

The Tanager

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Burroughs Audubon Nature Club

c/o John Shaw

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President's Message

By Julie Clayton

Hello BANC members! I am proud and honored to be serving as president of BANC this year. BANC members are giving individuals who care about the environment around them and love nature. It is truly a great group!

As our bylaws state: "The objective of this organization is to promote the study and understanding of the natural sciences and to disseminate knowledge about conservation, ecology and nature in general."

Our club has been in existence since 1913 and I am proud that we continue to fulfill this objective. Member Kelly Haskell has been leading a group of little ones, ages 1-5, for nine Saturday mornings in their discovery of the outdoors through an organization called Tinkergarten. We have a new member, Margaret Thurston, who has been using BANC trails to complete a nature course through the Finger Lakes Community College in Canandaigua. Our Council Secretary, Jane McConnochie, has led many Park Road School Tree Club events for young tree enthusiasts. Long-time member and past president, Carol Hinkelman, has informed our members of local and national conservation issues that we need to know about. Sally Parmigiani is now learning the ropes about this important role.

Our Program Committee, led by Marigrace Piazza, is certainly keeping up with providing us with many and varied programs by which our members are learning so much about all aspects of nature. In case you missed our first three programs of 2023, Council Member Lura Kelley will fill you in with her excel-

lent articles in this issue, pages 11, 12, and 13. We learned about bears in New York State and the return of the bald eagle in the lower forty-eight!

Our Invasive Species Committee (now called Habitat Restoration) spearheaded by Jane McConnochie has been very active and working on getting rid of the many invasive species in our Sanctuary (privet, garlic mustard, swallow-wort). It is a thankless job, but

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many members have been working together on this project.

I am also proud that BANC has been a sponsoring club of the Annual Allegany Nature Pilgrimage that occurs every year after Memorial Day. It is also sponsored by the Buffalo Audubon, Jamestown Audubon, and Erie's Presque Isle Audubon Societies. Refer to more information about this year's special weekend at Allegany State Park in this newsletter. The hikes and programs are fascinating! There is so much to experience and learn about at the ANP. Frank Crombe and Kathy Henrie are representatives on the ANP Committee from BANC. Our thanks to all of the members mentioned above for their fine contributions to the objective of our organization.

I would also like to acknowledge the folks of the Fundraising and Trail Restoration Committees who have made it possible to obtain a grant from The State of New York and Emil Muller Foundation to begin the improvement of our trail system at Railroad Mills Rd. A big shout out of thanks goes to Shirley Shaw, Richard Ashworth, Ellen Prill, Sue Robertson, John Shaw, Chita McKinney, Carol Klinger, Joe Hurley, and Julie Clayton for their roles in this project. It will be a while for it all to come to fruition, but all good things take time! Shirley Shaw will report to you about the project at this point.

Being that Burroughs Audubon Nature Club is built purely on volunteer work, I would like to thank other individuals who have done so much to keep our organization going. John Shaw is our editor of the Tanager and webmaster. Steve Melcher takes care of Facebook for us. Dean Clayton has been attending to the yard, trails and other club needs. Joe Hurley also takes care of clearing trails after a tree or large limbs block the trails. Past president, Ellen Prill, has painted the inside of the clubhouse and led many projects this past year. Long-time member, Jutta Dudley, is Chair of the Indoor Housekeeping Committee and keeps the building in tip-top shape! Becky Olson has been our loyal librarian. Marigrace Piazza and David

and Carol Southby work very hard on our fine butterfly gardens and everyone knows that good gardens require much labor and attention! Every year our Executive Council members have devoted much time and effort to keep BANC on track and make decisions that benefit the members of our club. I have not covered every effort, but THANK YOU to all of our members who have helped to keep BANC thriving in our 110th year!

I ask that other members think about how they can contribute to the mission of BANC. It is fun to meet other devoted members and work together to meet our objective of discovering more about the natural world and acting to conserve and protect it!



