



THE MARSH WREN

BRADDOCK BAY BIRD OBSERVATORY

BRADDOCK BAY LAND PURCHASED

MAJOR DONORS AND VALUED FRIENDS CONTRIBUTE TO CONSERVATION

Braddock Bay Bird Observatory (BBBO) and the Genesee Land Trust (GLT) are happy to announce that an additional five acres of land in the Braddock Bay complex have been protected! The parcel, located between Manitou Beach Road and Braddock Bay near the Lake Ontario shoreline, is adjacent to the Observatory's Kaiser-Manitou Beach banding station. The acquisition, finalized in December 2004, was a cooperative project involving BBBO, GLT, and many generous supporters of both organizations. The land will be managed for the benefit of migratory birds, and will be protected for birds and birders to enjoy.

BBBO would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the capital campaign that made this purchase possible. Dozens of valued members and friends have

made donations. Joining our supporters are several organizations that deserve special mention. They include Allyn's Creek Garden Club, Burrough's Audubon Nature Club, Genesee Ornithological Society, Rochester Birding Association, and Seneca Meadows, Inc. A complete list of donors may be found on page 11.

While this parcel of land has been acquired, much work remains to be done. Our capital campaign continues as we seek to improve our research facilities, expand our educational program, and protect additional property. Tax deductible donations may be sent to the address on the back page. Thank you to everyone who has supported BBBO and GLT! ♦

\$10,000 DONATION BY SENECA MEADOWS, INC. HELPS PROTECT LAND

Seneca Meadows, Inc., the operator of New York State's largest solid waste landfill, has made a \$10,000 donation to Braddock Bay Bird Observatory for the purchase and protection of land near Braddock Bay. The donation has been used towards the purchase of approximately five acres of land bordering the bay and the banding station. Preservation of this land is a vital component in the ongoing success of BBBO's conservation, research, and education programs. In addition to the generous donation for land preservation, Seneca Meadows has also made a pledge of \$5,000 to be dispersed over the next five years. This donation will assist BBBO with its annual operating budget.

BBBO Board members David Bonter and Rick Marx recently met with Don Genticlore, Division Manager, and Tom Hasek, Environmental, Engineering & Compliance Manager from Seneca Meadows to tour the landfill facility in the town of Seneca Falls, New York. The tour highlighted Seneca Meadows' commitment to the community and to environmental stewardship. For instance, Seneca Meadows captures the methane gas that is generated as a result of the decomposition of the solid waste disposed in the landfill. The gas is then

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SENECA MEADOWS DONATION SECURES HABITAT

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used to fuel an adjacent power generation plant that produces enough power to meet the electric needs necessary to operate the entire landfill as well as power for approximately 10,000 homes annually. In addition, the facility turns more than one million waste tires per year into a liner used in landfill construction. The tires are shredded in an on-site tire shredder, eliminating the need for a natural resource, crushed stone.

The current landfill will reach capacity within five years and will be "capped" with soil and planted with grasses. Bonter and Marx encouraged Seneca

Meadows to consider managing the capped facility to benefit grassland birds. Seneca Meadows is also working to protect more land for birds in the wetlands complex surrounding Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. As part of a landfill expansion proposal, Seneca Meadows proposes to mitigate the expansion by restoring nearly 400 acres of freshwater wetlands within the Black Brook watershed that have been eliminated or degraded over the past 50 years. If the required regulatory approvals are obtained, the restored wetlands would be maintained in perpetuity, and would be a great benefit to the plants and animals that would inhabit the mitigation site. The proposed mitigation would increase the wetland inventory in the Montezuma wetlands complex. These wetlands serve not only as a significant resting and feeding area for numerous species of migratory birds during both fall and spring migration, but would also provide suitable nesting habitat for many bird species.

BBBO, as an environmental conservation organization, recognizes the need for modern, well-run landfills and applauds Seneca Meadows for its ongoing sensitivity to the environment and the local community. BBBO is happy to welcome Seneca Meadows as a major benefactor, and looks forward to advising the company on how to best manage its properties for the benefit of birds. ♦



*Connecticut Warbler banded at Braddock Bay, autumn 2004.
Photo by Ryan Kayhart.*

SUMMER BANDING AT THOUSAND ACRE SWAMP

Spring and fall migration are not the only times of the year when BBBO banders are in action. Cindy Marino, a BBBO Board member and licensed bird bander, reports on her summer banding project.

