



TERN OF EVENTS

PRESQUE ISLE AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2016 ISSUE 16:05

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.

THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH

Yeah, I bet you're all thinking, "There she goes again, anthropomorphizing birds." Well, while I'll admit that I do do that on occasion, that's not my plan for this Perch. My plan for this Perch is to recognize what a great hobby birding is and the wonderful people birders meet as we pursue our shared interest. While not all of us may be birders, per se, we do have a common interest in conservation, habitat preservation and an appreciation for nature in general. Otherwise, in all likelihood, I wouldn't be writing this and you wouldn't be reading it. (Unless of course, you're looking for a fast-acting non-pharmaceutical sleep aid). I can't even begin to count all the people I've met as I've pursued my birding hobby. I don't even think I can narrow it down to the fine people I've met during my association with PIAS. Through my foray into birding I've met people from all over the country, both here at Presque Isle or wherever I happen to be birding. (Unlike you retirees, I haven't met many people from outside the U.S., but perhaps after I ground out these next 520 or so weeks I will! Not that I'm counting:)) Certainly, there are people we meet in the field or at an event that are not so wonderful, but I think it's fair to say that they are few and far between.

Birding provides great opportunities to meet and bond with like-minded people. When I say like-minded, mind you, I don't mean that every birding friend we meet shares our views across the board; thank goodness that's not the case. What it does mean is that, as I

mentioned above, we all tend to revel in nature, share an appreciation of its diversity and beauty and desire to conserve it so that generations to come can experience it and love it as we have. That's one of the reasons I began my involvement in the Presque Isle Audubon Society. When I first got involved with the PIAS, one of the things that struck me was the camaraderie between the members.

(Cont. On Page 2)

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER THINGS TO DO!



Happy Fall and Happy Thanksgiving

- October 21, Friday** – PIAS Program at the TREC at 7:00p in Rm 112 followed by social hour- P.5
- November 1, Tuesday** – Festival of the Birds Committee Meeting at the TREC at 6:00PM
- November 15, Tuesday** – PIAS Board Meeting at 6:00p in the Board Room at the TREC
- November 25, Friday** – PIAS Program at the TREC at 7:00p in Rm 112 followed by social hour- P.7

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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

THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH (Cont.)

I didn't know very many people in the organization back then and had the impression that many of these people had known each other for years, which many of them had. I thought to myself, "I'm never going to fit in here and become a part of this."

Nothing could have been further from the truth. Members of PIAS, and birders in general, took me under their wing and, well, here I am. I cherish the friendships I've made over these years and just thought I'd share that and thank you all.

Two of the people who welcomed me into the fold were Jeanne and Chuck Kern. While they seemed to know everyone who came to the membership meetings they both took the time to welcome and talk to me. I remember once at one of our education events Chuck gave me an Osage orange. He said it would keep spiders away. He was right. They were both very generous with their time and knowledge, not only for me, but for the organization and every member.



JEANNE AND CHUCK

This past Friday Chuck Kern and members of the PIAS honored Jeanne, who passed in May of last year, with a memorial banquet. It was a wonderful tribute to a wonderful woman who did so much for PIAS in all her years (50+!!) as a member and an officer on the executive board. (Cont. on Page 3)

THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH (Cont.)

It was a lovely evening spending time with Chuck, friends from PIAS, and a few of Chuck and Jeanne's neighbors and family.



CHUCK AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Chuck, with his usual flare for story telling, did a great job regaling us with emotional stories of Jeanne, friendship and about being good to one another.

I was presented with a picture of robins that hung in the Kern home. Chuck said that it was the first thing people saw when they entered the house.



CHUCK AND MICHELE WITH ROBIN PRINT

Chuck also made a print of snowy egrets available as a door prize at the memorial banquet and Jack Wahl was the lucky winner of this signed print. Here he and his wife, Georgia, pose with the painting.



So, the birds do make wonderful friends, friends that last a lifetime and should forever be cherished.

~Michele Rundquist Franz, PIAS President

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, December 17, 2016
The Christmas Bird Count

Presque Isle Audubon sponsors and coordinates the Christmas Bird Count every year. Those interested in this event usually meet at 7:00am at the ranger station to form groups and get their assignments so that birds from a variety of locations are spotted and counted. The groups then take off to their locations and count throughout the morning, meeting around noon at the ranger station to rest and have their homemade lunches. Sightings and stories are shared before heading out again, either to complete the area started in the morning or to a new area. Some count for the morning and call it a day. Some count all day and meet about 5:00pm to tally counts and have dinner at a local eatery. You don't have to be an expert to participate. Go with someone who knows the birds. You can learn as you go and be the recorder for your group at the same time. More in the next issue of the TOE.

