

Gloucester County Nature Club

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Nature Club meetings are open to the public

November 2001

REGULAR MEETING – Thurs., November 8, 2001 – 7:00 pm – EIRC, 606 Delsea Dr. Sewell

Bob Cassel, Program Coordinator, 478-2496

“Threats to NJ Biodiversity”

Our November speaker, Dr. Emile DeVito, is no stranger to the New Jersey environment. Emile got his PhD from the University of Wisconsin doing work on the NJ Pine Barrens. In his current work traveling throughout NJ, he works to preserve land and critical habitats. He has also worked extensively with teachers, and was the prime architect behind The Songbird Connection curriculum, which focuses on the plight of neotropical migratory birds that spend their summer in NJ, and their winter in the tropics. Known as a dynamic, extremely knowledgeable speaker, Emile will talk about what is happening to the native plant and animal life of New Jersey, as a result of habitat loss and other factors.



FIELD TRIP – Sat., November 17, 2001

- 7:00 am

Kris Mollenhauer, Field Trip Coordinator, 589-4387

November 27- Saturday- John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge, Tinicum, PA

This month we will visit John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum. Located just across the river from us, the foot trails, wildlife observation platform, and boardwalk there provide unique opportunities to see and study wildlife in its natural habitat. Migratory birds such as Canada geese, great blue heron, egrets, killdeer, sandpipers and a large variety of ducks, within the Atlantic Flyway, use the refuge as a resting/feeding spot during spring and fall flights. We will have a tour of the Cusano Environmental Education Center which was recently opened in Jan. 2001. There will be a guided walk entitled “Birds of Marsh and Field” with a refuge volunteer.



Meet at the Timberline Shopping Center in Mantua Twp. at 7am. Bring binoculars and field guides, walking shoes, warm clothes and a lunch.



2001 Christmas Bird Count – Saturday, December 16th

If we have a mild winter, perhaps we'll have warblers, thrushes or unexpected birds lingering around Gloucester County. Or, if we have cold, cold winter, maybe we'll have rare gull, snowy owl, or an influx of grosbeaks. Whatever the weather, we look for a good bird harvest for identification. And, we look for a fine harvest of birders to help with the count. Apprehensive about not "knowing" too many birds? Join the count anyway. We'll line you up with those who know the birds. Erik Mollenhauer has coined the title "reasonably knowledgeable birders" or RKBs. They will help you. Call Bob Cassel at 478-2496 for assignment to a slice of the Northwestern Gloucester County Count Area. The count is under the auspices of the Gloucester County Nature Club and the National Audubon Society. The count is in its 102nd year! To register, the N.A.S. requires a fee of \$5.00 for each participant, used for administrative costs. When you finish the count at the end of the day, you may join in comparing your notes with other team members at a gabfest and warm refreshments at the home of Bob and Carol Cassel, 407 Heritage Road near Barnsboro. If you're chilled to the bone, you can take advantage of a cheery and warm fireplace which will be burning from 4:30 P.M. and on.

You are invited to attend the combined annual meeting of the Federation of Gloucester County Watersheds & South Jersey Land Trust, Thursday, November 15, 2001 7:00-9:00 pm at EIRC. At that time, eminent naturalist Clay Sutton will speak on "*The Alaska National Wildlife Area – What It Means to You*".



TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

A reminder that it is now time to renew your membership in Gloucester County Nature Club. Individual membership is \$13, Family membership is \$15. In order to continue receiving the newsletter and notice of upcoming activities and events, please renew now!! Memberships should be sent to the treasurer, Karen Kravchuck, 25 Barlow Ave., Sewell NJ 08080

This is the last newsletter you will receive unless you have renewed your Nature Club membership!

Community Events

The Nature Club is partnering with local environmental commissions to do joint exhibits/displays at community events. Please contact our Community Events Coordinator, Maria Keefe at kityblu@juno.com or 856-627-7010 if you are able to help or if you know of another event where the Club should exhibit.

NATURE CLUB BECOMES LEGALLY RECOGNIZED NONPROFIT ORG

It's official. The Gloucester County Nature Club has now become a legally incorporated, private non-profit organization, recognized as such by the state and federal government. This new status will give the Club new possibilities that were not possible before, including applying for grants from foundations and other funding sources. The Club can also receive donations from individuals and organizations, who can then count their donations as tax-deductible. Over the next few months, the Executive Committee will be discussing possible courses of future action as a result of this new status. Executive Committee monthly meetings are always open to Club members to attend; time and location are listed in each newsletter. We invite your input about this latest development.

Executive Committee Meeting: The next Board of Trustees/Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 4 at 7:00 pm at Kindle Elementary School, Washington Ave., Pitman NJ. Meet in the library. Members are invited to attend the Executive Meetings.

Club News: The Nature Club is always looking for ideas for future programs and field trips. Please contact the program and/or field trip coordinators with your ideas. For information about the Gloucester County Nature Club, call:

Brian Hayes, President 468-9272

Mimi Glass, Membership Chair, 589-6435

Information for next month's newsletter should be sent, by the 15th of each month, to:

Erik Mollenhauer, 606 Delsea Dr. Sewell NJ 08080, 582-7000 X128

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c/o EIRC
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