

# FYKE NATURE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

www.fykenature.org

Vol. 60 – No. 3 – Fall 2014

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Registration required for all field trips!**



**September 13 and 14 – Field Trip: Fyke Weekend at Mt. Peter.** Come one or both days and join the regulars at the lookout. We hope to catch a big Broadwing flight. (Registration not required.)

**September 20 – Field Trip: State Line Hawk Watch.** Meet at the State Line lookout in Alpine. This site has easy access and park facilities. Here is a chance to look down at migrating hawks. (Registration not required.)

**September 26 – Monthly Meeting: 8:00 p.m., Allendale Municipal Building  
Kevin Watson, Winter Wonderlands**

Photographer Kevin Watson takes his camera and winter boots out west, to capture some of the most spectacular natural phenomena on the planet: the snow-covered landscapes and rugged wild life of Yellowstone National Park in winter, and the aurora borealis, or Northern Lights, in the skies of Alaska.

**September 27 – North Harpersfield, 12 noon**

Pam Ryder and George Rand have graciously invited us to their home in North Harpersfield for a luncheon of vegan dishes and a tour of their property; 135 acres of forest, field, stream, and pond in upstate NY. See [www.fykenature.org](http://www.fykenature.org) for details and directions. Pam requests that those attending not bring any food. To register contact Penny Whitlock, 201-445-4386 or [whitlockdp@aol.com](mailto:whitlockdp@aol.com).

**October 4 – Field Trip: Saturday Celery Farm Guided Walk.** This walk is for nature-lovers of all ages and birders of all levels. We'll look for butterflies, bugs, weird plants and our feathered friends. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Greenway on the north end of the CF off Franklin Turnpike. Check [celeryfarm.net](http://celeryfarm.net) for any updates. Bring water and wear long pants and socks and bug spray! To register contact Jim Wright at [celeryfarm@gmail.com](mailto:celeryfarm@gmail.com).

**October 11 – The Big Sit! at the Celery Farm.**

The Big Sit! is an annual, international, noncompetitive birding event. Our team, The Celery Stalkers, sits in a circle 17 feet in diameter for 24 hours counting all the bird species we see or hear. The center of our circle is the Pirie Platform. To sign up for a team contact Carol Flanagan, 973-423-0420 or [carolflana@aol.com](mailto:carolflana@aol.com).

**October 24 – Monthly Meeting: 8:00 p.m., Allendale Municipal Building  
George Nixon, Hummingbirds: Did they forget the words?**

Hummingbirds are one of the largest families of birds in the new world. They also have an intricate ecology and life history. This program will examine the ecological aspects of hummingbird behavior, their adaptations and the way other species interact with them.

**October 26 (Sunday) – Field Trip: Ducks at Dusk.** Meet at the Celery Farm Warden’s Watch at 5:30 p.m. To register contact Mike Limatola 201-739-8062 or mike.limatola@gmail.com.

**November 1 – Field Trip: Sunrise Mountain Hawk Watch.** Meet on site 10 a.m. To register contact Mike Limatola 201-739-8062 or mike.limatola@gmail.com.

**November 28 - Monthly Meeting: 8:00 p.m., Allendale Municipal Building Members Night.** Please come and enjoy an evening of short presentations by Fyke Members or better yet, be a presenter and share your own photos, prints, collections, stories, etc. For digital presentations, please contact Kurt Muenz at 201-447-0107 or elkumu@aceweb.com.

**\*\*\* Members submitting digital photos or videos to Kurt for presentation from his laptop must do so by Nov. 14 at the latest.** This deadline does not apply to those who will be presenting from their own laptop.

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**In Memory of Charlie Mayhood**

Mike Limatola and his crew have built an addition to the Pirie Platform. The addition, called the Mayhood Extension, was built in honor and memory of Charlie Mayhood, a true friend of Fyke and the Celery Farm. The extension doubled the size of the observation deck.

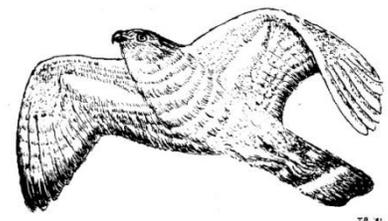


Mike would like to thank the following people for helping out in one way or another on this project: Stiles Thomas, Jim Wright, Fred Weber, Herb Gardener, Tom Blundetto, Doug Morel, Jim Kuehlke, Ron Filamino, John Pastore, Walter Johnson, and Sue Dougherty.

