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Hudson-Mohawk
Bird Club, Inc.*

Feathers

THE REIST SANCTUARY – 2012 -2013 ANNUAL REPORT

by Michael C Gann, Steward

March 21, 2012

Exchanged E-mails with Professor LoGiudice of Union College. She has requested permission to conduct small mammal trapping with her Vertebrate Natural History class in May, as in previous years. This is a routine request and I granted permission to go ahead.

March 23, 2012

I started off this afternoon to walk the trails, but on the way in I encountered a woman just coming out via the Adk Center trailhead, who told me that she had just been harassed by two dogs while walking the trails. She suggested it might not be wise to walk the trails right just then. She told me the dogs were running free, unattended and without collars or tags. She appeared unhurt but was obviously shook up. I decided not to walk the trails myself. I returned home and advised Gary Goodness. He in turn contacted the Town of Niskayuna Animal Control office and advised them accordingly (Niskayuna Animal Control: 374-3159). I told Gary to give them my name as contact person "on the scene" for the Reist, which he did. Gary advised me later in the day that Animal Control was going to do a walk-around in the Sanctuary today just to check things out. Last Fall, both Pete Trivilino and I had "episodes" involving hostile-acting dogs, on separate occasions.

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President's Corner

This message is my last as President of HMBC, since the by-laws tell me that I've reached the limit of serving for awhile. The by-laws also require that the five board members be elected with two replaced one year and the other three the next. This year we have run into an unusual situation with all five members requiring replacement. This arose because of illness and personal requirements. Thanks to everyone for your efforts.

The present officers and board members have worked hard with me to assure a smooth and successful club operation. Our membership is relatively stable, and the club's finances are good. We have successfully completed the transition to an email edition of *Feathers*, although we still must snail mail about 10% of each issue. We are working to reduce this by contacting people to get their emails and to ask institutions if they will accept email copies. I thank my wife, Chris, *Feathers* editor, for her work in maintaining the newsletter's quality through the change.

The Club is a field organization offering a wide spectrum of trips. This has been due to the hard work by the Field Trip Committee led by Don Gresens. Thanks to him, the committee members and especially the trip leaders who are all volunteers.

Scott Stoner has served for over twenty years as Program Chair, and he has consistently provided us with interesting programs. There is a Yiddish blessing, "May you live a 120 years," and I add, "and keep serving as Program Chair!" Thanks, too, to Peggy Rudis for all the yummy goodies at the program.

Mike Gann has been the Reist Sanctuary Steward for the last several years. He and his corps of volunteers have done a marvelous job maintaining this large piece of property. This includes patrolling, clean up, storm repair, and the replacement of bridges across wet areas.

It isn't possible to mention everyone in the space I've been given, so I thank everyone else who I haven't listed. Your work is important and we need you.

Good birding to all.

Bernie Grossman
President, HMBC

Newsletter Contributions Desired

- Have anything you think other birders would be interested in?
- Have a favorite birding spot you want to share?
- Are there any stories or photos that would inspire others?

Share them with the HMBC membership by submitting them to the addresses below:

HMBC Contact Information
BIRDLINE of EASTERN NEW YORK:
E-mail: contact@hmbc.net
HMBC website: <http://hmbc.net>
HMBC Board Meetings

HMBC Board meetings are open to all Club members. Meetings are held at Five Rivers or other local venues at 7:00 pm, usually on the second Monday of odd-numbered months.

Please send all electronic submissions via e-mail to: Chris Grossman at bgrossman@nycap.rr.com. Send all paper submissions to:

Chris Grossman
7 Nott Rd.
Rexford, NY 12148

New Life Members of HMBC

The following people have become life members since the beginning of 2012:

Jill A. Connell

Louis J. Suarato

Bruce C. Dudek

Alison Van Keuren

Steve M. Chorvas

Field Trip Reports

Waterfowl of the Hudson River South – Greene County, Coxsackie to Catskill

Sunday, March 10, 2013

Field Trip Reports *(continued)*

The morning started with a Killdeer in the Coxsackie boat launch parking lot shiveringly announcing the coming of spring while we waited in the cars for other birders to arrive. Among the dozen species of waterfowl produced on this trip was one LESSER SCAUP, the only real highlight of the trip. A few NORTHERN PINTAIL and AMERICAN WIGEON get honorable mention. Two immature BALD EAGLES were seen during this 4 hour excursion along the Hudson River. The two MUTE SWANS on Vosburgh's Marsh gave the impression that they may be nesting there. There were 10 birders on this trip including the "G-Men" (Rich Guthrie, Don Grescens and Gary Goodness) who were very helpful pointing out birds and sharing their spotting scopes with the more novice birders. The PILEATED WOODPECKER working right over our heads at Dutchman's landing in Catskill provided a dramatic conclusion to the trip.

