



# Gloucester County Nature Club

## Monthly Newsletter

[www.gcnatureclub.org](http://www.gcnatureclub.org)

Nature Club meetings are open to the public

September 2008

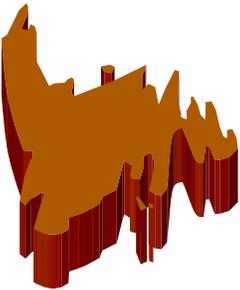
**\*\*Note that our meeting location has changed!\*\***

### **Program – Discovering Newfoundland**

**Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at Wenonah Community Center**

**Presenter: Karl Anderson**

**Program Coordinator: Rich Dilks (856) 468-6342**

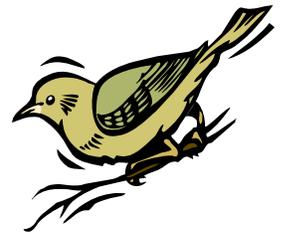


Newfoundland is perhaps the most scenic, unspoiled area of eastern North America. But it also has a good infrastructure, making travel easy. Karl Anderson and Gale Cannon have made nine trips to "The Rock", eight of them in the course of leading natural history tours.

This program will visit some of the sites and sights of the Avalon Peninsula, then follow the track of a wildflower tour through the forests, bogs, and barrens of the Western Peninsula, from Gros Morne north to the Strait of Belle Isle and the Norse settlement site at Anse-aux-Meadows.

**Directions to the new meeting location:** The Wenonah Community Center (former train station) is located at E. Mantua Avenue and N. East Avenue, Wenonah, NJ. From Woodbury, travel south on Woodbury-Glassboro Rd (Rt 553), and make a left at the light onto Mantua Avenue. The community center is approximately 1/2 of a mile ahead on the right (at the railroad crossing). There are small parking lots near the Community Center along East Ave and West Ave, plus additional parking is available along the surrounding streets.

### **Field Trip – Birding at Palmyra Cove Nature Park** **Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM to early afternoon** **Trip Leader: Gary Lizzi**



Palmyra Cove is well known as a fall migration hot spot. Join the Gloucester County Nature Club as we hope to identify and sort through the "Confusing Fall Warblers". As many as 18 species of warblers are possible to be seen there. Bay-Breasted, Cape May, Tennessee, Nashville, Chestnut-Sided, and the elusive Orange-Crowned warblers hopefully will be seen. Many of the migrant rarities that are listed regularly on "Rare Bird Alerts" are found at the Cove. We will meet outside the main building at 9:00 AM in the main parking lot.

For those who want to, we will carpool/caravan to the Cove. We will meet at Timberline Shopping Center in Sewell at **8:00 AM**, leaving there promptly at 8:15 AM. Bring a lunch and beverage. Picnic tables are available, as well as restrooms in the main building. If you prefer to drive on your own, directions are below. Travel time to Palmyra Cove is roughly 45 minutes.

#### **Directions:**

Take I-295 north to Exit 36B, for Rt 73 North. Travel north on Rt 73 towards the Tacony-Palmyra Bridge; at the last light before the Toll Plaza, make a right at Souder Avenue. At Temple Boulevard, which is the second cross street, make a left; just before the Toll Plaza, make a right into the toll

building parking lot; travel through the parking lot and remain on the Local Access Road; at the end of the road, make a left into the Palmyra Cove Nature Park; the main building is located on the right side.

### **Trip Report – Members' Garden Tours - Saturday August 16, 2008**

The weather was lovely and the flowers were at their best for this tour of GCNC members' gardens. Butterflies had been relatively scarce during July but populations burgeoned in August, so tiger swallowtails, black swallowtails, monarchs, cabbage whites, silver-spotted skippers, and several other species were in good numbers on the day of this tour. Ruby-throated hummingbirds, goldfinches, and other birds added to the display. Attendance was good but not excessive, so that the garden owners and the visitors had the opportunity to chat at length about the gardens, and perhaps to quaff a refreshing lemonade while admiring the floral displays. Many thanks to garden owners Jessie MacGregor, Ron Kegel, Jay Hoffecker, Jayne Rhynard, Bob and Carol Cassel, Wayne Blackman, Gale Cannon, Glenn and Maria Ceponis, and Amelie Harris for the allowing people to visit their gardens.

- Karl Anderson

### **Other Nature Notes**

#### **Wild Birds Unlimited offers an everyday 10% discount to GCNC members!**

Wild Birds Unlimited offers an everyday 10% discount (for non bird food items) to GCNC members! *Due to the current volatile market for bird food, the 10% discount for these items has had to be discontinued.* However, members will still receive credit for their purchases towards the Frequent Seed Shopper Program. WBU offers the GCNC discount on all other items in the store. Members are requested to identify themselves as GNNC members before their sales are finalized. Questions? Please contact Sharon at 218-2973 or [sillybird348@comcast.net](mailto:sillybird348@comcast.net)



### **Events by other Organizations: September 2008**

- September 20 (Saturday) - **Pinelands-Friendly Yard & Garden Fair**. 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM at Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge, a wildlife rehabilitation hospital and environmental education and nature center on 4 Sawmill Road in Medford Township, Burlington County, NJ.