Margaret Thurston doing research at BANC for a college course at Finger Lakes Community College.

Photo by Julie Clayton

Updating New York's Bottle Bill

By Carol Hinkelman

Americans buy billions of bottles and cans of beverages every year, more than 70 billion bottles just of water alone. Some of those bottles and cans are recycled, but the rest end up as litter on roadsides and in waterways or go to landfills where they are extremely slow to break down if they break down at all. Taxpayers end up paying for the increasing costs of roadside cleanup and overflowing landfills.

Oregon was the first state to pass a bill mandating a refundable deposit on certain types of beverage containers in 1971. Since then, only 9 other states have followed Oregon's lead despite studies showing that the recycling rate for beverage containers is vastly increased with a bottle bill. The overall beverage container recycling rate in the United States is approximately 33%, while states with container deposit laws have a 70% average rate of beverage container recycling.



Photo from US EPA

New York originally passed its bottle bill in 1982. Since its implementation 40 years ago, 5 cent deposits have been collected on the sale of cans and bottles of beer and soda. Water was added in 2009, and all carbonated drinks are now covered. New York's bottle bill has been a tremendous success. In 2020 alone, it helped recycle 5.5 billion plastic, glass and aluminum containers totaling 241,505 tons at no cost to our local governments. 80% of the unredeemed deposits go back to the state's Environmental Protection Fund and its general fund. The other 20% is kept by the distributors.

The percentage of deposit bottles and cans being recycled in NY was originally very high but has dwindled over the 40 years since the bottle bill was first enacted. It is time to increase the deposit amount so

it provides a better incentive to recycle. States that have raised their deposit to 10 cents have seen a large increase in the percentage of deposit bottles and cans recycled both by consumers and by people who collect them for the income.

Another idea being put forward in New York is to add new categories of beverages to the container deposit law. In addition to increasing the deposit, the proposed Bigger, Better Bottle Bill would also extend deposits to bottles and cans of wine, liquor, hard cider, wine and spirits coolers, sports drinks and a spec-

trum of non-carbonated beverages, including coffee and tea drinks and vegetable and fruit juices containing less than 100 percent pure juice.

More than 150 organizations across the state signed a letter encouraging Governor Hochul to include the measure in her executive budget this year, but it was not included when she made her budget announcement. It could still be added to the NYS budget before it is approved. Polls show that the expanded bill would be supported by environmental organizations and most of the public, but not by the wine and liquor industries, which would incur substantial costs to implement new collection procedures.

New York has a mounting solid waste crisis and needs to boost its recycling and waste-reduction ef-

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(Bottle Bill - Continued from page 3)

forts. The bottle bill has a 40-year track record of success as the state's most effective litter prevention and enhanced recycling program. Updating the bottle bill is really needed to increase recycling, reduce the amount of glass and plastic going to landfills, reduce roadside litter, and save taxpayers millions of dollars by diverting many more containers from the waste stream.



Photo from US EPA

Time to renew your membership

If you haven't already done so, you need to renew your membership now, either by mail or online. See the form on page 9, or go to <http://bancny.org/membership.html>.

65th Annual Allegany Nature Pilgrimage June 2-4, 2023

The Allegany Nature Pilgrimage is an annual outdoor learning experience which takes place in beautiful Allegany State Park. It combines fun with a variety of nature-oriented field trips, programs, and talks. This annual weekend welcomes both the experienced naturalist as well as the inquisitive beginner!

For more information and details about this popular event, go to www.alleganynaturepilgrimage.com

You take care of your own lodging and food. Now is the time to reserve your cabin or campsite at Allegany State Park for the weekend of June 2-4, 2023. Visit reserveamerica.com to make your reservation!

For online registration visit the website at: <http://www.alleganynaturepilgrimage.com/registration.html> Registration began in mid-January.

If you cannot register online and would prefer a hard copy registration form sent to you, please call registrar Marcia Nixon at 716-998-1417.

