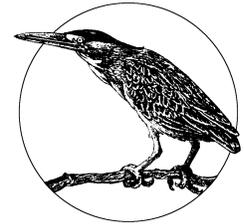


WINGS



ERIE SHORES BIRDING ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 272, Monroe, Michigan 48161

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September 2017

APRIL RECAP

Twenty-one people attended April's meeting, including newcomers Joe and Diane Cutcher, and the Gene and Patty Naujock brought their grandkids, Savannah and Owen. Rosann Kovalcik's presentation, 'Berries, Bugs and Snags,' was extremely informative. The audience, after viewing her slide show, will certainly think twice before planting non-native trees and shrubs in their yards. Rosann distributed handouts entitled 'Michigan Native Plants for Bird-Friendly Landscapes' produced by the Michigan Audubon Society.

Some presentation highlights:

- Native oak trees can have up to 557 different caterpillar species!
- It takes anywhere from 6,240 to 9,120 caterpillars to rear just one clutch of Black-capped Chickadees!
- Blue Cohosh berries are a super food source for thrushes
- Nutritional differences between native and non-native berries are huge!
- Birds have brown fat, verses white fat—very different from humans
- Homeowners should hold off until late May to perform spring cleaning of their yards
- Having a dead log lying in your yard is great for all varieties of thrushes
- Keep dead snags for a variety of reasons, including shelter and perches for birds

Raffle Winners: Patty Naujock won the kitchen hand towels donated by Marigail Stubleski; Lucy Pentz won the glass hummingbird figurine donated by Anonymous; Chris Eitel won the bird bookmarks, donated by Carol Boellner. Chris also won the semi-annual raffle of a metal bird welcome sign and Forever bird postage stamps, donated by Len & Nancy VanDaele.

Hospitality: Thank you, Chris Eitel, for providing refreshments for this meeting.

Next month: Summer field trip reports!

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Speaker: Jamie Platt will give a presentation entitled *The Secret Lives of Birds*. Have you ever wondered why vultures fly in circles or shorebirds chase waves? Get up close and personal with the birds of Monroe County. Go beyond the field guide's descriptions for a more in-depth understanding of the lives of birds, their motivations, secrets and hidden lives.

Jamie Platt is an alumnus of Northern Michigan University where he graduated with a degree in Zoology. He has taught or lectured at Washtenaw Community College, Monroe County Community College, Schoolcraft College and the Ann Arbor Adult Education program. He is also the founder of Hell's Birders, a birding organization based in Ann Arbor.

Raffle: Hummingbird hand towel, donated by Carol Boellner; Tabletop bird sculpture, donated by Lou and Marigail Stubleski; Set of 8 beverage coasters, donated by the Boellner's neighbors, Gracie and Connie.

Semi-annual Raffle: Pyrex cutting board with chickadee design. Will the person who donated this please let a Board member know who you are!

Hospitality: Anne Smith and Jackie Copeland will provide refreshments for this month's meeting.

Meeting Info: Wednesday, September 20, 7:00 pm; room 201 Life Science Building, Monroe County Community College.

FROM THE BOARD

- **Time to Renew and Pay Your Dues!** Individual dues are \$20 and family dues are \$25.

Your dues support bird conservation, as we are a non-profit organization! A membership to ESBA also makes a wonderful gift—introduce others to the joy of birding!

- We are always looking for speakers, so contact Rita Montague at rmontag2@comcast.net with your ideas and suggestions.
- LIKE the ESBA Facebook page! Feel free to share your pictures and sightings of
- Check our website www.esba-monroe.org for field trips, pictures, newsletter archives, birding links, etc. If you'd like to have information or pictures posted, just email the webmistress at birdladypotts@me.com.
- Carolyn is happy to accept raffle donations at each meeting (please, no books).

