

The PSO Pileated



December 2024

The Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology

Volume 35, Number 3

pabirds.org

From the President's Desk

Community science projects are part of the fabric of the birding community. The Christmas Bird Count (CBC) - now entering its 125th year - set the stage for birders to contribute to scientific inquiries on birds. Now we have a multitude of community science projects and - especially with eBird - we can document every observation, every day of the year, no matter our location.



Chestnut-sided warbler. Photo by Doug Gross

As the leaves fall this autumn, the first nesting season of Pennsylvania's Third Bird Atlas is in the books. The atlas is yet another way for birders across the state to connect, learn, and collaborate in support of Pennsylvania's birds

and bird habitats. PSO started from the spark of our first bird atlas in the 1980's (pg. 6) and our members have been key contributors and volunteer leaders of all three atlases. We hope to be a conduit of information through the current atlas period and encourage our members to engage in the project, which is vital to understanding the state's bird life.

Unlike past atlases, however, the end of nesting season is not the cue to put your atlasing efforts on hold until next spring. Our first ever winter atlas is now underway (pg. 5). While Christmas Bird Counts and Winter Raptor Surveys (a Pennsylvania project started in

2001) have for many years given us a snapshot of winter bird distribution, the winter atlas project will generate a more complete picture, giving land managers valuable information to consider when making decisions.

As you make plans for your winter birding outings, I suggest seeking opportunities to contribute to one or more of the community science projects noted above. They can be incredibly rewarding. I will take part in my 15th Delaware County Christmas Bird Count, covering a portion of Ridley Creek State Park that teems with birders during spring migration, but is reliably quiet in December. I'd love to add to the list of birds my team and I have found there during CBC's, which includes Vesper Sparrow, Brown Thrasher, Gray Catbird, and a totally unexpected American Redstart. I'll be glad to know that our tally from that day will be put to use in the CBC database. But adding to a personal list or a vast database are not what will motivate me to start birding early, rain or shine, that December morning.

To me, community science projects are fun and fascinating. They allow me to spend time in the

field searching for birds with friends. They pique my curiosity and encourage me to learn and explore. Community science projects have often been described as "birding with a purpose." I appreciate the sentiment of that statement, but find it a bit limiting. There are many purposes to my birding experiences and they can change day to day or hour to hour: to enjoy seeing or hearing birds, to seek new experiences, to challenge myself, to learn something new, to appreciate the comfort of a favorite birding location, to make and connect with friends, to unwind after a stressful work meeting, and, yes, to support bird conservation and science. Community science projects help me accomplish many of these purposes and will continue to be an important part of my birding. As we head into winter with its many opportunities for community science, I hope you will join me in taking a moment to reflect on the purposes of your birding and see how these projects can enrich your experience.

Bryan Byrnes

President

Warren County Birding Spotlight – October 11-14

For our 3rd and last installment of spotlights this year in the state, PSO ventured back towards the northwestern corner to visit Warren County and also visit Allegheny Forest sites. Will we see or hear any Sasquatch evidence? Or even hunters of such? We shall find out.

I again twisted Scott Stoleson's arm to help us with another county near him and he did another outstanding job luring locals to help and lead us around or share knowledge of where to go, eat, etc.

The night before the spotlight, Chuck Berthoud and I traveled outside the county to where John Fedak was banding owls. We did see some of the wild sky colors of the Aurora, but didn't get to see it as well as others who were in more open spots. We found John's spot, could hear the toots of the Northern Saw-Whet Owls, walked back the trail and found John and his friend sitting at a toasty fire awaiting the first net checks. We were there an hour and got to enjoy 2 different First Year Hatch females and saw the banding process. Certainly, a new McKean

county bird for both of us. John and his helpers have been doing this for 12 years and it is a thankless job, imo. Not sure what cuter bird you would find in the dark.

