

Rochester Birding Association, 5 Cranswick Lane, Rochester NY 14618

APRIL 2018 EVENTS & BIRDING FIELD TRIPS

APR 12 Thursday RBA General Meeting, 7:00 p.m., the Baptist Temple, 1101 Clover Street, Rochester NY 14610 (in Brighton). Speaker: *Fred Stoss.* Title: *Climate Change: Is It All for the Birds, or What?* See the article on p. 3 for more information.

APR 20 Friday

OWL WOODS ("PEAR ORCHARD") WOODCOCK COURTSHIP FLIGHT

This will be an evening trip for woodcock courtship flight. If you've never seen this spectacle, prepare to be amazed: birds call noisily from the ground in grassy fields before spiraling rapidly up high, descending back down in a zig-zagging noisy frenzy, only to start the cycle anew. An amazing sight! Meet in the parking lot on the east side of Manitou Beach Road just off the Lake Ontario State Parkway and across from the Owl Woods trail head at 7:00 p.m. The Owl Woods Trails may be wet and muddy in spots.

Boots are STRONGLY recommended. Leader: *Kimberly Sucy 585-503-2534*

APR 21 Saturday

TRAILS AT HIGH ACRES NATURE AREA (PERINTON PONDS AREA)

Over 130 bird species have been observed at HANA including, more than 70 that nest in the diverse habitats found there. During this field trip, we expect to see at least 40 species returning to nest or on their way to northern nesting grounds. Our approximately 2 mile walk will explore about 250 acres at HANA and include some wet spots requiring ankle-high waterproof shoes or boots. We will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the parking lot on Perinton Parkway approximately 1/4 mile east of the Waste Management offices. Extra spotting scopes would be very helpful.

Leaders: Kimberly Sucy 585-503-2534 and Rosemary Reilly

APR 22 Sunday

BRADDOCK BAY HAWK LOOKOUT

This trip is for the spring hawk flight and migrating songbirds. This is a joint trip with the Buffalo Ornithological Society. Work to identify distant raptors and meet some great new people, too! Meet in the Brad-

dock Bay Park lot off East Manitou Road at 9:30 a.m.

Leaders: Mike Tetlow 585-425-7849 and Members of the BOS

APR 25

HIGHLAND PARK

Wednesday

We'll be looking for spring migrants and lovely flora. This walk would be gorgeous even without the birds, but it does have birds in abundance! Find out where people have spotted the rarities that do pop up in this urban treasure. Meet at the conservatory on Reservoir Avenue at 8:00 a.m.

Leader: Janet Miles 585-787-0507

APR 28

BEGINNER BIRDER TRIP—LAKESHORE WARBLER HOTSPOTS

Saturday

Learn the basics of identifying our most colorful migrants on this trip, which will stop at several areas where these birds tend to congregate in spring. We'll be looking for color patterns, song, and the distinctive behaviors, to enhance identification skills with these fast-moving beauties. Several trails may be very muddy, so boots are strongly recommended! Meet at the parking lot behind Lakeview Community Church, 30 Long Pond Rd. in Greece (near Edgemere Drive) at 7:30 a.m.

Leaders: Kimberly Sucy 585-503-2534. & Co-leader TBA

APR 29

FOUR MILE CREEK PRESERVE, WEBSTER

Sunday

We will meet at 8:00 a.m. in the preserve parking lot at the southeast corner of Lake Road and Phillips Road in Webster. We will look for early spring migrants along the hiking trails. The trails will most likely be muddy, so appropriate footwear is recommended.

Leaders: Tom & Nancy Poeth 585-872-5344

Welcome to the Flock

Join me in welcoming these 7 new members to the RBA.

Ann Marie Bailey
Cynthia Barlow
Melody Guadagnino
Yavuz Selim Gul
Andrea Kingston
Anna Schreyer
Christine Vandervoort

Current RBA Membership is 326. We also have Young Birders (6), one corporate member, Little Gull subscribers (4) and Little Gull Com-

plimentary subscribers (22).

Membership Tidbits

A little time on my hands and a powerful database reveals the following: 47% of our members have joined in the last 5 years.

23% of our members have been in the RBA for 25 years or more.

John Boettcher

President's Column

Amy Kahn



February gave us a false spring, March dragged winter back into the present. I can't wait to see what April will bring. I feel sorry for the birds that jumped the season in February with

early nesting attempts; I hope to see them try again in April.

