



A Centennial History

*Adapted from Buffalo Audubon Society: 1909-1984 by David M. Rote
and other Society members.*

*This volume was compiled and edited by members of the
Buffalo Audubon Centennial Committee*

The updated narrative in this volume was written by Gerry Rising.

The listing of Board and Committee members, staff, etc. was updated by Tom Sloan.



John James Audubon
1785 – 1851

April 26, 2010 will mark the 210th anniversary of John James Audubon's birth. Audubon was the first artist or naturalist to depict life-size birds and animals in natural surroundings. Born in Haiti, raised in France, and arriving in America in 1804 to escape Napoleon's conscription, he began his first observations of American wildlife at Mill Grove, Pennsylvania.

After marrying Lucy Bakewell in 1808 and experiencing several unsuccessful business ventures, he supported himself by painting portraits and teaching drawing. Audubon's fame and reputation were developed, however, through the publication of his works. Between 1826 and 1846, he produced and published three major collections (most famous being *The Birds of America* – 435 hand-colored plates in four volumes), completed a fourth, initiated a fifth, and made numerous contributions to the leading scientific journals of the time. He died in New York City in January 1851. The portrait depicted above was drawn by his artist sons John and Victor a few years before Audubon's death.

To my fellow members of the Buffalo Audubon Society,

How fortunate I am to be president during the Anniversary of the Society. Truly, it magnifies the honor

The Society now has become venerable in every way, but hardly conveys the vibrant energy and commitment of its officers, and staff over the past 100 years. This history of how a succession of such nature lovers has fostered conservation of our open spaces, woodlands, wetlands

Over the years our land holdings have grown to over preserves. We have flagship Beaver Meadow Audubon nature education to over 35,000 children and adults a respected advocates and consultants for regional environmental issues including wind power and Great Lakes conservation; a real fulfillment of our mission of education and stewardship of the natural world.

The Society began with goals to protect wild birds and especially to discourage feathers as fashion. Today, wildlife still faces challenges from less frivolous sources and from encompassing directions. Buffalo Audubon Society is responding by expanding our programs more widely into the community as we develop more partnerships with statewide and regional organizations with similar environmental goals.

We have a century-old mission, with a century of experience and accomplishments that will help us achieve a bright tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Rapp, President.



Centennial of holding this office.

such a description talented members, the Society will show appreciation and and wildlife.

1000 acres of nature Center providing year, and we are both

The Buffalo Audubon Society 1909-2009

Beginnings

"A meeting will be held at the Central High School on Court Street on Monday evening, May 10, 1909, at 8 o'clock for the purpose of organizing a branch of the Audubon Society. You are cordially invited to attend."
— Frank Fosdick, George Turner, Charles Parke, Frederick Vogt, Arthur Williams.



*Central High School on Court St. in Buffalo, NY.
Here, on May 10, 1909, The Audubon Society of Buffalo was organized.*

The next day, one reporter noted: "Without any fuss or feathers — save on the hats of two of the women — 37 people assembled last night in the Central High School and organized The Audubon Society of Buffalo. The chief object is to protect the wild birds and to discourage the use of their feathers for purposes of ornamentation for millinery."

Thus it was that Buffalo joined other communities in responding to the appeal by Henry Fairfield Osborn, president of the Audubon Society of New York State, for an enlarged membership. Although few facts about the origins of the state organization are known, records show that Frank Chapman, John Burroughs and Theodore Roosevelt were among the important participants at the organizational meeting of the state society held at the American Museum of Natural History, February 23, 1897.

It was not a moment too soon. The 1826 prophesy of John James Audubon — "A century hence, nature will have been robbed of many brilliant charms, the hills leveled with the swamps, the eagle scarce ever alight, and millions of loved songsters driven away" — was nearing fulfillment.

Fortunately, even before that 1897 meeting one Yorker had initiated a nationwide movement to stop the slaughter of songbirds, shorebirds and waterfowl. George Bird Grinnell, a pupil of Lucy Audubon, had, as a boy, found stacks of muslin-bound copies of John James Audubon's *Ornithological Biographies* in a barn loft. In later years, as editor of *Forest and Stream*, he formed the first Audubon Society and published the Audubon magazine, *Bird Lore*. The society gained forty thousand members, who pledged to protect wild birds and their eggs, but the financial burden on Grinnell's publishing company eventually became too great and the Audubon Society, begun so optimistically, had almost ceased to exist by 1889.

1909

Here in Buffalo, according to charter member Mary Ellis, meetings of aroused conservationists had been taking place in her home and in the homes of other concerned educators. It was they who issued the May 10, 1909 notice. Early member and teacher, Cornie Moore, especially remembered Frederick Vogt, who, she said, "was principal of Central High School when I began to teach. He was interested in the out-of-doors and especially in birds; he encouraged and inspired the teachers and students to get out and learn from nature; he gave bird talks in assemblies; he supplied the school with many beautiful colored slides. When the Audubon Society was organized, many of our teachers joined."

An Executive Committee was elected that first night, with Arthur Williams, chairman, and Mrs. George Turner, secretary-treasurer. Other members were Herman DeGroat, Mrs. George Sickles, and Maxwell Wheeler. Within a month, membership had risen to 124. Heartened by the response, the Executive Committee looked about for a meeting place. The Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, through Carlos Cummings, member of its Board of Managers, and Henry Howland, superintendent of its Museum, opened its rooms in the Public Library to the burgeoning Society.

The first pressing business was to support passage of *The Plumage Bill*, introduced in the 1909 State Legislature by two co-sponsors, the New York State Audubon Society and the National Association of Audubon Societies. The latter had been founded in 1901 and incorporated in 1905.



The Buffalo Public Library where BAS held their regular and annual meetings for many years.

The bill would outlaw the sale of plumes of all native American birds in New York State. Mrs. Turner exhorted every member to flood the Albany chambers with demands to support the bill.

The second order of business was to educate the membership in ways to appreciate and protect their environment. Cummings and Howland invited members to attend a series of lectures on popular scientific topics from October 1909 to May 1910, sponsored by the Hayes School of Natural Science.

On October 16, the society's first "experience meeting" was held in the Public Library Assembly Room of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences. On November 27, Elon Howard Eaton, Professor of Biology at Hobart College, gave the first of those popular scientific lectures on phases of bird life in Western New York.

The year ended with Buffalo Audubon's first local bird census, December 24-26. Results of this and subsequent Christmas Censuses were published in *Bird Lore*.

1910

On May 27, the famous bird artist, Louis Agassiz Fuertes of Ithaca, lectured on "Our Common Birds - Their Songs and Notes."

On June 14, the first Annual Meeting was held in the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences' Rooms of the Public Library.

1911

The *Express* began a series of Audubon features in its illustrated Sunday edition, "Calendar of Bird Arrivals," and "Notes of the Audubon Society." The first, a list of dates of arrival of spring and fall migrants to the area, was C. Brooks Hersey's compilation of observers' records. The February 12 note mentions the reappearance of Evening Grosbeaks after an absence of 21 years and the note of May 11 records the first appearance of a pair of European Starlings in Central Park. Income received from publication of these articles would allow the Society to register each local member in the Audubon Society of New York State.

Worldwide, 1911 was a momentous year and important for the Audubon Society of Buffalo as well. Using its new set of purchased slides together with others made from prize-winning bird photographs originating from an Audubon-sponsored contest in Erie County high schools, Mrs. Turner and Herman DeGroat carried the Audubon message to the Silver Lake Assembly, Fredonia State Normal School, an educational mass meeting in Syracuse and several public schools.

At the second Annual Meeting on May 26, Carlos Cummings presented his program, "Bird Talk."

1912

At the third Annual Meeting, membership of each Buffalo Audubon member in the Audubon Society of New York State was approved.

1913

A group of bird students in Westfield, New York, and Sugar Grove, Pennsylvania, found the *Express's* articles so stimulating that they challenged Buffalo to a friendly contest. Led by the Reverend Reuben Randolph of Westfield and James Savage of Buffalo, the teams set about to identify birds within a 50-mile radius of each community. The contest lasted from January to July with Westfield the winner, 170-160.

At the fourth Annual Meeting Mrs. Turner showed the new lantern slides purchased by the Society.

1914

Another significant undertaking was the Society's *Bird Almanac*, first published this year. Underwritten with \$200 of Society funds, it appeared at newsstands and stores just in time for the holidays in its handsome cream cover with black lettering and soft brown silken cord.

With pictures of birds, poems and quotations suitable for each month and at 50¢ a copy, it was a sell-out in no time. For several years, these almanacs added to the Society's prestige as the membership grew. They were necessarily discontinued during World War I but many years later reappeared, much to the delight of Audubon members and friends alike.

Buffalo Audubon co-sponsored a production of Percy Mackaye's "Sanctuary – A Bird Masque" with Lars Potter, Albert Zink and Edwine Noye among the local cast. The *News*, in its June 15 lead editorial, stated in part that, "'Sanctuary' fits in with the recent movement proceeding originally under the leadership of the Audubon societies of the country for the better protection of bird life, not merely as a matter of sentiment but because birds play an important part in the life of the country itself." Associated with this program, the Society also sponsored an exhibition of bird photographs and bird books at the Buffalo Public Library.

The Buffalo Audubon leaders hoped to establish a local bird sanctuary as an outcome of the performance. Many early efforts were aimed at acquiring a property for use as a bird sanctuary in this area including advertising for a tract of land, and Mrs. Turner led another letter-writing campaign to urge Albany legislators to appropriate \$25,000 for the establishment of bird refuges outside the Adirondacks.

This year Buffalo Audubon affiliated with the National Association of Audubon Societies.

1915

Early in its history, the Society learned that their most insidious foe was apathy and the best response lay through informing children. This year, through the splendid cooperative work of the Buffalo School Department, the Society of Natural Sciences and the Audubon Society, 125 Junior Audubon "circles" were formed in the Buffalo schools to promote education about the economic value of wild birds and the necessity for their protection. Junior Audubon work thus became an integral part of a great national movement for bird study and bird protection.

At the sixth Annual Meeting, William Hoot, president of the Burroughs Nature Club of Rochester, spoke on "Shooting without a Gun."

1916

Speakers this year included T. Gilbert Pearson, secretary of the National Association and Arthur Allen of Cornell University. James Savage spoke at the annual meeting.

Junior Audubon "Circles" were formed on the Gowanda Indian Reservation with 150 children as members.

1917

At the eighth Annual Meeting, Clinton Kellogg of Rochester gave a slide show entitled, "Bird Hunting with a Camera."

At this same meeting a new constitution was adopted and Channing Beach was elected first president of the Audubon Society of Buffalo and retiring secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Charles Turner, was presented a life membership in the National Association of Audubon Societies for her devoted service in the cause of the Audubon Society of Buffalo. In her last report to the Society, Mrs. Turner said: "Under new officers, with its large membership, healthy bank account, and splendid foundation on which to build, the Audubon Society of Buffalo should render additional service to its members and to its larger field of work - Western New York."

In June Carlos Cummings spoke on "How to Make Use of the Society's Collections."

1918

At the ninth Annual Meeting William Hoot returned to update his 1915 talk, "Shooting without a Gun." Earlier he had been scheduled to speak at a January meeting but the minutes of that meeting note that "the severe weather and inefficient streetcar service kept the audience away and the meeting was abandoned."

