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# Forsyth Audubon Newsletter April 2024



**April Chapter Meeting** 

What does chocolate cake sold in a strip mall have to do with birds?

Maxie B's Bakery owner Robin Davis says "A lot!" Please join us at our April chapter meeting to hear from Robin Davis on how small business sustainability efforts benefit birds, the environment and humans too. Davis is founder and CEO of Maxie B's Bakery in Greensboro, NC. Davis won the 2022 Governor's Award for North Carolina Business Conservationist of the Year. Last year Maxie B's won the City of Greensboro's #LiveGreen "Waste have birds nesting in the habitat they created. She is on the board of Piedmont Land Conservancy and T. Gilbert Pearson Audubon Society.

#### Tuesday April 23rd

#### Social time begins at 6:30, program begins at 7:00 PM

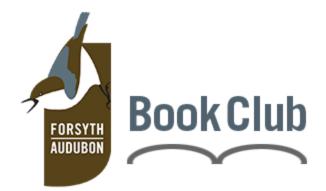
# Highland Presbyterian Church Activity Building 2381 Cloverdale Avenue (just across Cloverdale Avenue from Highland Presbyterian Church)

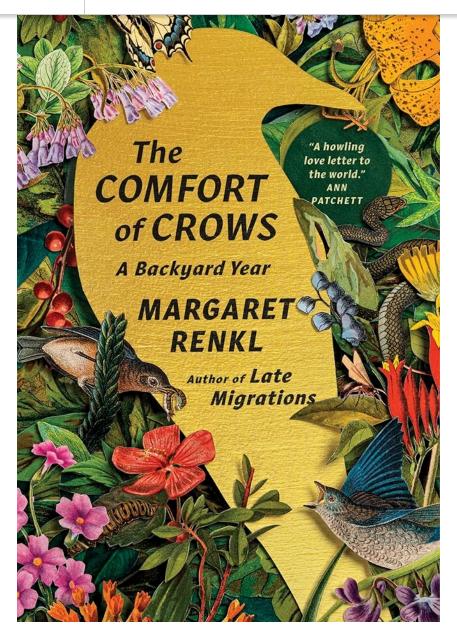




## Share your love of birds at the Earth Day Fair

Forsyth Audubon will have a bird-friendly table at the Piedmont Environmental Alliance Earth Day Fair, Saturday, April 20, from 10-4. It's a great opportunity to enjoy a couple of hours sharing your love of birds and providing bird-friendly information to the local community! Sign up for a 2-hour session <u>here</u>. Please





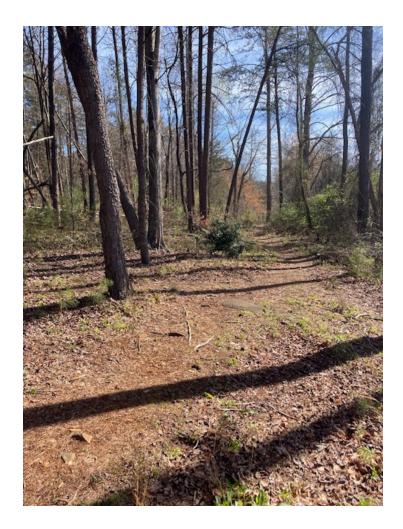
Book Club

Our Book Club meets on Zoom the 3rd Sunday of the month at 4:00 PM. Email <u>Hannah Addair</u> for the Zoom link.

April 21st at 4:00 PM <u>The Comfort of Crows: A Backyard Year</u> by Margaret Renkl

May 19th at 4:00 PM: <u>Becoming Kin: An Indigenous Call to Unforgetting the</u> <u>Past and Reimagining Our Future</u> by Patty Krawec