Starting this spring, there are many ways for RBA members to help the club. The board has created 4 new committees to help direct us into the future. We would love to have input from members not currently on the board. One, chaired by Kevin Farrell, is looking at strategies to in-

crease diversity in the RBA. Another is coming up with both workshops for 2018 and planning for the future; Andrea Patterson is chairing that group. We now have a communications committee chaired by Liz Magnanti. Finally, we have a volunteer outreach committee currently chaired by Laura Kammermeier and me. These committees do much of their work by e-mail, so there won't be lots of meetings to attend, but they will be ongoing. We are also looking for folks to help with one-time outreach events.

Bird of Prey Days will be April 27-29, 2018, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Snowy Owl is the featured species. Tom McDonald will speak, as well as one of his colleagues, J.F. Therien, from Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in PA. Our RBA young birders will be involved. Will you? Contact John Boettcher or me if you can help out. We will have a table both Saturday and Sunday.

RBA has been invited to participate in the NATURE @ THE MARKET. part of the "special quests" program for nonprofits at the Rochester Public Market. Qualifying nonprofit special quests can 'table' for free at the market and can connect with a large volume and variety of com- munity members. Organizations can provide information and promote their causes/organizations to market-goers. The market is a terrific place to reach a huge volume and variety of people. The market makes it easy. providing folding tables and chairs. and public address system announcements throughout the day. Nature quests are also listed on the city web site and on social media. It's very popular with nonprofits, and if RBA wants to do this we have to sign up very soon. We could choose a Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday morning. Saturdays have the largest crowds and are the most popular for groups to choose. This opportunity can be any time of year. but is more comfortable to do in warmer weather. Let me or John Boettcher know if you are interested in working at a table for a few hours.

POWER coalition has had some media coverage about the coalition. Also a letter was sent to Governor

Cuomo, and Lieutenant Governor Hochul. See pages 4-5 for links to the letter and some news articles.

Wind Farms – Lighthouse. Apex ended their negotiations with the Parties (RBA was one) and released March 5 what they plan to include in their application to the state. The report is now open for public comments through May 9th. Apex has also announced that the Preliminary Scoping Statement for the Heritage Wind Farm in Barre, Genesee County is available. The link is also in the Conservation article.



Editor's Corner Jay Greenberg



Preventing Bird Collisions with Windows

An article by Kathryn Davino in the news-

letter of the Delaware-Ostego Audubon Society (Belted Kingfisher vol. 50, #3, p. 5) recommends a new type of translucent window tape called BirdTape (sold by the American Bird Conservancy) to prevent birds from colliding with windows and injuring themselves. She states that the tape is far superior to decals with hawk silhouettes. According to her, the birds avoid the silhouettes, but still strike areas of glass without them. She further states that she can still view birds with binoculars through the tape and even take photos of them. You can read more about the tape, as well as buy it, at http://www.collidescape.org/abcbirdtape.

March Talk and Speaker

As you hear or read in various media outlets, climate and climate change has become an almost daily topic of concern and one that is both scientifically and technically complex, and also increasingly controversial. The issue revolves around a single chemical that is part of Earth's dynamic systems, and one that has potential for changing life on our planet. Since 1751 about 400 billion metric tonnes (881,849,048,739 TRILLION pounds) of carbon have been released into the earth's atmosphere from the consumption of fossil fuels and cement production, which produce carbon dioxide (CO₂)—one of the greenhouse gases, and the one most easily controlled. There is a large body of scientific evidence that suggests these man-made emissions are enhancing and disrupting the natural cycling of carbon in the earth's land, atmospheric, and water systems. As a result of this disruption, we find ourselves living in a world constrained by greenhouse gases. Melting glaciers, increased sea levels, more frequent and longer severe episodic storms, and changing climate systems contribute to a more chaotic worldwide setting of often catastrophic floods, droughts, wildfires, coastal zone erosion, and even changes in biodiversity.

Many scientists (professional and "citizen scientists") study the impacts of climate change on birds. The connections between human activities, such as our energy demands that require more fossil fuels, and the world's changing climate will be discussed in the context of impacts to birds worldwide.

The presentation will end with some observations about how we might make necessary changes so that future generations will not live in a world that is constrained by greenhouse gases.