Day 1 – Oct 11th, we met at the Tidioute Riverside Rec-Trek Trail in Tidioute, PA, where we met leaders Ken & Elizabeth Nicholson. 16 of us walked the wonderful level trail along the Allegheny River. The cold morning and fog didn't bring out as many birds as we hoped, but we got a nice list. We moved from there to the boat launch in town and got more species as the skies started opening up. After some of us had a nice lunch at Buccardo's, we traveled towards Economite Rd to join Carole Winslow near her camp. It was our first open field to check out

and we enjoyed the areas around there. She had some great birds all of the morning but it was a bit quieter until we got there. We did enjoy getting some small flocks and saw and heard Brown Creeper, kinglets and chickadees. From there, some of us headed to Jakes Rocks since the winds and skies looked like it could offer some raptor migration. We were able to add our first gulls and see some soaring raptors. Friday night, several of our attendees went to visit

Fedak's owl banding and had success again. Joe Gyekis, Jessie Sauder and I decided to try for some Warren County owling and Scott S suggested Chapman State Park. It was very dark and quiet but there was some moon. We tried our luck with Eastern Screech Owl calls by mouth and got one to respond on the drive in, along the lake. From the big parking lot, we went down the road and tried Northern Saw-Whet Owl toots and within seconds, we had one tooting

back to us and it went off and on for over 15-20 minutes. We were quite ecstatic on that adventure and to add both to our weekend's effort. The first day ended with 52 species.

Day 2 – Oct 12th, we met at Akeley Swamp – SGL282 and the attendance was a bit overwhelming. Alejandra McNeil and Jim Berry led this crew and the birds were very active and being counted as soon as people were getting out of the cars. We only walked part way in when we realized it was duck season, talked to a few hunters and thought we should get out of there for the sake of our birders as well as not disturbing the hunters. Highlights were – Green-winged Teal, Purple Finch, Eastern Meadowlark, American Coot, and Rusty Blackbird for the main

walk, plus Marsh Wren and Sandhill Crane by other birders on separate jaunts. We made a quick decision to head over to Hatch Run and had a nice walk up into the hills and also enjoyed a large grassy field and pond. Highlights were Winter Wren, Blue-headed Vireo, and Red-breasted Nuthatch, plus blue skies and bright fall foliage. Our afternoon trip was to Chapman State Park, this would be the first time some of us had seen it in daylight. We took the road

down the main parking lot, tried to see if the owls were around or vocal in the daylight, explored much of the trails and a big highlight was hearing a Ruffed Grouse drumming. Some of our crew went to visit John F's banding again but most returned to join us for more nighttime owling at Chapman. Before we left the parking lot, we had hoped the group tent camping



Mark your calendars!

area would give us an American Woodcock and we were able to see and hear at least a couple. We were able to get a Saw-whet to respond again, then some Screech Owls, and even a Barred Owl. It was quite a thrill for all of us. While you will often hear strange noises near a campground on Saturday night, we weren't able to confirm any Squatch evidence.....this time. The 2nd day ended with 77 species for the spotlight.

Day 3 – Oct 13th, had the forecast calling for rain which it delivered. 9 of us were brave enough to meet at Newbold Estate, managed by Allegheny National Forest and Anders Run Tract Natural area which is part of Cornplanter State Forest. It was a beautiful wooded area of old growth white pine, hemlock and oak forest, which gave us a nice trail to walk along the river as well as an old rails to trails area that offered a really cool swamp. We had to work hard for the birds we got, so we cut the day short. Some decided to go home, some of us decided to head over to Chapman State Park again to get under the pavilion to see if anything was good on the lake. The Pied-billed Grebe was still lingering on the water, and some lucky ones found Rusty Blackbird and Orange-crowned Warbler. Jeff Kenney and Angela Romanczuk were able to stay over and do more birding and they hit some new areas and worked on target species that were missing. They were able to get Virginia Rail, Sora, Wilson's Snipe and Great Horned Owl at SGL 197. They also found 2 Sandhill Cranes near SGL 306 and Common Loon near Kinzua. The owl banding got rained out.

Day 4 – Oct 14th had its daytime banding canceled due to weather which brought some white substance from the sky to the ground. We weren't able to add any additional highlights for the weekend.

