



**Summer Newsletter**  
**Vol. 63 — No. 2 — 2017**  
**www.fykenature.org**

## **Calendar of Events**

### **April 22, 2017 — Earth Day Warbler Walk at the Celery Farm**

Meet fellow Fyke Members at the end of Green Way at 8:00 a.m. to look for spring arrivals. Birders of all levels are welcome! Leaders: Gaby Schmitt and Mike Limatola. Register for this walk by e-mail to [mike.limatola@gmail.com](mailto:mike.limatola@gmail.com).

### **April 28, 2017 — Monthly Meeting: 8:00 p.m., Allendale Municipal Building Feeding Birds and Caterpillars at DeKorte Park with Native Plants, Edith Wallace**

The Meadowlands. From garbage dump to Environmental Center. What was once considered worthless space is now a wildlife preserve. If we are to attract animals we must have food for them: plants. The initial plantings in DeKorte Park were primarily native plants. Recently the Bergen County Audubon Society has contributed many native plants to the Kingsland Overlook and Lyndhurst Nature Preserve. We will look at some of these plants and their contributions to wildlife.

### **April 30, 2017 (Sunday) — High Mountain Hike 9 a.m. Clove Walk, 11 a.m. Summit Hike**

Join Fyke Nature Association on Sunday morning, April 30, for one or two free walks. First, at 9 a.m., we'll walk to historic Franklin Clove, a ravine with cool geology and history — Lenapes once wintered there. The terrain is flat but rocky, so wear serious hiking boots. Limited to the first 16 people who sign up.

We'll then regroup and take a free rigorous hike to the summit of High Mountain — which offers historic views of New York City and the suburbs of North Jersey. We'll look for birds, and pick up any trash we see along the way. Bring water and wear sturdy hiking shoes. For more information or to RSVP, e-mail [celeryfarm@gmail.com](mailto:celeryfarm@gmail.com).

### **May 6, 2017 — May Walk at the Celery Farm**

This walk is for nature-lovers 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. Wear long pants and socks; bring water and bug spray! Leaders: Jim Wright and Mike Limatola. Register for this walk by e-mail to [celeryfarm@gmail.com](mailto:celeryfarm@gmail.com).

*We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.  
~ American Proverb*

### **May 13, 2017 — Stepping Up For Lorrimer**

This will be our 18th Celery Farm Big Day, also known as “Stepping Up For Lorrimer”. Fyke teams will be birding the Celery Farm from dawn to dusk. The goal is to count all the species of birds seen to raise money for the New Jersey Audubon’s Lorrimer Sanctuary in Franklin Lakes. **Please see the pledge form on page 9.** To sign up for a team contact Gabriele Schmitt, gaby413@aol.com.

### **May 19, 2017 — Monthly meeting: 8:00 p.m., Allendale Municipal Building Bats - Past, Present and Future, Bat Man Joe D’Angeli**

“NJ’s own BATMAN” Joe D’Angeli of the Wildlife Conservation & Education Center in Ridgefield Park will speak about “Bats – Past, Present and Future”. The talk will include the myths and misunderstandings associated with their maligned unfortunate past, the current status of bats with regards to diseases and disorders, and how the future looks for bats. Joe is a NJ State licensed chiroptologist, and his facility is dedicated to the conservation of bats and all wildlife, and to educating the public on the importance of these truly magnificent flying mammals. Joe will be bringing his LIVE BATS to the presentation.



### **June 3, 2017 — Celery Farm Bird Walk**

This walk is for nature-lovers 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. Wear long pants and socks; bring water and bug spray! Leaders: Mike Limatola and Gabriele Schmitt. Register for this walk by e-mail to mike.limatola@gmail.com.

### **July 15, 2017 - Our Tom Burr Memorial Butterfly Walk at the Celery Farm**

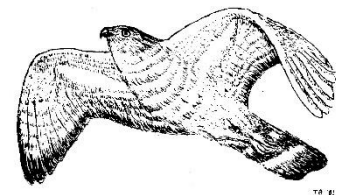


Our annual Celery Farm Butterfly Walk is held in memory of Tom Burr, the late Fyke member, naturalist, photographer, and friend. Meet at the end of Green Way at 10:30 a.m. for a 90-minute stroll. Dress for bright sun. Bring water and sunscreen. Rain cancels this walk. Leader TBA.