BIRD REPORT

The following birds of note were reported since August 1, 2016 from Gull Point at Presque Isle S.P. unless noted otherwise.

White-winged Scoter 1; Sept. 10; Beach 10; T.L. (Below)



Northern Goshawk 1; Sept. 10; Gull Point Trail; T.L., M.W. (Below)



American Golden Plover 3; Sept. 6; R.D.

Piping Plover up to 3 Aug. 6; Gull Point and Barraks Beach; G.M. & fide B.G.; 1; Aug. 19 to 23; K.K.

Red Knot total of 5; Aug. 21 to Sept. 1; M.B., R.D., D.S.

Western Sandpiper 1; Aug. 6; G.M.

Stilt Sandpiper total of 5; Aug. 13 to Sept. 7; T.L., D.S., R.D. up to 2; Aug. 25 to 28; R.D., D.S.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper total of 5; Aug. 23 to Sept. 7; J.M., et. Al

American Avocet 5; Aug. 14; S.D. (Below)



Willet total of 6; Aug. 4 to Sept. 5; R.S., et al.

Whimbrel total of 6; Aug. 21 to Sept. 13; M.B., S.T.

Hudsonian Godwit up to 2; Aug 4 & 30, & early Sept.; R.S.

Marbled Godwit up to 2; Aug. 13 to Sept. 2; T.L., et al. (Below)



Wilson's Phalarope 1; Aug. 21; M.B.

Black Tern 1; Aug. 31; R.N.

Long-billed Dowitcher 1; Sept. 10; T.L., M.W.

Contributors: M.B. Mary Birdsong, R.D. Roger Donn, S.D. Steve Dowlan, B.G. Brian Gula, K.K. Kenneth Kieker, .L. Tim Lenz, G.M. Geoff Malosh, J.M. Jerry McWilliams, R.N. Richard Nugent, D.S. Don Snyder, R.S. Ruth Swaney, S.T. Shannon Thompson, M.W. Mark Walker

~Jerry McWilliams, Birds Record Chair
814-240-8594 jerrymcw@aol.com

PIAS OCTOBER PROGRAM AND SOCIAL
Friday, October 21 at 7:00pm
Room 112 at the TREC
Free and Open to the Public

- Screening of *Mira Lloyd Dock: A Beautiful Crusade*
- Presentation by Marci Mowery, President of the Parks and Forest Foundation.

Pennsylvania's Conservation Heritage: Telling the Story is a statewide initiative with the mission of documenting and interpreting the commonwealth's rich and diverse conservation and environmental history through oral interviews, a series of documentaries, public programs, and articles. The conservation history of Pennsylvania tells a cyclical narrative of environmental degradation of our rich resources—and the more hopeful story of the far-reaching visions of conservation leaders and the passage of policies enacted to protect our resources. This is a story of citizens who overwhelmingly banded together—sportsmen, families and concerned communities—to protect our air, land and water, and to preserve our rich conservation legacy for future generations.

In partnership with the Pennsylvania Conservation Heritage Project and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Presque Isle Audubon presents:

Myra Lloyd Dock: A Beautiful Crusade

In 1899 women were seen not heard, but not Mira Lloyd Dock. A Progressive Era activist, she helped rescue Harrisburg from filth and pollution. During her service on the Pennsylvania Forest Commission, one million acres of forest became reserves. She was the first woman in the world to be appointed to a public forest commission and the first woman to hold job in PA government either appointed or elected.



MYRA LLOYD DOCK

Mira Lloyd Dock was the first woman appointed to a Pennsylvania state government position, spending the period from 1901 to 1913 traveling around the state inspecting lands and recommending their purchase. In 1903 she began to lecture on botany at the newly opened State Forestry Academy at Mont Alto, a school she had helped found by lobbying for its creation. She would continue to teach there until 1929, using her own textbook, which described all the trees that grew in the state and where they flourished the best.