Website Proofreader Needed

Do you have great English skills? Do you have a good eye for consistency? We need you to help to proofread our BANC Website. You can do this from the comfort of your own home and you would be helping our webmaster, John Shaw, and the whole club. If you are interested, please call John at 585-747-6567 or email at john@jashaw.com.

“For anything worth having one must pay the price; and the price is always work, patience, love, self-sacrifice – no paper currency, no promises to pay, but the gold of real service.”

John Burroughs

New Members

The following new members have joined. We welcome them to BANC:

Bernard Shore	Rochester
Holly McGregor Anderson	Webster
Jillian Gruber	Rochester
Maureen Alhart	Rochester
Laura Dustin	Orchard Park
Margaret Thurston	Pittsford
Colleen McNair	Penfield

Coming Events

The following events are planned for the next three months. Please refer to our website, bancny.org, for any changes or additions.

Thursday, March 30, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Woodcock Walk

Webster

The American Woodcock spends the daylight hours hidden away in woodlands. By night, it comes out into open fields where males dance high in the sky, with “chipping, twittering, bubbling sounds,” according to renowned bird expert Kenn Kaufman. Its aim is to attract females. In between dances, it makes a sound that Kaufman describes as a “beeping call,” while other sources call it a “peent” sound.

Join Shirley Shaw and Chita McKinney in Webster at the Big Field at the corner of Vosburg and Drumm Roads on March 30 at 7:30 p.m., weather permitting. Advanced registration is required so we can notify participants if the walk must be postponed until April 6, 2023, 7:30 p.m. due to weather. To register, go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4CACA828A5FE3-woodcock1>.

Dress warmly. Bring a folding chair and flashlight. We will take a short walk to listen for frogs and birds before the woodcocks begin to display.

Wednesday, April 12, 2023, 6:30 to about 8:00 p.m.

Your Neighborhood Amphibians!

Sanctuary, 301 Railroad Mills Rd.

Professor John Bateman of the Finger Lakes Community College Department of Environmental Conservation will share his knowledge and research on local amphibian identification, behavior, phenology, and ecology. After a presentation and Q&A at the clubhouse, we'll head outside to listen for frogs, first at the sanctuary and then perhaps around the corner in Powder Mills Park, weather and whim depending.

The event is rain or shine so dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes you don't mind getting a bit wet, and bring along a flashlight. Directions to the park will be provided on site. Registration is required. To register, go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4CACA828A5FE3-gettoknow>.

Friday, April 14, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Hudson: The Story of a River

Zoom

New York's Hudson River changes dramatically as it journeys from the Adirondacks to New York Harbor. This photo tour highlights its development from a shallow rocky stream to a raging freshwater river, and on to a tidal estuary below Troy. We'll pass its deepest and widest points, view it from boats, shorelines and mountains, and observe the wildlife and habitats along its course as the river passes through forest, field, marshland, and cities. We'll take in the

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(Coming Events Continued from page 5)

dramatic human history of this great river as well, observe its role in art, transportation and industry, and ponder its fundamental role in America's environmental movement. Join us for this special look at "The River That Flows Both Ways."

Speaker: Denise Hackert-Stoner and Scott Stoner

For speaker biographies, see <http://bancny.org/programs.html>.

Registration is required. To register, Go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4CACA828A5FE3-hudson>. People who are registered will be sent a link for the Zoom program the day before the meeting.

Sunday, April 23, 2023, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Habitat Restoration and Cleanup Day
Sanctuary, 301 Railroad Mills Road

We will be pitching in to help get our Sanctuary grounds ready for spring activities. Clean up of the outside area, including trails, boardwalks, and parking lot will be needed. An important focus will be ongoing habitat restoration work as we continue our mission to remove invasive plants and restore native ones to our property.