On November 21, a meeting was held at Hutchinson High School where a large audience heard guest speaker Clinton Kellogg of Rochester speak on "Personal and Intimate Experiences with the Birds," an illustrated slide show which was enthusiastically received.

1919

In addition to the tenth Annual Meeting in February, the Society held a Tenth Anniversary Reunion at the Glen Iris Inn in Letchworth Park.

1920

Field trips added to the enjoyment of members in those days. It was an era of sight identification, with inadequate optical equipment and poorly illustrated field guides and the identification of many birds had to be worked out the hard way, one at a time. Delaware Park and Forest Lawn Cemetery found many members early Saturday mornings on the

lookout for spring and fall migrants. Longer excursions also added to the pleasure of the membership. William Almendinger recalled that "these were horse and buggy days, so some field trips were necessarily all-day affairs, usually not more than 15 miles from Buffalo." One favorite trip was to the woods in and beyond the then very small village of Fort Erie and in 1917 a special trip led to Point Abino aboard the Crystal Beach Boat.

Mr. Almendinger continued: "By 1920, the 4-cylinder auto was quite commonplace so that many longer trips could be taken, one of the choice ones each year being to the Howard Avery summer home on Black Creek. Another memorable spot was the Sisson farm just off the highway of the same name. This farm was surrounded by old woods which were a joy to both bird and plant lovers. The farmhouse was a very large rambling structure and wonderful old-fashioned meals were served at moderate prices.

"The only overnight trip we ever took was an annual one to Cook's Forest. This was before many of the giant virgin pines were cut. The forest was a breathtaking sight with the pine branches making a dense canopy 100 feet from the ground, causing a twilight condition even at midday, with the silence broken only by the call notes of birds. Another delightful trip was to Rushford Lake, the shore of which was then very sparsely populated." Later many other trips were added, in particular the annual Niagara Loop trip.

This year an SPCA Pigeon Fountain was erected at Lafayette Square in Buffalo, supported by funds from the Audubon Society. Many years later this fountain was relocated to Forest Lawn Cemetery.

1921

The first issue of "Audubon Society News" was published under the direction of Society president Edward Avery.

This year the Society supported creation of Allegany State Park.

1923

Buffalo Audubon adopted a resolution approving the City of Buffalo's proposed bond issue for a new home for the Society of Natural Sciences in Humboldt Park. It was approved.

As a special feature on the Audubon calendar, it was decided to hold an annual dinner each November. The appropriately named Edward Avis, a noted bird imitator, spoke at this dinner. Years later this dinner meeting would be combined with the spring annual meeting and election of officers.

1924

Development of a new *Bird Almanac* series was approved with Edward Avery as chairman.

Mr. Wiseman of Pittsburgh spoke at a special dinner.

1926

The Society supported the 1926 "Marshland Conservation Bill" with a vigorous letter-writing campaign.

W. E. Saunders of London, Ontario, spoke at the Annual Dinner in October.

1927

The Society was chosen to review a new book published by the MacMillan Company entitled *Wild Birds in City Parks*. A copy was added to the Society library and a number were sold.

Speakers this year included S. Prentiss Baldwin, Henry Keitzel of the Isaac Walton League, and Frank Johnson.

1928

A. B. Lemon spoke on "Medicinal Qualities of Wild Flowers" at the Annual Dinner.

1929

John Aldrich presented "Our Winter Birds" at the Annual Dinner.

Edward Avery conducted a bird census in conjunction with National Audubon.

1930

A letter-writing campaign was initiated this year supporting the "Bald Eagle Protection Measure" and the "Humane Trapping Bill," both of which passed but not without changes which weakened the original strong bills.

Edward Avis returned to present pictures and bird song imitations at a special March dinner. Mr. Beebe spoke at the Annual Meeting in November.

1931

Speakers this year included Channing Beach, James Savage, Edward Avery, Mrs. Hatch and Clark Beardslee.

Mrs. Frederick Pratt gave a complete four volume set of Audubon's Elephant Folio to the Grosvenor Library.

The Zoological Society of Buffalo was formed.

1932

Speakers included Hamilton Jones, Ross Sanders and Harold Mitchell.

1933

Longtime president Edward Avery consented to give lectures throughout the 1933 public school year under the auspices of Buffalo Audubon, which resulted in a total of 50 lectures reaching several thousand students. Years later, another president of our Society, Sheldon Merritt, would pick up this mantle of direct contact with area schools as part of Buffalo Audubon's expanding educational role begun in the late 1960's.

Arthur Allen of Cornell University came to Buffalo and presented a sound and picture program to an audience of close to 1400 at the Museum of Science. Also lecturing this year were Edward Avery and James Savage.

1934

In November Edward Avery chaired a membership exhibit booth at the Hobby Fair in the Elmwood Music Hall, sponsored by the Council of Social Agencies. This would be repeated in March of 1936.

Earlier in the year, a May outing to Oak Orchard and a July "excursion" to "The Maples" at Rushford Lake were enjoyed.

Channing Beach spoke about wildflowers at the Annual Dinner.

1935

Edward Avery spoke at the Annual Meeting and Harlan Eckler at the Annual Dinner.

1936

Buffalo Audubon made a donation to National Audubon for the preservation of water birds off the coast of Florida, and Christmas greeting cards from National Audubon were offered for sale for the first time.

Ellsworth Jaeger and Edward Avery spoke at meetings.

1937

William Voght, editor of National Audubon's *Bird Lore*, spoke at the Grosvenor Library in February. Edward Avery spoke to 391 school children in Tonawanda, on which occasion an essay contest was initiated and good coverage was provided by the *Tonawanda Evening News*. Mr. Avery gave two talks at Society meetings this year as well.

The Society opposed hunting in Allegany State Park and encouraged the appointment by Governor Lehmann of William Ryan as a commissioner.

An area in Emery Park was set apart as a bird sanctuary by Hamilton Ward of the Erie County Park Commission. Mabel James was appointed chair of its oversight board.

Trips to Pymatuning Reservoir were started as a joint venture with the Buffalo Ornithological Society. These trips continued for many years. Early leaders were Harold Mitchell, Richard Byron and Winston Brockner.

1938

Roger Tory Peterson presented a lecture entitled "The Pageant of Bird Life" co-sponsored by Buffalo Audubon, the Garden Center Institute, and the Buffalo Ornithological Society. The Buffalo Ornithological Society later joined Buffalo Audubon to support a talk by George Sutton at the Annual Meeting.

1939

This was indeed an exciting year. It saw the Thirtieth Anniversary celebrations of the Audubon Society of Buffalo, which received good press coverage; the Tenth Anniversary of the Buffalo Ornithological Society; and the founding of the Conservation Forum of New

York State by Harry Learner and Mabel James. Buffalo Audubon enthusiastically joined as a charter member.

In February, Buffalo Audubon, the Garden Center Institute, and the Buffalo Ornithological Society sponsored a bird lecture by Allen D. Cruickshank of the Audubon summer camp in Maine. Harold Mitchell spoke at the 30th Annual Meeting.

A typical program of field trips in those years can be judged by those of this year, which included trips to the Clarence sinks, the Canadian shore, Delaware Park, Forest Lawn, Lincoln Park (then a wild area), Darien Lake, the Springville Bog, Rushford Lake, Gull Island, and Cook Forest. During the upcoming war years, when gasoline was at a premium, field trips were restricted to nearby areas and well attended early Saturday morning walks in Delaware Park and Forest Lawn were often led by Mrs. F. G. Smith. Other trips went to Grand Island, the Larkin estate in Derby, and the Baird estate in Eden, as well as Chestnut Ridge.

In October Buffalo Audubon adopted a monthly meeting schedule.

1940

In April, Richard H. Pough, a founder of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, gave an illustrated lecture entitled "Is Any Wildlife Harmful?" with Buffalo Audubon Society, Buffalo Ornithological Society, and the Garden Center Institute again acting as joint sponsors. Eric Prior, James Savage and Edward Avery spoke at other meetings.

The National Association of Audubon Societies became the National Audubon Society with Buffalo one of its 153 affiliated groups.

Frances Folsom completed nine years as chairman of Junior Audubon and Gertrude Webster assumed the chairmanship and began activities at Public School 63 in Buffalo.

1941

Speakers this year included Harold Mitchell, Mr. Keim of Niagara Falls and Edward Avery, accompanied by Mr. Stratton on the piano.

1942

In November Winston Brockner talked about Hawk Mountain.

1943

Lectures were given by Ward Klepfer and Charles Harwell.

1944

Wayne Short of the National Audubon Society met with Buffalo Audubon officers to arrange for a series of free public screen lectures during the winter months to be held in conjunction with the Buffalo Museum's Hayes Lectures. These were very successful.

In an attempt to interest more school students who were too old to join Junior Audubon clubs but not yet old enough to join the Society, Audubon Associates was formed under the guidance of Gertrude Webster who created much interest among the seventh- and eighth-grade pupils of Public School 63. Monthly meetings were held at Grosvenor Library with their own officers, programs and outside speakers. The Associates had a delegate on the Society Board of Directors for some time (Richard Rosche served for several years) but in spite of efforts to extend the group citywide, the Associates were primarily recruited from School 63, a fine tribute to Miss Webster's leadership but disappointing as an extended endeavor.

At the Annual Dinner Harold Mitchell and Mr. and Mrs. Eckler spoke.

1945

This year, the Society resumed its Christmas Bird Counts, begun earlier in 1909, with Ethel Melberg as compiler. The 15-mile radius centered in Chestnut Ridge Park. This census has been repeated each succeeding year.

Approximately 100 loyal members were on the rolls during the preceding years but the membership included few children. James Savage encouraged radical changes so that the membership could be greatly increased. With the approval of the older members who had given so much of their time and effort to keep the Society functioning during the trying years of the Depression and the Second World War, new policies involving greatly increased activity throughout the year were initiated, which it was hoped would induce more young people to join.

Speakers this year included James Savage, Edward Avery and J. Stanley King. The Society co-sponsored an exhibit of the Menaboni paintings at the Buffalo Museum.

1946

Harold Mitchell took office and launched three exciting, eventful years. With the strong efforts of John P. Bruck as membership chairman, the Society began to grow and expand its influence.

In Mr. Mitchell's words: "Most of our meetings those days were held at the Grosvenor Library, and less often at the Museum, on the first or third Wednesday of each month, but during the summer we met at Old Fort Erie or Delaware Park north of the Zoo or in my yard at 378 Crescent Avenue. There was a meeting each month of the year, often with talks illustrated with slides or motion pictures, and there was increased participation of many members in the activity of the Society. Field trips to Gull Island, Silver Bay and Cook Forest were highlights during this time."

In conjunction with the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences and the Buffalo Ornithological Society, a scholarship to the Audubon Camp on Hog Island in Muscongus Bay, Maine, was established with Gertrude Webster its first recipient.

National Audubon's *Bird Lore* became *Audubon Magazine*.

Edward Seeber led a fall warbler census, another new Society activity, with very satisfactory results for the small area covered.

The Annual Meeting and Annual Dinner were combined for the first time with Mary Ellis offering a quiz program on birds.

1947

In October the Society began holding monthly meetings in the Humboldt Room of the Museum of Science with Winston Brockner showing his bird slides. Robert Hermes spoke at the Annual Meeting in March.

In April, Alexander Sprunt, Jr., southern representative of the National Audubon Society, was our guest at a jointly sponsored dinner with the Buffalo Ornithological Society at the Museum of Science. From this year through 1948, under the able chairmanship of J. Stanley King, Buffalo Audubon members donated money, clothing, and food packages to assist European ornithologists who had been ravaged by the war.