Fred Stoss joined the SUNY University at Buffalo in 1996, and serves in the Research, Education, and Outreach group in the University, where he is librarian liaison for the Biological Sciences, Geology, and Mathe-

matics Departments, and is one of the librarians with responsibilities for ecology and environmental science and studies.

Prior to UB, Fred was the Director of Library and Information Services at the Center for Environmental Information in Rochester. Before becoming a librarian, he was an environmental health and toxicology research associate at the University of Rochester Medical Center and the Syracuse Research Corporation.

He is a member of the American Library Association, the Atmospheric Science Librarians International (Chair 2018-2019), the American Institute for Biological Sciences, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is the only librarian to have chaired the environmental section of both the American Library Association (Task Force on the Environment), and the Environmental Information Division of the Special Libraries Association.

Fred Stoss (left) with Al Gore in 2007.



RBA IN THE FIELD

Charlotte, Braddock Bay 3/4/2018

Eighteen folks showed up for this Beginner Birder Trip. It was cold. The temperature was 30° with a cloudless sky, but the wind was 15-20 mph out of the northwest. Waves were impressively and constantly breaking over the Charlotte Pier near the rendezvous area. We leaders decided to change route this year and, after assembling and a brief look around, we car pooled to Turning Point Park just a few miles south on Lake Avenue. We had

hoped that there would be ducks on the river at the overlook and birds in the adjacent woodlot. The group was mostly disappointed on both counts, and we returned to our rendezvous area to make use of the bathrooms in the ferry terminal. There were Long-tailed Ducks and Mallards in the river and the usual gull species about. A few folks heard Fish Crow. Our final destination was the marina on the east side of Braddock Bay where we found a large concen- tration of ducks. Redheads were the most numerous with good concentrations of Greater Scaups and Ring-necked Ducks. The sun-induced iridescence of the Redheads was spectacular. Cloudy-day matte chestnut was transformed to flashing gold and fiery orange. Careful scanning revealed Gadwall, American Wigeon, Lesser Scaup and Canvasback to the delight of the group. Scanning the raft with binoculars quickly brought tears to one's eyes. This was partly because of the wonderful views of the ducks, but mostly because of the strong wind directly in the face. Many thought this was a good place to call it quits. For the day, we ended up with 22 species.

Cindy Marino, John Boettcher, and Norma Platt



Above: a male **Redhead**. Below: a male Canvasback. Photos by Jay Greenberg.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION NEEDED: COMMENTS ON PROPOSED APEX LIGHTHOUSE WIND PROJECT DUE BY MAY 9, 2018

by Amy Kahn, RBA President and Conservation Chair

This notice inviting comments on proposed Apex Lighthouse Wind Project stipulations¹ was issued by the New York State Department of Public Service (DPS) and Apex on March 6, 2018. Any person, agency or municipality may submit comments on the proposed stipulations. The procedure for submitting comments is listed at the end of this article.

The Rochester Birding Association (RBA) will restate our objections to the limited studies done to determine impacts on birds. RBA is working with the POWER consortium, but will also continue to work with Genesee Valley Audubon as a party on record as well. It is important to have members of RBA also comment as individuals on the proposed stipulations.

Your comments can make a difference. If you have been involved in any long-term studies of birds and bird migration along the Lake Ontario shoreline, or if you regularly submit

to eBird, let Apex and DPS know. More importance should be placed on data from long-term or ongoing studies than on Apex's brief point-in-time studies.

There are 34 topics (Exhibits) but the most important one for birds is Terrestrial Ecology (Exhibit 22) and the Appendices: Winter Raptor Survey Protocol; Avian and Eagle Protocol; and the Avian and Bat Plan. These documents can be linked to here by clicking on the appropriate blue underlined text.

Lighthouse Wind, LLC (Lighthouse), a subsidiary of Apex, proposes to construct a commercial-scale wind power project located within the Town of Somerset, Niagara County, and the Town of

Yates, Orleans County, New York. Construction would consist of up to 70 approximately 600 foot tall wind turbines producing up to 201 megawatts (MW) of wind energy, electric lines connecting the turbines to each other and to the electrical network, access roads, meteorological towers, an operation and maintenance building, a collection substation, and temporary construction staging areas.

The majority of the project is within 2 miles of the Lake Ontario shoreline, which is why the RBA is involved and concerned. RBA published a position paper in 2007 which clearly states that our organization is not opposed to wind power, but states that proper siting is crucial to minimizing impacts to birds. This project is in the internationally important migratory pathway of hundreds of bird species.

