



TERN OF EVENTS

PRESQUE ISLE AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
JUNE/JULY 2019

ISSUE 19:04

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

Anyone who has ever served on the board or as an officer of a non-profit knows that By-Laws need to be updated from time to time. It has been 11 years since our By-Laws were last changed, and while the foundation of them is still solid, there are aspects which need to be addressed to reflect current realities. The Executive Board has been discussing the need to make revisions for at least the past four years, and figure that it is time to move forward. To that end, and following existing By-Laws procedures, we will be publishing on our website and sending an email out to members with a link to the proposed changes. A special meeting will be held on August 19th at 6pm in Room 108 in the Tom Ridge Center to vote on the proposed By-Laws changes. If you have any questions or concerns about these changes, please email

president@presqueisleaudubon.org

PIA ANNUAL PICNIC

Friday June 21, 2019, 6:00 PM
Presque Isle State Park
Runner's Club Pavilion



PIA members and the community are invited to the Presque Isle Audubon annual picnic. PIA will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, and veggie burgers, as well as buns and condiments. We will also provide water and beverages. We ask

those coming to bring a side dish or dessert to share, some utensils to use and a plate and cup up of some kind (so we don't have to waste paper or plastic). If you like, bring a lawn game! Let's just hang out, eat some good food and play a few games. Oh, and maybe they'll be some birds flying around.

JUNE/JULY THINGS TO DO!



JUNE

SEE PAGE 5 FOR FIELD TRIP DESCRIPTIONS

June 15, Saturday – Field Trip - Gull Point Trail

June 18, Tuesday – By-Law Revision Meeting
at Yorktown Plaza Panera from 6:00-8:00

June 21, Friday – PIA Picnic at 6:00p at the
Runner's Pavilion on Presque Isle State Park

June 29, Saturday – Field Trip - Scott Park

JULY

NO FIELD TRIPS IN JULY

July 16, Tuesday – PIA Board Meeting at
6:00p in the Board Room

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
2019-2020	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	Michele Franz
Presque Isle	Paul Burroughs
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

LAST CALL FOR SALE OF ARTWORK BY JEAN STULL CUNNINGHAM

Three works of art are still available for sale. This is the last offering to our members.

Frog \$450 Frame 20 1/4" x 13 1/4"; Opening 11 3/4" x 5 5/8"



Sundew Plants \$500
Frame 17" x 15 3/4"; Opening 8" x 8"



Audubon Print (Pileated Woodpeckers) \$125
Frame, 32" x 26 1/4"; Opening 23 1/2" x 17"



Contact Julie Dell at dells1970@verizon.net or 814-450-9844

FESTIVAL OF THE BIRDS DEFIES THE ODDS

**Janet Price, Chair of the Festival of the Birds
Committee**



What were the odds? The amount of water that inundated Presque Isle State Park was of the most concern. The bay and lake levels were the highest I've ever seen them and any high winds or more rain could cause flooding of roads and more trails which might result in closings. Two of the trails that birders were to hike were already covered with water and those trips had to be cancelled with leaders assigned to dryer areas. Many trails where leaders guided birders required that boots be worn if you didn't want to end up wet and muddy.

Enough about the odds. Birders who decided to attend the festival were determined and prepared to deal with and overcome those odds. And did they ever. We had another extremely successful weekend because our participants gave it their all. There were no complaints about the odds, rather smiles and excitement permeated each scheduled event.

There are many groups that contributed to the success of our festival and I want to point them out. The festival committee deserves kudos of the highest degree for their dedication in planning and preparing for the May event. They are: Mary Birdsong, Sue DeArment, Anne DeSarro, Jennifer Ferrick, Michele Rundquist Franz, Marian Gallivan, Issy Lawrie, Kathy Lutton, Jason Lymangrover and Jared McGary.

The DCNR Education Staff deserves special acknowledgement for their part in the

preparation for and participation in the festival activities. These individuals need mentioning: Anne DeSarro, Emily Pritchard, Jared McGary, Brian Gula, Holly Best, Don Lasko, and Ray Bierbauer.

Without our field trip and workshop leaders, there would be no festival activities. Each year these individuals unselfishly give of their time and expertise. I would like to list them here but space is limited so I will mention those who have not been cited previously. They are: Katie Andersen, Shannon Thompson, Susan A. Smith, Nic Allen, Diane Baillargeon, Julie Dell, Roger Donn, Barbara Gillis, Bonnie Ginader, Jamie Hill, Pat Howell, Laura-Marie Koitsch, Mark Lethaby, Liz McQuaid, Jerry McWilliams, Mike Plyler, Sarah Sargent, Don Snyder, Sam Stull, and Andrew Troyer.

Some measures of success include the number of bird species observed. We had a total of 170 which included 27 warblers. We didn't break records but came close. Many birders said that our keynote, Yve Morrell, was a great inspiration and they were in awe of her accomplishments during her Big Year. They felt that she was very friendly and willing to mix with birders on the field trips.