Our Society supported a Conservation Forum resolution encouraging that the Tiffet Farm Tract be preserved as a nature area. It was with great satisfaction that Buffalo Audubon members many years later saw the creation of Tiffet Nature Preserve as an extension of the educational program of the Buffalo Museum of Science.

1948

On January 9, the Audubon Society of Buffalo became the Buffalo Audubon Society, Inc. under the University of the State of New York with Edward C. Avery, Helene L. Coyle, Harold D. Mitchell, Mrs. Joseph M. Overfield, Jr., Gertrude G. Webster, and Adrian B. Wells acting as incorporators for the Society. Audubon charter member Mary Ellis retired after many years of service as financial secretary and the office of corresponding secretary superseded that of financial secretary. The Society also joined the new Federation of New York State Bird Clubs as a charter member. (The Federation changed its name in 2007 to The New York State Ornithological Association.)

A collection of feeding station reports was initiated with Edward Seeber as chairman.

Harold Axtell spoke at the Annual Meeting in March.

1949

The membership of Buffalo Audubon had swelled to 300 by 1949 and a "Lucy Club" (named in honor of Lucy Audubon) was formed with 30 members and Gertrude Weber acting as chairman. This devoted group handled the Society's sale of notepaper and similar supportive activities.

On June 29, 1949, the First Conservation Caravan, sponsored by the Buffalo Museum and the Conservation Forum, was organized and led by Mabel James.

The American Ornithologists Union held its annual meeting at the Buffalo Museum in October. James Savage served as chairman of the local committee.

A sanctuary committee was formed, with Harold Mitchell as chairman, to study various sites for a Society-owned sanctuary and to identify how to acquire such property.

1950

In February Carl Buchheister, National Audubon vice president, joined us at a dinner at the Central YMCA to informally discuss our new affiliation as a Branch of the National Audubon Society. At the annual meeting in March, it was voted to adopt the revised constitution to recognize this new affiliation and to provide for additional officers, which our increased membership made desirable.

New areas visited in 1950 included Alfred Wander's property near East Aurora, Niagara Glen, the Buffalo River erosion control project, the Erie County forest preserve and soil

conservation area, Dr. Giambrone's estate in East Amherst, and Paul Davies' sanctuary along the Genesee River south of Wellsville.

At a meeting this year William Almendinger noted: "During the last 15 years, we have been stressing bird life almost to the exclusion of all other nature." He reminded us that John James Audubon did much work on mammals and plant life and that we should broaden our scope to include all forms of wildlife. "The Audubon slogan is conservation and education," he added.

This year was also a watershed for the Society in its quest for a nature sanctuary to call its own. Back in 1947, six Junior Audubon youngsters had presented to the Society the same program given at their regular monthly eighth-grade meeting at School 63 the preceding Friday afternoon: "Hawks and Owls - Nature's Rat Traps." One speaker was William Shanahan, Jr., who discussed Cooper's and Sharp-shinned Hawks. At the conclusion, President Harold Mitchell commended the young speakers, adding that he hoped some day both young and old might pursue their love of nature in a Society-owned refuge.

From the rear of the room a cheerful voice spoke, "If it's a refuge you're wanting, you're welcome to visit our farm out in Wyoming County. There's even a beaver dam nearby." There was a spontaneous about-face of adults. The voice was that of William Shanahan, Sr., a member of the Buffalo Police Department. "We're in the Town of Java, about two and one-half miles east of Java Village. Bring your picnic out anytime. Glad to show you around the place."



This farmhouse stood on the Shanahan property in Java, NY. It was the first property purchased for what would become the Beaver Meadow Audubon Center. Today, visitors can see the foundation of this house while hiking on the Old Homestead Trail.

It was not until the next year that several members, including Bill Almendinger, Anna Mae Bacon, and Ethel Melberg took the 45-mile ride from Buffalo to view the rolling Wyoming County hillsides at their nearly 1,500-foot elevation. They liked what they saw and in 1950 the Shanahans announced that their farm was for sale.

The sanctuary committee, that had been established in 1949, met to formulate plans for a possible purchase. Throughout this year, business meeting after business meeting was devoted to devising ways and means to acquire the Shanahan farm. The title was finally secured with William Vaughan acting as the Society's attorney.

President Francis T. Tilley then appointed a Java Sanctuary Finance Committee, with Harold Mitchell as chairman, to raise the necessary funds to pay for the property.

1951

On April 30, a letter was sent to all Society members asking for contributions toward the purchase of the 48.5-acre Java tract, the total cost of which, including title insurance and our share of the current year's taxes, was \$1,926.60. A substantial down payment had already been made with money advanced by an unidentified Audubon member. This campaign was successful and to the great joy of the initial sponsors, members oversubscribed the full amount.

The next step was to give the new property a meaningful name. Drained by Beaver Meadow Creek on its westerly flow to the valley of Buffalo Creek, in a watershed marked by active as well as abandoned dams of our most irreplaceable animal residents, it was appropriately christened Beaver Meadow Wildlife Refuge.

At the time of its purchase, the sterile gravel soil bore mute evidence of unwise lumbering and plowing which had sacrificed rich humus through periodic rain and melting snow runoffs. Advised and aided by Edwin Keil, director of the County Soil Conservation District, Audubon members supervised the planting of 15,500 three-year-old Norway and White Spruce, Scotch and Jack Pine seedlings in the fall of 1951, and the refuge and surrounding areas were posted before the fall hunting season - thanks to the labors of Bill Almendinger.

A special January dinner honored Roger Tory Peterson. Richard Saunders of the University of Toronto, spoke at the Annual Meeting in March.

The Society recorded its (eventually futile) opposition to annexation of part of the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge by the New York State Thruway.

1952

In the spring, two- and three-year-old seedlings of Multi-flora Rose, Tartarian Honeysuckle, Silky Dogwood, Coralberry, American Hazelnut, Bayberry, Wild Plum, and Autumn Olive were planted at Beaver Meadow, totaling 1,700 berry-producing shrubs. These performed the dual task of restoring depleted soil and providing habitat for resident wildlife. As "Operation Bird House", Buffalo Public School 63 Junior Auduboners erected birdhouses on the sanctuary property.

The Society had no more than signed the transfer papers than members began looking for additional adjoining land. They swapped with Beaver Meadow's next door neighbor, William Mingle, an arable five-acre meadow for his pond, which extended south to the beaver dam, and a second trade was worked out with Emil Ponevas.

The first picnic at the new sanctuary was held on July 15, with leaders Anne Broadbent and Helen Nowacki.

An event of great importance took place in the spring when the Society commenced publication of *Audubon Outlook*, which was capably edited by Mrs. Bradley Fisk for the first three years, followed by Mrs. LeRoy C. Melberg, and Mrs. Elek D. Csont. In the first issue it was noted that "the *Outlook* represented 11,000 cranks of the Almendinger arm to make 500 copies." Vice President Almendinger stated: "The value of this quarterly as an agent to more closely knit our membership cannot be estimated, to say nothing of the educational possibilities it possesses. This is our second dream come true and with this year, we have really come of age."

In April, Gertrude Webster and a group of Junior Auduboners were featured on a television program called "Your Schools at Work," and in August, the Society exhibit at the Erie County Fair won first prize in its category, the topic being, "Beaver Meadow Refuge."

The Society initiated a series of free science courses: the first series, "Know Your Plants," was instructed by William Almendinger. At the Annual Meeting L. L. Pechumen of Lockport spoke on "The Effect of DDT and Other Insecticides on Wildlife."

Society membership rose to 1106.

1953

The first breeding bird count at Beaver Meadow was held and a Park School Conservation Workshop was established with the cooperation of Buffalo Audubon and the

Conservation Forum. Anna Mae Bacon demonstrated the manufacture of feeders, birdhouses, and Hummingbird feeders at the Craft Institute of the Museum of Science.

Clark Beardslee spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1954

This year Audubon Screen Tour lectures began for the first time under the Society's sole sponsorship. This was made possible by consent of the Board of Managers of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences in whose museum the lectures were held. As chairs, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Renfrew engineered the success of these lectures.

At the Annual Meeting John Bruck, in what proved to be a truly visionary Beaver Meadow report, stated: "The time is coming fast when busloads of children will arrive from schools of western New York to view the great variety of interesting trees and other growing things in our sanctuary, to have the opportunity to see the birds, and to visit with Mother Nature."

Richard Rosche spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1955

Cyril Wolfling and his Boy Scouts were active in Beaver Meadow refuge work and our own Rose Noller contributed many poems, inspired by her Audubon field experiences, for publication in the *Outlook*.

Through these years, Frances H. Rathbun was our loyal chairman of feeding station reports and Lena Turner's inspirational leadership of the Beaver Meadow Refuge Committee created much interest in our developing sanctuary.

Peter Paul Kellogg spoke and presented recordings at the Annual Meeting.

The Society purchase 60 acres from the Bagley family, increasing the Beaver Meadow Sanctuary to 130 acres.



The Bagley family cabin (circa 1950) still stands on the Beaver Meadow preserve. After much renovation over the years, it is now the Thoreau Cabin, available to Beaver Meadow visitors for overnight use.

1956

In one of this year's *Outlooks*, Marie Wendling contributed a column entitled "Publications of Interest" which made a big hit with the membership and was continued for a number of years.

Following the regular April Society meeting, members adjourned to the Buffalo Museum's library where Gertrude Webster showed selections from John James Audubon's *Elephant Folio*. The four volumes measured roughly 30 x 40 inches. Director Fred Hall had a special stand made for holding each book to protect the fragile bindings while turning the pages. Secretary Lena Turner remarked: "All present deemed it a rare privilege to see the inside of these celebrated books from the pen and brush of John J. Audubon from whom our Society - and the National Society - derives its name."

A standing committee of ten members was appointed to manage the Beaver Meadow Wildlife Refuge with John Caul as its first chairman.

Another dinner honored Roger Tory Peterson before he spoke to the Society in November. William Gunn spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1957

Florence Cummings of Chicago deeded 45.5 acres of Allenberg Bog to the Society.

George Zehr and Stanley Maciejewski tapped the natural spring at Beaver Meadow.

Louise de Kiriline Lawrence of North Bay, Ontario spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1958

An Allenberg Bog Refuge committee was created with Clayton Knox as its first chairman.

In a letter to the Buffalo mayor the Society protested local air pollution and urged purification of the waters of Buffalo Creek.

Speakers at the Annual Meeting were John Livingston of Toronto and Society president Fred Hall.

1959

This year marked the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Buffalo Audubon Society. The anniversary banquet was held in May at the West End Hotel in Hamburg. The Society minutes for the occasion record: "The tables were decked with gold ribbon and yellow daffodils and forsythia. At the speaker's table was a magnificent golden Hoopoe Bird. Every place was marked with a golden menu decorated with Fred Hall's bluebird. This was truly the Audubon Society's Golden Anniversary."

Two thousand copies of a new Society publication entitled *Attracting Birds to Your Home*, written by Anna Mae Bacon and edited by Ed Seeber, came off the press in time for distribution at the Erie County Fair. In fact, this proved to be quite a year for the Bacons. John Edward and Anna Mae appeared on WBEN-TV as guests of the Buffalo and Erie County Home Extension Service. John displayed many models of the birdhouses and feeders he had made and Anna Mae discussed her bird-banding activities and introduced our new attracting birds booklet. Following publication of Anna Mae's article, "The Saw-whet Owl's Conservation Message," in the January *Audubon Outlook*, the National Audubon Society reprinted the article in *Audubon Magazine*.

