



Gloucester County Nature Club Monthly Newsletter

www.gcnatureclub.org

Nature Club meetings are open to the public.

April 2020

Special Announcement: The April meeting of the Gloucester County Nature Club has been canceled due to restrictions in place to combat the COVID-19 virus. Our scheduled program will be presented in a live online broadcast.

How to access:

From a personal computer: click or type in <https://meeting.gcnatureclub.org>. You may be asked permission to turn on your camera and/or audio devices.

From a mobile device: click the link or type "meeting.gcnatureclub.org" into a search box or web browser. You will be instructed to install a free Jitsi Meet App from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, depending on the type of mobile device. Once this app has been installed, return to the browser and select "Continue to the app."

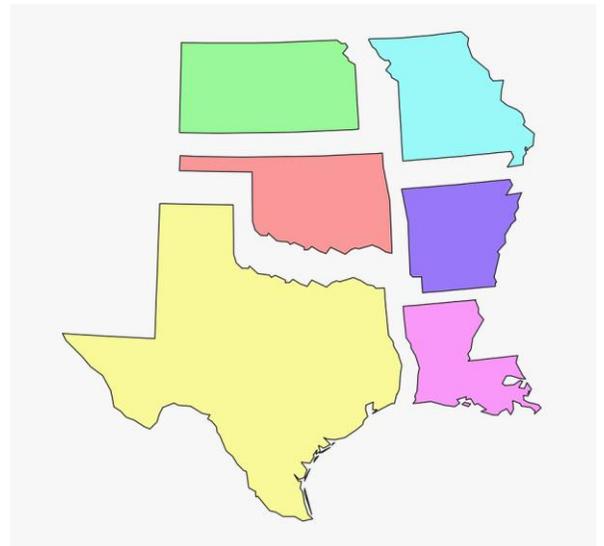
Program: Birding the American Heartland

Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 7:00pm

Presenter: Jeff Mollenhauer

Program Coordinator: Rich Dilks 856-468-6342

Jeff's quest to bird all 50 states carried him deep into the heartland of the United States in the summer of 2019. Please join us as he presents some of his favorite birds, birding locations, and stories from his 4,000 mile road trip through Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas, Missouri, and Louisiana. While many of these states are not prime destinations for many bird watchers, you will be surprised at the beauty of the wildlife and habitats found in the central U.S.



Bird Quest Canceled

The Executive Committee of the Gloucester County Nature Club has canceled the Bird Quest event scheduled for May 2 and the associated April training sessions as a result of the uncertainty related to the developing coronavirus situation. Depending on how the coronavirus situation develops in the coming weeks and months, the Club may instead hold a different bird-related event that day. Visit www.gcnatureclub.org for updates in the coming weeks/months.

Bird Walks Suspended

The joint Scotland Run Park Nature Center and Gloucester County Nature Club monthly bird walks at Scotland Run Park have been suspended until further notice as a result of the uncertainty related to the developing coronavirus situation. Visit www.gcnatureclub.org for updates in the coming weeks/months.

Natural Events for the month of April

- Pond turtles emerge from hibernation and bask in the sun.
- Spring beauty, bloodroot, and trout lily bloom on the floor of deciduous woodlands.
- Spring peepers and wood frogs begin calling when vernal ponds warm to about 50 degrees F.
- Shad migrate up the Delaware River to spawn.
- Ruby-throated hummingbirds, purple martins, and warblers begin to arrive.
- Most juncos and white-throated sparrows have left by the end of the month.
- Rose-breasted grosbeaks show up at feeders for a few days before heading north.
- Prairie warbler, misnamed when it was first found in a barren area in Kentucky, returns late April – mid May.
- The peak of spring raptor migration is mid- to late-April. Consider a visit to a hawk lookout.
- Red-winged blackbirds return to marshes.

Conservation Corner

The club is still looking for someone to follow in Suzan Delozier's footsteps by serving as the club's Conservation Chair. This is not as hard as it sounds; generally it just involves providing timely Conservation information for the newsletter. Please contact club President Karen Kravchuck or any other member of the executive committee if interested.

Looking Ahead:

Listed below are the programs we had lined up for the rest of the 2019-2020 season. All are now TBD as the coronavirus situation evolves. Visit www.gcnatureclub.org for updates in the coming weeks/months.

2019 - 2020 Programs

May 14, 2020. **Annual Plant Sale** (6:00pm) followed by program **May on the Bay: Taking Action for Shorebirds and Horseshoe Crabs** - Laura Chamberlin, Assistant Director for the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network

June 11, 2020 (6:00pm): **GCNC Annual Picnic** at Fasola Park, Deptford, NJ

2019-2020 Field Trips

Remaining 2020 field trips TBD as the coronavirus situation evolves. Visit www.gcnatureclub.org for updates in the coming weeks/months.

If you would be willing to lead a field trip, please contact Paula Hayes at pnbhayes@gmail.com.

Club Notes:

- If you'd like to receive the newsletter electronically or receive more info about the club please email Karen Kravchuck at blackbirdsinging@hotmail.com or call 609-617-6693 (cell).
- The Nature Club is always looking for ideas for future programs and field trips. Please contact the program or trip coordinator if you have ideas or would like to help.
- Information for the next newsletter should be sent to Barry Bengel at sharkeyes@comcast.net or GCNC Newsletter, PO Box 563, Sewell, NJ 08080 by the 15th of the preceding month.

Please help out the Gloucester County Nature Club while **safely doing your shopping online!**



Shopping at Amazon can also benefit the Gloucester County Nature Club at **NO extra cost** to you!

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STAY SAFE EVERYONE!

WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS TOGETHER!