November Meeting Topic:  
**Wildlife in Alaska**

Dr. Carl Boast is an internationally known Behavioral Neuroscientist who has conducted drug discovery research primarily in models of Alzheimer’s Disease. His retirement has allotted him increased time to spend on his favorite pastime - nature photograpy. He and his wife Linda reside at Smith Mountain Lake in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. His photos include images from five continents as well as from his own backyard. His presentation is a Microsoft Movie Maker with music and is a result of a month-long trip taken in June of 2005.

Please join MBC members and our speaker for dinner at Wild Greens Restaurant in the North Wing of Barracks Road Shopping Center on November 8th at 5:45 pm prior to the meeting.

Comments From the President

Jack Marshall from ASAP (Advocates for a Sustainable Albemarle Population) gave a ten minute talk at the beginning of our October meeting. He spoke about the future of Albemarle County and urged us to consider what we wanted our area to look like a few decades from now. Population growth brings with it changes in the character of our landscape and the viability of natural communities – our forests, wet areas, grasslands. As a way of grabbing our attention (and perhaps justifying this presentation to our group) he mentioned how birdlife suffers as development extends it reach into the county. That’s for sure. We, as a group of people who care about birds, have to recognize that places that have been havens for birds in the past are no longer. In reading over records developed by Mo Stevens and in listening to him and others who have “birded” the county for decades, it is clear that rich spots that yielded much of avian interest have disappeared.

Which of our favorite places today will be gone tomorrow? Will our grandchildren wonder to hear or read of forests that always rang with the song of the wood thrush? Will the meadowlark be but a memory? Can we do more than whistle “Que Sera, Sera”? The answer is yes. There are many opportunities to speak up when habitat is threatened. We must get in the habit of doing so.

- Jennifer Gaden, president
President Jenny Gaden presided over the meeting and welcomed newcomers, including Kathy and Bill Marshall.

Preceding the general meeting, Jack Marshall, president of ASAP (Advocates for Sustainable Albemarle Population) made a short presentation about his organization’s efforts to promote a “smart growth movement” in our region. He pointed out that we now have 130,000 residents in Charlottesville and Albemarle County. In order to cope with the impact of further growth, ASAP is putting together a research proposal and plan of action for the future. He provided membership brochures and information about ASAP and encouraged MBC members to support their efforts.

Treasurer’s Report: Henry Konat was not present. Jenny reported that the October income was $1,355 and that the club spent $576.61, for a NET of $758.39. The club has $14,576.53 in savings.

Field Trips: John Zimmerman was not present. Highlights for upcoming meetings were noted, including Jim Nix’s walk along the James River in Scottsville, John Zimmerman’s Sparrow Road walk; and Stauffer’s mid-week trip to Stanardsville. The First Saturday Walk at Ivy Creek takes place November 1, and there will also be a walk at Pen Park scheduled for November 11.

Binocular “Show and Tell”: After the First Saturday in December bird walk at Ivy Creek, the club is hosting a binocular “show and tell,” at which members are encouraged to bring their own binoculars and to learn about various models that are now available.

Bird Seed Sale: Jim Hill reported that the club has sold 1,100 pounds of seed to date. The deadline for ordering is November 2 and the order form was mailed with the newsletter. He asked for volunteers to make telephone reminders and to distribute seed on the pick-up day. Jim reminded members that the bird seed sale is the club’s major fundraising effort and that last year we donated over $2,000 to a variety of organizations and special projects such as providing bird seed for three elementary schools and providing scholarships for school teachers to attend a natural history courses at PVCC.

(Continued on page 4)
**Upcoming Field Trips**

**Pen Park Nature Trail**
**Sunday, November 11**
Join Jenny Gaden for an easy 3 mile hike on the Pen Park Nature Trail. **NOTE: This is a Sunday trip.** Meet at 7:30 am by Shelter #2 in the Pen Park picnic area. Questions? Contact Jenny Gaden at 434-293-6275 or jgaden@embarqmail.com

**First Saturday Bird Walks**
**At Ivy Creek Natural Area**
On the first Saturday of each month the Monticello Bird Club hosts a bird walk at Ivy Creek Natural Area (ICNA) at 7:30 am. The walks start in the parking lot of ICNA. Join Lou Tanner on the November 3rd walk and Teresa Shaner on the December 1st walk.