RBA has been involved in challenging Apex's science since 2015 and has been a Party since 2016. RBA worked with

other environmental organizations for two years to try to make sure the scope of studies included in the application would adequately document the use of the Lake Ontario shoreline by many species of birds. The majority of our concerns were dismissed or never answered even when they had agreed to do so. We were involved by the DEC as they worked to create stronger policy which was then agreed to by Apex. The only other concern acknowledged was that they would review other data sets, including citizen-collected long-term datasets from various sources including eBird, breeding bird surveys, the migratory stop-over study and long term public records from Hawk Migration Association of North America (HMANA), and the Braddock Bay Bird Observatory (BBBO).

Thus far, the only Parties who have agreed to the stipulations are state agencies: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), New York State DPS, the New York State Department of Health (DOH), and New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (DAM). The parties which sign the proposed stipulations agree that the studies outlined in the proposed stipulations constitute all the necessary studies concerning the subject matter of the topic and that the Apex will not be requested to provide ad-

ditional studies, except as provided for in the proposed stipulations.

The other Parties including the Town of Somerset, the Town of Yates, Save Ontario Shores, Genesee Valley Audubon Society, and RBA have not yet signed off on the stipulations and are unlikely to do so. Any party which decides not to sign off on the stipulations may raise objections at the hearing as to the methodology or scope of any study performed in compliance with a topic.

The full text of the proposed stipulations, named the "Proposed Lighthouse Wind Stipulations for Publication" and dated February 26, 2018, is available at

the DPS website, located at NYSDPS-DMM: Case Number: 14-F-0485.

Any person, agency or municipality may submit comments on the proposed stipulations by emailing Taylor Quarles at info@lighthousewind.com (Apex) and by filing a copy with the Secretary to the Siting Board (Hon. Kathleen H. Burgess at secretary@dps.ny.gov). Comments are due by May 9, 2018. Be sure to include the Case Number: 14-F-0485 in your correspondence.

Your comments make a difference. Comments made at earlier stages of this project have strengthened the process and made it clear to the state that they needed to hold Apex responsible for following the public participation process. We need to continue to express our concerns.

Glossary for the DPS process

1Stipulations are agreements among the parties that are designed to clarify issues pertaining to any scope of a study to be included in the application for the wind project.

Exhibit: A topic or chapter of the application document that defines the scope of studies presented in legal form.

Party: A person or group who may be affected by or concerned about any issues related to the proposed wind project and any decision being made about it.

The Heritage Wind Farm Project by Apex

by Amy Kahn, RBA President and Conservation Chair

Apex has announced that the Preliminary Scoping Statement (PSS) for the Heritage Wind Farm in Barre, Genesee County was published on March 16, 2018. RBA has already signed up as a Party for that project as well. Case Number 15-F-0546

POWER coalition has had some media coverage about the coalition. Also a letter was sent to Governor Cuomo, and Lieutenant Governor Hochul. Links to the letter and some news articles follow.

The POWER Coalition has seen some positive media coverage after the press release went out at the end of February. Links are here:

http://www.lockportjournal.com/news/local_news/power-coalition-emerges-to-oppose-lighthouse-wind/article_13734fa1-41dc-580d-970b-e65a93ea1ef0.html

https://rbj.net/2018/02/22/more-opposition-to-lighthouse-wind-project-emerges/

https://orleanshub.com/environmental-groups-form-coalition-to-oppose-lighthouse-wind-project/

http://buffalonews.com/2018/02/26/environmental-coalition-formed-to-oppose-proposed-wind-turbines-near-lake-ontario/

The letter SOS sent to Governor Cuomo on February 22, 2018 about the formation of the coalition is posted on the DPS website. Copies of the letter have been sent to Lieutenant Governor Hochul, the WNY delegation, Siting Board members and the DPS secretary. Don't hesitate to forward a copy of the letter to any of your local, regional or state representatives.



February 2018 Sightings Report

It was another warm February, the 2nd warmest on record following last year's warmest on record. Temperatures averaged 33.6 °F, 7.2° above normal. There were record highs set at 71° on the 20th, 67° on the 21st, and 64° on the 28th, with also an all-time record high low of 54° on the 20th. The high average for the month included a cold start for the first week and a half before the warm-up. Precipitation totaled 2.15", 0.20" above normal, and snowfall at 15.7" was 5.8" below normal. The snow arrived in 3 events over 4 days on February 6-7 and 9-10. After these, there was only a total of 0.8" for the rest of the month. There was some rain or snow on all but 3 days, with the maximum rainfall 0.39" on the 19th. The last half of the month was mild with a taste of spring, but clearly from the records, the winter through mid-month had taken its toll on lingering half-hardy birds.

