

# *Delaware Valley Eagle Alliance*

## Nature's Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 1

[www.dveaglealliance.org](http://www.dveaglealliance.org)

2009

## EagleFest Edition

### Caring for Wild Birds

By Lauren Butcher

**Education Director, The Raptor Trust**  
[www.theraptortrust.org](http://www.theraptortrust.org)

The Raptor Trust is one of the premier, privately funded wild bird rehabilitation centers in the eastern US.

Located in Millington, NJ, it is situated on 16 tranquil acres of woods and meadows in southeastern Morris County, adjacent to the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. Each year, the Trust receives over 3,500 injured and orphaned wild birds for care, returning as many as possible to the wild. In addition, the Trust provides a permanent home for over 50 non-releasable raptors, representing 20 different species of hawks, eagles, falcons, and owls. The center is open to the public seven days a week, during daylight hours, year round, so that visitors may learn more about these fascinating and ecologically important birds up close. The facility also includes a hospital with state of the art medical facilities, quality exterior housing for several hundred recuperating birds, and an education building. A stalwart advocate for birds of prey for three decades, The Raptor Trust is now recognized as a national leader in raptor conservation and avian rehabilitation.

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©2009 John A. DiGiorgio, Photographer

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©2009 Photographs provided by The Raptor Trust  
Len Soucy banding an immature bald eagle (left); red tail hawk receiving care in Raptor Trust infirmary (right).

## The Raptor Trust *(continued)*

The Raptor Trust originated in one man's passionate concern for the well-being of birds of prey. Leonard Soucy, the founder and director of The Raptor Trust, first became inspired by birds of prey in the fall of 1964 after a visit to Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in Kempton, PA. After he and his wife Diane moved to their house in Millington, NJ, in 1968, they began caring for injured and orphaned raptors in their backyard. As their work became better known, the number of birds brought to their backyard avian hospital grew dramatically each year. By the end of the 1970's, hundreds of birds of all kinds, not just raptors, were being admitted annually, and the facility expanded to accommodate this burgeoning population of avian patients. By the early 1980's, the project had become so large and costly that the Soucys could no longer finance their efforts alone. They sought and received status as a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit, tax-exempt organization in 1983, and The Raptor Trust was born. In the 25 years since, the Trust has released over 30,000 injured and orphaned birds of all species back to the wild.

In addition to providing injured birds with medical care, The Raptor Trust is also committed to educating people about wild birds, especially birds of prey, and about the importance of the natural world that we share with them. In addition to maintaining non-releasable raptors for educational purposes, the Trust also reaches thousands of people each year through both on-site and outreach educational programs.

The Raptor Trust's abiding philosophy is that all living things are important. If, because of humans and human activities, injuries and injustices befall wild creatures, then humans have a responsibility to help heal the injuries and attempt to correct the injustices. If, through education and understanding, many of the injuries and injustices can be prevented, so much the better for us all.

## EAGLE FACTS

- Height: 30-31", Wing Span: 6'-7'6", Weight: to 14 lbs, Life Span: 25 – 30 years.
- Mated bald eagles are monogamous.
- Female bald eagles are larger than the males.
- 2 or 3 white eggs in a massive nest of sticks usually in a tall tree.
- Can fly 36 – 44 miles per hour.
- Can spot a fish up to 3 miles away.
- With eyes almost as big as a human's, bald eagles also have color vision.
- Juvenile bald eagles resemble Golden Eagles, require 4 – 5 years to reach full adulthood, have a longer tail and wider wings than adults.
- Snatch fish with their talons.
- Have special pads on the soles of their feet, especially designed to firmly grip a slippery wriggling fish.
- Each foot has four toes, three pointing to the front and one to the rear, ending with razor sharp black talons up to two inches long.



