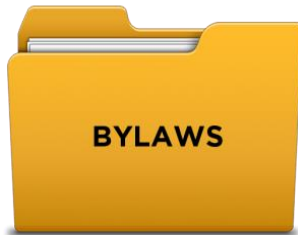




# TERN OF EVENTS

PRESQUE ISLE AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER  
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2019 ISSUE 19:06

*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 Executive Board has determined that the Bylaws that were revised and voted upon on August 19 need to be submitted to the membership for a revote due to inadequate notice to the membership. As such those bylaws that were distributed in August will, with a few changes explained below, be proposed for a new vote at the meeting on October 18 at 7:00 p.m. at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center. The Board also had discussion on several proposed amendments to the bylaws essentially affecting some of the bylaws that were part of the amendments reviewed on August 19.

The amendments that were reconsidered and are proposed by the Executive Committee: Reinsert "Membership" into the heading of Article II to provide clarity as to the meetings covered in that Article; reinstating the minimum number of Executive Board members that are needed to establish a quorum for a Board meeting; deleting the Audit Committee from the list of Standing Committees; and restoring Robert's Rules of Order as the authority on parliamentary matters. If you wish to review the current draft, go to <https://tinyurl.com/piasbylaws>. If you wish a hard copy, please contact Sue Murawski at 814-812-6072.

Should you wish to comment upon these proposed changes please attend the meeting to do so. No other changes will be considered at that time but the Board is open for future changes as may be needed.

~Paul F. Burroughs, Vice-President of PIA

## OCTOBER/NOVEMBER THINGS TO DO!



### OCTOBER

**October 18, Friday** – PIA Program at 7:00p in Room 112 at the TREC. (See Page 5)

**October 19, Saturday** – Field Trip, Thompson Bay. Meet at Stull Center. (See Page 7)

**October 22, Tuesday** – Festival of the Birds Committee meeting at 6:00p in the TREC Conference Room.

### NOVEMBER

**November 2, Saturday** – Field Trip: Vistas and Marinas at PI. Meet at Stull Center (See P. 7)

**November 15, Friday** – PIA Program at the TREC In Room 112. Vote on By-Laws. (See P. 5)

**November 19, Tuesday** – PIA Board Meeting at 6:00p in the Conference Room at the TREC.

**November 30, Saturday** – Field Trip: Various Spots on PI. Meet at Stull Center (See P. 7)

## 2019-2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



### Officers

President	TBA
Vice-President	Paul Burroughs
Secretary	Sue Murawski
Treasurer	Julie Dell
Retiring President	Drew Mortenson

### 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

Conservation	Paul Burroughs
Education	TBA
Field Trips	Michele Rundquist-Franz
Membership	Ron Intrieri
Publications	Janet Price
Publicity	Jennifer Ferrick
Programs	Mary Birdsong
Sales & Marketing	Issy Lawrie
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](http://www.presqueisleaudubon.org)

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The summer is over and it's time for more bird watching. Hope everyone had a nice summer. Our new and renewal members are as follows. Join us at one of our monthly membership meetings.

**Erie:** Mary Birdsong, Mary Zebowski, David Lewis, Karen Euliano, Gayle Hunter, Grover Sexauer, Alma Getz, John Kramer, Gary Narbut, John rodeman, James Wagner, James Bemis, Paul Groucutt, Karin Mentz, Dorothy Hodapp, Marilyn Schillinger, Marybeth Mitchell, Judith Dormann, Karen Kyler, Shirley Keinath, Thomas Chandley, Emily Mills, Nancy Shea, Clarence Schaney, Scott Gorrington, Thomas Frank, Jerry McWilliams

**Albion:** Russell Bromley

**Butler:** Doris Diana Hall

**Cambridge Sps:** Robert Grinarm

**Conneautville:** Clemence Mershon

**Corry:** Edna Maclees, Tiffany Bisbee

**Edinboro:** Wilma Webster

**Fairview:** Tom Wasilewski, Deborah Wehr, Frank Lasky

**Meadville:** Sarah Sargent, Sharon Hoefler, Zoe Babe, Glenn Rodgers

**Spartansburg:** Virginia Firth

**Titusville:** William Karns

**Waterford:** Rhonda Maynard

**Ashtabula, Oh:** Nancy Rung

**Mexico, NY:** Patrick Crotty

~Ron Intrieri, Membership Chair

## CLIMATE CRISIS: THERE IS NO PLANET B!



Hundreds of concerned citizens took part in the Global Climate Strike in Erie on Friday, Sept. 20, including members of Presque Isle Audubon, also a co-sponsor of the event.

