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<http://chbc.carolinanature.com>



Doug Pratt

Chapel Hill Bird Club Bulletin

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Next Meeting: Monday, February 23

When/where: 7:15 pm refreshments; 7:30 pm meeting. The lounge, Olin T Binkley Baptist Church, corner of Highway 15-501 Bypass and Willow Drive, behind University Mall, Chapel Hill.

Bird Conservation in Colombia – the land of birds

Natalia Ocampo-Peñuela will discuss her research for her PhD dissertation, setting conservation priorities for the country, applying them in nature reserves, and determining how deforestation has affected vulnerable birds. With maps, pictures, stories she will take us through the Andes showing us the beautiful birds. Natalia is a PhD candidate at Duke's Nicholas School of the Environment; she has studied the birds for 10 years, and now focuses on their protection.

Saturday Field Trips

Rob Rybczynski leads field trips for the Chapel Hill Bird Club. The trips leave from Glen Lennox Shopping Center on Highway 54 in Chapel Hill at 7:30 Saturday mornings except for the summer hiatus. All skill levels are welcome. Trips usually end by noon. If the trip is not local and/or leaves from another location, the change will be posted to CarolinaBirds (readable also at birding.aba.org/maillist/NzC) and at the Chapel Hill Bird Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/chapelhillbirdclub/. For yearly schedules see <http://chbc.carolinanature.com/fieldtrips.html>). Need more details? Call Rob at 919 460 9383.

Welcome New Members!

Vern Bothwell, Kirsten Stacy 
Both of Hillsborough

↘ **NEW!!!** ↙

CHBC official flyer

Thanks to Eddie Owen's artistic talents, the club now has a beautiful new 3-fold flyer describing our goals, our activities, how to join, and the benefits of joining. The flyers will be available whenever we have a table at a community event. And since they can be printed as needed, members may wish to use some for their own events – how to arrange this is still to be determined.

Birds and Gardens

A relatively small number of members of our club actually attend meetings, usually only about 35-45. The weather, the topic, distance all have something to do with this. The January meeting had a good turn out, but the topic is probably of quite widespread interest. The North Carolina Audubon's Kim Brand spoke about why gardens are so important to bird survival. And while we spend time and money on putting out feed for birds, what we plant is probably more important.

Native plants can provide food, shelter, nesting materials, cover from predators and attract insects for insectivorous birds and nestlings.

Non-native plants do not provide all of these. While they can provide berries and shelter for birds, insects are pickier and nonnative plants do not attract the insects and their larva that baby birds need. And non-natives are often invasive and create many more problems.

Here is a list of plants for birds – please forgive the small print!

Larva hosts:

Spice bush – *Lindera benzoin*
Native plum – *Prunus americana*
Oaks – *Quercus alba*, *Q. phellos*, *Q. shumardi*
Wild indigo – *Baptisia* spp
Native blueberry – *Vaccinium*, *arboretum*
Pawpaw - *Asimina triloba*, *A. parviflora*
River oats – *Chasmanthium latifolium*

Berry producing plants:

Flowering dogwood – *Cornus florida*
Winterberry holly – *Ilex verticillata*
American beautyberry – *Callicarpa americana*
Black cherry – *Prunus serotina*
Virburnums – *V. nudum*, *V. dentatum*
Red chokecherry – *Photinia pyrifolia*
Black gum – *Nyssa sylvatica*

Seed & nut producing plants:

Maples – *Acer leucoderme*, *A. rubrum*
Purple coneflower – *Echinacea purpurea*
Swamp sunflower – *Helianthus angustifolius*
Joe-Pye weed – *Eutrochium fistulosum*
Bluestem – *Andropogon* spp
Black-eyed Susan – *Rudbeckia* spp
Shortleaf pine - *Pinus echinata*
Virginia pine – *Pinus virginiana*

Nectar producing plants:

Wild bergamot – *Monarda didyma*
Bee balm – *Bergamot fistulosa*
Cardinal flower – *Lobelia cardinalis*
Ironweed – *Vernonia noveboracensis*
Buttonbush – *Cephalanthus occidentalis*
Sweet pepperbush – *Clethra alnifolia*
Stokes aster – *Stokesia laevis*
Red buckeye – *Aesculus pavia*

The bad guys:

English ivy – *Hedera helix*
Privets – *Ligustrum* spp
Autumn olive – *Elaeagnus umbellata*
Thorny olive – *Elaeagnus pungens*
Exotic wisterias – *W. sinensis*, *W. floribunda*
Japanese honeysuckle – *Lonicera japonica*
Mimosa, silktree – *Albizia julibrissin*
Periwinkle, Vinca – *Vinca* spp
Japanes spiraea – *Spiraea japonica*
Leatherleaf mahonia – *Mahonia bealei*
Bradford pear – *Pyrus calleryana*
Pampas grass – *Cortaderia selloana*
Chinese silvergrass – *Miscanthus sinensis*
Japanese stiltgrass – *Microstegium vimineum*
Sacred bamboo – *Nandina domestica*
Tree of Heaven – *Ailanthus altissima*
Multiflora rose – *Rosa multiflora*
Sericea, bushclover – *Lespedeza cuneata*

I remember once, with twenty-five other Nature Conservancy volunteers, sitting on the ground for a whole day, pulling out *Microstegium* from the side of a mountain. With Kudzu we had experimental plots where we tried disking, Round Up and yes, flamethrowers! Round Up was most effective – and most expensive.

Here are some sources of native plants in our area:

NC Botanical Garden,
100 Old Mason Farm Rd, Chapel Hill.
Daily, March through October.
919 962 0522

Plant Delights Nursery
9241 Sauls Road, Raleigh
919 772 4794

Niche Gardens
1111 Dawson Road, Chapel Hill
Closed weekends. 919 967 0078

Cill Ide Native Plant Nursery
621 Starburst Lane, Raleigh
For wetland plants. 919 302 6900

Future Meetings

23 March 2015 – Judith Fortney: *Birds and islands*

27 April 2015 – Lindsay Addison: Audubon North Carolina Sanctuary system)

18 May 2015 – Dave Gammon: Vocal Mimicry in Northern Mockingbirds.

Officers of the Chapel Hill Bird Club Elected Officers

President: David Smith
(davidjudysmith@frontier.com)

Vice President (Durham area): Eddie Owens (banjoman_57@yahoo.com)

Vice President (Chapel Hill area): Kent Fiala (kent.fiala@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Patricia Bailey
(pbailey_489@yahoo.com)

Secretary: Edith Tatum
(ektatum@nc.rr.com)

Appointed Officers

Bird Count Supervisor/compiler:

Will Cook (cwcook@duke.edu)

Field Trip Chairman: Bob Rybczynski
(squawk510@att.net)

Bulletin Editor: Judith Fortney
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Webmaster: Will Cook
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