

2009 EagleFest – Presenters and Exhibitors



EagleFest - Scenes from prior years

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LIVE BIRDS OF PREY PRESENTERS:

Bill Streeter, Executive Director
The Delaware Valley Raptor Center (DVRC)
www.dvrcolone.org



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DVRC, located in Milford, Pa is a tax-exempt publicly supported membership organization dedicated to the rehabilitation and conservation of birds of prey. DVRC's goal is to provide humane professional care for orphaned, ill and injured raptors so they can ultimately be returned to the wild, healthy and no longer dependent upon humans for survival. This goal is also accomplished by the use of public education programs, promoting increased awareness of raptors and their importance in wildlife communities.

Bill graduated from Lafayette College in 1974 with a B.A. in Biology and from the University of Massachusetts in 1977 with an M.S. in Zoology. Bill has been working with birds of prey and as an educator in the environmental science field since 1980.

Lauren Butcher
The Raptor Trust, Millington, NJ
lbutcher@eden.rutgers.edu

Lauren Butcher has been associated with the Raptor Trust for six years as a volunteer, seasonal staff member, and, most recently, as their full-time educator. She has a graduate degree from Rutgers University, where she studied the development of amateur ornithology in the US and taught nature writing.

The Raptor Trust is one of the premier, privately funded wild bird rehabilitation centers in the United States. Located in southeastern Morris County, NJ, the facility includes a hospital with state-of-the-art medical equipment, outdoor aviaries that can house several hundred birds, and an education center. The Trust's dedicated staff cares for over three thousand injured and

orphaned birds each year, with the primary goal of releasing as many as possible back into the wild.

Also committed to teaching the public about wild birds of prey, the Raptor Trust is open 365 days a year to visitors who would like to view the sixty-plus “un-releasable” hawks, eagles, and owls who are permanent residents at the center (Phone: 908-647-1091).

Giselle Chazotte Smisko
Avian Wildlife Center, Wantage, NJ
E-mail avianwildlife@aol.com; Ph: 973-702-1957

Giselle Smisko is a naturalist, photographer, wildlife rehabilitator, and Master Bird Bander. Over the past twenty-seven years she has taught a broad spectrum of natural history topics while working as an educator for the Morris County Park Commission, Union County Department of Parks and Recreation, The Raptor Trust, and the Avian Wildlife Center. Her knowledge of birds comes from years of rehabilitating several thousand injured and young birds and conducting research of wild populations in cooperation with New Jersey’s Non-game and Endangered Species Program and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Bird Banding Laboratory. She now directs the Avian Wildlife Center in Sussex County with the help of her husband John Smisko.

CONSERVATION PRESENTERS:

Tim Gallagher
Editor-in-Chief *Living Bird* Magazine
Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology
Ithaca, New York
E-mail: twg3@cornell.edu

Best known for being one of the re-discoverers of the ivory-billed woodpecker, which scientists had thought to be extinct since the 1940s, Tim Gallagher has another passion that has driven him since childhood—the ancient sport of falconry. In addition to hunting with falcons, he has gone on numerous expeditions to study them, including taking two open-boat voyages up the coast of northern Greenland, where he and the other researchers found the northernmost known peregrine falcon nests in the world, and to the hinterlands of Iceland, where he scaled lofty cliffs to study gyrfalcons, the world’s largest falcon.

Gallagher’s most recent adventure—detailed in his new book, *Falcon Fever* (Houghton Mifflin 2008)—was to follow in the footsteps of 13th-century Emperor Frederick II—a scientist, architect, poet, musician, and all-around Renaissance man 200 years before the birth of Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci. Frederick was also the greatest falconer who ever lived, and he wrote a massive tome on the subject, which is still useful today.

Donald Hamilton
Natural Resource Specialist, National Park Service
Beach Lake, PA .
Email: don_hamilton@nps.gov

Originally from northern Michigan, Don Hamilton’s career has taken him to parks in Michigan, California, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He was instrumental in developing a funding proposal that will enable a three-year study, in cooperation with NYSDEC, to determine the most important habitats for bald eagles on the upper Delaware River.