Climate Strike was a one day event during which people of all ages came out in public to demand action of our politicians to deal with the climate crisis that is now threatening our planet.



**PAT HOWELL, JOAO TAVARES, JANET PRICE, MARION GALLIVAN, ISSY LAWRIE**

PIA members marched along the street of downtown Erie, stopping at government buildings to join in the chanting to demand action on system change to protect our planet from climate change. Others arrived throughout the day as their schedules allowed in order to participate in networking and strategy sessions and to be educated by a variety of speakers.

Please join us by realizing that we are in a climate crisis and that we must take steps to deal with it now!

~Janet Price, Editor

## REMEMBERING CHUCK KERN



We would like to acknowledge the passing of Chuck Kern, a long-time member of and contributor to Presque Isle Audubon. Chuck was very generous with his time and knowledge. He served as President of our organization from 1970 – 1973 and served on various committees during his lifetime. He was probably best known for his story telling but also for providing a yearly supply of suet to be sold as a fund raiser at our February meetings. He will be missed by all who knew him.

## POSITIONS OPEN AT PRESQUE ISLE AUDUBON

We are in need of Audubon members to become part of our organization by volunteering to fill the following open positions:

- ✓ President
- ✓ Education Chair
- ✓ Registration Chair for the Festival of the Birds

Contact Janet Price at [jrplkm@aol.com](mailto:jrplkm@aol.com) if interested.

## A BIRD REVIEW

There is no official bird report for this issue of the newsletter so I am including a gallery of pictures of birds that were reported by Jerry McWilliams on August 4 and September 1. Many of these were observed at Gull Point and others at various sites around Erie County.  
~Janet Price, Editor



**MARbled GODWIT**



**AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN**



**RED KNOT**



**STILT SANDPIPER**



**WHIMBREL**



**WILLET**

**PIA MONTHLY PROGRAMS FOR OCTOBER  
AND NOVEMBER**

**OCTOBER PROGRAM**

**Into the Marsh: Tracking the Abundance of  
Secretive Marsh Breeding Birds at Presque  
Isle**

**Friday October 18, 2019**

**Tom Ridge Environmental Center  
Room 112, 7 pm**



**LEAST BITTERN**

Follow Sarah Sargent, Executive Director of the Erie Bird Observatory and Chris Lundberg, Marsh Bird Monitor for the EBO and professor of Biology and Mathematics at Allegheny College, as they kayak into the dense marshes of Presque Isle to discover how things have changed since Phragmites control work began at the park. They will present their findings from surveys conducted for the last three years and compare them to a survey done in 2011, prior to when control work began.

**NOVEMBER PROGRAM**

**Lights out Cleveland: Saving Migrating Birds  
One Warbler at a Time**

**Friday, November 15, 2019**

**Tom Ridge Environmental Center  
Room 112, 7:00 pm**

Lights Out Cleveland Volunteer Coordinator, Liz McQuaid, will share the mission and work of

this enterprise which is a group of partnering organizations working together to create awareness about the effects brightly lit buildings have on nocturnally migrating birds. LOC partners with The Cleveland Museum of Natural History and Lake Erie Nature and Science Center, and is a part of Ohio Lights Out, a network of regional programs aimed at making urban landscapes safer for migratory birds. Lights Out is coordinated by the Ohio Bird Conservation. but is successful only through the collaboration & effort of dozens of organizations.



**Photo by James Smallwood**

Created in 2017, the program now has 78 monitoring volunteers and 4 administrative volunteers plus other people in partnering organizations who help take care of the live birds that come in or process those going into a museum collection. Twenty-three buildings are involved in this effort.

Liz McQuaid has been birding the Cleveland area most of her life, but got serious in 1992. She is part of the team to prove the Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve an Important Bird Area, is co-advisor for the NE Chapter of the Ohio Young Birder's Club, volunteers with the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society, the Biggest Week, the Kirtland Bird Club, as well as Lights Out Cleveland.

