

# The Meadowlark

The Newsletter of Genesee Valley Audubon Society, Vol. XXXII, No. 5  
May/June 2005



## Electronic Meadowlark

### Download or get it by e-mail

We are trying to get the maximum impact out of our Genesee Valley Audubon Society (GVAS) money. Minimizing the expense of distributing the Meadowlark while maintaining its quality would be a viable cost savings. The money saved will let us take on projects that we currently can't pursue, due to lack of funds. Furthermore, the paper that is not used for this purpose will save a few trees in the coming years. Overall this will be a great win for the environment.

Please help us by selecting a method that you would like to use to obtain your copy of the Meadowlark.

1. **Download:** Go to our website [www.ggw.org/gvas](http://www.ggw.org/gvas) and send us your NAME and postal ZIP CODE.
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3. If you do not reply we will assume that you want to continue to receive the Meadowlark via postal mail and will send it.

We need the ZIP CODE information so that we can take you out of our postal mailing list. You can send the above information to our Web-Master Sid Gear; his e-mail address is [SidGear@worldnet.att.net](mailto:SidGear@worldnet.att.net). You can also send him the information by e-mail by clicking [Officers and Directors](#) and then clicking his name at our web site [www.ggw.org/gvas](http://www.ggw.org/gvas).

Thank you in advance for your help in supporting this endeavor.

## Falcon Watch

The falcons are back at Kodak! Check them out on the web at [www.kodak.com/go/birdfans/](http://www.kodak.com/go/birdfans/). GVAS is looking forward to another great season of falcon watching this summer. We learned a lot last year when Alkyonis sprained the muscles in her shoulder while learning to fly. Havoc was there watching over her when she was found and picked up by our falcon watchers. Join us this summer by volunteering 3-4 hours a week for 3-4 weeks to watch over the young falcons as they learn to fly. Call June, (585) 865-6047, if you are interested.

## First Sunday Hikes

GVAS will host our First Sunday Hikes at Braddock Bay Wildlife Management Area this year. We will explore this beautiful and often forbidding area near Lake Ontario. Always dress or bring clothes for the windy cool environment along Lake Ontario. We will meet in the lodge parking lot at Braddock Bay Park on East Manitou Road off the Lake Ontario State Parkway. If you have a question, call June at (585) 865-6047.

May 1	8:00 a.m.
June 5	8:00 a.m.
July 3	8:00 a.m.
August 7	8:00 a.m.
September 4	3:00 p.m.
October 2	3:00 p.m.
November 6	3:00 p.m.
December 4	3:00 p.m.

## Volunteers Needed

On Saturday, June 11, there are two events at which we will need volunteers. The ADK Outdoor Expo is in Mendon Pond Park and the second annual Rubber Ducky Race will be held in Fairport. We need volunteers to man a booth at the ADK Outdoor Expo to tell people about birds and GVAS, our fieldtrips, falcon watch, etc. The second annual Rubber Duck Race is a fundraiser to support BirdCOR, a coalition of groups that spreads the word about the importance of birds in our world. We work with BirdCOR to put on the International Migratory Bird day Festival and sponsor Flying Wild Workshops. At the Rubber Duck Race GVAS would like to have a display on migratory birds and need a volunteer to meet and greet the public. We also need volunteers to pour ducks into the canal and be in canoes to help pick them up.

## Planning to Preserve Our Communities, Land and Farms

Monday, June 27, 7-9 pm, First Baptist Church, 1862 Penfield Rd., Penfield  
Sponsored by the Center for Sustainable Living and the Federation of Monroe County Environmentalists, this forum will cover an overview of the complexities of planning our land use amidst the many governmental units from town and village to city and county. Some successful strategies that have been used in Monroe County will be discussed. An interactive discussion including transportation, water use, preservation of farms and farmland, and economics will lead to specific ways communities and individuals can work together toward more sustainable communities.

# 3rd Annual International Migratory Bird Day Festival

## Talk on Bird Collisions kicks off annual festival.

"*The Migration Obstacle Course*"  
by Norman Wolfe.

**Friday, May 13, 2005, 7:30 p.m.**  
Braddock Bay Park Lodge  
(E. Manitou Rd at Lake Ontario  
State Parkway, Town of Greece)

### *Collisions: Clear the Way for Birds!*

This year's national theme for IMBD focuses on the threats to birds from collisions with a variety of human-made structures, and what people can do about this urgent problem. Cell phone towers, power lines, motor vehicles, windows, and even sources of renewable energy, such as wind turbines, create obstacles for birds in flight. Collisions with these obstacles may cause the death of one bird or tens of thousands of birds in a single incident. Biologists estimate the combined death toll from aerial collisions may exceed 700 million birds each year. Learn how biologists, conservation organizations, communities, and individuals are joining forces with industry representatives to unravel causes and to explore ways of making a bird's journey safer.

