

# 2018 WINGS, WAVES & WOODS SCHEDULE

## REGISTRATION

Contact Island Heritage Trust (IHT) at 207-348-2455 or [marissa@islandheritagetrust.org](mailto:marissa@islandheritagetrust.org); or register Friday, May 18, (3:00-5:00 PM) at Island Heritage Trust, and take a look at the Festival Art Exhibit in the barn, 420 Sunset Rd., Deer Isle.

Registration is \$35 and includes entry to all activities, except where fees are noted. Registration packets include: bird list, nature preserve info, maps, Island Guide, local coupons, the coveted WWW cap or bag with new logo *and* helps support next year's event. For boat trips allow *plenty* of time for parking and boarding and dress *warmly!* For bad weather notices and program info/updates call IHT at 348-2455 or check the Wings, Waves & Woods Facebook page. **Limited** seating available for ticketed dinners on Friday and Saturday evenings.

**Want to come to just one or two activities? No problem--just show up! Suggested donation of \$5 per program.**

## FRIDAY, MAY 18

### 11:00 AM-1:00 PM Natural History at Settlement Quarry **NEW!**

Ann Hooke was the “midwife” for IHT’s first preserve--she knows this place: its geologic, human, cultural and natural history, better perhaps, than anyone else. Join her for an informal walk and discussion, including a BYO picnic lunch at this uber-scenic location. Settlement Quarry, Oceanville Rd, Stonington.

### 12:00-4:00 PM Swan's Island

Take a 50-minute boat ride to Swan's Island for a guided walk on Hockamock Head, a town-owned park that includes the Burnt Coat Harbor Lighthouse, nearly two miles of trails and access to two beaches. A spectacular setting. Along the way, look for great blue herons nesting on Eastern Mark Island. Reservations required. (348-2455) Dress *warmly* for an open boat. \$55 Old Quarry Ocean Adventures, 130 Settlement Rd, off Oceanville Rd, Stonington.

**2:00-3:00 PM Introduction to Birding** IHT's Mike Little offers an intro to binoculars, scopes and guidebooks; also, where and when to find birds, including in the old orchard right outside. Island Heritage Trust (IHT), 420 Sunset Rd (Rt 15A), Sunset.

### 2:00-3:00 PM Found Object Sculpture

Peter Beerits demonstrates how he makes bird sculptures from “junk” at his studio located at Nervous Nellie’s Jams & Jellies. Using scrap wood and metal, Beerits captures the essence of birdness in unexpected ways. 598 Sunshine Rd, Deer Isle; 348-6182.

### 3:00-5:00 PM WWW Registration and Festival Art Exhibit

Info, registration, art exhibit and supper tickets available at Island Heritage Trust, 420 Sunset Rd (Rt 15A) Sunset.

**5:00-7:30 PM Dinner and Birding Talk NEW!** Enjoy this special dinner in the Whale's Rib's dining room overlooking the Mill Pond at historic Pilgrim's Inn, 20 Main St, Deer Isle village. Limited seating with advance tickets only; \$26, inc tax/gratuity (bar drinks extra) Meat, seafood and vegetarian options. Must be seated by 5:30 PM for this special supper. After dessert, professional birding guide and author, Bob Duchesne, demystifies "Birding by Ear" skills with six simple tips for mentally organizing bird songs. You'll start the festival surprised at how much you can already identify. To purchase tickets: 348-2455 or [marissa@islandheritagetrust.org](mailto:marissa@islandheritagetrust.org)

**8:00-9 PM Night Serenade** Join Bonnie Bochan for an evening walk listening for thrushes, sparrows and other songbirds, and the distinctive calls of Spring Peepers and Woodcock that brighten the spring twilight. Bring flashlights, boots and listening ears. 94 Pressey Village Road, Deer Isle.

## **SATURDAY, MAY 19**

### **7:00-9:00 AM Pressey Village Bird Walk**

Bonnie Bochan and Bob Duchesne lead a walk in this mixed habitat neighborhood that has proven to be a hotspot for migrants: Orchard and Baltimore Oriole, Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak and *lots* of warblers. 94 Pressey Village Rd, Deer Isle.

