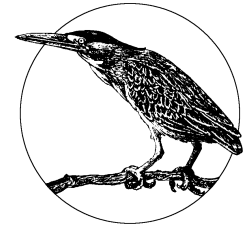


WINGS



ERIE SHORES BIRDING ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 272, Monroe, Michigan 48161

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April 2016

MARCH RECAP

23 people attended Jennifer Braatz's presentation on the Detroit International Wildlife Refuge, which showcased the growing Refuge and what currently is and what will be available soon! This refuge is the only International Wildlife Refuge in the United States! It is 6,000 acres and includes 48 miles of the Detroit River and Lake Erie shorelines. This is also a Federal urban refuge. The visitor center is well underway and the long fishing pier is also under construction, set to open in Spring 2017. Some of the visitor services include fishing, observations, hunting, photography and education. Humbug Marsh is included in the DIWR and is one of only 38 "Ramsar" sites in the U.S. (part of an international agreement to protect wetlands). There will be open houses on May 14th for International Migratory Bird Day. Jennifer mentioned that volunteer positions would soon be available. Check the website www.fws.gov/refuge/detroit_river/!

Raffle Winners: Jake Meyers won the wooden pileated woodpecker ornament, donated by Terri Janssen; Sande Van Buskirk won the birding bag, donated by Anonymous; Bob Pettit won the bird stationery, donated by Anonymous

Hospitality: Thank you, Jackie Copeland, for providing refreshments for this meeting.

Bird Sightings: Karen Potts had American Woodcocks peenting in her yard a few weeks ago; Darlene Wahr heard tree frogs, Molly Wood heard a Great Horned Owl and Anne Smith saw Tree Swallows in Flat Rock, and a Eurasian Wigeon and White-fronted Geese were seen recently at Bay Creek Road at the Erie Game Preserve!

RUSTY BLACKBIRD MIGRATION BLITZ

During the 2014 inaugural season, 4,570 birders submitted 13,400 checklists reporting Rusty Blackbirds to eBird.org. The 2015 Blitz built on this impressive beginning, with 4,885 birders submitting 13,919 checklists. The third and final Blitz kicked off March 1, and once again birders are asked to search for Rusty Blackbirds, especially in Areas of Interest, locations that supported large flocks of Rusties previously. Check [Areas of Interest](#) for an interactive map. Michigan birders can report their sightings to eBird through the first week of May. Please use the "Rusty Blackbird Spring Migration Blitz" protocol option available under "Observation Type- Other" in eBird between 1 March and 15 July only. For full information, go to: rustyblackbird.org/outreach/migration-blitz

APRIL MEETING

Speaker: April 20th's featured speaker will be Barb Baldinger, presenting **Peregrine Falcon Monitoring from Season to Season!**

Michigan began the reintroduction of Peregrine Falcons in Southeast Michigan in 1987, and Barb has been a volunteer with the program since 2005. She will present an overview of several nest sites and show what is involved in monitoring the Peregrine Falcons throughout the nesting season. Included will be close-up photos of eggs, babies, banding of chicks, fledge watch and other fun aspects of monitoring!

Raffle: Fancy birdhouse, donated by Jackie Copeland; Wooden "Bird Watcher" plaque, donated by Carolyn Boellner; Chickadee tile, donated by Anonymous.

Semi-Annual Raffle: Beautiful wood-framed picture of an American Widgeon, donated by Gene and Patty Naujock. The winning ticket will be drawn at this meeting.

Hospitality: Dynamic duo Karen Potts and Carolyn Boellner will provide refreshments for this month's meeting.

Meeting Info: Wednesday, April 20, **Membership meeting 7:00 pm; Featured Presentation 7:30 pm;** room 201 Life Science Building, Monroe County Community College.

FROM THE BOARD

- **Take a break: There are no Board meetings from May through August.** Board members, please enjoy a well-deserved rest!
- **Get out and Go Birding Instead: There are no regular membership meetings from May through August!** ESBA members, please keep an eye on our website and Facebook pages for field trip notices as well as cool bird sightings!
- Our club was featured in the Michigan Audubon Jack Pine Warbler magazine in March!
- **The annual club picnic is Wednesday, June 15, at Crosswinds Marsh, 27600 Haggerty Road, New Boston, MI 48164.** Crosswinds is a 1,000-acre wetland/wildlife preserve that offers a variety of outdoor activities. Crosswinds offers seven miles of hiking trails, fishing, picnic areas, 4.5 miles of horseback riding trails, and 4.5 miles of cross-country ski trails. Mosquito protection is recommended!

UPCOMING EVENTS

ESBA FIELD TRIP: Wildwood Preserve Metropark

5100 W. Central Ave., Toledo

Sat. April 23, promptly at 9 am. We'll bird just a bit of this 493-acre preserve. Meet at the Window on Wildlife (the old horse stable off Central Ave.). Let's have lunch afterwards!

ESBA FIELD TRIP: Whitefish Point, U.P.

Fri. May 27—Mon. May 29. Bob Pettit will lead this Memorial weekend field trip in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Please call him at **734.755.8832** if you plan to participate. Meet at Camp33 on Friday by 5 pm for dinner together; plans for the weekend will be made then. If you'll be late, call Bob so he knows you are en route. Make reservations soon at the Paradise Inn at 906.492.3940 (1st floor recommended as there is no elevator) or at Magnuson Grand Hotel at 906.492.3770 in Paradise,

BIGGEST WEEK IN AMERICAN BIRDING Black Swamp Bird Observatory/ Magee Marsh Wildlife Area

W. State Route 2, Oak Harbor, OH
(419) 898-4070; bsbobird.org

May 6—15: If you're signed up for the Biggest Week eNews, you already know that registration is OPEN and events are filling up fast. Go to www.biggestweekinamericanbirding.com to see the full schedule of festival events, or go to individual pages to read about field trips, workshops, and keynote presentations.

Biggest Week Social Media: Facebook [The Biggest Week in American Birding](#) Twitter [@BiggestWeek](#); Instagram [BSBOBIRD](#); Favorite hashtag #BWIAB

TAWAS POINT BIRDING FESTIVAL

www.tawasbirdfest.com

May 19—22. Come to Michigan's Sunrise Coast to enjoy spring birding at its best, attend presentations on the latest birding topics, hone your birding skills, and learn about avian conservation work in Michigan.

Tawas Point is well known for high concentrations of migrating warblers during the month of May. Nearly 200 species were recorded during the festival weekend in 2015. Don't miss out, spots are limited!

Click here to download a [map](#) of Tawas Point State Park birding and hiking trails.

MICHIGAN AUDUBON SOCIETY

Whitefish Point Bird Observatory Spring Fling

April 30—May 1. To register: wpbo.org

Cerulean Warbler Weekend

June 3—5, Barry County, MI. For info: ceruleanwarbler.com

EARLY NOTICE

Bob Pettit will be leading a field trip in July to Sharonville State Game Area in Sharon Hollow, MI (in Jackson County, near Grass Lake). The exact date has not yet been set, so keep an eye on our website or Facebook event page, or contact Bob at 734.755.8832 as July draws near!

THE DUCK

Behold the duck.

It does not cluck.

A cluck it lacks.

It quacks.

It is specially fond

Of a puddle or a pond.

When it dines or sups,

It bottoms up.

~ *Ogden Nash*



PICNIC AT CROSSWINDS!

Wednesday, June 15

Birding at 5 pm; Dining at 6 pm.

Please bring a dish to pass, & your own tablecloth & utensils.

No electricity or grills available.

WINGS

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