



# Annual Calendar

## 2019/2020

*The Schedule of Meetings and Field Trips of the Wyncote Audubon Society*

### Wyncote Audubon Society

1212 Edge Hill Road  
Abington, PA 19001

[wyncoteaudubon.org](http://wyncoteaudubon.org)

[wyncoteaudubonsociety@gmail.com](mailto:wyncoteaudubonsociety@gmail.com)

The Wyncote Audubon Society was founded as the "Wyncote Bird Club" in April 1914. It has a long tradition of providing programs, field trips, and activities that promote the protection of birds and their habitats. Wyncote Audubon is the local chapter of the National Audubon Society that serves members in Northeast, North, and Northwest Philadelphia as well as major areas of Montgomery County from Green Lane, Lansdale, Ambler, Horsham, Cheltenham and more.

### A Look at the Year Ahead!

The Wyncote Audubon Society is looking ahead to another great year of programs and activities. This Annual Calendar spotlights our programs and field trips scheduled for 2019-2020. There is more information for these and the many other activities that are offered by Wyncote Audubon. Be sure to check our website at [wyncoteaudubon.org](http://wyncoteaudubon.org) for more!

### A Note About Our Monthly Programs:

The Wyncote Audubon Society schedules monthly programs each year from September through May. The meetings are generally held on the third Friday of each month at **Plymouth Friends Meeting House, 2150 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462**. Meetings are free and open to members, friends, guests, and visitors. All are welcome and encouraged to arrive early to meet one another and enjoy refreshments that are provided before the start of each meeting. Programs begin at 7:30 PM and end about 9:00 PM. Mark your calendar!

### A Note About Our Field Trips:

We encourage participants to regularly check both the Wyncote Audubon Society website and Facebook page in advance of a field trip as the meeting location can change due to road construction, a park closure, weather conditions, or other last minute circumstances. If you have any questions about a field trip, please contact: [wyncotefieldtrips@gmail.com](mailto:wyncotefieldtrips@gmail.com). Plan to arrive a few minutes before the scheduled time of the field trip. The time stated is the **STARTING** time, not the arrival time. This will give you time to get yourself ready, say hello, visit a restroom and be ready to go. For all day trips, please come prepared with lunch and have a full tank of gas. *Participants on a Wyncote Audubon field trip or event agree to not hold the Wyncote Audubon Society or any of its agents responsible for any accidents, losses, damages or injuries resulting from participation in the field trip or event.*

### Learn More:

The Wyncote Audubon Society sponsors a wide range of programs, projects and activities to which interested individuals are welcome to become involved. Audubon Bird Town, Audubon Bird Habitat, Audubon Adventures, Audubon Climate Watch, Chimney Swift Project, Crosswicks Sanctuary, are among these opportunities. Check our website to sign up to receive our monthly "Wyncote Audubon Updates" to learn about specially scheduled "Audubon Bird Town Bird Walks," Bird Town workshops and programs, and other special events.

### Wyncote Audubon Society 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Dinner Sunday, December 8, 2019

Social Hour: 5 PM, Dinner: 6 PM  
Program: 7:30 PM

**North Hills Country Club**  
99 Station Avenue, Glenside, PA 19038

**Keynote Program:**  
"The Enigma of Bird Behavior"  
John Kricher

### Special Award Presentations:

*William Dutcher Award:*  
Jane Clarkson Henderson

*John Dornan Conservation Award:*  
John Kricher

For additional information contact  
Marlene Morano at 215-840-2352 or via  
email: [ikemorano@gmail.com](mailto:ikemorano@gmail.com)

Register for the Annual Dinner  
at  
[wyncoteaudubon.org](http://wyncoteaudubon.org)

Become a member of the Wyncote Audubon Society  
by joining the National Audubon Society through our website:  
[wyncoteaudubon.org](http://wyncoteaudubon.org).

## Wyncote Audubon Field Trips: August 2019 to July 2020

**August 30 (Fri) and August 31 (Sat) 2019, Militia Hill for Migrating Nighthawks:** Join us at the Militia Hill Hawk Watch Platform, Fort Washington State Park, between 5:30 pm and 7:30 pm each night, weather permitting. Leader: Rich Conroy.

**September 14, 2019 (Sat) Morning Bird Walk at Fort Washington State Park, 7:30 am:** Meet at the Militia Hill Hawk Watch Parking Lot to look for fall warblers and other migrants. When the warblers have quieted down, those who want can stay and watch for kettles of Broad-winged Hawks circling overhead. Leader: Judy Stepenaskie.