Two years ago I was given permission by The Nature Conservancy of Central and Western New York to begin a MAPS banding project at Thousand Acre Swamp in Penfield. MAPS stands for Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship. The Institute of Bird Populations (IBP), located at Point Reyes Bird Observatory in California, started the MAPS program in 1989. Today the MAPS network includes more than 500 banding stations in North America. The MAPS project collects data about birds during the breeding season, so we only band after spring migration has ended and before fall migration has begun. Banding takes place approximately every ten days during the

breeding season, which in our area is roughly from June through early August.

When a new MAPS station is started, the IBP requests that the station be run for at least five consecutive breeding seasons. This past summer was the second year of my MAPS experience. My station is small—only eight nets this year—but on our busiest days there was plenty of work to do. Next season I hope to add two more nets.

We banded 74 new birds during the summer of 2004. We had 27 recaptures of birds that were already banded. We were excited that some of these birds were returns of birds that we banded in 2003. On 11 June, our first day of banding in 2004, we recaptured four birds that we had banded in 2003. They were a male and female American Redstart, a male Northern Cardinal, and a male Gray Catbird. On 4 August, we

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THE SEASON AT BRADDOCK BAY

AUTUMN BANDING 2004

By Betsy Brooks

The 19th consecutive year of autumn banding at the Kaiser-Manitou Beach Banding Station began on 29 July and ended on 11 November 2004. Banding was conducted by licensed banders David Bonter, Elizabeth Brooks, Kelly Dockery, Jon Dombrowski, Erin Karnatz, Cindy Marino, and Robert McKinney. Banding assistants were Jessie Barry, Linda Boutwell, Peter Doherty, Virginia Duffy, Ryan Kayhart, Coby Klein, Pat Lovallo, Doug Smith, Chris Villone, and Barb Wagner. A list of birds banded during autumn 2004 appears on page 6.

Banding was carried out for at least six hours beginning at dawn every day between 31 August and 17 October, with three days lost due to inclement weather. Banding was also conducted on five days prior to and six days after the intensive banding period, for a total of 10,758 net hours on 57 days. The season ended with 5,176 birds of 84 species banded (4,678 birds of 89 species were banded in 2003). Two male and three female Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were released unbanded, with the last hummingbird captured on 17 September. The season's overall

capture rate was 48.1 birds/100 net hours. There were no new species for the cumulative autumn list that stands at 122 species.

The best banding day of the season was 12 October when 402 birds (22% Ruby-crowned Kinglets, 19% White-throated Sparrows, and 18% Golden-crowned Kinglets) of 20 species were banded. Other days with more than 200 birds banded were 5 October (339), 11 October (321), 13 October (303), 9 October (269), and 23 September (210). The greatest species diversity occurred on 23 September when 39 species were captured.

It was a good year for thrushes, with record high numbers of Gray-cheeked, Gray-cheeked/Bicknell's, Bicknell's, and Swainson's Thrushes banded (note that many Gray-cheeked Thrushes and Bicknell's Thrushes cannot be distinguished by measurements). Other species banded in record high numbers in autumn 2004 were Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Tennessee Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, White-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, and Northern Cardinal.

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SUMMER BANDING

continued from page 2

recaptured a female Wood Thrush that we banded in 2003. The remaining 22 recaptures were all birds that were banded earlier in the season. We hope to encounter some of these birds again in 2005.

This past summer was very rainy and the mud was ankle deep on the net lanes. Mosquitoes were everywhere. I was lucky to be able fit in all the required banding sessions and could not have done it without the great help of a fine group of BBBO volunteers. They were Pat Lovallo, Virginia Duffy, Barbara Wagner and her son Glen, Ann Adams, Ben Kopec, and Phil Marino. Special thanks also go to Chris Gates for his help with the habitat assessment work. If you would like to learn more about MAPS banding and the Institute of Bird Populations, visit their website at www.birdpop.org. ♦



Male Black-throated Blue Warbler, photo by Ryan Kayhart.

