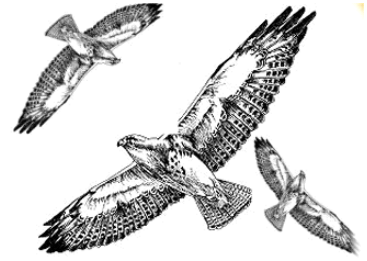


THE KETTLE



Straits Area Audubon Society Newsletter - Est. 1983

SAAS meetings are held at 6:30 pm. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, September through May at the Cheboygan Area Public Library, 100 S. Bailey St. Refreshments will be provided and you may participate in door prize and raffle drawings.

The scheduling of a meeting or program in the library does not in any way constitute an endorsement by the library of the group, its activities, or of the ideas and opinions expressed during the course of meetings or programs.

SAAS thanks **Williams Office Equipment** for donating printing costs for **The Kettle**.

Straits Area Audubon Society
c/o Rosanne Rynerson
10490 E. U.S. 23
Cheboygan, MI 49721

Mission Statement The mission of the Straits Area Audubon Society is to educate the community, including its children, about conservation and enjoyment of the natural world with emphasis on the local natural communities of wildlife. This will be accomplished through regular seasonal meetings and by sponsoring field trips, classroom studies and field studies.

Join Straits Area Audubon Society

NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Make checks payable to: Straits Area Audubon Society:
Single Membership: \$12
Family Membership: \$15

Please mail checks to:
Rosanne Rynerson - Treasurer
10490 E. U.S. 23
Cheboygan, MI 49721

Upcoming Program

Wednesday, April 11 [6:30 pm]

Grand Slam of Michigan Turtles: All Alive

Come on Wednesday, April 11 at 6:30 pm to the Cheboygan Area Public Library for a presentation ALL ALIVE by Jim McGrath of Nature Discovery, a private nature education center near Lansing. Jim, you may remember, presented a highly successful program last April on Michigan Snakes. This year Jim's presentation will be on Michigan's turtles. His talk will inspire both awe and respect for these



magnificent creatures which have succeeded in their way of making a living since before the time of the dinosaurs. He will discuss their role in the environment and specialized adaptations. Jim will bring all the

species of turtles that live in Michigan and make these gentle creatures available for program attendees to closely inspect and handle.



Photos by Jim McGrath

We were able to invite Jim back in 2012 after his rave performance with Snakes Alive! Last year, thanks to Citizens National Bank, an anonymous supporter, and funds remaining in the Just Ducky Quilt Raffle fund. In addition, we are delighted to be able to offer the Snakes Alive! presentation to every 5th grade student at Wolverine Elementary School and at Cheboygan Middle School this year. This partnership will help both schools reach their community support requirement from their recent Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative grants. We could use a couple volunteers to help Jim show the snakes in Wolverine on the afternoon of April 11; anyone willing to do so, please contact Jim Bricker at 627-4830.

Future Programs

May 9 - Vehicular Air Pollution

by Tom Grahame, Senior Policy Analyst, Office of Fossil Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, D.C.

Upcoming Field Trips

[There are no SAAS April field trips scheduled.]

SAAS Chapter Notes:

Earth Week Plus



April 1 ~ Adventure: Sweet Things in the Woods: Maple Syrup Making and Living Green Open House by John & Rhonda Smit, Silent Sport Lodge B&B. Event is weather dependent. Register at 231-525-6166. 14750 Old Sturgeon, Wolverine.
www.silentsportlodge.com Sun 12:00 - 3:00pm

April 1 ~ Adventure: UM Biological Station Tour of Rain Garden, Detritus Input and Removal research project, and Forest Accelerated Succession research project. UMBS on Riggsville Rd. 2.5 Miles West of I-75 Sun. 1:00pm

April 5 ~ Movie: "Beyond the Light Switch, Part 1" Cheboygan Area Public Library Thur. 6:00pm

April 6 ~ Potluck Owl Banding and Stargazing by Ed Pike and Kathy Bricker for Straits Area Audubon Society. Emmet County Headlands Park, Mackinaw City Fri. 6:30pm - 11:00pm