Buffalo Audubon took a strong (but again futile) stand against "The Northway Amendment," and for the alternative "Lake Champlain Route" which would permit the building of a superhighway through Forest Preserve Land of the Adirondacks.

National Audubon Society president-elect Carl Buckheister spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1960

Honorary Society President John P. Bruck, who died on January 11, left the Society \$3,000 which was used to purchase 98 acres of additional property at Allenberg Bog. Clayton Knox, longtime chairman of the Allenberg Bog refuge committee, negotiated the purchase.

A shelter built at Lookout Point on the east side of the beaver pond at Beaver Meadow was dedicated "Esohelman's Rest."

At the request of the Jamestown Audubon Society, Buffalo Audubon agreed to cosponsor a weekend camp at Allegany State Park.

The Annual Dinner was scheduled to coincide with the Annual Banquet of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs. Robert Hermes spoke.

1961

Wilma Csont's Junior Audubon Club of Athol Springs mounted a highly acclaimed display at the Erie County Fair entitled *An Exhibit of Creatures Native to Erie County*. In November the Society had another exhibit at the Erie County Bank.

A Refuge Fund Committee was appointed by President Arthur Rosche with Harold Mitchell, chairman, to raise funds for further land purchases at Beaver Meadow and Allenberg Bog.

A handsome brochure entitled *Wild Rhododendrons in Western New York* was printed and distributed to the membership.

Mrs. Bradley Fisk spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1962

An auction was held at Sisler's barn to benefit the Refuge Fund.

Virginia Cummings of the Buffalo Museum spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1963

"Join The 1400" was the motto to advertise the Harold D. Mitchell testimonial dinner in November with Roger Tory Peterson as the guest speaker and the net proceeds going to the Refuge Fund.

Liverworts, Mosses and Vascular Plants of Waterman Swamp and Allenberg Bog by Stephen Eaton and Sister Mary Salesia Schick, OSM, was published.

An official Beaver Meadow brochure was printed.

John and Babette Coleman spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1964

A "Harold D. Mitchell Trail" was dedicated at Beaver Meadow with appropriate ceremonies.

Mabel James was honored on October 21, during the celebration of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Conservation Forum of New York State. She had just joined other conservationists statewide to fight the threat of encroachment on Buckhorn Island State Park.

A committee for the Preservation of Buckhorn Island State Park as a wildlife sanctuary was formed in July, chaired by Harold Mitchell. This committee opposed the proposal to build a Music Festival bowl to seat 4000 people and associated parking areas that would take up 53 acres of the park. A vigorous petition campaign followed and the project was abandoned. Society president Ray Regone was an eloquent spokesman for the Audubon position. It is interesting to note that the architect chosen to design the Music Festival bowl was Mr. Fontanese, who later designed the Visitor Center at Beaver Meadow.

David Bigelow spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1965

The Society's first *Beaver Meadow Guide* was published, the result of work by a special committee headed by Maxine Dilivio with artwork by D. Dodge. An official Buffalo Audubon banner was designed by Edith Bensley and stitched by Ella Regone. *Birds of the Niagara Frontier Region* by Clark Beardslee and Harold Mitchell was also published as Volume 22 of the *Bulletin of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences*. This was a long-awaited and much anticipated ornithological work.

A new chapter in the history of Beaver Meadow Wildlife Refuge began to unfold when Society members returned excitedly from the National Audubon convention held in Boston, Massachusetts, October 1-6. The keynote theme had dealt with conservation education and as a special feature, Joseph Shomon of National Audubon's Nature Centers Division gave an enthusiastic appeal for Audubon support for nature centers throughout the country. This

was part of the growing educational awareness of our environment and the importance of educating youth about their environmental responsibilities.

Anna Mae Bacon added to the excitement with her timely report of a visit to Babson Park Sanctuary in Florida where Bruce Murray, a retired Audubon Wildlife lecturer lived and acted as guide and caretaker. This suggested the idea for a future position that we hoped could be established at Beaver Meadow.



Anna Mae Bacon, one of the founders of the Beaver Meadow Nature Center, was active in Buffalo Audubon throughout most of the 20th century. A nature preserve along the Eighteen Mile Creek in Hamburg, NY is named in her honor.

Peter Paul Kellogg spoke at the Annual Meeting in May and a joint meeting with Jamestown Audubon was held in August.

1966

In March the Board of Directors elected to send invitations to schools, colleges, groups, and organizations to participate in field trips at Beaver Meadow. Ruth Percival volunteered to coordinate the scheduling of volunteer leaders.

The April Members Meeting was highlighted by the outstanding film, *Islands of Green*, which included a plea for the establishment of community nature education centers across America. Buffalo Auduboners were urged to attend this meeting to evaluate for themselves the objectives of nature centers and the desirability for one in our own community area.

By June the Society's first request to take two busloads of children to Beaver Meadow was received and John Bruck's vision was realized. In an *Outlook* editorial entitled "The Day the 4-H Came," Harold Dodge put into words the excitement of hosting nearly one hundred children at Beaver Meadow. Harold closed his account by stating: "For those of you who



A promotional poster for the 1967 BAS Annual Dinner

haven't experienced it, the sight of a child encountering some of the wonders of the natural world for the first time can be the greatest sight in the world. If only we did more of this! If only there were some way to bring children to the sanctuary more often - providing them with guides to open some of the closed doors for them. Many children never hear the outdoor world explained in the light of the Audubon purpose. Well, on May 6 we made an impression on some minds, I'm sure. Let's remember that Audubon purpose - and do it again, and often!" This editorial, in essence, sounded the theme which was to blossom two years later into the Nature Center at Beaver Meadow and set the tone for what developed into the Society's continuing environmental education program.

Sisler's Rest, built by the East Aurora Bird Club, was dedicated at Beaver Meadow. *Attracting Birds* was republished with illustrations by the Dodges.

Walter Spofford of Syracuse spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1967

Birder's Breakfasts were started with Art and Olga Rosche as hosts for many subsequent years.

A Buffalo Audubon booth was set up at the Girl Scout Region II National Conference in the Statler Hilton Hotel. Maxine Dilivio and Anna Mae Bacon arranged the attractive display in the lobby where membership information was distributed.

Norwood Hazard spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1968

Gilbert and Marie Yager deeded a new sanctuary to the Society. Called Rushing Stream, it encompasses 50.14 acres in Chautauqua County.

In the fall President Gordon Samuels, in order to address continuing problems stemming from the use of our land and trails by various groups, appointed a special committee to study the motives and purposes of our Society and to report on a land program, which the Buffalo Audubon Society should follow in the near future.

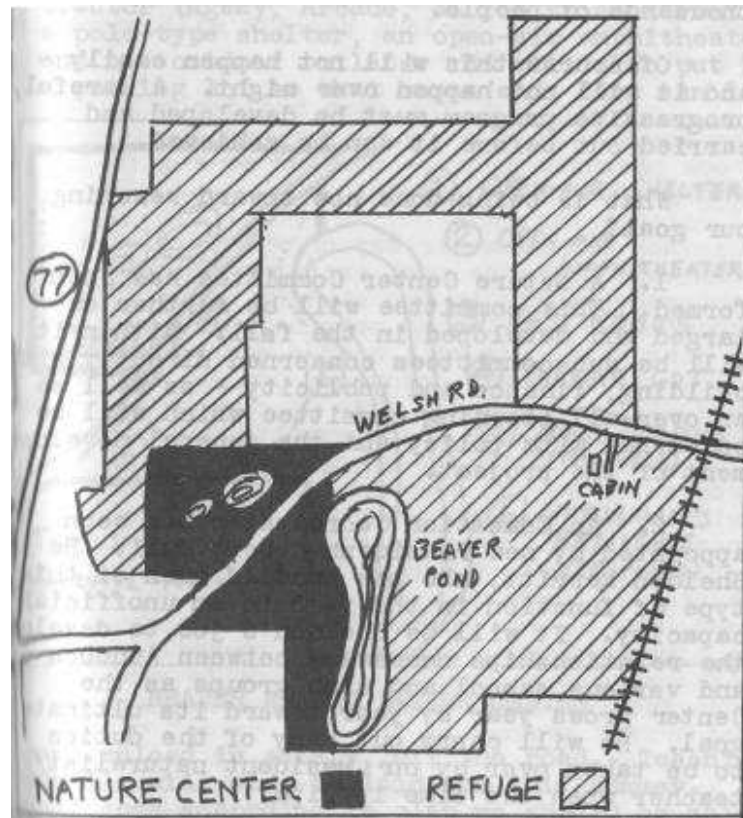
New York State purchased right-of-way from Buffalo Audubon for Route 77.

Sheldon Merritt spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1969

At the March 1969 Board of Directors meeting, Harold Dodge and his committee presented their eagerly awaited in-depth report on the use of the Beaver Meadow Sanctuary. The Board unanimously recommended that the membership be informed at the April meeting and a notice was placed in the *Outlook*, which stated: "You will have an opportunity to hear about and vote on a bold new program for Education at our Beaver Meadow Sanctuary." The membership unanimously accepted the report of the special committee and the Beaver Meadow Nature Center was born. Harold Dodge's article in the July *Outlook* entitled "Project Nature Center to Open Young Eyes" outlined plans for the Nature Center development.

The first development activities were carried out by a subcommittee headed by Wayne Stumm with Sheldon Merritt supervising the layout of trails. A separate Nature Center Fund was established by the Board with the transfer of \$3,500 from the Society's general fund. The first gift to the Nature Center project that year was \$3,000 from Mrs. Alfa Dodge with which the Society repurchased the five acre "Mingle Meadow." This became the nucleus of the Center activities which was renamed "Dodge Meadow" in honor of Mrs. Dodge and her family.



The original plan for the Beaver Meadow Nature Center, as published in the July 1969 issue of the Outlook. In the original plan, most of the preserve (marked as "refuge") was closed to the general public.

National Audubon recognized our fledgling Nature Center at Beaver Meadow in their "Audubon Leaders Conservation Guide," a nationally circulated newsletter. The national organization also passed a resolution changing the term "Branch" to "Chapter" at the local level; this change was reflected in a Buffalo Audubon Society constitutional amendment in the next year.

A tornado-like storm felled many trees at Allenberg Bog.

Our Sixtieth Anniversary was celebrated in Kenmore where Anna Mae Bacon's "Whimseys" and Grace Sisler's plant sale provided some of the first income to offset growing Nature Center expenses.

Babette Coleman of the University of Rochester was the Annual Meeting speaker.

1970

The first Beaver Meadow Audubon Center outdoor nature education program, lasting five weeks and involving over 1,000 third through eighth grade children from Buffalo and

Western New York schools, was completed on June 12. Twenty Audubon Society volunteers served as leaders under the able direction of Harold and Barbara Dodge.

During this year alone, educational coordinator Sheldon Merritt contacted over 11,000 children and adults from many organizations and groups through more than 60 illustrated lectures, field trips, and assembly programs.