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**Remembering Len Soucy**

By Judy Cinquina

I feel like I have lost one of the pillars to my birding life. Len Soucy had a significant influence on me as a birder and all birders and non-birders who visited his Raptor Trust. His dedication to and enthusiasm for raptors and all birds was infectious. Many years ago, I was one of the folks people would call when they had questions about birds, and I got tired of calls about House Sparrows and Starlings. I asked Len what he did with people who brought House Sparrows to the Raptor Trust. I have never forgotten his response: "I treat them like they're handing me a Golden Eagle, because that is often their only gateway into the natural world." Imagine how many doors Len opened to the natural world in the over half a century of the Raptor Trust's existence, with between 2,000 and 4,000 birds, including House Sparrows, brought to his doorstep each year! Although he saw to it that the Raptor Trust would go on, Len's remarkable stewardship will surely be missed.



The Fyke Nature Association made a donation to The Len Soucy Memorial Fund in Len’s memory.

## Stiles Thomas Recognized for 57-Year Mission

By Judy Cinquina

If you have ever been involved with a Stiles Thomas contest or event, you know how infectious Stiles' enthusiasm can be. One of those events occurred on September 20, 1958. Stiles persuaded some Fyke members to join him in the Montclair Bird Club's "Across the State Hawk Watch of 1958." Their assigned site was Mount Peter in Warwick, NY. They managed to count 161 migrant hawks that day, beating out 16 other sites. Stiles and friends were fired up, and the Mount Peter Hawk Watch took flight. He persuaded the Valley View Restaurant to host the count annually on the high point above their restaurant. "During hawk counts in the late fifties and early sixties," Stiles later wrote in a 1980 Highlands Audubon newsletter, "it was possible to yell down to Andrea, the owner at the time, and have her send up cold beer, or whatever we wished. A huffing and puffing Pauline, the barmaid would lug it up on a tray, and try as we would, we could never get her to see a hawk. I'm sure she thought us daft."

In 1971, Stiles encouraged the Highlands Audubon Society to take over that watch while he went on to found Hook Mountain in Nyack, NY. Fifty-seven years later, enthusiasm at both lookouts is thriving, and Stiles is busy infecting a whole new crew of watchers at State Line Lookout along the Palisades in NJ. Recently, he was awarded the Maurice Broun Award for his efforts by the Hawk Migration Association of North America (HMANA). The award "honors individuals who have made outstanding, long-term or major contributions of time and effort to HMANA itself or the goals of HMANA". Stiles received a well-deserved standing ovation. Results from all three sites can be viewed on the HMANA website at [www.hawkcount.org](http://www.hawkcount.org).

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### Haiku — Part Two

#### *Anticipation*

*Listen -- is that a Veery?  
Ah! Exultation*

*Brenda McIntyre*

#### *Butterflies and birds*

*Are sure to be seen at the  
Celery Farm site!*

*DeeDee Burnside*

*Broadwings spilling off  
the high top of a kettle.*

*Ten, fifteen, twenty....*

*John Workman*

*"Kestrel!" "No, Sharpie!"  
Over-eager spotters shout.  
From the counters: "Coop."  
John Workman*

*Peregrine pumps south  
Dives, swings talons up fast,  
POW! Songbird for dinner.*

*John Workman*



*Loping, ostrich-like,  
bittern gaining No Name Culvert  
checks me, following.*

*Judy Cinquina*

*Purple vista gone  
from summer's Pirie Platform;  
Thanks, loosestrife beetle.*

*Judy Cinquina*

*Downy Woodpecker  
Shreds bark and pulp, searching for  
Some tasty morsels.*

*Eleanor and John Pastore*

*White-throated sparrows  
Sing an ode to Canada  
Searching for a mate*

*Mark Kantrowitz*

## STEPPING UP FOR LORRIMER 2014

By John Brotherton

For our fifteenth Stepping Up on May 10th we again decided on a team effort. A special thanks to Gabriele Schmitt who arranged a schedule of observers. The group found 93 species. The list included almost all of the expected species for May 10th. It was our highest count ever.