TOP 10 SPECIES Banded DURING AUTUMN 2004

WITH NUMBERS CAPTURED DURING PREVIOUS 10 YEARS

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
White-throated Sparrow	134	524	299	715	526	898	1183	1379	867	1569	1146
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	143	171	271	193	193	757	492	538	330	221	702
Golden-crowned Kinglet	137	136	100	165	294	556	814	358	312	193	473
Hermit Thrush	77	173	117	178	96	261	216	178	238	414	307
Gray-cheeked Thrush	13	37	12	30	66	128	87	36	107	68	213
Black-capped Chickadee	24	457	73	46	290	1082	48	1668	48	68	189
Magnolia Warbler	41	66	66	57	127	276	265	341	214	220	188
Dark-eyed Junco	82	73	47	113	119	187	59	112	86	77	173
Swainson's Thrush	5	77	25	65	40	167	119	147	94	150	159
Brown Creeper	16	35	32	23	30	67	83	71	91	94	132

Species absent in our totals this season included Eastern Wood Pewee, which was not banded for the first time since 1990. Baltimore Oriole was missing after being banded in 10 out of the last 13 years, and House Finch was missing again after being banded in 11 of the last 13 years.

As many as 45 twelve-meter mist nets and four six-meter nets were used daily, with most nets located in the same locations as in previous years. Included in the 45 twelve-meter nets were six double-high net assemblies. Capture time (hour after sunrise to the nearest 0.5 hour) and net number was recorded for each bird handled.

More than 715 birds were recaptured after the initial encounter. Data on recaptured birds is collected for ongoing studies of stopover duration and changes in energetic condition during stopover at Braddock Bay. In addition to same-season recaptures, 14 birds banded in a previous season were recaptured during the autumn banding season (see page 5).

Abnormalities

Few birds had deformed bills or were infected with avian pox this autumn. Avian pox is a viral disease that causes wart-like growths to form on the featherless areas of the body such as around the eye, the base of the bill, and on the legs and feet. The noticeable decrease in this disease was a welcome change after last autumn's unusually high incidence of pox and bill deformities.

Birds showing evidence of avian pox included Hermit Thrush (2), Veery (1), Swainson's Thrush (2), Black-throated Blue Warbler (2), White-throated Sparrow (2), and Northern Cardinal (4). Ticks were removed from four White-throated Sparrows and a Veery. Hippoboscid flies were found on three White-throated Sparrows and a Swainson's Thrush.

Research

Mark Deutschlander conducted research on nocturnal orientation of Swainson's Thrushes and Gray-cheeked Thrushes. Nazareth College professor Beverly Brown continued her studies of fecal samples from migrants to identify what food resources were being used in the area of the banding station (see page 8).

Education

James Casey, a student from the Rochester Institute of Technology, successfully completed a five-week, one-credit Bander Training Course at the Observatory. Students from Dr. Beverly Brown's plant biology class



Golden-winged Warbler, photo by Charley Eisman.



Black-capped Chickadee, photo by Ryan Kayhart.

RETURNS FROM PREVIOUS SEASONS

Species	Number Returning	Oldest*
Downy Woodpecker	2	3
Black-capped Chickadee	2	3
Gray Catbird	2	4
Common Yellowthroat	2	4
Song Sparrow	4	2
Northern Cardinal	2	4

* Oldest bird is at least this age.

at Nazareth College, Dr. Mark Deutschlander's senior seminar on bird migration at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Dr. Kristi Hannam's animal behavior Class at SUNY Geneseo, and Dr. Sara Morris' vertebrate zoology class at Canisius College all visited the banding station.

Appreciation

Our fall research assistant was Peter Doherty and Ryan Kayhart was our senior intern.