April 7 ~ Event: Hawks in Northern Michigan by Steve Baker for Straits Area Audubon Society. Mackinaw City Historical Park, across from Headlands Park. Dress warmly. Bring chair & binoculars. Sat. 10:00am

April 11 Event: "Grand Slam of Michigan Turtles – All Alive" by Jim McGrath, Nature Discovery for Straits Area Audubon Society. Cheboygan Area Public Library. Wed. 6:30pm

April 12 ~ Movie: "Beyond the Light Switch, Part 2" Cheboygan Area Public Library Thurs. 6:00pm

April 14th Earth Week Plus Expo
Free afternoon of presentations, displays and activities At Cheboygan High School 801 W Lincoln, Cheboygan, MI Sat. 12:00pm - 4:45pm. See Schedule other side

April 15 ~ Adventure: From Worms to Flowers: Composting and Landscaping Open House by Jeanette Mateer. Twin Lakes, Register 231-625-9741 Sun. 12:30 - 3:00pm

April 15 ~ Event: Saving Energy and Money and Other Home Energy Savings Open House by Richard Riker 409 Henry Street, Mackinaw City. Sun. 1:00 - 4:00pm

April 18 ~ Event: "If this is global warming, why aren't we warm?" by Richard Riker for Java Chat by the Straits Area Concerned Citizens for Peace and Justice. Cheboygan Area Public Library. Wed. 6:00pm

April 19 ~ Movie: "Chemical Reaction" Cheboygan Area Public Library. Thur. 6:00pm

April 21 ~ Event: Banwell Preserve Cleanup for Little Traverse Conservancy. Register at 231-344-1011 or cindy@landtrust.org Sat. 9:00 - 3:00pm

April 21 ~ Adventure: Water Quality Walk ~ Benefits of Rain Gardens to Rivers & Wetlands. Macroinvertebrate testing with Dan Myers, of Tip of the Mitt Watershed, Naturalist Tom Reed and Biologist Richard Lincoln. Arts & Adventure Brasswind Landing Register 238-4843 or info@artsandadventure.com Blue Roof - Mack Ave Indian River Sat. 12:00 - 2:00pm

April 21 ~ Adventure: Back Yard Wildlife Habitat Open House by Pat Esther-Schmidt. 1280 Indian Trail Rd, Cheboygan Sat. 2:00 - 6:00pm

April 21- Adventure: Greenhouse and Farm Open House by Lynda and Don Tracey. 6772 Indian Trail Rd, Cheboygan Sat. 1:00 - 4:00pm

April 22 ~ Adventure: Hike to See Bluebirds in their Boxes and Wear Bee Suits to see Bees in Their Hives by Dale Giddings. 1070 Bilder Rd. Wolverine. Sun. 1:00pm

April 23 ~ Event: Outdoor Lighting Awards Dutch Lunch at City Park Grill Petoskey. Register 231-838-8181 or starmare.adams@gmail.com Mon 12:00pm

April 26 ~ Movie: "FLOW – For Love of Water" Cheboygan Area Public Library. Thur. 6:00pm

April 28 ~ Adventure: Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park Hike to beaver pond by Kate Caldwell. Mill Creek Park, Mackinaw City Sat. 10:00am

April 28 ~ Adventure: Guided Sturgeon Viewing Tour by Sturgeon for Tomorrow. Meet at Lorenzo's Lounge & Restaurant, 1164 S. Black River Rd. Onaway, MI. Limit 25. Register 231-625-2776 or email at archambo@src-milp.com Sat. 12:45pm – 3:00pm

April 29 ~ Adventure: Sunrise Ceremony Service & Potluck by Bill Nash White Feather Wellness Project. Mullet Township Park Beach. Sun 6:30am

April 29 ~ Adventure: Birds at Your Feeder Open House by Maureen Conklin and Steve Baker. at 3301 Canton Dr., Cheboygan Sun. 4:00 - 6:00pm