### **September 1, 2017— Mt. Peter Hawk Watch begins**

### **September 16 - 17, 2017 – Mt. Peter Birdathon 60 Years and Counting**

The Mount Peter Hawk Watch will celebrate its 60th consecutive count this fall. To celebrate, we will conduct a birdathon at the lookout September 16 - 17 to raise money for our annual report that we distribute to all visitors and for maintenance of our data on Hawkcount.org. Fyke members are invited to help with the count or just to visit and give us your support. More details in the next newsletter. The watch begins September 1, 2017 and continues daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. until November 15. Contact Judy Cinquina at judycinq@optonline.net to volunteer or for more information.



### **September 3, 2017 – Mt. Peter Clean-Up**

Our annual Clean-Up is scheduled for Sunday, September 3 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Contact Judy Cinquina at judycinq@optonline.net to volunteer or for more information.

## Friends of the Celery Farm & Fell House

We are pleased to announce a new volunteer group, the Friends of the Celery Farm & Fell House. An e-mail list is being created so we can let folks know when we need their help. Volunteers are needed for guided walks and other events. A message will also be sent when we have cool events, like upcoming talks on the Celery Farm and the historic John Fell House. Fyke will also notify the list members about planned monthly work morning at the Celery Farm to remove Garlic Mustard and other nasty invasives. The Fell House and the Celery Farm have been connected ever since Founding Father John Fell owned the property that contained both. The Fell House, with its beautiful barn, is located across Franklin Turnpike from the Celery Farm in Allendale. On old maps, by the way, the Celery Farm area is labeled "Fell's Meadows." Just email [celeryfarm@gmail.com](mailto:celeryfarm@gmail.com) to sign up for this e-mail list.

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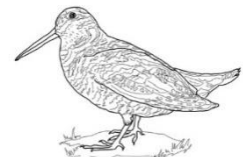
### Field and Feeder Notes By Judith Cinquina

*Reports of Woodcock sightings from around the city (NY) started piling in after the snowstorm, according to people who track the bird populations in the city. And a large number of the birds were injured or dead....*

*Rita McMahon the director of the Wild Bird Fund, a non-profit organization that treats sick wildlife in New York, said that the group had received about 55 woodcocks after the storm...Ms. McMahon said the storm had done more than simply obstruct the birds' progress---it had left them starved, unable to find or forage for food...*

*From: "An Early Bird Gets Caught in the Snowstorm" by Eli Rosenberg, The NY Times March 18, 2017*

The Raptor Trust in Millington, NJ also took in many starving Woodcock after the March 14 blizzard. They posted on Facebook: "This Nerf football of a bird eats a diet almost entirely made up of earthworms. With this hard snow cover, Woodcocks are starving, failing and in distress in huge numbers. In the last 48 hours we admitted more Woodcocks at The Raptor Trust than in the entire 2016 calendar year." That same storm brought a "first time" American Woodcock to Jim Wright's Allendale yard. Jim's yard borders the Allendale Celery Farm (CF) and he spotted the bird hunkered down alongside the stream. If you checked out his video on his CF blog, you would have seen the hapless bird trying to stir up its primary prey, earthworms by vibrating its feet on top of the snow, a behavior not often witnessed. According to Bent's Life Histories and N. American Birds on Line, vibrations from the Woodcock's prancing dance probably cause earthworms to move and are detected by the bird's keen hearing or tactile senses. Equipped with a long flexible and sensitive bill, a Woodcock can plunge its bill into soft mud, detect its prey by touch, then raise and curve its upper mandible to grab its victim and work its food into its mouth with help from backward projecting serrations on its upper mandible and spines at the base of its tongue (Terres, The Audubon Society Encyclopedia of N. Am. Birds, 1980). If you find a Woodcock after a late winter storm has sealed off its main food source under snow and or ice, the Raptor Trust suggests you gently capture the bird, put it in a box and take it to a rehabilitation center as soon as possible.



A handful of very early Tree Swallows were a surprise at DeKorte Park in Lyndhurst, March 9. It was a balmy 55 F, with a knock-your-hat-off wind out of the west. That night the

temperature went into a free fall, reaching 11 F by morning. Tree Swallows do survive winters along the Jersey shore by switching their diet to bayberries when insects aren't available, but there was no such option at DeKorte. Either this vanguard group escaped south that same day or succumbed during the night. Either way, as of March 21, there were no other reports of Tree Swallows at DeKorte. Usually this species arrives from mid-March to mid-April; however, this year, the mid-March blizzard would have taxed them beyond endurance.

