



# TERN OF EVENTS

PRESQUE ISLE AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER  
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2018 ISSUE 18:06

*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 PRESIDENT'S PERCH

### Fall Birding

Every season brings with it a unique experience for bird watchers. While there are checklists, historical reports, maps, and forecasts, the predictability does not diminish the joy of each sighting. Warblers, returning from their breeding grounds, pass through Erie at the same time that the Winter Finch report helps us to look forward to what is to come. Those that are subscribed to the PABIRDS listserv recognize Fall as the beginning of Jerry's waterbird counts. How we enjoy the experience of the season is different, but the importance is that we take the time to savor it.

I was looking for and watching a few warblers in my backyard a week ago. As I looked up into a tree, craning my neck to identify this non-descript drab bird, a few thoughts flew by in rapid succession: This feels like Spring birding... I just want to figure out what this bird is... GISS... That is an interesting looking leaf... No, or very faint wingbars, lots of faded brown/yellow/green coloration... Fall birding stinks... This is a nice challenge... Enjoy the moment... Drew Lanham was such a great speaker...

Reflecting on that presentation by Drew Lanham brought me back around to something that is horribly difficult for me to stay latched onto: enjoy every bird for every moment. Staying in the moment is a struggle for me. It is easy for me to get caught up in the work of the day, the schedule of the week, the

meeting coming up, or the task that needs attending. I enjoy being busy. I forget that peace, stillness, and observation can be productive, too. I forget the need to seek those quiet moments, observing the bird without expectation or anticipation. And thankfully, there are those moments when the pressing need for stillness comes flying back.

(Cont. on Page 7)

## OCTOBER/NOVEMBER THINGS TO DO!



**October 13, Saturday** – Field Trip to Eaton Reservoir

**October 16, Tuesday** – Festival of the Birds Committee Meeting at the TREC at 6:00PM

**October 19, Friday** – PIA Program and Social Program: Some birds (and Other Creatures) I Met in Ecuador (See Page 3)

**October 27, Saturday** – Field Trip to Thompson Bay

**November 16, Friday** – PIA Program and Social Program: Birds and Other Wildlife of Florida's Gulf Coast: Tampa to Naples (See Page 3)

**November 20, Tuesday** – PIA Board Meeting at 6:00p in the Conference Room at the TREC

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

### 2018-2019 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

2016-2019	Jason Lymangrover
2016-2019	Kathy Lutton
2017-2020	Issy Lawrie
2017-2020	Michele Rundquist-Franz
2018-2021	Dave Gustafson
2018-2021	Tony Keck

#### Chairs of Standing Committees

Bird Records	Jerry McWilliams
Conservation	Paul Burroughs
Education	Lisa Danko
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Grants	Marion Gallivan
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Library	Marion Gallivan
Membership	Ron Intrieri
Nominating	Dave Gustafson
Presque Isle	Paul Burroughs
Publications	Janet Price
Publicity	Jennifer Ferrick
Programs	Mary Birdsong
Sales & Marketing	Issy Lawrie
Sanctuaries	Sue Murawski

Welcome to all or our new members as well as those that rejoined.

Erie: Lorin Blakeslee, Andrew Conner, Bruce Arkwright, Nancy Andersen, Ashley Stewart, Kathleen Pae, Deborah Diplacido, Ronald Knauer, Marian Wygant, Larry Dunlap, Tom Minski, Vicki Roberts, Jerry McWilliams, Toni & Bob Griffith, Thomas Chandley

Cambridge Sps: Robert Grinarmi

Centerville: Ruth Higley

Edinboro: Catherine Whitley

Jamestown: Sandra Holowenko

Meadville: Ellie Levbeto, David Shoup, Robert Capron

Saegertown: Elaine Pratt, David Miller

Titusville: Emily Mills

Waterford: Lois Wiley

Mexico, NY: Patrick Crotty

~Ron Intrieri, Membership Chairman  
membership@presqueisleaudubon.org

### AN IRRUPTION IS PREDICTED!

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)

What is an irruption? Irregular seasonal movements of birds. This year it is suggested that we watch for these species to come to our area: red-breasted nuthatches, Pine siskins, evening grosbeaks, common redpolls, Bohemian waxwings and purple finches. Sunflower seeds are a popular food for many of these birds along with thistle seed. Watch your birch trees and fruiting plants as well especially for the Bohemian waxwings. Wishing you good winter birding!

**PIA MONTHLY PROGRAMS**  
**Friday, October 19 and November 23**  
**Tom Ridge Environmental Center**  
**Room 112**  
**Program: 7:00pm**

**OCTOBER PROGRAM, OCTOBER 19**

**SOME BIRDS (and OTHER CREATURES) I MET  
in ECUADOR**



Michele Rundquist-Franz, past president and current Field Trip Chair of PIA, will share some photo highlights of her trip to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands where she spent 10 days in June of this year.