The event will feature Mike McGrath, the host of WHY?Y's popular gardening show "You Bet Your Garden." In addition, the event will feature:

- Nature walks and educational tours
- Design assistance from a professional landscape architect
- Expert information on the selection, planting and care of native plants
- Seminars on composting
- Live animals
- Native plants for purchase from the Pinelands Nursery, Rare Find Nursery, Tuckahoe Nursery, and Triple Oaks Nursery.

For info: [www.nj.gov/pinelands](http://www.nj.gov/pinelands) or <http://pinelandsalliance.org>.

For directions, go to <http://www.cedarrun.org>.

- September 21 (Sunday) - **Nature Walk at Palmyra Cove**. 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. Leader: Sandra Keller. Sponsored by the Rancocas Nature Center. \$Fee. For info: <http://njudubon.org/centers/rancocas/>.

- September 27 (Saturday) - **Migrating Fall Warblers at Riverwinds**. 8:45 AM - early afternoon. Leaders: Gary and Margie Lizzi. Sponsored by the Rancocas Nature Center. \$Fee. For info: <http://njudubon.org/centers/rancocas/>.
- September 27 (Saturday) - **Botany of the Delaware Bayshore**, Cumberland County. 10:00 AM - mid-afternoon. Focus on Chenopodiaceae plus local rarities. Leaders: Renee Brecht and Gerry Moore. Joint trip by the Philadelphia Botanical Club and the Torrey Botanical Society. For info: [www.ansp.org/hosted/botany\\_club](http://www.ansp.org/hosted/botany_club).
- September 28 (Sunday) - **Birding Camden County**. 8:15 AM - early afternoon. Leader: Lloyd Shaw. Sponsored by the Rancocas Nature Center. \$Fee. For info: <http://njudubon.org/centers/rancocas/>.

### **Natural Events for the month of September**

- The last brood of monarch butterflies emerges and flies south to Mexico.
- Black gum foliage turns red - first tree to get its autumn color.
- Wild grapes ripen - not all of them are sour.
- Turtle eggs hatch and hatchlings emerge and head for the nearest water.
- Robins begin to join together in large flocks
- Most hummingbirds depart by the end of the month
- Bats busy feeding – building fat reserves for hibernation and migration.
- Broad-winged hawk migration peaks in mid-month - plan a visit to a hawk lookout.



### **Looking Ahead:**

#### **2008-2009 GCNC Programs**

September 11, 2008 – **Discovering Newfoundland** – Karl Anderson

October 9, 2008 – **A New Jersey Archeology and Prehistory** - Jack Cresson

November 13, 2008 – **Threatened & Endangered Plant Species of the NJ Pine Barrens** - Russell Juelg of The Pinelands Preservation Alliance

December 11, 2008 – **Birds of Australia** – Brian Hayes

January 7, 2009 – **Global Warming** – Erik Mollenhauer

February 12, 2009 – **Pot Luck Dinner / The Jersey Devil and Pinelands Folklore** - Jim Albertson

March 12, 2009 - **Owls of New Jersey** - Don Frieday of New Jersey Audubon

April 9, 2009 – **The Grand Canyon: White Water Rafting, Canyon History and Geology** - Brett & Erik Mollenhauer

May 14, 2009 – **Native Plants for Insect and Bird Survival and Diversity** - Doug Tallamy, Professor of Entomology, U. of Del

June 11, 2009 – **Annual Picnic at Red Bank Battlefield and The Art of Karen Paust**

## **2008-2009 GCNC Field Trips**

Listed below are the field trips we have lined up for the next season. Others may be added as opportunity permits and leaders become available.

September 20, 2008 (Saturday) - **Birding at Palmyra Cove** - Gary Lizzi

October 25, 2008 (Sunday) - **Cedar Lake WMA** - Barry Bengel

November 8, 2008 (Saturday) - **Nature and History at Fort Mott State Park** - Karl Anderson

December 13 (Saturday) - **Audubon Christmas Bird Count** - Ron Kegel

January 18, 2009 (Sunday) - **Eagles at Conowingo Dam** - Jonathan Stillwell

February 28, 2009 (Saturday) - **Winter Birding at Jakes Landing** - Brian Hayes

March 10, 2009 (Tuesday) - **Full Moon Hike at Alcyon Park** - Kris Mollenhauer

April 19, 2009 (Sunday) - **Wildflowers on the Wenonah Trail** - Richard Dilks

May 16, 2009 (Saturday) - **Birding at Allaire State Park** - Jonathan Weir

June 6 (Saturday) - **Birding at Brightview Farm** - Bob Duke

### **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](mailto:blackbirdsinging@hotmail.com) or call 468-6536.
- 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](mailto:sharkeyes@comcast.net) or GCNC Newsletter, PO Box 563, Sewell, NJ 08080 by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month.
- The September Executive Committee meeting will be held on September 7<sup>th</sup> at the home of Jessie MacGregor. Please contact Karen Kravchuck for more information.

