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## Forsyth Audubon Newsletter

March 2024



### March Chapter Meeting

#### Birds Through the Camera's Eye

Please join us for our month chapter meeting, March 26th, for a presentation by Forsyth Audubon member and photographer, David Collins.

David will present: "Birds Through the Camera's Eye", including photos from his travels around North and South America. He will discuss various aspects of bird photography, and tell some stories!

He lives in Winston Salem with his wife Carole. Recently he has enjoyed introducing his two grandsons to the pleasures of birding.


**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:** We will begin our chapter meeting on March 26th with an unveiling of the new Forsyth Audubon website. Please join us at 6:30PM for pizza, snacks and a celebration of wonderful Forsyth Audubon board member, Jean Chamberlain who designed the new website.

**Tuesday March 26th**

**Celebration 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)**



  
Audubon  
NORTH CAROLINA

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Advocacy Day**  
May 22, 2024

Join the Audubon flock as  
we speak up for birds at  
the NC General Assembly.

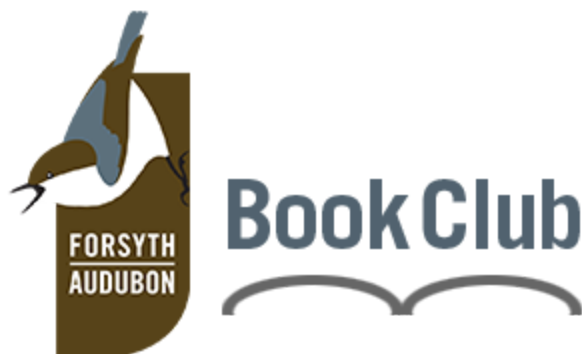
Sign up for updates:  
[bit.ly/2024-advocacy-day-  
save-the-date](https://bit.ly/2024-advocacy-day-save-the-date)

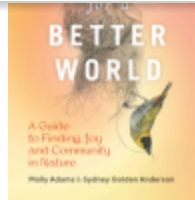
Tufted Titmouse. Photo: Deborah Bifulco/Great Backyard Bird Count

**Many thanks** to all those who have responded to our call for action through the two Action Alerts sent out in February! One of our primary initiatives is increasing the use of native plants throughout Forsyth County, so letting our elected officials know we care about that is a big deal. Two Board members spoke before City Council on February 19th during the public comment period to promote the increased use of native plants as well as to educate about the need for decreasing light pollution, especially during migration season. Forsyth Audubon offered to partner with the city on these important areas that will benefit both birds and people, and we will keep you posted on how that is progressing – as well as how you can help!

**SAVE THE DATE: 2024 Audubon Advocacy Day – Wednesday, May 22nd**

For the eighth year in a row, Audubon supporters will flock to Raleigh to advocate for concrete solutions that help birds and people alike. Visit <https://act.audubon.org/a/2024-audubon-advocacy-day-save-date> to sign up to receive updates about this important event. We would love to take a large group from our chapter to show our state legislators that we care about the choices they are making and their impacts on birds and people in Forsyth County. NC Audubon provides great training on specific issues that will be discussed during these meetings, and having constituents present from a legislator's district – even if they do not feel comfortable speaking on the issues – is very valuable and helps us get meetings with that legislator. So please, consider joining this important advocacy effort by stepping up and speaking out on Wednesday, May 22nd!





## Book Club

Our Book Club meets on Zoom the 3rd Sunday of the month at 4:00 PM. Email [Hannah Addair](#) for the Zoom link.

March 3 (rescheduled from February 18th) at 4:00 PM: Birding While Indian: A Half-Blood Memoir by Thomas C. Gannon

March 17th at 4:00 PM: The Feminist Bird Club's Birding for a Better World: A Guide to Finding Joy and Community in Nature by Milly Adams and Sydney Anderson

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

Visit Winston-Salem local bookstore, Bookmarks, and use coupon code **20AUDUBON** to receive 20% off online and in store.

<https://www.bookmarksnsc.org/forsyth-audubon%E2%80%99s-book-club>

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### **Clean-up Time!**

Come join in the fun of cleaning up at Bethabara Wetlands -Forsyth Audubon's adopted area for Clean-Up. We often bird in that area taking pleasure in sighting Red-winged Blackbirds, Great Blue Herons, Green Herons, warblers during migration and even some rare visitors from the coast sometimes. Let's keep the area free of plastic, styrofoam, and other trash that harm wildlife.

**March 23rd Saturday**

**9 AM to 12 noon**

Please email [gabaliga@gmail.com](mailto:gabaliga@gmail.com) to sign up. A head count is needed as well as waivers signed.

