

The Tanager

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President's Column

By Marigrace Piazza

My husband Tony and I moved on August 17. Moving is a tremendous undertaking involving sorting, tossing, donating, packing, labeling, lifting and coming face to face with all one's possessions.

I was very careful with the labeling of boxes because I wanted to be able to know what they contained and where best to store them. Most of the dozens and dozens of boxes that we moved ended up in the basement, perhaps never to see the light of day for several years. It came to my attention that I had labeled many boxes "BANC-Master Bedroom" and that there was a significant pile of boxes in our bedroom after the movers left that were not personal items but BANC materials.

My "BANC-Master Bedroom" boxes were a top priority for being able to find them quickly after the move. That pile of boxes was a physical representation for me of how important BANC has become over the past 8 months as I have gotten more and more into the thick of being president. The electronic version of BANC in my digital files and emails probably represents a large majority of my online presence.

Since my last President's Column in June, the Council has taken on a lot of new initiatives and I need those boxes nearby to make sure that they happen. Here is a sampling of some of the projects we are undertaking: renovating the website, updating membership forms, developing new membership initia-

tives, creating action steps for the maintenance of the Clubhouse and Sanctuary, forming regular work parties to keep up with the demands of the Sanctuary and Clubhouse, co-hosting the NYSOA conference in Rochester (a once every ten year occurrence), creating new signage for the trails, and visiting the Slater Sanctuary to evaluate its accessibility and the condition of the buildings.

June through September are always busy months for potlucks, field trips and open houses at BANC. I think this summer has been a stand out for the variety of events that we have offered. Where else can you meet a llama, listen to lovely folk music and line up at a pancake food truck (sorry, not all at the same time) while relaxing with nature loving people in a private nature preserve?

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the Annual Picnic on Saturday, September 29. It should be a fun evening for kids and adults. I hear that there will be several turtles and tortoises present for us to visit. Please think about sharing your favorite photos in our annual photo display and contest.

Until then, I will be unpacking those BANC boxes and avoiding the ones in the basement.

GIANT HOGWEED

By Carol Hinkelman

Recently there was a newspaper article about Giant Hogweed in our area. It is an invasive plant which can cause painful burns and permanent scarring to people who touch it. Have you wondered if it grows in our sanctuary? We do have Cow Parsnip and Angelica, both of which can be confused with the much larger Giant Hogweed. You may have noticed the stalks of Angelica in the wetland areas of the sanctuary and Cow Parsnip, which looks even more like Giant Hogweed, in other areas. So far, we have not had any Giant Hogweed, but we would certainly get rid of it immediately if we do find any. You can check the NYS DEC's excellent website, www.dec.ny.gov/animals/72766.html, for photos of Giant Hogweed and the plants that might be confused with it.

Plant communities change naturally over the years, but human intervention has vastly speeded up the movement of plants. Humans have carried plant species across the barriers of oceans, deserts and mountains that they couldn't have crossed by themselves. Once in a new area, lacking the natural controls that checked their growth in their native landscape, they can spread rapidly, and some of them will become invasive pests. Invasives can out compete our native plants and alter ecosystems. Many invasive plants were originally introduced into gardens for their beauty or were planted for erosion control, but now have become major problems in our parks and natural areas.

Purple Loosestrife has taken over large areas of wetlands such as Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, degrading the wildlife habitat. Large dense stands of Purple Loosestrife eliminate the open water areas that waterfowl require and displace the native plants that feed and shelter wildlife. Montezuma NWR has

had some success controlling Purple Loosestrife by introducing a beetle that eats it, but there is still quite a bit of it around New York State. Some can be found along the far side of the creek in our sanctuary.

Black Swallowwort has invaded many of our local parks and preserves. It is spreading rapidly in the meadows of Gosnell Big Woods Preserve. At Mendon Ponds, a park which has a variety of habitats and some fairly uncommon plants, Black Swallowwort has taken over many areas. A trail that years ago had an abundance of lovely Fringed Gentian, Closed Gentian, Swamp Lousewort, and Kalm's Lobelia is now mostly Swallowwort. The floodplain along the creek in Oatka Creek Park used to be carpeted with our native Mertensia or Virginia Bluebells, but now is covered with the very invasive Lesser Celandine.

At BANC sanctuary the flora have changed noticeably over the years. Many of the plants that were present when a botanical survey was done in the 1990's are no longer there. They have been replaced by an abundance of invasive alien species like Garlic Mustard, Dame's Rocket, and the Yellow Iris that is spreading through the swamp area. Oriental Bittersweet vines climb up trees near the creek trail and may eventually shade out or even topple the trees.