There were hints of an early spring movement starting on the 18th, but the 20th and after brought a surge of new waterfowl and blackbirds and a scattering of other new arrivals through the rest of the month. Large numbers (to 50,000) of Snow Geese, Northern Pintails, and lesser numbers of other species arrived in several Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management areas (NMWMA) and along the Lake Ontario shore and its bays. Tundra Swans were also noted moving in or passing in several areas. Shortly after, rarer species, including Greater White-fronted Goose, Ross's Goose, Cackling Goose, and Eurasian Wigeon, were reported to add to King Eider and Barrow's Goldeneye continuing. By month's end, all of the regular spring waterfowl except for Blue-winged

Teal and Brant, later arrivals, had been reported. All of the regular loons and grebes were also found, though numbers were low.

This year's Braddock Bay hawk watch began on the 27th. with Greg Lawrence as this year's official counter. The watch was off to a good start in just 2 days, with a Black Vulture, 84 Turkey Vultures, half a dozen relatively early Red-shouldered Hawks, 5 Rough-legged Hawks, and 2 Peregrine Falcons plus other expected species adding up to 167 total birds. With time and interest, the hawk watchers also kept track of other species nearby and passing, including nine Greater White-fronted Geese, 11 Cackling Geese, 327 Tundra Swans, an Iceland Gull, an early Killdeer, two Common Ravens, and assorted passerines. Sandhill Cranes were first reported on the 18th from the Taylor Marsh area and after the 24th on several days in the NMWMA, then on the 28th in the Town of Wolcott. Killdeer was first reported in the Nations Road Important Bird Area on the 20th and in many locations after that. American Woodcock was noted in the Hogan Point area on the 23rd and in the NMWMA on the 28th; both dates on the early side. Falcon reports were off a bit, especially for American Kestrel, but the bird of the month from that grouping was a new species for the region not even seen by any birders, a Crested Caracara photographed by a trail cam in Wayne County just east of Webster on February 1st.

With the mid-month warm-up and opening of Irondequoit Bay, there was a massive influx of gulls to that area, especially larger gulls, with impressive counts such as Greg Lawrence's notes on the 24th of 4,600 Herring Gulls, 11

Iceland Gulls, 5 Glaucous Gulls, 3 Lesser Black-backed Gulls, and 272 Great Black-backed Gulls. There were no reports of early Bonaparte's Gull or any really rare gulls.

Non-passerine land birds are typically just the doves, owls, and woodpeckers in this month. No one reported the Eurasian Collared-Dove this month. All of our regular owl species were at least reported. Snowy Owl continued in good numbers, with 19+ individuals reported from at least 18 locations by over 40 observers. Numbers of Short-eared Owls found on the regular biweekly DEC counts remained good this year, with 18 noted on the count on the 13th and 17 on the 27th. Red-headed Woodpecker was reported only from Hamlin Beach State Park, and only two Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were reported.

			10-year
			Average
	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	(2008-2017)
Species for February	129	131	116
New for the year	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>5.7</u>
Total for the year to date	140	138	132

Bob Spahn and the RBA Records Committee

Observers: Jim Adams, Janet Akin, Mitchell Barry, Sue Barth, Doug Beattie, Linda Clark-Benedict, Lynn Bergmeyer, Barry Bermudez, Terry Bohling, Lynn Bra-