There is a small area at Bethabara lower trails that has quite a bit of trash accumulated. We would like to clean that up too on March 23rd, 8:30 to 10 am. Joy Rochester will 'lead' clean-up at that area. We need 4-5 volunteers to pitch in there. Please indicate in your email to [gabaliga@gmail.com](mailto:gabaliga@gmail.com) which area you prefer ( or both).

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## Plirdering Report

On Sunday, Feb 18, 8 proud plirders overcame the chilly morning at Bethabara Lower Trail.

They counted 27 species for the Backyard Bird Count. Then they enjoyed the bird serenade of Red Shouldered Hawks, Northern Cardinals, and nuthatches as they cleaned up a portion of Monarcas Creek and nearby space.

Many thanks to all participants!

Consider joining in our next plirdering day on **Sunday, April 21**. Great way to celebrate Earth Day on the 22nd!

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## Forsyth Audubon Monthly Dinner

We meet at 6:00pm on the second Tuesday of each month, at River Birch Lodge on Robinhood Road, <https://riverbirchlodge.com>. 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

Our next dinner will **Tuesday, March 12th**. Let us know if you are planning to come. Send an email [forsythaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:forsythaudubon@gmail.com) with your name and total number of people including yourself.

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### Forsyth Audubon 2024 Spring Trip

Magee Marsh in Ohio

Magee Marsh, situated along the southern shore of Lake Erie, is a prime stopover for warblers during spring migration. It is one of the top birding spots in the US. We hope to see 25 species of warblers, maybe more, along with many other birds.

Some moderate walking will be involved.

Dates: May 17-19: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday

We will stay at the Hampton Inn, Toledo/Oregon (\$111 2 queen per night plus taxes, \$116 king per night plus taxes).

Time: Travel on Thursday. We will start early Friday, Saturday and Sunday mornings.

To sign up send an email to [forsythaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:forsythaudubon@gmail.com). In that email, let us know that you plan to attend the Spring Trip. You will receive instructions on how to pay the trip fee. The fee is \$25 per person for Forsyth Audubon Members; \$35 for non-member. Detailed trip itinerary will be provided to those who register. Our trips are limited to 25 people. As soon as I receive word that you are registered for the trip, I will send you information about booking your room. Looking forward to a great trip!

Jean Chamberlain, Trip Coordinator



### Upcoming Outings

**Saturday, March 9th - 6:00 PM** - Evening Woodcock Outing. Join outing leader Barb Borucki to search for Woodcocks along Muddy Creek Greenway. This is the time of year to see and hear the Woodcocks unique courtship display. Meet in the Robinhood Road parking lot for Muddy Creek Greenway.

**Saturday, March 23 - 9:30 AM** - Young Birders Outing at the Tanglewood Yadkin River Trail. Meet outing leader Jesse Haaf at the gravel parking lot across from Skilpot Lake, which is the trail head to the Yadkin River Trail. As you enter Tanglewood Park, follow signs for the BMX track, the road to the BMX track starts at that location too. Young birders must be accompanied by an adult.

**Monday, March 25 - 8:00 AM** - Long Creek Park - Join outing leader Ron Morris at Long Creek Park for our Monday Bird Outing.

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## **YOUNG BIRDERS OUTING**

Saturday, March 23rd at 9:30 a.m.

Tanglewood BMX / Wetlands / River Trails

\$2.00 Park Entrance Fee

Leader: Young Birder Jesse Haaf!

### **HELPFUL INFORMATION:**

Park in the gravel lot across from Skilpot Lake. Dress in layers for varying conditions as we normally are out around 2 hours. If it has recently rained, **WATERPROOF** boots (galoshes for kids) desirable for the river trail. Snacks and beverages suggested. Children must be accompanied by responsible adult.

This event is open to **ANYONE**, but is geared toward young birders.



**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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### **Mark your Calendar**

**March 9 - 6:00 PM** - Second Saturday Bird Outing -Evening Woodcock Outing at Muddy Creek Greenway - meet in the Robinhood Road parking lot for Muddy Creek Greenway

**March 12 -6:00 PM** – Forsyth Audubon Monthly Dinner – We will meet at River Birch Lodge on Robinhood Road. RSVP to [forsythaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:forsythaudubon@gmail.com).

**March 17** - 4:00 PM - Book Club - The Feminist Bird Club's Birding for a Better World: A Guide to Finding Joy and Community in Nature by Milly Adams and Sydney Anderson

**March 23** - 9:00 AM - Bethabara Clean-up

**March 23** - 9:30 AM- Young Birders Outing - Tanglewood Yadkin River Trails

**March 25** - 8:00 AM - Monday Bird Outing - Long Creek Park

**March 26** - 6:30 PM - Website Celebration and 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 22** - Advocacy Day



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