

The Piedmont Birder



From the President's Perch: North Carolina Bluebird Society



Mrs. Frances Outhwaite, Alamance County coordinator for the [North Carolina Bluebird Society](#) (NCBS), is looking for a county coordinator for Guilford County. Mrs. Outhwaite contacted me and asked if anyone in the Piedmont Bird Club would be willing to take on the following duties:

1. Be a member of the North Carolina Bluebird Society (dues are \$10/year). Mrs. Outhwaite has said she would pay the first year's dues for someone willing to take on this responsibility.
2. Be first line support for County Coordinators.
3. Stay in contact with assigned County Coordinators.
4. Try to recruit County Coordinators for counties without coordinators.
5. Report problems to your State Co-Chair.
6. Receive written yearly activity reports from County Coordinators for their area and submit them to your State Co-Chair.
7. Advise State Co-Chair of new County Coordinators or changes in the County Coordinators information (such as

address, phone number or e-mail address).

8. Advise County Coordinators of Board Meetings and invite them to attend.
9. Accumulate expenses per Standing Rules and submit them to State Co-Chair for reimbursement.
10. Make use of [NCBS web site](#).
11. Other duties might include facilitate/attend area workshop/training programs or hold area meetings for County Coordinators.

If you are interested in performing this service or want to know more about what would be involved, please contact:

Mrs. Francis Outhwaite
1700 Roslyn Dr. #23 B
Burlington, NC 27215
336-226-4770

This might be fun if you would like to be more active with bluebirds.

– Jim Strickland

Spring Arrival Dates of Birds in Guilford County : March

Ahh, spring! In addition to the arrival of warmer weather and bursting buds, birders can look forward to the arrival of spring migrants and summer residents. Keep an eye and an ear out for the following species, which arrive in Guilford County at approximately these times of year. List courtesy of Lynn Moseley, PBC member and Professor of Biology at Guilford College.

March, Second Week

- Purple Martin
- Osprey

March, Third Week

- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher



March, Fourth Week

- Yellow-crowned Night Heron
- Rough-winged Swallow
- Solitary Vireo
- Yellow-throated Warbler
- Common Yellowthroat
- Louisiana Waterthrush
- Chipping Sparrow (some permanent)
- Vesper Sparrow

March Program and Field Trip: Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Park

The Piedmont Bird Club's March program and related field trip* (please read sidebar) focuses on an internationally-respected waterfowl breeding center and preserve located here in North Carolina. Brent Lubbock, Membership and Development Projects Manager of Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Park in Scotland Neck, NC, will talk about its history and purpose as well as new bird-watching opportunities in the park's recently added exhibits.

[Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Park](#) and [Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Breeding Center](#),

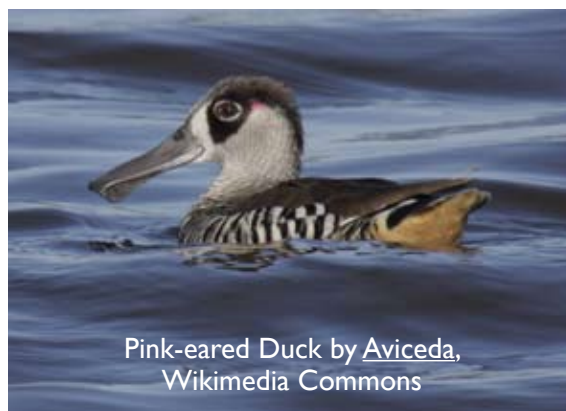
founded by internationally renowned aviculturists Mike and Ali Lubbock, are dedicated to educating people about the importance of conservation and research, focusing on waterfowl and wetland habitats. Together these two facilities house the world's largest waterfowl collection and the second largest bird collection in the United States.

The Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Park is located on 18 acres of tranquil gardens and lush natural areas, and features large walk-through aviaries displaying over 1500 birds from all of the world's continents except Antarctica. The park not only seeks to entertain and engage visitors, but to inspire and educate them about the importance of waterfowl, wildlife, and wetland conservation. Student education programs, age-specific for grades K-12, involve pupils in entertaining and meaningful eco-education activities aimed at personalizing the importance of these conservation goals.

Adjacent to the Waterfowl Park is the 8-acre Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Breeding Center, home to over 170 species of birds, including half the known species of ducks, geese, and swans. Survival of the world's waterfowl is highly dependent on this avian breeding preserve, which cares for more than 2500 individual birds, including over 1000 hatchlings reared each year. The breeding projects initiated



Orinoco Goose by www.birdphotos.com



Pink-eared Duck by [Aviceda](#), Wikimedia Commons



White-winged Wood Duck by [Dick Daniels](#), [Carolina Birds](#), Wikimedia Commons

at Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Breeding Center represent the best hope of survival for many of the world's rarest and most critically endangered waterfowl species. The staff also work with conservation partners in Cambodia, Venezuela, Brazil, and other countries in order to promote conservation efforts in the native habitats of threatened species.