Mr. Wolfe is the author of *Birding in Central and Western New York* (2001, Footprint Press), a compilation of trails and water routes for finding birds.

## BRADDOCK BAY PARK SATURDAY, MAY 14<sup>TH</sup>

**9:00 A.M.** — Nature and photo hike – East Spit/Cranberry Pond – led by Norm Wolfe

### THROUGHOUT THE DAY (10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.) —

- ◆ Exhibits by nearly two dozen Conservation Organizations and Agencies
- ◆ Migration Game, Kids Crafts, and Flying WILD Activities
- ◆ Art and Craft vendors
- ◆ Hawk Watch
- ◆ Live Birds of Prey from Braddock Bay Raptor Research and Wild Wings —  
See species such as American Kestrel, Barn Owl, Broad-winged Hawk, Eastern Screech-Owl, Golden Eagle, Great Horned Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Red-tailed Hawk, and Turkey Vulture. Tour the BBRR Banding Station.
- ◆ Mascots The Blue Goose (National Wildlife Refuge System) and The Incredible Hawk (Braddock Bay Raptor Research) "fly" through the festival.

**10 A.M.** — "Housing Purple Martins" —

Rick Marx tells what it takes to be a landlord for these amazing birds.

**11 A.M.** — Birds of Prey Live Demo – Wild Wings

**NOON** — "Backyard Birding & Beyond" – Rochester Birding Association – Seneca Park Zoo Society/Wegmans ZooMobile

**1 P.M.** — "Birds and Conservation on the Other Side of the World" – Dave Ferguson (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service) and Ed McCrea (BirdCOR) provide a pictorial overview of parks and wildlife in India.

**2 P.M.** — Announcements and Service Project Awards

**2:15 P.M.** — Birds of Prey Live Demo – Braddock Bay Raptor Research

**3:00 P.M.** — "The Bald Eagle: How it was Restored to New York State" —

Mike Allen (NYS DEC) recounts his experiences with our national symbol.

**3:30 P.M.** — Birds of Prey Live Demo – Braddock Bay Raptor Research

## 2nd Annual Rubber Duck Race



Once again GVAS and the other members of BirdCOR, who hold the IMBD Festival, are conducting the Rubber Duck Race to raise funds to support the festival and other bird conservation efforts in the Rochester area. The race will be held on June 11 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm,

race time at 1:00 pm, on the Erie Canal in the Village of Fairport (Main St. lift bridge at the historic Box Factory). This is a really fun and exciting event. To become a part of the event adopt a duck for \$5 at many of the merchants in the Village of Fairport, at the Bird House

on Monroe Ave., at the IMBD Festival, or at the race. There are thousands of dollars in prizes. To see pictures of the event last year and a list of prizes, go to [www.BirdCOR.org](http://www.BirdCOR.org) and click on the rubber duck. Hope to see you there!

# Events at the GVAS Center in Mount Morris

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## 2005 Nature Walk Schedule

Again in 2005 Genesee Valley Audubon Center in Mount Morris is offering a monthly nature walk through the month of November. The schedule is listed below. Dress appropriately for weather conditions. Trails may be wet. Binoculars will enhance your enjoyment. Contact Loretta Morrell at (585) 338-3683 for additional information.

Sat., May 7, 8:00am - 10:00am, Bird Walk

Sat., May 21, 10:00am - Noon, Warbler Walk

Sat., July 2, 8:00am - 10:00am, Warbler Walk

Sat., August 6, 8:00am - 10:00am, Warbler Walk

Sat. Sept. 10, 12:30pm - 2:00pm, Mushroom Walk

Sat., Oct. 1, 12:30pm - 2:00pm., Tree Identification Walk

Sat., Nov. 12, 12:30pm - 2:00pm, Nature Walk

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## Open House

Join GVAS at Genesee Valley Audubon Center on Saturday, May 7th for the Mount Morris Dam and Recreation Area Annual Open House from 8:00am until 2:00pm. We begin the day with a bird walk from 8:00am - 10:00am. At 10:00am enjoy refreshments and check out the work of all of our partners inside the Visitor Center. Make sure you stop into the nature center store while you are there. Games and craft activities for children of all ages up at the nature center throughout the day. A Powerpoint presentation on the natural history of the Turkey Vulture will also be offered. Time for this presentation is yet to be determined. This is a great opportunity to come on out to Mount Morris, enjoy the scenery, welcome the birds back from their winter travels, and see what we have been up to. For more information, or to volunteer for this fun day, contact Loretta Morrell at (585) 338-3683.