BBBO thanks Tom Muller, Chita McKinney, and Doug Smith for mowing paths, Jim Gillette for mowing the field, and Doug Smith for all of his habitat management. Appreciation to the following individuals who helped scribe, tended net lanes, or assisted with other aspects of our educational or banding operation: Liz Barry, Kevin Dockery, Jesse Ellis, Judy Engerman, Cricket Fegan, Peggy Fuller, Marilyn Guenther, Michelle Hall, Mike Harvey, Jennifer Heckler, Donna Hilborn, Anya Illes, Ben Kopec, John Lehr, Chita McKinney, Shirley Meston, Dan Niven, Debbie Reed, Jesse Roberts, Michelle Rogne, Lee Scofield, Jeanne Skelly, Lois Smith, Greta Stephany, Ruth Stork, Tami Walsh, and Scott and Teresa Wolcott. A special thanks to Bob and Charlene Reed for housing and to Bill Kaiser and The Genesee Land Trust for permission to band on their land. ♦

Weekly summaries from the autumn banding season are available online.

www.bbbo.org

NABC CERTIFICATION SESSION HOSTED BY BBBO

The Eastern Bird Banding Association's sixth North American Banding Council (NABC) Certification Session was held on October 1-3, 2004 at Braddock Bay Bird Observatory. Participating Trainers were Tom Bartlett, Betsy Brooks, Mary Doscher, David Holmes, Sara Morris, and Bob Yunick.

Two people successfully passed the Bander-level Certification. They were Christian Friis and Stuart Mackenzie both of Port Rowan, Ontario.

For the first time, a Trainer-level Certification was held and two individuals passed their evaluations. They were David Cimprich of Fort Hood, Texas and BBBO's Erin Karnatz of Albion, New York.

Congratulations to all the participants!



BIRDS BANDED AT BRADDOCK BAY

AUTUMN 2004



One of the eight Eastern Phoebes (above) and 64 American Goldfinch (below) banded at Braddock Bay during autumn, 2004. Photos by Ryan Kayhart.

Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	Northern Parula	3
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	4	Yellow Warbler	49
Downy Woodpecker	12	Chestnut-sided Warbler	5
Hairy Woodpecker	2	Magnolia Warbler	188
Northern Flicker	3	Cape May Warbler	5
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	11	Black-throated Blue Warbler	66
"Traill's" Flycatcher*	6	Yellow-rumped Warbler	56
Least Flycatcher	17	Black-throated Green Warbler	28
Eastern Phoebe	8	Blackburnian Warbler	8
Great Crested Flycatcher	1	Palm Warbler	3
Northern Shrike	1	Bay-breasted Warbler	9
White-eyed Vireo	1	Blackpoll Warbler	47
Blue-headed Vireo	28	Black-and-white Warbler	7
Warbling Vireo	3	American Redstart	35
Philadelphia Vireo	8	Ovenbird	16
Red-eyed Vireo	89	Northern Waterthrush	17
Blue Jay	7	Connecticut Warbler	1
Black-capped Chickadee	189	Mourning Warbler	4
Tufted Titmouse	5	Common Yellowthroat	107
Red-breasted Nuthatch	15	Hooded Warbler	2
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	Wilson's Warbler	28
Brown Creeper	132	Canada Warbler	5
Carolina Wren	2	Scarlet Tanager	3
House Wren	17	Eastern Towhee	2
Winter Wren	132	American Tree Sparrow	2
Golden-crowned Kinglet	473	Chipping Sparrow	1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	702	Field Sparrow	4
Veery	10	Savannah Sparrow	1
Gray-cheeked Thrush	213	Fox Sparrow	2
Gray-cheeked/Bicknell's Thrush	84	Song Sparrow	102
Bicknell's Thrush	6	Lincoln's Sparrow	24
Swainson's Thrush	159	Swamp Sparrow	38
Hermit Thrush	307	White-throated Sparrow	1146
Wood Thrush	6	White-crowned Sparrow	54
American Robin	13	Dark-eyed Junco	173
Gray Catbird	102	Northern Cardinal	26
Brown Thrasher	2	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	4
Cedar Waxwing	13	Indigo Bunting	1
Blue-winged Warbler	2	Rusty Blackbird	2
Tennessee Warbler	7	Common Grackle	8
Orange-crowned Warbler	5	Purple Finch	7
Nashville Warbler	23	American Goldfinch	64

* "Traill's" Flycatcher includes both Willow Flycatcher and Alder Flycatcher. These species are difficult to distinguish from one another except by their calls.