**NOVEMBER PROGRAM, NOVEMBER 23**

**BIRDS and OTHER WILDLIFE of FLORIDA'S  
GULF COAST: TAMPA to NAPLES**

Erie native and renowned wildlife photographer Shawn Carey will take us on a journey to some of the Gulf Coast's most popular wildlife destinations—Fort DeSoto, Venice Rookery, and 'Ding' Darling National

Wildlife Refuge—as well as many lesser-known treasures like Venice Land II, Myakka River State Park, and Bunch Beach. Expect Spoonbills, Alligators, Limpkins, Eagle and more.



As a bonus, Shawn will pass along his recommendations for a good place to relax, eat, and recap the day's adventures. We'll have to ask about places to get lifer pie.

**FUTURE FIELD TRIPS**

Michele Rundquist Franz, Field Trip Leader

On October 13th we will meet at the parking area on Ashton Road at 8:00 AM and hit the trails at Eaton Reservoir/Bull Dam. Directions: From I-90 turn SE on Rt. 430. Go about 15 miles to Ashton Road. Turn left on Ashton and travel a few miles to the parking area.

On October 27th we'll be back at Presque Isle, meeting at the Stull Center at 8:00 AM and heading to the Thompson Bay Area to survey for waterfowl, waders and whatever else enters our sites. Remember, as with most PIAS events, the field trips are free and open to the public and welcome all levels of experience! Check the Presque Isle Audubon webpage for information about all our activities including monthly programs, field trips, workshops for kids, and our Spring Festival of the Birds.

## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

By Michele Rundquist Franz

On September 15th a nice mix of experienced and novice birders hit the trails at McClelland Park for one of PIAS bi-weekly Saturday morning field trips. From the moment we parked, we knew we'd be seeing some birds today. Janet Price, who's been to McClelland Park a few times, most recently representing PIA at the trail opening ceremony, told us that she initially did not have high hopes of seeing many birds at all based on her past experiences there. She and the rest of the crew were happily surprised to see a nice little group of red-bellied woodpeckers and northern flickers in the trees in the distance. Karen Larson, new to birding, got to test drive some birding binoculars courtesy of PIA to get an idea of what she might like to purchase should she catch the birding bug. She also had the benefit of the experienced birders around her describe how to "get on" the bird by guiding her eyes up into the trees. "See that tree to the left of the tallest tree...follow the trunk up to the right where it splits and follow the limb up to just beyond where the leaves turn brown." "Oh, yes!" Success!! We saw several local species as we ventured into the wooded parts of the trail and as we were about to leave the woods we heard what could only have been a warbler. I was surprised to hear a warbler singing so heartily this time of year but glad because it allowed us to search him out. We followed our ears and finally were able to pick out a Magnolia warbler who showed himself a few times through the dense leaves. The "birdiest" part of the park was at the edge of a stand of trees surrounded by medium height bushes as we exited the wooded part of the trail. Several flycatchers were spotted including a yellow-bellied flycatcher. We also had a couple of redstarts and a yellow warbler. All in all on this trip we tallied 22 species.

September 29th was another awesome Autumn day for a field trip and today we birded Pine Tree Trail on Presque Isle State Park on the lookout for Fall warblers. While we only saw one species of warbler, numerous yellow-rumped warblers, we had some nice surprises. In all we tallied 29 species including a handsome male purple finch and a diminutive brown creeper.



Pat, Kate, Karen, Janet and Nick

Another highlight was a young red-shouldered hawk that hung out for most of the morning in the swampy area across from Pine Tree Trail and Thompson Circle. At one point, he gave a spectacular show chasing smaller birds. Although we were fairly certain of our identification, it was cemented later by the unmistakable call of the beautiful buteo. We made a quick stop at the banding station where Sarah Sargent, Master Bander and co-founder of the Erie Bird Observatory, generously explained a few details to the banding process to the group. As an added bonus, we had an impromptu post-birding coffee klatch at Brew HaHa!

Below is a list of the species tallied for the day:

American goldfinch  
Canada goose  
Mourning dove  
Ring-billed gull  
Double Crested Cormorant  
Eastern towhee H/O  
Tufted Titmouse

(Cont. on Page 5)

**FIELD TRIP REPORTS (Cont.)**



**Ruby Crowned Kinglet**

- Turkey Vulture
- Cooper's hawk
- Downy woodpecker



**Brown Creeper**

- Cedar waxwing
- Northern cardinal
- Northern flicker
- Eastern towhee H/O
- Red-winged blackbird
- American crow
- Black-capped chickadee
- American robin
- Gray catbird
- Yellow-rumped warbler
- Eastern phoebe
- Blue jay



**Red Breasted Nuthatch**



**Cedar Waxwing**



**Purple finch**

**EDITOR'S NOTE**

Due to the absence of our usual Bird Report, I took the liberty of including a list of birds seen at Presque Isle during one of our PIA field trips. I thought it would be nice to see some of the birds that don't make the report. These are among my favorite birds and I hope you enjoy them as well.