Blizzard conditions forced mobs of birds to feeding stations on the 14th. Mimi Brauch counted 32 Dark-eyed Juncos in her Midland Park yard that day, and a couple dozen C. Grackles invaded my feeders in Upper Saddle River. It gave me an opportunity to study them closely, and I discovered that some of the highly iridescent males were huge, with thick, heavy bills that turned out to be very lethal. One male, whose space was probably crowded by a Junco half its size, jumped on the tiny bird, pecked it to death and immediately consumed part of it, all in less than a minute. That attracted the attention of other grackles, so the male flew away carrying his prey in his bill. Unfortunately, that aggressive behavior is exacerbated by the unnatural close contact of species at feeders. Undoubtedly, the nicest blizzard report came from Diane Rigg who had a Robin luxuriating in her heated bird bath off and on all that snow-blowing day in Ramsey.

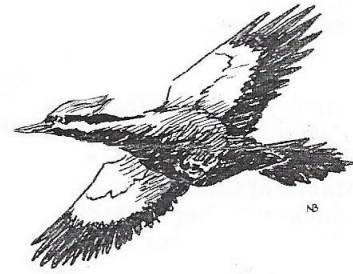


Like Woodcock, Robins feed on worms but their digestive tracts become more muscular during winter months and allow them to survive on fruits and berries. On February 7, Betty McDonnell had a dozen Robins harvesting winterberries in her Mahwah yard, and on the 13th, Penny Whitlock noted half a dozen eating crab apples in Glen Rock. Killdeer arrived February 22 and 23. Mimi Brauch and Tom Nicastrì found them at DeKorte and in Midland Park respectively, and Penny encountered some at Glen Rock County Park. Killdeer do turn up on Christmas Bird Counts in northern NJ. Their primary food is insects, but they will consume small amounts of weed seeds. Whether they can survive a severe winter storm in our suburban area fueled only by fox tail grass and smartweed seed is questionable. But they do well among cattle in farm fields. In his Bird Studies at Old Cape May (1937), Witmer Stone writes: "Its clear call killdeer, killdeer, deee diddy is so identified in my mind with cold wind-swept farm lands, lying just back of the sea, that it seems to be part of the environment and when we cross these same fields in winter, when all is bare and brown and there is a hint of snow in the air, and do not hear the well remembered cry there is a distinct feeling of something lacking."

It is always amazes me how a species suddenly turns up in different places about the same time like the Brown Creepers seen by Rosemarie Widmer at Darlington in Ramsey and Barbara Dilger in Waldwick, both on February 5. Barbara wrote, "I noticed a brownish spot at the V of my tree, first blending in, then partially blending in and then creeping up the tree!" The Creeper is well camouflaged against the boles of trees it explores, until it moves. Barbara's photograph of the tiny bird showed its pick of a bill, perfect for extracting insect larvae and eggs from beneath the bark as it circles up and around the trunk. Both had to be overwintering birds, for they don't migrate north until April. A sprinkling of Fox Sparrows wintered under our feeders, but mid-March marked the beginning of their push north, and many were forced into feeding stations because of Stella, the blizzard. The 15th brought two under Mike Limatola's Hohokus feeders, a first for his yard. And the 17th brought five each to Stephanie Seymour's in Ringwood and my Upper Saddle River feeders. But the prize goes to Rosemarie in Allendale that same day who counted (and recounted) 11 of them scratching in the leaves on her sunny hillside.



The Pileated Woodpecker seems to be coming quite common lately, but it still elicits ooh's and aah's like the one that visited Diane Rigg's Ramsey yard, February 11 and another seen in flight by the CF Hour on the Tower crew, the 26th. March is the time that some begin drumming and excavating a nest site. Betty McDonnell discovered one excavating a hole in a tree in her Mahwah yard, March 1. She wrote, "There was a snowstorm of chips falling." On the 10th, Loren Anderson photographed a male working on a large tree near her Oakland home. He had a bit of help from a female, and later Loren grabbed a video of him defending the site from a curious squirrel. The squirrel would peek around one side of the trunk then the other, and the male, wings spread, would lunge towards it threateningly in each direction. Stephanie also discovered a pair of Pileateds excavating what she hopes is a nest cavity in a dead tree at the edge of her Ringwood yard. Kilham in his Woodpeckers of Eastern N. America (1983) states that although females may help, male Pileateds do most of the excavating.