The happy combination of many birds, sharp observers and generous pledges resulted in our largest ever contribution to Lorrimer. In July we presented \$2191.25 to Patrick Scheuer, New Jersey Audubon Lorrimer Sanctuary Director. Patrick expressed his thanks for our continued support of Lorrimer.

### Here is the list of species seen at the Celery Farm on May 10 , 2014:

Common Loon	Great-crested Flycatcher	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Great Blue Heron	Tree Swallow	Black-throated Green Warbler
Great Egret	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	Blackpoll Warbler
American Bittern	Barn Swallow	Black-and-white Warbler
DC Cormorant	Cedar Waxwing	American Redstart
Turkey Vulture	Carolina Wren	Ovenbird
Broad Winged Hawk	House Wren	Northern Waterthrush
Osprey	Ruby-Crowned Kinglet	Common Yellowthroat
Cooper's Hawk	Blue-grey Gnatcatcher	Wilson's Warbler
Black Vulture	Gray Catbird	*Yellow-throated Warbler
Red-shouldered Hawk	Wood Thrush	Canada Warbler
Mute Swan	American Robin	Palm Warbler
Canada Goose	Veery	Scarlet Tanager
Wood Duck	Swainson's Thrush	Eastern Towhee
Mallard	Black-capped Chickadee	Song Sparrow
Wild Turkey	Tufted Titmouse	Swamp Sparrow
Spotted Sandpiper	White-breasted Nuthatch	White-throated Sparrow
Greater Yellowlegs	Blue Jay	*American Tree Sparrow
Least Sandpiper	American Crow	Chipping Sparrow
Solitary Sandpiper	Fish Crow	White-crowned Sparrow
Mourning Dove	European Starling	Lincoln's Sparrow
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Warbling Vireo	Northern Cardinal
Chimney Swift	Red-eyed Vireo	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Yellow -throated Vireo	Red-winged Blackbird
Downy Woodpecker	Blue-headed Vireo	Common Grackle
Hairy Woodpecker	Blue-winged Warbler	Brown-headed Cowbird
Northern Flicker	Northern Parula	Baltimore Oriole
Eastern Wood-Pewee	Yellow Warbler	American Goldfinch
Willow Flycatcher	Chestnut-sided Warbler	House Finch
Least Flycatcher	Magnolia Warbler	House Sparrow
Eastern Kingbird	Black-throated Blue Warbler	* Could not be confirmed.
Eastern Phoebe		

**Our Birders** — Gabriele notes: "I know there were others in the field."

John Bird  
Charley West  
Gabriele Schmitt  
Darlene Lembo  
Ravi Potluri

Suzanne Serafini  
Stiles Thomas  
Nancy Drabik  
John Brotherton  
Enid Hayflick

Michael Limatola  
Doug Morel  
Julie Bramble  
Rochana Muenthongchin

**Thanks to the following for generous Stepping Up pledges to our Big Day project:**



Mimi Brauch, John Brotherton, Michael Buckley, Deedee Burnside, Monica Cardoza, Malcolm Chesworth, Judy Cinquina, Phil Dahlen, Nancy Drabik, Bill Drummond, Rob Fanning, Carol Flanagan, Jennie Gaitskill, Enid Hayflick, Chris Hanson, Kathleen Hetherington, Linda Hingle, Ivan Kossak, Darlene Lembo, Alice Leurck, Joseph Lux, Rochana Muenthongchin, Kurt Muenz, Ravi Potluri, Hans Sammer, Gabriele Schmitt, Alan Seiden, Suzanne Serafini, Tim Tedesco, Stiles Thomas, Charles West, Penny Whitlock, Rosemarie Widmer, John Workman and James Wright .

**Nancy Bristow, We Miss You**

By one of Nancy's many best friends—Edith Wallace

Nancy began her professional life as a math teacher, met and married John, devoted herself to raising her children, and became an ultimate volunteer. In Mahwah, her hometown, she volunteered at the public library and with the Mahwah Historical Society. She was an active member of the Fyke Nature Association. She was a Bergen County Master Gardener for more than 25 years, giving her volunteer hours to NJBG/Skylands where she was on the Board of Directors, organized the Sunday Garden Tour docents, and most importantly overseeing the Wildflower Garden, giving tours, teaching volunteers, adding new plants, and, of course, weeding.