- Bill Cook

Upcoming HMBC Programs

Woodpeckers and Forest Pests

Speaker: Mark Whitmore

April 1, 2013 - 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Colonie Library

Joint Program with Audubon Society of the Capital Region

The USDA and States are finding that that woodpecker activity is a lead to find infested trees with larvae of two serious pests of our hardwood forests: Asian long horned beetle (ALB) and Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Mark Whitmore, a Forest Entomologist with Department of Natural Resources at Cornell University, has developed a project to work with birders looking for EAB and ALB by looking for woodpecker foraging.

'With the discovery of EAB in Rhinecliff, NY this past April, the pests are knocking on our back doorstep. Come out to learn about the spreading infestation and how you can help by collecting data and identifying ash trees where woodpeckers forage to deter this very damaging pest.

Africa 1: Kenya

Speaker: Phil Whitney

May 6, 2013 - 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Colonie Library

Details TBA

Africa 2

Speaker: Don Morton

June 3, 2013 - 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Colonie Library

Details TBA

Upcoming Audubon Programs

Unless Otherwise Specified, All Programs To Be Held At:

William K. Sanford Colonie Town Library
629 Albany-Shaker Road, Loudonville, NY 12211

Woodpeckers and Forest Pests

Speaker: Mark Whitmore

April 1, 2013 - 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Colonie Library

Joint Program with Hudson Mohawk Bird Club

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On Nature

Corn Fields and River Banks: Rolling Out the Red Carpet for a Winter Visitor

by Denise Hackert-Stoner and Scott Stoner

Every season needs a focus. A highlight. We seek these out, create them if we must. Spring migrants. Summer nesting birds. Hawks in the fall. Winter finches and owls. The winter of 2013 brought a new and unexpected focus to HMBC world when a pair of SANDHILL CRANES (*Grus canadensis*) showed up along the Mohawk River in the town of Halfmoon, and proceeded to set up housekeeping there, with daily feeding forays to Colonie's Crossings park and other areas where they could find un-mowed corn fields. Close enough to study and photograph, these birds, like welcome and somewhat exotic houseguests, were visited at both sites by many birders and photographers. Many of us observed them several times.

These ancient birds are structurally unchanged from their 10 million year old fossilized ancestors. Tall and stately, they can reach up to 47 inches tall and have a wing span of up to six feet. They form pairs that are monogamous throughout their lives. Three of the six sub-populations are migratory, nesting in the northern US and Canada, as well as Alaska and

On Nature *(continued)*

Siberia and wintering in the southern US and Mexico. As they migrate, over 500,000 (about 75% of the population) stop over along the Platte River of Nebraska, forming one of the greatest birding spectacles in the US.



Naturally gray, with a bit of white on the face and that famous crimson cap, SANDHILL CRANES are often seen with brown spotting on their feathers. This brown color is caused by mud left behind from the bird's preening with their muddy bills.

Birds of freshwater wetlands and grain fields, SANDHILL CRANES pretty much eat whatever they can find, including plants, grains, worms, snakes and mice, being particularly fond of corn.

Some of this winter's observers reported seeing the cranes dancing, which is quite common behavior at any time of year, not just during the mating season. Sometimes this leaping is accompanied by the cranes' tossing sticks up into the air!

Since 2003 there has been a successfully breeding pair of SANDHILL CRANES at the Montezuma Wildlife Management Area near Syracuse. With its wetland habitat and surrounding fields of grain, MWMA offers great habitat and feeding opportunities for these magnificent birds. And for one pair in particular, so does the Capital Region! The weedy banks of the Mohawk River offer a fine resting area, and they seem to have found enough unmowed corn fields to feed on, so who knows? Maybe

SANDHILL CRANES will become a regular winter focus for Capital Region birders, just like Short-eared Owls!

References: National Geographic (animals.nationalgeographic.com), National Wildlife Federation (nwf.org), Bob Marcotte's The Word on Birds from the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (democratandchronicle.com/blog/birds)

Happy Birding to all,
Denise Hackert-Stoner and Scott Stoner

Reist Sanctuary Annual Report *(continued)*

March 31, 2012

Walked all the trails today – all OK.

