



The Flyer

SPRING 2007

KEEPING TRACK by Tammis Coffin



Piping Plovers are back at 3rd Beach!

Watch for signs of a plover protecting its nest and be sure to keep your distance!



BS Trip to Mexico

Join us next February to see millions of Monarch butterflies in Mexico at the far end of their migration. Reserve your spot before the end of May 2007.

In the parking lot last night, I met two faithful birders who'd come at dusk to observe the woodcock courtship. They'd heard them all night, the repeated buzzing "peents" on the ground, the twittering flight, and the chirping dive. Unfortunately the failing light prevented them from seeing the wide spirals that the males do in March of each year. What these gentlemen *had* seen that night was a great horned owl perched in a tree by the old farmhouse.

Driving home by moonlight, I paused at the beach where silvery reflections were uncoiling along the waves. I recalled some of the other stories I'd heard of the Norman Bird Sanctuary after dark. There was the moonlight hike to Hanging Rock long ago that became a midnight crawl when the moon went behind a cloud and the group realized that no one had brought a flashlight. There was the sighting of over forty spotted salamanders in a tight-packed breeding ball, seen by flashlight in Nelson Pond during a recent rain.

There are many things that I am anxious to see. For example, crab mating season. Every June horseshoe crabs crawl *en masse* out of the sea to mate and lay their eggs. You have to watch for them at midnight during the spring tide of the full or new moon. Asking around, I haven't found anyone who has seen this locally. According to naturalist Charles Avenengo, this is like being a New Yorker and never looking at the Empire State Building. June 1-2 of this year should be the right time to watch them all along the Atlantic Coast.



NORMAN BIRD SANCTUARY'S

BIRDS & BREAKFAST

Celebrate Spring with a morning of guided bird walks and breakfast featuring local growers, businesses and restaurants all overlooking the spectacular fields of the Norman Bird Sanctuary

RESERVATIONS

adults: \$20 in advance, \$25 at door
children: \$5, age 4-12
children age 3 and under - FREE

bird walks - 6:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

breakfast seatings - 8:00, 9:00 & 10:00 a.m.

for reservations, call (401) 846-2577
all proceeds to benefit the Sanctuary's mission of education and conservation

583 THIRD BEACH ROAD • MIDDLETOWN, RI

This year Norman Bird Sanctuary partners with Bliss Natural Market and Café to highlight local growers, restaurants, and businesses.

Our sponsors for Birds and Breakfast 2007 include:

Barrington Coffee Roasters

Bliss Natural Market and Cafe

Belmont Fruit

Lakuna designs

Manic Organic

Newport Biodiesel

Simmons Farm

The Green Grocer



SAVE THE DATE! August 18 The 4th Annual Bird Ball "Birds Gone Wild"

Tickets on sale June 1.
visit www.normanbirdsanctuary.org
to purchase tickets or to be a sponsor

NBS presents The First Annual

5K Road Race and Kids Run. June 16th.
to benefit our educational programs.

Register to run or sign up to be a sponsor at our website!



American Beach Grass planting at Third Beach

Thank you so much for helping us restore the dunes at Third Beach. There is no better way to welcome in spring than spending an afternoon on Third Beach with friends, volunteers, RI AmeriCorps and colleagues planting thousands of delicate sprigs of American beach grass (*Ammophila breviligulata*). This is our second year planting on the 200-yard primary dune along the shores of the Sakonnet River.

American beach grass grows naturally on the dunes that border the beach but does not grow in the rich soil of the inland marshes. The beach grass stands up well under the continuous salt spray and the summer heat on the dunes. On the hottest days, the leaves curl inward to reduce the area exposed to the sun and to conserve moisture. With its roots going down to the freshwater table below the dunes and its horizontal runners spreading out under the sand around it, the beach grass stabilizes the dunes. Visitors are warned not to climb the protective dunes or harm the beach grass. Habitat stabilization is the goal of this long term project. Rodents, mammals, insects and birds utilize this harsh area each in there own way.



SUPPORT THE NORMAN BIRD SANCTURARY TODAY!

Contribute Towards Our Mission Of Conservation and Education!