Nancy's Christmas cards were distinguished by her original drawings. She used her skills as co-author of three NJBG/ Skylands brochures: Wildflowers in the Botanical Garden, Conifers in the Botanical Garden, and An Introduction Trees in the Botanical Garden. She illustrated Identifying Woody Plants at the Celery Farm Natural Area.

As birders Nancy and John traveled to Iceland and Easter Island and many less exotic venues. They were long-term members of New York Fern Society and went with fellow fern enthusiasts to Oaxaca. I quote from Oliver Sacks' writings of their adventures in 2002 in Oaxaca Journal, pages 139 and 144.

“Neat,” says Nancy Bristow, examining the {pine} cone. Nancy is a mathematician and math teacher by profession, but a botanist and a bird-watcher by avocation. I ask her what she means by “neat.”...{The periodic table} is particularly neat, as neat as a pinecone, with the sort of neatness that only God, or genius, can construct—divinely economical, the realization of the simplest mathematical laws.”

She brings a different point of view (a mathematician's and engineer's point of view) to birds and their flight...Nancy's interest in birds and plants only started a few years ago, and she brings her mathematician's mind with her into the field. I am excited to see this, to see how her abstract-mathematical and naturalist's passions are not in separate compartments of her mind, but can join, interact, fertilize each other...”

Nancy influenced many people and her pleasant personality and smile will be great missed.



## **“The Sarcastic Lens: An Ordinary Couple’s Photographic Journey through the Animal Kingdom.”**

Members Richard and Amy Lynn have recently published a wildlife photography coffee table book entitled “The Sarcastic Lens: An Ordinary Couple’s Photographic Journey through the Animal Kingdom.” ([www.thesarcasticlens.com](http://www.thesarcasticlens.com)) Many of the photographs in the book were taken in Franklin Lakes and in the neighboring areas, including some at the Celery Farm.

Richard states “We believe this book is quite different from any other wildlife, photography, or travel books currently available. First off, it is a book by ordinary people. Like most of Fyke’s members, Amy and I are just normal folks using normal camera equipment. We are not professional photographers. One of the points of our book is that is that if we can take these photographs, so too can your other members.”

“Second, the book is entertaining. As we like to say: come for the photos, but stay for the stories. The stories are lighthearted and, hopefully, sometimes even quite amusing. It is not your usual animal book giving you the gestation period of a tufted titmouse and the lifespan of a black bear. It is our absurdist view of the wildlife world with excellent photos to accompany it. Yet, it provides just enough information to also be somewhat educational.”

“Third, the book covers an enormous variety of animals from all over the globe. It has the animals you have known since you were five, the animals you may have learned about through various nature documentaries, and some animals that you may never have heard of but will enjoy now that you see and read about them. For those people who will never travel to most of these areas, it will allow them to do so through our ‘sarcastic lens’.”

Their book is available on Amazon.com, and the Lynns have a limited number of books to sell directly. For further information contact Richard at [richardlynn@optonline.net](mailto:richardlynn@optonline.net) or 201-981-2695.

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### **Field and Feeder Notes**

By Judith Cinquina

*On 4 April 1976, we observed a hen Wood Duck...carrying an egg with her bill exit a Wood Duck box located in a beaver pond...East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana...Earlier that same morning, we had seen a Wood Duck flying low over the beaver pond similarly carrying an egg-shaped object that it dropped into the water... (The day before) we discovered that several eggs of this clutch had holes pecked in them. These holes may have been made by woodpeckers...The role of egg-carrying behavior by ducks is yet unclear. However, our observations and the existing literature suggest that egg-carrying behavior is an adaptation that may increase the probability of the successful incubation of undamaged eggs in partially destroyed clutches.*

*From The Wilson Bulletin Vol. 90, No. 1, March 1978; Egg Carrying by Wood Duck by Robert W. Strader, Richard DiGiulo, & Robert B. Hamilton*