So, our final numbers came out to be 83 species, which is very good due to how that 2-week rain deluge hit the state and opened up the skies for migrants who were busting to leave our state. We had 103 checklists, 19 species with photos and 12 species with audio. Julia Plummer did her own thing again solo so she could get better quiet audio recordings which she has

really done well with.

To enjoy our official eBird trip report, here is that link: <https://ebird.org/tripreport/253364>

Warren county is just another county not visited enough or appreciated enough in our large state with 67 counties to visit. It offered all sorts of habitats, terrain, elevations and views. It has some great game lands and state forests and of course a national forest. I have been lucky enough to have visited there several times, from a PSO annual meeting we held in McKean 10 years ago, or driving through and even visiting Kinzua area. I was personally able to add 27 new species to my county list which is now at 113. I know many of our attendees visited for the first time, some obtained life birds, some added new state birds, and someone even saw a bear. A good story was how Barry Blust got his state Ruffed Grouse on this trip, his only Warren County bird prior was in 1992 when he chased the Great Gray Owl which is the state's only record. That is quite a long time to go between visits.



This ends our 2024 spotlights for the year. We enjoyed Forest in March, Fulton in April and now Warren in October. In 2025, we already have 2 lined up for the spring with **Northumberland, March 28-31 and York, April 25-28**. We are looking forward to March already because it has so much of the Susquehanna River to include and even those on the western side of the river can view the river and include their checklists for the spotlight. York will be another southern tier

county which will allow for some early migrants at the end of April. We are working with some local friends right now lining up some trips. As we have said before, if you can join these spotlights, feel free to run to spots on your end, visit hotspots, join up with some friends or official trips, just share your checklists with PSO Birding Data and we will get everyone's effort.

Chad Kauffman

A New Chapter for the Pennsylvania Bird Atlas: Winter Surveys

The First and Second Atlases of Breeding Birds in Pennsylvania are incredible sources of information on the birds breeding in the state. The Third Pennsylvania Bird Atlas (PBA3), currently underway, and will provide an updated snapshot of the distribution and relative abundance of Pennsylvania birds.

Unlike the previous atlases, which focused entirely on birds during the breeding season, the PBA3 will also document the distribution of birds overwintering in the state. Pennsylvania is joining the ranks of only a handful of U.S. states that have completed (Oklahoma, Connecticut, and Maine) or are currently undertaking (North Carolina) winter atlases.

Winter can be a critical bottleneck in the annual cycle of bird populations in temperate regions. Scarce resources and often brutal weather conditions push the limits of survival, and bird populations can be significantly reduced in some years. Severe winter conditions can also negatively influence breeding productivity in the following season.

Yet, there has never been a comprehensive study of winter birds in Pennsylvania. The PBA3 Winter

Atlas will provide the baseline data needed to develop a better understanding of the birds found in Pennsylvania during the winter, which in turn will help paint a more complete picture of our entire avian community.

Much like the Breeding Atlas fills in gaps in data by focusing efforts on under-birded habitats and regions of the state, Winter Atlas surveys will take a systematic approach to ensure that coverage is reached, at a minimum, in all designated priority blocks, which account for about 1/6th of the state.

Despite the focus on priority blocks for the winter surveys, birders are encouraged to submit data from anywhere in the state, whether via traveling, stationary, or incidental eBird checklists. The two key parameters to participating in the winter surveys are to:

- Be sure to submit data through the Pennsylvania Bird Atlas portal in eBird.

- Only include on a checklist the birds observed within the block being surveyed.

Many birders already contribute to volunteer-based community science projects including

Christmas Bird Counts, Winter Raptor Surveys, Project FeederWatch, and Great Backyard Bird Count. Fortunately, data collected for these projects can also be submitted to the PBA3 winter surveys, so long as the guidelines described above are met.

There's no denying that the Winter Atlas will be challenging to complete. Volunteers will face rain and snow, bone-chilling temperatures, and occasional lackluster birding days where there just aren't many birds to be found. But I hope that everyone participating in the winter surveys can continue to find beauty and joy in our winter landscapes and birds. Winter gives me even more appreciation for birds and what amazing creatures they are!