Looking to the future, it was quickly realized that a more permanent form of organization would be needed at the Nature Center and Buffalo Audubon Society attorney, Harold Zaehringer, recommended incorporation. Unfortunately, because of a noise problem at the Annual Meeting, discussion and approval of this was tabled. For this and other reasons, Harold Dodge resigned as chairman of the Nature Center Committee.

A two-volume set of bound Audubon prints was donated to the Society by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Nelson.

Throughout these growing years, a remarkable family spent untold hours maintaining trails as well as serving as leaders - the Henzlers: Harold, Ina, Roy H. and Roy R. and his family. Their contributions to Buffalo Audubon cannot be measured and the Center and Refuge as we know it today bear the fruits of the handiwork and loving care which they all gave to Audubon. Also, Buffalo Audubon recognized "The Duck Man," George Tomchick, who built, cleaned, and repaired duck houses on the Beaver Meadow pond and also kept a count of the eggs in the nests. The rowboat tied in the pond was a constant reminder of George's services to Beaver Meadow.

Leonard Trumble spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1971

With the appointment of George Laug, Professor of Biology at Buffalo State College, as chairman of the Beaver Meadow Nature Center committee, another chapter in the Center's history began. The first campaign to raise funds for the Nature Center was begun under the leadership of Edward Seeber and his Beaver Meadow Boosters and by May 25, 138 persons had contributed a total of \$1,278. Soon after his appointment, Dr. Laug was authorized to act as our representative in making design plans with the architectural firm of Fontanese and Halfpenny of East Aurora for a Nature Center building. He also recommended that a feasibility study be conducted before any formal fund-raising be undertaken and with Board approval, Tambllyn and Brown, Inc. was chosen. Their study concluded that a goal of \$200,000 was entirely feasible through the efforts of Audubon members and friends with the guidance of a professional fund-raising organization.

Rushing Stream Sanctuary was officially dedicated and Melvin Bates was appointed chairman of its associated advisory group.

Ella Regone secured a tax exemption for Buffalo Audubon, retroactive to 1937.

Albert Kreutter presented a slide show at the Annual Meeting.

1972

At an exciting Board meeting on May 23, the feasibility report was accepted and the decision made to mount a full-scale fund-raising campaign under the planning guidance of Tamblyn and Brown. David Rote accepted President Evelyne Rochester's appointment as campaign chairman and the campaign was officially launched at a press conference held on September 5 at the Museum of Science.

During the summer months, over \$20,000 was subscribed by the Board of Directors and the Nature Center Committee under the chairmanship of Marie Wendling.

The Nature Center's educational program ran from May 1 through June 30 and well over 1400 children were led over the trails by volunteer leaders. Coordinator Ina Henzler noted: "Our Nature Center is truly opening young eyes and is constantly growing."

Ella Regone, in an *Outlook* article, reported: "Mighty oaks from little acorns grow. The Richard Stevensons' acorns assumed the form of invitations to many of their friends to a soiree. The hosts prepared the gourmet food (and did the dishes) for five dinners and two luncheons serving over one hundred people. A 'mighty oak' of \$850.00 was assigned to our Environmental Education Center Fund." And thus began "those famous dinners, which have contributed thousands of dollars to Buffalo Audubon on behalf of the Nature Center.

The Buffalo Audubon Society Memorial Fund was established.

Honorary Society President Harold Mitchell was named "Wildlife Conservationist of the Year" by the state Conservation Council.

The Mabel James Tribute Committee was authorized to raise funds for the naturalist's residence with Anna Mae Bacon and Dee Bigelow, co-chairs.

The Society Board of Directors approved a proposal from the Buffalo Astronomical Association to include a field observatory as part of the plans for the Environmental Education Center at Beaver Meadow.

Joseph Taylor of Rochester talked about Hawk Mountain at the Annual Meeting.

1973

An agreement to cooperate with the Buffalo Museum of Science in creating an Audubon Field Club for youngsters in the fifth through twelfth grades, with Audubon Associates invited to participate, was enacted. Museum coordinators were Anne Scott and Bonnie Cleveland.

In April, Blake Saunders, Ray Regorie, and Harold Dodge submitted a plan for the incorporation of the Beaver Meadow Environmental Education Center, as our Nature Center was now to be known. An interim Board of Managers was appointed and their By-Laws approved by the Society Board in October.

The Bennett Homes design for the Mabel James naturalist's residence was accepted on May 30 and groundbreaking took place on July 7. "Dodge Meadow" was dedicated on the same day.

David Bigelow was appointed as the first director-naturalist of our Center in June, and he and his wife, Dee, moved into the newly-completed Mabel James Residence in mid-November. Dr. Laug announced that "David Bigelow is the right man, at the right time, in the right place."



David Bigelow, the first Director-Naturalist of Beaver Meadow

A double feature for Buffalo Audubon took place this summer when, simultaneously with the Erie County Fair Exhibit (where it was a blue ribbon winner), the Society had another fine exhibit in the Erie Savings Bank at the Main Place Mall. Almost 100 photographs of Beaver Meadow scenes, including plants, flowers, birds and mammals were on display. Also on display was an intriguing diorama of Beaver Meadow done by the

Mausers; a "log" cross-section board by Earl Pfarner; mounted birds and mammals from the Buffalo Museum of Science; Guy Cohaleach prints loaned by the Kunzers; copies of *Audubon Magazines*; and other material from National Audubon.

The first of several horse shows at Mrs. Sheldon Black's "Sprucelands" near Beaver Meadow resulted in a \$1,000 gift to the ongoing Center campaign.

Steven Kress spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1974

Early this year David Bigelow reported, "114,000 visitors have come to our Center during the most recent twelve-month period, many of them from out-of-state, including European countries. Nearly 5,000 school children were received on conducted tours during April, May, and June."

The "One Hundred Club" was created to assist in subscribing a portion of the annual operating cost of the Education Center with Past President Ray Regone as chairman. Dave Bigelow began his delightful series "Beaver Meadow Diary," a "Wonders of the Sky" course was presented by members of the Buffalo Astronomical Association and "Evenings at Beaver Meadow," a regular weekend summer lecture series attraction, began.

Sylvia and Winston Brockner spoke at the Annual Meeting and Buffalo Schools Superintendent Joseph Manch spoke at the Mabel James Residence dedication. Roger Tory Peterson spoke at the October 26 meeting.

The first Beaver Meadow Christmas Count was taken on December 28.

1975

The Ayer-Stevenson Refuge and the 53-acre Rose Acres Refuge were accepted by the Society.



The original Visitor Center at the Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, dedicated in 1975

The Beaver Meadow Environmental Education Center Board of Managers with George Laug chairman was established to complete the Center's development period.

1976

Beginning in January a new format was adopted for *Audubon Outlook* and members began receiving six issues a year. The Erie County Federation of Sportsman's Clubs presented their "Club Achievement Award" to Buffalo Audubon.

Seventy acres of land were added to the north boundary of Allenberg Bog through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Yager, bringing the total area of the preserve to almost 400 acres.

The Board also authorized purchase of the 4.25 acre Henzler property on Welch Road and the PerLee-Wilcox Refuge was returned to the original owner.

The Field Observatory built by the Buffalo Astronomical Association at Beaver Meadow was dedicated on May 14.

Speakers this year included Richard Rhindress, National Audubon's northeast regional representative and Paul Watson of Greenpeace.

1977

The dangers of acid precipitation were first reported to the membership this year by President David Freeland in his new column "This Audubon View".

A By-Law Revision was completed by David Freeland, Ella Regone and Blake Saunders on March 16, bringing the Society in compliance with the New York State Not-for-Profit Corporation Law.

Stephen Kress spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1978

David Bigelow retired in the spring of 1978 after five years as our first director-naturalist. He noted that "it was my life's greatest honor" to have served. In turn, the Society honored Dave and Dee Bigelow with a grand dinner at the Pellamwood House, chaired by the inimitable Gretchen Stevenson and with proceeds going to the "Jenny Glen Fund." Heinz Meng was special speaker who shared a fascinating story entitled "Falcons Return."

Five years earlier, Dave and Dee purchased several acres of woodland with a pond adjoining Beaver Meadow and named it Jenny Glen in memory of his daughter. The Bigelow's desire was to have a boardwalk trail for the blind and handicapped in this area. The Buffalo Rotary Club announced a matching gift of \$6,000 to assist in building this trail. Ray Regone coordinated the information needed by Buffalo Rotary to come to their welcome decision. The Bigelow fete alone netted \$4,418.

David Junkin stepped into his new position as director-naturalist with great anticipation and immediately launched two adult courses, "Enjoyment of Birds" and "Leaders' Training Workshop," stressing the essentials of field ecology and nature interpretation.

A committee appointed by President Ella Regone, advised dissolving the Beaver Meadow Environmental Educational Center Corporation and having a Board of Managers function under the direct control of the Buffalo Audubon Society Board of Directors. The Society's constitution was revised to accommodate these changes and the Board of Managers became the Nature Center Managers.

Sheldon Merritt spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1979

An Endowment Fund for the Environmental Education Center was established and a permanent land committee was authorized by the Board.

James Yaich spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1980

A storage garage was authorized to be built adjacent to the naturalist's residence in which to store birdseed and other supplies.

A number of firsts were marked: the first Annual Beaver Meadow Birders' Breakfast on May 24; the first Annual Beaver Meadow Butterfly Count on June 28; and the first Beaver Meadow Nature Festival on July 12.

Over 60,000 slides were deeded to the Society by Thomas and Lucille Liston.

Jenny Glen was dedicated on May 24, named in memory of David Bigelow's daughter.

The Annual Meeting speaker was Robert McGillicuddy, a nature photographer for Eastman Kodak.

1981

The Harry J. Kord Award was reestablished.

Sandy Burton joined the Beaver Meadow staff.

At Beaver Meadow the John Edward Bacon Memorial Weather Station was dedicated on July 11.

Marshal Case, National Audubon northeast vice-president, spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1982

The Board authorized purchase of the 65.5 acre Ponevas property and readopted the name, Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, for the sanctuary.

The Land Fund campaign was begun with a \$75,000 goal; David Rote, chairman.

James Worthington, National Audubon vice-president for education, spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1983

Buffalo Audubon participated in the Tenth Annual Good Earth Festival at the Buffalo Museum, Gloria Rote, chair; and the Society endorsed the Alternate Master Plan for Allegany State Park.

Sheldon Merritt spoke at the Annual Meeting.

1984

The Beaver Meadow Nature Center was renovated. A permanent office for the Beaver Meadow director-naturalist was completed, a permanent library established and a new computer installed at the Center. Until then the Nature Center office was located in the naturalist's residence.

Past presidents of Buffalo Audubon were honored at the Seventy-fifth Anniversary Annual Dinner.

1985

Beaver Meadow expanded its summer program to include a Nature Day Camp for children ages 5-14.

1986

Beaver Meadow and the Burchfield Art Museum received a collaborative grant to work with nearly 500 West Seneca students, focusing on connections between nature and art.

Buffalo Audubon began presenting an annual display at the Erie County Fair.

1987

On Arbor Day, a cucumber tree was the first planting in Beaver Meadow's new Arboretum.

Scott Williams and Doug Beck were hired as teacher-naturalists.

1988

The first Annual Ground Hog Day Snowshoe Softball game was held at Beaver Meadow.

Linda Radimecky was hired as teacher-naturalist.

1989

In July Beaver Meadow celebrated its tenth annual Nature Festival.

