

**Winter Waterfowl Weekend in Oswego!
Saturday & Sunday February 25-26, 2017**

Spend a fun winter weekend along Lake Ontario! The main field trip, led by Paul Richardson, will be held on Sunday beginning at Oswego Harbor and River to look for wintering waterfowl, gulls, and Snowy Owls. The group will then head southwest along Lake Ontario to Fair Haven State Park and the West Barrier Bar County Park to look for more waterfowl and gulls. On Saturday afternoon, participants will go birding with Paul Richardson and Dr. Michael Schummer at the Rice Creek Field Station trails in Oswego. After the walk, Dr. Schummer will present “The History and Importance of Waterfowl Conservation” at SUNY Oswego’s Rice Creek Field Station. A social dinner will be held at Vona’s Restaurant in Oswego Saturday evening following the presentation (<http://www.vonasofoswego.com/>).

Paul Richardson, Associate Professor of Mathematics at Cayuga Community College, and expert birder, will lead the field trip on Sunday. Paul lives in Camillus, NY. Paul has been a serious birdwatcher most of his life and has led Onondaga Audubon field trips to Onondaga Lake, Green Lakes State Park and Camillus Forest Unique Area. He served as President of Onondaga Audubon from 2013 to 2016 and is their current Treasurer. Paul also serves on the advisory board for the Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps.

Dr. Michael Schummer is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Zoology at SUNY Oswego and Roosevelt Waterfowl Ecologist of the Roosevelt Wild Life Station at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. He has worked for Bird Studies Canada, Mississippi State University, the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, NYSDEC, USFWS, and a diversity of other conservation stakeholders where he has conducted research, conservation, and management of wetland-wildlife throughout much of North America.

Along with a general interest in wildlife conservation, Mike specializes in research of North American waterfowl at the national, regional, and local scales to develop applied science products that provide the opportunity for conservation stakeholders to make well-informed decisions. See <http://schummerlab.weebly.com/> for more information about the work conducted by Dr. Schummer’s lab.

Dr. Schummer will present on “The History and Importance of Waterfowl Conservation”. About this presentation, he states, “Waterfowl scientists, conservationists, and managers have contributed countless hours to pioneer a

diversity of conservation successes that we increasingly take for granted. These successes not only provided for those interested in sustaining waterfowl populations, but a foundation for other stakeholders in environmental conservation and all those concerned with the future of this planet. We should not forget this history; our challenge, today, is to meld these successes with the increasingly diverse value-system of emerging conservationists to build a new success story for tomorrow.”

Dr. Schummer will present at the Rice Creek Field Station of SUNY Oswego. The Field Station, established in 1965, saw a substantial face-life in 2013 with a new state-of-the-art building that is used for teaching and research. The Field Station has a diversity of trails open for exploration that meander through secondary growth forests, abandoned fields and orchards, and older growth forest.

Dr. Schummer will accompany us on a snowshoe trip through the Field Station grounds and on a birding trip along Lake Ontario and the Oswego Harbor and River.

Weekend Event Details:

Saturday, February 25

1 p.m. Snowshoe Walk (snowshoes provided) at the Rice Creek Field Station.

3 p.m. Dr. Schummer will present “The History and Importance of Waterfowl Conservation” at the Rice Creek Field Station in Oswego. This presentation is open to the public.

5:30 p.m. Dinner at Vona’s Restaurant in Oswego

Sunday, February 26

7:30 a.m. Meet (location will be sent with registration confirmation) for the field trip to Oswego Harbor and River, Fair Haven State Park, and West Barrier Bar County Park

NYSOA is suggesting participants reserve hotel rooms on their own. Some suggestions for places to stay in Oswego are listed below:

Quality Inn, (315) 343-1600, Holiday Inn, (315) 207-0100, and Beacon Hotel, (315) 343-3300. There are several other options for places to stay in the Oswego area that can be found on the internet.

To register for the field trips and dinner, please contact Mary Beth Warburton at msmarybeth.warburton@gmail.com or (315) 268-0150 by Sunday, February 19th, 2017. Confirmation will be sent to registrants.