Raven Reporter

Tales of Discovery about Pennsylvania Birds



Management

Bird monitoring informs management. Focus on species today was informed by bird survey results of yesterday. We are doing things now due to past Atlas results.

As the years have passed, it has been forgotten that one of the main justifications of the first Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas (1983 – 1989) was to determine which species deserved to be listed in the state as Endangered and Threatened. There simply was not enough real field data to inform the authorities which species really deserved those classifications. At that time the Pennsylvania Biological Survey also maintained a “Species of Special Concern” list which included “At Risk”, “Rare”, and “Status Undetermined” species which were given priority for conservation and research.

Finally, it must be noted that Pennsylvania has some of the most dedicated community science-focused birders out there. Thanks to your hard work, we have consistently produced two generations of one of the most thorough and advanced atlases in the world. I have full confidence that we will work together to conduct our first Winter Atlas at the same level.

Amber Wiewel



Without recent field data, the list would have been inaccurate and valuable resources

and energy would be directed toward species that were stable and not at risk of extirpation rather than those truly in need. One of the results of the first Breeding Bird Atlas was an Endangered and Threatened bird species list which pointed the Pennsylvania Game Commission and its partners in the right direction for management programs. In addition, the Wild Resource Conservation Fund favored higher priority species in the following years with excellent results. With limited funds for non-game species, it is a triage exercise to decide which species and which challenges deserve the focus of management efforts. The recoveries of Bald Eagle, Osprey, and Peregrine Falcon are a testament to successful programs that were prioritized as a result of our field experiences in the first Atlas and otherwise. They really were rare as suspected

and we responded appropriately.

The programs to recover Endangered, Threatened, and Species of Special Concern continue today. The Pennsylvania Game Commission has targeted Piping Plover and Common Tern as management priorities. The

PGC Wildlife Recovery team and its partners at Erie and Presque Isle have done an excellent job of protecting these species and promoting their successful reproduction against many challenges. The first step is to recognize that these species belong in Pennsylvania and that they deserve to have priority for the intense management that they need. It also focuses on other species for monitoring and habitat protection including the American Goshawk and Northern Harrier. Some boreal forest swamps are now protected due to the discovery of Endangered Yellow-bellied Flycatcher and Blackpoll Warbler populations. You cannot protect a nesting area if you do not know where it is.

As a result of the first two breeding bird atlases and other bird monitoring projects such as the Breeding Bird Survey, early successional and young forest birds have been given priority for management the last several years. The growing recovery of our forests has allowed increases in many mature forest birds, but the species that flourish in the early stages of forest succession have not been as successful. Due to a management focus on their habitat, several of these species have rebounded in recent years --- at least locally. You as an Atlas volunteer will find some range changes in the field if you have not already. There has been a lot of focus on Golden-winged Warbler which has declined precipitously in the Appalachian Mountain region. Its habitat



Cerulean Warbler in a Right-of-way, Ricketts Glen State Park. A new population. Doug Gross

overlaps broadly with some game species already targeted by the PGC. A land manager may not know much about warblers, but he or she surely knows about Ruffed Grouse, American Woodcock, Wild Turkey, Eastern

Cottontail, Snowshoe Hare, and Appalachian Cottontail. Management of young forest on behalf of these targets has benefited several bird species including Chestnut-sided Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Alder Flycatcher, Willow Flycatcher, Eastern Towhee, Gray Catbird, and many others. Even less common species such as Mourning

Warbler have colonized recently timbered areas which are mostly shelterwood cuts.

There also has been an emphasis on scrub barren management through timbering and prescribed fire management. Past Atlas results also have informed where management is more effective close to where there already is a population of the target species. New data guides planning. This approach makes colonization of a new patch much more likely. So, the mapping component of Atlas and eBird data are very powerful for planning management. Young forest management has benefited all the species mentioned as well as Wild Turkey, squirrels, Black Bear, and White-tailed Deer that forage on acorns produced by scrub oaks. Young forest birds are not the only birds that have benefited from management. There also has been thinning timber management in areas targeted for Cerulean Warblers. In the last decade there are new clusters of Ceruleans that have taken advantage of this activity and also rights-of-way strips in