Elections
See Page Two!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Lake Erie Metropark HawkFest

32481 W. Jefferson, Brownstown, MI
(800) 477-3189 or (734) 379-5020; www.metroparks.com
Daily park pass is \$10; annual pass is \$35, \$21 for seniors

Sat. & Sun., Sept. 16 & 17, 10 am—5 pm. A two-day celebration of the annual fall migration of birds of prey: hawks, eagles, falcons, and vultures. Each September, tens of thousands of broad-winged hawks pass over this area designated as one of the premier hawk watching sites in North America. Typically, 200,000 birds of prey migrate over Lake Erie Metropark from September through November on their southward journey. Join us for a great weekend of games, crafts, guest speakers and fun. Live birds of prey will be on hand. Fee: \$2 per person at the Nature Center.

HBMO HawkFest

Holiday Beach Conservation Area, Amherstburg, Ontario,
[6952 County Road 50](http://6952CountyRoad50.com); hbmo.ca
Daily park pass is \$10; annual pass is \$70 (Canadian).

Sat. & Sun., Sept. 16/17, 23/24, 9 am—3 pm. A wide range of fun and educational programs and activities awaits the Autumn birder and nature explorer, including chatting with birding experts on the Hawk Tower; live hawk displays; food booths, vendors, and children's activities; and workshops on digital photography, and identifying birds, butterflies, insects, & native plants. Check out the website for the full, extensive schedule of events!

Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge

14000 W. State Route 2, Oak Harbor, OH
(419) 898-0014; www.fws.gov/refuge/ottawa/
www.friendsofottawanwr.org

Sept. 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, & Oct. 1, 9 am—4 pm: Self-guided Auto Tour. Visit areas of the refuge normally closed to the public. Remember to stop in the Visitor Center to enter your sightings at the eBird kiosk. Weather dependent. Free.

Oct. 1, 8 am: Monthly Bird Survey. Meet at the trailhead parking area and dress for the weather. No experience necessary!

Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival

37205 Pt. Mouillee Rd., Brownstown, MI 48173
(734) 379 9692; www.ptemouilleewaterfowlfestival.org

Sat. & Sun., Sept. 16 & 17, 8 am—5 pm. Michigan Ducks Unlimited presents the 70th annual Waterfowl Festival and fundraiser. Decoy contest, art & craft show, trading post, goose and duck calling contests, Retriever demonstrations and jumping, BB gun & archery shoot, sling shot contest, kids' activities, hip boot races. See the website above for precise event times. Proceeds support North America's largest freshwater marshland restoration project!

CraneFest

Kiwanis Youth Conservation Area, 22300 15 Mile Rd., Bellevue,
overlooking Baker Sanctuary; cranefest.org

Sat. & Sun., Oct. 14 & 15, 12 pm—dusk. Come enjoy the artist village, guided nature walks, hillside nature chats, nature bookstore, silent auction, exotic critters, and kids' activities. Cranes fly in to roost at the Sanctuary throughout the afternoon, with best viewing of large numbers after 5 pm. Bring binoculars, chairs, blankets, etc. Admission is free, with a small parking fee.

TIME FOR ELECTIONS!

The time has arrived for ESBA elections, where we nominate and elect half of our esteemed Board members. Nominations will take place at the September meeting, with voting completed in October.

The following positions will be elected:

- Vice President (incumbent Rita Montague)
- Secretary (incumbent Karen Potts)
- Delegate (incumbent Bob Pettit)
- Delegate (VACANT)

Please let a Board member know if you're interested in learning about any position. Ballots will be available at the Sept. & Oct. meetings, and will also be snail mailed and emailed to newsletter recipients.

POEM

The ostrich roams the great Sahara,
Its mouth is wide, its neck is narra.
It has such long and lofty legs
I'm glad it sits to lay its eggs.

~ Ogden Nash

WINGS

Published by ESBA
Birding Together Since 1986

Board of Directors

President Anne Smith
Vice-president Rita Montague
Treasurer Carol Boellner
Secretary Karen Potts
Delegates: Jackie Copeland, Dennis Rohmyer, Bob Pettit, *One Unfilled Position*
Editor/Graphic Design Terri Janssen

Contact Info

Anne rrrrseng@aol.com
Rita montag2@comcast.net
Carol cmbuellner@aol.com
Karen birdladypotts@me.com
Jackie birdwatchertoo@comcast.net
Dennis bub262@aol.com
Bob redknot@earthlink.net
Terri taw0417@hotmail.com