



The Chattanooga Chat

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A Newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter
Tennessee Ornithological Society

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
2019-2020 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp
Artist: Scot Storm, Wood Duck & Decoy ©
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
\$25
WOOD DUCK & DECOY
VOID AFTER
JUNE 30, 2020
MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING AND CONSERVATION STAMP
If applicable, sign your stamp. Conserve habitat for the future... buy Duck Stamps!

Celebrating our Waterfowl Hunting Heritage
Hunting dogs, duck calls, decoys, and valuable time in the field with friends and family; the heritage and traditions of waterfowl hunting continue to illustrate wildlife conservation.

See Dawn Greenway's article about the Federal Duck Stamp program in this issue.

August Meeting

Ascension Lutheran Church
720 S Germantown Rd
Thursday, August 8
5:30 p.m. Executive Board
7:00 p.m. Monthly Meeting

Officers

President - David Aborn
Vice President for Programs
- Dawn Greenway
dawn@mountainpathfinder.com
Vice President for Field Trips - Ann
Arquitt with help from Jim Greenway
Treasurer – Gary Lanham with help
from Lizzie Diener
Secretary and Social Media Coordinator
- Jim Greenway
jim@mountainpathfinder.com

Program:

Laura Marsh will present the August program.

This summer Laura worked with a postdoctoral researcher with the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center to attach satellite tags to yellow-billed cuckoos. The study is novel because the transmitters report real-time data on the locations of the birds. The team tagged birds in the Eastern US in three locations: Texas, Chattanooga, and Illinois. The data will help researchers determine migratory connectivity and habitat use of cuckoos and other neotropical migrants.

Field Trips

Ann Arquitt and Jim Greenway have been busy behind the scenes planning field trips for the next few months. No field trips are scheduled for August; however, any ad hoc trips will be communicated to club members via email and posted on the Chattanooga TOS Facebook page.

Coming attractions:

Dawn and Jim Greenway are championing the establishment of a Young Birders Club. If you're interested in getting on an email distribution list to learn more about it, please contact Dawn at dawn@mountainpathfinder.com



Hermit Thrush photographed at Greenway Farm by Gary Lanham
April 29

The Federal Duck Stamp

By Dawn Greenway

The 2019-2020 Federal Duck Stamp is now available for purchase!
Did you know...?
98 PERCENT of the purchase price of a Federal Duck Stamp goes directly to help acquire and protect wetland habitat and purchase conservation easements for the National Wildlife Refuge System.

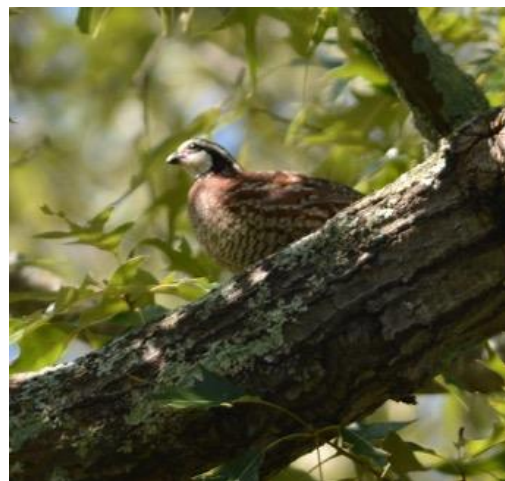
Since the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act (or Duck Stamp Act) was passed in 1934, six million acres have been

acquired, and more than 300 national wildlife refuges have been created or expanded, using stamp revenues.

Since its inception in 1949, the Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest is the only art competition sponsored by the U.S. government.

A 2016 documentary, Million Dollar Duck, chronicles the journey of several artists in their quest for the prestigious honor of having their art selected for the next stamp. Watch the trailer on YouTube at https://youtu.be/ul6NQ23x_Q8 . You can also rent the whole movie on YouTube or Amazon Prime. You can purchase the 2019-2020 Federal Duck Stamp for \$25 at any post office or online at www.fws.org.

Thanks to Dawn Greenway for contributing this article and to Gary Lanham and Jim Fontonot for the photographs in this issue. If you have photographs to submit or would like to do a guest article, please contact Ray Zimmerman, znaturalist@gmail.com (423) 718-9393



Bob White Quail photographed by Jim Fontonot at West Cove Road, McLemore Cove, Walker County, GA.