### **Reminder - Membership Dues**

September brings with it membership renewals. This year we will once again be keeping the price the same as last year. Please remember that your dues are the only costs associated with being a club member, we do not charge for any of our programs or field trips. Many organizations charge their members for each walk or activity they attend. We believe that the club is still an excellent value and hope the added cost will not deter any of our members. It is much cheaper for us to send the newsletter electronically to our members and as a result those members who choose to receive the newsletter electronically will receive a discount on their membership. The dues are \$15 for electronic mailings and \$20 for regular mail delivery. Please fill out the membership form at the end of this newsletter and bring it along with your dues to the September Meeting, or send your renewal form and a check payable to "Gloucester County Nature Club" to: Ed Cleary, 1874 McKee Ave., Deptford, NJ 08096.

## Message from the President:

I'm not sure how it happens so quickly, but once again, September is upon us. And although summer is definitely NOT over yet, September does bring changes for many of us — the Nature Club included.

As you have already seen in the newsletter, we have a new location for our monthly meetings. The Wenonah Community Center, I think, will suit us just wonderfully — a central location in the County, plenty of room, and a great “feel” to the place – a perfect fit!

One thing that has not changed is the opportunity we will have to enjoy a season of great monthly programs and field trips. Rich and Karl have, once again, outdone themselves with this season's line-up. Add to that the Vulture Festival and this year's Big 10th Anniversary Celebration Bird Quest and we have a schedule with, most certainly, something for everyone.

I hope that your summer so far has been great. I hope that you had a chance to enjoy some of our summer field trips. And I hope to see you all in September — in Wenonah — for the start of another great season with The Gloucester County Nature Club.

Karen Kravchuck, President

**Help Wanted!** As you know, the Nature Club only works because of the volunteers who donate their time and various talents. If you'd like to become one of our valued volunteers and sit on a committee, there are a variety of committees that could use your help. This year we'd particularly like some additional help with Conservation and Publicity, but please feel free to offer your talents anywhere. Whether the time you are able to commit is a single afternoon or a larger amount of time, your contribution is always valuable. The Nature Club's officers and committees are as currently as follows:

### Officers:

President – Karen Kravchuck  
Vice President – Barry Bengel  
Treasurer – Ed Cleary  
Secretary: – Estelle Ostroff

### Committees:

Community Events (chairs: Jackie Partridge, Bonnie Dann, Elaine Dzeima)  
Conservation (chairs: Jessie MacGregor, **open**)  
Educational Outreach (chairs: Kris Mollenhauer, Marge Dolente)  
Field Trips (chair: Karl Anderson)  
Hospitality (chair: Carol Cassel)  
Membership (chair: Bob Cassel)  
Newsletter & website (chair: Barry Bengel)  
Programs (chair: Rich Dilks)  
Publicity (chair: **open**)  
Special Projects (chairs: Erik Mollenhauer, Bob Cassel, Jayne Rhynard)

If you would like to participate in one or more of the committees, please contact the committee chair or myself. I can be reached at <mailto:blackbirdsinging@hotmail.com> or (856) 468-6536.

Karen Kravchuck

**WAIVER**

Gloucester County Nature Club and/or its leaders, officers, members or representatives shall not be liable for any injuries, loss or damage to person and/or property, direct or consequential, arising out of any trips and/or activities of the Gloucester County Nature Club. The assumption of risk, which is inherent in this type of outdoor activity, is implied on the part of each person who attends any Gloucester County Nature Club trip, and every person participating in any of said trips and/or activities assumes all risk and liability in connection therewith.

Everyone participating in any activity of the Gloucester County Nature Club will be required to read the release of liability, protecting the Gloucester County Nature Club and/or its leaders, officers, members and representatives from liability.

Gloucester County Nature Club and/or its leaders, officers, members and representatives are not in any way responsible for the personal safety of the attendees. When walking along a road, keep to the left, facing oncoming traffic and walk in a single file. When walking along trails, do not follow too closely or move too fast for your safety and for the safety of others (avoid collisions and/or whipped branches). FOLLOW THE LEADER: If you forge ahead, you may find yourself alone. Responsible adults must accompany children under the age of 16. If you expect to drop out of the group early, please inform the leader. Report to one or more of the hikers if you intend to discontinue on the route.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2008-2009**

- New Member  Renewal
- Paper Membership(\$20) - regular mail
- Electronic Membership(\$15) - newsletter via email; \*\*\*please provide email address below

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*\*Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please note any special knowledge you would be willing to share: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to serve on a committee? If so, which committee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Are there other ways you could participate? If so, how?  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Would you like to give a gift membership? If so, indicate Individual \_\_\_\_ or Family \_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

A note will be sent informing them of your gift membership in the GCNC, thank you.

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I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE WAIVER

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_