



TERN OF EVENTS

PRESQUE ISLE AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2019 ISSUE 19:05

To conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the enjoyment and benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity in northwestern Pennsylvania.

FROM THE PRESIDENT TO ALL PIA MEMBERS



By-Laws are not why we get into birding or involved with PIAS. What By-Laws do for our organization is provide a structure and continuity from year to year and throughout different leadership tenures. The members of the Executive Board have known for many years that our guiding document needed some tweaking, and hopefully that will be accomplished in this new version. The newest proposed changes to the By-Laws can be found by visiting:

<https://tinyurl.com/piasbylaws> and looking at the red text.

There are a few highlights of note:

- 1) We will no longer hold elections for officer positions. Officers will be appointed (and removed) by the Executive Board.
- 2) There will now be a Executive Committee that is allowed to handle Board business in the time between Board meetings.
- 3) We will be reducing the number of Standing Committees by five.

Please come out on August 19th at 6pm in Room 108 in the Tom Ridge Center to vote on the proposed By-Laws changes. The meeting will start promptly at 6pm and consist only of this vote.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER THINGS TO DO!



BELTED KINGFISHER

AUGUST

- August 13, Tuesday** – Erie Gives Day (P. 3)
- August 17, Saturday** - Birding Field Trip (P 3)
- August 19, Monday** – PIA Member’s Meeting at 6:00p in Room 108 at the TREC
- August 27, Tuesday** – Festival of the Birds Committee Meeting at 5:00p at Lawrence Park Golf Club
- August 24, Saturday** – Birding Field Trip (P. 3)

SEPTEMBER

- September 17, Tuesday** – PIA Board Meeting at 6:00p in the Conference Room at the TREC
- September 20, Friday** – PIA Program at 7:00p In Room 112 at the TREC. (P. 7)
- September 21. Saturday** – Birding Field Trip (P. 3)
- September 24, Tuesday** - Festival of the Birds Committee Meeting at 6:00p at the TREC Conference Room.

SPRING/SUMMER FIELD TRIPS - 2019

2019-2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President	Drew Mortensen
Vice-President	Paul Burroughs
Secretary	Sue Murawski
Treasurer	Julie Dell
Retiring President	Michele Rundquist-Franz

Board of Trustees

2017-2020	Issy Lawrie
2017-2020	Michele Rundquist-Franz
2018-2021	Dave Gustafson
2018-2021	Tony Keck
2019-2022	Sam Stull
2019-2022	Bill Ferguson

Chairs of Standing Committees

Bird Records	Jerry McWilliams
Conservation	Paul Burroughs
Education	TBA
Field Trips	Michele Rundquist-Franz
Grants	Marion Gallivan
Hospitality	TBA
Library	Marion Gallivan
Membership	Ron Intrieri
Nominating	TBA
Presque Isle	Paul Burroughs
Publications	Janet Price
Publicity	Jennifer Ferrick
Programs	Mary Birdsong
Sales & Marketing	Issy Lawrie
Sanctuaries	Sue Murawski



This spring and summer PIAS hosted bi-weekly field trips to various birding destinations on Presque Isle and other local birding hotspots. It was great to see experienced and novice birders come together to enjoy this wonderful pastime. In 2018-19, PIAS purchased binoculars and spotting scopes for use during educational and outreach events, such as our field trips. During these field trips we regularly heard from participants that although they had become very interested in birding, they were not sure what kind of binoculars to buy. Sometimes they would bring a pair of binoculars that they had borrowed which were just not quite right for birding [Think: a large heavy pair of long-range hunting bins]. We invited them to try out the PIAS' binoculars during the field trips to help them decide which combination of magnification, field of view and weight suited their preference. It was a blast seeing some of the participants surprise and joy when they got their first look through a decent pair of binoculars; even more so when they got on a bird and could actually see details they were never able to appreciate with their old or borrowed bins. Sharing our knowledge, enthusiasm and optics goes a long way in helping people experience the true joy of birding!

Have a birding spot you'd like us to include?! Send us an email to info@presqueisleaudubon.org We'd love your input!

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

FIELD TRIPS FOR AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

The bi-weekly field trips have resumed after a break in July. As always, they are open to the public for people of all ages and skill levels and are free of charge. We've had a good turnout so far this year and hope that our numbers will continue to grow. Unless otherwise specified, any field trips on Presque Isle will meet at the Stull Center parking lot at 7:45a where we will then car pool to our designated trail.

All trips are subject to change depending on trail conditions. We will bird in almost any weather unless there is a torrential downpour or a forecast for dangerous conditions. Waterproof clothing and shoes are recommended, especially since the water levels at Presque Isle have been so high. Bring your binoculars, of course, but we will have some available for use if you or someone you bring doesn't have them. If you have a scope you are welcome to bring it. Hope to see you on the trails.

~Michele Rundquist Franz, Field Trip Chair



August 17: McClelland Park. Meet there at 8:00 am

August 24th: Six Mile Creek Park on Clark Road, Harborcreek Township for local songbirds, woodpeckers, kingfishers. Meet in the parking area at the end of the driveway.