1990

Buffalo Audubon began participating in the National Audubon Society's Annual May Bird-a-thon fundraiser.

In June Carmon Becker became full time caretaker at Beaver Meadow and Joyce Souter was hired as Gift Shop Manager.

A group of volunteers lead by Earl Pfarner built the Arboretum Tool Shed & Picnic Shelter.

The Buffalo Audubon Society Board and the Beaver Meadow Board of Managers initiated a feasibility study considering the addition of space to the Beaver Meadow Nature Center.

December saw the passing of David Bigelow, retired Director-Naturalist of Beaver Meadow.

1991

In May, a storm with winds of 80 mph removed one-third of the Nature Center roof.

1992

Carmon Becker and Tom Sloan moved the picnic shelter from Chickadee Hollow to the Nature Center.

1993

In February "David Bigelow...Naturally," a special exhibit organized by entomology curator Wayne Gall at the Buffalo Museum of Science opened.

The first overnight programs began at Beaver Meadow, instituted by volunteer Curt Barber.



The Beaver Meadow staff in the early 1990's (clockwise from top) David Junkin, Sandra Burton, Carmon Becker, Joyce Souter

1994

A Beaver Meadow Planning Committee, headed by John Hodson, began a study of program, building, and visitor needs over the next decade.

Volunteers, including John and Helen Krull joined Bill Michalek to reroof the Pondview House.

The first Enchanted Forest program took place at Beaver Meadow.

The name of the Beaver Meadow Audubon Center was changed to the Beaver Meadow Nature Center in order to clarify the Center's purpose to the public.

1995

Karen Wallace was hired as a teacher-naturalist.

The Beaver Meadow Endowment Fund was established at the July Festival.

1996

The Beaver Meadow Building Committee, chaired by Allen Ott, began work with architect Jim Halfpenny to design the expansion of the Beaver Meadow Visitor Center.

Carmen Becker and Tom Sloan built the Lookout on the Pondsides Trail as a memorial to Ray Regone. This project was funded by a grant from Ella Lowney.

Carmen Becker retired as caretaker and Bob Price was hired as his replacement.

Greg Obusek was hired as a teacher-naturalist.

1997

David Junkin led a birding trip to the Texas Gulf Coast and the Rio Grande Valley.

The Buffalo Audubon Society Board voted to accept Planning Committee recommendations for a 6,000 square foot expansion to the Visitor Center. In support of this project the Beaver Meadow Expansion Fundraising Committee, co-chaired by Dutch and Jane Cole, began soliciting funds and professional fundraiser Ellen Warner was hired.

1998

In February Bill Michalek was hired as Beaver Meadow naturalist. Also this year Virgil Dunham was hired as part-time naturalist and Corey Merrel as Beaver Meadow Receptionist.



Babes in the Woods, a nature program for toddlers and their parents, started at Beaver Meadow in 1998 and has continued in various forms through the present.

"Babes in the Woods," a monthly nature program for toddlers and their parents, began at Beaver Meadow and in July the Beaver Meadow Trackers, a camping group for teens, began meeting.

Differences among Society board members emerged over fundraising for the Beaver Meadow expansion. Because of their philosophical differences with the board, both David Junkin, for 20 years Director-Naturalist of Beaver Meadow, and Sandy Burton, Administrative Assistant for 17 years, resigned. Bill Michalek was promoted to replace Junkin as Director-Naturalist.

The first annual Homestead Festival was held at Beaver Meadow.

1999

In April Bill McKeever was hired as Buffalo Audubon Society executive director.

A series of monthly walks at Griffis Sculpture Park was initiated.

Beaver Meadow held its first annual Maple Harvest Festival. These have continued and expanded under the leadership of Roger Black.

In April the Beaver Meadow Building Committee presented final plans for the Visitor Center expansion to the Society Board and on September 10 work began on the Beaver Meadow expansion.

2000

Beaver Meadow began offering Advanced Tour Leader Training programs.

Beaver Meadow naturalists began piloting the "Audubon Day" concept at schools. These were full days of nature programs with classes rotating through several stations.

The name of the Beaver Meadow Nature Center was changed back to the Beaver Meadow Audubon Center to clarify the unity of the organization.

The Beaver Meadow expansion was dedicated on September 16.



*The expanded Beaver Meadow Audubon Center
completed September 2000*

2001

Garner Light initiated the Iroquois Observations program at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. This program has grown into one of Buffalo Audubon's finest outreach activities.

Scott Lembitz and Carol Welsh were hired as naturalists.

Beaver Meadow celebrated its 50th anniversary.

2002

Native American Mike Bastine began a monthly series of lectures and discussions at Beaver Meadow entitled "Reconnecting with Nature."

Buffalo Audubon and Earth Spirit Educational Services offered their first Expedition to the Florida Everglades. Other expeditions were planned to take groups to Ontario's Algonquin Provincial Park and New York's Adirondack Mountains.

The bird banding program at Beaver Meadow was restarted with support from the Jane Cole Bird Education Fund.

Nature Center staff and volunteers began a winter resident study at the center feeder area and a summer breeding study at the Beaver Meadow Arboretum.

Paul Fehringer was hired as naturalist.

Tony Wagner and Bill McKeever worked through this year on a proposal for a Birds of Prey Center in Joseph Davis State Park.

2003

On February 1, the Bird of Prey Center project was formally initiated at a press conference.

Mary Hughes initiated twice weekly programming at Buffalo's Enterprise Charter School.

2004

The Babes in the Woods program was moved to Cazenovia Park.

Bill McKeever resigned as Buffalo Audubon executive director.

In June a total of \$77,000 in grants were awarded Buffalo Audubon by the Goodyear Foundation, Dorothy Duttweiler, Senator Volker and the Wyoming Foundation.

Boy Scout Troop 410 rehabilitated the Rose Acres Cabin.

An Audubon board development program was initiated under the leadership of Fern Koch.

Joyce Souter retired after 14 years in charge of the Beaver Meadow gift shop.

2005

In February Bill Hudson was hired as Beaver Meadow Director to replace Bill Michalek, who resigned to become an elementary school teacher. Michalek would not, however, end his association with Buffalo Audubon; he would become a board member the following year.



Bill Hudson leads his first hike at Beaver Meadow. After being hired as Beaver Meadow's Director in 2005, Bill went on to become Buffalo Audubon's Executive Director.

Jackie Keller was appointed Beaver Meadow office manager.

The Peach Taylor heron statue and other items were stolen from Beaver Meadow during April and May.

A \$5000 Nature of Learning Grant was awarded the Society by the Fish and Wildlife Foundation for programming in schools in association with the Iroquois.

Beaver Meadow contracted to conduct thirty programs each year at Knox Farm and to participate in that sanctuary's annual festival.

In September, the Audubon Auction was held at the Gow School, raising funds for BAS operations and nature education programs.

A two year \$65,000 Wendt Foundation grant for Buffalo schools programming and display upgrading was received.

Other grants received this year included: a bequest from Dorothy Duttweiler, \$32,000; Goodyear Foundation, \$10,000; and Baird Foundation, \$10,000.

2006

In February Audubon joined the Buffalo Ornithological Society and the Buffalo Museum of Science to sponsor an Ivory-billed Woodpecker program at the museum. Bill Hudson's carved woodpecker was an attractive feature of this program.

In July, Bill Hudson was appointed Buffalo Audubon Society's Executive Director.

During the summer the Safari Club of Western and Central New York built a 24x30 foot cabin as part of the Beaver Lodges Project, construction began on the "Big Hollow Tree" exhibit, and a new well was drilled to provide greater water pressure to serve large events, all at Beaver Meadow.

A \$25,000 grant from the Volker Foundation supported the hiring of naturalist Adam Kneis, a \$20,000 grant from the Community Foundation provided a new tractor for Beaver Meadow, and a \$75,000 award was received from Senator Volker for Beaver Meadow capital improvements.

Safari Club of Western and Central New York members built a "Beaver Lodge" cabin at Beaver Meadow

In September Audubon received a "Commitment to Education Award" from the Buffalo Alliance for Education for its work in Buffalo City Schools sponsored by the Wendt Foundation.

Through the efforts of Peach Taylor's daughter, Taddie Dann, two copies of the heron statue stolen from the Nature Center were recast at the University at Buffalo. One was returned to the Nature Center and the other sold with the income accruing to the Society.

An \$850,000 endowment bequest for Beaver Meadow from the Ella Lownie estate was received.

In December after an earlier attempt to scale down the Bird of Prey Center Project in Joseph Davis State Park and after a lengthy review of accounts, project cost estimates and architectural plans, the board voted to abandon the project. Associated grants of almost \$800,000 were returned to Niagara County but a subsequent proposal for an education program would win back this award the following year.

2007

After nearly six years of work led by conservation committee chair Liz Kazubski, land purchases for Buffalo Audubon's sixth preserve, the North Tonawanda Wetlands, were completed. They were supported by grants from the State of New York and the United States Fish And Wildlife Service.

In April Adam Knies organized the first Earth Day celebration.

In the summer a new Garage-Workshop was built and the Jenny Glen Boardwalk rebuilt.

2008

Entirely sponsored by Solar Liberty, a \$200,000, 72-panel, 25 kW array of solar energy panels installation was completed in April to supply power to Beaver Meadow.

Buffalo Audubon won a competition for a partnership grant with NY State Audubon and NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to extend our education and advocacy in Niagara County. This effectively replaced the funding for the Bird of Prey Center that was returned in 2006.

Board member Wayne Gall initiated a series of nature walks.

A \$900,000 from the Margaret L. Wendt Foundation supported the establishment of the "Our Water, Our Future" project in cooperation with Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper. This project will involve Buffalo Audubon in water issues as they relate to the Niagara River and the Great Lakes.

Don Gallo played a leading role in the construction of a 24x36 addition with one cold bay and a heated shop to the Beaver Meadow seed house. In cooperation with the Buffalo Astronomical Society the roof on the observatory was replaced. Also at Beaver Meadow the reptile and discovery rooms were remodeled and residence renovations were completed.

The Society and Audubon New York were funded by the National Grid Foundation to launch "Project Greenfoot," a program designed to encourage high school students to create ways to save energy and reduce carbon emissions in their schools and communities.

Purchase of the 60-acre Kerwin property adjacent to Beaver Meadow and including Ghost Pond is initiated.

2009

Buffalo Audubon is now blessed with a fine staff: executive director Bill Hudson, naturalist Paul Fehringer, assistant naturalists Carol Welsh and Maria Dzara, office manager Jackie Keller, caretaker Lynn Feist, bookkeeper Andra Warner and gift shop manager Ellen George.

A series of activities celebrating this 100th year are taking place. These include:

In January a walk to a Letchworth State Park waterfall led by park naturalist Doug Bassett.

In February a hike through Hunter's Creek Park with Audubon naturalist Bill Michalek.

In March a talk about past and present maple sugaring by Earth Spirit naturalist Scott Lembitz.

In April a talk on spring herbalism by Earth Spirit naturalist Sandy Geffner.

In May the Buffalo Audubon Society Centennial Dinner at the Buffalo Zoo with Zoo director Donna Fernandez speaking. Also this month a 5K "No Child Left Behind" walk at the Beaver Meadow Nature Center to benefit the Society's programs and a bird hike in Amherst State Park led by Gerry Rising and Mike Galas.

In June a talk on climate change by University at Buffalo environmentalist Walter Simpson.

In July a search for mushrooms led by Audubon naturalist Bill Hudson.

