

# HIGHLANDS PLATEAU AUDUBON SOCIETY

## EVENTS FOR MAY-SEPTEMBER 2017

**All events are free and open to the public. Birders of all levels are welcome.**

**May 6** - Birding for beginners and beyond at the Biological Station and Sunset Rocks with Romney Bathurst. Meet at Founders Park in Highlands at 7:30 AM. Small amount of uphill walking; loaner binoculars available.

**May 13** - Birding with Ellen & Jim Shelton going to Flat Mountain Road. Meet at Founders Park in Highlands at 7:30 AM. Easy walking on gravel roads & mostly smooth trails; loaner binoculars available.

**May 16** - Birds & Beer (or wine or tea) at the Slab Town Pizza in **Cashiers**. Spirited discussion of birds and birding starting at 5:30 PM and continuing with sandwiches and other pub grub.

**May 20** - Birding with Jack Johnston, Botanist, at Dixon Park, Highlands. Meet at Founders Park in Highlands at 7:30 AM. Level trail walking; loaner binoculars available.

**May 27** - Birding with Professors Jeremy Hyman & Barbara Ballentine of WCU on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Meet at Cashiers Rec Center at **7 AM**. Roadside birding & easy walking; loaner binoculars available.

**June 3** - Birding for beginners and beyond at Cashiers Commons with Russ Regnery, President of HPAS. Meet at the Cashiers Rec Center at 7:30 AM. Easy walking; loaner binoculars available.

**June 6** - Chapter Pot Luck Dinner at **6 PM** followed by a presentation by NC Audubon's Curtis Smalling speaking about "How Our Local Birds are Doing: A Species Rollcall." The presentation will begin at **7:30 PM**. Both events are at the Highlands Civic Center, 600 N 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

**June 10 (Saturday)** - Birding in Panthertown Valley with Brent Martin, Southern Appalachian Regional Director with The Wilderness Society. Meet at **7 AM** at the Cashiers Rec Center. Bring water & your camera. Long uphill walk on return leg will be taken slowly!

**June 13** - The Charlotte Raptor Rehab Center presents "Birds of the World" at 7 PM at the Highlands Biological Station at 265 N 6<sup>th</sup> Street. This family-friendly program will

feature exotic, non-native birds of prey from all over the world including one of the most elusive owls on the planet.

**June 17** - Birding with Brock Hutchins to Jones Gap and Turtle Pond Rd. Meet at Founders Park in Highlands at 7:30 AM. Moderate amount of easy hiking; loaner binoculars available.

**June 20** - Birds & Beer (or wine or tea) at the Ugly Dog in **Highlands**. Spirited discussion of birds and birding starting at 5:30 PM and continuing with sandwiches and other pub grub.

**June 24** - Curtis Smalling, Dir. of Conservation, NC Audubon, will lead a walk along Rich Gap Road, Highlands. Meet at Founders Park at 7:30; loaner binoculars will be available. Roadside birding: easy and little walking.

**June 27** - "Hello Mister": A Birding Tour Adventure in Indonesia" by Romney Bathurst at 7 PM in the rear meeting room of the Hudson Library in Highlands, 554 Main St.

**July 1** - Birding for beginners and beyond at Highlands Nature Center with Russ Regnery. Meet at 7:30 AM at the Nature Center, 930 Horse Cove Rd. Easy walking; loaner binoculars available.

**July 11** - Birds & Beer (or wine or tea) at the Slab Town Pizza in **Cashiers**. Spirited discussion of birds and birding starting at 5:30 PM and continuing with sandwiches and other pub grub.

**July 14 & 15** - "Mountain Wildlife Days" co-sponsored at the Sapphire Valley Community Center, featuring a mixture of adult and children's programs. Live animals, expert commentary, music and outstanding photography contribute to helping develop appreciation of and connection with nature and wildlife. Bird walk Fri., 7/14, meeting at Cashiers Rec Center, 355 Frank Allen Rd., at 8 AM. Loaner binoculars available; easy, flat walking.

**July 18** - Kim Brand, Field Organizer for Audubon North Carolina, will speak at 7 PM in Highlands in the rear meeting room of the Hudson Library, 554 Main Street.

**July 25** - "Avian Photography" presented at 7 PM by award-winning photographer Dick Dickinson in the rear meeting room of the Hudson Library in Highlands, 554 Main St.

**August 5** - Birding for beginners and beyond going to the old Ranger Station on Flat Mt. Road with Russ Regnery. Meet at 7:30 AM at Founders Park, Highlands. Easy trail walking; loaner binoculars available.

**August 8** - "John James Audubon: Drawn from Nature," a PBS American Masters film, presented at 7 PM in the rear meeting room of the Hudson Library, 554 Main Street.

**August 13** - Annual HPAS summer picnic at the Recreation Center Pavilion in Highlands at 600 N 4<sup>th</sup> St. Come at 6 PM with a covered dish. Meat will be provided. Set up at 5 PM.

**August 22** - Birds & Beer (or wine or tea) at the Ugly Dog in **Highlands**. Spirited discussion of birds and birding starting at 5:30 PM and continuing with sandwiches and other pub grub.

**August 29** - Sue Cameron with the Fish and Wildlife Service will speak on "Highlands Bogs and their Related Flora and Fauna" at 7 PM in the rear meeting room of the Hudson Library, 554 Main Street in Highlands.

**September 16** - Annual Charlie Davis Memorial Blue Ridge Parkway Outing searching for migrating warblers, vireos, thrushes and raptors. Meet at Founders Park in Highlands at 7:00 AM or Cashiers Rec. Center at 7:30. Roadside birding, some easy walking; loaner binoculars available. Please pack a light lunch as we will stop at a scenic spot for a picnic and more birding before returning mid-afternoon. Bring water and your camera.

**September 18** – Hawk Watch at Whiteside Mt., if weather & winds are suitable. Call Brock Hutchins, 828-787-1387 or 404-295-0663 to join the email notification list.

**September 26** - Annual Chapter meeting and presentation: Michelle Ruigrok & Bill Peavey talk about Audubon's Camp at Hog Island, Maine, at 7 PM at the Highlands Civic Center, 600 N 4<sup>th</sup> St.

**December 15** – Save this date for the Annual Christmas Bird Count! Meet at Founders Park in Highlands, 7:30 AM.

***Visit [www.highlandsaudubonsociety.org](http://www.highlandsaudubonsociety.org) or call 828- 526-1939.***