### **7:00-8:30 AM Scott's Landing Bird Walk**

Join Mike & Dawn Little at this 22-acre preserve, a birding favorite. Brushy habitat, hardwood stands and a tidal shore offer diverse species. Scott's Landing, opposite Causeway Beach, Rt 15, N Deer Isle.

**9:00 AM-12:30 PM Bird's Eye View Flights** Penobscot Island Air (FAA certified air taxi) offers 20-min flights--wherever you want to go! Excellent visibility. Scheduled every half hour; no reservation needed; \$40pp. Stonington airfield, Airport Rd, Stonington.

### **9:30-11 AM Bird-friendly Coffee Break at Pilgrim's Inn**

Join fellow birders at Pilgrim's Inn for bird-friendly coffee/goodies (\$5 please) and an informal discussion of sightings made and anticipated; spacious grounds border a mill pond and feature heirloom orchard trees and kitchen gardens: a birder's delight. 20 Main St, Deer Isle; 348-6615.

### **9:30 AM-2:30 PM Pelagics and Puffins**

Mike Little guides a trip through the archipelago to remote Seal Island National Wildlife Refuge, nesting site for thousands of pelagics: Atlantic Puffins, Arctic and Common Terns, Great Cormorants, Razorbills and Murres. We may also spot Gannets, Wilson's Storm Petrels, Shearwaters, seals, dolphins and possibly whales on route. While landing is not permitted, there will be ample opportunity for viewing and photographing. \$70pp, Reservations required (348-2455) Dress *warmly* for an open boat on the ocean. Depart Old Quarry Ocean Adventures, 130 Settlement Rd, off Oceanville Rd, Stonington.

### **11:30 AM-12:30 PM Owls of Birdsacre**

The staff of the Birdsacre - Stanwood Wildlife Sanctuary in Ellsworth bring some of their owls to the barn at Island Heritage Trust. An unusual opportunity to see these nocturnal creatures up close; learn about the differences between the diminutive Saw-Whet, the dark-eyed Barred Owl and the powerful Great Horned Owl. IHT, 420 Sunset Rd (Rte 15A), Sunset.

### **11:30 AM-1:30 PM Drop-in Chowder & Popovers at Rabbit Hill Farm**

Rabbit Hill, an Emily Muir designed cottage, boasts expansive views of Rabbit Island and Crocket Cove. Enjoy treetop birding while dining on Cheryl Wixson's Kitchen Clam Chowder, handcrafted organic cider and hot popovers. Birders of all ages are invited to hike to shore, and explore the adjacent Crockett Cove Woods Preserve. The Barbour Farm Road is a dirt road, 1.8 miles beyond Island Heritage Trust heading toward Stonington. Rabbit Hill is at the very end: 1 mile. Parking is limited--be prepared to walk. 148 Barbour Farm Road, Stonington, Maine; 367-5003 for questions.

### **1:00-2:30 PM Thorofare Cruise**

Join Capt Garrett Aldrich and Bob Duchesne for a guided cruise around the island-studded Deer Isle Thorofare, including Crotch Island (granite quarry), Mark Island (lighthouse), and several seabird nesting sites. Isle au Haut Boat Company; \$35 pp (minimum of 12 needed); free parking and departure at the foot of Seabreeze Ave, Stonington. 348-2455.

### **1:30-3:30 PM Shore Acres Walk **NEW!****

Gordon Russell and Jane Rosinski guide a walk on new trails at IHT's Shore Acres Preserve in Deer Isle, looking in forest, field and shore habitat for a variety of birds, including warblers, shore birds and sea ducks. Park in Shore Acres parking lot on Greenlaw District Rd., or across the road at the yellow house. Special parking permission granted for WWW weekend only.

### **4:00-5:00 PM Shorebirds at Reach Beach **NEW!****

Gordon Russell and Jane Rosinski follow up their walk at Shore Acres with a quick trip to IHT's Reach Beach on Oak Point Rd. in Deer Isle. Look for Greater Yellowlegs and Black-bellied Plovers in the small marsh and on roosting sites on nearby ledges.

