



TERN OF EVENTS

PRESQUE ISLE AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
JUNE/JULY 2022 ISSUE 21:02

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.

PRESIDENT'S PERCH

According to BirdCast, on the night of May 9th an estimated 1,727,900 birds crossed Erie County! Hard to fathom, isn't it? All of those birds, beautiful weather, and a determined committee led to a successful 2022 Festival of the Birds. A big thank-you for the many, many hours donated by all committee members: Andrew Sipple, Mary Birdsong, Marion Gallivan, Issy Lawrie, Michele Rundquist-Franz, Sarah Sargent, Carolyn Sturtevant, and Janet Price.

Jill Hyatt, science teacher of 7th-12th grade students in Meadville, is the winner of our educator's scholarship to Audubon's Hog Island camp in Maine. Ms. Hyatt co-founded a private K-8 school, the Learning Center, where sustainability is a core value. She states, "As an educator, I feel an urgency to impart on my students a reverence for understanding and taking care of our home planet." We're looking forward to hearing about her July camp experiences at an upcoming membership program.

You may remember reading about one of PIA's long-time members, Evelyn Anderson, who died last year [TOE Aug/Sept 2021](#). Evelyn loved both PIA and history; she produced a narrated documentary slide show of Presque Isle Audubon's first three decades (available on our YouTube channel). She made an even larger impact by bequeathing a considerable legacy to our organization, to be managed by the Erie Community Foundation. The Board has requested the name of this fund to be The

Presque Isle Audubon/Evelyn Anderson Endowment Fund.

PIA now has an Instagram account; you can follow it by clicking on the Instagram icon at the bottom of our home page.

Keep in touch,
~Sue Murawski, PIA President
president@presqueisleaudubon.org

JUNE/JULY THINGS TO DO!



Scarlet Tanager

June 3, Friday – PIA Membership Meeting at the Rotary Pavilion from 4:00p to 8:00p with dinner at 6:00p.

June 11, Saturday – Field trip to Gull Point Meet at Stull Center at 7:45 (See p. 2)

June 25, Saturday – Scott Park. (See p. 2)

July 19, Tuesday - PIA Board Meeting at 6:00 at at the TREC.

2021-2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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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

JUNE/JULY PIA BIRDING TRIPS

As always, Presque Isle Audubon hosted field trips are open to the public for people of all ages and skill levels and are free of charge. Unless otherwise specified, any field trips on Presque Isle will meet at the Stull Center parking lot at 7:45AM where we will then carpool to our designated trail. All trips are subject to change depending on trail conditions. Warm and waterproof clothing and shoes are recommended, especially for trips earlier in the schedule. Slip on waterproof boots can come in handy. 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. If you have a spotting scope, you are welcome to bring it.



June 11th: Gull Point Trail for local songbirds, gulls, possible shorebirds

June 25th: Scott Park Our first trip of the season off the park. We will meet at the parking lot near the northern most 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 pre-scheduled Birding Field Trips but keep up to date for possible impromptu trips by checking our Facebook page, website, or newsletter.

Contact info@presqueisleaudubon.org with questions or comments.

FESTIVAL OF THE BIRDS RETURN TO PRESQUE ISLE

By Andrew Sipple, Chair of the Festival Committee

After two years without being able to plan a bird festival, it was a joy to finally revive this special event this year. Approximately 100 people took part from Friday May 13th through Sunday May 15th. Due to uncertainty about COVID-19 during the planning process, the event had to be scaled down in the number of participants compared to previous years. However, this year turned out to be one of the best festivals in the history of the event, with nearly perfect weather, overwhelmingly positive feedback, and an impressive array of birds at the park.

I would like to personally thank the festival committee (below) for all of their hard work in helping to coordinate this event.



Back Row: Janet Price, Julie Dell, Issy Lawrie, Mary Birdsong and Michele Rundquist Franz.
Front Row: Andrew Sipple, Katie Fallon (keynote Speaker), Sue Murawski.

The countless volunteers, sponsors, donors, and park staff that helped to make this festival a success are also greatly appreciated.

We were honored to welcome Katie Fallon as our keynote speaker for this year. Interweaving

humor with authoritative information, her presentation on the remarkable biology of vultures was as entertaining as it was educational. She is the author of *Vulture: The Private Life of an Unloved Bird*, and *Cerulean Blues: A Personal Search for a Vanishing Songbird*.