Bring your work gloves and a rake as well as your own snack and water. If you are not able to do the labor, feel free to come and enjoy our beautiful surroundings, visit with friends, and cheer the workers on.

Tuesday, April 25, 2023, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Spring Evening Walk
Brickyard Trail at Sandra Frankel Nature Park

This is a joint trip with Genesee Valley Audubon Society. Participants will meet in the parking lot in front of Brighton Library, near the road, 2300 Elmwood Ave., 14618. This is a casual evening nature walk to watch for birds and listen for frogs and other wildlife. This short easy walk of about a mile

and a half round trip will give us a chance to explore an urban wetland at dusk. Who knows what we will find? Binoculars will enhance your enjoyment. Dress for the weather. We have to cross the road to get to the path which is flat and has a small stone surface. Registration is required.

To register, email June Summers at summers@frontiernet.net no later than Sunday, April 23.

Thursday April 27, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Geology, Iron Mining History, and Spring Flowers
Casey Park In Ontario Center

Today, Wayne County is best known for its fruit orchards, but it was actually the discovery of iron ore early in the 19th century that brought the area into prominence. Fred Haynes, BANC member and retired geologist, will lead us in a walk completely around the one-mile long quarry-filled lake in Casey Park in Ontario Center. We will talk about the geology, the iron mining history, and the unique topography that the mining activity left behind.

We have timed our walk to coincide with spring wild-flower season. The region south of the lake should be filled with trout lilies, trilliums, hepatica, and bloodroot. The trail on the south side is very easy (wide and level). The return trip on the north side is a narrower trail with a bit of up and down as it follows a man-made ridge created by the mining activity. Round trip is about two miles. Meet at 10 AM at the parking lot at the extreme east end of the lake, Casey Park Rd. off of Knickerbocker Rd.

To register, go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4CACA828A5FE3-geology>.

Saturday, May 13, 2023, 7:30 a.m.

RBA/BANC Joint Birding Field Trip
BANC Sanctuary and Powder Mills Park.

Powder Mills Park is a mature woodland and wetland park that can be productive for many late-migrating or nesting species. In recent years, Baltimore Orioles, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Scarlet Tan-

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(Coming Events - Continued from page 6)

agers, Pileated Woodpeckers, Red-tailed Hawks, American Woodcocks, and Blue-winged Warblers have all nested there.

The trip will continue with a visit to the BANC Sanctuary on Railroad Mills Road, where we'll walk the trails around the woodland, wetland, and creek habitats. Nesting species there include Eastern Bluebirds, House Wrens and Eastern Phoebes, and adjacent tree lines have produced a variety of migrating warblers.

Both locations are mostly flat trails, but waterproof footwear is advised. Please note that no restroom facilities will be available at the Sanctuary.

Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Powder Mills Park Fish Hatchery parking lot on Park Road. Leader: Richard Ashworth (585-381-2189). Co-leaders: Tom and Jeanne Verhulst (585-362-0803).

Pre-registration is required for this trip: sign up on rochesterbirding.org.

Saturday, May 20, 2023, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Community Conservation Talk & Walk
Deblase Open Space, Pittsford, New York

Come check out a hidden piece of protected open land in Pittsford and learn about several citizen-led efforts to maintain its ability to support diverse wildlife with Robert Corby, Laurie Konte, and Jane McConnochie. Mr. Corby, former Pittsford Village Mayor and current history, geology, and nature-enthusiast, will tell us about the Pittsford Greenprint which helped save the space from development. Ms. Konte, former school secretary and current tree hugger and engaged citizen, will recount how she organized a reforestation effort in Deblase and talked the town into supporting it. And Ms. McConnochie will discuss her efforts to engage teens in habitat restoration and the impacts of the installation of a deer ex-

clusion fence in a section of the open space. We'll explore how nature is responding to these efforts and discuss the work left to do. Along the way we'll stop to appreciate the many native wildflowers and trees that line the Irondequoit Creek and call Deblase their home.

