



Gloucester County Nature Club Monthly Newsletter

www.gcnatureclub.org

Nature Club meetings are open to the public

September 2021

Program - Birding Argentina

A special online live presentation of the Gloucester County Nature Club

Presented by Marcelo Gavensky, Creator, director and main tour leader for BIRDS ARGENTINA!
LIVE FROM ARGENTINA!

Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 7:00pm

Program Coordinator: Rich Dilks 856-468-6342

Web link: <https://meet.jit.si/GCNCMeeting>

This presentation is free and open to the public



Marcelo Gavensky



Marcelo Gavensky

With over 1000 species of birds, Argentina has a great diversity of bird life, due to its variety of ecosystems. Species as diverse as penguins and toucans can be found there. Some of the most remarkable birds of South America are found in that country including rheas, tinamous, albatrosses, hawk-eagles, seriemas, macaws, trogons, motmots, nightjars, potoos, cacholotes, gallitos, tapaculos, antpittas, monjitas, plantcutters, manakins, tanagers, seedeaters and more.

Orange-breasted Falcon in northwest Argentina

Marcelo started birding at the age of 10, when he got his first binoculars and field guide, and has never stopped. Growing up in a small town of Buenos Aires Province's Pampas helped him develop his birding skills. Marcelo has extensive birding experience in all of Argentina's eco-regions and most South American countries, plus parts of Africa and the Middle East. He has worked in many biological research projects and as a guide at the Argentine Museum of Natural History. In 2010, he decided to combine his skills and entrepreneurial spirit and started his first birding tour brand (Birding Buenos Aires), which successfully grew and gave birth to Birds Argentina and Natural Birding. Marcelo is especially skilled with bird calls and songs. Over the years he guided birdwatchers from all over the world, including top birding personalities such as Noah Strycker during his Worldwide Big Year in 2015 and David Sibley, author of the best-selling field guide "Birds of North America".



Marcelo Gavensky

Spot-billed Toucanet in Misiones province



Field Trip – Butterfly Tent at Red Bank Battlefield
Saturday, September 18, 2021 9:00 to 10:00 am
Trip Leader: Bonnie Dann

Join us on a field trip to the Butterfly Tent located at Red Bank Battlefield in National Park.

Directions From interstate 295 exit 22, take Red Bank Ave west for about 5/10 of a mile to Hessian Avenue. Turn left on Hessian Avenue and continue for 1.2 miles to the park. Meet in the lower parking area on the left. Mask wearing and social distancing are encouraged.

MEETUP: In order to reach members with the most up to date field trip information we are asking everyone who is able to sign up for the Gloucester County Nature Club Meetup site. By accessing the site at www.meetup.com/Gloucester-County-Nature-Club/ or using the QR Code to the right, you will be directed to the site. Once you are signed up on the site you will receive up-to-date information on upcoming trips, meetings, events, and fun walks. If you attend field trips you should consider joining Meetup even if you receive the newsletter electronically.



Special Event: The Mad Hatter’s Tree Party
Sunday, October 24, 2021 : 1:00 – 3:00 pm



The Mad Hatter’s Tree Party is a fun way for people to learn about the trees of our community and the critical role that trees play in a healthy environment. The Tree Party is a chance for families and people of all ages to share a whimsical adventure in a community forest.

This event consists of a self-paced, 45-minute walk in Wenonah Woods. This is more than an ordinary hike, though. You will stop at several locations to learn about specific trees along the trail and their role in the overall forest. All stations have been updated for this year and a children’s story telling station will be available near the tea house. Musicians will add an instrumental accompaniment to your journey. At the end, you can share light refreshments in the Tea House with the Mad Hatter himself. This event is great for family, and takes place rain or shine.

Walk begins at Eldridge Trail, at the intersection of E. Pine St and S. Princeton Ave. in Wenonah. Families can arrive at their convenience as walks leave regularly. No pre-registration is necessary.

Nature Notes

Other Events for September 2021

The following events take place at the Scotland Run Nature Center in Clayton. For details and to register for programs, call the center at (856) 881-0845. All events are free.