I personally enjoyed Joe the Jazz Guy's music during Friday's reception and the good food and drink while meeting with new attendees and reuniting with the "old" ones, many who have attended 11 of the 12 festivals. They say the camaraderie is one of the big appeals of this event.

Breakfasts and lunch on Sunday at the Rotary Pavilion were appreciated by many, especially the bird friendly coffee, Birds and Beans, on chilly days.

Mary Phalan won the \$25 gift card to Wild Birds Unlimited for submitting her evaluation.

In closing, I hope to see you again at our 13th Festival of the Birds at Presque Isle.

BIRD SIGHTINGS

The following birds of note were reported from Presque Isle S.P. unless noted otherwise for April and May, 2019.

Red-throated Loon—1; April 13; Edinboro Lake; J.H. 1; May 11; Gull Point; J.M.

Red-necked Grebe—1; April 27; channel; K.C.

Eared Grebe—1; May 10 to 14; vista 4; J.M.

American White Pelican—1; April 6 & 7; head of Presque Isle Bay; m.ob.

Snowy Egret—1; April 20; Marina Lake; B.Gr.

Cattle Egret—1; late April; Niagara Pond; fide B.B. (See Below)



Black Vulture—1; April 1; Erie over I 90; J.F. total of 3; May 1, 9, & 19; Presque Isle Hawk Watch (TREC); J.M. et al.

Golden Eagle—1; April 2 & 18; Presque Isle Hawk Watch (TREC); R.St., J.M., J.S. 1; April 26; Presque Isle; R.Sw.

Northern Goshawk—total of 5; April 9 to 23; Presque Isle Hawk Watch; K.F., J.M., R.St.

American Avocet—5; April 26; Gull Point; J.M.

Franklin's Gull—1; April 20; Fairview Business Park; B.G.

Short-eared Owl—1; April 7; Gull Point; R.D.

Northern Saw-whet Owl—1; April 5; pines; R.D.

Chuck-will's Widow—1; May 17; west end of Pine Tree Trail; K.A. (See Below)



Northern Shrike—1; April 7; SGL #109; R.S.

Common Raven -1; April 24; McKean over I-79; R.H. 1; April 29 & May 1; Presque Isle Hawk Watch at TREC; J.M., et al

Marsh Wren—1; April 22 (record early); Presque Isle; D.S. (See Below)



Worm-eating Warbler—1; May 9; Fry's landing; K.N. (See Below)



(Bird Sightings Cont. on Page 5)

BIRD SIGHTINGS (CONT.)

Brewster's Warbler—1; May 9; Dead Pond Trail; D.P.

Golden-winged Warbler—total of 7; May 4 to 17; various sites on Presque Isle; m.ob.

Lawrence's Warbler—1; May 2; Fry's landing; fide C.V. (See Below)



Orange-crowned Warbler—total of 3; April 23 & May 14; Fry's Landing; C.V., J.M. 1; May 14; Erie, N.A.

Cerulean Warbler—1; May 1; Pine Tree Trail; J.D. 1; May 3; Fry's landing; N.A.

Yellow-throated Warbler—1; May 4; Erie; S.L.D.



YELLOW THROATED WARBLER

Prairie Warbler—1 heard; April 22; Pine Tree Trail; M.P. 1; May 16; Fry's landing; K.S.

Clay-colored Sparrow—total of 4; May 1, 9, & 16; Fry's landing and Dead Pond Trail; J.M., J.H., M.D.

Summer Tanager—1; April 23; Erie, S.L.D.

Yellow-headed Blackbird—1; May 6; Presque Isle Hawk Watch (TREC); J.M.

Evening Grosbeak—up to 4; through April 20; Edinboro; S.W., J.Fe., et al.

Contributors: K.A.-Katie Andersen, N.A.-Nancy Andersen, B.B.-Brian Berchtold, K.C.-Kyle Clark, S.L.D.-Steve & Lisa Danko, M.D.-Michael David, J.D.-Julie Dell, R.D.-Roger Donn, J.F.-John Fedak, K.F.-Ken Felix, J.Fe.-Jennifer Ferrick, B.G.-Bonnie Ginader, B.Gr.-Bob Grubbs, J.H.-Jamie Hill, R.H.-Rob Hodgson, J.M.-Jerry McWilliams, K.N.-Ken Nicholson, D.P.-David Pinkerton, M.P.-Mike Plyler, R.S.-Robert Scribner, D.S.-Don Snyder, R.St.-Russ States, J.S.-Jerry Stanley, K.S.-Kate StJohn, R.Sw.-Ruth Swaney, S.W.-Suzanne Winterberger, C.V.-Connor Vara, m.ob. many observers

~Jerry McWilliams, Bird Record Chair
3508 Allegheny Rd., Erie, Pa. 16508-2129
814-240-8594 jerrymcw@aol.com

PRESQUE ISLE AUDUBON FIELD TRIPS
Open to the Public for People of All Ages and Skill Levels and Free of Charge

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.