The walk is largely flat with some uneven footing and it will cover about .75 miles total. Park on the Sugarwood Drive cul de sac (to find it you can set your GPS to 10 Sugarbush Lane, Pittsford – the trail entrance is on the right of that house when facing it). We will meet at the trail entrance marker.

Registration is required. To register, go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4CACA828A5FE3-community>.

Thursday, May 25, 2023, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Ice Cream Sundae Social
Sanctuary, 301 Railroad Mills Road

This event is for members only. If your membership is up-to-date, wonderful. If not, please RENEW or become a member at bancny.org/membership.html by May 22 or come prepared with cash or a check and become a paid member on the 25th. Membership is \$25 for individuals, \$35 for couples, \$40 for families, or \$75 for supporting. Enjoy an ice cream sundae (vegan choice available). Walk our trails amid the beauty of nature on a late spring's evening. Tap your feet and sing along to live music. Registration by May 22 is required. To register, go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4CACA828A5FE3-icecream>. Contact Person: Shirley Shaw 385-3907.

June 2-June 4, 2023

The 65th Annual Allegany Nature Pilgrimage
Red House area of Allegany State Park

See www.alleganynaturepilgrimage.com.

Contact Persons: Frank Crombe 255-0837 and Kathy Sheridan- Henrie 705-8789.

(Coming Events - Continued from page 7)

Tuesday, June 6, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Past, Present and Future of Rochester's
Favorite Treasure
Highland Park

In this walking tour of Highland Park, we will experience and learn about this masterwork of landscape architecture, as designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, its history, renowned plant collections, recent developments and future plans.

JoAnn Beck, retired landscape architect, chair of the Rochester Olmsted Parks Alliance and president of Highland Park Conservancy will lead the tour. Meet in front of Lamberton Conservatory, 180 Reservoir Avenue. Registration is required. To register, go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4CACA828A5FE3-highland>.

Thursday, June 22, 2023, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Family Nature Night Open House
BANC Sanctuary, 301 Railroad Mills Road

After a break of three years, BANC is happy to announce the return of the popular Family Nature Night. Families with children of all ages are invited to join the fun and need not be members to participate. During the Family Night, BANC members will be on hand with displays demonstrating their particular interests.

The trails will be available for exploring. A scavenger hunt and guided walks are planned. There will be displays and interactive play related to all aspects of natural science. During the evening, nature observation and learning will be celebrated as well as the beauty of our special preserve on a June evening. Light refreshments will be served.
Contact Person: Marigrace Piazza 314-8462.

Friday, July 14, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Fantastic Ferns of Wolf Gull
Near Naples, New York

Leader, Bruce Gilman
Save the date: Details coming soon

TRAILS GRANT REPORT

By Shirley Shaw

In January, our landscape architecture selection committee—Richard Ashworth, Ellen Prill, and Shirley Shaw—reviewed the four submissions we received for the BANC Trail Improvements Project. We chose the firm SWBR, and the Regional Grants Administrator approved our choice.

SWBR is an architecture and landscape architecture firm with offices in Rochester, Syracuse, and Troy. They are currently working on a trail project for the Silver Creek Outlet for the village of Perry, NY. If you would like to learn more about this firm, check out <https://www.swbr.com/design/service/landscape-architecture>.

The BANC Executive Council appointed the following Council members to review the contract with SWBR and negotiate any changes if needed: Finance Trustees Joe Hurley and Chita McKinney, Treasurer John Shaw, President Julie Clayton, and Trustee Shirley Shaw, who is considered the BANC Project Manager.

As the adage goes, “anything worth having is worth waiting for.” Although the preliminary work on the project has taken much longer than we anticipated, we are moving forward. The result will be worth the wait.

BURROUGHS AUDUBON NATURE CLUB (BANC) 2023 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership runs from January 1st through December 31st. Please send your check, payable to BANC, along with this form, to:

BANC

c/o John Shaw, Treasurer
 374 Cromwell Drive
 Rochester, NY 14610

Or, to pay online by credit card, use the form at bancny.org/membership.html.