- **Guided Bird Walks** at Scotland Run Park 1st & 3rd Thursdays of every month, 8:00am – 9:30am. Volunteer birders from the Gloucester County Nature Club will be leading twice monthly walks beginning in March. Come help search for the many birds that visit or inhabit Scotland Run Park. These 2021 walks are free and will take place the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month from March 4th through October 21st, 8 am to 9:30 am. Meet at the Nature Center parking lot. Participants are encouraged to bring binoculars. Mask wearing and social distancing are encouraged.

- **Adult Naturalist Program** at Scotland Run Park: 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 9:30 - 11:30am
 - 9/9 - Insect Migration
 - 9/23 - Mushrooms and fungi
 - 10/14 - Late season pollinator plants
 - 10/28 - Salamanders and frogs

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.

Conservation Corner by Bonnie Dann

Arboreta in New Jersey

New Jersey is home to a surprising number of arboreta (or arboretums for those not wedded to the Latin plural). As the word suggests, an arboretum features trees and shrubs, but most have extensive flower plantings as well. The following are among the best, and all are worth a visit.

The **Willowood Arboretum** comprises 130 acres of rolling farmland in Chester Township. It is owned by the Morris County Park Commission, which also owns the **Frelinghuysen Arboretum** in Morris Township, a 127-acre estate with woodlands, meadows, and gardens surrounding a magnificent colonial revival mansion. (Visit www.willowoodarboretum.org and www.arboretumfriends.org.)

The **Cora Hartshorn Arboretum and Bird Sanctuary** belongs to Millburn Township, in Essex County. It includes more than 40 species of trees with 16 acres of woodland and trails traversing hills and kettle moraines. (Visit www.hartshornarboretum.org.)

Nearby is the **Reeves-Reed Arboretum**, located in Summit, Union County, a 13.5-acre public garden in a former country estate. (Visit www.reeves-reedarboretum.org)

Wayne Township, in Passaic County, has the **Laurelwood Arboretum**, with its woodland trails and streams. (Visit www.laurelwoodarboretum.org.)

In Warren Township, Somerset County, the **Wagner Farm Arboretum** occupies a former dairy farm. (Visit www.wfafnj.org.)

The **Thielke Arboretum of Glen Rock** is an 11-acre wetland forest in the Bergen County suburbs. (Visit www.thielkearboretum.org.)

Holmdel Park, in Monmouth County, contains the **David C. Shaw Arboretum**, with 22 acres of ornamental trees and shrubs. (Visit <https://www.monmouthcountyparks.com/page.aspx?id=2763>.)

Georgian Court University, in Lakewood, Ocean County, is home to the **Sister Mary Grace Burns Arboretum**. It features woody plants native to the Pine Barrens, along with extensive formal gardens. (Visit www.georgian.edu/arboretum.)

Other arboreta include the **Hunterdon County Arboretum** and the **Zuck Arboretum at Drew University**.

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.
- The September Executive Committee meeting will be held on Sunday September 12th at the home of Bonnie Dann. Please contact Karen Kravchuck for more information.

Remember to help out the Gloucester County Nature Club



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

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support.

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges. You may even use your existing Amazon.com account for your purchases.

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

Reminder - Membership Dues

September brings with it membership renewals. This year we will 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 \$20 for electronic mailings and \$25 for regular mail delivery. Please fill out the membership form at the end of this newsletter and send your renewal form and a check payable to "Gloucester County Nature Club" to: GCNC Membership, P.O. Box 563, Sewell, NJ 08080.

You may also sign up and pay your membership dues electronically via PayPal. Just go to <http://gcnatureclub.org/membership.php> and fill out the online form.

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 2021-2022

- New Member Renewal
- Paper Membership (\$25) - regular mail
- Electronic Membership (\$20) - 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? _____

Would you like to give a gift membership? If so, indicate Paper ____ or Electronic ____

Name: _____

Street: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

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

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE WAIVER

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please mail completed form with payment to GCNC, PO Box 563, Sewell, NJ 08080 or bring to a meeting.