On the morning of April 25, Bob Kane and friends were standing at the Warden’s Watch at the Celery Farm (CF) when a hen Wood Duck dropped from a nearby box and took off from the water carrying an egg in its bill. Bob managed to snap an excellent photo which he posted on our Yahoo site. Incubating Shovelers, Pintails and Mallards, among others have also been known to carry eggs in flight. It is a rarely witnessed event that, not very long ago, ornithologists

considered improbable. One of the most colorful ducks, with a helmet head and large eyes that enable it to avoid hitting branches as it flies through wooded wetlands, the Wood Duck nests in old Pileated Woodpecker cavities where it can cling like a Flicker at the entrance, propped up by a stiff tail and sharp toenails. In the early 1900's, ornithologists feared the species was on its way to extinction, but numbers like the 27 Simon Streatfeild counted at Mahwah Green Acres, June 16 demonstrate a healthy population aided by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 that restricted hunting, nest box installations, and an increase in wetlands forests. Viewing platforms and nearby nest boxes at the CF made Bob's lucky observation and photo possible.

Betty McDonnell also witnessed an interesting Wood Duck behavior that is not commonly known. On June 1 she flushed "what looked like a wounded duck" at a pond on her Mahwah property. Betty wrote. "I watched as the duck apparently struggled in the water and did not seem capable of flight." As she walked around the pond, the duck, a female "Woodie" struggled back to her path, and seven newly hatched Woodie chicks appeared and swam away from the shore. The broken wing act to distract predators from helpless offspring is another of the Wood Duck's rarely witnessed behaviors.



A Barnacle Goose appeared briefly at Finch Park in Ramsey on March 31. Spotted by Alice Leurck who stated it was in a flock of Canadas, the Barnacle was probably the same individual that hung around the Ramsey High School and County Club last fall/winter. And what was up with Common Loons in April? Not known to frequent small bodies of water, an adult in breeding plumage was at Mahwah Green Acres April 23. The next day, Rob Fanning found one on the CF's Lake Appert, and on the 27th, Charlie West reported that yet another made a "brief lake-landing" on Lake Appert during the Hour on the Tower. All three were migrants who headed north shortly after being spotted. At least two of the days had one thing in common: very strong northwest winds that may have forced the loons down to replenish their energy. Two Glossy Ibises visited Betty's Mahwah pond, April 7. Although not common in our area, these pterodactyl-like creatures were exceedingly rare in the 70's. Originally from Africa, they have made their way here via South America and have also become established in Europe, Asia and even Australia. Speaking of long-necked creatures, an American Bittern was spotted during the Hour on the Tower, April 13, Charlie reported. Hopefully, bitterns will find the CF more attractive now that the introduced beetles are keeping the alien loosestrife in check and cattails have reclaimed the CF wetlands.

Would anyone ever have predicted the CF, a wetlands, would attract a Bicknell's Thrush, a bird that breeds in remote mountaintop forests? First spotted on May 13 by Julie McCall and Jim Kuehlke, the thrush stuck around until at least the 15th, allowing many birders to add it to their "life lists" and giving Jim an opportunity to record its whispered, flute-like song which confirmed its identification. Closely resembling the Gray-cheeked, it was first discovered by Eugene Bicknell on Slide Mountain in the NY Catskills in 1881 but was treated as a subspecies of Gray-cheeked until 1995. Consequently, not many birders have climbed the steep trails up to its haunts to hear its dawn song and learn its habits. That Bicknell's, a gift to birders with bad knees, was only the second confirmed sighting in Bergen County, according to Rob. Two other rare spring migrants, dropped into the CF. First, Rob found a Yellow-throated Warbler on April 14 singing and very cooperative as it came down low for "crippling" looks. It was the white-lored, shorter-billed Albilora race that breeds at Bull's Island and points north along the Delaware River and, Rob stated, only the second record for Bergen County and the CF.

Then on May 6, Rob discovered an Orange-crowned Warbler "working the low shrubs along No Name Culvert." More commonly found in the fall, it is a very rare spring migrant, nevertheless, the very next day, Charlie West discovered another at Halifax. The large trees

around the fisherman's lot at Halifax became a warbler hotspot this spring. Between Rosemarie Widmer and Charlie West, 18 warbler species were detected there from May 7 through 23, including the Orange-crowned and a cooperative Mourning Warbler that hung around for almost a week. Rob enjoyed a Prothonotary Warbler in the rain at DeKorte Park, May 8 along with two Bonaparte's Gulls. Simon Streatfeild found up to 19 Warbling Vireos at Mahwah Green Acres May 12 and a Worm-eating Warbler feeding hidden young there, July 6. A Wilson's Warbler visited Mark Kantrowitz's Hillsdale yard, May 7 and a Yellow-throated Vireo was there two days later. A Northern Waterthrush "strolled" through Enid Hayflick's backyard in Ridgewood, May 11.