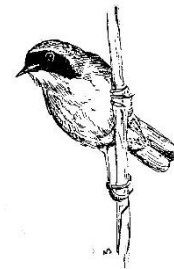


A mysterious 25 dead Starlings lying all over a Woodcliff Lake street was discovered by Deedee Burnside, February 2. She thought they might have been electrocuted. Dave Kaplan encountered a squirrel eating a Brown-headed Cowbird in Parsippany, March 13. I have seen squirrels stalk Cooper's Hawks that have prey. Perhaps this squirrel managed to rob an inexperienced hawk. Betty found a dead Screech Owl in her Mahwah yard, March 5. Something had taken its eyes, otherwise there was no obvious sign of violence.

Wiebke Hinsch once again heard a pair of Great Horned Owl calling back and forth in Woodcliff Lake in mid-February. The pair should already be nesting. Wiebke also noted a pair of Bald Eagles at Woodcliff Lake, and Rosemarie found them refurbishing last year's nest there, February 5. This lucky pair fledged two chicks in 2016 and were one of the 172 nesting or territorial Bald Eagles across NJ last year, according to a report from our Division of Fish and Wildlife. That number is up from the 161 pairs in 2015.



Soon the trees will be decorated with living jewels called warblers. Such eye candy is a treat. Let us know what you find. 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).



**Tranquility and Hope**  
**By Doug Morel**

Countless shades and textures of green  
are woven into a contented array.  
Some lit brightly by warm morning sun,  
others in deep or filtered shadow.

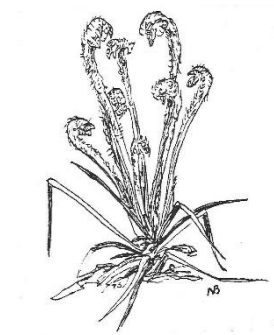
A small, charming lake takes center stage  
production sublime, tranquil and pristine.  
The steel blue waters, flecked with brown,  
move from a breeze, it's pattern transforms.

The roll call ensues from flora and sky.  
Blackbirds warn of territorial bounds,  
buzzing locusts proclaim their ample presence,  
and kingfisher rattles o'er the water to hunt.

Rimmed with pale green algae and weed,  
the pond's edge appears to be solid  
till mallards paddle carefully through,  
dabbling for their needed sustenance.

As I sit with this view amid nature's glory,  
I ponder in comfort, with pencil to page.  
Should our ultimate place be this serene,  
my fear to expire would diminish in peace.

Written at the Celery Farm, July 2015



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**A Crow For Stiles**  
**By Judith Cinquina**

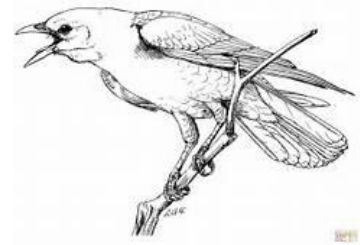
“Everyone knew Stiles. He climbed out of the window of our freshman Spanish class because he didn’t want to be there. I thought he was a nut.” But Lillian, Stile’s sweetheart, began to change her mind when, in her junior year, he approached her and complimented her on her “pretty dress.” And when he rode his bike from Allendale to Wyckoff to court her carrying a pet Crow on his handlebars, she thought that was “pretty neat.”

Climbing out of windows seems to have worked for Stiles Thomas. Because he has a low tolerance for boredom, he began the Mount Peter and Hook Mountain Hawk Watches, helped organize the State Line Hawk Watch, the Bi-State Hawk Watch Coalition and later the Hawk Migration Association of North America, and the Fyke Nature Association, was the prime mover for preserving the Celery Farm, a tight rope walker, wood carver, Bluebird and Barn Owl Trail monitor, and author of articles on birds in publications like Bird Watcher’s Digest. If you ever attended a field trip with Stiles, he always spiced up the day with some sort of competition. As his wife Lillian stated, “Stiles was always fun.”

Crows were not common backyard birds when Stiles was growing up. Since the earliest colonial times, Crows, blackbirds and Bobolinks were persecuted for decimating crops and

considered a nuisance when they gathered at their roosts by the thousands and sometimes millions, and states had laws supporting their destruction. Oklahoma was one of the states where winter roosts were dynamited. Between 1934 and 1945, more than 3.8 million crows were killed at winter roosts there “to reduce waterfowl egg predation and damage to grain crops” but in the 12-year period, there was no noticeable effect on crow population levels or agricultural damage (Hansen 1946). Most states had laws that allowed you to not only kill Crows but also earn cash for your efforts, a boon for young boys growing up through the mid-twentieth century. Allendale’s Rod and Gun Club offered a bounty if you brought them two Crow legs, Stiles recalled. The going rate was anywhere from a nickel to a dime per pair. In grade school, Stiles and his friends became junior members of the Rod and Gun Club. They were given strychnine poison to inject into duck or chicken eggs and instructed to put the eggs into a fake nest up in a tree in hopes that Crows would eat the eggs. And “everyone was shooting them,” Stiles stated. Is it any wonder that during the 1940’s, Crows were wilder and warier of humans and that it was unheard of to see a Crow on a lawn?