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## Bald Eagle Update

By Don Hamilton

***National Park Service Natural Resource Specialist, Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River***

The bald eagle has made remarkable strides towards recovery since being one of the first animals designated for protection under the Endangered Species Act more than 30 years ago. But this progress has not come easily, or overnight. Since the early 1970s, we've implemented important laws such as the Clean Water Act, which has curbed pollution, improved water quality, and enhanced the health of fisheries nationwide. We've also banned use of the pesticide DDT in the US, implicated in eggshell thinning and nest failure of eagles and other birds. The result has been a healthier environment for bald eagles, fish, numerous other kinds of wildlife, and people as well.

Along with these measures have been concerted efforts by state and federal agencies, non-government organizations, and citizens to protect bald eagles, their nests, their habitats, and to educate the public about these magnificent birds' needs. Over the past three decades, all of these efforts have gradually helped to promote their survival and reproductive success.

Bald eagle populations have rebounded in the Mid-Atlantic States along with other parts of the country. We've come a long way from the early 1970s, when the combined number of active nests in the three-state region (New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey) could be counted on one hand. This past spring (2008), observers counted 134 active nests in NYS, 123 active nests in PA, and 63 active nests in NJ (although nesting success ranged from 70% to 79% among states). The number of breeding pairs in these states has increased at an average annual rate of about 12 % over the past several years. While most of NJ's nests are found in the southern part of the state, the Upper Delaware River region provides some of the most important, and productive nesting habitat in PA or NY. The Delaware River and its tributaries provide an ample supply of fish for bald eagles and their young, and the relatively undisturbed riverside and upland areas, with mature trees, provide suitable nesting habitat. While important to bald eagles, this area is also one of the fastest-growing in terms of human population, with Pike County, PA, and Orange County, NY the fastest-growing counties in their respective states.

The significance of the unspoiled habitat of the Upper Delaware River region extends beyond what is needed for resident breeding bald eagles and their young, however. Of even greater importance is its use as crucial wintering habitat by a much larger number of bald eagles from a more extensive geographic area, as evidenced by tracking research done by Peter Nye of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

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# Wildlife Rehabilitation

By Bill Streeter

**Director, Delaware Valley Raptor Center**  
[www.dvrconline.org](http://www.dvrconline.org)

Over the years my wife Stephanie and I have often been asked why we take care of injured, ill, and orphaned birds of prey, and how we got started in this now long time endeavor. We do it because we love raptors, a shared passion. It started back in 1979 when I was in graduate school in Massachusetts. We became interested in bird watching and hawk watching at local lookouts (cheap entertainment for a grad student living on a teaching assistantship stipend), and then attended a lecture on birds of prey at Northfield Mountain Environmental Education Center given by two extremely knowledgeable educators and falconers, Dick Lucius and his young colleague, Julie Collier. I asked questions about falconry (the sport of hunting with hawks). Dick asked if I was interested in becoming a falconer. I really wasn't sure yet, but Stephanie was, and she became the second licensed woman falconer in Massachusetts. Julie was the first. Eventually with Stephanie's guidance, I became a falconer as well. When you fly hawks, people start showing up at your door with injured hawks that they have found, so we learned wildlife medicine techniques at first through local veterinarians, and later Tufts University Veterinary School Wildlife Clinic. Stephanie obtained the proper permits and opened up the North Quabbin Raptor Rehabilitation Center. In 1984 we returned to our home state of Pennsylvania to work at and develop a raptor program for an environmental education center, and in 1987 we incorporated our own organization, the Delaware Valley Raptor Center (DVRC), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, which is publicly supported through memberships in the center.