June 1st: Pine Tree Trail for lingering migrant warblers, other songbirds

June 15th: Gull Point Trail for local songbirds, gulls, possible shorebirds

June 29th: Our first trip of the season off the park. We will meet at the parking lot near the Scott Park baseball field at 7:45 AM and bird the trails for woodpeckers, songbirds, owls, gulls, waterfowl and waders from the trail that overlooks Presque Isle Bay.

July - NO FIELD TRIPS

SAVE THE FOREST, SAVE THE BIRDS, AT WATERWORKS PARK

**By Issy Lawrie, Concerned Citizen
Girard, PA**

The Scarlet Tanager is one of our most startlingly beautiful birds. He is flaming scarlet with jet black wings. Two male Scarlet Tanagers were spotted in Girard Waterworks/Borough park on Saturday May 4, 2019 on our Presque Isle Audubon Bird Hike.



A magical spot of crimson against the green of the Hemlock. A thrill and delight for anyone to see. Over 50 bird species were spotted on that hike. Warblers including Palm, Hooded and Black Throated Blue; Thrushes including Veery, Hermit, Wood and American Robin; Waterbirds including Mergansers and a Barred Owl.

The Warblers are migrants passing through, looking for insects on the flowers of the trees like the Tulip Poplar marked for "Select Cut". The other birds are looking for nesting sites. If these trees are selectively cut as Girard Borough is planning to do, there won't be flowers for the next generation of birds. Or nesting sites for the birds who stay.

What happens if one 100-foot tree is felled and crashes though the other trees and the undergrowth and thumps to the ground? I can guarantee you that that bird who loves the misty silence of the forest will not stay around. What happens if 412 huge trees are felled and crash to the ground? I don't think any birds will stay. And that will be a sad day for Girard. For Erie County. For Pennsylvania. Why?

Because a) the bird populations are already in serious decline and b) because we are all interconnected. The Tanager will look for a home elsewhere; but what if they are logging there, too?

It is time for us to step up to the plate. To recognize our responsibility for the unique forested area of Waterworks Park, to conserve this forest for the native species. It is one good step we can make to improve the outcome of our planet. It's a step we need to seriously consider making.



CONCERNED CITIZENS

Post note: The Girard Borough Council, at their meeting on Monday May 20, voted to rescind their motion to put the logging of 412 tree at Waterworks Park out to bid. They passed a motion instead to request the Erie County Forest Tim Ackerman to make a Forest Management Plan for the park. This plan will take some time to develop but almost certainly some of the majestic trees that were marked for removal will have a reprieve and will live on to see another day. And another Scarlet Tanager.

Good move Girard Borough.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

I hope everyone had a great time at the Bird festival this year. I hope our new members can make the festival next year. One new members and renewals are:

Erie: Stephen Branton, Linda Payne, Ronald Suprynowicz, Patricia Wigham, J.S. Miller, Gregory Hyziewicz, David Hunphrey, Larry Burger, Russell King, Justin Berkheimer, Eileen Hughes, Janet Seaman, Lisa Romecki, David Shapter, Carl Culmer, Monica Stanford, Jim & Rosemarie Pitetti, Thomas Forsthoefel, Mary Prather, H. Dan Hill, Frank Young, Dennis Melquist

Albion: Harold Adams

Cambridge Springs: Cynthia Newell, Robin Besonson

Cochranton: Donald coast, Kathleen Allio

Conneautville: Lura Parker

Corry: Sue Jewell, Karen Prather, William Lallman

East Springfield: John Schriefer, Sarah Baumgardner

Edinboro : Bernie Connelly, Annette Smith, Heather Cooney, Janice Castro, Gay Lipchik, Louis Donche

Fairview: John Yonko, Frank Lasky, Blossom McBrier, Nancy Group

Jamestown: William Aubuchon

Linesville: Tim Lang, David Oberdick

McKean: Karl Frankovitch, Jack Braun

Meadville: Jonathan Miller, Richard Morris, Sharon Rathi,

North East: Sandra Bauer, Kathrine Ditrich, Victoria Bartlett, Dann Olin

Townville: Alejandra Lewandowski

Union City: Jeffery Fielding

Waterford: Eugene Goldthwaite, Rich Lewis

Hope I got everyone. Any questions, contact me at membership@presqueisleaudubon.org
~Ron Intriери, Membership Chairman

CHANGES IN PROGRAMS OR VENUES

If you get a paper copy of the newsletter, you can find out if a change in a program date or venue is made after the newsletter is sent out by checking the PIA website or facebook and those changes will be noted. If you have an email address, you can ask to be put on the mailing list and changes will be emailed.

Presque Isle 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.

Send submissions to Janet Price, editor, via jrplkm@aol.com or 418 E. 36th St., Erie, PA, 16504
If you have any question, call Janet at 814-825-8394. All published material is subject to editing.

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 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 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