical expertise answering questions at the end of the program, making it an enjoyable and educational evening.

## HELP NEEDED!!

For the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary program we're looking for old photos, slides, or other items from the club's past. We're especially interested in items from the 1980's and before. If you have some you'd like to share or make available, please contact Steven Daniel at [natdisc@gmail.com](mailto:natdisc@gmail.com) or 249-5124. If you'd like to help us work on compiling BANC's history, there are jobs to be done that include typing, archiving, recording. Please let us know.

We also are trying to locate some missing items. It is possible that they were lost in the fire that destroyed the original clubhouse in 1978. However it is also possible that they still exist somewhere, perhaps in a box in someone's attic.

### 1. Club Minutes and Official Records.

In the 1970's we had all the original Minutes and Records of the Club from 1913 until the 1940's. Somehow we still have the Minutes from 1929 to around 1945. But the first 17 years are missing. If anyone has any idea about this please let us know. We also have not any club records from the 1940's until the 1970's.

2. Historical Lantern Slides. In the 1970' we had collections of beautiful glass lantern slides, dating to the club's ginning, from our founder, William Hoot, and early member Charles Zoller. At that time, one of our former members, Reg Hartwell, made copies of some of them onto 35mm slides. Reg's 35mm slides were used in BANC programs into the late 1980's. We believe that Reg intended to leave his slides to BANC. Perhaps someone can help with these missing items as well.

*Steve Daniel*



## Mushrooms Galore

At BANC's September 19<sup>th</sup> field trip with leader June Johnston, an interesting array of fungi were found in the grass, brush and woods near the Webster -Park campground.

The species observed ranged from tiny mushrooms growing on fallen pinecones to several stately King Boletes. The group also found the fairy-tale yellow Amanita muscaria (poisonous), the yeasty-fragrant Sweetbread, the slimy Chicken-Fat Suillus, the Ochre Jelly Club, the Chrome-footed bolete, and Pigskin Poison puffballs. A most satisfying treasure hunt!

*Joanne Altre*

## The High Acres Nature Area Report Summary

A comprehensive program of monitoring avian populations at HANA has been put in place. The components of the monitoring include:

- The Marsh Monitoring Program (MMP), which allows comparisons to wetlands across the Great Lakes Basin.
- Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS), which utilizes bird banding and is a population dynamics study.
- Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) which utilizes transect counts and complements the MMP and MAPS
- E-bird data, which covers the entire year including migratory periods.

The BANC Council has voted to help support HANA financially with \$500. For more information regarding this important local project, please contact Mary Ann Cady at 248-8959.



## CELEBRATING BANC'S 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

By Shirley Shaw

According to a website with information about anniversaries, the appropriate gift for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is a "10K" diamond. A diamond we can't have. Nonetheless, BANC's planning committee has found many sparkling activities to celebrate Burroughs Audubon Nature Club's hundred years from 1913-2013.

In early January you'll receive BANC's annual booklet with the year's schedule. Designed as a keepsake, there will also be photos and historical information. First and foremost, mark your calendars now for all the very special events. When your booklet arrives, take a minute to sync it with your calendar, so you won't miss out on any of the fun, food, and celebrations.

Our official 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration is to be held June 29, 2013, at the Sanctuary. John James Audubon himself (aka Mark Carra) will be our special guest and speaker. He'll visit with us before dinner, and there'll be punch, appetizers, and exhibits too. A potluck dinner will be followed by the cutting of an anniversary cake and then Mr. Carra's talk. Those of you who attended the Allegany Pilgrimage this past year will remember Mark Carra, an actor who impersonated Charles Darwin at the Pilgrimage.

The 2013 banquet will be held April 24. Many thanks to our own Steven Daniel, who will present a fascinating history of BANC. Come and hear about the extraordinary beginnings of our club, and about our early leaders like William Hoot (our first president for 17 years), our beloved and illustrious botanist Milton Baxter, our devoted secretary, advocate, and writer, Amelia Heydweiller, and others who worked to make our club a leader in conservation and education, long before the days of Rachel Carson and the modern environmental movement.

Another of the extra special programs falls at our annual picnic, to be held September 21. Once again, good food will be shared at a potluck supper, and afterwards Lucy Durkin, a direct descendant of John James Audubon, will present a talk on Audubon's art.