We now have two locations with 20 hawk buildings enclosing 36 separate flight spaces. We are equipped to provide medication, radiology, anesthesia, and laboratory analysis for blood values and parasitology. The DVRC will have completed its 22<sup>nd</sup> year in just a few months. During that time we have treated thousands of birds, but we have always specialized in birds of prey. We regularly receive 60 – 100 raptors annually. Most are relatively common species. Red-tailed hawks, broadwinged hawks, Cooper's and sharpshins, kestrels, great-horned owls, barred owls, and screech owls account for the greatest numbers, but we also get red-shouldered hawks, ospreys, and bald eagles annually, and every few years a golden eagle, merlin, peregrine falcon or saw-whet owl. The number one reason we receive them is trauma from car impact injuries. Not only is that a common occurrence, but people are most likely to notice and find them injured roadside. Other reasons for admittance include impact injuries from flying into plate glass windows, starvation, disease, being orphaned, pesticide poisoning, lead poisoning, electrocution, gunshot injuries, and being caught in leg-hold traps. About half of our raptors are successfully treated and released, a quarter die or have to be euthanized, and the remainder can be placed for display or trained for education programs.

Stephanie and I decided early on that we wanted not only to provide the best avian rehabilitation we could, but to also concentrate heavily on public education. We schedule about 150 live raptor education programs annually and publish the *DVRC Journal*, a magazine format publication for our membership containing informative and entertaining articles



©2009 Photographs provided by The Delaware Valley Raptor Center  
Bill and Stephanie with a bald eagle (top); Bill with a juvenile peregrine falcon (bottom left); and Stephanie with a golden eagle (bottom right).

and raptor art.

I have told you some of our history and a fraction of what we do, but what purpose do we serve as raptor rehabilitators? Are we really doing anything to benefit wildlife populations as a whole? Certainly we aren't meaningfully affecting the populations of red-tails, broadwings, great horned owls, and other common species. I like to believe that over the years we may have made a difference in helping to re-establish the numbers of bird species with lower population numbers, such as bald eagles, eastern golden eagles, ospreys, and peregrine falcons.

Wildlife rehabilitation is really not about population biology. Quite simply, it's about compassion. People do not like to watch animals suffer. If a clutch of baby owls is left orphaned because the nest tree was cut down, the majority of us are unwilling to "let nature take its course." The loggers that show up at our center holding the orphaned owlets don't want a lesson about the natural order of things, nor does someone's 10 year old daughter when she rescues an orphaned robin. They only want help for the baby birds. It might not make a difference for the owl population as a whole, but it makes a difference to the people that brought us the owls, and it certainly makes a difference to the young owlets fighting for their survival. You can teach your children how tough it is to survive in this world, or you can teach them compassion for all living things. Surely in today's world, compassion might be the more appropriate lesson.

## Bald Eagle Update *(continued)*

Migration of eagles from our area can be followed at [www.learner.org/jnorth](http://www.learner.org/jnorth). The Upper Delaware region is one of the largest and most important inland bald eagle wintering habitats in the eastern US, based upon consistency of annual use and numbers of eagles confirmed using the Delaware. This use has been documented by aerial surveys and winter counts done by the NYSDEC, the National Park Service, the PA Game Commission, the National Audubon Society, and other monitoring organizations over the past 30 years. One time counts along the upper 75 miles of the Delaware River have documented as many as 145 eagles, and it is estimated that at least 200 different eagles use the Delaware here for some period of time during the winter. Bald (and golden) eagles from as far north as the Canadian Maritime Provinces come here for the combination of ice-free open water for foraging, abundant prey (fish, waterfowl, carrion), adequate undisturbed upland areas for perching, and especially for all-important roosts with shelter from winter winds. This area provides a unique combination of resources, found in few other places in eastern North America, that enable eagles to find food and safe roosts in close proximity, and to survive harsh winters and enter the breeding season in good condition.

The bald eagle, our national symbol, has made dramatic progress towards recovery over the past three-plus decades, and this is something to celebrate. In 1995, they were reclassified from endangered to threatened, and in August 2007 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) removed the bald eagle from its list of threatened species. The USFWS will oversee a 20-year monitoring period (through 2027) to evaluate and investigate any problems that could compromise bald eagle recovery.