Other sightings of note included a male Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in Judy Collier's Ridgefield Park yard, March 27 and Palm Warblers that turned up on Palm Sunday in Barbara Dilger's Waldwick yard. Carol Flanagan reported Ravens were nesting on a Fair Lawn water tower on April 14, and she found a Red-headed Woodpecker that same day at Glen Rock Thielke Arboretum. Molly Gardener was the first to report a Ruby-throated Hummingbird at her Allendale feeder, May 2, and John and Bert Rottkamp enjoyed a male Rose-breasted Grosbeak and an Indigo Bunting at their feeders May 9, in Franklin Lakes. Rose-breasted Grosbeaks seemed unusually abundant this spring with at least two and up to nine at feeders in our area. Nancy Drabik enjoyed a White-crowned Sparrow in her Wyckoff yard, May 10. That same day Rick Weiman had two at the Continental Soldier's Park in Mahwah along with a male Blue Grosbeak. Barbara Sapanara investigated complaining orioles in her backyard on June 21 and was surprised to see four Baltimore Orioles arguing with two Grackles who were probably after their young or eggs. Tom Nicastrì and others found Bobolinks at Halifax, May 10. Estimates ranged from 8 to 30 individuals.

Two Great-horned Owl chicks were photographed by Charlie West on April 9. The downy youngsters were looking out from a large tree cavity in Wyckoff. A Barred Owl called outside Stiles Thomas' Allendale home, July 21. He's encountered them there at least three other times in the last four years. On the 28th, he found one of the pair of Black Vulture youngsters peering out from a barn window near his Allendale home. Both species of vultures have nested in this barn before, but the barn is in serious disrepair and scheduled to be taken down as soon as the vultures fledge. Stiles knows of another Turkey Vulture nesting in an old barn on the other side of town.



Be sure to visit a hawk lookout this fall. Mount Peter, Hook Mountain and State Line lookouts are good places to not only witness hawks on the move but other species as well. Or, you can merely keep one eye on the sky. Migrants will be passing overhead wherever you are. For information on the latest bird sightings, go to [www.fykenature.org](http://www.fykenature.org) and sign up with our discussion group where many of the reports for this column originated. Or send your observations to me at [judycinq@optonline.net](mailto:judycinq@optonline.net) or call me at (201) 327-1782.

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**Mount Peter 2014 — Mount Peter Data Used in Two Recent Studies**

By Judy Cinquina

This winter, Laurie Goodrich, the senior monitoring biologist at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, sent me an email requesting permission for our data to be used in a study of hawk migration patterns and climate change. The author of the study, Baron J. Richardson investigated both the Broad-winged and Cooper's hawks, long and short-distant migrants respectively, and determined: "The timing of the autumn peak migration for Cooper's and Broad-winged hawks is unchanged in the seven decades spanning 1941-2010." (We could have

told him that!) The study was sponsored by the National Science Foundation. (Information from The Journal of the Hawk Migration Association of North America Volume 39, No.2)

Nick Bolgiano, State College, PA, conducted a study that was much more revealing. Entitled Evidence for Changed Migration of Red-tailed Hawks in Eastern North America, he concludes that some Red-tails are not migrating as far south as their ancestors did, “commonly called short-stopping,” or perhaps not migrating at all. He explains that Red-tail numbers have been declining at some eastern hawk watches while Christmas Bird Counts (CBC’s) and Breeding Bird Surveys have seen increases. Although he discovered “no significant statistical evidence” of a decline at Mount Peter and Franklin Mountain in NY and Militia Hill and Stone Mountain in PA, he did detect a decline east and west of us. He wrote: “The longest-sustained migration declines in the eastern flyway have been in the Kittatinny Ridge corridor, at two sites 150 km apart: Hawk Mountain over a 45-year period and at Montclair over a 34-year period.”

