CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, March 8: Dr. Brent Horton of Millersville University presents a Zoom meeting titled, "White-throated Sparrows: A Closer Look at This Common But Not Ordinary Species." 7:00 p.m.

Monday, April 12: Kevin Loughlin, president and owner of Wildside Nature Tours, presents a webinar titled, "U.S. National Park Treasures: Yellowstone, Tetons, and Glacier". 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 22: Wildflower Walk: for Earth Day, come along on a wild flower walk in southeastern York County. Shenks Ferry Wildflower Preserve in Lancaster County is well known for its abundance of wildflowers due to a geologic feature. Not so well known is that this feature occurs on the York side as well. Contact Bernie Frick at bernardfrick@comcast.net to join this morning walk in the woods of roughly a mile depending on the group.

Sunday, May 2: Bird Walk at Nixon Park: this morning walk will start at the Hollow Creek Trail parking lot, 400 Valley Rd, York and pick up the Old Field Trail among others in Nixon Park, lasting about 2 hours. Contact Bernie Frick at BernardFrick@Comcast.net to register and for more information.

Saturday, May 8: Morning bird walk at the William H. Kain County Park, Lake Redman Boardwalk to look for warblers, nesting birds, and wetland birds. Refer to trail #3A on the York County Birding Sites section at www.yorkaudubon.org for details. No bathroom facilities available. Meet at 8:30 AM. In case of bad weather, we will re-schedule. Leaders: Dick Humbert and Sherry Lookofsky. Call 717-880-6644 to register or email sherryklookofsky@comcast.net.

Monday, May 10: Adrian Binns, of Wildside Nature Tours, presents a webinar titled, "Botswana: Okavango Delta Wildlife" 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 18: Bird walk at Hopewell Area Recreation Complex to look for grassland nesting birds, as well as red-headed woodpeckers. Leaders: Alice and Tom Simmons. 717-428-3673. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the parking lot.

Update on Magee Marsh and other wildlife viewing areas around Toledo Ohio:

A question was sent to past participants in the NatureStabler Explorations/York Audubon Society organized bus trips. The overwhelming response was hesitancy based on the unknowns for the pandemic and the vaccine. So NatureStabler Explorations will not offer a Magee bus trip for 2021. It will be offered again in May 2022. For those of you who want to go on your own, I'll be releasing our rooms for May 12-15 on Monday, Feb 15. The Boardwalk at Magee will be closed to the public from April 15 to June 1st, 2021 to keep crowds from gathering closer than the recommended COVID-19 social distancing guidelines. The Black Swamp Bird Observatory has cancelled its annual “The Biggest Week in American Birding” and will provide all of its programs by internet. If you would like to enjoy the Biggest Week, now is the time to do it! We haven’t been part of the organized program when visiting Magee. If you join the Black Swamp Bird Observatory for $25 you can participate in the presentations May 6–10. Go to BiggestWeekinAmericanBirding.com/special-announcement.html to sign up.

Update on the Bombay Hook and White Clay State Park trip: For the same reason that the Magee trip is cancelled, the Bombay Hook trip is also being postponed. We will try to take in the fall migration. Does anyone have suggestions for a time... Oct, Nov, Dec 2021?

Chincoteague and Assateague: We will return to Refuge Inn in Chincoteague on November 5-7, 2021. The details need to be worked out but the hotel rooms are booked. Suggestions to enhance the trip would be appreciated. Last time we visited Kiptopeke, Chincoteague, and Assateague.
YAS PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Carolyn Mathur

Greetings to all!

Today I will update you on our activities over the past year. One of our goals for 2020 was moving to a new location for our monthly chapter meetings. As many of you know, we were excited to secure the UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION of YORK, 925 S. GEORGE ST, YORK, PA., and we had our first meeting on March 9, 2020. It is fantastic, a beautiful, large church, perfectly suited for us. We had a large attendance that night, and a wonderful speaker, Peter Kaestner, who is the first birder to record 9000 birds on eBird. Then COVID hit, and we haven’t gone back to the church since. We floundered for a while, and some members wanted to still hold meetings, but the church is not open due to COVID. We cancelled everything in stages, until the whole spring was cancelled. But over the summer some of us learned about Zoom, plus we had one Board member, Sherry Lookofsky, who was teaching on Zoom. And I attended several Zoom meetings of the PA State Audubon chapters, under Kelly McGinley. That was helpful to me and gave us the courage to explore using Zoom for board meetings. Bernie Frick agreed to study Zoom and become our Zoom specialist. So we started Zoom board meetings over the summer. We sent out a post card to all members explaining our plans to have Zoom chapter meetings in the Fall, and asked for their email address to invite them to our meetings. Then we took off and it has been going smoothly! We had 3 Zoom chapter meetings in the Fall and offer 5 this spring (2021)! Our attendance is around 35 to 40 each meeting, but we collected over 100 emails to send out invites.