We are especially grateful for the support of the Tom Ridge Environmental Center Foundation. Lastly, we were blessed to have top-notch field trip leaders and workshop presenters who shared their passion and expertise with participants. It was such a joy to work with so many wonderful people, and the festival community really felt like a family.

We look forward to the possibility of continuing the festival in future years. Stay tuned this summer and fall, as the committee will be discussing the possibility of holding the event again next year.

WE REMEMBER JEAN JOYCE



Jean was an active member of Presque Isle Audubon who participated often in birdwatching. She attended the monthly programs and helped with many of the Audubon education programs offered for the public. Birders remembered Jean during the four-hour Saturday field trips led by Jerry McWilliams, trudging through muck, under tree limbs and down trails. This became too much for her so friends worked it out so she could attend a two-hour session! Those birders also recall Jean with the Gadwalls, a waterfowl whose name she could never remember.!

BIRD SIGHTINGS

The following birds of note were reported for April and May 2022 from Presque Isle State Park unless noted otherwise.

Red-necked Grebe—1; April 16; Presque Isle Bay; G.S.

Snowy Plover—1; April 25; Gull Point; M.B.; first April record and fourth county record.



Snowy Plover

Whimbrel—up to 5; May 21; Gull Point; M.B., et al.

White-rumped Sandpiper—1; May 21 & 22; Gull Point; M.B., R.D., resp.

Western Sandpiper—1; April 20; Gull Point; S.M. (See Below)



California Gull—1; April 26; Gull Point; S.M., T.L.; first record for April

Cattle Egret—1; April 24; Duck Pond and Niagara Pond; T.L.

Black Vulture—1; May 21; Erie Bluffs S.P.; S.M.

Glossy Ibis—1; May 2 & 6; Thompson Marsh & Long Pond Trail; D.G. and T.D., resp.(Below)



Golden Eagle—1; May 9; Presque Isle Hawk Watch at the TREC; S.M., J.M. (See Below)



Snowy Owl—1; April 3 to 13; Gull Point; R.D., et al.

Long-eared Owl—1; April 3 to 9; pines; R.D.

Northern Saw-whet Owl—1; April 9; pines; R.D.

Clay-colored Sparrow—1; May 11; Fry's landing; banded by Erie Bird Observatory (fide S.T.) 1; May 21; Erie Bluffs S.P.; S.M.



Clay-colored Sparrow

BIRDSIGHTINGS (Cont.)

Fish Crow—1 call recorded; May 15; tree near breakwater 54; S.M. First fully documented record for the county.

Yellow-breasted Chat—1; May 20 & 21; Erie Bluffs S.P.; D.S., S.M., resp. (See Below)



Yellow-headed Blackbird—1 male; April 28; Niagara Pond; J.C.

Bullock's Oriole X Baltimore Oriole—1; May 15; Erie feeder; R.S.

Brewer's Blackbird—1; April 25 to 28; beach 11 parking lot; S.M., R.D., J.M. et al.

Kentucky Warbler—1; May 14; Pine Tree Trail; D.P. (See Below)



Golden-winged Warbler—1; May 13; Fry's landing; R.H. ; May 18 & 20; Fry's landing; S.M.

Prothonotary Warbler—up to 5; May 13+; head of bay nest building in artificial nest boxes; J.H.

Orange-crowned Warbler—1; May 13; near Perry Monument; S.T. 1; May 16; P.I.; S.M.

Brewster's Warbler (hybrid: Golden and Blue-winged) —1; May 18; Fry's landing; S.M.



Brewster's Warbler

Painted Bunting—1 male; April 11; West 31st Street at feeder; R.M., fide B.G. (See Below)



Dickcissel—1; May 14; Fry's landing; A.W.