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## 1st Annual Wine, Wings `n Wildlife Weekend!

July 22nd - 23rd at Cumming Nature Center, sponsored by Finger Lakes Community College Environmental Conservation Department. Wine tasting, live bird of prey presentations, live music, wildlife seminars, guided nature hikes and children's activities and more at this first annual fundraising event for Braddock Bay Raptor Research and the Cumming Nature Center. Two evenings for adults, and one family morning full of fun events.

A schedule of events is available at the Cumming Nature Center web site. Go to [www.rmsc.org](http://www.rmsc.org) and click on Cumming Nature Center. Then click on Events.

## Directions to the Genesee Valley Audubon Center in Mt Morris

**From the North:** Take 390 to Exit 7 Mt. Morris and Letchworth Park. Turn left on to 408S. In town 408S will turn left followed by a very quick right. Follow 408S for 1.9 miles. Turn right at the William B Hoyt II, Mt Morris Dam and Recreation Area Entrance. Drive up to the visitor parking lot (1.7 miles). Meet hike leader inside the Visitor Center Lobby.

**From the South:** Take 390N to Exit 6 Sonyea. Take Route 36 North for seven miles. Turn Left on to Route 408S and travel for 1.9 miles. Turn right at the William B. Hoyt II, Mt Morris Dam Entrance. Drive up to the visitor parking lot (1.7 miles). Meet hike leader inside the Visitor Center Lobby.

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## Living with Black Bear in Western New York

Will be on display at the William B. Hoyt, II Visitor Center until the fall. Learn to save the life of a bear and feel a bear fur.

## Scout Badges

Scout leaders: this fall GVAC will offer Cub Scout and Girl Scout badges. Call Loretta Morrell, (585) 338-3683 for information.

The GVAC is open for events listed or by appointment only. Call Loretta Morrell, (585) 338-3683 for more information.

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## Birds and Breakfast

Join GVAS on Saturday, May 21 at 8:00 am for a leisurely morning of eating breakfast and enjoying the songbirds of the Genesee Valley River Gorge. A continental breakfast will be served under a pavilion at the Mount Morris Dam Visitor Center and Recreation Area. At 10:00 am participants are invited to join in a leisurely nature walk to seek out additional bird species. Reservations are required. Cost \$5.00 for Audubon members and \$8.00 for non-members to cover the cost of food. Call reservations to Loretta Morrell at (585) 338-3683. Deadline for reservations is Wednesday, May 18.

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## Plant Donations Appreciated

Is it time for you to divide those perennials, and would you like to find them a good home? GVAC is looking for native perennials that attract wildlife. Call Loretta Morrell at (585) 338-3683.

# The Meadowlark

P.O. Box 886, Adams Basin, NY 14410-0886

GVAS: A chapter of the National Audubon Society

The mission of GVAS is to promote conservation of the environment through education and to advocate for its protection, focusing on birds and other wildlife in western New York.

Keep up-to-date with our web site, [www.ggw.org/gvas](http://www.ggw.org/gvas).

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*The Meadowlark* is published the 1st of September, November, January, March, and April. Articles for the Meadowlark should be submitted four weeks prior to the date of publication. Send articles to Joanne Mitchell, 169 Black Walnut Dr., Rochester, NY 14615, or at [GJMitch@localnet.com](mailto:GJMitch@localnet.com).

**Meadowlark staff:** *Editor & Layout*, Joanne Mitchell; *Business Editor*, vacant; *Printing*, Community News; *Distribution*, vacant.



## Wild Wings Inc.

*"Let Your Mind and Spirit Soar!"*

**Audubon Members Receive  
10% off your purchases at the  
Cottage in Mendon Ponds Park!  
10% off**

- Cottage hours: Saturdays 10:00-1:00 Sundays 1:00-3:00
- The cottage is located next to the nature center at the park.
- P.O. Box 94 Hilton, NY 14468 \* (585)392-7500 \*
- [www.wildwingsinc.org](http://www.wildwingsinc.org)