

Whistler

January - February, 2016



UPCOMING EVENTS

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| January 2, 2016 | Upper Yadkin Valley Christmas Bird Count |
| January 5, 2016 | Board Meeting - Arbor Acres, 7 p.m. |
| January 9, 2016 | Second Saturday Bird Walk - Salem Lake, 9 a.m. (Nathan Gatto) |
| January 15-18, 2016 | Winter Trip- Tom Yawkey Preserve and Huntington Beach State Park, SC- Trip Leader: Cynthia Donaldson. |
| January 20, 2016 | Birds and Beer – Five Points Restaurant, 109 S. Stratford Rd., 6:00 p.m. |
| January 23, 2016 | Historic Bethabara Park Cleanup at 9 a.m.-Event Leader: Pam Wooten |
| January 25, 2016 | Monday Bird Walk - Black Walnut Bottom, 9 a.m. |
| January 26, 2016 | Big Sweep - Reynolda Rd. Day Care, 9 a.m. (Leader: Pam Wooten) |
| January 26, 2016 | Chapter Meeting - Bethabara Visitors Center, 7 p.m. Topic: eBird—Nathan Swick |
| February 2, 2016 | Board Meeting - Arbor Acres, 7 p.m. |
| February 12-15, 2016 | Great Backyard Bird Count-Cornell Lab of Ornithology |
| February 13, 2016 | Second Saturday Bird Walk - Bethabara Park Wetlands, 9 a.m. |
| February 17, 2016 | Birds and Beer – Five Points Restaurant, 109 S. Stratford Rd., 6:00 p.m. |
| February 23, 2016 | Chapter Meeting - Bethabara Visitors Center, 7 p.m. Topic: Window Collisions—Scott Winton and Natalia Ocampo Peñuela |
| February 29, 2016 | Monday Bird Walk - Reynolda, 9 a.m. |

Forsyth Audubon Spring Trip

Time to mark you calendars! The 2016 Spring Forsyth Audubon trip is taking us far afield this year! Our destination is the southern shore of Lake Erie, Ohio to the world famous birding hot spot of the world.* We will plan to bird Magee Marsh Wildlife Area, Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, and maybe a few other local hot spots yet to be revealed.

This is an open trip: there is no cap on the number! If you want to come, put May 18 through May 22, 2016 on your calendar, pack your binos, and join in the fun.

Snively Award: Royce Hough

Royce Hough has received the 2015 Ramona Snively Award for his continuing service to Forsyth Audubon. Royce was honored at the October 27th chapter meeting and presented with a David Disher photo of a Snowy Owl framed on canvas. Along with Ramona, Royce was a charter member of the chapter when it grew out of the Forsyth Bird Club in the early 1970s.

Developing an interest in birds as a child, Royce has encouraged many new birders to follow his passion. He has been a board member, organized field trips to some of our favorite destinations, and always been a strong supporter of Audubon conservation efforts.

Audubon Ambassador

Audubon North Carolina is looking for Ambassadors on Climate Change. Can you volunteer five hours a month for the benefit of our birds, other wildlife and people? There are a host of things you can do, and you probably already do some of them: take part in Christmas Bird Counts, add bird-friendly native

to your garden, talk to your neighbors about birds and climate change, write legislators about it. Look for a future Audubon Ambassador workshop soon to learn more about the issue and how you can help.

To read a summary of the National Audubon Society's report on "Birds and Climate Change," visit climate.audubon.org.

eBird: Become a better Birder

Are you an eBird user? Do you know if you are using it correctly? Would you like to become a better/more effective birder? On January 26th Nathan Swick will come and teach us everything we need to know about eBird and how you can become a better birder. Socializing at 7 p.m., program at about 7:30.

Window Collisions

Our own Lights Out Program has taught us a lot about the effects of big cities during migration and window collisions, but on February 23rd Scott Winton and Natalia Ocampo Peñuela will discuss their research on window collisions with birds that go beyond just turning off the lights. Scott and Natalia are both PhD. candidates at Duke University and have tested a number of options to help prevent window collisions at some of the main problem buildings at Duke University. Come and see what they have learned, and see if there's anything you can do to help prevent window collisions! Socializing at 7 p.m., program at about 7:30.

Our Mission: To conserve and restore natural ecosystems — focusing on birds, other wildlife and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and North Carolina's biological diversity.

Visit us on the web at www.forsythaudubon.org or on Facebook.
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