May 14, 2012

Walked all the trails today – all OK except for a tree down across the N. Blue Trail. I advised Pete of this and he reported back later that he cut it out of the way.

May 30, 2012

Granted request by Professor Kathleen LoGiudice of Union College to set small mammal traps as a part of her Vertebrate Biology course (as she has done several times).

June 5, 2012

Had a call from Mr Ron Gabriel of #9 Hummingbird Court about some new down trees threatening his home. I visited him this afternoon and investigated. I advised that the down trees were not on Sanctuary property and therefore not an HMBC problem. Suggested he contact the Hummingbird Manor Homeowner's Assn. and/or Tn. of Niskayuna to resolve. The land between Mr Gabriel's back yard and the Sanctuary boundary is shown as "Tn of Niskayuna buffer zone" – probably a strip given over to the Town by the H'bird Manor developer as "mitigation" – on general survey maps of the H'bird Manor development. Mr Gabriel seemed satisfied with my response to his call and concern.

June 14, 2012

Walked all the trails today – all in good order except; (1) St. Davids Lane Entry trail needs a brush-out/weed-whacking, (2) small trees down across the Yellow trail and the S. Blue trail – advised Pete about both and he followed up within a few days. Saw a deer today on my trip thru the trails.

June 16-20, 2012

Much communication back-and-forth between myself, Pete Trivilino and Gary Goodness regarding the earlier than expected deterioration of some of the hemlock cross-planks and beams on the long S. Blue Trail bridge and Margaret Reist's bridge, which were built 2005/2006, and what to do.

June 21, 2012

Sent E-mail to all concerned re future use of pressure-treated wood in the Sanctuary for bridge repair. This was based on feedback I received from NYSDEC on their views and useages of same in "aquatic" settings. This was followed by a long phone discussion with Gary Goodness about this and also about the prospects of a Union College involvement in the management of the Sanctuary in the near future.

Reist Sanctuary Annual Report *(continued)*

June 27, 2012

Walked the trails with Bernie Grossman, Gary Goodness and Pete Trivilio to look at the bridges. Most are in good shape except for the two previously mentioned, which were built earliest and not to the standard of those that followed. We decided that the best course for the future is continued vigilant monitoring and maintenance, and slow conversions to pressure-treated wood as further deterioration warrants.

July 9, 2012

Attended HMBC Board meeting at the Discovery Center, to participate in discussions concerning; (1) early bridge deterioration, remedial actions and long-term plan, and (2) future administration of the Reist Sanctuary by HMBC vs some other party.

July 24, 2012

Walked all the trails. All OK, except; (1) one cross-plank gone from the long bridge on the S. Blue trail, and (2) a tree down across the St Davids Lane Entry trail. I advised Pete of both and he took care of both same day.

August 29, 2012

I walked all the trails today. All are in good order. I installed chicken wire onto the surface of the bridge behind the south end of Hummingbird Manor, per request of Carl George who advised that the bridge surface was "slippery", and who supplied the material.

September 19, 2012

Walked all the trails today after a high wind and rain storm yesterday. All OK, no big trees down anywhere. A small tree was down across the Morgan Ave entry trail which I was able to cut up and clear away the following day.

October 31, 2012

Walked all the trails after a 2-day wind storm from Hurricane Sandy. Trails and bridges all OK. Only 2 larger trees down, both on the Scheafer Yellow trail not far from the ADK Center entry. I cut a pathway around one of these for the time being. The other is a single tree trunk lying right on the ground across the trail – too large for me to cut. I asked Pete if he would have a look and cut as needed and he did so the following day.

November 13, 2012

Exchanged E-mails with Bernie regarding dogs in the Sanctuary. There were some issues with this earlier in the year. Also responded to an inquiry from Glen Eddy regarding use of the Sanctuary by its residents.

November 16, 2012

Reist Sanctuary Annual Report *(continued)*

Exchanged E-mails with Professor LoGiudice of Union College regarding her undertaking another new study in the Sanctuary with one of her Biology classes. This one to involve the relationship between predator types and numbers of deer ticks present. I gave permission to proceed.

November 20, 2012

Walked all the trails and all the entries – all OK. I shimmed and leveled the approach planks to the long Southern Blue Trail bridge, which have become “wobbly”.