Name(s) _____

Children's Ages (optional) _____

Street Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Date _____

How did you learn of us? _____ Birth Month (Optional) _____

Check one: New Member _____ Renewal _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	DUES	AMOUNT PAID
Individual	\$25	\$
Couple	\$35	\$
Family, including children under 18	\$40	\$
Supporting Membership	\$75	\$
Life Membership	\$500	\$
Add \$10.00 for Tanager hardcopy mailed	\$10	\$
Add \$4.00 for outside restroom key	\$4	\$
Extra Donation Appreciated	\$	\$
		Total \$

Tinkergarten

On January 31 Kelly Haskell held the first session of Tinkergarten at the BANC Sanctuary, shown in these photos, taken by Julie Clayton.



Tinkergarten at the BANC Sanctuary



Joe Hurley with his granddaughter



Making a discovery



Nature Instruction



Kelly Haskell leading a nature study

Bald Eagles Soar Once More

By Lura Kelley

Is there a bird more majestic and powerful than the Bald Eagle, our national symbol? Today we see them often gliding gracefully along the shores of Lake Ontario, Irondequoit Bay, and the Finger Lakes; as well as other locations a short drive away such as the Montezuma Wetlands. But, back in 1976 only one confirmed nesting pair of Bald Eagles remained in all of New York State and our national bird was on the brink of extinction!

Chris Lajewski, director of the Montezuma Audubon Center and the Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps, treated us to an inspiring presentation about how the Bald Eagle was brought back from the brink of extinction on February 10th.

Were Bald Eagles threatened by ladies coveting their white plumage for their fancy hats? Did Alaskan homesteaders envy their talent for fishing and shoot them down for the 50 cent bounty the government offered? Did draining wetlands encroach on the Bald Eagles' habitat leading to their near demise? Yes, but the nearly fatal blow came from a pesticide known as DDT.

In the 1960s DDT was commonly used for insect control in crop and livestock production as well as home gardens and institutions. DDT had devastating environmental and toxicological effects. Animals at the top of the food chain accumulated higher concentrations from the plants and animals they ingested. For Bald Eagles, this resulted in their eggshells becoming thin and brittle.

Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* raised awareness of the need for better pesticide controls and care for our environment. In 1972 the EPA issued a cancellation order for DDT based on its adverse environmental effects as well as its potential human health risks. Legislation such as the Clean Water Act of 1972 regulated discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States.

Due to public concern and resulting legislation, acres of shorelines and wetland habitats have been restored. Lakes such as Onondaga Lake, once considered hopelessly polluted, have been cleaned. Our national bird soars once again and provides us hope that healthy habitats can be maintained for us all to thrive.



From www.fws.gov/refuge/montezuma



NEEDED: MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Do you just love nature and the beautiful four seasons we experience here in Rochester, New York? Are you creative and enjoy people, as well?

Perhaps you might be interested in attracting more members to the Burroughs Audubon Nature Club!

Please call Julie Clayton at 585-704-5588.

Loony for Loons

By Lura Kelley

Picture this: You are relaxing in your Adirondack chair gazing out at a mist-covered lake surrounded by towering pines when the mournful, hauntingly beautiful wail of a loon disrupts the peaceful silence. But then you hear the reassuring return call of its mate: “I am here!” and see her gliding by, ghost-like on the still lake. Serenity returns and all is well!

Tiffany Grade, a Ph.D. biologist with the Loon Preservation Committee in New Hampshire, transported us there via Zoom on a cold, snowy evening in March.

Loons are well adapted to aquatic life, but too heavy to walk well on land. The name “loon” is actually derived from a word meaning lame or clumsy. They are really more closely related to penguins and albatross than ducks or geese! Their small, streamlined wings, dense bones and powerful feet thrust them effortlessly forward in the water and allow them to dive deep for up to five minutes underwater in their never-ending quest to feed themselves and their chicks.