Become a member

- ☐ Business \$125
- ☐ Extended Family \$100
- ☐ Family \$50
- ☐ Individual \$35

Donate

- ☐ \$25
- ☐ \$50
- ☐ \$100
- ☐ Other _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE/EMAIL: _____

Contribution Method:

☐ Check

☐ MasterCard

☐ Visa

Card #: _____ Expiration: _____

Signature: _____

Events & programs

For more information visit us at www.normanbirds sanctuary.org

To register call us at (401) 846-2577

May 13, 27; June 10, 24

Sundays 8-10am
Bird Walks with
Jay Manning & Bill Saslow
Free to all, no registration required

May 21; June 4, 11, 18, 25

Mondays 6-7:30pm
or

May 16, 23, 30; June 6, 13

Wednesdays 9-10:30am
Yoga with Clara Morgan
5 classes
Members \$40, non-members \$50,
seniors \$25
Registration encouraged

May 9, 16, 23, 30; June 6, 13

Wednesdays 1-2pm
Preschoolers with Parents
6 classes
Members \$50, non-members \$60
Register by May 2

May 12

Saturday 6am-6pm
Migration in the Nutmeg State:
a birding road trip
Members \$40, non-members \$50
Register by May 7

May 17

Thursday 6:30-8:30pm
Nature Photography Techniques
with John Pereira
Members \$8, non-members \$10
Registration encouraged

May 18

Friday 7-8:30pm
Coyotes of Aquidneck Island with
Numi Mitchell
Members \$5, non-members \$7
Children half price
Registration encouraged

May 19

Saturday 12-5pm
Recreational Tree Climbing
Members \$50, non-members \$75
Register by May 12

May 20

Sunday 6:30-11am
Birds and Breakfast
Advance \$20/adult \$5/child
\$25 at the door
Registration encouraged

June 1-30

Every day 9am-5pm
Celebrate National Trails Month
Hike all seven miles of trails and
earn a certificate
Members free
Non-members \$5/adult \$2/child

June 1

Friday 7-8:30pm
Grassland Birds Talk & Walk with
Lauren Miller
Members \$8, non-members \$10
Children half price
Registration encouraged



June 3; July 1, 29; August 26

Sundays 9-10am
Wildflower Walks with Sue Williams
Free to all, no registration required

June 8

Friday 6-7pm
Shake Your Soul Dancing with
Katherine Carbone
Members \$8, non-members \$10
Registration encouraged

June 9

Saturday 9-11am
Piping Plover Talk & Walk with
Lauren Miller
Members \$8, non-members \$10
Children half price
Registration encouraged

June 16

Saturday 10am start
NBS 5K Road Race
Website for info

June 16

Saturday 3-5pm
Meditation, Art & Nature with
Katherine Carbone
Member \$15, non-members \$20
Register by June 9

June 19

Tuesday 6-8pm
First Day of Summer Celebration
with Zach Ladin
Picnic, games, live music, hike
\$5/adult donation, children free
No registration required

June 25-August 17

NBS Summer Camp
Pre-school through grade 8
Limited space available!

June 28; August 2, 9, 16

Thursdays 11am-12pm
Story Time for ages 3-7
Make a donation to our animal fund
No registration required

June 28

Thursday 6-7:30pm
NBS Annual Meeting
Keynote speaker: Susan Adie
Free to all, registration required

June 29

Friday 6-8pm
Herb Walk with
Hap & Clara Morgan
Members \$8, non-members \$10
Children half price
Registration encouraged

June 30

Saturday 2-3:30pm
Butterflies and Grasslands Walk
with Lauren Miller
Members \$8, non-members \$10
Children half price
Registration encouraged

Save the Date!

August 18

Saturday 7pm
Fourth Annual Bird Ball
"Birds Gone Wild"
Tickets go on sale June 1



583 Third Beach Road
Middletown, RI
02842

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Newport, RI 02842
Permit # 43

Our Wish List!

- Paper Shredder
- Copy Machine
- Passenger Van
- Full Size Refrigerator
- Upper Kitchen Cabinets
- Bird Seed
- Kitchen Size Towels
- Pine Animal Bedding
- Guinea Pig Pellets
- Camp Memories and Pictures
from Past Years
- Volunteers

Recycle!

Bring us your old cell phones and all empty ink
jet, laser, and fax cartridges!

We partnered with Recycle First to raise funds
by recycling cell phones and ink cartridges.

*What's better than saving the planet and supporting
NBS at the same time?*



Healthy People
Wholesome Environment

NATURAL, ORGANIC, WHOLE FOODS

Save \$10 On any purchase of \$40 or more

Redeem coupon for free gift bag

Visit our NEW location in Portsmouth

Route 138, 934 East Main Road, (401)683-0007

One coupon per visit, per \$40 purchase. Offer good until Sept. 30, 2007

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