Invasive shrubs at BANC include Autumn Olive, European Buckthorn, Privet, Tatarian Honeysuckle, Japanese Barberry, and Multiflora Rose. Many hours have been spent removing thousands of Privet bushes, but they are still very widespread in the sanctuary. We have had sprouts of the bamboo-like Japanese Knotweed trying to get a foothold on the front bank for several years but we have managed so far to

(Continued on page 3)



NY DEC Photos

(Giant Hogweed continued from page 2)

keep it from spreading. At Badgerow Park in the Town of Greece, nothing was done about the Japanese Knotweed when it was first noticed and it is now a 10-foot tall impenetrable stand covering several acres along Slater creek.

If you would like to learn more about invasive alien species in our area there are some good resources available. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) partners with resource managers, non-governmental organizations, industry, resource users, citizens and other state agencies and stakeholders to combat invasive species. Eight Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISMS) exist across NYS. PRISMS coordinate invasive species management functions including recruiting and training citizen volunteers, identifying and delivering education and outreach, establishing early detection and monitoring networks and implementing direct eradication and control efforts. We are in the Western NY PRISM and on their website, www.wnyprism.org, you can sign up to stay informed on what is happening with invasive species in Western NY. Citizen volunteers are the eyes and ears in the battle against invasive species. You can also report any invasive species that you find such as Giant Hogweed or the Emerald Ash Borer by using iMapInvasives, a tool of the New York Natural Heritage Program, at their website www.nyimainvasives.org/report-an-invasive.



Giant Hogweed

NY DEC Photo

All About Bluebirds and More

By Julie Clayton

On Friday, July 20th, we were fortunate to have our friend, John Rogers, present for our members and guests. We had a large crowd that evening and Carol Klinger and Lura Kelly kindly hosted the event. We met John's wife, Sue, who was able to join him.

John Rogers is co-founder of the New York State Bluebird Society. During his powerpoint presentation, he told us many wonderful stories about Bluebirds, his favorite creature. His pictures of bluebirds and their nests were lovely and amazing. He shared many interesting facts about other animals, as well. He showed a picture of a Gray Tree Frog which can change color to camouflage (and which he often finds in bluebird boxes). We saw a giant Swallowtail, the largest butterfly in the U.S. It is, in fact, a Southern butterfly that has expanded its range northward in the last several years.



John Rogers Presenting

Photo by Julie Clayton

He showed a Ruby-Throated hummingbird; they fly a great distance on their migration from the Gulf of Mexico. Also, a California condor; in 1987, there were only twenty-seven left in the world. The recent counts were about 445. I loved the hepatica, a spring wildflower that blooms in

many different colors and shades.

His enthusiasm for the wonder and beauty of nature was contagious. We were certainly fortunate to have John Rogers present for us that evening!

Pancake truck at the Sanctuary

By Marigrace Piazza

Life Member of BANC, Joe Hurley, brought his pancake food truck to the Sanctuary on August 4. The food truck was from Joe's maple syrup and wildflower honey farm in Victor called Kettle Ridge Farm. It was such a treat to line up at the truck and to be served delicious, hot pancakes with local maple syrup.

It was a beautiful morning and the porch was a perfect place for gathering to enjoy the pancakes and good conversation. There were games available to challenge the young and old with some tough nature trivia.

A side bonus, Joe donated 10% of the receipts collected that day to BANC.



The pancake breakfast at the Sanctuary

Photos by Richard Ashworth

Cindy Coupal

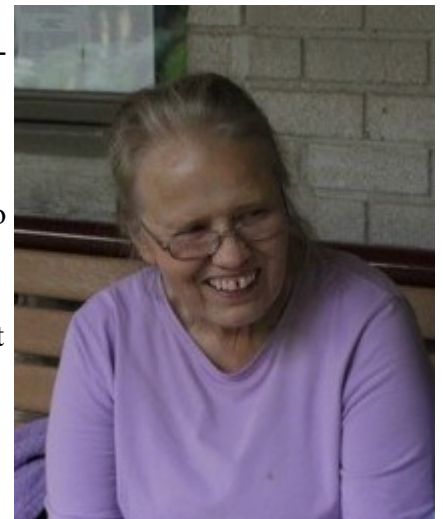
By Shirley Shaw

In February, BANC lost one of its most faithful members, Cynthia Coupal.