Loons may live as long as 25 or 30 years. They almost always lay just two eggs. Chicks take three years to fully mature and another three years or so to establish their own territory and nesting areas. Most likely only one of the two eggs, laid every other year, will survive to maturity.

Loons face many modern threats. Contaminants such as DDT, PCB, flame retardants, stain repellants, and Mercury may prevent the chicks from developing. Pollution and runoff into lakes impact water clarity and may prevent adult loons from finding enough fish to feed themselves and their young. Shoreline development encroaches on their nesting sites. Predators on land, air and in the water hunt the tasty eggs and chicks.

Climate change tempts them to remain too long in their summer habitats until their flight feathers molt and they are trapped, unable to migrate to open water when the lakes finally freeze over in January or February.

Adult loons may become entangled in fishing line and get stressed out from close encounters with humans and their boats, but ingesting lead tackle is the single largest cause of adult loon mortality.

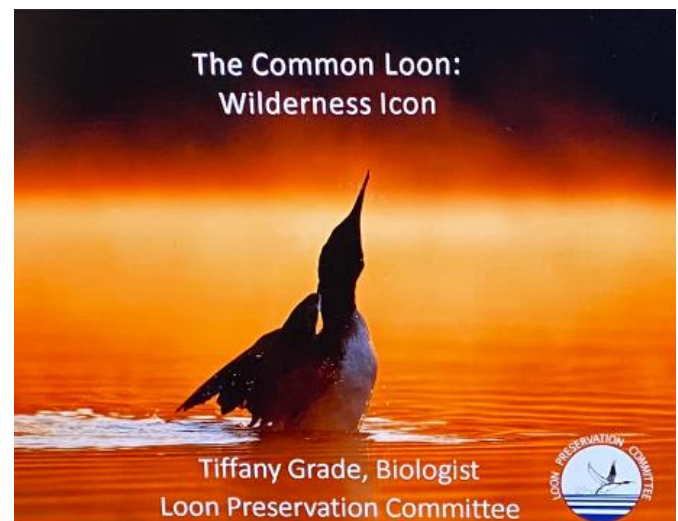
You can help by cleaning out old tackle boxes and replacing lead tackle with the many equally effective

alternatives for your angling activities.

- Laws have been enacted to restrict the sale and use of lead tackle in most northeastern states and many places have instituted a lead tackle buy-back program.

Other efforts to help shore up loon populations include the installation of floating cedar log rafts

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I go to nature to be soothed and healed, and to have my senses put in order.

John Burroughs

(Loony for Loons - Continued from page 12)

to provide some nesting islands in areas where shoreline development, an increase in predators, and changing water levels have greatly reduced the natural shoreline nesting areas.

Hopefully efforts to preserve the pristine beauty of the Loon's habitats (and our vacation spots) will allow our children and future generations to enjoy the call of the Loon forever!

Check out www.loon.org or www.adkloon.org for more information about Loons.



Dogwood in Winter

NYS NeighBEARS

By Lura Kelley

Dr. Paul D. Curtis, a professor of Wildlife Science at Cornell University, shared a fascinating presentation about black bears in NYS on zoom for BANC on Friday, January 13th. Dr. Curtis and his colleagues and students have learned a lot about bears through tracking and tagging them. More recently, their DNA project has allowed them to gather information about individual bears. By attaching a tasty treat of sardines and bacon to barbed wire “hair traps” suspended between trees, individual bears can be identified through their DNA.

Bears are omnivores with an excellent sense of smell. Bird feeders and garbage attract them. To avoid welcoming bears into your yard it is best to fill bird feeders only in winter months when bears are in their dens and it is harder for birds to find their own food.

