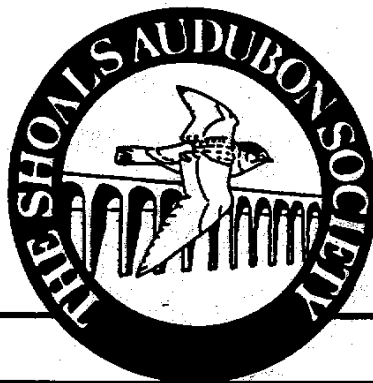


THE SHOALS
AUDUBON SOCIETY



P.O. BOX 282
FLORENCE, AL 35631

OCTOBER 2006

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 2

OCTOBER 5 PROGRAM- PROMOTING THE PURPLE MARTIN

Ray Moore, President of the North Alabama Purple Martin Club and other club members love purple martins and have as their project promoting the purple martin and its welfare.

They will share with us information about the purple martin and how to provide gourds for them to nest in.

Purple martins, like bluebirds, are largely dependent upon man for nesting sites. We have had many programs on helping the bluebird. It will be interesting to compare helping purple martins with helping bluebirds.

The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. in Mullen Hall of Trinity Episcopal Church as usual.

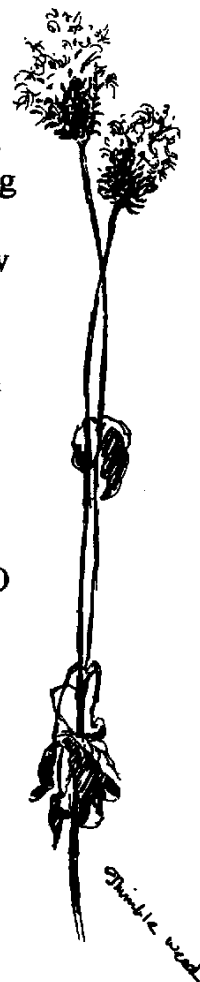
THERE WILL BE A BOARD MEETING THERE AT 6:00 P.M., OPEN TO ANY MEMBER WHO WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND.

OCTOBER 7 FIELD TRIP- TVA WETLANDS TRAIL

Bill Rogers (766-5738) will lead. The wetland trail on the TVA reservation is a prime birding site for fall migrants. Damien Simbeck has been leading Friday morning bird walks. Participants have seen many different species of birds.

SHOALS CHAPTER ONCE AGAIN CERTIFIED BY NATIONAL AUDUBON

Lynn Teneffoss, Vice President, State Programs and Chapter Services, National Audubon Society, wrote August 24 that our Charter was renewed for the coming year. She asked that we extend her thanks to the board, committee, and Chapter members for the accomplishments of the Chapter in the past year.



This Newsletter Is Printed On Recycled Paper

Our Friend Walt

Our friend Walt Burch was one of the founding members of The Shoals Audubon Society. Every season, he gave us one of his exception slide shows on the aspect of nature he was currently interested in--butterflies, woodpeckers, the Everglades, Alaska, mosses, ferns... He led many of our field trips and marveled anew at what most of us took for granted.

Every other year, Walt would gather dozens of his dazzling photographs of birds to display at Pope's Tavern on For the Birds Day, one of our fundraisers. When a bunch of us went to Mexico on an extended field trip, Walt drove one of the two vans with his wife Dottie as navigator. When we went to Cleveland, Tennessee, to see the Sandhill Cranes, Walt and Dottie were there with us.

In recent years, ill health--first, Dottie's, then Walt's--curtailed Walt's outings with us. This May I saw Walt leaning on his hiking stick at his garden during the Garden Tour. Then, just a few weeks later, Walt was gone. The memorial service held at Walt's church was a celebration of Walt's life: his love for the Lord, his love for Dottie and his family, his love for his friends, and his love for nature and its beauty. As Fuzzy Perritt so aptly put it, "Walt Burch was a prince among men."

September Field Trip

The Septemer Field Trip to Rock Springs on the Natchez Trace was well attended: of the 14 participants, two were from Nepal and one was from Germany, with the remainder from Florence and Decatur.

The weather was beautiful that day. The call of the Pileated Woodpecker greeted us as we walked down the slope from the parking area into the woods. Several warblers and vireos in the tree canopy responded to the Screech Owl recording. Across the creek, the jewelweed attracted dozens of Rubythroated Hummingbirds at the beaver dam. We also observed a Green Heron hunting for water striders from a fallen log. American Goldfinches were active in the trees around the spring.

Thanks go to Dee Patterson, a super field trip leader! In fact, all of our leaders are highly knowledgeable and enthusiastic. Take advantage of the monthly field trips--make an effort!

WELCOME, NEW MEMEBERS

YES, I WANT TO JOIN AUDUBON AT THE LOW INTRODUCTORY RATE OF \$20—43% OFF REGULAR DUES!

- Two year membership—\$30.
- Senior citizen or student rate—only \$15.
- I wish to make an additional donation of: \$ _____

Method of Payment:

- Payment is enclosed.
Please rush my Audubon backpack!
- Please bill me.

Please complete and return:

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e-mail (optional)

Make checks payable to National Audubon Society. Dues include \$7 for AUDUBON magazine. Allow 4-6 weeks to receive your first issue of Audubon, 6-8 weeks from receipt of payment for your free backpack.

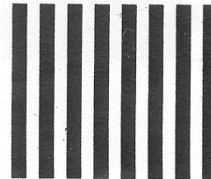
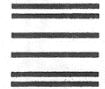
- I decline the Free Gift. Please use the funds towards saving birds, wildlife and their habitat.
- The National Audubon Society occasionally makes its membership list available to carefully selected organizations whose mailings you might find of interest. To have your name omitted from this list, please check here.

Chapter Code A02

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YOUR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

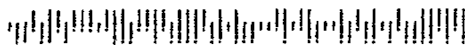
- Membership in your local chapter
- One year subscription to AUDUBON magazine
- Free admission to most of our Audubon Centers
- Exciting Audubon travel opportunities
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EMAIL REMINDER NOTICES.

If you would like to receive a reminder notice of our meetings and field trips by email, please send a note to fsherrod@comcast.net and we'll see if we can get a functioning email notification system going.



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