September 7th: NO FIELD TRIP

September 21st: Pine Tree Trail for warblers and other migrants returning to their wintering grounds.



TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2019

Erie Gives began in 2011 in honor of The Erie Community Foundation's 75th Anniversary. During this 12-hour period of online giving, a portion of the prorated match pool will be added to each donation you make to your favorite nonprofit(s) when you donate through this website: www.ErieGives.com

Day and Time: The event takes place on August 13. You have 12 hours to make your donation between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. EST.

Gift Amount: The minimum gift is \$25. There is no limit to the amount of money you may give. There is no limit to the number of organizations you can donate to in a transaction.

Credit Cards: Only Visa, MasterCard and Discover will be accepted. The credit card processor charges a nominal fee per transaction. The Erie Community Foundation does not receive any fees. Sorry, credit card gift cards will not be accepted.

Prorated Match: The Erie Community Foundation and our sponsors will enhance donors' gifts by providing a prorated match to each gift made to a nonprofit. Please consider adding **Presque Isle Audubon** to your list of nonprofits when you are making your donations. It will be greatly appreciated and thank you!

BIRD REPORT

The following birds of note were reported from Presque Isle State Park unless otherwise noted for June and July, 2019.

Ruddy Duck—1 male; June 18 to at least July 12; North East marina; J.C., M.L. (See below)



Common Loon—1; to at least July 21; Edinboro Lake; J.H. Up to 3; to at least July 20; Eaton Reservoir; J.C., et al. Up to 3; to July 7; west pier; J.H.

Pied-billed Grebe—1 with 8 young; near Stull Interpretive Center; June 15; fide R.D.

American White Pelican—3; June 2; Gull Point; M.B.; First June record.

Little Blue Heron—1 imm.; June 2; Gull Point; S.J. (See Below)



Black-crowned Night-Heron—1; June 15; SGL #218; J.C.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron—1; July 15-17; Pine Tree Trail; J.M. (See Below)



Sandhill Crane—2; June 22 to July 16; West Springfield; T.K., C.D.

American Avocet—1; June 26; Manchester Beach; B.P. Total of 19; June 2 to July 18; Gull Point; M.B.

Willet—1; June 27 & 28; Gull Point; R.Sw., M.B. 2; Jul 16; Gull Point; R.S.

Whimbrel—7; May 23; Gull Point; J.Ho.

Marbled Godwit—1; July 4; Gull Point; M.B. 1; July 11; Gull Point; M.B. 3; July 16; Gull Point; R.S.

Red Knot—10; May 25; Gull Point; M.B.

White-rumped Sandpiper—32 (high count); May 26; Gull Point; M.B.

Laughing Gull—1 adult; May 31; Gull Point; M.B.

(Continued on Page 5)

BIRD REPORT (Cont.)

Black Tern—2; June 1; Gull Point; C.E., E.Z.
1; June 2; Gull Point; S.J. (See Below)



Common Raven—1; June 7; Edinboro Lake;
J.H. 5 including 3 juveniles; June 13;
Washington Twp.; J.F. First confirmed
breeding record for Erie County.

Prothonotary Warbler—1; May 25; Sidewalk
Trail; J.H. Two pair with at least one
confirmed nesting along all-purpose trail;
through June; C.L., m.ob.. First nesting in
Erie County in several decades. 1; June 26;
SGL #318; J.C.

Connecticut Warbler—1; May 22 & 23; Pine
Tree Trail; J.Ho., D.S.

Prairie Warbler—1; June 6; Eaton Reservoir;
D.S. (See Below)



White-throated Sparrow—1; June 21; Hillside
Park; J.C.

Pine Siskin—1; continuing to June 3; Edinboro;
J.H.

Clay-colored Sparrow—1; May 30; Fry's
landing; S.L. (See Below)



Painted Bunting—1 male; July 3; west pier;
Z.S. (See Below)



Contributors: M.B.-Mary Birdsong, J.C.-John
Campbell, C.D.-Christopher Danowski, R.D.-
Roger Donn, C.E.-Carl Engstrom, J.F.-Jennifer
Ferrick, J.H.-Jamie Hill, J.Ho.-Jason Horn, S.J.-
Sam Jolly, T.K.-Tom Kerr, M.L.-Mark Lethaby,
S.L. Suzanne Ludwig, C.L.-Chris Lundberg,
J.M.-Jerry McWilliams, B.P.=Brian Pardini,
R.S.-Robert Scribner, D.S.-Don Snyder, Z.S.-
Zach Steinhauser, R.Sw.-Ruth Swaney, E.Z.-
Eric Zawatski, m.ob.-many observers

~Jerry McWilliams, Bird Reporter
814-240-8594 jerrymcw@aol.com

WHAT HAVE WE DONE?