In August a geology hike through the Kennefles Preserve with geologist Stan Radon of the Western NY Land Conservancy.

In September a demonstration with live birds of prey by Audubon naturalist Paul Fehringer.

In October a fall owl prowl at the Nature Center with Department of Environmental Conservation naturalist Chuck Rosenburg.

In November a visit to the old growth trees of Reinstein Woods and a tour of its green visitor center with Department of Environmental Conservation naturalist Kristen Rosenburg.

In December a talk titled "Live Animals From Around the World" by Burchfield Nature and Art Center executive director Mark Carra.

These are in addition to the Society's many regularly scheduled events which include: the Allegany Pilgrimage, Iroquois Observations, the Enchanted Forest, the Maple Harvest Festival, the "Babes in the Woods" program, the Homestead Festival, summer day camp, the Audubon Bird-a-thon, the Beaver Meadow Christmas Bird Count and school programs including those in Buffalo.

**BUFFALO AUDUBON SOCIETY
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS
1909 - 1917**

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Channing E. Beach | Charles S. Parke |
| Harlow Boyce | James Savage |
| Herman C. DeGroat | Mrs. George H. Sickles |
| John L. Garretson | Lena M. Turner |
| Charles Brooks Hersey | Maxwell S. Wheeler |
| Mrs. Charles C. Morey | Arthur H. Williams |

**BUFFALO AUDUBON SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
1909 - 2009**

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| William H. Almendinger | Alan Ernst |
| Edward C. Avery | Cornelia Eschelman |
| Ruth Avery | Karl F. Eschelman |
| Anna Mae Bacon | Rose Fachlin |
| John E. Bacon | Howard Facklam |
| Ernie Baker | Marian Ffield |
| Wavel Barber | |
| Mary Barren | |
| Donna Barski | |
| Dollie Bates | |
| Channing E. Beach | |
| Alvin R. Beadle | |
| Mrs. Alvin R. Beadle | |
| Marion L. Bee | |
| Janet Benjamin | |
| David W. Bensley | |
| Nancy Benzing | |
| Chester Bickerstaff | |
| David M. Bigelow | |
| Herbert Bosch | |
| Thomas L. Bourne | |
| Elma Bowen | |
| Olive Breitwieser | |
| Alice J. Brown | |
| John P. Bruck | |
| John H. Bunz | |
| Herb Burgasser | |
| Richard Byron | |
| Nathaniel L. Calkins | |
| Mary Canfield | |
| Mark Carra | |
| John H. Caul | |
| S.R. Champlin | |
| Ethel G. Childs | |
| Richard J. Christensen | |
| Donald F. Clark | |
| Mary E. Clemesha | |
| Jane Cole | |
| Marian Crone | |
| Taddy Dann | |
| Harold A. Dodge | |
| Caroline L. Doll | |
| Peter Dow | |
| Alberta Dozier | |
| Theodore E. Eckert | |
| Jane Egli | |
| Frederick H. Ehlert | |
| Mrs. Floyd J. Elliott | |

**BUFFALO AUDUBON SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
1909 – 2009 (continued)**

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Erma J. Fisk | Sarah M. Knight | Michael Petrinec |
| Frances L. Folsom | Joan Lahde | Polly Pruss |
| Heidi Forman | Paul R. Lazarus | Mary Lou Puleo |
| Arthur F. Freitag | G. John Lehrer | Louis Quitt |
| Wayne Gall | Stephen A. Leviness | Mrs. Bartlett S. Ramsdell |
| J. Edgar Gamble | Stanley Maciejewski | Dorothy Rapp |
| Meribah Gardiner | Elmer Marien | Frances H. Rathbun |
| J.L. Garretson | Robert B. Meech | R. Blake Reeves |
| Karen Geiger | Ethel M. Melberg | Ray R. Regone |
| Glen Gelinas | Rose Mentel | Frances M. Rew |
| Jean Gert | Sheldon E. Merritt | Gerry Rising |
| Fred T. Hall | William Michalek | Arthur H. Rosche |
| Thomas Harper | Carol Miller | Olga Rosche |
| Grace Heacock | Donald C. Mitchell | Richard C. Rosche |
| Mrs. Arch W. Hayes | Harold D. Mitchell | Clarence P. Rote |
| Michael Helman | Jean Moss | David M. Rote |
| Charles Brooks Hersey | Catherine K. Mueller | Gertrude Ruggles |
| John Hodson | Joseph Nardiello | Hazel Samuels |
| Ida A. Hornquist | Emma Nelson | P. Blake Saunders |
| George M. Howe | Ruth E. Norton | Mary Saville |
| Donald W. Hubbard | Lincoln P. Nutting | Ellen Schopp |
| Mary Hughes | Minnie Oatman | Michael Schwing |
| Robert E. Hull | Allen Ott | Edward L. Seeber |
| Thomas C. Insalaco | Joseph M. Overfield, Jr. | Albert R. Shadle |
| Mabel H. James | Louise Overfield | Patricia L. Shafer |
| Charles L. Joudry | Anthony Palermo | E. Grace Sisler |
| Elizabeth Kaszubski | William Patterson | John Skinner |
| G. Edwin Keller | Ruth C. Percival | Alden E. Smith |
| Bruce Kershner | Anne E. Perkins | Carrie M. Smith |
| Martha H. Klein | Earl Pfarner | Ruth Steingruber |

**BUFFALO AUDUBON SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
1909 – 2009 (continued)**

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Gretchen Stevenson | William E. Townsend | Marie A. Wendling |
| Richard C. Stevenson | Martha Townson | Mrs. Fred B. Wilcox |
| Harold Stock | Lena M. Turner | James Williams |
| Wayne C. Stumm | Stanley T. Urban | Ellen J. Windsor |
| Patricia Szarpa | Anthony Wagner | Arthur Wingerter |
| Margaret M. Teare | Marcia Wagner | Mary Wolfe |
| Charles R. Termini | Karen Wallace | Cyril T. Wolfling |
| Roger Throm | Elsie Webb | Sinclair Work |
| Mark Tiede | Gertrude M. Weber | Brenda Young |
| Elizabeth Tilley | Adrian B. Wells | Harold F. Zaehring |
| Francis T. Tilley | Margaret Wendling | Charles A. Zenker |

HONORARY PRESIDENT

At the annual meeting of March 19, 1942 the office of Honorary President was created to honor Edward C. Avery longtime member and president of the Society.

| | |
|-------------|---------------------|
| 1942 - 1950 | Edward C. Avery |
| 1951 - 1957 | James Savage |
| 1957 - 1960 | John P. Bruck |
| 1960 - 1983 | Harold D. Mitchell |
| 1983 - 1992 | Gertrude G. Webster |

HONORARY VICE PRESIDENT

1952 - 1957 John P. Bruck
 1957 - 1960 William H. Almendinger
 1960 - 1983 Gertrude G. Webster

**CHAIRMEN, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
 AUDUBON SOCIETY OF BUFFALO**

1909 - 1912 Arthur H. Williams
 1912 - 1914 Charles Brooks Hersey
 1914 - 1916 Herman C. DeGroat
 1916 - 1917 Channing E. Beach

PRESIDENTS, AUDUBON SOCIETY OF BUFFALO

1917 - 1918 Channing E. Beach
 1934 - 1942 Edward C. Avery
 1918 - 1927 Edward C. Avery
 1942 - 1946 Adrian B. Wells
 1927 - 1934 Inafold Wilson
 1946 - 1948 Harold D. Mitchell

PRESIDENTS, BUFFALO AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 1948 - 1949 | Harold D. Mitchell | 1975 - 1977 | Lincoln P. Nutting |
| 1949 - 1951 | Francis T. Tilley | 1977 - 1979 | David B. Freeland |
| 1951 - 1956 | Gertrude G. Webster | 1979 - 1981 | Ella B. Regone |
| 1956 - 1958 | Fred T. Hall | 1981 - 1983 | Sheldon E. Merritt |
| 1958 - 1960 | Gertrude G. Webster | 1983 - 1985 | David M. Rote |
| 1960 - 1961 | John E. Bacon | 1985 - 1987 | William Townsend |
| 1961 - 1963 | Arthur H. Rosche | 1987 - 1989 | Carol Miller |
| 1963 - 1965 | Ray R. Regone | 1989 - 1992 | Thomas Hewner |
| 1965 - 1967 | Sheldon E. Merritt | 1992 - 1994 | Barbara Nutting |
| 1967 - 1969 | Gordon Sanuels | 1994 - 1996 | Thomas P. Sloan |
| 1969 - 1971 | Robert E. Hull | 1997 - 1998 | John Hodson |
| 1971 - 1973 | Evelyne M. Rochester | 1998 - 1999 | Brian Lewandowski |
| 1973 - 1975 | Sheldon E. Merritt | 1999 - 2002 | Anthony Wagner |

PRESIDENTS, BUFFALO AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

(continued)

| | | | |
|-------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|
| 2002 - 2004 | Elmer Marien | 2006 - 2008 | Richard Kingston |
| 2004 - 2006 | Michael Petrinec | 2008 - 2009 | Dorothy Rapp |

PRESIDENT-ELECT

In 1971 the office of President-Elect was created and the following persons have served in that office:

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| David B. Freeland | Elmer Marien | Dorothy Rapp |
| Thomas Hewner | Sheldon E. Merritt | Ella B. Regone |
| John Hodson | Carol Miller | David M. Rote |
| Richard Kingston | Lincoln P. Nutting | Thomas P. Sloan |
| Brian Lewandowski | Michael Petrinec | Anthony Wagner |

VICE PRESIDENT

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| 1917 - 1918 | Anne E. Perkins | 1942 - 1946 | Francis T. Tilley |
| 1918 - 1919 | Mrs. Eli T. Hosmer | 1946 - 1951 | Gertrude G. Webster |
| 1919 - 1920 | Channing E. Beach | 1951 - 1955 | W. H. Almendinger |
| 1921 - 1935 | James Savage | 1955 - 1957 | Charles W. Avery |
| 1935 - 1937 | Inafold Wilson | 1957 - 1960 | Clayton T. Knox |
| 1937 - 1942 | Adrian B. Wells | 1960 - 1961 | Fred T. Hall |

| | | | |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| 1961 - 1962 | Ray R. Regone | 1973 - 1973 | David M. Bigelow |
| 1962 - 1965 | Howard J. Reuther | 1973 - 1974 | Paul R. Lazarus |
| 1965 - 1967 | Gordon Samuels | 1974 - 1975 | Harold J. Henzler |
| 1967 - 1968 | David W. Bensley | 1975 - 1976 | Robert E. Tannehill |
| 1968 - 1969 | Robert E. Hull | 1976 - 1980 | Harold J. Henzler |
| 1970 - 1971 | Charles L. Joudry | 1980 - 1983 | Gary A. Arendt |
| 1971 - 1973 | David M. Rote | 1983 - 1992 | Vacant |

VICE PRESIDENT

(continued)

| | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------|
| 1992 - 1993 | Thomas P. Sloan | 2002 - 2003 | Taddy Dann |
| 1993 - 1994 | Arthur Rosche | 2003 - 2004 | Roger Throm |
| 1994 - 1997 | Allen Ott | 2004 - 2007 | Glen Gelinas |
| 1997 - 1998 | Jay Burney | 2007 - 2008 | Janet Benjamin |
| 1998 - 2002 | Lincoln Nutting | | |