**Chincoteague NWR & Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel**
**November 16-18**
Join field trip leader, John Zimmerman on a visit to this birding hotspot. **Meet at south end CBBT in administration parking lot at 9:45 am on Friday, November 16th.** The visit to CBBT islands limited to 15 persons with prior submission of information sheet for security clearance. Information sheet can be downloaded from the www.cbbt.com/birding.html or can be obtained from John Zimmerman, but must be returned to John by November 2nd to be mailed to the CBBT. Depending upon the number of participants there will be a fee of around $10/person payable at time of trip to the CBBT. You must also present a picture ID (e.g. driver’s license) to the security officer. If you do not choose to do the CBBT, meet at Visitors Center, Eastern Shore National Wildlife Refuge between 12:30 - 1 pm. Reservations for Chincoteague for the nights of November 16 and 17 can be made at the Island Motor Inn (757-336-3141), mention you are with the Monticello Bird Club for the group rate of $88/night. 7 day prior cancellation limit.

**December Trip**
**To Be Announced Saturday, December 8**
Details for this trip will be announced in the December newsletter. The trip leader will be Stauffer Miller, 434-296-5505 or stauffert@seepub.com.

**Charlottesville Christmas Bird Count**
**Sunday, December 16**
Contact Jenny Gaden for the name of a leader with whom you might go. Compiling will be a pot-luck supper at 6 pm, location to be announced in the December newsletter along with additional information. Questions? Contact Jenny Gaden at 434-293-6275 or jgaden@embarqmail.com.

**VSO Virginia Beach Field Trip**
**December 7-9, 2007**
The Virginia Society of Ornithology’s annual Virginia Beach Field Trip promises to be an exciting weekend. This year’s trip features a Friday afternoon trip to the Whitehurst Tract, a visit to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel on Saturday, and a trip to the Back Bay NWR/False Cape State Park on Sunday.

The Howard Johnson at 1601 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach, VA 23451 will serve as the field trip headquarters. Make reservations by November 6, 2007, specifying that you are with VSO. Call 757 437-9100 or 1 800 258-5878. For more information and to register contact Clark White at 757-875-7649, cwbirds@cox.net, or see http://www.virginiabirds.net/

**Binocular Show and Tell Day**
December 1st 9 am at Ivy Creek Education Building. Bring your binoculars to share with members of the public who may never have had the opportunity to see the world with “new eyes” and open their awareness to the wonderful world of nature they may never have noticed. Please e-mail me, bsmooney8@earthlink.net, or call at 434-293-6710 if you can attend or just show up on December 1st. This is the type of outreach that will help bring more members to our club and more attention to the wonderful joy of seeing birds up close. Your help will be greatly appreciated.
Monticello Bird Club

A Fine September

September was so exceptional for birds in my yard in Batesville that I have the urge to brag about it. September is always the busiest month and in 20 years of watching and listing this was probably the best.

Several Red-breasted Nuthatches were here all month, actually arriving August 29th. There were 18 species of warblers including Mourning Warbler, the first Golden-winged Warbler in ten years and a life bird for me, the Connecticut Warbler on September 23rd.

This bird flew up from the garden as I stepped outside. I located him in a Weigela shrub 2 feet off the ground. He stayed there totally exposed for a minute, maybe two. It felt very satisfying to have this bird come to me that I had no expectation of ever seeing.

I also had a Philadelphia Vireo and a new yard bird, the Warbling Vireo on my September list.

Happy Birding!

- Peter Brask

Becoming a member of the Monticello Bird Club

When you join MBC, you will receive ten issues of the MBC Newsletter full of information about field trips, speakers, bird sightings, and more. You will be sent a timely notification of our annual Birdseed Sale. You will know that you are supporting bird-friendly programs locally and regionally. And you will be among a group of warm, friendly, and sharing people who have a passion for birds and birding!

Yes, I want to join the Monticello Bird Club!

- Individual ($15)
- Family / Contributing ($25)
- Sponsor ($50)
- Additional Donation $__________

Name______________________________________________
Address______________________________________________
City ______________________________ State______ Zip ___________
Phone _________________ Email____________________________

Send my newsletter: □. by mail only □ by e-mail only □ by mail & e-mail.

Please make check payable to Monticello Bird Club.
Mail form & check to: Monticello Bird Club, P.O. Box 4362, Charlottesville, VA 22905

Monticello Bird Club

Membership Form