November 29/30, 2012

Exchanged E-mails with Mr Steve Schmidt (of Union College) whos son is looking for a “community service project” to do and wondering if there might be a project in the Sanctuary that could be done. I gave him 3 ideas, all of which he expressed great interest in, on behalf of his son; (1) reestablish the ecological markers along the trail system that coordinate with the Sanctuary Trail Brochure, (2) refurbish the Sanctuary ID signs, and (3) help me to repost the Sanctuary property boundaries. We agreed to speak on these again “this Spring, after the ground thaws”.

Upcoming Field Trips

APRIL

Saturday, April 6 HUDSON MOHAWK BIKE PATH/ LOCK 7 (Schenectady County; morning)

Coordinators: Tom & Colleen Williams 857-2176 trwdsd@yahoo.com

In early April the Mohawk River is a stopover for migrating waterfowl, loons, and grebes. Some of the early short-distance migrants have returned by then as well. Belted Kingfisher, Eastern Phoebe, and Tree and Northern Rough-winged Swallows patrol the shoreline and out across the water. We will start from Lyons Park in Niskayuna, at the Niskayuna “railroad station”, scanning the Wide Waters. The trip continues along the bike path to the bridge at Ferry Rd., then passing wetlands and agricultural fields on the way to Lock 7. From Lock 7 we will observe the river for diving ducks, loons and grebes. The total walking distance is about 2 miles. We will pre-position vehicles at Lock 7 to transport the group back to the starting point.

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Lyons Park, on Rosendale Road in Niskayuna.

Sunday, April 7 VISCHER FERRY (Saratoga County; evening)

Coordinator: John Hershey 371-3114 hersheyj@nycap.rr.com

We will start out on this trip looking for spring waterfowl such as American Wigeon, Green and Blue-winged Teal, Gadwall, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Wood Duck, Ring-necked Duck, Hooded Merganser and Pied-billed Grebe. Rusty Blackbirds are also a possibility. We will linger until after dusk to listen for nocturnal bird sounds from rails, woodcocks and owls. With a little luck we may get to see an American Woodcock displaying at dusk.

Upcoming Field Trips *(continued)*

Meet at the main entrance at 5:45 p.m. Bring a flashlight to aid in returning to the parking area.

Thursday, April 25 WOODCOCK AT FIVE RIVERS (Albany County, evening)

Coordinator: Craig Thompson 475-0291 (Daytime only)

Meet at 7:00 PM at the Visitor Center for a brief talk about the American Woodcock and its management at Five Rivers. We'll then stroll out the Service Road through managed areas and feeding swales to arrive at the Bat Barn area at a time good for watching and hearing the Woodcock do its thing. Bring binoculars and a flashlight and dress appropriately for the weather.

Saturday, April 27 VOSBURGH MARSH (Greene County, morning)

Coordinator: Al Mapes 439-4086 aamapes@nycap.rr.com

On this morning trip, we will hike to the marsh for waterfowl and migrant land birds. We will also check the Hudson River for waterfowl and Bald Eagles.

Meet at 8:00 am at the Coxsackie Boat Launch and car caravan to Four Mile Point Rd.

Sunday, April 28 RAMSHORN-LIVINGSTON SANCTUARY (Greene Co; morning)

Coordinator: Tom Williams 857-2176 trwdsd@yahoo.com

RamsHorn-Livingston Sanctuary, located in the Village of Catskill, is 436 acres of tidal marsh and swamp, upland forests and fallow farm fields. Two miles of trails follow an old farm road to a 28-foot observation tower, then meander through forests and skirt RamsHorn Marsh. The early migrant residents will have returned by late April (herons, rails, thrushes, catbirds, thrashers and sparrows). We may encounter one of the first waves of vireos, gnatcatchers and warblers pushing northward. Ospreys, eagles and hawks are possible as well.

Meet promptly by 7:30AM, Colonie Center in Albany, Sears Auto Center at the intersection of Central Ave. and Wolf Rd. We will be on the Wolf Rd. side of Sears Auto Center. Alternatively, you can meet up with the group at the Park & Ride lot Exit 21 of the NYS Thruway (Catskill) by 8:15 a.m. Contact the trip leader if you plan on attending.

MAY

Saturday, May 4 PEBBLES ISLAND STATE PARK (Saratoga County; morning)

Coordinator: Gary Goodness 862-9260 goodness@nycap.rr.com

Peebles Island in early May is an ideal environment to watch spring migration. The variety of habitat ensures a plethora of birds; expect to see songbirds, sandpipers, waterfowl and the rest of an early mix of migrants.