Autumn 2004 Season Totals
57 days
5,176 birds banded
10,758 net hours

FUN DAY WITH THE GIRL SCOUTS

By Patricia F. Lovallo

On Sunday, October 10, 2004 Braddock Bay Bird Observatory participated in the Fall Fun Day Sponsored by the Girl Scout's Stoney Hill Service Team at Braddock Bay Park. There were scouts of all ages organized in groups called Daisies, Brownies, Juniors, Cadets, and Seniors.

It was a day filled with activities and presentations with the scouts working on components for their "Try-Its/Badges" and having a great time while earning these awards. One requirement for earning a badge is to learn about birds, so I was invited as a presenter to represent Braddock Bay Bird Observatory. Five groups of scouts rotated through the BBBO station where they viewed and participated in a sample demonstration of how birds are netted and banded. Topics covered in the presentations included bird migration, conservation, habitat preservation, the careful and ethical treatment of birds, and the role of birds in nature. It was a good day for the scouts and a good day for BBBO. ♦

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT DONNA HILBORN

By Betsy Brooks

The winter 2005 volunteer spotlight shines on Donna Hilborn. Donna volunteers at BBBO as a scribe, unofficial nurse, gardener and advisor for the Memorial Garden, and is becoming more and more proficient as a helper removing birds from the mist nets.

In her non-BBBO life, Donna has been married for 36 years to David Hilborn. She has a son living in Boston, and a daughter living near Montreal.

Donna worked as a Registered Nurse for 24 years and retired four years ago. Given her nursing experience, Donna observes the banding lab with a professional eye and brings us products such as liquid bandages for split nails, aspirin to keep on hand in case of cardiac emergency, and antihistamine in case of allergic reactions to mosquito bites!

Donna also volunteers for the Central and Western chapter of The Nature Conservancy and, along with BBBO volunteer Ruth Stork, monitors six bluebird boxes at Rush Oaks Openings during the breeding season. For the last ten years, Donna has also been an active participant for Project FeederWatch and has participated in the House Finch Disease Survey for the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. Further, Donna is a deacon and choir member at her church and volunteers at the Rush-Henrietta Food Terminal.



Her involvement at the banding station started after she read an article written by Bob Marcotte in the *Rochester Democrat & Chronicle* several years ago. According to Donna, she is "thrilled to be able to help in some small way with the ongoing research at BBBO." Further, Donna is "fascinated by the banding process and data collection of the birds we band. I find it a privilege to see, touch and learn about so many different species of birds."

When asked what she would most like to see improved, added or changed at the banding stations she says, "I would like to further expand the garden and add to the hedgerow more native species of shrubs that would provide food sources for the many birds that stop over at the banding station. I'm looking forward to the development of the new trails for birding when we purchase the additional land".

Donna says she feels like a lot of us—returning to the banding station in the spring and fall is like coming home to family. Thanks, Donna, for all the time and effort you put in for Braddock Bay Bird Observatory! ♦

"Returning to the banding station in the spring and fall is like coming home to family."—Donna Hilborn





White-crowned Sparrow banded at Braddock Bay, autumn 2004. Many songbird species, including White-crowned Sparrows, readily consume fruit during migration in order to rapidly build fat reserves. Photo by Ryan Kayhart.

NAZARETH COLLEGE SENIOR

CONDUCTS FRUGIVORY RESEARCH

Tricia Jones, a Biology major at Nazareth College, will complete an analysis of fruit consumption by migrating birds in spring 2005. This study is being conducted as part of her senior research project at Nazareth College in Rochester, NY. Tricia is examining fecal samples collected at the Observatory for undigested seeds. She'll compare these seeds with seeds from plants at Braddock Bay and other sources to identify which fruits the birds are consuming during migration through the region. The study focuses on bird species that are known to be fruit-eaters (frugivorous). Preliminary analyses indicate that fall is a key time for fruit consumption. Knowing which species of plants are important to migrating birds will be useful for making land management decisions at BBBO. Tricia's research should be completed by May of 2005. Both Tricia and Dr. Beverly Brown (her advisor for the project) want to thank all those who helped collect fecal samples at the Observatory. ♦

BLUES FOR THE BIRDS RAISES FUNDS 8TH ANNUAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

By Patricia F. Lovallo

BBBO's 8th annual *Blues for the Birds* concert, held Sunday, November 14, 2004 at the Waterstreet Music Hall in Rochester, NY, was another in an eight year string of successes! The concert featured fantastic bands and raised over \$1,200 for BBBO's research, education, and conservation programs.