## **WILDLIFE IN NEED EMERGENCY RESPONSE OF PENNSYLVANIA , INC.**

Wildlife in Need (WIN) needs volunteers. Rehabilitators and Couriers are needed everywhere in the state of Pennsylvania to help wildlife. If you or anyone you know that might be interested, you are welcome to register for either the Wildlife Rehabilitation Essentials Workshop or the Wildlife Couriers (Wildlife Ambulance Drivers) workshop.

### **Rehabilitator Workshops**

There are two workshops for rehabilitators that are one day seminars.



**When:** Oct. 20 and Oct. 21, 9:00am - 4:00pm

**Where:** 8553 Pettis Rd.,  
Meadville Pa. 16335

Register at one of the following websites:

[www.pawr.com](http://www.pawr.com)

[www.wildlifeedu.com](http://www.wildlifeedu.com)

[www.redcreekwildlifecenter.com](http://www.redcreekwildlifecenter.com)



Each workshop include the following topics:

- Stress in the Wild Patient
- Safe Handling
- Intake and Exam (Lab)
- Shock and the Wild Patient
- Fluid Therapy
- Injections (Lab)
- Wounds and Stabilization
- Bandaging (Lab)
- Getting Involved in Wildlife Rehabilitation

### **Wildlife Courier Workshop**

**When:** October 27 from 9:00 – 11:00

**Where:** Borough of Edinboro Office  
124 Meadville Street  
Edinboro PA 16412

**Register at:** (814)-425-7731 or  
e-mail: [sdearment@windstream.net](mailto:sdearment@windstream.net)

#### **Learn what is needed to become a wildlife courier**

- Mission and Goals of WIN Emergency Response of Pennsylvania, Inc.
- Awareness of Dangers to you and Wildlife
- Preparing for a Rescue
- Safe Practices and Common Sense
  
- How to assist Capture and Transport (C & T) Permittee
- Containing an Animal
- How to Safely Transport an Animal
- Group Rescue

### **Wildlife Capture and Transport Workshop**

**When:** November 10, 9:00am-4:00pm

**Where:** Borough of Edinboro Office  
124 Meadville Street  
Edinboro, PA 16412

Register at one of the following websites:

[www.pawr.com](http://www.pawr.com)

[www.wildlifeedu.com](http://www.wildlifeedu.com)

[www.redcreekwildlifecenter.com](http://www.redcreekwildlifecenter.com)

This entertaining and enlightening course covers the basics of wildlife capture in the field including legal issues, safety, equipment, recognizing true emergencies, proper capture and handling techniques, public relations and education.

For more information about WIN, go to their website: <https://winemergencyresponse.com>

## A CELEBRATION IN McCLELLAND PARK



**JANET PRICE, PIA REPRESENTATIVE**

A few years ago this 56-acre park on Erie's east side was virtually undeveloped. City workers, in collaboration with Sierra Club volunteers, have added a 1.3 mile trails network that empowers all people to access the scenic areas and experience the ecosystem of an urban park.

This project was made possible by a \$10,000 grant the Lake Erie Group of the PA Sierra Club Chapter received from the Sierra Club Foundation. Additional funding was provided by **Presque Isle Audubon Society** and others. In-kind contributions (time, talent and energy) from local Sierra Club members and many other volunteers provided needed help.

### EDITOR'S NOTE

Presque Isle Audubon members should be proud to have helped with the funding of this much needed project on the east side of Erie. I felt that I needed to promote awareness of this accessible park by writing this short article. If you haven't been there yet, I suggest that you make the trip there for exercise and pure enjoyment of nature.

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

Printed on recycled paper.

## PRESIDENT'S PERCH (Cont.)

Living in the moment with each bird can also be a wonderful reminder that we might do the same for those people around us – each with a unique story to tell, a journey experienced, and lessons to share... if we take the time to open ourselves to them. PIA is full of committed and dedicated individuals that serve the group in so many different ways. If you haven't participated in a field trip, program, or meeting lately, please consider coming out so that we might enjoy your company.

I hope to see you on the trails.

-DM

### TIPS AND REMINDERS TO HELP BIRDS AND TO HAVE A HEALTHY YARD

Sign up for Project Feeder Watch and become a citizen scientist by counting the birds that come to your feeders from November to April. Sign up at: <https://feederwatch.org>

Stock up on bird seed and suet for the winter months.

Keep your hummingbird feeders full until two weeks after the last migrant has left.

Rake fallen leaves under shrubs and into garden beds as a protective mulch layer and as foraging areas for birds.

Set up roosting boxes to provide shelter for birds during the winter.

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

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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  
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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

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