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

From 1923 to 1947 and from 1955 to 1971 the Society's constitution provided for the office of 2nd Vice President and the following persons served in that office:

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Channing E. Beach | Louise Overfield. |
| Alvin R. Beadle | Malcolm M. Renfrew |
| David W. Bensley | Evelyne M. Rochester |
| John P. Bruck | Arthur H. Rosche |
| Richard J. Christensen | James Savage |
| Wilma T. Csont | Richard C. Stevenson |
| Mary Ellis | Marie A. Wendling |
| Cornelia Esehelman | Inafold Wilson |
| Fred T. Hall | Cyril T. Wolfling |
| Clayton T. Knox | Charles A. Zenkert |

3rd VICE PRESIDENT

From 1935 to 1947 and from 1955 to 1971 the Society's constitution provided for the office of 3rd Vice President and the following persons served in that office:

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| William H. Almendinger | Helen Leumer | Arthur H. Rosche |
| Channing E. Beach | Ethel M. Melberg | Wayne C. Stumm |

3rd VICE PRESIDENT

(continued)

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Mrs. Alvin R. Beadle | Malcolm M. Rerifrew | Francis T. Tilley |
| Donald F. Clark | Dorothea C. Duttweiler | Cyril T. Wolfling |
| Marian Crone | Charles L. Joudry | |

TREASURER

| | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| 1909 - 1917 | Lena M. Turner | 1958 - 1960 | Elsie Webb |
| 1917 - 1918 | Harriett S. Baker | 1960 - 1961 | Mira E. Knoble |
| 1918 - 1923 | Joseph M. Overfield Jr. | 1961 - 1963 | G. John Lehrer |
| 1923 - 1928 | W. Harry Johnston | 1963 - 1971 | Stephen A. LeViness |
| 1928 - 1931 | Edgar A. Batzell | 1971 - 1975 | Ella B. Regone |
| 1931 - 1934 | Chester Bickerstaff | 1975 - 1979 | Barbara Dodge |
| 1934 - 1937 | Adrian B. Wells | 1979 - 1980 | Thomas Michaels |
| 1937 - 1941 | Floyd J. Elliott | 1980 - 1982 | Gloria M. Rote |
| 1941 - 1942 | J. Stanley King | 1982 - 1983 | Michael J. Buccieri |
| 1942 - 1944 | Louise Overfield | 1983 - 1992 | Wavel Barber |
| 1944 - 1948 | Elizabeth Tilley | 1992 - 1997 | Thomas Harper |
| 1948 - 1950 | Alfred M. Goehle | 1997 - 1998 | Susan O'Donnell |
| 1950 - 1950 | J. Edgar Gamble | 1998 - 1999 | Michael Noville |

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 1950 - 1951 | Meribah Gardiner | 1999 - 2001 | Gloria Rote |
| 1951 - 1953 | Francis T. Tilley | 2001 - 2006 | Peter Christensen |
| 1953 - 1956 | Frances G. Rew | 2006 - 2007 | Michael Helman |
| 1956 - 1958 | Minnie T. Feenstra | 2007 - 2009 | David Walsh |

RECORDING SECRETARY

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 1909 - 1917 | Lena M. Turner | 1963 - 1965 | Sheldon E. Merritt |
| 1917 - 1919 | Caroline L. Doll | 1965 - 1968 | Maxine Dilivio |
| 1919 - 1923 | Inafold Wilson | 1968 - 1971 | Wilma T. Csont |
| 1923 - 1926 | Mary Ellis | 1971 - 1972 | Pamelia J. Amey |
| 1926 - 1928 | Laura S. Beach | 1972 - 1973 | Elizabeth Kunzer |
| 1928 - 1930 | Louise Overfield | 1973 - 1976 | Jeanne A. Zika |
| 1930 - 1935 | Laura s. Beach | 1976 - 1977 | Joan K. Lazarus |
| 1935 - 1937 | Floyd J. Elliott | 1977 - 1978 | Ella B. Regone |
| 1937 - 1939 | Harold D. Mitchell | 1978 - 1979 | William L. Burch |
| 1939 - 1942 | Francis T. Tilley | 1979 - 1983 | Natalie R. Yaskow |
| 1942 - 1943 | Elizabeth Tilley | 1983 - 1985 | Norman J. Zika |
| 1943 - 1944 | Frances L. Folsom | 1984 - 1989 | Mary Dillon |
| 1944 - 1946 | Blanche Wells | 1989 - 1990 | Ree Thayer |
| 1946 - 1947 | Helene L. Coyle | 1990 - 1992 | Anthony Frandina |
| 1947 - 1949 | Frances M. Rew | 1992 - 1993 | David Rote |
| 1949 - 1951 | Sarah M. Knight | 1993 - 1995 | Ellen Gibson |
| 1951 - 1953 | Margaret Berryman | 1995 - 1997 | David Nawrocki |
| 1953 - 1960 | Lena M. Turner | 1997 - 2002 | Mary Hughes |
| 1960 - 1961 | Wilma T. Csont | 2002 - 2008 | Marcia Wagner |
| 1961 - 1963 | Jane C. Clark | 2008 - 2009 | Michael Petrinc |

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

In 1923 the office of Financial Secretary was created by the Society's revised constitution and continued until 1947 when it was superseded by the office of Corresponding Secretary which it has continued to the present:

| | | | |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1923 - 1929 | Julia M.. Bork | 1937 - 1947 | Mary Ellis |
| 1929 - 1931 | Ethel G. Childs | 1947 - 1949 | Helene L. Coyle |
| 1931 - 1935 | Gertrude M. Weber | 1949 - 1950 | Frances M. Rew |
| 1935 - 1937 | Louise Overfield | 1950 - 1952 | Ruth E. Norton |

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

(continued)

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 1952 - 1954 | Frances M. Rew | 1976 - 1979 | Alice J. Brown |
| 1954 - 1955 | Mrs. Margaret Teare | 1979 - 1980 | Linda W. Freeland |
| 1955 - 1957 | Ethel J. McKown | 1980 - 1983 | Clare Henderson |
| 1957 - 1959 | Blanche Mink | 1983 - 1984 | Julia A. Wells |
| 1959 - 1962 | Nancie B. Greenman | 1984 - 1990 | Vacant |
| 1962 - 1963 | Jean. Gertz | 1990 - 1994 | Lincoln Nutting |
| 1963 - 1965 | Ella Regone | 1994 - 1997 | William McCall |
| 1965 - 1967 | Flossie D. Lortz | 1997 - 1999 | Edward Fuchs |
| 1967 - 1971 | Eileen J. Hull | 1999 - 2001 | Richard Rosche |
| 1971 - 1973 | Dee Bigelow | 2001 - 2008 | Marcia Wagner |
| 1973 - 1975 | Norinne Sorg | 2008 - 2009 | Vacant |
| 1975 - 1976 | Norinne S. Hernquist | | |

EDITOR, AUDUBON OUTLOOK

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1952 - 1955 | Erma J. Fisk | 1980 - 1982 | Doris Edwards |
| 1955 - 1957 | Ethel M. Melberg | 1982 - 1984 | Catherine K. Mueller |
| 1957 - 1960 | Wilma T. Csont | 1984 - 1991 | Phil Siddons |
| 1960 - 1964 | Ruth C. Percival | 1991 - 1992 | Bill & Esther Greene |
| 1964 - 1970 | Harold A. & Barbara Dodge | 1992 - 1997/98 | Ed Ahrens |
| 1970 - 1971 | Virginia Russell | 1997 - 1998 | Rock Termini |
| 1971 - 1975 | Paul & Joan Lazarus | 1999 | Dick Christensen |
| 1975 - 1977 | Robert E. Tannehill | 2000 - 2009 | Beaver Meadow Staff |
| 1977 - 1980 | David B. Freeland | | |

DIRECTORS OF REFUGE RESEARCH

From 1955 to 1971, the constitution provided for a Director of Refuge Research and the following persons served in that position:

| | | | |
|-------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 1955 - 1957 | William H. Almendinger | 1965 - 1967 | Lena M. Turner |
| 1957 - 1959 | Mabel H. James | 1967 - 1968 | Sheldon E. Merritt |
| 1959 - 1963 | Charles A. Zenkert | 1968 - 1971 | Grace Stumm |
| 1963 - 1965 | Richard C. Rosche | | |

BUFFALO AUDUBON SOCIETY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

| | | | |
|-------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| 1999 - 2004 | William McKeever | 2006 - Present | Bill Hudson |
|-------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|

BEAVER MEADOW AUDUBON CENTER DIRECTOR

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1973 - 1978 | David Bigelow | 1998 - 2005 | Bill Michalek |
| 1978 - 1998 | David Junkin | 2005 - Present | Bill Hudson |

BUFFALO AUDUBON SOCIETY NATURALISTS

| | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1988 | Linda Radimecky | 2001 - 2002 | Scott Lembitz |
| 1995 | Karen Wallace | 2002 - Present | Paul Fehringer |
| 1996 - 1998 | Greg Obusek | 2006 - 2007 | Adam Kniess |
| 1998 | Bill Michalek | | |

BUFFALO AUDUBON SOCIETY ASSISTANT NATURALISTS

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1998 - 2005 | Virgil Dunham |
| 2000 - Present | Maria Dzara |
| 2001 - Present | Carol Welsh |

BEAVER MEADOW OFFICE MANAGER

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1989 - 1998 | Sandra Burton |
| 1998 - 2000 | Corey Merrell |
| 2000 - Present | Jackie Keller |

BEAVER MEADOW GIFT SHOP MANAGER

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1990 - 2004 | Joyce Souter |
| 2004 - Present | Ellen George |

BEAVER MEADOW CARETAKER

1990 - 1996 Carmon Becker
1996 – 2004 Robert Price

2004 - 2007 Shane Daley
2007 - Present Lynn Feist

PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE BUFFALO AUDUBON SOCIETY



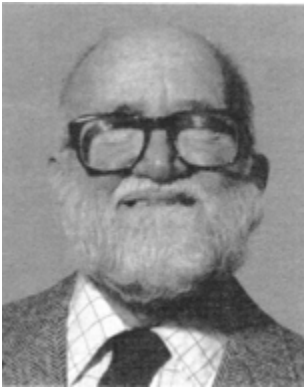
Edward C Avery
1918-1927
1934-1942



Mrs. Charles M. Wilson
1927-1934



Harold D. Mitchell
1946-1949



Francis T. Tilley
1949-1951
1958-1960



Gertrude Webster
1951-1956



Fred T. Hall
1956-1958

PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE BUFFALO AUDUBON SOCIETY



John E. Bacon
1960-1961



Arthur H. Rosche
1961-1963



Ray R. Regone
1963-1965



Sheldon E. Merritt
1965-1967
1973-1975
1981-1983



Gordon Samuels
1967-1969



Robert E. Hull
1969-1971



Evelyne Rochester
1971-1973



Lincoln P. Nutting
1975-1977



Ella B. Regone
1979-1981



David M. Rote
1983-1985



William Townsend
1985-1987



Carol Miller
1987-1989

PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE BUFFALO AUDUBON SOCIETY



Barbara Nutting
1992-1994



Thomas P. Sloan
1994-1996



John Hodson
1997-1998



Brian Lewandowski
1998-1999



Anthony Wagner
1999-2002



Elmer Marien
2002-2004



Michael Petrinc
2004-2006



Richard Kingston
2006-2008