Janet Price, Editor

At least once per year the Executive Board should release a report, article, or other publication which outlines the work being done towards the goals of Presque Isle Audubon's 2015-2020 Strategic Plan. Following are the three main strategies in the plan, each one followed by specific goals and how they were met.

A. SAVING IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS AND SIGNIFICANT HABITATS

Better understanding of our existing sanctuaries in terms of how they may be best utilized by birds and work towards improving those properties.

PIA has adopted a plan for folks from the Foundation for Sustainable Forests to improve the Laura Olson Sanctuary in order to make it more bird-friendly.

A number of PIA members attended meetings at Girard to protest the cutting down of a significant number of trees in Waterworks Park, trees that provide food and shelter for birds in that area.

B. CREATING BIRD-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

Three goals in this section, underlined below, have been achieved during this fiscal year.

Inform and educate our community regarding birds, birding, habitats and conservation

Our monthly programs achieve this goal. A variety of topics help attendees to learn more about birds and their habitats.

Increase the number of field trips

Field trips have been planned and conducted

every other Saturday in most months of the year 2018-2019.

Continue and expand existing educational and outreach events

The Festival of the Birds at Presque Isle provides knowledge and appreciation of birds, their habitats and their behavior. Workshops and field trips attract birders from a variety of states in the US and provinces in Canada each year.

The Raptor Experience held at the TREC presents live birds from Tamarack Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center for attendees to observe up close and personal.

Increase participation in citizen science projects and PIA sponsored activities

Three significant undertakings find PIA members involved in citizen science projects.

The Christmas Bird Count, a Presque Isle Audubon sponsored activity, is conducted each December includes many PIA members as well as non-members.

A number of PIA members volunteered to count raptors in specific sections of Erie County. Participants create their own route and drive it once and count all of the raptors seen. This is a statewide project.

Some of our PIA members participated in the Waterbird Count that covered 16 areas on Presque Isle State Park. Counts were taken as many times as possible from March 1st to April 30th, 2019.

C. PIA ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Conducted a comprehensive review and revision of the bylaws. (Cont. on P. 7)

WHAT HAVE WE DONE? (Cont.)

Meetings have been held this summer to carry out this mandate with the final vote taking place on August 19, 2019.

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PIA SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

**Everything You Wanted to Know About
Cerulean Warblers (but were afraid to ask).**
Friday, September 20 7:00 pm
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, Room 112



Photo by Andy Reago & Chrissy McClarren,
Wikimedia Commons

Scott Stoleson, Ph.D., the Research Wildlife Biologist for the Forest Service at the Northern Research Station in Irvine, PA will share his 15 years of research into these somewhat beautiful and canopy-swelling warblers. Learn more about *Dendroica cerulea* that is now listed as a Species of High-Level Concern in Pennsylvania, and is also being considered for listing as Threatened under the United States Endangered Species Act.
~Mary Birdsong, Program Chair

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Presque Isle welcomes the new members to our chapter. National was having trouble with their membership lists, so I hope I got everyone. If not, I'll include your name next time.

Erie: Suzanne Ludwig, Linda Miklinski, Judy Lipsitz, Asher Whitney, Sandra Lopez, Freda Tepfer, AnnaMarie Senita, Marion Gallivan, Ashley Stewart,, Jim & Rosemarie Pitetti, Claudia Mosso, Ron & Linda McElderry, James Baxter, Mary Prather, Marion Gallivan, John Scott

Albion, Pa: J.M. Bozman

Alliquippa, Pa: Lorenaha Hamara

Akron, Ohio: Diana SchieberButler: Doris Diana Hall

Conneautville: C. Kent Persinger, John Tautin

Edinboro: Julie Dell, Lizabeth Dilla

Fairview: Deborah Wehr, Darla Graff

McKean: Sam Stull, Karl Frankovitch

Pittsburgh: Dallas Dileo

Russell: Lara Larson

Spartansburg: Jacktrading Co.

~Ron Intrieri, Membership Chairman
membership@presqueisleaudubon.org

The Audubon's newsletter, the *Tern of Events*, is published every other month: February, April, June, August, October and December. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month preceding publication. All published material is 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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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 \$15.00/year

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Chapter only members, both new and renewal, will receive the online version of the *Tern of Events* unless they specifically request the paper copy. Please provide your e-mail address for the online version of our newsletter or indicate that you want the paper copy.

E-mail address _____

Do you require a paper copy? _____

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

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

**National Audubon Society
Membership Application**

Renewal members can join as they have in the past, either by sending their membership check directly to National Audubon, or they can join online. New members are to send their first membership check to the local chapter. The address is at the bottom of this application.

Membership includes membership in BOTH the National Audubon Society and the local Presque Isle Audubon Society. National members receive *Audubon Magazine* (4 issue per year) and the chapter newsletter, *Tern of Events*. Please include your e-mail address to receive the online version of the newsletter.

Introductory membership \$20.00
Renewals \$20.00

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
E-mail address _____

Chapter Code U15

Mail this form with your check payable to the National Audubon Society directly to **YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER.**

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