In addition, the breeding center is the avicultural training site for conservation-oriented avian biologists. Wildlife professionals from the nation's zoos and nature centers as well as university students from around the world go there to learn.

You won't want to miss this interesting presentation. The program will start at 7:00 p.m. at the Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Library. Join us at 6:30 if you can, to meet new members and catch up with old friends.

*We Still Need a Field Trip Leader for Sylvan Heights



The weekend following Brent Lubbock's presentation at the March PBC program, we will take a field trip to visit Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Park, located in Scotland Neck, NC, about a 3-hour drive from Greensboro. This can be a one-day or overnight trip, depending on your personal preference.

HOWEVER, WE ARE STILL ABSENT A LEADER FOR THIS TRIP, which may be cancelled if no one agrees to accept that responsibility. The task is not so much that of leader, but of coordinator: we need someone to contact the park, arrange for a tour, (find out if that includes a tour of the Breeding Center, which is off-limits to most), find out if one admission will cover a 2-day visit, coordinate car-pooling, be the contact person, etc. Carolyn Allen has motel information for those who want to make an overnight trip of it.

If you would be willing to coordinate this field trip, please contact Field Trip Chairman Ron Morris at 294-7631 ASAP. Sylvan Heights requires a week's notice for scheduling of tours.

Author and Environmentalist Terry Tempest Williams to Speak



Photo by Ted C. Brummond

As part of Guilford College's sustainability theme year, "[Green & Beyond](#)," [Terry Tempest Williams](#) will be at [New Garden Friends Meeting](#), March 15, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. Williams is an impassioned naturalist, activist, educator, and author who weaves together stories of people and landscapes to show our natural connections. Among others, her publications include *Refuge:*

An Unnatural History of Family and Place, *The Open Space of Democracy*, and most recently *Finding Beauty in a Broken World*. For more information, please contact Kim Yarbray, yarbraykm@guilford.edu, 336-316-2277.



Interesting Internet

This section contains links to interesting/fun sites that PBC members would like to share with the rest of the club.

[Penguin Goes Shopping](#) - This 10-year-old King Penguin was rescued from a fisherman's line and refused to leave after he was healed. He was adopted by a family in a small town in Japan and became a beloved pet who has his own personal air-conditioned cold room.

[Groundhog Day at Piedmont Wildlife Rehab](#) Click on the video of PWR's hand-reared groundhogs, Hansel and Gretel. Very cute!

[Piedmont Wildlife Rehab](#) - Click on the video to meet PBC member & PWR founder Melissa Coe; see the facility and how it works.

[Andrew Zuckerman, photographer](#) - Amazing bird photos, unusual presentation. Be sure to click on the numbers to the right of the species name to see all views (or use your computer's arrow key).

[Mission Impossible Squirrel](#) - A gray squirrel navigates a series of obstacles to get to the birdfeeder.

[Nurturing Nests Lift These Birds to a Higher Perch](#) New York Times article features the intelligence of New Caledonian Crows.

[Fight for the Tadpole at Sapsucker Woods](#) - Ducks and crows compete for a tasty bullfrog tadpole. For best viewing click "slide show" (upper right, above the thumbnail pics), and to see the captions for each photo click "show info".

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March Calendar

Saturday, March 5

Field Trip - A&T Farm

Meet at the [farm entrance](#) at 8:30 a.m. Easy hike around the farm pond and the edge of a wet woodland, then across McConnell Road to more ponds, fields, and the hog farm. Target birds: Wilson's Snipe, American Pipits. Wear water-resistant footwear & dress in layers.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- The number of vehicles or participants may be restricted. YOU MUST CONTACT TRIP LEADER Emily Tyler, 375-5770, ettyler@triad.rr.com, by Friday, March 4, if you plan to attend this trip – first-come, first-served. We will carpool after assembling at the main gate.

- Because we have to unlock and lock gates as we tour the farm, please plan to ARRIVE ON TIME and to STAY FOR THE ENTIRE FIELD TRIP, which usually ends between noon and 1:00 p.m.

- There are NO RESTROOMS.

Thursday, March 17

Program - Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Park and Breeding Center

Brent Lubbock, Membership and Development Projects Manager of Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Park, will talk about Sylvan Heights' history and purpose as well as new birdwatching opportunities in the park's recently added exhibits.

Saturday, March 19 and (optional)

Sunday, March 20

Field Trip: Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Park

See sidebar, page 2

Saturday, March 26

Field Trip - Greensboro Lakes

Meet at 9:00 a.m. Contact leaders for location. Target birds: ducks, geese, grebes, mergansers, and gulls. Dress warmly, as the wind off the lakes can be chilling. Bring a spotting scope if you have one. Leaders: Henry and Elizabeth Link, 273-4672, linkh@bellsouth.net

Welcome, New PBC Members!

Cindy Jenne

Nancy & Jack Britts

Patricia Wilcox