mature timber. In Northeastern Pennsylvania, the PGC has been managing game land forests to increase evergreen conifer and blueberry cover. In the short-term, this management will probably benefit young forest

and thicket species. Conifer and boreal forest species will probably increase locally in the longer term. Areas with regenerating spruce and hemlocks are especially being targeted. I hope that this means that these areas will be better for Blue-headed Vireo, Magnolia Warbler, Purple Finch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Pine Siskin, Blackburnian Warbler, and others. It might even help Swainson's Thrush, Blackpoll Warbler, and Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. It also will help Snowshoe Hares, Northern Flying Squirrel, and Hoary Bat. It remains to be seen that these changes will be detected by volunteers working in the Third PA Bird Atlas.

The Second Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas produced data that contributed to the Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN), the priority species of the Pennsylvania Wildlife Action Plan. This includes species with declines and those

species that the state has the most responsibility. These lists continue to drive management activities throughout the state. Government agencies and conservation groups have emphasized Barn Owls, American Kestrels, Chimney Swifts, Purple Martins, Wood Thrushes, and other SGCN since the last Atlas.

The Third Pennsylvania Bird Atlas is more than a big bird survey. It will be a compass to set the direction of our next directions in bird management. Birders are pointing the way. Thank you for your contributions!

Good Birding!

Doug Gross, Dagross144@verizon.net

Special Birding Opportunities for PSO Members

PSO is excited to announce an incredible out of state birding adventures for our members. Hillstar Nature, owned and operated out of southeastern Pennsylvania, is offering **an upcoming trip**

exclusively to PSO members that you will not want to miss!

If you want to attend, please register soon as registration will open to the public if the trips do not fill with PSO folks. They are offering **Montana: Glacier to Grasslands**, an 8-day/7-night trek across the Treasure State starting June 25, 2025.



Photo courtesy of Hillstar Nature

Montana is a large, ecologically diverse state with a wide array of habitats, with a correspondingly diverse array of birds. Lead Guide (and Montana resident) Josh Covill will begin the tour in Glacier

National Park, legendary for its immense natural beauty. A great diversity of birds is possible in Glacier, from boreal specialists like Spruce Grouse, Pine Grosbeak and Boreal Chickadee, to more 'Pacific' birds like Varied Thrush and Chestnut-backed Chickadee, and 'Mountain West' classics like Western Tanager, Lazuli

Bunting, Townsend's Warbler, and Dusky Grouse. The second portion

of the tour will focus on the seemingly endless shortgrass prairies of the northern Great Plains. This region is a bird factory, with many species nesting here during the short summer breeding season. Birds calling the prairies home include Chestnut-collared and Thick-billed Longspurs, Ferruginous Hawk, Black Tern, Long-billed Curlew, Burrowing Owl, Sprague's Pipits, Baird's Sparrow, Upland Sandpiper, Golden Eagle, and many more.

Visit <https://www.hillstarnature.com/glacier-grasslands-psy-2025> for details and to register.



Photo courtesy of Hillstar Nature

Registration for the tour includes a donation to support PSO. You will not want to miss out on this exciting birding opportunity!

Jeff Kenney

PSO COA

PSO has a program with which to thank those persons or businesses who permit birders to come onto their property in order to see a rare bird that has been observed there. The program is called a **Certificate of Appreciation** (COA). This is a wonderful program that recognizes the spirit of community participation in birding. Since 2012, PSO has recognized and thanked 192 homeowners and businesses throughout Pennsylvania for their generosity. The list can be seen on the PSO website under Awards.

If you have visited a location where you have been given the opportunity to see a rare bird by the owner, please consider requesting a COA. To do so, send their name, address, species of bird hosted, and month and year of the occurrence to Sandy Lockerman at sandylockerman@yahoo.com. A COA will be sent along with information about PSO.

Sandy

Christmas Bird Count Information

The following table illustrates the dates we know of as of the newsletter print date. If your date is not listed, feel free to check Audubon.org, check our most updated electronic copy of the newsletter on PAbirds.org, or reach out to your compiler. Make sure to use “CBC” in your email subject when emailing.



