

RGS SKYLANDS CHAPTER NEWSLETTER---njgrouse.com

For Chapter information. Call 973-702-8380 or email jjdesaye@yahoo.com

TWO OUT OF THREE

We had scheduled three events in one weekend last month two work days and the Woodcock Walk. We had hoped this would kind of help us cruise into the summer season with some work under our belts. I know its difficult to get people out once the weather gets nice and the kids get out of school. The first work day which was scheduled to be at the Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge was a bust. Two days of downpours that lingered on into Saturday put an end to that. The unfortunate thing was that we had a large number of people who had promised to attend, and it would possibly have been our largest work party to date. Sunday morning was much nicer and the work party much smaller. Only three of us set out to plant trees at Hainesville Wildlife Management Area. Sunday night the weather was great for the Woodcock Walk and Alan and I took a small group of birdwatchers down to the Kelley Road area of the refuge where we had first begun our project three years ago. As usual with all the Woodcock Walks we have put on the anticipation is half the fun. As it gets darker and darker I always think "This is the year they don't show up" kinda like Linus waiting for the great pumpkin. But at the last minute the peenting began and it continued until almost pitch black before the birds decided to fly. But they did fly and the display was as fun as always to watch. The people attending got to see something they never saw before everyone learned something and the night as always was a definite success.

The Friends of the Wallkill River NWR are looking for members (hunters are going to be needed) let me know if anyone wants to join. It may be something good to join with your kids.

The Workday that was missed on the 29th of April has been rescheduled to May 21 at the Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge on rte 565 in Vernon we will meet in the parking lot at 8:30 AM this will be our last workday until the fall I would really appreciate it if everyone could attend. If we have a big enough turn out we will have a cook out and pictures will be taken to submit to RGS magazine. Please call me or the refuge 973-702-7266 for directions. Thanks Jim