Cindy was a nature enthusiast, and the BANC Sanctuary was indeed a sanctuary to her. She had spent a lot of time on the property when her father had been the person who mowed the grounds, and she never lost her love for the property. Cindy often came to the Sanctuary alone, when she could sit on the porch quietly eating her lunch, enjoying the peaceful natural surroundings, and finding solace as she faced life's challenges and health concerns.

Cindy loved to laugh and smile. She was a caring individual, one of those people who never forgot to send thoughtful cards and thank you notes. She never wanted credit for her contributions to Burroughs: picking up sticks so her father could mow, organization of the kitchen cabinets, bringing entrées to our potluck suppers because she knew entrées were the dishes most needed, or arranging beautiful wildflowers to decorate the tables at our afternoon tea last September.

Cindy's brother suggested that memorial donations be given to BANC and that funds be used to purchase a bench in her memory from which people can sit and enjoy a flowering tree. We have purchased that bench and placed it across from a tulip tree.



Cindy Coupal

Photo by Julie Clayton

2018 Allegany Nature Pilgrimage

By Lura Kelley

The 60th annual Allegany Nature Pilgrimage took place June 1st, 2nd and 3rd of 2018 and I was one of more than 700 people fortunate to attend along with my good friends and fellow BANC members Carol Klinger, Janel Egli, and Jane and Harold Stock.

The ANP is an annual outdoor learning experience organized by volunteers from four local Audubon societies including our own Burroughs Audubon Nature Club. This year “took the cake” (literally since we enjoyed a huge 60th anniversary celebration cake after the chicken barbecue Saturday.)

The large tent presentations were both educational and entertaining. Sharon Stiteler (AKA the “Bird Chick”) was the keynote speaker on Friday night. She shared many funny stories about her birding adventures around the world such as climbing a volcano in search of a rare bird, flying over the Mississippi in a small plane to document bird populations, educating “naturalists” at a nude beach about the sea-birds she was photographing, and helping to rescue birds after a tornado ripped through a rookery.

Joseph Kchodi (AKA Paleo Joe) was the Keynote speaker on Saturday evening. He shared fascinating new information about dinosaurs and other ancient creatures made possible through modern equipment and techniques. For example, we now realize that most dinosaurs were actually warm blooded, Triceratops had quills, and camels and rhinoceroses appeared first in North America before traveling over the land bridge to Asia.

Besides the keynote presentations, participants could choose from a multitude of interesting workshops, hikes, and presentations. I particularly enjoyed watching the bird banding demonstrations, practicing new techniques for photographing wildlife and plants out in the field, learning about the history and geology of Allegany State Park, creating greeting cards using natural materials, nature journaling, and learning about nano-structural iridescence in animals.

Although the workshops are often led by expert naturalists, the hands-on activities are fun for every age, interest and fitness level. For example, the professor who led the workshop on nano-structural iridescence passed around actual samples (insect wings, feathers, etc.) and then let us coat objects with an iridescent layer by submerging leaves, small rocks, or paper in water, and adding a drop of clear nail polish. He explained the physics and chemistry underlying the phenomenon of iridescence, but even young children had fun creating an iridescent sheen on objects they created.



Bird Banding Demonstration at ANP

Photo by Carol Klinger



A trail at the Allegany State Park

Photo by Lura Kelley

Monthly Work Parties at the Sanctuary

By Marigrace Piazza

On Wednesday mornings, August 22nd, and 29th, five to seven club members and some volunteers have worked at the Sanctuary cleaning up 2 major trails and some smaller ones, cutting grass on the boardwalk, building a pedestal for a handicap-accessible sign in the parking lot, and cleaning the porch and ramp in preparation for re-staining. They have enjoyed the camaraderie and sense of accomplishment, scenery (especially a variety of mushrooms, butterflies and birds), and a brownie break! Participants were Jutta and Paul Dudley, Daniel Rinn, Joe Laskowski, Becky Olson, Ellen Prill, Frank Cabron, and Marigrace Piazza.

These "work parties" are designed to help with the maintenance of our special place. With guidance from the BANC Council and Dean Clayton of the Building and Grounds committee, Becky Olson and Joe Laskowski are organizing the monthly work. Future dates are Sept. 19 and Oct. 10. Anyone interested in helping out, please email Becky (rolson585@gmail.com) and she will add your name to the email reminder list.



Frank Cabron building the parking sign

Photo by Ellen Prill

What's new in the Library...

By Becky Olson

The next time you are at the Sanctuary, take a look at the library. There is a new bulletin board and some new-to-the collection books. A current catalog of the collection, by author and subject, is on the library shelf.