Name of Count	County	Date	Compiler	Email
Audubon	Montgomery Delaware Chester		Vincent Smith	Nyctea34@aol.com
Bald Eagle	Centre	12/29/2024	Bob Snyder	birdphotoginpa@gmail.com
Beaver	Beaver	12/21/2024	Rick Mason	richarddmason@gmail.com
Bedford	Bedford	12/28/2024	Laura Jackson	jacksonlaura73@gmail.com
Belleville	Mifflin	12/28/2024	Rob Dickerson	radickerson@gmail.com
Belsano	Indiana Cambria	12/15/2024	Robert Gordon III	rhgiii@robertgordoniiiviolinmaker.com
Benezette	Clearfield Elk	12/29/2024	Mark Johnson	luckybirder@gmail.com>
Bernville	Berks	1/4/2025	Mike Slater	mpaplantings@gmail.com
Bethlehem-Easton	Northampton	12/28/2024	Elaine Mease	measede@enter.net
Bloomsburg	Columbia	12/15/2024	Karol Pasquinelli	northbranchbirders@gmail.com
Buchanan Trail	Franklin Fulton	12/17/2024	Vernon Gauthier	verngauthier14@gmail.com
Buffalo Creek	Washington	12/15/2024	Larry Helgerman	bobolink1989@gmail.com
Buffalo Creek Valley	Butler Armstrong		George Reese	g.reese@gaiconsultants.com
Bushy Run	Westmoreland	12/28/2024	Steve Manns	psuloon@yahoo.com
Butler	Butler Lawrence Mercer		Martin Carlin	Carlin.martin@ymail.com
Central Bucks	Bucks	12/29/2024	Diane Allison	dalliso@mail.ptd.net

Chambersburg	Franklin	12/14/2024	Valerie Barnes	BarnesVa4@comcast.net
Clarion	Clarion		Jim McGuire	jrmcguire@verizon.net
Clarksville	Greene		Terry Dayton	tdayton@windstream.net
Cowanesque	Tioga	12/14/2024	Gary Tyson	gnats3@ptd.net
Culp	Blair	12/21/2024	Laura Jackson	jacksonlaura73@gmail.com
Curtin	Dauphin	12/27/2024	Scott Bills	srb24@comcast.net
Dallas area	Luzerne	12/14/2024	Rick Koval	unibirder@yahoo.com
Dingman's Ferry	Pike		Derek Scott	Dscott@peec.org
DuBois	Clearfield	12/14/2024	Marianne Atkinson	55marianne55@gmail.com
Elverson	Chester	12/20/2024	James Cook	jim@elversonsupply.net
Emporium	Cameron	12/22/2024	Andrew Sidelinger	andysidelinger63@gmail.com
Erie	Erie	12/14/2024	Michele Rundquist-Franz	isomorphun@roadrunner.com
Gettysburg	Adams	12/21/2024	Evan Vaeth	nexevan@gmail.com
Glenolden	Delaware	12/14/2024	Rich Horwitz	rjh78@drexel.edu
Grove City	Butler Mercer Lawrence Venango		Martin Carlin	Carlin.martin@ymail.com
Hamburg	Berks Schuylkill	12/29/2024	Laurie Goodrich	goodrich@hawkmtn.org
Harrisburg	Dauphin	12/14/2024	Annette Mathes	amathes19@verizon.net
Huntingdon	Huntingdon	12/15/2024	Deb Grove	dsg4@psu.edu
Imperial	Allegheny Washington	12/22/2024	Bob Mulvihill	robert.mulvihill@aviary.org
Indiana	Indiana	12/26/2024	Roger & Marg Higbee	bcoriole@twd.net rvhigbee@windstream.net
Johnstown	Cambria	12/15/2024	Jeff Payne	paynemt@gmail.com
Juniata-Lewistown	Juniata	12/21/2024	Chad Kauffman	chadkauffman@earthlink.ne
Lake Raystown	Huntingdon Blair	12/27/2024	Jon Kauffman	jvk5019@psu.edu
Lancaster	Lancaster	12/22/2024	Barbara Hunsberger	phunsberger@comcast.net)
Lebanon	Lebanon Dauphin	12/21/2024	Ruth Krebs	rewkrebs@gmail.com
Lehigh Valley	Lehigh Berks	12/21/2024	Brandon Swayser	brandon.swayser@davinciscience center.org
Lewisburg	Union Snyder Northumberland	12/15/2025	Judy Peeler	Judypeeler6@ptd.net
Linesville	Crawford	12/15/2024	Clare Nicolls	clarenicolls@gmail.com
Lititz	Lancaster Lebanon	12/29/2024	Ted Nichols II	tanicholsii@gmail.com
Lock Haven-Jersey Shore	Clinton Lycoming	12/28/2024	Wayne Laubscher	wnlaubscher@comcast.net
Mansfield-Wellsboro	Tioga	1/1/2024	Gary Tyson	gnats3@ptd.net