Beyond these events, a variety of presentations should provide you with lots of opportunities for

learning about our natural world and being with your Burroughs friends. Field trips will take us along the west lakeshore, to Zurich Bog, to Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, to the Genesee River Gorge, to Letchworth State Park, and to Whiting Road. Beyond these readily accessible places, Steve Daniel has arranged a tour of "the Gulf," a private property not usually open to visitors. At one of our potlucks, Martha Zettel and Bill O'Neill will help us identify and appreciate sounds of the night.

The arts will play a role in our celebrations. A play about Rachel Carson will be presented at our first meeting of the year, January 11. There is the presentation on Audubon's art at the picnic. We'll have the opportunity to enjoy music by Cathy McGrath on May 17, appreciate and discuss the writings of John Burroughs through a John Burroughs Day Open House on July 20 (BANC was originally founded as a book club organized to read Burroughs' works), and learn about the craft of natural dyes on July 26.

Reminiscences have a special significance at anniversaries. The *Tanager* will include articles about the club's history, and our meetings will include readings of excerpts from minutes of decades past along with some short passages from John Burroughs' writings. We're asking our members now to think of special moments from past years to share at our Experience Night as we wrap up the year on November 8. Also, if you love to take pictures, please take lots of them throughout the year and present them at our Experience Night. With your participation, it should be a memorable evening!

2013 is going to be wonderful! Once again, mark your calendars with all the events as soon as you get your booklet. And contact President Julie Clayton at 249-9489 to volunteer to help with food and clean up work when needed.

Happy Anniversary, BANC. You mean so much to each of us!

(100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee: Julie Clayton, Joanne Altre, Steven Daniel, Carol Hinkelman, Nancy Rosenberg, and Shirley Shaw)





### BANC's Beginnings

This coming year, 2013, will be the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our organization, Burroughs Audubon Nature Club! Did you know that the man who founded our nature club was named William B. Hoot? How appropriate! In his own words, our club "was destined to play an important part in the study of nature and the protection of birds and other wild life in Rochester and vicinity. He really did give a "Hoot" for the birds!

John Burroughs was a very famous nature writer during the last part of the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. He was second in popularity only to Ralph Waldo Emerson. In 1912 many Rochesterians became owners of the Riverby Edition of Burroughs' works – eighteen volumes. William Hoot, in his history of the Club's beginnings tells us that with the purchase of the books, each owner was given a certificate of membership – a charter membership – of the Burroughs Nature Club. Each owner was sent ten lists of questions the answers for which were taken from Burroughs' writings. If the questions were answered satisfactorily, the owners were entitled to a premium but once the premium was received, there were no more questions so apparently, the studies were completed! Appreciating Mr. Burroughs nature- writing was the "acorn" of our organization.

Mr. Hoot was not satisfied with what he had gained in so short a course of study in such a vast field of nature, so he contacted the people who were also owners of the Riverby Edition with the purpose of organizing a local club. There were two preliminary meetings in Mr. Hoot's office followed by a third held at the Rochester Reynolds Library. A constitution and by-laws were adopted and officers elected. Mr. Hoot, of course, got elected as president and he held this post for seventeen years! (Many times, he tried to leave the position, but the Club elected him time and again). Mrs. S.P. Moore, Mrs. A.E. Brigden, and Judge Delbert Hebbard were elected Vice-Presidents and Edgar Long was elected Secretary/Treasurer. After the business meeting, Mrs. Moore gave an "entertaining" talk on "Knowing our Local Birds". The Object of the Club then, as it is now, was to "promote the study and

understanding of the natural sciences and to disseminate knowledge about conservation, ecology, and nature in general....and schedule informational meetings, field trips, lectures and seminars." This quote is from our by-laws.

During the rest of 1913, six more meetings were held. Mr. Hoot's summer home was located on the lakefront of Lake Ontario between Sea Breeze and Durand Eastman Park and it was known as "Nee-Top". The group held a picnic lunch there. They held a field trip to Cobb's Hill Park that was led by Calvin Laney, Superintendent of the Parks, and John Dunbar, the horticulturist who later became famous for our vast lilac collection! Laney and Dunbar also led a walk through Highland Park. On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, George Kellogg gave a talk on "Kodak Efficiency in Nature Work" at the Reynolds Library. He illustrated his talk with lantern slides **in color!!!** Amazing for that year! At one of the meetings, there was a lively discussion of the birds' worst enemy – the CAT. Sound familiar?

A most thrilling event occurred for Mr. Hoot in 1913, as well. He was invited to Woodchuck Lodge, John Burroughs' summer home in the Catskills. He was fascinated by Burroughs' many stories about his life and writings. He also met Dr. Clara Barrus, Burroughs' biographer, and Thomas Edison, who with his wife and son had stopped by to see Mr. Burroughs!