Stiles, who raised chickens and ducks, decided he had to have a pet Crow, and in 1941, when he was 17, that was perfectly legal. He had been searching his Allendale woods for several years before finding a nest that he could rob. Wearing hip boots, he shimmied right up the nest tree and took two chicks from a nest of four. Their eyes were not yet open. Birds are known to identify with whatever or whomever they see when they first open their eyes. He doesn’t recall what happened to one of the chicks, but the other became imprinted on him and followed him wherever he went. Stiles became its family. He clipped its wings so it couldn’t fly, something he was experienced at after clipping the wings of Mallards. He raised it on a mix of dog food, worms, chopped egg and other ingredients that he read about in a book he received on wild pets when he was a boy. The Crow became a healthy teenager, would walk all over Stiles and enjoyed riding on his handlebars all the way to Wyckoff and back. “It was very attached to me,” Stiles remembered.



All corvids, including Crows, Ravens and Jays, have large brains and naturally live and benefit from a rich social life. Their long lives depend on having an extended family group and the benefits of sharing food sources, predator detection, labor and other activities. They make wonderful companions. Stiles can’t remember if he gave his pet a name, but it did learn to say “hello.” Stiles joined the National Guard with other boys from his class in high school, just after World War II began. “We had uniforms and went once a week to the Paterson Armory for training,” Stiles recalled. That summer he hitch-hiked with some of those boys to the Jersey Shore. When he returned home, his pet was so happy to see him that it turned over on its back, legs in the air, a sign of submission by a yearling. Obviously, the Crow had missed Stiles, his only family. That November, Stiles went into the army. Shortly thereafter, he received a letter from his Mom. His pet Crow had died.

Even after he returned from the war and married his high school sweetheart, Crows were on Stiles’ mind. “They were very important to him,” Lillian stated. So Stiles decided to rob another nest and again took two chicks. This time he didn’t clip their wings. He named them Beswick and Lockwood, after an engineering firm in Allendale, and they became part of the family. They were “probably” kept in a box, but Stiles doesn’t recall if they were actually in the house. Lillian helped feed them. After every feeding the Crows would evacuate, backing up to the rim of their nest or box and shooting the excrement quite a distance to clear their box, an instinctive behavior that keeps their nest clean. Stiles and Lillian learned how to anticipate and catch their evacuations on squares of paper stacked nearby. Later the birds lived outside in a cage and were allowed to fly around the yard.

Beswick and Lockwood, like all Crows, had that strong urge to belong to a group, and the Thomas family became their family. They even developed a close relationship with the Thomas' children, toddler Betsy and three-year-old Georgie and enjoyed climbing all over them. Beswick, Lockwood, Betsy, and Georgie loved one another, Stiles and Lillian agreed. They all enjoyed playing together, but other children were a different story. Crows are known to fiercely defend their territory and trespassers often trigger aggressive behavior. One fall day Georgie had a friend over. The Crows took an instant dislike to Georgie's friend and harassed her, strafing her and trying to peck at her head. The little girl screamed and tried to get away. The Crows, like mischievous children, thought that was great fun and chased her all over the yard. They were relentless and the little girls were forced to play inside. Every time the child visited, the Crows attacked.

Quick to grasp that their strategy was successful, Beswick and Lockwood became neighborhood delinquents. "Day and night, the crows looked for children to bother," Stiles stated, but they never bothered adults. Maybe adults didn't scream and run away and so weren't as much fun. A very kind next door neighbor confided in Stiles that her children were afraid of the Crows and refused to play outside. More neighbors complained, and Stiles finally decided his pets were too viscous to have around. After living with the Thomas family for six months, Beswick and Lockwood had to go. They released the pair in Westwood and never saw them again.