Montrose	Susquehanna	12/16/2024	Barb Stone	barbstn@yahoo.com
New Bloomfield	Perry	12/21/2024	Betsy Riter	rriter@pa.net
Newville	Cumberland	12/28/2024	Vernon Gauthier	verngauthier14@gmail.com
Northeast Butler	Butler		Martin Carlin	Carlin.martin@gmail.com
Northern Lycoming	Lycoming	1/4/2025	David Brown	davidebrownpa@gmail.com
Ohiopyle	Fayette Somerset	12/28/2024	Matthew Juskowich	jusko88@yahoo.com
Penns Creek	Centre	12/14/2024	Cathy Pierce	winghaven.nursery@gmail.com
Pennypack Valley	Philadelphia	12/21/2024	Peter Kurtz	pkurtz53@gmail.com
Philipsburg	Centre Clearfield		Greg Kojadinovich	gsak40@gmail.com
Pittsburgh	Allegheny		Gigi Gerben	kasgerb@yahoo.com
Pittsburgh South Hills	Allegheny Washington	12/14/2024	Gigi Gerben	birdersx5@gmail.com
Pleasantville	Venango	12/29/2024	Russ States	pelagics202@gmail.com
Pocono Mt.	Monroe		Darryl Speicher	poconoavian@hotmail.com
Potter County	Potter	12/15/2024	David Hauber	davidwhauber@gmail.com
Reading	Berks	12/15/2024	Lucy Cairns	ljanetcairns@gmail.com
Rector	Westmoreland	12/15/2024	Annie Lindsay	LindsayA@carnegiemnh.org
Ryerson	Greene	12/31/2024	Marjorie Howard	birdwatcher108@comcast.net
Scranton	Lackawanna	12/14/2024	Mark Catalano	mwc.2473@gmail.com
South Butler	Butler	12/29/2024	Chris Kubiak	ckubiak@aswp.org
Southeastern Bradford	Bradford		Rebecca Lesko	emncinfo@yahoo.com
Southeastern York	York	1/2/2025	Chuck Berthoud	chuckbmib@gmail.com
Southern Bucks	Bucks	12/14/2024	Mark Gallagher	mgallagher@princetonhydro.com
Southern Lancaster	Lancaster	12/15/2024	Derek Stoner	derekstoner@hotmail.com
State College	Centre	12/15/2024	Susan Braun	braun3112@gmail.com
Tamaqua	Schuykill Carbon		Jonathan DeBalko	jonathan.debalko@wilkes.edu
Tunkhannock	Wyoming	12/15/2024	Rick Koval	unibirder@yahoo.com
Upper Bucks	Bucks Lehigh Montgomery	12/15/2024	Bill Etter	billetter01@gmail.com
Warren	Warren	12/14/2024	Lara Larson	llarson@urc.com
Washington	Washington	12/14/2024	Thomas Contreras	tcontreras@washjeff.edu
West Chester	Chester	12/14/2024	Merle Tanis Dorothy Bedford	merlet146@gmail.com db@bt9.org
Western Chester	Chester		Larry Lewis	earlybirdtours@comcast.net