This was 1913 and 100 years later we are still presenting fascinating programs that expand our knowledge and appreciation for nature and invite the public to attend. We also continue to offer field trips to different nature areas in and around Rochester and welcome the general public. We remain an organization made up entirely of volunteers and we work in harmony with many other nature groups within the community/state and nation. We are proud of Burroughs Audubon Nature Club --a distinguished and most historic nature club in the Rochester area! More history will follow in future Tanagers.

This article is updated from the 2003 article by Lois S Jenkins

*Julie Clayton*



## MEET A MEMBER – STEVEN DANIEL



In the Rochester area BANC is unique as a general nature organization with interest and adherents in all branches of study – plants, animals, trees, birds, fungi, rocks and others. No member epitomizes this breadth of interest and knowledge better than Steven Daniel.

Some of you will know Steven as an able tour leader with his company, Nature Discoveries. Many have learned much from his teaching skill on local field trips, and we have all benefited from his passionate commitment to species and habitat conservation in our area and more globally. Those of us on the BANC Executive Committee have appreciated Steven's thoughtful and constructive contributions to our discussions and his ready willingness to take on and successfully complete projects for the Club.

Steven's interest in the natural world started early in his life: he remembers catching tadpoles to take to school for 'Show and Tell'. Camping with friends after high school reinforced his interest through encounters with orioles and other spring migrants, and he was soon graduating with an MS in Science and Environmental Education from Cornell University.

Many projects followed, including establishing the nature education program as Naturalist at Mendon Ponds Park and coordinating a natural resource inventory and master plan for Mashomack Preserve on Shelter Island, NY, after its acquisition by the Nature Conservancy.

Later Steven went back to school for a teaching degree and subsequently taught in Rochester City schools for sixteen years. During this period he also taught classes at the Rochester Museum and Science Center and set up the Nature Center at the Genesee Country Museum. He still teaches Field Natural History at MCC, a course he developed and has taught for some 30 years.

In 1988, together with Peter Debes and Gene Gartland, Steven founded Nature Discoveries. Since then they have offered up to fifteen guided trips each year – some in the US, but including the Galápagos Islands, Alaska, Iceland and Costa Rica. He will be leading a group to New Zealand in February.

Recently he has been concentrating more on botany and entomology: he has been attracting, inventorying and raising moths at his home, and has been seeking butterflies all over North America, and has now photographed most of them. He has also been coordinating field trips for the New York Flora Association, where he is a Board member, and is a popular presenter at the Allegany Nature Pilgrimage, for which BANC is a sponsor.

Steven joined BANC in 1982 and became more active in the Club when he moved from Brighton to Railroad Mills Road. Since then he has led walks for BANC, presented some programs, and now serves on the BANC Executive Council. He has recently been devoting a lot of time to researching and conserving the history of the Club in preparation for our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year.

Steven is a consummate naturalist, a gifted teacher, and a congenial companion. We are very lucky to number him among our members.

*Richard Ashworth*

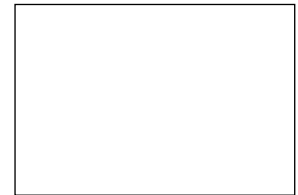
### Clean up Day

Although it was a chilly and damp day, our members cleaned up the leaves and cleaned the inside of the Sanctuary. We had delicious lunch with some special desserts. Thanks to all for a job well done.

Also, a special thank you to John Matter for cleaning the walnuts from the parking lot.

# **The Tanager**

**Burroughs Audubon  
Nature Club  
c/o John E. Gordon  
126 Ayrault Rd.  
Fairport, NY 14450**



**TO:**

## **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Friday, January 11, 7:30 PM**  
**St John's Meadows**  
**GETTING TO KNOW RACHEL CARSON**  
Presenter: Carolyn Coit Dancy

**Friday, February 8, 7:30 PM**  
**St John's Meadows**  
**GENESEE LAND TRUST**  
Presenter: Gay Mills, Executive Director of GLT

**SATURDAY, March 2, 3:00 PM**  
**WINTER BIRDING**  
Leaders: Janet Miles & Carol Hinkelman

**Friday, March 8, 7:30 PM**  
**St John's Meadows**  
**BUTTERFLIES OF SKY ISLANDS**  
Presenters: Carol & David Southby

**Saturday, April 13, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**  
**BANC Sanctuary**  
**SPRING CLEAN-UP**  
Leader: Joanne Altre