



TERN OF EVENTS



June 2009

Presque Isle Audubon Society Membership Newsletter

Issue 09:05

Our mission is to promote the conservation and protection of wildlife, plants, soil, and water in relation to human activity, to initiate and carry out plans and activities which would contribute to the conservation and protection of these natural resources; and to provide opportunities to become more aware and appreciative of our physical and biological environment.

THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH

Our second Festival of the Birds at Presque Isle has come and gone and quite successfully, I must say. We had a few more registrations this year compared to last year, which is favorable considering the economy. Again, the evaluations were such that a third festival was approved by the board and is now in the minds of the planning committee. I say in our minds since we haven't put closure on the second festival yet. That will happen soon, though. We have one more working session on Tuesday, June 8 and then we'll celebrate. The committee members did an outstanding job and I want to thank them all for the time and effort they put into the event. I hope all of them will consider working again next year and I hope, too, that some new volunteers will join us. One of our attendees from Pittsburgh has volunteered to help part of the time next year. How about that! You can read more about the festival on pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter.

On another note, I want to congratulate our new officers and trustees who will actively take office after elections at the June meeting. I also want to thank all the members of the Board of Directors and acknowledge their effort and time spent making my tenure as President of PIAS a most enjoyable and profitable one.

Another group of PIAS members that deserves kudos is the group that silently works with the chairs of the standing committees. I'd like to thank Chuck Gehringer, Gordon Osborne, Warren Howald, Joan Howlett, Chuck Kern and Barry Gray for the significant work they do for our chapter. I realize that there are many others who contribute consistently and I am grateful to them as well although I can't name everyone. (Go to P 7)



WILD COLUMBINE

JUNE AND JULY THINGS TO DO!

June 9, Tuesday - Birding Festival
Committee Meeting at 6:00 PM at the TREC

June 9, Wednesday - Conservation
Committee Meeting, 5:00 PM at Quinn Firm

June 13, Saturday - Field Trip to Roderick
Wildlife Preserve otherwise known as State
Game Lands #314. 8:00 AM at "The Rock"
(7:15 at the TREC) (P. 2)

June 19, Friday - PIAS Monthly Meeting/
Program in Room 112 at the TREC. 7:00 PM
Social/Meeting, 7:30 - **ELECTION OF NEW
OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES** followed by
Our Members' Night Program

June 20 - Raindate for Roderick Wildlife
Preserve Field Trip. 8:00 AM at "The Rock"



WHITE BANEBERRY OR DOLL'S EYES

July 21, Tuesday - PIAS Board of Directors
Meeting at 7:00pm at the TREC Board Room

2008-09 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President	Janet Price
Vice-President	Mary Birdsong
Secretary	Bonnie Ginader
Treasurer	Kel McDonald
Immediate Past President	Paul Burroughs

Board of Trustees

2006-2009	Marion Gallivan
2006-2009	Terry Lobdell
2007-2010	Toby Cunningham
2007-2010	Ruth Swaney
2009-2011	Linda Donati
2009-2011	Tracy Graziano

Chairs of Standing Committees

Bird Records	Jerry McWilliams
Conservation	Paul Burroughs
Education	Michele Franz
Field Trips	Mary Birdsong
Grants	Marion Gallivan
Hospitality	Delores & JoaoTaveres
Library	Marion Gallivan
Membership	Ron Intrieri
Nominating	Marian Gallivan
Presque Isle	Paul Burroughs
Publications	Janet Price
Publicity	Susan A. Smith
Programs	Tracy Graziano
Sales & Marketing	Jeanne Kern
Sanctuaries	Sue Murawski

The *Tern of Events* is published by the **Presque Isle Audubon Society**, a chapter of the National Audubon Society and a member of Audubon Pennsylvania serving northwestern Pennsylvania including Erie and Crawford counties.

Address: 301 Peninsula Dr., Suite 8
Erie, PA 16505

Website: www.presqueisleaudubon.org

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES AT THE MONTHLY PIAS MEETING ON JUNE 19, 2009 PLEASE BE PRESENT TO VOTE!

PLEASE NOTE!

CHANGE IN CHAPTER CODE AND MAILING ADDRESS

National Audubon has changed our chapter code, which will become effective immediately. It is no longer U15 7XCH, but will be **C9Z U15 OZ** (zero, not O). The 9 after the C indicates the year we are in (2009). Next year our Chapter Code will change to C0Z U15 OZ. (0 for 2010).

Also, the mailing address for National Audubon membership dues has changed. It is:

National Audubon Society
P.O. Box 422250
Palm Coast, Florida 32142-2250

Hopefully, this should not cause too much confusion since National Audubon should send all their members the new address.

