

The Mascoma Chapter met on Weds, Sept 3rd, at 7 p.m. at Howe Library. In attendance: Peg Ackerson, Becky Cook, Ted Boze, Dan Hopkins, and Mark Krenitsky. Guests: Monica Erhart from UVLT, and Eric and Anne, National Audubon members from Florida.

Last year we had a President (me by default), Vice President (Jody Schubert) and Treasurer (Becky Cook). Ted Boze was in charge of programs. We jointly planned the field trip schedule. No one volunteered for Secretary. We all multi-tasked and felt quite burnt out by spring.

We are trying out some changes in the chapter organization with the goal of trying something different to keep up our enthusiasm for running the chapter.

We (above) consider ourselves a council rather than officers.

Our program/council meeting year will run from Sept - April. We meet the first Weds of each month at the Howe Library in Hanover, NH, 7 pm.

Rather than 9 programs (Sept - May), we are dropping to 4 or 5 programs (still yet to be decided). We are very low budget and attendance is very marginal at times.

On a no-program month, we will meet as a council if considered necessary. This takes away the hassle of finding the magical date that the council can meet. For example: Sept - we met as a council; Oct - program; Nov - council meeting; Dec - program; Jan - no program, no council meeting; Feb - program; Mar - council meeting; April - last program of the "year."

We purposely decided not to hold any program in May, not plan any weekend field trips, and perhaps co-lead with other groups. We have found that in May there is just so much going on in the Upper Valley that we feel like we are competing - we'd rather work with like-minded groups. For example, last year several of us were approached by the Hanover Conservation Council and Vermont Institute of Natural Science to help lead bird walks on the weekend. We were busy with our own. This coming May we can offer to help lead with the understanding that we can also bring membership info about NH Audubon. We will continue the very successful Warbler Weds and the Feathered Fridays through the month of May.

The council will rotate responsibilities of running a meeting, taking notes, and greeting guests and introducing the speaker on program night.

Accepted responsibilities - in no particular order - are as follows:

Contact/liason with ASNH: Peg Ackerson

Web page: Becky Cook presently/Peg Ackerson once training rec'd to switch over to ASNH web site

Field trips: Becky Cook

Programs: Ted Boze

Program publicity: Ted Boze

Local field trip publicity: Dan Hopkins

Afield publicity: Becky Cook/Ted Boze  
Membership: Jody Schubert  
Finances: Becky Cook  
Refreshments: Mark Krenitsky  
Billie Jo Scholarship Fundraising: ??  
Monitoring of email at [mascomabirds@yahoo.com](mailto:mascomabirds@yahoo.com): Ted Boze

Successes:

Warbler Wednesdays, held the last Wednesday in April and every Weds in May: 7-9 a.m., Boston Lot Lake. Same time, same place every Weds. Ted Boze keeps a species list for the entire season. Very popular in its third year. It's our niche.

Feathered Fridays: same structure but different location. Minimal attendance, but just started last year. Expect it will gain in popularity.

We want some projects; what we have in mind:

- 1) Start a regular inventory of the Grant Brook Sanctuary (our tiny sanctuary in Lyme under the joint management of ASNH, UVLT and Lyme Conservation Commission).
- 2) Lou-Anne Conroy has spearheaded Project Nighthawk for the Upper Valley. I owe her an email response. We are very interested in helping out with this project.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peg Ackerson for the Mascoma Chapter of NH Audubon