Dickcissel

Contributors: M.B.-Mary Birdsong, J.C.-John Campbell, T.D.-Tara Dodge, R.D.-Roger Donn, B.G.-Bonnie Ginader, D.G.-Darla Graff, J.H.-Jamie Hill, R.H.-Rob Hodgson, T.L.-Tim Lenz, J.M.-Jerry McWilliams, S.M.-Sam Meigs, R.M.-Rose Miada, D.P.-Donald Pendleton, D.S.-Don Snyder, G.S.-Gavon Svenson, R.S.-Ruth Swaney, S.T.-Shannon Thompson, A.W.-Asher Whitney

~Jerry McWilliams jerrymcw@aol.com

LOCAL STUDENTS DISCOVER THE AMAZING WORLD OF BIRDS THROUGH ART

by Andrew Sipple, Chair of the Education Committee

This spring, Presque Isle Audubon partnered with Sister Pat Lupo at the Inner-City Neighborhood Art House to host a three-session series on the topic of birds for an afterschool program. We had children of various ages participate from around the city. This was a great opportunity to bring the joy of birdwatching to the next generation of environmental stewards.

During the first session, children measured their own wingspans and wingbeats, and compared them to local bird species. They also had the opportunity to connect with avian ambassadors during a special program with Tamarack Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. The second session offered an opportunity for students to express their creativity through watercolor bird paintings. Each child demonstrated outstanding talent and meaningful learning in their work.



For the final session, everyone learned how to use field guides and binoculars, and we hiked around the city to observe urban bird populations.

I would like to thank the amazing staff at the Art House for collaborating with us.

It was an honor to offer this learning experience to the students.



After working with these children, I have immense hope for the future of our planet and the lovely creatures that share it with us.

SEEKING A NEW WEBMASTER

With regret, the Board accepted the resignation of long-time “Keeper of the Home Page”, Toni Kelly, who has agreed to continue on until her replacement is found.

We asked Toni to estimate the time she spends on tasks associated with this position. She noted it varies, from one to two hours per month working on the web site, and the same amount for revising the MailChimp email list. Website tasks include formatting the bimonthly newsletter to send out electronically. Additional time is spent gleaning info from the Tern of Events to put into separate areas on our website, such as the list of field trips, upcoming membership programs, and bird sightings.

This is not a volunteer position; an annual stipend is paid. Please [contact us](#) if you are interested in this position, could recommend someone else, or have questions about the position.

Thank you, Toni, for sharing your expertise and style in designing and maintaining our website over many years!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We want to welcome all the new members, both National and Chapter only members into the Presque Isle Audubon. When you join National Audubon, you get a free membership to our local chapter, the Presque Isle Audubon. Our newsletter keeps you updated on all of our activities and field trips. The members are:

Erie: Jack & Pat Sims, Ernest Catlin, Joan Hersperger, Patricia Murphy, Ronald Suprynowicz, Michael Brumberger, Christine Decrease, Carolyn Tellers, M. Kirkpatrick, Dotie Hodapp, Rosemary Renner, Rena Wierbinski, Diane Kallor, Carol Bowersox, Michael Whitley, Bonnie Ginader, Matt Martin, Ruth Schumacher, Marie Przepierski, William Mayhew, Max Peaster, Linda Best, Carolyn Sturtevant, Roy Walker, Ken Andersen, Asher Whitney, Carol Thomas, Meg Kessler, Mary Prather, David Woledge, AnnaMarie Senita, Lyman Cohen, Janet Price, Bonnie Ginader, Sylvia Jarema, Marcia Hall

Albion: Kathleen Monroe

Cambridge Sps: Cynthia Newell

Cochranon: Sue Nageotte

Conneautville: Adam & AnnaLisa Troyer

Cranesville: Carol Ambro

Edinboro: Terry Darcangelo, Karen Renick, Donna Nicholas, Gregory Lessig

Elkridge, MD: Griffith Family

Fairview: Denise Foltz, Joao & Delores Tavares, Darla Graff, Greg Gorniak

Girard: Natalie Sorge, James Baxter, Dottie Pfeiffer

Jamestown: Nick Despo

McKean: Sandra Figueroa, Doris Kroto

Meadville: Mary Kay Radnich, Margaret Bell, Joyce Lynn, Kimberly Boal

North East: Suzanne Mader, Diana Hatfield

Pittsburgh: Dallas DiLeo, Linda DiLeo

Union City: Daniel Rifenberick

Waterford: John Williams

Wexford, Pa: Ed Weller

Any Questions, Just email me.

~Ron Intrieri, Membership Chairman
membership@presqueisleaudubon.org

SAVE THE DATE



Save the Date for Erie Gives! This year Erie Gives is on August 9, 2022. Mark your calendars! Erie Gives is a powerful source of funding for Presque Isle Audubon. We are so appreciative of all our donors!

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.

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.**

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