~Ron Intrieri, Membership Chair
ronrxi@roadrunner.com

FIELD TRIP TO RODERICK!!!

Janet and I thought maybe the IBA volunteers and anyone else that's interested could just have a "Roderick Field Trip Day" on **Saturday, June 13** to bird for fun. Bring along a bag lunch to have at "The Rock" afterwards. And no 6:00 AM starting time! Let's say **8:00**. We can meet at "The Rock" to start with a doughnut and look for the eagles and then cover as many of the other areas as we can before noon when we'll break for lunch at there.

If you are interested, please contact Janet Price at 825-8394 or email her at jrplkm@aol.com so we can carpool. Also, if you don't know how to get to Roderick, we can carpool from the TREC. Just let Janet know. Raindate is scheduled for June 20.

~Pat Howell, IBA Organizer

AUDUBON MAGAZINE PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS

BIRDS IN FOCUS

In association with

NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY

Parlay your passion for birds into a dream trip to Peru, Australia, or Honduras, or win professional photo gear, in Audubon's first photography awards. Each participant can submit up to 10 bird images, so you have 10 chances to win. Your winning entry will appear in the January-February issue of Audubon and in Nature's Best Photography. Here's your chance to see your images soar to the top. **Enter now!**

Deadline: July 15, 2009

Categories: Professional, Amateur, Youth

HOW TO ENTER: From 12:00 a.m. Eastern Time ("ET") on May 15, 2009 through 11:59 p.m. ET on July 15, 2009 (the "Entry Period"), Sponsor will conduct a Contest encouraging participants to submit photographs that depict birdlife in any form. Participants may only participate in one (1) of the categories:

Professional: Individuals 18 years of age or older currently earning more than \$5,000 per year selling photography;

Amateur: Individuals 18 years of age or older currently earning between \$0 and \$4,999.99 a year selling photography; or

Youth: Individuals 13 to 17 years of age (collectively, the "Category" or "Categories").

To begin the entry process, a participant must: (i) Log on to the Contest website, located at www.audubonmagazinephotoawards.org (the "Contest Website"); (ii) Select the Category for which the participant meets all eligibility criteria; (iii) Fill in the required information and submit; (iv)

Complete the entry fee payment information (The non-refundable entry fee is \$10 for National Audubon Society members or \$17 for nonmembers); and (v) Follow the instructions to upload up to ten (10) entry photographs (collectively referred to as the "Submission"). Mailed photograph entries are not eligible for consideration and will not be accepted. Entry photographs (the "Photograph(s)") must meet all Photograph Requirements listed below or will be considered ineligible for judging. At any time during the Entry Period, you may return to the Contest Website using the URL provided at the time of entry to add, remove or exchange photographs, provided the total number of photographs submitted does not exceed ten (10) total photographs. All entries must be submitted in the name of an individual person and the prize can only be awarded to the person whose name is on the winning entry. Limit one (1) Submission of up to ten (10) photographs per person or e-mail address.



PHOTOGRAPH REQUIREMENTS: Photographs submitted for entry must meet certain requirements one of which is that the photographs must depict "birdlife" and therefore must contain at least one bird. **NOTE:** This information is just the beginning of what you need to know to enter the contest, so please go to the website www.audubonmagazinephotoawards.org for all the rest.



BIRD SIGHTINGS APRIL 27 TO MAY 17

The following noteworthy birds were reported from Presque Isle State Park unless otherwise noted.

Great Egret--1; May 2; over Pine Tree Trail
Snowy Egret--1; May 1; Misery Bay
Peregrine Falcon--1; May 1; Gull Point
Willet--36; May 1; Gull Point
Probable Glaucous Gull X Herring Gull--1 (first cycle); May 1; Gull Point
Prairie Warbler--1; April 27; Thompson Circle
Grasshopper Sparrow--1 banded; May 2; Niagara boat launch
Piping Plover--1; May 4; Gull Point (See below)



Golden-winged Warbler--1; May 5, Fry's landing
Lawrence's Warbler--1; May 6, Gull Point
Orange-crowned Warbler--1; May 4; Graveyard Pond Trail 2; May 7; Fry's landing; Sidewalk Trail
Clay-colored Sparrow--May 7; Parking lot at Beach 11
Least Bittern--two alternately incubating eggs on a nest; beginning May 8; Niagara Pond (See below)



American Bittern--1 calling; May 11; Sidewalk Trail
Sandhill Crane--3; May 12; Roderick 1; May 13; Tom Ridge Environmental Center

Black Tern--1; May 12; Edinboro Lake 1; May 12; Niagara Pond 1; May 14; Gull Point Trail
White-winged Crossbill--3; May 13; Pine Tree Trail

Other rare or uncommon birds for the park include Yellow-throated Vireo, Cerulean Warbler, and Pine Siskin (at least 75 on May 9)

~Jerry McWilliams (Birds Record Chairman)
jerrymcw@aol.com

NEW AND RENEWED PIAS MEMBERS

As we do every month, we welcome our new and renewal members into our chapter.

