



Indian Pipe

TIME TO RENEW!

Membership dues at Benzie Audubon run from annual meeting to annual meeting. That means it's time to renew your membership! For everyone's convenience we have enclosed a self-addressed return envelope that also serves as a renewal form. Just complete the form, enclose your check, stamp the envelope and drop it in the mail.

Char Ester, Membership Chair



Bottled Gentian

2009 SCHEDULE

When you renew your membership you will be supporting programs like those on the schedule for the rest of 2009. You also will receive our newsletter and e-mail notices of programs and field trips.

Nov. 5th, 6 PM

Annual Meeting & Pot Luck

Nov. 14th 8 AM

Birding at Pt. Betsie

Dec. 20th

Christmas Bird Count - contact Carl 352-4739 or John 325-2445

Bird Banding Web Site

Alice Van Zoeren from Leelanau Co. and Piping Plover fame has been working at Powdermill Avian Research Center in PA this fall as a bander. Many of you have attended our banding demonstration over the years and might like more information about banding and to see what a large well run station is like. Alice sent this link to their very educational web site . . .

www.westol.com/~banding/

MINI-GRANTS

Benzie Audubon offers Mini grants to anyone in Benzie Co. with a natural history related project that needs funding.

Go to

www.benzieaudubon.org/mini-grants.html

to get an application form.

Our Mini-grants are funded by generous donations that we have received in the last several years.

The people, especially children, of Benzie County will benefit through activities supported by donations like this.

Grants for 2009

Crystal Lake Elem. 2nd grade,
Lake Ann Bog Walk **\$387**

Wings of Wonder-Platte

Lake Elementary **\$1,000**

Congregational Summer

Assembly - Habitat
assessment & ecology

activities for children **\$1,500**

Frankfort Elementary

Wren House Project **\$ 500**

Platte River School

Bird Food **\$ 175**

TOTAL **\$3,562**

RECENT SIGHTINGS

In September Traverse City birders visiting Frankfort found a Franklin's Gull on the beach. Many people were able to see and enjoy this bird thanks to our informal bird hot line, as it stayed around for a couple of weeks at least. Though as you can see it got bored with being watched and photographed by the bird paparazzi. Franklin's Gulls are an uncommon visitor from the plains states.



Franklin's Gull

In October Keith Westphal saw many migrating loons, including 2 Red-throated) and a few Long-tailed Ducks off Pt. Betsie. After our trip to CA a few yard birds for yours truly have been Orange-cr. Warbler, Hermit Thrush, and Ruffed Grouse. Today there has been a female Ring-necked Duck in our pond, a first for fall for our pond. Most of the day it sat very still in the cattails in one place. If you send me your sightings I will try to include them in future newsletters.

Benzie Audubon Web Site

www.benzieaudubon.org

Our web site is being kept up to date and enhanced by John Ester. Schedule of activities, membership information, etc. Especially look at the pictures page which is updated as new photos become available. Contact John if you have a photo to share.