**5:00-6:45 PM Birders BBQ **NEW!**** Join us at Inn on the Harbor on Main St in Stonington for a casual gathering and BBQ on the deck overlooking picturesque Stonington Harbor. Grilled country-style ribs and chicken with favorite sides and dessert. Vegetarian option also available. Limited seating--advance supper tickets are required; \$20, inc tax/gratuity (bar drinks extra) available at 348-2455 or [marissa@islandheritagetrust.org](mailto:marissa@islandheritagetrust.org).

**7:00-8:30 PM The Amazing Lives of Long Distance Migrants** What do Eastern Kingbirds, Blackpoll Warblers and Scarlet Tanagers have in common? In this the centennial of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act join Bonnie Bochan as we travel to Ecuador to look at the lives of neotropical migrants on their wintering grounds, problems they face, what we can do, and connections made between Maine and Ecuador. Bonnie Bochan has been the principal investigator of birds at the Jatun Sacha Biological Station for 30 years where nearly 600 species of birds occur, including over 50 species of North American migrants. Stonington Town Hall, second floor. Handicap access at rear of building. Suggested donation \$5

## **SUNDAY, MAY 20**

### **7:00-8:30 AM Mariners Park Bird Walk**

Join Mike & Dawn Little for a shoreline meadow walk, skirting a small marsh. Open, shrubby and wooded habitat filled with warblers and other songbirds. Shorebirds and ducks also possible. Mariners Memorial Park, Morey Farm Rd (off Sunshine Rd, just east of junction of Rt 15), Deer Isle.

### **7:00-9:00 AM West Side Bird Walk**

Join Bob Duchesne & Tom Bjorkman to explore a private property that includes meadow, woods, fresh water and shore. Such diverse habitats promise some great birding! From Route 15 in N. Deer Isle, turn onto Gilmore Lane (about .3 miles north of The Galley and high school). Follow signs to bird walk parking.

### **9:00-11:00 AM Landscaping for Wildlife: Birds and Butterflies**

Professional landscapers Bonnie Bochan and Guillermo Diaz, who specialize in bird and butterfly gardens, offer a workshop at their new home where they are landscaping for wildlife. Discuss creating gardens, share resources and also look at native species important for wildlife on the property. 94 Pressey Village Rd. Bring binoculars; carpooling encouraged.

### **10:00 AM-12:30 PM Maine Birds Tote Bag**

“Make-and-Take” your own Maine birds tote bag (choose from several bird options) using batik fabrics and simple fusible applique techniques. All materials provided. Suitable for all ages; no experience or sewing necessary! Donations to IHT welcome. Adelaide’s Workshop, 2nd floor of old school building at 43 School Street, Stonington. Register at [adelaideworkshop@gmail.com](mailto:adelaideworkshop@gmail.com).

### **10:00-11:00 AM Birding for Kids**

Come see who is visiting Mariners Park in May, some to build nests, some just passing through. Join Mike & Dawn Little on a quest to see and hear as many birds as possible. Bring binoculars or borrow one of our lending pairs. Ideal for age six and up. Mariners Park, Morey Farm Rd (off Sunshine Rd, just east of junction of Rt 15), Deer Isle.

### **10:00 AM – 3:00 PM Puffins & Pelagics**

Join Bob Duchesne on the Isle au Haut Company ferry for a trip through the archipelago to remote Seal Island National Wildlife Refuge; see Saturday description. Reservations required. \$70 pp; free parking and departure at the foot of Seabreeze Ave, Stonington. 348-2455.

### **11:00 AM – 2:00 PM Hardhead Island: Important Bird Area **NEW!****

Enjoy a guided trip to Hardhead Island, an Audubon Important Bird Area in eastern Penobscot Bay. View guillemots, scoters, and other seabirds along the way. Landing is not permitted on the island, but there will be ample opportunities to see and photograph birds. \$60 pp. Reservations required (348-2455) Dress *warmly* for an open boat on the ocean. Depart Old Quarry Ocean Adventures, 130 Settlement Rd, off Oceanville Rd, Stonington.

### **11:00 AM-12:30 PM Becoming a More Observant Naturalist. **NEW!****

Join naturalists Marnie and Ken Crowell for a walk at Shore Acres Preserve. To know a bird is to know its habitat. Take a close look at the plant species and habitat structure of this diverse preserve. This gentle walk is perfect for seniors, families and beginners. Park in Shore Acres parking area on Greenlaw District Rd., Deer Isle or at yellow house across the road. Special parking permission granted for WWW weekend only.

