



THE CHIRP

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Did you have a good summer? Hopefully you saw lots of birds and wildlife. A high point for me was seeing three Sandhill Cranes on a golf course in Michigan. Now that's a birdie!

Fall is rapidly approaching. That means many things in Hot Springs Village. Our spring and summer migrants are leaving. That includes the Ruby Throated Hummingbird. As I write this, my three feeders are surrounded by hummingbirds as they fuel up for their migration south. It also means that some of our fall and winter residents are beginning to arrive. Best of all, it means the weather is cooling down and we can get out to bird watch more comfortably.

Fall also means the HSV Audubon President's Award. **Judy Rosenthal** is the recipient of the award this year. Judy served as our Secretary for umpteen years - every time we asked if she would be willing to continue on in the job, she agreed. Judy simply did a splendid job as our Secretary. She was always able to succinctly record our meetings, both member and board meetings. For those of you who attend many meetings and read minutes, you know this is a priceless talent. How many times have you waded through four pages of minutiae when one page could have said it all? Judy has that gift. She also aided the club in many other ways. A luncheon will be held in her honor following the October meeting. More details will be forthcoming at the September meeting.

Fall begins the serious planning for the 2016 Christmas Bird Count (CBC). In breaking with the past several years' traditions, the CBC will be held on **Wednesday, December 14**. The CBC dinner will be held the following night, Thursday December 15, at the newly renovated DeSoto Club. Please put this on your calendar now.

Thank you goes out to all the Bluebird monitors, and especially to the Bluebird Coordinator, Kathy Jurek. You might not realize that our program has been touted nationally. On a recent national Audubon conference call with chapters around the United States, Jack Stewart (on the national Audubon board and a several time program presenter at our HSV Audubon club) sang our praises as a successful citizen science project.

And finally, I will end with my recurring theme. **VOLUNTEER!** We need you for Bluebird monitoring. We need you for the CBC and other programs. We especially need a person who is interested in becoming the Vice President/Program Coordinator. Please let me or Past President Richard Kroetz know if you would be willing to fill this position. See you at the meetings and in the field.

Chris Cash
President

VOLUNTEERISM

As Chris Cash mentioned in her President's message, HSV Audubon is beginning the process of nominations for the 2017 board. Now might be a good time to look at why volunteering is something good for **you**.

Volunteerism defined: the policy or practice of [volunteering](#) one's time or talents for charitable, educational, or other worthwhile activities, especially in one's community.

One of the better-known benefits of volunteering is the impact on the community.

- Volunteering allows you to connect to your community and make it a better place.
- Helping out with even the smallest tasks can make a real difference to the lives of people, animals, and organizations in need.
- Volunteering can benefit you and your family as much as the cause you choose to help.

One of the best ways to **make new friends** and strengthen existing relationships is to commit to a shared activity together.

- Volunteering is a great way to meet new people, especially if you are new to an area.
- It strengthens your ties to the community and broadens your support network, exposing you to people with common interests, neighborhood resources, and fun and fulfilling activities.*

Hot Springs Village is well known for its volunteers and their efforts. As our community grow and age we need that to continue. So step up to the plate and become a volunteer for Audubon.

“VOLUNTEERS ARE NOT PAID BECAUSE THEY ARE PRICELESS”

* Help Gude.org



PROGRAMS

September 9th: Rusty Scarborough, senior Park Naturalist, Walter B. Jacobs Memorial Park in Shreveport La., will present a program on Identifying birds of prey of our region. He will be bringing live birds to the meeting.

October 14th: Robin Gabe, park interpreter for Arkansas State Parks, will talk to us about birding opportunities in our Arkansas State Parks.

November 11th: Tim Ernst will present his new photo program, **ARKANSAS: IN MY OWN BACK YARD**. Tim Ernst is Arkansas' Wilderness Photographer. He has been hiking, driving and crawling around the wonderful Ozark Mountains for most of his life, preserving the images he sees on film for everyone to enjoy. His photographs have appeared in hundreds of national, regional and local publications. Some of his credits include **National Geographic, Audubon, Backpacker, Outside, Outdoor Photographer, American Hiker, Natural History, Country, Chevy Outdoors,** and **Arkansas Times** magazines, Sierra Club and Hallmark calendars, National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service maps and brochures, Readers Digest Books, and **The New York Times**. Much of his time these days is spent teaching digital photography workshops in the Buffalo River wilderness. Come, enjoy his latest work. He'll also have many of his publications available for purchase.



FIELD TRIPS

When: Wednesday September 14th
Where: Mt. Magazine SP

Our target is the migratory hawk watch that park interpreter, Don Simon, conducts every fall. We will meet at the Desoto Club parking lot at 7:20am and leave promptly at 7:30am. We typically hang-out at one of the overlooks. Instead of boots you may want to bring a lawn chair. The wind and elevation can mean chilly weather in September. Keep in mind that it's often 5-10 degrees cooler on the mountain. We will head back after lunch at the lodge. Sign up at the September meeting. Contact Vic Prislipsky (209-9314) if you have questions. We will cancel in case of ugly weather.

Watch this space, e-blasts or check out HSVbirds.org for more upcoming field trips.

“BIRD” BRAIN TEASERS

Goose egg

Bird feeder morsel

Nature lover's college major

Valley that served as the setting for *Falcon Crest*

Nil Nut Ecology Napa