BBBO greatly appreciates the efforts of Mark Conti for all of his hard work in organizing the event, soliciting donations and sponsors, advertising, and scheduling the bands. In addition to Mark's amazing efforts, numerous volunteers and friends of BBBO turned out to help on the day of the show. Jen and Dave Semple, Ed McCrea, and Pat Lovallo helped prepare the venue. Other volunteers, including Cindy Marino, Doug Smith, Jon Dombrowski, Virginia Duffy, Betsy Brooks, Cricket Fegan, Chris Villone, Jim and Liz Barry, and Bob and Chita McKinney, manned the admission booth and the raffle table.

This year the concert featured many fine bands including Joe Beard, Julie and the Intruders, Chris Beard, Fred Vine, Texas Son, Steve Grills, Billy Joe and Rockin Red, Billy B. and the Rhythm and Blues All-Stars, Dan Schmitt and the Shadows, John Cole Blues Band, Blue Thunder, Mud Kings, ElectroKings, Mary Haitz, Keith Harden, The Dynamics, Rhythm Junkies, Blue Express, Beale Street Blues Band, and the Jammers School of Music students. Event hosts included Doug Curry of Blacks and Blues, Gary Rhinehart and Jeff Harris of Bad Dog Blues, and Dave Moscall of Musky's Juke Joint. BBBO salutes all of you, as well as the Waterstreet Music Hall for hosting the event.

BBBO also appreciates the support of numerous sponsors who donated raffle items, including the House of Guitars, Syracuse University Basketball, the Buffalo Bills, Red Fedele's Brook House Restaurant, The Martini Grille, The Guitar Center, Krispie Kreme Donuts, Bruegger's Bagels, Creative Designs T-Shirts, Ikon, and Sound Source. We also appreciate the support of radio stations WRUR 88.5, WITR 89.7, and WGMC 90.1. ♦



BBBO TO HOST ANNUAL MEETING

EASTERN BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION 2005

Braddock Bay Bird Observatory will host the 82nd Annual Meeting of the Eastern Bird Banding Association from April 15-17, 2005. The meeting will be held at the Airport Holiday Inn and will feature workshops, scientific poster and paper sessions, local field trips, reports from both the Canadian and United States Banding Offices, a bucket raffle, a special Friday evening program, and a Saturday night banquet.

Among the meeting highlights, Robert Yunick from Schenectady will conduct a workshop on determining the age and sex of passerines; David Brewer from Ontario will present the Friday evening program on Saw-whet Owl banding; and David Bonter from BBBO and Cornell's Laboratory of Ornithology will present the Saturday evening banquet program.

Local field trips will take attendees to Braddock Bay Raptor Research's hawkwatch and raptor banding stations, and to BBBO's Kaiser-Manitou Beach passerine banding station.

BBBO staffers Bob and Chita McKinney are handling registration, Linda Boutwell is making arrangements

for the poster session, and Betsy Brooks is coordinating the event which will bring over 100 attendees from Canada and the eastern United States. BBBO members are welcome to register and attend any of the events. For information, contact Betsy Brooks by email at <ebrooks@bbbo.org>. ♦



Sharp-shinned Hawk, photo by Charley Eiseman.

STUDENTS DESIGN EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS NEW KIOSKS FOR BANDING STATION

Dr. Beverly Brown, a botanist at Nazareth College, turned the Kaiser-Manitou Beach banding station into an outdoor classroom for her undergraduate plant biology class during the fall banding season. The class was studying the importance of habitat to migrating birds. Betsy Brooks and Donna Hilborn welcomed the class, introduced them to bird banding, and showed them the variety of bird habitats at the Observatory.

As part of the class, students had to research and write text for an informational kiosk to be built at BBBO in the near future. After the trip, students identified a list of key topics and divided up the research. Topics they felt were important included:

- The importance of birds to ecosystems
- How birds use native and non-native plant species

- Identifying plants used for food or nesting material by birds.