### **11:30 AM-1:30 PM Drop-in Chowder & Popovers at Rabbit Hill Farm**

See Saturday description. 148 Barbour Farm Road, Stonington, Maine 367-5003 for questions.

### **1:00-2:00 PM Wildflowers and Herbs**

Certified herbalist and gardener, Brigid Doherty, leads a walk at Scott's Landing which is abundant with plants that have unexpected culinary and medicinal uses. Even the ubiquitous spruce and Balsam fir! This is the first in a season-long series of walks led by Doherty focused on the rich heritage and many uses of common plants in the Maine landscape. Scott's Landing, opposite Causeway Beach, Rt 15, N Deer Isle.

### **Year of the Bird**

National Audubon Society, National Geographic, BirdLife International, and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology have teamed up to officially make 2018 the *Year of the Bird*. This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, an important piece of legislation that has helped protect and restore countless bird populations. Birds today face many new threats, requiring our continued involvement and support. To find out how you can help build a better world for birds, go to <https://twitter.com/hashtag/birdyourworld>

### **Bios for Bonnie and Bob**

Bonnie Bochan, field ornithologist and botanist, has worked extensively with birds and plants in Maine, Florida, Central and South America. She studied breeding birds of the northeast working on the Vermont and Maine Breeding Bird Atlases, serving as Co-Director and State Coordinator of the Maine Atlas. She has led numerous natural history tours, including 5 years with Narwhal Expeditions, to eastern Quebec, the Canadian Maritimes and Newfoundland, and taught ornithology and natural history at Audubon's Hog Island for 11 years. For the last 30 years she has been principal investigator of birds at the Jatun Sacha Biological Station in Amazonian Ecuador. Bonnie and her husband Guillermo Diaz live on Deer Isle, where they own El Picaflor Gardeners specializing in natural landscaping for wildlife. She holds a degree in Botany from the University of Maine.

Bob Duchesne is a professional birding guide and author of *Maine Birding Trail: The Official Guide to More than 260 Accessible Sites*. Bob writes the weekly birding column for the Bangor Daily News. He also serves in the Maine House of Representatives where he chairs the Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Committee. Bob will present Birding By Ear Made Easy at the Friday evening dinner at the Whale's Rib. He demystifies this birding skill with six simple tips for mentally organizing bird songs, including simple tricks for remembering what you are hearing and what you should listen for. This will be Bob's 11<sup>th</sup> year with the festival!

### **A Bit about Deer Isle**

Reachable by bridge, this island still retains the flavor of New England life from years gone by. Lobstering is the mainstay of the economy and Stonington is Maine's largest lobster port. Each year more than 350 fishing boats ply the waters around Deer Isle. In addition, soft-shell clamming on the island contributes over \$1 million to the economy. With a tidal draw of approximately eleven vertical feet there is ample opportunity for clammers, wormers and tidal foragers of all kinds-including birds!

There is nothing linear about this convoluted granite island. It is pocked by tiny coves and small working harbors, and rimmed with tidal flats. By mid-May the spring bird migration has begun in earnest, bringing over twenty species of warblers and other breeding songbirds up from their wintering grounds to the south. At the same time, many ducks and sea birds have not yet departed for their breeding grounds in the Arctic. Several pairs of Bald Eagles choose Deer Isle and surrounding islands to nest and rear their young.

Some of the best birding can be found on quiet, out-of-the-way dirt roads, and on miles of trails on twelve nature preserves. Local naturalists and birders who have been guiding in this area for many years welcome you to join them on this unique weekend. Boat tours offer an up-close look at seabirds, as well as seals and porpoises. Wings, Waves & Woods is unabashedly informal, welcoming birders of all levels as well as families looking to explore Deer Isle, its birds, natural areas and its art.

May is shoulder season for many businesses on Deer Isle, so calling ahead is important if you intend to visit specific galleries or shops. Three grocery stores are open year-round on Deer Isle: The Galley in Deer Isle, and Burnt Cove Market and Harborview Market in Stonington. There are 4 gas stations on the Island; 24-hour gas is available only at Eaton's Oil, Rt 15 N Deer Isle.