We made tremendous progress toward our goal of creating a York County Bird Trail during 2020. Former YAS Vice President Andrew Wolfgang, along with Membership Chair George Schardt and many others, created an attractive, interactive birding trail map of 20 sites in York County. It is located on our web site, www.yorkaudubon.org. We decided to create signs, labelling the trail at each location.

We hired an artist (Thomas Brookes) to design the sign (see picture attached). We had the signs printed with financial help from York County Parks. We are also excited that YAS Treasurer Bernie Frick applied for, and received, an Audubon Grant to help fund the project! We need to contact all the sites to see where to hang the signs. In addition, we want to prepare a brochure to advertise the trail.

We experienced huge changes in our YAS Board this past year. We were surprised that our newsletter editor, Karen Lippy, stepped down from her position but we are grateful for all the years and hard work she has done for York Audubon over the years! But we are pleased to announce our new Newsletter Editor and Board member, Brandon Pentz, a Naturalist at Nixon Park! Welcome, Brandon!

The YAS Board was extremely saddened at the passing of Alice Frick this past year. Her contributions to York Audubon were immeasurable and we miss her terribly. We extend our love and support to her husband Bernie Frick, who is also on the Board.

Please keep up with our activities by visiting our website at www.yorkaudubon.org. And send your email to Audubonyorkpa@gmail.com to get invitations to our upcoming Zoom chapter meetings!

Miss seeing you and hope to see you soon on Zoom!

Happy Birding!

Carolyn Mathur, President, York Audubon Society

Northern Cardinal, Carolyn Mathur
YORK AUDUBON BIRDING BLOG
Have an unusual bird sighting? An unusual bird for the area, an unusual time of year for a bird to be seen, or maybe the first of the season as the migration season begins? Report it on our new Birding Blog. Members can enter their sightings (text only) on the blog for other members to read and comment on. In addition, if you wish, you can indicate that you would like to be notified immediately by email when another member posts to this page. This is a great way to report and/or hear of timely information of unusual bird sightings in our area. Click on the “Birding Blog” button and check it out!

- Go to www.yorkaudubon.org
- Scroll down the home page until you see the blue button labeled “Birding Blog” and click on the button.
- This will take you to a page labeled “Unusual Bird Sightings”.
- On the right hand side of that page, there will be an underlined statement that will indicate the current number of comments. Click on the “Comments” link.
- This will take you to a page that will show all comments that have been entered by participants.
- You may reply to a specific comment by clicking on any “REPLY” button box under a specific comment.
- If you wish to enter a new unrelated comment, scroll to the bottom of the page, and look for the section labeled “Leave a Reply”, and enter the information in the areas provided.
- When finished with your entry, if you wish to be notified of any comments posted to this page, check the box labeled “notify me of new comments to this post by email”. You will then be notified by email when anyone posts information to this area on the website.
- Press “Submit” to post your entry.

“York Audubon Birding Trail” sign to be posted at the birding sites around York County

Membership Application
Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society and of the York Audubon Society. Please send Audubon Magazine and my membership card to the address below.

Chapter Code U14

NAME____________________________________________
ADDRESS____________________________________________
CITY________________________________________________
STATE___________ZIP________________________

Introductory membership is $20
(Senior and Student fees no longer apply.)

Please make checks payable to National Audubon Society

Mail to:
National Audubon Society
P.O. Box 97188
Washington, DC. 20077-7124

Or renew by phone: 1-844-428-3826

Renew on-line at: www.audubon.org
Contact Information

*Please contact board members at: audubonyorkpa@gmail.com*

President: Carolyn Mathur
Vice-president: Jean Leaman
Recording Secretary: Sherry Lookofsky
Treasurer: Bernie Frick
717-843-6675
Ways and Means: Dick Humbert
717-266-1864
Program/Field Trips: Tish Swam
717-235-2578
Education: (vacant)
Membership/Website: George Schardt
717-741-3078
Hospitality: Darlene Schardt
717-741-3078
Publicity: Tom Bird
717-755-0740

Newsletter: Brandon Pentz
610-743-0192
Christmas Count: Bernie Frick
717-843-6675
PA Birds: Phil Keener
717-259-9984
piliche74@yahoo.com
Past President: Tom Smith
717-246-9797
Birding Hotline: Birdingonthe.net

Please Note Our NEW MEETING LOCATION
(when in-person meetings resume)
OUR YORK AUDUBON SOCIETY Regular
MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS
WILL BE HELD AT THE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH of YORK,
925 S. GEORGE ST, YORK, PA
(just north of York Hospital)