Erie: Robin Moser, Lucy John, Peter Skelton, Mary Geib, Ruth Bierre, Pauline Fox, Patricia Turk, Carol Knepper, Lisa & Steve Danko

Adamsville: Jane Cooper

Cambridge Springs: JoAnne Hurley

Edinboro: Curtis Robinson

Harborcreek: Beverly Bell

Meadville: Alberta Cole

Saegertown: Candi Hargenrater

Venango: Gerri Davis

Waterford: Joe Kulesa

Warren: Yvonne Lee, Virginai Shipton, C. Zang

Also, welcome to our Chapter Only members, both new and renewals: Nancy Baker, Mari & Mark Harrison, Janet Kisiel, Christine Avery, John Gregory, and Wendy Szallay

~Ron Inrieri, Membership Chair
ronrxi@roadrunner.com

IN LOVING MEMORY *OF* **VIRGINIA E. "GINNY" WHEELER**

Barbara Piotrowski has made a donation to Presque Isle Audubon Society in memory of Virginia Wheeler.

THE SECOND FESTIVAL OF THE BIRDS AT PRESQUE ISLE, MAY 8, 9, 10, 2009

Many of you had the opportunity to be present at our weekend festival but many weren't able to attend. Even those who attended weren't aware of everything that was going on around them so I want to do a brief recap of some of the activities and feature some of the people who were in attendance.

The weekend began at the registration table, manned by our faithful and cheerful volunteers.



Diane, Judy, Jeanne, Linda, Marion and Karen

The evening reception provided everyone a chance to mix and mingle and to get to know some of the other birders who attended while many renewed acquaintances from last year's festival.



So intent on the food that they forgot to smile....

Local avian artists, photographers and carvers were introduced and had their works displayed in the Nature Shop. Their works are inspiring!



Steve D, bartender extraordinaire, testing his wares

The morning sessions began with morning snacks at the Rotary Pavilion while gathering the birders gathered in their groups to be led to the appropriate trails. A new activity was added this year, the pontoon boat ride, thanks to one of our PIAS members who also happens to be one of the pontoon boat drivers. This was such a big attraction that requests to have it repeated next year were overwhelming.



Our able captain of the pontoon boat, *The Swamp Crawler*, Julie Leonard!

The biggest (?) highlight of the festival was the appearance of a pair of Least Bitterns with a nest of 3 to 4 eggs almost right in plain sight. What a phenomenon!! See the picture on page 4 of this issue. Many of the festival birders had life birds and one gentleman had five! I'd call that a successful birding trip! All birds that were seen by all the field trippers were recorded and tallied at the end of the festival. A total of approximately 130 individual species were observed in spite of somewhat less than perfect weather. (Cont. P 6)

THE SECOND FESTIVAL....(Cont.)



Joao and company add to the bird tally.

The meals were enjoyed by everyone especially the Saturday evening meal that was supplemented by homemade offerings from our very own PIAS members.

Included in the festival schedule were Sunday afternoon activities that were free and open to the public, especially children. Viewing live raptors and a trying a hand at nature art were two of the big attractions for children.



A fledgling artist at work on a Nature Book designed by Toni Kelly

A showing of our own DVD, *Wings, Sand and Song: Presque Isle's Habitats*, was the event that closed the door on The Second Festival of the Birds at Presque Isle.

Here are some of the comments written on the evaluation sheets submitted by festival participants.

"What a wonderful Festival. It was one of the best that I have attended. Please convey to your planning group and PIAS Board of Directors."

"Extremely well done - couldn't be better. Hope it continues - and I come from out of town (VA) but will return."

"A+ - thank you!!!"

"Surely hope you will consider another festival in 2010. Thanks much for this year!!"

"As good as last year's!"

"Thank you. It was wonderful. We appreciate all the effort. Well organized."

No more space...see you next year!

