Notice:

Due to the Covid pandemic, all events and locations are subject to change. Any changes in the schedule will be announced via email and updated on our website (yorkaudubon.org). If you are not currently getting our email updates, but would like to be included; please contact audubonyorkpa@gmail.com.

Monday, March 14, 2022: Join Peter Kaestner on Zoom for his presentation titled, "Micronesia~~~Jewels Above and Below the Water". Memories of World War 11 battles, rare endemic birds, and spectacular undersea life highlight a month-long journey through the tiny islands of Micronesia. 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 2, 2022 York Audubon Banquet at East Berlin Area Community Center! Family style dinner, silent auction, 50/50 and a great presentation by Maryland photographer Middleton Evans, titled, "Birds of Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia". Autographed copies of his book will be for sale. SAVE THE DATE!

Wed., April 20, 2022: Spring wildflower walk near Otter Creek, Airville. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Queensgate Shopping Center near the Community Aid Thrift Store towards the southwest edge where we will carpool. Expect a rich vein of wildflowers near the river. After a trail walk, we can move to the Urey Overlook for a view of the river. Bring a lunch, if inclined. Leader: Bernie Frick at Bernardfrick@comcast.net

Thursday, May 5, 2022: Trip to The Gardener of the Owl Valley near Hellam, owned by Judy and Dick Bono. Stroll along paths of woodland gardens by a stream, while viewing many varieties of native wildflowers and trees. Also, visit their lovely shop on the property. Meet at the Red Robin parking lot at York Galleria at 8:30 a.m. to carpool. Call coordinator Tish Swam at 717-235-2578

Saturday, May 7, 2022: Bird walk at Nixon County Park and Lake Redman boardwalk. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Hollow Creek Trail parking lot, 400 Valley Road. Note that this is NOT the parking lot area at Nixon Park Visitors' Center. Walk will include trails and some moderate climbs, open fields, wetlands, and streams. Leader: Bernie Frick at Bernardfrick@comcast.net

Monday, May 9, 2022: David Arrow presents a very helpful and informative program titled, "Viewing Nature in the Digital Age: Smart Tools to Help Find, Identify, and Preserve". Location: TBD

Wed., May 18, 2022: Bird walk at Kiwanis Lake at 9:00 a.m. Park on Wood Street just off Pennsylvania Avenue, west of the lake. See nesting Great Egrets and Black-crowned Night Herons and see why this is designated a PA Audubon Important Bird Area. Contact Bernie Frick at BernardFrick@comcast.net

Thursday, May 26, 2022: Visit Draycott Gardens in northern Baltimore County. Stroll through Carol Warner's private gardens to see a huge collection of irises, peonies, and exquisite tree specimens, alongside spring perennials and annuals. Her license plate says "IRIS LADY"...her gardens have been visited by countless groups from all over the country! Meet at Shrewsbury Giant parking lot at 9:00 a.m. to carpool. Plan to eat lunch in Hereford on the way back. Leader: Tish Swam 717-235-2578.

Saturday, June 11, 2022: Annual York Audubon Society picnic at William Kain Park's Muskie Pavilion. Meet at 12:00 noon with a dish to share and your own utensils. The pavilion has electrical outlets. All are invited for fun and games! Bring your binoculars for birdwatching! Questions? Contact coordinator Tish Swam 717-235-2578.
Message from Carolyn Mathur, Former YAS President

After 5 1/2 busy years as YAS President, I have decided to step down from this position. I enjoyed serving the York Audubon Society and working with our excellent Board of Directors over these years. Some highlights I especially enjoyed, include organizing the national Audubon bird photography traveling exhibit at Columbia Crossing. Plus, our annual birding field trips to the Magee Marsh birding areas in Ohio, led by Becky Stabler (NatureStabler.com), were always a fascinating adventure that I enjoyed tremendously. I hope we can continue these once we have Covid under control.

And in these past 2 years we created the York County Birding Trail, which was a huge, combined effort, starting with the ideas of Karen Lippy, followed by Andrew Wolfgang’s creative and physical efforts to choose the sites and put the map together on our web site. I worked with the artist Thomas Brooks (artbythomasbrooks@gmail) to design a sign to display at each location. Bernie Frick got a grant from National Audubon to pay for signage at the sites and brochures. George and Darlene Schardt oversaw designing and publishing the trail on our web site and the creation of brochures in both English and Spanish. All board members were involved in physically installing the signs at the map birding sites, getting permission from the various locations and deciding where to put the signs at each site. I also am thankful to our secretary Sherry Lookofsky for all she has contributed to our successes, being very active in all our activities, and keeping track of everything we do. And I greatly appreciate our creative, energetic, and fun-loving Program Chair, Tish Swam, for her tireless, ongoing search to find outstanding speakers for the wonderful monthly programs she has put together over the years. Such a talented group!