Crows are now common yard birds, since they became protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, a federal act resulting from a formal treaty signed by the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Nevertheless, they remain vigilante around humans, and for good reason. Under the law, crows may be controlled without a federal permit when found "committing or about to commit depredations upon ornamental or shade trees, agricultural crops, livestock, or wildlife, or when concentrated in such numbers and manner to constitute a health hazard or other nuisance." Even in 2009, 10,000 Crows were slaughtered by our federal government. In many states, including New Jersey, they can be legally hunted in season, but it is illegal to keep them as pets.

Marzluff and Angell suggest in *Gifts of the Crow* that Crows might benefit if they became legal pets. As Stiles learned, Crows bond easily with humans, but they could cause general havoc in a neighborhood if allowed too much free rein. And as pets, they require an attentive owner. While still in high school, Stiles was given a pet Crow by a boy from Ramsey High School. "It was a mess," Stiles noted. Its feathers were broken and frayed. Stiles also remembers reading about a man in Hawthorne who had a very large enclosure filled with Crows, the purpose of which he didn't understand. The cage was filthy and the birds were ragged from beating their wings against the cage. Marzluff and Angell also suggest Crow owners be licensed and ownership regulated through something like the North American Falconers Association. And future Crow owners wouldn't have to don waders and climb a tree. They could be required to get their Crows from licensed rehab centers like the Raptor Trust who are often overrun with abandoned and injured Crows. A pet Crow might not help its owner court a girl or boyfriend, but it could offer companionship and expose its owner to a sensitive, mischievous, and very smart species rather like ourselves. Just ask Stiles.

#### Information on Crows From:

Kilham, Larwence, *The American Crow and the Common Raven*, Texas A&M, 1989.

Marzluff, John and Tony Angell, *Gifts of the Crow*, Free Press, 2012.

Palmer, Theodore S. *A Review of Economic Ornithology in the U.S. 1899*, USDA Agricultural Research Service, University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

Verbeek, N. A. and C. Caffrey. (2002). *American Crow*, *The Birds of North America Online*.



**A Chilly Hour on the Tower**  
**By COOx2 (a.k.a. Charley West)**



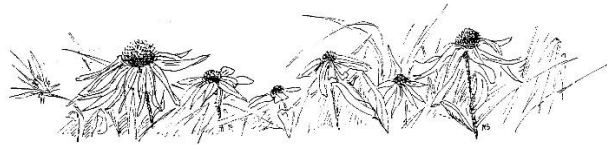
There once was group from The 'Dale-  
Whose members were hearty and hale-  
But when the Lake froze-  
To save fingers and toes-  
DD's was the Holiest Grail!



**An Easy Way to Support Fyke**

Shopping on Amazon? While doing your online shopping, don't forget Fyke has a direct link to AMAZON from our website. Fyke does not endorse any particular merchant. 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. This does not increase the cost of your purchase.

Thank you for your participation!



**Stepping Up For Lorrimer Pledge Form – 2017**

There are three ways to send your pledge:

- Bring your pledge form to the April meeting.
- By mail to Fyke Nature Association, Box 141, Ramsey, NJ 07446
- By e-mail to Kurt Muenz, [elkumu@aceweb.com](mailto:elkumu@aceweb.com)



Yes, I want to support Fyke's team and Lorrimer by making a pledge per bird species seen. I understand that 60 to 80 species may be recorded, however, the total could be higher if conditions are ideal. All money donated will go to Lorrimer Sanctuary.

My pledge is:

\$1/species    \$.75/species    \$.50/species    \$.25/species    \$\_\_\_/species

Name:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

You will be notified of your pledge total soon after the event. Checks should be made out to Fyke Nature Association.

**Welcome New Members**



The Maclennans, Allendale  
Dorothy Owens, Midland Park  
Cynthia Devereux, Westwood  
The Kopchas, Westwood  
Gail and Herman Morchel, Nutley  
J. Forrest & Hilary Jones, Ridgewood



**Fyke Board of Trustees:**

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Newsletter: Carol Flanagan  
Programs: Penny Whitlock  
Publicity: Gabriele Schmitt  
Webmaster: Kevin Watson



**The Fyke Nature Association**, a 501 (c) (3) organization, meets at the Allendale Municipal Building, 500 W. Crescent Avenue, Allendale, NJ 07401 on the fourth Friday of every month January to May, and in September and October. The winter meeting is the first Friday in December. (No meetings in June, July, August, and November.)

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

**The deadline for the Fall 2017 issue is August 23, 2017.** Send material to Box 141, Ramsey, NJ 07446, or via e-mail to [carolflana@aol.com](mailto:carolflana@aol.com).