Visit Winston-Salem local bookstore, Bookmarks, and use coupon

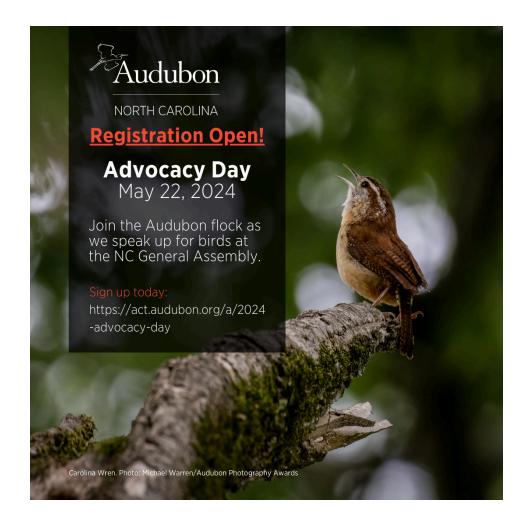


Bethabara Wetlands Trail looking bird and hiker friendly after clean-up

## Thank You Clean-Up Volunteers!

#### Ga Baliga

A little rain and gray skies didn't stop Debbie Cesta, Jean Chamberlain, Deirdre Herrington, Kitty Jensen, Don Kautz, Don Lendl, Ron Morris and Raj/Ga Baliga from showing up at Bethabara Wetlands on March 23rd. By the time everyone filled 15+4+4 bags of trash and hauled out 2 shopping carts, a tire, a brick from around the area the sun came out beaming to join our feathered friends in thanking us. Canada Geese, Red Winged Blackbirds, a Killdeer, House Finches, a Tufted Titmouse and Northern Cardinals serenaded us. The most interesting find was a valise that contained clothes and personal items- we deduced that it probably belonged to one of the habitants of the shelter. We left it where it was found. you can will go a long way in making the area cleaner.



#### **Advocacy Updates**

First, we would like to thank everyone who saw and responded to the Action Alerts related to the proposed changes before City Council for the natural landscape areas ordinance. Dr. Miller, who is the Sustainability Director for the City of Winston Salem, said that she felt the changes passed in part due to our advocacy efforts in favor of the changes – so thank you for stepping up and speaking out! This led to Forsyth Audubon approving a \$3,500 grant request to the City for development of a native plants area at Second City Park being designed and implemented by one of our members and former Conservation Chairperson, Max Nottke. local lawmaker. Join others from Forsyth Audubon and other chapters across the state on Wednesday, May 22 nd at the NC General Assembly in Raleigh to advocate for wetlands, conservation funding, and family land protections. NC Audubon does an excellent job of organizing this and training the participants so that it is an easy and enjoyable day for all. If you have questions about the event, reach out to a Board member or our advocacy chairperson.

Register now for Advocacy Day 2024 on Wednesday, May 22.

#### Forsyth Spring Bird Count – Saturday, May 4, 2024

Everyone is invited to participate in the annual Spring Bird Count! We'll have about a dozen teams scouring the Count Circle for Spring migrants, as well as our resident and nesting birds. This Citizen Science effort is reported to Susan Campbell of the Carolina Bird Club for historical record-keeping.

We'll celebrate at **6:30** that evening with a pizza party at the home of Nathan and Sarah Gatto. <u>We'll each bring \$5.00 to contribute for the pizza.</u>

Ann Robertson will collect RSVPs. Details TBA closer to the date. If you have counted before, you may soon hear from your Team Leader. You may certainly also take the initiative to contact her or him.

If you don't connect with your Team Leader from a past Count; or, <u>if</u> you have not counted before: <u>please email forsythaubudon@gmail.com</u> with the Subject Line "Spring Count" and ask to be added to a Count <u>Team. Please include your e-address and cell number in your email. It</u> will be forwarded to Ann Robertson, who will assist with your team <u>assignment.</u>

Johnathon Barnett is again graciously serving as our Count Compiler. We hope that many of you can participate in this important project.

#### Forsyth Audubon Monthly Dinner

We meet at 6:00pm on the second Tuesday of each month, at River Birch Lodge on Robinhood Road, <u>https://riverbirchlodge.com</u> . Our group reservation will be under Forsyth Audubon.

There is no formal program, just a fun get together to share conversation about birds, nature, conservation or anything else that comes up. Come for a drink and/or a meal. There is a full menu of appetizers, sandwiches and dinner entrees.