Carol Klinger donated a copy of The Crossley ID Guide, which is appealing and easy to use for beginning birders visiting the Sanctuary. It will stay in the building as a reference, rather than being signed out.

With the \$17 dollars collected from a mini-book sale of some of Cindy Coupal's books, we acquired 2 books: a Peterson Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians - our only book on that topic, and a fascinating compilation of research findings on the intelligence of birds. If you haven't read The Genius of Birds, by Ackerman, check it out!

Questions or comments? Contact Librarian Becky Olson (rolson585@gmail.com).



The Library at the Sanctuary

Photo by John Shaw

NEW MEMBERS IN 2018

The following new members have joined in 2018. We welcome them to the club and look forward to seeing them at our meetings.

- Thomas & Leah Barabasz - Honey Falls
- Frank Cabron - Pittsford
- Frank and Kim Clarke - Bergen
- Frank and Mary Anne Detmer - Pittsford
- Laurel Dodge - Pittsford
- Peter Gradoni - Alfred
- Reginald Lewis - Ontario
- Mary F. Moore - Pittsford
- Sally and Charlie Parmigioni - Rochester
- Joanne Putnam - Rochester
- Danial Rinn and Sarah Thornton - Pittsford
- Ellen Sanna - Fairport
- Greta Selin-Love and Ralph Mann - Naples
- Tom and Maureen Welch - Canandaigua
- Elizabeth Zapata - Honey Falls



Fawn at BANC Sanctuary

Photo by Laurie Dirkx



A leucistic Common Grackle

Photo by Laurie Dirkx



Marilyn Schindler presenting her photos at the sanctuary open house

Photo by Julie Clayton



Family Nature Night in June

Photo by Ellen Prill

Time to renew your membership

A renewal form is on the next to the back page to allow you to renew your membership for 2019.

BANC Annual Picnic

Saturday, September 29

Turtles and tortoises!



3:30 Nature Activities Bring the kids, children, grandchildren!

Meet the Turtles and Tortoise, hike the trails.

Photo Exhibit and Contest (Back by popular demand)



Calling all photographers! Bring your pictures! We will put them in plastic sleeves and hang them on a clothesline. You may take them home that evening. All picnic attendees are encouraged to vote!

5:30 Potluck Supper

Please bring a dish to pass; try to make with local ingredients! Bring your place settings -- folding tables, chairs if you like.

7:00 Presentation – **Tina Crandell-Gommel** invites you to learn about the plight and evolutionary history of turtles and tortoises.

Questions? Please call Julie at 704-5588 or Marigrace at 314-8462.

BURROUGHS AUDUBON NATURE CLUB 2019 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Name(s) _____

Children's Age(s) (Optional) _____

Street Address _____

City/Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Date _____

How do you prefer to receive out *Handbook of Information and Activities*? Email hard copy by mail

Would you like to have your photo and a few words about you published in our newsletter? Yes No

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	DUES	AMOUNT PAID
Individual	\$20/year	\$
Couple	\$30/year	\$
Family, including children to 18	\$35/year	\$
Supporting Membership	\$50/year	\$
Add for Tanager hardcopy	\$5/year	\$
Add for outside bathroom key	\$2.50	\$
Extra Donations are appreciated		\$
		Total \$

Memberships run from January 1st through December 31st. Please send your check, payable to Burroughs Audubon Nature Club, along with this form to:

BANC
 % John Shaw, Treasurer
 374 Cromwell Drive
 Rochester, NY 14610

The Tanager

Burroughs Audubon
Nature Club
c/o John Shaw
374 Cromwell Dr.
Rochester, NY 14610

TO

If you haven't renewed
your membership,
please do it now.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 16, 2:00 PM

Oatka Creek Park
FINDING FALL FUNGI

Saturday, September 29, 3:30 PM

Annual Picnic at BANC Sanctuary
TURTLES AND TORTOISES

Friday-Sunday, October 5-7

RIT Inn and Conference Center
5257 West Henrietta Road, Henrietta, NY
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NEW YORK STATE ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Friday, October 12, 7:30 PM

Clover Center for Arts and Spirituality
RETURN OF THE STURGEON

Saturday, October 20, 10:00 AM

Field Trip to Mount Hope Cemetery
FALL FOLIAGE AT MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY

Saturday, November 3, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

BANC Sanctuary
FALL CLEAN-UP

Friday, November 9, 7:30 PM

Clover Center for Arts and Spirituality
ANNUAL MEETING AND EXPERIENCE NIGHT