band, Joe Brin, Robert Buckert, Sara Burch, Bruce Cady, Brad Carlson, Donna Carter, Denis Caysinger, Kelly Close, Andrew Consler, Kathleen Dalton, Doug Daniels, Gregg Dashnau, Deborah Dohne, Mark Druziak, George Ford, Kenny Frisch, Kyle Gage, Andy Garland, Candy Giles, Bill Gillette, Christopher Goetz, James Goetz, Sheryl Gracewski, Jay Greenberg, Kevin Griffith, Ralph & Georgia Guenther, Michael Gullo, Judy Gurley, Andrew Guthrie, Helen & Chris Haller, David Harding, Kim Hartquist, Diane Henderson, Christina Hoh, Jennalee Holzschuh, Dick Horsey, Bill Howe, Carolyn Jacobs, Nicholas Kachala, Jack Kammermeier, Jim Kimball, Kathy Kirsch, J. Gary Kohlenberg, Chris Lajewski, Tom Lathrop, Leona Lauster, Greg Lawrence, Tim Lenz, Joan & Vern Lindberg, Peggy Mabb, Mary Magistro, Cindy Marino, Pat Martin, Lauri Mattle, Jacob McCartney, Kevin McGann, Jay McGowan, Bob McGuire, Chita McKinney, Jim Miles, Randi Minetor, Adrielle Mitchell, Ann Mitchell, Mike Morgante, Celeste Morien, Brian & Brooke Morse, Tom Nash, Rivka Noll, Dave Nutter, Dave Odell, Andrea Patterson, Jon Podoliak, Jay Powell, Bill Purcell, Carolyn Ragan, RBA Field Trips, Rochester Young Birders Club, Rosemary Reilly, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Kevin Rybczynski, Livia Santana, Michael Scheibel, Mickey Scilingo, Shirley Shaw, Tom & Pat Smith, Robert & Susan Spahn, Dave Spier & Donna Mason-Spier, Chris Stanger, Rick Stevens, Kimberly Sucy, Jim Tarolli, Steve Taylor, Dave Tetlow, Mike & Joann Tetlow, John & Bonnie VanDerMeid, Mike Wasilco, Bridget Watts, David Wheeler, Joe Wing, Jim Wood.



A **Snowy Owl**. Photo by Greg Crawford

34th ANNUAL GENESEE VALLEY WOOD-CARVERS SHOW & COMPETITION

Saturday, April 7, 2018

Eisenhart Auditorium, Rochester Museum and Science Center, 657 East Avenue, Rochester NY 14607

Hours: 10am-4:30pm

Free admission.

Competition Divisions and Categories:

Bird Division: Waterfowl, sea, shore, and wading; prey and upland game; songbird; all other birds; decorative smoothie; primitive/antique smoothie; interpretive sculpture; miniature; and miscellaneous.

General Division: Caricatures, human figures, animals, marine life; holiday and mythical, bark, relief, miniature, and miscellaneous.

Also offering Working Decoy, Bench, Youth, and Special (Floating Rubber Ducky this year) Divisions.

Contact:webmaster@gvwoodcarvers.com



Barn Owl carving by Al Jordan.

The 2018 Allegany Nature Pilgrimage

The 60th Annual Pilgrimage will occur on June 1, 2, and 3 this year. It is an outdoor learning experience for the whole family at Allegany State Park. There are workshops for all ages that go on throughout the weekend. The topics include butterflies, old growth forests, flowers, beavers, birds, geology, astronomy and many more. There are long and short hikes led by avid and very capable naturalists. There are evening presentations in the Main Tent on Friday and Saturday nights as well as owl prowls, insects by black light, and exploring the night sky. Many nature enthusiasts return year after year. Registrants can book a cabin or campsite in the park or stay in an area motel.

If you are interested go to <u>alleganynaturepilgrimage.com</u> for details and more information. The Allegany Nature Pilgrimage is sponsored by four nature organizations: The Buffalo Audubon Society, Jamestown Audubon Society, Presque Isle Audubon Society and the Burroughs

Audubon Nature Club located here in Rochester. Any questions? Call Julie and Dean Clayton at 249-9489.



Birders Exchange

Birders' Exchange collects and redistributes new and used binoculars, spotting scopes, digital camera equipment, old and new field guides, and other relevant material. Sponsored by the American Birding Association, it supports critical research and conservation programs in the Caribbean, Central and South America. Won't you help? Please bring your donations to the RBA monthly meetings or contact Lucretia at 671-1310 or lucretia@frontiernet.net for alternate arrangements. Remember to include a list of the items and your name and address with your donation.

Lucretia Grosshans





We're on the Web www.RochesterBirding.com

The Little Gull is published monthly at the beginning of the month, except that the July and August issues are combined and published at the beginning of July. RBA members are encouraged to contribute. Please send contributions by the 15th of the month to Jay Greenberg, Editor, conservationist@earthlink.net. Contributions can consist of original birding-related nonfiction and fiction articles, poems, photos, and artwork. Humor is welcome. If you have any questions, please contact the editor.

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