The Upper Delaware River, with its unique combination of resources, is considered by the Northern States Bald Eagle Recovery Plan as a vital area for the full recovery and long term survival of the species. It is also part of the most rapidly-developing area in both the states of PA and NY. Studies are currently being conducted to determine the most important habitats used by bald eagles on the Upper Delaware River, and much valuable information has been gained from over a dozen satellite and radio-tagged birds. Knowledge of these habitats, and eagles' needs, will be a valuable planning tool as we move into the future. I believe that, with proper foresight and planning, we can provide for and sustain the recovery of our national symbol, ensuring that future generations can experience the inspirational sight of bald eagles in the wild.

### **The Delaware Valley Eagle Alliance** a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization

**Our mission: to increase awareness,  
understanding and promote conservation  
of our wildlife and natural environment.**

**Educational  
Events, Programs and Publications**

If you would like to make a donation, please send your "tax deductible" check, payable to the *Delaware Valley Eagle Alliance* to:

PO Box 498, Narrowsburg, NY 12764



©2009 Photograph provided by the Avian Wildlife Center  
Great Horned Owl chicks that were raised with a surrogate at the Avian Wildlife Center and later released to the wild.

## Avian Wildlife Center

By Giselle Chazotte Smisko

**Director, Avian Wildlife Center**  
[avianwildlife@aol.com](mailto:avianwildlife@aol.com)

Both John Smisko and I met while working for Len and Diane Soucy at The Raptor Trust in the 1980's. We also started volunteering for New Jersey's Nongame and Endangered Species program surveying and banding nesting Ospreys. The Avian Wildlife Center started when we married in 1990.

The Avian Wildlife Center is involved with all species of wild birds. Through rehabilitation, literature, educational programs, and field research we work toward our goals of protecting and promoting the welfare of native species. Currently we are caring for a variety of birds ranging from Ruby-throated Hummingbirds to Mute Swans. We treat an average of 500 birds annually and present 70 to 90 outreach programs a year. We conduct and support research work on migratory hawks, nesting raptor surveys, West Nile Virus, and pesticide levels in birds. Additionally we have several projects aimed at increasing knowledge and population productivity of certain species of concern: Barred Owl, Osprey, American Kestrel, and Chimney Swift.

The Avian Wildlife Center, a New Jersey Nonprofit Corporation is a private, tax-exempt organization. It is operated by a volunteer staff and funded by donations.

**For more information: [www.dveaglealliance.org](http://www.dveaglealliance.org); [jyd630@aol.com](mailto:jyd630@aol.com)  
Yoke Bauer DiGiorgio, Editor-in-Chief**



©2009 Joe DiMaggio Photographer



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The Delaware Valley Eagle Alliance  
 welcomes you to the 8<sup>th</sup> annual  
**EAGLE FEST**  
 NARROWSBURG, NEW YORK  
 Saturday, January 17, 2009  
 9:30AM – 4:30PM

**Live bird demonstrations, observation sites, guest lectures,  
 films, poster auction, eagle art  
 (snow or shine)**

Wildlife and environmental conservation and preservation are challenges that touch all of us. Combining entertainment and education for all attending, the award winning Narrowsburg NY “EagleFest” is an event for everyone to be proud of! Successful in bringing local residents and out-of-town visitors of all ages to the day’s multi-faceted series of activities, it brings much deserved attention to the natural resources that enrich our lives in the Delaware River Valley region.

The Delaware Valley Eagle Alliance, founder and organizer of EagleFest, is committed that EagleFest continue its focus – a program of education and entertainment. Each year the event is enhanced with new speakers and presentations providing all attending opportunities to see and experience new and interesting programs. Because of the generosity of sponsors and supporters, many of the programs are free of charge.

We welcome you to EagleFest!