Meet in the parking lot on Peebles Island at 8:30 a.m. There may be a State Park parking fee, so ride with a friend if you can.

Upcoming Field Trips *(continued)*

Sunday, May 5 PAPSCANEE ISLAND NATURE PRESERVE (Rensselaer County; morning)

Coordinator: Don Gresens 370-3923 dgresens@nycap.rr.com

This field trip will take us to the different habitats of Papscanee Island Preserve consisting of deciduous forest, cultivated farmland and freshwater marshes where we will see a variety of bird species. Swallows, herons and Wood Ducks can be seen in the wetland areas. Early returning resident species could include Least Flycatcher, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and both Baltimore and Orchard Oriole. Veery, Wood Thrush and American Redstart are common, along with several other warbler and vireo species.

Meet at 7:00 a.m. in the Kmart parking lot on Route 9 and 20 in East Greenbush to carpool, since parking at the preserve is limited.

May 11 RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR PERCH RIVER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA TRIP May 25-26

Coordinators: Tom & Colleen Williams 857-2176 trwdsd@yahoo.com

Please contact the trip coordinator by **May 11th** if you plan to attend.

Saturday, May 11 BIRDS & BREAKFAST AT FIVE RIVERS (Albany County; morning)

Coordinators: Scott Stoner 785-6760 scottjstoner@aol.com

Peggy Rudis 371-5051 peggyrudis@msn.com

Our annual celebration of the arrival of spring will be held at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center on Game Farm Road in Delmar. The center has an excellent trail system through a variety of habitats. You can expect to see and hear a number of resident and migrant species, including Canada Geese with their newly hatched goslings, Eastern Bluebirds feeding their young and (hopefully), a number of different warblers.

An early group will meet in the parking lot at 6:00 a.m. The building will open at 6:45 a.m. with coffee flowing. Groups will leave at 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. You may join one of these groups or go out on your own as we try to find as many species as possible. We'll rally at 10:30 a.m. for coffee, doughnuts, bagels, fresh fruit and a list compilation. The breakfast is free, but donations are accepted.

Sunday, May 12 VISCHER FERRY MIGRANTS (Saratoga County; morning)

Gregg Recer and Cathy Graichen 899-2678 gregg_recer@alumni.rpi.edu

This is one of the club's most popular spring trips. We will explore this varied site for warblers and other songbirds as well as marsh species including herons and rails.

Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the main entrance on Riverview Rd. next to the Whipple Bridge.

Saturday, May 18 CENTURY RUN (all day)

Compiler: Bob Yunick 1527 Myron Street, Schenectady, NY 12309

377-0146 AnneBobY@aol.com

Coordinator: Larry Alden 861-6087 overlook@nycap.rr.com

Upcoming Field Trips *(continued)*

This is the Club's 68th Guy Bartlett Century Run, where teams of birders try to find as many species of birds as they possibly can in a single day within the eleven county NYS Region 8. Each group must stay together and jointly identify species reported. *Reports must be mailed to the compiler by May 28th in order to be counted and published in "Feathers."* Also, please e-mail Birdline (birdline@hmbc.net) with the total species and highlights for your group. Note: Contact Larry Alden if you have any questions or need suggestions. Also let Larry know if you need people to fill out a group or are interested in joining a group; he may be able to make a match.

Saturday, May 18 RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR DOODLETOWN TRIP JUNE 2

Coordinators: Tom & Colleen Williams 857-2176 trwdsd@yahoo.com

Contact coordinators for trip details.

Sunday, May 19 MALTA TECH PARK TRAILS (Saratoga County; morning)

Coordinators: Susan and Tom Beaudoin 584-8116 smbeaudoin@gmail.com

This trip will consist of hiking two different trail systems in the Malta Tech Park, as well as walking some of the sidewalks along the roads within the Tech Park. Both have gentle to moderate uphill sections. The first trail is off Hermes Road and is a narrow foot/mountain bike path through a forested area along a ridge. Singing Hermit Thrushes and Veeries can be heard. From this trail we will connect to the 100 Acre Wood trail system located off Stonebreak Road. These trails are broader, covered with wood chips, and have stone benches and bridges crossing small streams. Here warblers, flycatchers, Scarlet Tanagers, Wood Thrushes and other woodland species can be found. Along the roadside we will look for Indigo Buntings, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Eastern Towhees, Eastern Bluebirds, sparrows and raptors.

Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the Park-and-Ride lot in the Malta Business Park. Coming from the south on I-87 (the Northway), take Exit 12 and stay to the right, heading east on Rt. 67 toward Route 9. From the north, go $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way around the traffic circle at Exit 12 to head east on Rt. 67. At the next traffic circle, take the first right into the business park and turn right again to the parking area.

Sat., May 25- Sun., May 26 PERCH RIVER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (near Watertown, NY; overnight)

Map: www.dec.ny.gov/docs/regions_pdf/perch.pdf
trwdsd@yahoo.com

Coordinators: Tom & Colleen Williams 857-2176

This 7862-acre WMA is located in central Jefferson County five miles northwest of the City of Watertown, NY. State Route 12 runs through the lower third of the Perch River marsh and has a large parking area. The primary access points for birders are along Vaadi and Allen Roads, including an observation tower. The site supports American Bittern, Least Bittern, Osprey, Bald Eagle, 50-60 breeding pairs of Black Terns, Sedge Wren, and Henslow's Sparrow. Many other characteristic wetland species breed here including Black-crowned Night-Heron, Pied-billed Grebe, Trumpeter Swan, Virginia Rail, Sora, Common Gallinule, American Coot, Marsh Wren, and Swamp Sparrow. Open water serves as foraging area for Caspian Tern, Common Tern, Black Tern, Pied-billed Grebe, Osprey, Bald Eagle, and many other species.*

*Source: NYS DEC

We'll bird Perch River WMA both days, with short trips to Chaumont Barrens Preserve (<http://tinyurl.com/cwz84rg>) and the Tug Hill WMA (www.dec.ny.gov/docs/regions_pdf/tughill.pdf) on the way to/from Watertown. The trip coordinator will suggest lodging and restaurant information, and the group can have a Saturday evening meal in Watertown if desired.

Upcoming Field Trips *(continued)*

Meet at 7:00 a.m. Saturday morning at Colonie Center in Albany, Sears Auto Center at the intersection of Central Ave. and Wolf Rd. We will be on the Wolf Rd. side of Sears Auto Center. It is a three hour drive between Albany and Watertown. Reservations are required for this trip. Please contact the trip coordinator by May 11th if you plan to attend.

JUNE

Saturday, June 1 SCHODACK ISLAND STATE PARK (Rensselaer County; morning)

Coordinator: Tom Williams 857-2176 trwdsd@yahoo.com
Audubon 782-9736 paco67@nycap.rr.com

Local leader: Eric Latini of Capital Region

Schodack Island State Park sits along the eastern shore of the Hudson River just south of Castleton-on-Hudson. Approximately seven miles of Hudson River and Schodack Creek shoreline bound the 1,052 acre site. A portion of the park shelters a Bird Conservation Area (BCA) that is home to thrushes, vireos, Cerulean Warblers and American Redstarts, and a Great Blue Heron rookery. Resident songbirds are plentiful.

Eric Latini of the Capital Region Audubon Society did field work at Schodack Island SP in 2012, making observations and collecting data about Cerulean Warblers. He will share his knowledge during the walk out to the Cerulean Warbler habitat, and help us locate this often elusive species.

Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Kmart plaza on Rt. 9 and 20 in East Greenbush to carpool as there will be a per car fee charged at the State Park.

Sunday, June 2 DOODLETOWN (Rockland County; morning-early afternoon)

Coordinators: Tom & Colleen Williams 857-2176 trwdsd@yahoo.com

Doodletown is the site of a former isolated hamlet near Bear Mountain in the town of Stony Point, NY. The site was settled in the 1760s and reached its peak population in the 1940s. After the Second World War, the Palisades Interstate Park Commission began to purchase many of the homes and in the 1960s the remaining properties were acquired through eminent domain. The stone remains of some of the homes can still be seen. For birders, it is renowned for the diversity and abundance of its species, especially warblers. Cerulean, Hooded, Kentucky and Worm-eating are all present here along with some of the more common warblers. You might also expect Indigo Bunting, Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Black Vulture and an assortment of vireos, flycatchers and other woodland species. We should be at Doodletown between 8:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

We will meet at 5:30 a.m. at Colonie Center in Albany, Sears Auto Center at the intersection of Central Ave. and Wolf Rd. We will be on the Wolf Rd. side of Sears Auto Center. Our return time to Colonie Center should be approximately 2:00 p.m. **Reservations are required for this trip.** Please contact the trip coordinator by **May 18th** if you plan to attend.

Feathers

Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club

c/o Five Rivers EEC

Game Farm Road

Delmar, NY 12054