The students then researched these topics, wrote succinct paragraphs, and compiled an annotated bibliography of their sources. Students felt that interpretive signs along the trails identifying and discussing the value of various plants would be useful in addition to the kiosk. The students' work will contribute to interpretive material that will enable the public to learn about migratory birds and the plant species that help support them. Genny Silbert, a Graduate Assistant for Plant Biology, edited the class's research and submitted the final materials to the BBBO Board of Directors. ♦



OBSERVATORY UPDATE

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

By Mark Deutschlander

As evident through our capital campaign, you may notice that many changes are taking place at Braddock Bay Bird Observatory. In addition to land acquisitions, building renovations, new research initiatives, and an ambitious long-range plan for the Observatory, several changes have occurred on the Board of Directors. President David Bonter, Vice President Mark Deutschlander, Treasurer Bob McKinney, and Betsy Brooks are still active board members, and each has agreed to continue to serve the Observatory for another three-year term starting in January 2005. Mark Deutschlander is the new Board President and David Bonter will serve as Vice President. David Bonter has done a wonderful job leading the Board over the past three years. Among his many contributions to BBBO, David recently led the initiatives to update our web site and newsletter formats. He has also been instrumental in the acquisition of the bayside land parcel by coordinating our interactions with the Genesee Land Trust and securing substantial donations from the Allyn's Creek Garden Club and Seneca Meadows, Inc. The current Board members thank David for his efforts as President and we look forward to his continued contributions as Vice President for the Board of Directors. David will also continue to lead the Research Committee, an increasingly important task as new researchers begin to conduct a wider array of projects at the Observatory.

New Board Members

Three new members, Cindy Marino, Linda Boutwell, and Rick Marx, joined the BBBO Board of Directors this past fall and have already been working hard on BBBO concerns, including launching the capital campaign. Some of you may already know these members from their interactions with the Observatory in other capacities. However, we'd like to introduce each to you.

Cindy Marino is currently a bander at the Observatory, and has been active in our seasonal banding operations since the fall of 1998. Cindy began, like many banders, as a volunteer. She completed our bander training class in the spring of 2000 and received a sub-permit in the spring of 2003. In the fall of 2003, Cindy attended a banding workshop at Powdermill Banding Station in Pennsylvania. In addition to her efforts in our migration-monitoring research, Cindy has also been conducting a census of breeding birds at Thousand Acre Swamp in Penfield, NY as part of the MAPS program. MAPS is an acronym for Monitoring of Avian Productivity

and Survivorship, a program led by the Institute of Bird Populations in California. When not involved in birding and banding activities, Cindy enjoys reading, quilting, knitting and spending time with family and friends.

Linda Boutwell has been a volunteer at BBBO since 2003, and successfully completed our bander training course this past spring. Linda spent the first 20 years of her career in the financial services industry. Currently, she is cofounder and Executive Director of the Migration Research Foundation, a not-for-profit organization that specializes in scientific studies of the migratory patterns of at-risk and endangered birds and mammals. In her spare time, Linda enjoys wildlife-friendly gardening, birding, and photography. Linda is currently serving as the Secretary of the BBBO Board of Directors.

Rick Marx is a Senior Environmental Engineer with the Rochester law firm Nixon Peabody, LLP. In addition to serving on the Board of Directors of BBBO, Rick also serves on the Board of Directors of The Genesee Land Trust (GLT), an organization dedicated to the preservation of open space in the Greater Rochester, NY region. GLT has partnered with BBBO to acquire and protect the land around the Observatory. Rick is an avid conservationist and birder. He was instrumental in the success of the Rochester Peregrine Falcon Project and served as Vice President of the New York River Otter Project, one of the most successful reintroduction programs of its kind in the United States. Most recently, Rick has organized the Finger Lakes Area-Lake Ontario Purple Martin Project, a group that works with Purple Martin "landlords" to establish and maintain Purple Martin colonies in Western New York.