***The Delaware Valley Eagle Alliance***

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We thank our Officers, Committee and many Volunteers

# EAGLEFEST PROGRAM SCHEDULE

<u>TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITIES</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
8:45am	Pre-Opening Festival Program	School Auditorium
9:30am	Opening Festival Dedication – Introductions, Children’s Art Contest Winner Awards, Sponsor & Supporter Recognitions	School Auditorium
10:30am	“LIVE Birds Of Prey” Program by Bill Streeter, The Delaware Valley Raptor Center (50 min), \$2.00 Donation	School Auditorium
12:00pm	Falcon Fever Lecture with “LIVE Bird of Prey” by Tim Gallagher, Editor-in-chief of Living Bird publication, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology (60 min)	Tusten Theater
12:30pm	Mid-day Festival Dedication – Introductions, and Sponsor & Supporter Recognitions (30 min)	School Auditorium
1:00pm	“LIVE Birds Of Prey” Program by Bill Streeter, The Delaware Valley Raptor Center (50 min), \$2.00 Donation	School Auditorium
1:00pm	“Eagle Updates,” hosted by Don Hamilton, NPS Speakers include: Trisha Miller, Carnegie Museum of Natural History & Penn State and John Brennan NYS DEC (60 min)	Tusten Theater
2:00pm	“Bird Migrations” by Robert Smith, Univ.of Scranton, PA (40 min)	Firehouse
2:30pm	“LIVE Birds of Prey” Owl Program by Lauren Butcher, The Raptor Trust, NJ, (50 min) \$2.00 Donation	Tusten Theater
3:00pm	“LIVE Bird” Program by Giselle Smisko, Avian Wildlife Center, NJ (50 min)	School Auditorium
4:00pm	Inside Look at Bird Rehabilitation with “LIVE Birds of Prey” by Lauren Butcher, The Raptor Trust, NJ, (50 min) \$2.00 Donation	Tusten Theater
4:30pm	Poster Auction <u>Final</u> Silent Bid, Poster Pick-up	River Gallery

## ONGOING ACTIVITIES AND EXHIBITS

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • Eagle Viewing  | Viewing Deck, Main St                  |
| • Binocular & Birding Scope Demos by High Point Scientific | Viewing Deck, Main St                  |
| • Exhibits by Regional Conservation Groups                 | Town Hall, Bridge St                   |
| • “Ecological Footprint” Demo by Jason Porter              | Town Hall, Bridge St                   |
| • Wood Carving Demonstrations by Masters of the Chainsaw   | Town Hall (11:00am; 1:00pm and 3:00pm) |
| • Ice Sculptures by Sculpted Ice Works                     | Viewing Deck, Main St                  |
| • Snowshoeing Demos by Northeast Wilderness Experience     | Gazebo, Main St & Bridge St            |

## ART EXHIBITS

- WILDLIFE Photography by John A DiGiorgio (DVAA Gallery, Main St)
- Featured Artist – Cheryl Korb – Posters on Sale (School Auditorium and River Gallery, Main St)
- Silent Eagle Art Poster Auction (River Gallery, Main St)

## MOVIES ( Firehouse, Bridge St)

- 12:00PM** "American Bald Eagle Heritage on the Wing" (40 min)  
**1:00PM** “Return of the Raptor” (30 min)  
**3:30PM** “Life on the Delaware” (60 min)

## 3<sup>rd</sup> annual “NATURE and WILDLIFE ART SHOW”

Narrowsburg School Cafeteria and Library  
 (corner Bridge St. & Kirks St.)  
 Nature and wildlife artists display and sell their art work.  
 Subject matter includes all nature subjects - landscapes, flora, and fauna.

## CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS

(Western Sullivan Public Library, Bridge St)  
**12:00PM** “The Adventures of Christopher Otter” by John and Teresa Crerand (50 min)  
**2:00PM** “Eagle Storytelling and Crafts” by Maureen Cookingham (40 min)

# ABOUT THE PRESENTORS AND PROGRAMS

## LIVE BIRDS OF PREY PRESENTERS:

### **Bill Streeter, The Delaware Valley Raptor Center (DVRC)**

DVRC, located in Milford, Pa is a tax-exempt publically 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**

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 3,000 injured and orphaned birds each year, with the primary goal of releasing as many as possible back into the wild.