Tricia A. Miller
GIS Manager, Carnegie Museum of Natural History & Powdermill Natural
Reserve
Rector, PA
www.aviary.org

Tricia Miller is a migration modeler, main GIS data analyst and one of the two eagle trappers of the Golden Eagle Migration Study Team - The National Aviary, in collaboration with the [Powdermill Avian Research Center](#) and the [Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune](#) in Quebec, has embarked on a program to study the migration patterns of golden eagles in the Appalachian region of eastern North America. The ultimate goal of this collaborative research project is to gain detailed information about eagle migration and flight behavior that will scientifically support specific recommendations on how to develop wind power in the region in a manner that does not threaten these majestic birds. Because Pennsylvania is a major migration corridor for eastern Golden Eagles, the state has a very significant regional responsibility for their conservation

John Brennan
Fish & Wildlife Technician
Endangered Species Unit of the NYS DEC NYSDEC
E-mail: jebrenna@gw.dec.state.ny.us

John Brennan is a graduate from the State University of New York at Cobleskill with a Bachelor Degree in Wildlife Management. John is the field coordinator for a two-year study intended to identify and delineate essential habitat used by bald eagles on the Delaware River. He has previously worked on various projects throughout the country including a sandhill crane study in Idaho, nuisance wildlife work in Kentucky, Canada lynx and gray wolf research in Minnesota, and a raccoon rabies study in western New York.

Dr. Robert Smith
Assistant Professor of Biology, The University of Scranton,
Scranton, PA
Email: smithr9@scranton.edu.

Dr Robert Smith is an Assistant Professor of Biology at The University of Scranton, Scranton, Pennsylvania, where he teaches courses in Vertebrate Biology, Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy, Ecology, Conservation Biology and Animal Behavior. Dr. Smith completed a M.S. in Conservation Biology at Central Michigan University and a Ph.D. in Biology from the University of Southern Mississippi. He has been studying the ecophysiology and behavioral ecology of migratory birds for over 14 years, conducting fieldwork at several sites throughout North America, including the eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan, southwestern Michigan, the northern coast of the Gulf of Mexico, south/central Mississippi, Mississippi River sandbars, eastern Tennessee, western North Carolina and northeastern Pennsylvania.

Dr Smith will be incorporating his research, which includes both basic and applied elements, is focused on identification and evaluation of stopover habitat for migratory landbirds and linkages between the spring migratory and breeding periods, into his presentation. Dr Smith states, "I'm planning on incorporating information on stopover ecology - notably from a chapter we recently wrote for inclusion in a book on PA birds that will soon be out (published by the Pennsylvania Academy of Science)."

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS:

Authors John and Teresa Crerand
"The Adventures of Christopher Otter"
www.ChristopherOtter.com

John Crerand is a PA native and avid sportsman with extensive knowledge of wildlife behavior. He brings his audience to a woodland setting and home of a river otter named Christopher and the animals and environment in which they interact. He will read from the first series of five stories that teach family values, sharing, learning, helping others, and teaching life's lessons.

Stressing the importance of reading to learn and sharing that knowledge with others, he encourages children to read and inspires adults to read to children. The husband and wife (Teresa) team use hand puppets to educate children about good values, respect for others, and animal behavior along with a bit of a history lesson. Children learn about nature, its inhabitants and how they interact with each other, and that it is okay to be different.

Barbara Davin
Western Sullivan Public Library
Tusten-Cochecton and Callicoon Branches
(845)252-3360; (845) 887-4040

Barbara Davin is the Children's Programmer for Western Sullivan Public Library's three branches. She enjoys arts and crafts and loves to help children to be creative. She is passionate about preserving wildlife and very happy to be a part of Eaglefest this year.

Barbara will be conducting a 30-40 minute program for children that begin with - both fictional and nonfictional stories about eagles and then simple take-home eagle crafts.

FEATURED ARTIST:

Cheryl Korb
Dalton, PA
E-mail: CHERYL101257@aol.com

A self-taught artist from northeastern Pennsylvania, Cheryl Korb still lives on the farm where she was born. After raising a family of three children, she had time to pursue her dream, which was to make paintings inspired by Grandma Moses. Cheryl began painting the landscape she knows best: her own backyard.

Working in a tiny studio, formerly a closet off of her bedroom, with a tiny window, she uses one-hair brushes to create her delightful paintings, which are full of particulars of country life. She takes a walk each morning and picks up details, which she puts into her painting that day. Throughout these finely sketched works are people doing their chores, waving hello, sitting for a picnic, flying a kite, and riding a bike. There are animals playing together, horses in the fields or hitched to a wagon, chickens eating grain from the barnyard, kittens sleeping in a ball. Old stone walls, covered bridges, tractors and pails and stables emerge between fields of crops in various stages of growing, trees flowering or dropping their leaves, distant hills, or blankets of snow.

Korb says she has four subjects: spring, summer, fall, winter. She often can tell the exact week which the painting depicts. Her fine line and sensitive use of color has prompted comparisons to Oriental painting.

Cheryl Korb is known locally where she exhibits, teaches, and participates in fairs and auctions. She has received a number of awards for the excellence of her painting.

