

Whistler

November - December 2014



UPCOMING EVENTS

November 4, 2014	Board Meeting, Arbor Acres Clubhouse – 7 p.m.
November 8, 2014	Saturday Bird Walk — Reynolda, 9 a.m. (Leader: Rob Rogers)
November 8, 2014	Project Feeder Watch begins (see http://feederwatch.org/)
November 19, 2014	Birds and Beer – Johanne’s Bethabara Tavern – 6 p.m.
November 24, 2014	Monday Bird Walk – Salem Lake, 9 a.m. (Leader: Cynthia Donaldson)
November 25, 2014	Chapter Meeting – Bethabara Park Visitors Center, 7 p.m., Film, “My Life As a Turkey.”
December 9, 2014	Board Meeting – Arbor Acres Clubhouse – 7 p.m.
December 13, 2014	Saturday Bird Walk — Tanglewood Park, 9 a.m. (Leader: Ron Morris)
December 14, 2014	Mt. Jefferson Christmas Bird Count (Compiler: Eric Harrold)
December 17, 2014	Birds and Beer — Johanne’s Bethabara Tavern, 6 p.m.
December 21, 2014	Hanging Rock Christmas Bird Count (Compiler: Phil Dickinson)
December 28, 2014 (tentative)	Stone Mountain Christmas Bird Count (Compiler: Guy McGrane)
January 3, 2015	Forsyth County Christmas Bird Count (Compiler: Ron Morris)

Christmas Bird Counts

The holiday season means Christmas Bird Counts. Birders of all experience levels are welcome, and the counts offer excellent opportunities to learn about our winter birds. Our Forsyth County count will be January 3rd. Contact Ron Morris at ronmorris@triad.rr.com to take part.

Other nearby counts and contacts:

December 14 – Mt. Jefferson (Ron Morris)

December 21 – Hanging Rock (Phil Dickinson)

December 28 (tent.) – Stone Mt. (Ron Morris)

A New River count has yet to be scheduled.

Outer Banks Winter Trip with Pelagic

What could be better than breathing in some salty sea mist as you scan the pounding waves for a Great Skua? Whether you are a landlubber or seasoned sea farer, this is the trip for you! The Forsyth Audubon Winter Trip will take us to the Outer Banks of NC on January 16-19! We will be based in Nags Head.

To add to this adventure, we have booked a day trip on Saturday! Brian Patteson will take us out into the Gulfstream on his boat, the Stormy Petrel II, to find offshore visitors to our coast. Albatross, puffin, gannet, maybe even a Great Skua are target birds. And don't forget dolphins, whales or sea turtles. We can enjoy Brian's discount rate of \$155 for our group, if at least 12 intrepid birders sign up for the boat trip (Brian can take up to 20). Otherwise the price is \$165. Refunds will be issued if the trip is cancelled. We will need full payment for the pelagic part of the trip when you sign up.

Those who do not want to spend the day at sea will enjoy a day of spotting the usual and *unusual* birds of the Outer Banks...by car. Those individuals will have a guide to lead them.

The tentative itinerary will be Friday: depart Winston-Salem and bird Alligator River; Saturday: pelagic trip (4:30 am – 6 pm); Sunday: OB Hot Spots; Monday: Alligator River/other on way home. The approximate cost for accommodations at Comfort Inn South will be \$53 soundside or \$63 oceanfront (breakfast included).

Under a new Forsyth Audubon trip policy, participation is limited to the first 25 who sign up, and there is a fee of \$25 per person for members of Forsyth Audubon and \$35 for nonmembers who plan to go.

Beginning Wednesday November 5 at 8:00 am, send an email to forsythaudubon@gmail.com. In that email, let us know you want to attend the Winter Trip 2015! We will take the first 25 who sign up. You will then receive an email with further instructions. Be sure you indicate whether you want to go on the pelagic trip as well. For more information, contact Field Trip Organizer Cynthia Donaldson at cdonaldson@triad.rr.com, 336-601-0646.

"My Life As a Turkey"

Planning on turkey for Thanksgiving? You may want to reconsider, if you attend our November 25th chapter meeting. We will be showing the film "My Life as a Turkey." Joe Hutto incubated Wild Turkey eggs with the intention of human-imprinting and raising the birds. He soon wondered who had imprinted whom. Socializing begins at 7 p.m. and the program at 7:30 at the Historic Bethabara Visitor's Center, 2147 Bethabara Rd.

Joneses Receive Ramona Snavely Award

Our 2014 Ramona Snavely award for continuing service to the chapter went to Susan and Warren Jones. Susan and Warren were honored at the September chapter meeting.

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.
Forsyth Audubon, P.O. Box 15111, Winston-Salem, NC 27113