April 30 ~ Adventure: Bicycle Trip on North Central Michigan Trail by Jim Conboy. Cheboygan Trailhead parking lot. Mon. 11:00am

For Details of Events Please Visit Our Website

www.earthweekplus.com

What is Michigan Nature Association

by Donna Mittlestat

The Michigan Nature Association (MNA) is a non-profit conservation organization established in 1952 with over 160 sanctuaries in the state. The MNA is open to the public for non destructive activities. The sanctuaries are classified as A, B or C with A being the easiest to visit, B more difficult and C considered sensitive habitat to be visited with a guide. The sanctuaries are established to protect the plants and animals living in these special places. There are no sanctuaries listed in Cheboygan or Emmet Counties. However, Mackinac County has several with many being classified as C, needing a guide to visit them. For those of you who may be interested the association is always looking for new members, volunteers, stewards and people interested in becoming an emissary for their organization.

For more information visit their website.

www.michigannature.org

SAAS work crew at the Michigan Nature Association, Fred Dye Nature Sanctuary on M 123 between Moran and Trout Lake



Photo by S Baker

Mackinac Straits Hawk Watch

Greetings, I would like to update the Audubon Societies who have supported the Mackinac Straits Hawk Watch this spring. Many migrating raptors appear to be well ahead of normal arrival dates this warm spring. The count officially began March 20 but we were able to observe on the 14th and 16th. Since the burst of warm weather we have had consistent north winds which discourage the migrants from heading north across the straits. When south winds and sunshine combine we should see a big push north with many raptors kettling over Mackinaw City.



Highlights so far include a Black Vulture (seen and photographed by Don and Donna Mittlestat on the 25th), an adult Goshawk (Jim Veller on the 27th), a Peregrine Falcon on the 29th, and good numbers of both Bald and golden Eagles.

Totals through March 29: Black Vulture-1, Turkey Vulture-87, Osprey-1, Bald Eagle-51, Northern Harrier-4, Sharp-shinned Hawk-13, Coopers Hawk-1, Northern Goshawk-1, Red-shouldered Hawk-38, Red-tailed Hawk-492, Rough-legged Hawk-17, Golden Eagle-22, American Kestrel-1, Peregrine Falcon-1, unidentified accipiter-3

Total raptors: 733

Keep looking up! Steve Baker

SAAS Volunteer Staff

<u>President:</u>	Roger Benter
<u>Vice President:</u>	Jim Bricker
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Rosanne Rynerson
<u>Secretary:</u>	Mary Liebner
<u>Past President:</u>	Kathy Bricker
<u>Executive Com:</u>	Bobie Crongeyer
<u>MAS Rep:</u>	Donna Mittlestat
<u>Greeter:</u>	Susan Emerson
<u>Greeter Assist:</u>	Dale Rieger, Connie Rieger, Alice MacFarland
<u>Field Trips:</u>	Steve Baker
<u>Bird Counts:</u>	Ed Pike, Steve Baker
<u>Conservation:</u>	Glen Matthews
<u>Raffle/Door Prize:</u>	Judy Vanderhart
<u>Raffle Assistants:</u>	Maureen Conklin, Roy MacFarland
<u>Refreshments:</u>	Molly Ferguson, Alice MacFarland, Dorothy Woosley
<u>Nature Sightings:</u>	Bev Kirby
<u>Youth Outreach:</u>	Bobie Crongeyer
<u>Kettle Editor:</u>	Jack Kirby
<u>Kettle Producer:</u>	Ann Benter
<u>Audiovisual / Web Master:</u>	Roy MacFarland

Nature Links

Michigan Audubon Society



www.michiganaudubon.org

MNA (Michigan Nature Association)

www.michigannature.org

Little Traverse Conservancy

www.landtrust.org

Whitefish Point Bird Observatory

www.wpbo.org

Note from the Editor

All articles and photos for *THE KETTLE* should be submitted to the editor's e-mail box one week BEFORE the end of a publication month. This will allow the e-mail edition to be sent out by the first of the month and the printed edition to be mailed by the 4th day of the month.

Thank you. Jack Kirby [jskirby@wowway.com]