With the addition of these three well-qualified and motivated board members, we currently have 7 members on the Board of Directors. Recently, Board Members Ed McCrea and David Semple resigned to pursue other professional interests leaving us with two vacancies on our Board. We thank David and Ed for their dedication to the Observatory and the contributions that they have made to building BBBO as an organization. The Board of Directors is carefully weighing the current and future needs of the Observatory in an attempt to diversify the expertise of your Board of Directors. We hope to secure two new members by the spring banding season. Please contact any Board Member if you have questions regarding the operations and activities of BBBO's Board of Directors. ♦



Wish List

BBBO is currently seeking a [digital projector](#) to assist with our bander training and educational programs. Donations are greatly appreciated.

OBSERVATORY UPDATE

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

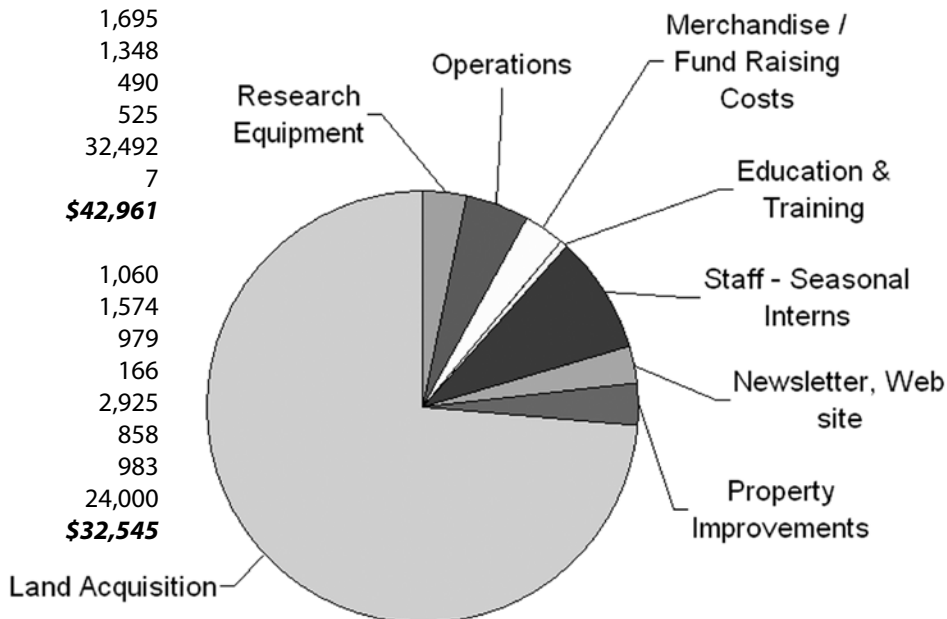
Income January 1—December 31, 2004

Memberships & Misc. Contributions	4,881
Merchandise Sales	1,523
Bander Training / Education	1,695
Blues Fest	1,348
Adopt-a-bird	490
Memorial Garden Donations	525
Capital Campaign	32,492
Misc.	7
Total	\$42,961

Expenses January 1—December 31, 2004

Research Equipment	1,060
Operations	1,574
Merchandise / Fund Raising Costs	979
Education & Training	166
Staff - Seasonal Interns	2,925
Communications: newsletter, web site	858
Property Improvements	983
Land Acquisition	24,000
Total	\$32,545

2004 Expense Distribution



LIST OF DONORS

The Observatory membership list currently stands at 122 individuals and families. In addition to their support, donations were received from the following people and organizations in 2004.

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If so, this may be your last issue of *The Marsh Wren*. Please check your membership status by finding the expiration date printed on the mailing label below. Memberships expire at the end of the year printed. To join BBBO, please mail a check to:

Braddock Bay Bird Observatory
PO Box 12876
Rochester, NY 14612

Membership categories are: Student \$10, Individual \$20, Family \$25, Contributing \$100, Corporate \$250. Thank you for your support!



Blackburnian Warbler, photo by Charley Eiseman.

BRADDOCK BAY BIRD OBSERVATORY

A non-profit (501(c)(3)) organization dedicated to ornithological research, education, and conservation. The organization is operated by volunteers, and financially supported by our members.

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Thank you, **Rochester Birding Association**, for a major contribution to land conservation and stewardship! Read more in the next issue of *The Marsh Wren*.



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Rochester, NY 14612