EXHIBITORS:

John A. DiGiorgio, Photographer
Nature's Art LLC,
Rockaway, NJ and Narrowsburg, NY
www.naturesartllc.com

An accomplished fine art and wildlife photographer, John A. DiGiorgio has been capturing intimate images of American culture for nearly 40 years. His photography has included such projects as: Native Americans of the South West; Ellis Island Unseen; Spirit of the Wolf; The Alaskan Grizzly; Portraits of the Bald Eagle; A Love Affair With Nature; and Native - A view of Native America.

For this exhibit, DiGiorgio has chosen a mixed collection of wildlife and landscape images, both in color and black and white. "The human element and the spiritual aspects of nature are what inspires my photographs," explains DiGiorgio. "Photographing in both black and white, and color has allowed me the versatility to pick my subjects out of my travel and life experiences."

Jason A. Porter
Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, University of the Sciences (USP) in Philadelphia, PA
E-mail: ja.porter@usip.edu

Jason Porter is an instructor of biology, microbiology and ecology at USP, and volunteer and committee member at Lacawac Sanctuary, a non-profit nature preserve on the Pocono Plateau in PA.

Individuals can lessen their impact on the earth's resources by living in a more sustainable manner. An important tool for understanding this impact is the "ecological footprint", a quantitative measure of the impact an individual's lifestyle has on the resources available. Jason will be talking about, and demonstrating, how individuals can calculate their footprints and understand why sustainable living is an important goal for all of us to strive to achieve.

Sculpted IceWorks
Tafton, Pa
mark@icework.net

Mark Crouthamel is the owner of Sculpted Ice Works, located near Lake Wallenpaupack. He is a graduate of Johnson & Wales University in Rhode Island with degrees in Culinary Arts(1990) and Food Service Management & Education(1993). Mark is a member of the National Ice Carving Association, and has been the owner and lead carver for Sculpted Ice Works, which has been a full-time venture since 2001.

Sculpted Ice Works started as a part-time side business offering custom ice sculptures to a few local businesses in November of 1999. There was a particular need at the time for Ice Sculptures at many New Year's celebrations, so Sculpted Ice Works began offering New Year's designs in addition to the standard holiday, theme oriented and popular wedding sculptures. The company

has since grown to a full time business, employing several full time ice carvers, office, and delivery staff. All of the carvers are members of the [National Ice Carving Association](#).

High Point Scientific
Montague, NJ
E-mail: info@highpointscientific.com

Since opening in 2001, High Point Scientific, Inc. has established itself as one of the premier optics retailers in the east. With a goal is to provide the ultimate shopping experience for anyone seeking to purchase optics and accessories for Nature and Astronomy, their product lines service the needs of both the casual enthusiast and the advanced amateur.

The staff at High Point has over 25 years experience in both sport optics and retail astronomy. The showroom has one of the largest telescope displays in the country.

Masters of the Chainsaw.
www.chainsaw.net
1-888 CHAINSAW; 1-888 242 4672

Dedicated to promoting and preserving the integrity of the art form and its performance, Masters of the Chainsaw artist Brian Ruth will present an original and captivating high-energy performance. With chain saw roaring and chips flying, the carvers' precision and skill quickly transforms a three-foot tall log into a true work of art. Each of the three 45-minute shows will result in a carving being produced from start to finish. The carvings will be available for purchase from the Masters of the Chain saw.

Established in 1992, the main focus of the Masters of the Chain Saw is the representation of only the finest professional chainsaw saw sculptors. The carvers' artistic ability and speed are not the only criteria they must meet to be one of the Masters of the Chainsaw. They must be of the highest degree of professionalism and of a personable nature befitting their position. Masters of the Chainsaw carvers now number 13 exclusive members and 36 part time members. It is the only agency in America devoted exclusively to chainsaw art. To date it has placed over 60 carvers at nearly 1,200 events in almost every state in the U.S., Canada and Japan. Additionally it has organized and operated 16 Chainsaw Carving Competitions.

Northeast Wilderness Experience
Beach Lake, PA
www.newildernessexperience.com (P) 570-729-1245

Northeast Wilderness Experience (NWEW) is the culmination of Northeast Sports, LTD and the creative entrepreneurial minds of Dan and Jessica Corrigan. NEWE's goal with all trips is to teach people about the outdoors and give children the learning tools necessary to make decisions on their own, work in group dynamics and empower them with knowledge of the outdoors and environmental preservation. NEWE is committed to the leave no trace ethics for all of their outdoor experiences.

Northeast Wilderness Experience offers kayaking, tubing, rappelling, climbing, hiking, biking, and snowshoeing. Each adventure is approached with a hands on personal touch creating a unique and memorable experience. From overnight school trips to catered corporate picnics on the riverbed, NEWE will customize an outing best suited for groups, offering a foundation of education to pursue individual adventures. All instructors are safety certified and nature enthusiasts.