

Whistler

September - October, 2015



UPCOMING EVENTS

September 11-30, 2015	Pilot Mountain Hawk Watch, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. (Coordinator: Jean Chamberlain)
September 12, 2015	Second Saturday Bird Walk – Bethabara Greenway, 8 a.m. (Leader: Rob Rogers)
September 15, 2015	Chimney Swift Watch – Northwest Middle School, 5501 Murray Rd., 7:15 p.m.
September 16, 2015	Birds and Beer – Five Points Restaurant, 109 S. Stratford Rd., 6 p.m.
September 17, 2015	“The End of Night,” Paul Bogard, WFU Byron Welcome Center, 7-8:30 p.m.
September 22, 2015	Chapter Meeting – Bethabara Visitors Center, 7 p.m., “North Atlantic Pelagic Birds,” Nathan Gatto, Chapter Member.
September 28, 2015	Monday Bird Walk – Black Walnut Bottoms, 8 a.m. (Leader: Shelley Rutkin)
October 3, 2015	Big Sweep – Reynolda Rd. Day Care, 9 a.m. (Leader: Pam Wooten)
October 6, 2015	Board Meeting – Arbor Acres, 7 p.m.
October 10, 2015	Second Saturday Bird Walk — Newell-Massey Greenway, 8 a.m. (Leader: TBA)
October 21, 2015	Birds and Beer — Five Points Restaurant, 109 S. Stratford Rd., 6:00 p.m.
October 24, 2015	Joint Forsyth/ T. G. Pearson Audubon Bird Walk – Tanglewood Park, 9 a.m.
October 26, 2015	Monday Bird Walk – Washington Park, 8 a.m. (Leader: Jeremy Reiskind)
October 27, 2015	Chapter Meeting – Bethabara Visitors Center, 7 p.m. Program TBA.

The End of Night

On September 17th, Wake Forest University presents Paul Bogard and “The End of Night,” 7 p.m. at the Byron Welcome Center auditorium. The talk is based on Mr. Bogard’s acclaimed book about the importance of darkness and the adverse effects of light pollution, including bird collisions with illuminated buildings.

Mr. Bogard blends personal narrative, natural history, science, and history to shed light on the importance of darkness - what we've lost, what we still have, and what we might regain - and the simple ways we can reduce the brightness of our nights tonight. He has written extensively on the negative impacts of the increasingly bright lights on buildings, storefronts, street corners and signs. His address undoubtedly will comment on “Lights Out” programs like Forsyth Audubon’s in Winston-Salem.

Bogard currently is assistant professor of English at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, where he teaches creative nonfiction and environmental literature.

Chimney Swift Watch

Join us at Northwest Middle School at 7:15 PM on September 15th, when hundreds of Chimney Swifts begin soaring high overhead. As night falls, the number of birds will increase and the flocks will become more and more concentrated. A few will begin to dive into the chimney. The funnel of birds into the chimney will intensify shortly after sunset and will continue for several minutes, finally tapering off until all the birds are roosting inside. Several hundred swifts, perhaps thousands, will enter the chimney in about 15 minutes. Audubon

Society members will be on hand to answer questions. No binoculars necessary.

Fall Festival Volunteers Needed

September means fall festivals, and Forsyth Audubon needs volunteers to staff our educational booths. On Saturday September 19th, we will be at AppleFest at Historicc Bethabara Park from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. On September 26th, it is Bethania’s Black Walnut Festival, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can take a two-hour shift on either or both of these dates, contact Tom McKay, tomrmckay@earthlink.net.

Virtual Pelagic Birding

Did you ever see a storm petrel or a shearwater? What about a Great Skua? At our September chapter meeting, Nathan Gatto will introduce you to “North Atlantic Pelagic Birds.” Nathan has taken numerous pelagic trips with Brian Patteson off Cape Hatteras and will share his experiences at the Historic Bethabara Visitor’s Center, 2147 Bethabara Rd. Socializing at 7 p.m., program at about 7:30.

Hawk Watch at Pilot Mountain

Sign up to count migrating raptors during the Pilot Mountain Hawk Watch. Four-hour shifts (or less) are available from Sept. 11-30. Email jchamberlain1@windstream.net. Inexperienced birders: come improve your identification skills. We will pair you with veteran hawk watchers.

On September 26th, meet Jean Chamberlain at the Summit Area parking lot to learn about hawks and other raptors. Jean is not only a Forsyth Audubon member but also Wildlife Rehabilitation specialist.

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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