Western Schuylkill	Schuylkill	12/15/2024	Dave Kruel	dkruel300@comcast.net
White Mills	Wayne		Barbara Leo	barbaraaleo@earthlink.net
Wild Creek-Little Gap	Carbon Monroe	12/29/2024	Corey Husic	coreyhusic@gmail.com
Williamsport	Lycoming	12/21/2024	David Brown	davidebrownpa@gmail.com
Wyncote	Montgomery	12/14/2024	Kristy Morley	kristy@wissahickontrails.org
York	York	12/21/2024	Bernard Frick	BernardFrick@alum.lehigh.edu
York Springs	Adams York Cumberland	12/30/2024	Tim Johnson	tj359@sbcglobal.net

PSO Sales

In need of Christmas gifts for a fellow birder in your life?

PSO Sales has t-shirts, hats, and more! Order now and avoid the last-minute rush. Visit pabirds.org/ps-sales-2/ for purchase.



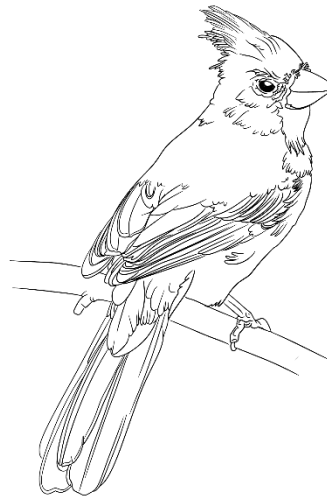
Dear members,

PSO's Board of Directors strives to make its programs accessible and affordable. We take great pride in efficiently using your membership dues to promote birding and bird conservation in Pennsylvania and provide exceptional publications and events. To continue its top-notch programs, PSO will be raising its membership rates for the first time this millennium.

The board has approved an increase in membership dues that will go into effect on January 1, 2025. Most membership rates will be increased by \$5; those wishing to receive paper copies of the *PSO Pileated* newsletter and *Pennsylvania Birds* journal will see their rates increase an additional \$5. Student digital memberships will remain \$10.

The new membership rates will be:

- Individual: \$35 (digital)/\$40 (print)
- Family: \$40/\$45
- Sustaining: \$50/\$55
- Institutions: \$43 US/\$53 Canada
- Student (digital only): \$10



The board is confident that this modest rise in membership dues will enable PSO to retain its strong financial position and continue to provide excellent service in support of its mission. The new rates are in line with or below those charged by similar regional and statewide birding organizations.

If your membership is up for renewal now - or if you just want to take advantage of the current rates - you can visit <https://pabirds.org/how-to-join-renew/> to extend your membership for another year. On January 1, 2025, the new rates will be reflected on the website. We greatly appreciate your support of PSO.

Sincerely,

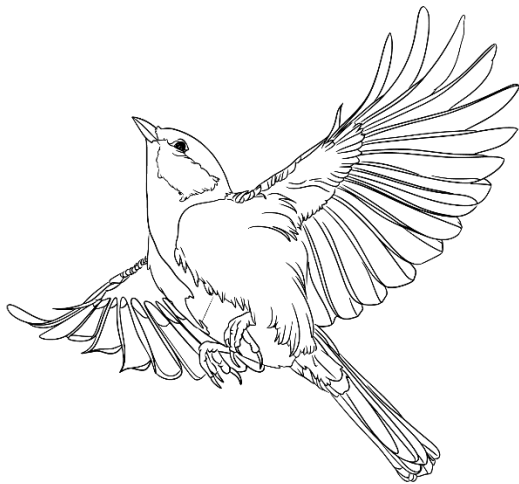
Brian Byrnes

President

Are you Moving?

Don't miss out on the next issue of the "PSO Pileated" or Pennsylvania Birds. Log into your account in pabirds.org and update your address there, or email it to psop@pabird.org. Alternatively you can send a note to:

PSO, 2469 Hammertown Road, Narvon, PA 17555-9730.



PSO Newsletter

This newsletter is published four times a year by the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology. To renew your membership, either pay online or send your check made payable to "PSO" to:

PSO, 2469 Hammertown Road, Narvon, PA 17555-9730

Membership Categories

Individual \$30 Family \$35

Sustaining \$45 Student \$25

Electronic Student \$10

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