We added a new member to the Board, David Arrow, an excellent birder who has gotten very active in supporting our activities in recent years. And I am so pleased that David has accepted the Board’s invitation to be my successor as president of York Audubon Society! David will be a tremendous asset to our society, and we are all excited to have him lead us into the upcoming years.

-Carolyn

Message From David Arrow, Incoming YAS President

I am honored to accept the invitation to serve as President of our York Audubon Chapter. Since my most active involvement in our chapter has been during Covid, I have not had the opportunity to get to know many of you well yet; so allow me to take this opportunity to introduce myself.

Although I am originally from western PA (New Castle), I have lived in York County for the past 29 years, where I have worked and continue to work as a chemistry teacher at West York High School. Growing up, I always loved being outdoors. I got my first introduction to birding when as a member of my high school’s Envirothon team where I starting learning about birds and bird calls. I quickly became enthralled with the excitement of birding, particularly warbler migration. For most of my life, I would have considered myself a pretty serious birder; however, my birding was largely focused on birding in the spring. In 2020, I had the opportunity to bird avidly throughout the entire year, with a focus on birding in York County. Thankfully, there were a lot of resources available to guide me in this journey. The newly developed York Birding Trail and Guide on the York Audubon Web Page was a great resource to find new places to bird. I was pleasantly surprised to discover how fun and exciting birding through the year in York County could be. I have developed a great appreciation for the resources and parks that we have in our county.

I have a passion for the wonder and beauty of nature and am equally passionate about sharing that knowledge with others. As an Envirothon coach at West York for over 20 years, some of my favorite experiences are seeing young peoples’ eyes being opened up to this digital age that we live in now, with so many people being disconnected from nature, I feel that it is more important than ever to help people develop an appreciation for it and to educate others on the dependence and interconnectedness that we all have with our environment. I feel that is especially important to reach out to our youngest generation.

We have a great team of members and leadership at York Audubon and I am grateful to be joining the team in this new role. I look forward to getting to know each of you better as we try to safely navigate toward more in-person meetings over the course of this year.

-David
Annual York Audubon Banquet

WHEN: Saturday, April 2, 2022
WHERE: East Berlin Area Community Center
405 North Avenue, East Berlin, PA 17316
COST: $22 per person prepaid by March 26th
       $25 (cash only) at the door
       Reservations required.

Come early for our silent auction, raffle, 50/50 and socializing with members.
   Doors open at 4:00.

TIME: Dinner served at 6:00.

MENU
Served Family Style

Baked Chicken    Dinner Roll
Baked Ham        Cranberry Sauce
Scalloped Potatoes Homemade Fruit Pies and Ice Cream
Candied Carrots  Iced Tea, Ice Water, and Coffee
Green Beans

YAS presents Middleton Evans as he shares his latest book which highlights exquisite photos and a comprehensive handbook to the mid-Atlantic region. The book is titled: “Birds of Maryland, Delaware and the District of Columbia”. Middleton will have books for sale.


I, ___________________________________________________ am attending the YAS annual banquet. Enclosed, please find my check for $____________ to cover the cost for myself and ________ guests.
Join the May 7th Bird Walk at Nixon County Park and the Lake Redman Boardwalk for an opportunity to see migrating songbird species like this Northern Parula. Photo by David Arrow.

Join the April 20th walk near Otter Creek and keep an eye out for spring wildflowers like the Round-lobed Hepatica. Photo: Wikimedia Commons

Kiwanas Lake in the heart of York City is one of the few sites in the state to have breeding Great Egrets, Black-crowned Night Heron, and Yellow-crowned Night Heron. Join the May 18th walk for an opportunity to see these incredible species! Photo: Wikimedia commons
2021 Christmas Bird Count for Kids
By Bernie Frick

Once again Nixon County Park hosted our annual Christmas Bird Count for Kids for the 6th time. On the Thursday between Christmas and New Years, 26 participants including parents/guardians and kids gathered at the park to learn about identifying birds, how to use binoculars, work in a team and find birds in the field. Despite some light drizzle, this was our best turnout.

Splitting into 4 teams, each with an experienced Audubon guide, we regrouped after our walks to tally our count and enjoy hot chocolate and cookies. By the end of the morning, we found 19 species and 128 birds. Each family received a Pennsylvania Bird Guide Pocket Naturalist. We were embedded with a photographer from the York Dispatch and the York County Parks. See page 4 for photos from the event taken by York County Parks’ volunteer Tim Senft.

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.

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
Contact Information

Please contact board members at:
audubonyorkpa@gmail.com

President: David Arrow
tokens4dave@gmail.com

Vice President: Jean Leaman

Recording Secretary: Sherry Lookofsky

Treasurer / Bird Counts: 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

Newsletter: Brandon Pentz
610-743-0192
Brandon.Pentz14@gmail.com

PA Birds: Phil Keener
717-259-9984
pittche74@yahoo.com

Past President: Carolyn Mathur
717-309-7899

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)