### **Giselle Chazotte Smisko, Avian Wildlife Center, Wantage, NJ**

Giselle Smisko is a naturalist, photographer, wildlife rehabilitator, and Master Bird Bander. Over the past 27 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 Nongame 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, NY**

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**

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**

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 PA is a major migration corridor for eastern Golden Eagles, the state has a very significant regional responsibility for their conservation

### **John Brennan, Endangered Species Unit of the NYS DEC**

John Brennan is a graduate from the State University of NY 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 NY.

### **Dr. Robert Smith, Assistant Professor of Biology, The University of Scranton, Scranton, PA**

Dr Robert Smith is an Assistant Professor of Biology at The University of Scranton, Scranton, PA 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 PA. 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.

### **Jason A. Porter, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, University of the Sciences (USP) in Philadelphia, PA**

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.

## FEATURED ARTIST:

### **Cheryl Korb, Dalton, PA**

A self-taught artist from northeastern PA, Cheryl Korb still lives on the farm where she was born. 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, 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.

# ABOUT THE PRESENTORS AND PROGRAMS (continued)

## PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT:

### **John DiGiorgio, Photographer, Nature's Art LLC, Rockaway, NJ and Narrowsburg, NY**

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; and A Love Affair With Nature. For this exhibit, "Love of Nature", John collected a range of images to represent his love of nature and wildlife. 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."

## EXHIBITS AND DEMONSTRATIONS:

### **Brian Ruth, Masters of the Chainsaw**

Brian is a self taught World Champion sculptor, with over twenty eight years of extreme art experience and holding many carving champion titles. His most recent awards include 1<sup>st</sup> Place Judges Choice, as well as Peoples Choice, at a carving competition in Germany this summer.

Brian established the Masters of the Chain Saw in 1992 with the focus to represent only the finest professional chainsaw saw sculptors. 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. Each of the three 45-minute shows (scheduled for 11:00AM, 1:00PM and 3:00PM) by Town Hall will result in a carving being produced from start to finish. The carvings will be available for purchase from the Masters of the Chainsaw.

### **Mark Crouthamel, Sculpted IceWorks, Tafton, PA**

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**

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 showroom has one of the largest telescope displays in the country.

The staff at High Point has over 25 years experience in both sport optics and retail astronomy. They will be demonstrating telescopes throughout the day during EagleFest on the Viewing Deck on Main Street

### **Dan Corrigan, Northeast Wilderness Experience, Beach Lake, PA**

Northeast Wilderness Experience is the culmination of Northeast Sports, LTD and the creative entrepreneurial minds of Dan and Jessica Corrigan. Northeast Wilderness Experience'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. Northeast Wilderness Experience is committed to the leave no trace ethics for all of their outdoor experiences.

Snowshoeing demonstrations will be given by Dan Corrigan, who will be located by the Gazebo (on Main St & Bridge St). Dan comes equipped with 20 + shoes available for demo from Atlas snowshoe company.

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAM:

### **John and Teresa Crerand, "The Adventures of Christopher Otter"**

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.

## PRE-FESTIVAL MUSICAL PROGRAM:

### **Bob Lohr, Musician, Narrowsburg, NY**

Bob and his lovely wife, Penelope, came to Narrowsburg in 2004 and count themselves extremely fortunate to call such beautiful place home. Born and raised out west in Colorado where he attended Montrose County High School and Western State College of Colorado in Gunnison, he is an appreciator of wildlife, small town life, and nature in general.

## *The Delaware Valley Eagle Alliance*

a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization

dedicated to increasing awareness, understanding and promoting conservation of our wildlife and natural environment.

For more information about the Delaware Valley Eagle Alliance:

E-mail: [jvd630@aol.com](mailto:jvd630@aol.com) or Visit our Website: [www.dveaglealliance.org](http://www.dveaglealliance.org)

If you would like to make a donation, please send your "tax deductible" check, payable to the Delaware Valley Eagle Alliance to:  
PO Box 498, Narrowsburg, NY 12764