~Mary Birdsong, Program Chair

## HERBICIDES AT PRESQUE ISLE STATE PARK

Erieites may or may not be aware that aerial spraying of herbicides has been used to combat some of the invasive species of plants that have infiltrated Presque Isle State Park. Injecting herbicides into the environment is a concern to people across the planet. As such, Paul Burroughs, Conservation Chair of Presque Isle Audubon, commented on this environmental issue and directed it to the DCNR (Department of Conservation and Natural Resources) staff at the Park. Following are Paul's comments followed by portions of a response written by Holly Best, Park Manager.

### PAUL'S LETTER

I write as the Conservation Chair of Presque Isle Audubon. Among my tasks is to comment on environmental issues such as the planned aerial spraying of areas of the Park to control invasive species. I suspect this spraying is part of the management plan for the Park and the areas are outlined and are expected to be those most in need of this type of treatment. We, of course, are supportive of the efforts to control invasives but must comment on the selected method as a risk to those species utilizing the park when the spraying occurs and after. After last week's devastating report on the massive decline in the bird population and the known risks of exposure to glyphosate, we continue to be hyper-sensitive to these events. Restricting the area to human traffic is but one group for protection. Recognizing the event will likely take place we urge caution in the application and minimization of exposure to wildlife and overdosing. A story suggests over spraying of the Conneaut Creek area earlier left sustained damage to aquatic species.

Paul F. Burroughs

### HOLLY'S LETTER

As you likely know, we have been performing invasive species treatments on the park since the 1990's. At that time we were in an uphill battle and much of our native vegetation had been lost to monocultures of phragmites and narrow-leaved cattail. We applied for and were successful in receiving our first Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant in 2009 and that allowed us to add herbicide to the mix of our treatment methods. We are very aware of the hazards of the used of any herbicide, and as a Certified Applicator, I have a healthy fear of utilizing any herbicide and putting anything into the environment. There are specifications on what herbicides we are allowed to use, and the label governs how they must be applied. We have been continually successful with our grant requests largely because we take a full ecosystem approach and tie monitoring and education with our treatments. We have partnered with PA Audubon and Erie Bird Observatory to ensure that they are monitoring the bird species, especially in the marshes where the treatments have been focused. I believe it is notable that several bird species have either returned or begun utilizing the park for nesting since we started making strides in removing monocultures of invasive plants, Bald Eagle, Osprey, and Piping Plover.

I am grateful that I am in a position to help this park return to its native state 9or as close as we can get it.) As a member of the Birding Festival Planning Committee since its inception, I realize the value of the many rare, threatened, and endangered species (of birds) that visit the park or now make Presque Isle home. And am extremely cognizant to not do anything that would be detrimental to their livelihood. Further, I have been a member of the Piping Plover/Common Tern Taskforce since its creation as well and have been proud to be able to create an environment that is suitable for their return.

Holly L. Best, Park Manager 3

**PRESQUE ISLE AUDUBON FIELD TRIPS FOR  
OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER  
Open to the Public for People of All Ages and  
Skill Levels and Free of Charge**

Unless otherwise specified, any field trip on Presque Isle will meet at the Stull Center parking lot at 7:45a where we will then car pool to our designated trail or area.

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 boots can come in handy since many of the areas at the Park have been inundated with water. Bring your binoculars, of course, but we will have a few pairs of binoculars available for use if you or someone you bring doesn't have them. Hope to see you.  
~Michele Rundquist Franz

**OCTOBER 19<sup>th</sup>:**

We will proceed to Thompson Bay for a nice scan of the bay for waterfowl, gulls and loons(below).



**NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>:**

This trip will take us to a number of Vistas and Marinas at Presque Isle hoping to see waterfowl, gulls and loons.

**NOVEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup> : NO FIELD TRIP**

**NOVEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup> :**

We will visit various spots on Presque Isle in search of snowy owls and other winter visitors including redpolls, snow buntings and horned larks.



**HORNED LARK**



**SAVE THE DATE**

**MAY 8, 9, 19 - 2020**

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](mailto:jrplkm@aol.com) or 418 E. 36<sup>th</sup> St., Erie, PA 16504. If you have any questions, call Janet at 814-825-8394.

Printed on recycled paper.

PRESQUE ISLE AUDUBON SOCIETY  
TOM RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER  
301 PENINSULA DRIVE, SUITE 8  
ERIE, PA 16505

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Erie, PA  
Permit No. 238

**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.

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 Intrieri, 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.**

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