Editor's Corner

The Lyric Voice of Rachael Carson -
Excerpted from a longer article which
appeared in *The Hellbender Press*,
Volume 8, Issue 1
January/February 2006
Knoxville, Tennessee

In the debates and discussion of DDT and pesticide use, brought to public attention by Rachel Carson's work *Silent Spring*, it is easy to lose track of the writer, Rachel Carson, and her lyric voice. In 1952 Miss Carson resigned her position at the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service. Her book, *The Sea Around Us*, had just been published, and the income that it generated provided her with the opportunity to become a full-time writer.

In the aftermath of the success of *The Sea Around Us*, Carson's earlier book, *Under the Sea Wind* was given a second release and met with great success as well. This was followed in 1955 with her third work *The Edge of the Sea*. These three books served to popularize the science of oceanography in the minds of the American public. Carson's lyrical prose makes any of the three well worth the read.

When Miss Carson died of cancer in 1964, her work was just beginning. She had defended *Silent Spring* against the critics, brought the question of pesticide use to the attention of many supporters, including president John F. Kennedy, and was planning ten more books.

These books were not to be completed, although parts of one of them appeared in *The Sense of Wonder*, published posthumously. This wondrous little book is the story of her explorations of the

natural areas around her summer home with her nephew, Roger Christie, whom she had adopted when he was five years old. The work began as a magazine article, "Help Your Child to Wonder," published in *The Women's Home Companion*.

The following passage from *The Edge of the Sea* illustrates the lyric nature of Miss Carson's earlier work:

"Now I hear the sea sounds around me, the night high tide is rising, swirling with a confused rush of waters from the open sea, and it lies over water and over the land's edge, seeping into the spruces and stealing softly among the Juniper and the bayberry. The restive waters, the cold wet breath of the fog, are of a world in which man is an uneasy trespasser; he punctuates the night with the complaining groan and grunt of a foghorn, sensing the power and menace of the sea.

Hearing the rising tide, I think how it is pressing also against other shores I know – rising on a southern beach where there is no fog, but a moon edging all the waves with silver and touching the wet sands with lambent sheen, and on a still more distant shore sending its streaming currents against the moonlit pinnacles and the dark caves of the coral rock."

Under the Sea Wind
Simon and Schuster, 1941
Oxford University Press, 1952

The Sense of Wonder
Harper and Row, 1965 (posthumous)

Silent Spring
Houghton – Mifflin, 1962

The Edge of the Sea
Houghton – Mifflin, 1955

The Sea Around Us
Oxford University Press, 1951

What Have You Seen?

July 15

I birded Brainerd Levee this afternoon looking for some of the shorebirds Bruce Dralle has found there the past few days. I found the dowitcher, but not the others. There were 27 Great Egrets and 12 immature Little Blue Herons, which are impressive numbers. It is worth going out there.

David Aborn

July 9

I found an immature White Ibis around noon at the Brainerd Levee. I lost sight of the Ibis after an hour and couldn't relocate.

The conditions continue to be excellent for shorebirds and waders to drop in.

Bruce Dralle



Upland Sandpiper photographed on Pineville Road, May 4 by Gary Lanham.

July 10

This afternoon there was a Lesser Yellowlegs feeding on the mud flats with the Killdeers. The Fall Shorebird

Migration has begun.
Bruce Dralle

July 9

I was very surprised to hear and then see a male Red-breasted Nuthatch along the West Brow.

I don't know if this bird is an early Fall migrant or a bird that just stayed around the Park from the past Winter.

I couldn't find any evidence of nesting in the Park. Elevation of the sighting is 2,000 feet.

Bruce Dralle

July 8

This afternoon I found a couple of Least Sandpipers feeding on the mud flats.

The conditions at the Brainerd Levee are excellent right now for shorebirds and waders.

Bruce Dralle

Join TOS

Membership dues:

\$28- individual \$32- Family
\$15- student \$40- sustaining
\$460- Life (Life members must pay \$10 local chapter dues each year.)

Send checks payable to "TOS" to:

Gary Lanham, TOS Treasurer

21 Cool Springs Road

Signal Mountain, TN 37377

chattanooga@outlook.com

If you are a new member, please include your address, phone number, and an email address for Chat delivery and bird walk information.

All dues, donations, gifts, and bequests are tax deductible under Sec. 501 (c)(3), the Internal Revenue Code