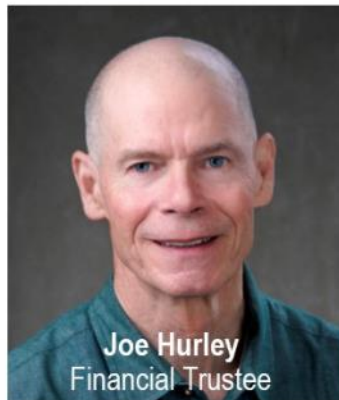
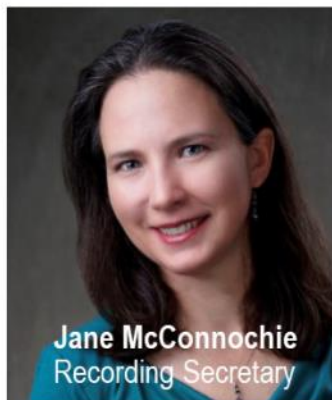
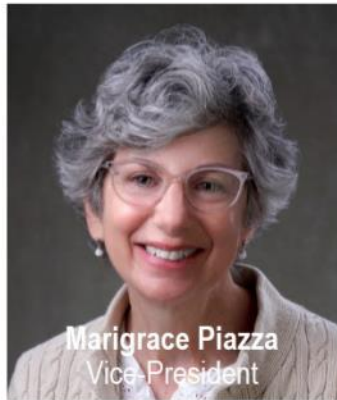
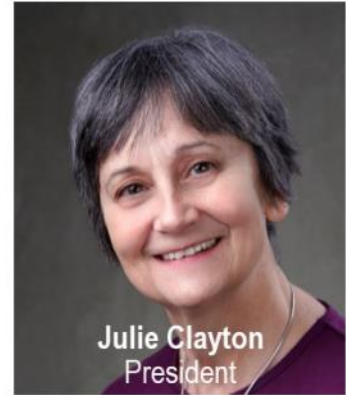
Beekeepers may need to protect their apiaries with electric fences to keep bears away. Use bear resistant food containers when camping, fishing, or hunting. Never have food in your tent!

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation will attempt to scare problem bears away from campgrounds first. If that doesn't work, they may trap the bear and release it away from the campground.

We have about 8,000 black bears in New York. If you spot a bear, don't approach the bear or run from it. Making some noise will most likely cause the bear to run from you! They are smart, interesting animals who tend to be more scared of us than we are of them!



OFFICERS AND COUNCIL 2023



Photos by Richard Ashworth



Winter Birding on the Brickyard Trail in Brighton

Photo by Julie Clayton



Looking at animal tracks in the Sanctuary

Photo by Becky Olson

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Program details are on pages 5-8. Most programs require registration. See details.

Thursday, March 30, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Woodcock Walk

Webster

Wednesday, April 12, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Get to Know your Neighborhood Amphibians!

Sanctuary, 301 Railroad Mills Rd.

Friday, April 14, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Hudson: The Story of a River

Zoom

Sunday, April 23, 2023, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Habitat Restoration and Cleanup Day

Sanctuary, 301 Railroad Mills Road

Tuesday, April 25, 2023, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Spring Evening Walk

Brickyard Trail at Sandra Frankel Nature Park

Thursday April 27, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Geology, Iron Mining History, Flowers

Casey Park In Ontario Center

Saturday, May 13, 2023, 7:30 a.m.

RBA/BANC joint birding field trip

BANC Sanctuary and Powder Mills Park

Saturday, May 20, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Community Conservation Talk & Walk

Deblase Open Space, Pittsford

Thursday, May 25, 2023, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Ice Cream Sundae Social

Sanctuary, 301 Railroad Mills Road

June 2-June 4, 2023

The 65th Annual Allegany Nature Pilgrimage

Red House area of Allegany State Park

Tuesday, June 6, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Past, present and future of Rochester's favorite treasure, Highland Park

Thursday, June 22, 2023, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Family Nature Night Open House

BANC Sanctuary, 301 Railroad Mills Road