



* * * **ANNOUNCEMENTS** * * *

2021 ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

Thanks to all who helped make the Club's remote Annual Meeting as pleasant as a ZOOM event can be! Although constrained by the limitations of on-line interaction, participants had a chance to share news of bird sightings, check out the auction offerings and photo quiz answers, and exchange cheerful conversation with our guest speaker, Julie Zickefoose, following her wonderful presentation *SAVING JEMIMA*.

Many of us will never again look at a Blue Jay the same way! What a tale Julie shared. If you missed it or just want to watch it again, the video she presented is on YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/2lJho7eozUM>



A grand total of \$300 was raised in the auction, an excellent outcome considering the difficulty of assessing each item by a photograph. We appreciate the donations of items by Anne Greene, Wendy Howes, Ted Purcell, Jim Purington, Alan Rawle, Claire Scholes, and Lisa & Barry Van Dusen. Thanks to all who placed the generous bids, too.

The mystery photo quiz presented a challenge that may have been too daunting for some. Fewer than a dozen participants took the quiz. Several submissions ended up with very close scores. But in the end Wayne Petersen took first prize with 54 points (out of a possible 75) and won a \$25 L.L.Bean gift card. Second and third prizes went to Christy Barnes and Mark Faherty, respectively, earning them a year's membership in the Club. Interesting to note is that the top scorers are all naturalists with MassAudubon who really know their stuff, but still found themselves spending a lot of time figuring out the quiz answers, and even getting a few wrong. Learning about nature is indeed a life-long endeavor!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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NORTHFIELD BIRD CLUB

ZOOM Program— **SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES IN MY YARD**

by Charley Eiseman

Tuesday March 9th

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.



Northfield resident and naturalist extraordinaire Charley Eiseman presents beautiful photos and scientific discoveries made in his own yard--new insects identified on native plants ... after he stopped mowing his lawn. As he describes the program: *"I highlight a number of common native plants, most of which showed up in my yard on their own when I stopped mowing it, and I talk about a variety of host-specific herbivorous insects that are associated with each plant. In addition to photos of the insects themselves, I show the characteristic signs of their presence and discuss some new-to-science discoveries I've made right in my yard, including new natural history information and new species."*

Charley has been conducting plant and wildlife surveys and natural resource inventories throughout New England for over 20 years, as well as teaching courses and workshops on interpreting animal tracks and sign (both vertebrate and invertebrate). Visit his fascinating blog: <https://bugtracks.wordpress.com/>

To register for this talk and get ZOOM details, email

dmemlib@gmail.com

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB

ZOOM presentation--AMERICAN WOODCOCK

with Patti Steinman

Wednesday March 10th 7- 8 p.m.

Patti will review the natural history and unique mating ritual of these fascinating birds. This is prime season for the mating display and, although we can't do a field component, Patti may reveal some observation spots in her neck of the woods.

To register:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?meeting=9153189096&from=invitation>

HARVARD FOREST

ZOOM seminar--

SEEING THE FOREST FOR THE TREES:

A LOOK INTO THE PHYSIOLOGICAL RESPONSES

OF TEMPERATE TREES

IN A WARMING WORLD

by Angelica Patterson

Columbia University/Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory

Thursday March 11th 11a.m. - noon



Sturdy red oak trees currently dominate northeastern forests. But will they continue to do so in the future, as climate change alters temperatures and precipitation patterns? That's one question that Angelica is trying to answer. She's a doctoral candidate within Columbia University's Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences and the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, and she studies how plants respond to climate change.

This seminar is free and open to the public; no pre-registration is required. For Zoom link or additional information, contact Josh at jplisinski@harvard.fas.edu

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB



ZOOM presentation-

MISSISSIPPI KITES IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

with Steve Mirick

Wednesday March 17TH 7- 8 p.m.

There is a breeding population of Mississippi Kites in New Hampshire and Steve Mirick has been studying them for several years now. Since this is not a common

New England bird, its preferred nesting location would make an interesting destination for birders. Join us to find out more. To register:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAufGvrDwrH9cevX6YbSG_PHX7A2QPOQYt

WARE RIVER NATURE CLUB

VERNAL EQUINOX BIRD & NATURE WALK BROOKFIELD/WEST BROOKFIELD

Saturday March 20th 9:30 a.m – 12:30 p.m.



This walk will be slow-paced as we search for early migrant birds and other signs of spring. Walking will be on and off trails, some along marsh edges, some in the woods, exploring different habitats. Plan to bring camera and/or binoculars.

Number of participants will be limited.

Contact warerivernatureclub@yahoo.com to sign up and get details about location, health protocol, and foul weather plans.

WARE RIVER NATURE CLUB
FORBUSH BIRD CLUB

ZOOM program—

THE BIRDS-OF-PARADISE PROJECT

with Edwin Scholes

Center for Conservation Media at Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology

Wednesday March 24th 7 p.m.



Join us to learn about the stunningly beautiful family of *Paradisaeidae*. They are the most amazing and incredibly colorful family of birds. There are 42 species of Birds-of-Paradise in 17 genera, distributed mainly across the Islands of Papua New Guinea and Irian Jaya (Papua) as well as northeastern Australia.

Edwin Scholes is the founder and leader of the Birds-of-Paradise Project, which uses the tools and technology of natural history filmmaking for scientific discovery, public

engagement, and forest conservation in the New Guinea region—one of the largest remaining tropical wilderness areas left on earth.

Edwin has been using audiovisual media to document and study the behavior and evolution of the birds-of-paradise since his first trip to New Guinea as a graduate student in 1999. Since 2004, when he first teamed up with wildlife photographer Tim Laman, his work has gone beyond research to include a substantial education and outreach effort, which aims to share the wonders of birds-of-paradise with people all over the world through various public outreach efforts. Recently a conservation media focus has been added to the Project, using the wonders of the birds-of-paradise to bring attention to issues of New Guinea forest conservation that have global significance.



~ ZOOM link TBA ~

Massachusetts Pollinator Network

speaker series fundraiser

Thursday, March 11 at 7 PM

Kill Your Lawn! With Dan Jaffe Wilder, Ecological Horticulturalist, Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary

Wednesday, March 17 at 7PM

The Pollinator Garden With Kim Smith, Landscape Designer and Filmmaker

Thursday, March 26 at 6PM

Ecological Seed Restoration for Pollinator Health

With Sefra Alexandra, Ecotype Project lead, CT NOFA

Learn more and register at:

masspollinatornetwork.org



[Mass Pollinator Network and Series Registration](http://masspollinatornetwork.org)