Meanwhile, CBC densities of Red-tailed Hawks have been “steadily increasing within this corridor, with a large percentage of Red-tails now being found north of the corridor’s hawkwatch sites.” He attributes the new Red-tail migration strategy to “a tendency in recent decades to return earlier in spring and depart later in fall,” the fact that our effect on land usage has created more forest edge which Red-tails prefer and that the reduction of trapping and shooting has allowed Red-tails to adopt to more urban habitats. (Information from The Journal of the Hawk Migration Association of North American Volume 38, No.2)

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**Stiles and Lillian Thomas Scholarship Winner – 2014**

By Carol Flanagan

The Stiles and Lillian Thomas Scholarship was initiated to honor Stiles and Lillian Thomas for their life-long commitment to preservation and conservation. This year’s award of \$1000.00 was presented to Karli Montick at the high school’s award ceremony held in June. Watch for her scholarship essay in the Winter newsletter. This annual scholarship is awarded to a graduating senior student of Northern Highlands Regional High School who is pursuing a college degree in the environmental sciences, and who has demonstrate a commitment to the environment through participation in related community and school activities such as recycling, clean up, and green-conscious projects.



Thank you so much for awarding me the Lillian and Stiles Thomas Scholarship. It was an honor to be chosen from many students as one that stood out for my interest in environmental studies and applications of environmental sciences. The generous scholarship is much appreciated and I cannot thank you enough as it helps me start the new chapter in my life & future endeavours.

Sincerely,

Karli Montick

**Welcome New Members!**

Janice & Vince Blehl, Waldwick  
Richard Cantisano, Ramsey  
Norma & Richard Gessell, Allendale  
Ken Haner, Midland Park  
Andrew Hu, New Milford  
Brian Kenny, Hackensack  
Christine Loyocano, Ramsey  
Amy & Richard Lynn, Franklin Lakes



May Michael, Ridgewood  
Ravi Potluri, Allendale  
Penny & Walter Rothaug, Ridgewood  
Lee Shand, Allendale  
Alan Seiden, HoHoKus  
Walter Staab, Ramsey  
Annette Talt, Hackensack  
Gloria Zollo, Allendale

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**Time to Renew Your Fyke Dues**

The new membership year for Fyke starts September 1, 2014 and ends August 31, 2015. This means that annual dues should be paid now. The dues schedule is: Individual -- \$15.00, and Family -- \$20.00. Checks should be made out to Fyke Nature Association, and mailed to John Brotherton, 249 E. Crescent Avenue, Mahwah, NJ 07430. Thank you!

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**Starting Your Holiday Shopping? Here's an Easy Way to Support Fyke**

We have a direct link to AMAZON from our website. Fyke does not endorse any particular merchant but just log onto [www.fykenature.org](http://www.fykenature.org) and you will find the link on the first page. Every month AMAZON sends us a sales commission check. Thank you for your participation!

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**Fyke Board of Trustees:**

President: Mike Limatola  
First Vice President: Jim Wright  
Second Vice President: Penny Whitlock  
Treasurer: John Brotherton  
Recording Secretary: Molly Gardener  
Corresponding Secretary: Mimi Brauch  
Trustees: Carol Flanagan  
Darlene Lembo  
Gabriele Schmitt

**Chairpersons:**

Celery Farm: Stiles Thomas  
and Mike Limatola  
Conservation: Jim Wright  
Hawk Watch: Judy Cinquina  
Land Trust: Hugh Carola  
Newsletter: Carol Flanagan  
Programs: Penny Whitlock  
Publicity: Gabriele Schmitt  
Webmaster: Kevin Watson

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**The Fyke Nature Association**, a 501 (c) (3) organization, meets the fourth Friday of every month except June, July, August, and December at the **Allendale Municipal Building**, 500 W. Crescent Avenue, Allendale, NJ 07401. Meetings and membership are open to all. Annual dues: Individual -- \$15.00; Family -- \$20.00. For further information, write to Box 141, Ramsey, NJ 07446, visit our website [www.fykenature.org](http://www.fykenature.org), or call Mike Limatola, President, at 201-739-8062. The Newsletter is published four times a year and manuscripts and artwork are welcome.

Interim Editor: Carol Flanagan, [carolflana@aol.com](mailto:carolflana@aol.com). Production: Molly Gardener, Herb Gardener, and John Brotherton.

**The deadline for the Winter Issue is October 22, 2014.**

Send material to Box 141, Ramsey, NJ 07446, or via e-mail to [carolflana@aol.com](mailto:carolflana@aol.com).