After stepping down from the Forest Commission in 1912, Dock was active in a broad range of causes, including the City Beautiful Movement, led by fellow Harrisburg native Horace McFarland, and also helped him to preserve Niagara Falls. Dock was also active in the local campaign for women's suffrage.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

IN MEMORY OF BARB MITCHELL STULL

In this edition of the Tern of Events, my Perch was about the many wonderful people we meet through birding and membership in PIAS. One of those wonderful people was Barb Mitchell Stull who many of us frequently saw in the field, at the banding station or volunteering for Tamarack– from manning the phone to rescuing birds. She was most often in the company of her husband, Sam and dear friend, Ruth Swaney. Even when she wasn't feeling her best this past spring, Barb stopped in to help out at the banding station. Barb passed away in September and will certainly be greatly missed by her family and friends, including those of us who in PIAS who had the privilege of knowing her.



Barb with Scott Goring at Fry's Landing banding station, May 21, 2016



Ruth, Barb and Sam enjoy a laugh at the banding station in 2012.

~Michele Rundquist Franz

NEW MEMBERS



Presque Isle Audubon

We welcome all of our new members, as well as those that rejoined, in the Presque Isle Audubon Society. When you join National Audubon, you are automatically a member of our chapter. Hope to see you at one of our membership meetings held on the third Friday. Watch for notices on PIAS Facebook and in the Bi-monthly newsletter.

Erie: Ron Vicander, Mary Snyder, Ear, Nose & Throat Specialists, Janet Frey, Betty Torrance, Sara Edmonds, Joseph Saber, M.A. Curtze, Harvey McClure, Kim Voltz, Luke Gilmore, Monica Stanford

Albion: Paul Madden

Cambridge Sps: Harry White

Conneaut, Ohio: Carol Brown

Corry: Tiffany Bisbee

Edinboro: Richard Ghery

Girard: William Pangratz

Jamestown: Gerry Alwing

Lake City: Cathryn Snyder

Linesville: Susanne Gedeon

Meadville: Betty Carlson, Robert Hodgson, Susan Breckenridge

North East: Judy Graham

Saegertown: Jessica Prutzman

Westford: Helen Oyen

Pittsburgh, Pa: Dallas DiLeo

~Ron Intriери, Membership chairman
membership@presqueisleaudubon.org

PIAS NOVEMBER PROGRAM AND SOCIAL
***Friday, November 25**
Room 112 at the TREC
Free and Open to the Public

A Wing And A Care: Film and presentation by
Shawn Carey

Erie native Shawn Carey with Migration Productions will present its latest work "Care," which opens a window onto the lives of three birds: Snowy Owls, Atlantic Puffins and American Kestrels.



It introduces us to three men—Norman Smith, Stephen Kress and Tom Sayers— as they work to protect the birds they love. They demonstrate how a single individual can make a world of difference in the life of a bird, and the film asks a critical question: how can each one of us get involved and help build a better future for these incredible birds?

*** This date is not the typical third Friday. It is the fourth, and the day after Thanksgiving.**

~Mary Birdsong, Program Chair

IN THE NEWS

MCCLELLAND PARK
2503 East 26th St, Erie, PA

If you have a chance, check out this newly developed park owned by the city of Erie. It is located in southeast Erie off McClelland Ave. PIAS has been involved along with other groups in preparing the 56 acre land for safe and interesting public use. PIAS approved a grant of \$2500.00 to assist in paying for improvements to the trails and Audubon members have aided in identifying birds that might be found in the woodlands, meadows and wetlands that make up the park. They have also helped to identify the invasive plants that are in excess there so that work can be done to eradicate them. There are many trails located there, but of particular note is the main trail measuring 6 feet wide and approximately one-half mile long. The trails have been graded and layered so that people in motorized wheelchairs can enjoy the various park locations.

THE 2017 FESTIVAL OF THE BIRDS AT PRESQUE ISLE

PIAS will host the ninth birding festival this Spring on May 5, 6 and 7 and will include field trips to Presque Isle's hottest birding spots. Other attractions include Saturday workshop and pontoon boat rides. Scott Weidensaul will be our keynote speaker and will join birders on field trips throughout the weekend. Each registrant will receive a copy of Scott's book, *Return to Wild America*. There will be a book signing after the keynote on Saturday. Check PIAS Facebook and this newsletter for updates on registration.

The Presque Isle Audubon Society'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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**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 \$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.**

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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**

Please enroll me as a new member in the National Audubon Society which 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 local chapter newsletter. **Please include your e-mail address to receive the online version of the newsletter.**

Introductory membership \$20.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail address _____

Chapter Code C6ZU150Z

Mail this form with your check payable to the National Audubon Society directly to:

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