Our next dinner will **Tuesday**, **April 9**. Let us know if you are planning to come. Send an email <u>forsythaudubon@gmail.com</u> with your name and total number of people including yourself.



Upcoming Outings Saturday, April 13th - 8:00 AM - Second Saturday Bird Outing at Reynolda - Join outing leader Rob Rogers at Reynolda. Spring migration will be starting, **Monday, April 22 - 8:00 AM** - Join outing leaders Jean Chamberlain and Bernie Carr at Bethania Black Walnut Bottoms. We will meet in the parking lot of the Bethania Visitor Center. We hope to see spring migrants and summer residents, especially thrushes, tanagers, and warblers. 5393 Ham Horton Lane, Bethania, NC



### YOUNG BIRDERS @ Tanglewood Outing Recap Ann Robertson

Thanks to the leadership of Jesse Haaf, we did NOT abandon this morning's outing, in spite of the dismal, drizzly weather. Nine hardy souls showed up, and we were richly rewarded with a fun two hours of good companionship and mutual enjoyment of some pretty special birds!

After a bit of a slow start, things quickly picked up with a Barred Owl who stayed obligingly close even as he moved from tree to tree. Everyone got great looks through the two spotting scopes (thank you, Jesse and Chris, for lugging those around and getting on the birds for us)! Speculation was that we were seeing a Male, keeping a watchful eye out for his Female on a hidden nest.

Other goodies included Common Yellowthroat calling at the wetlands, and an

constraints (we spent a LONG time with the Owl!) we didn't make it to the Heronry. Still, the group logged a total of 41 species.

Thanks again to Jesse Haaf for volunteering to lead this walk; and, always, to Bernie Carr for adding the young birders element to Forsyth Audubon activities. Watch your email for details of our next Young Birders Outing!



Save the Date: Forsyth Audubon member David Collins will be having an exhibit of photographs at the Yadkinville Cultural Arts Center in May. Photos will be for sale with proceeds to benefit the Arts Center, NC Audubon and Forsyth Audubon. There will be an opening reception on May 2 from 5 PM to 7 PM at the Welborn Gallery of the Yadkinville Cultural Arts Center. More details to come!

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Have you visited our redesigned website at <a href="http://forsythaudubon.org">http://forsythaudubon.org</a> Check it out and spend some time exploring! Make sure to see the Calendar. <a href="https://forsythaudubon.org/events-calendar/">https://forsythaudubon.org/events-calendar/</a> On the upper right hand corner of the calendar page, beside the blue "find events" box, (or on your mobile device click the box beside the magnifying glass in the upper right corner) you can toggle between list view and monthly view. With either view you can click on each event to see details and maps. Many thanks to Jean Chamberlain for this new streamlined design!

#### Mark your Calendar

**April 9 - 6:00 PM -** Forsyth Audubon Monthly Dinner – We will meet at River Birch Lodge on Robinhood Road. RSVP to <u>forsythaudubon@gmail.com</u>

April 13 - 8:00 AM - Second Saturday Bird Outing at Reynolda

**April 20 - 10 AM - 4 PM** Piedmont Environmental Alliance Earth Day Fair - Table Volunteers needed!

**April 21** - 4:00 PM - Book Club - <u>The Comfort of Crows a Backyard Year</u> by Margaret Renkl **April 23** - 6:30 PM - Chapter Meeting - Highland Presbyterian Church Activity Building

May 1 - Hanging Rock Spring Bird Count

May 2 - Pilot Mountain Spring Bird Count

**May 2** - 5:00 PM Opening Reception for David Collins photo exhibit at Yadkin Cultural Arts Center

May 4 - Forsyth Audubon Spring Bird Count

**May 11 -8:00 AM** Second Saturday Bird Outing Miller Park

**May 20** - 9:00 AM Bird Outing at Yadkin Memorial Park followed by a visit to David Collins exhibit at the Yadkin Cultural Arts Center and lunch.

May 22 - Advocacy Day



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