Janet Price, Editor & Chair of the Birding Festival

MEMBERS' NIGHT - JUNE 19, 2009

Now is the time to be thinking about your Members' Night presentation. This is the evening when you comprise the program and share your nature-related interests with your fellow Auduboners. Tell us about an interesting trip that you have taken, show us your slides and photographs, read your poetry and let us enjoy your musical talents. We welcome your nature-related slides, photographs, poetry, music, art, adventures, hobbies and more. Remember, anything shared is doubly enjoyed.

Your adherence to the five (5) minute time limit will be appreciated by your fellow presenters and by the audience thereby assuring a pleasant experience for all.

To participate in this entertaining and informative evening, please call me at 474-3395 before Tuesday, June 16. If I am not available, please leave your name and telephone number on Caroline Reichel's answering machine, 868-4423, and I will get back to you.

As always, we appreciate the continued participation of our veteran presenters and welcome new members and those who have never participated. Let me hear from you. I await your call.

~Jeanne Kern, Coordinator of Members' Night



PRESIDENT'S PERCH (Cont. from Page 1)

So if you've been active with us, consider yourself a valuable asset and thank you.

In closing my comments from my perch, I would like to review the goals that I had set for myself as they related to the organization. There are two goals that took priority so I will address them first.

I wanted to strive to **increase the number of new members** who would attend meetings and get involved in the chapter's work somehow. I believe that has happened because of the efforts of existing members who invite friends; because of the good programs that our committee has planned; because of the new projects that have been undertaken that were of special interest to new members and because of the camaraderie and friendliness of our members to those attending our meetings.

The next goal was to **increase the number of members who actually participated in the works of the chapter**. I believe that has occurred especially due to the birding festival. That event attracted new members to the planning committee. It provided a venue for many others to provide food (otherwise know as the **BIRDER FEEDERS**) for the birders who attended the festival. It gave many individuals an opportunity to volunteer for the many hidden tasks that all add up to making things work smoothly.

A third goal was to have the by-laws revised so that the present policies and procedures of PIAS are relevant to the present time. This was done by myself, Toby Cunningham and Jeanne Kern with input from and approval by the Board of Directors and finally accepted by the membership during a vote at one of our meetings. I think the major outcome of the by-law changes is the fact that we can conduct business electronically rather

than waiting for a board meeting which occurs only every other month. This allows us to be active in a timely fashion which is important in keeping our members active overall.

Another goal I tried to achieve was to communicate the work of the organization to the general membership on a regular basis. I tried to conduct a short but informative meeting before each monthly program to accomplish this. Since I am the editor of this newsletter, I try to use it as a means of communicating our projects and ideas as well. In retrospect, I believe that I could have done a better job at this.

I ask all of you to look to the future and to continue to be involved in our efforts. This next year will include highway cleanups, Important Bird Area counts, the Nature Garden at Scott Park, a project with Earth Force students in planning and creating greener landscaping at some of the schools, the Audubon at Home training program for interested mentors, the birding festival, fund raisers, co-sponsoring the photo contest at the National Erie Wildlife Refuge, the bluebird trail at the TREC, the Hawk Watch events, monthly programs, advocacy issues.....just to name a few!!!

Again, thank you for helping me to experience a wonderful tenure as President of PIAS. I am proud of our chapter and proud to be a part of it. I'll see you here and there.

~Janet Price, President

Presque Isle Audubon Society



The Presque Isle Audubon Society's newsletter, the *Tern of Events*, is published monthly, except in July and January. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month preceding publication. All published material subject to editing.

Send submissions to Janet Price, editor, via jrplkm@aol.com or 418 E. 36th St., Erie, PA 16504. If you have any questions, call Janet at 814.825.8394.

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ERIE, PA 16505

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**Presque Isle Audubon Society
Chapter Only Membership Application**

Chapter only membership includes membership in the
Presque Isle Audubon Society ONLY and the
chapter newsletter *Tern of Events*.

Individual membership \$10.00/year

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

Please indicate your preference:

_____ Paper copy of *Tern of Events* OR

_____ On-line *Tern of Events* with email
notification

Please return this form with your check payable to the
Presque Isle Audubon Society to:

Ronald Intrieri, Membership
Presque Isle Audubon Society
Tom Ridge Environmental Center
301 Peninsula Drive, Suite 8
Erie, PA 16505

National Audubon Society Membership Application

Please enroll me as a New member in the National
Audubon Society. Membership includes membership
in BOTH the National Audubon Society and the local
Presque Isle Audubon Society. National members
receive *Audubon Magazine* (6 issues per year) and the
monthly newsletter *Tern of Events*.

Introductory membership \$20.00

Renewals \$35.00

Students and seniors \$15.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Chapter Code C9ZU150Z

Please mail this form with your check payable to the
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