**September 16, 2019 (Mon) Bryn Athyn Chimney Swift Roost, 6:30 pm:** Bring a chair and join us to watch the chimney swifts swirl around and descend into the chimney for the night. Meet at the Junge Ice Rink & Pavilion, 3002 Cairnwood Drive, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009, on this joint trip with Pennypack Environmental Restoration Trust. Check the Wyncote Facebook Page or website for updates in early September. Rain date: Weds. September 18. Leaders: Wendy Clymer and Kevin Roth.

**September 21, 2019 (Sat) Bilingual Bird Walk at Tacony Creek Park, 9:45 am:** Join us for a guided bird focused nature walk in Spanish and English in Tacony Creek Park, a beautiful neighborhood spot full of birds and other wildlife. Binoculars will be provided. Bring the whole family! Meet at the Tacony Creek Park Whitaker Gateway, 635 Tampa St, Phila., PA 19120. Leader: Robin Irizarry. RSVP at [doryan@ttfwatershed.org](mailto:doryan@ttfwatershed.org), 215.744.1853.

**September 22, 2019 (Sun) Morning Bird Walk at John J. Heinz NWR, 9:00 am:** Meet near the walkway from the Parking Lot to the Visitor's Center. We expect to see a large variety of waterbirds, warblers and other migrants. Leader: Edie Parnum.

**September 23, 2019 (Mon) Manayunk Chimney Swift Roost, 6:30 pm:** Meet at the Dobson School, 4667 Umbria St., Phila., PA 19127. This has been the hot spot in the last few years with over 3000 swifts roosting in the chimney. Parking is available at the Ivy Ridge Train Station, 4910 Umbria Street. Rain date: Tues. Sept. 24. Leader: Judy Stepenaskie.

**October 5, 2019 (Sat) Southern Chester County's Brandywine, Red Clay and White Clay Creek Watersheds, 8:00 am:** Meet at the Stroud Preserve parking lot, 445 North Creek Rd. in West Chester for this half-day trip with possible extension to other locations. Kathy Dale, National Audubon Society Science Team, will share local Chester County birding spots with visits to Stroud Preserve, ChesLen Preserve, Chandler Mill and Bucktoe Preserve, the local Hawk Watch. Bring lunch or snacks.

**October 19, 2019 (Sat) Bird Walk at Willow Lake Farm and Armentrout Preserve, 8:00 am:** Join leader Margaret Rohde as we bird these Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association Preserves. Meet at the parking lot for Willow Lake, next to the drug store at 7000 Butler Pike, Ambler, 19002. Both the 109-acre Willow Lake Farm and Armentrout have a variety of habitats including fields, scrub and shrub, woodlands and riparian corridors, attracting resident and migrating birds.

**November 16, 2019 (Sat) Glen Foerd on the Delaware, 10:00 am:** Meet leader Tony Croasdale for this joint trip with the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, co-sponsored by Glen Foerd on the Delaware, 5001 Grant Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19004. We'll be looking at wintering waterfowl and gulls, hoping to see Lesser Black-backed and White-winged gulls, Common Goldeneye, Canvasback, and Great Cormorant.

**December 7, 2019 (Sat) Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge (a.k.a. Brigantine NWR) NJ, 9:00 am:** Meet noted Ornithologist John Kricher, the speaker at the Wyncote Annual Banquet, and co-leaders Joe Wunderle and Leigh Altadonna at the Visitors Center Parking Lot. We will bird the refuge for waterfowl, raptors and other fall migrants. Bring your lunch.

### December 14, 2020 (Sat) Annual Christmas Bird Count:

Join Wyncote Audubon Society Volunteers as we cover our CBC fifteen-mile diameter circle centered at Briar Bush Nature Center. We are among the oldest CBCs in Audubon! Check the Wyncote Facebook page or website for details if you would like to join.

**Wyncote Audubon CBC Coordinator:**  
Kristy Morley: [kristy@wwa.org](mailto:kristy@wwa.org)

**January 18, 2020 (Sat) Barnegat Light and Long Beach Island, NJ, 9:30 am:** Meet at the Barnegat Lighthouse parking. We'll look for Harlequins, Loons, Mergansers, Purple Sandpipers and Snow Buntings, then bird the inlets along Long Beach Island. Bring lunch for this all-day trip. Leader: Leigh Altadonna.

**February 29, 2020 (Sat) Field Trip to Middle Creek WMA, PA, 10:30 am:** Meet at the Visitors Center. Join us to witness the spectacle of huge numbers of snow geese as they prepare to head north. The tour road isn't open but there will be plenty to see. Bring lunch. Leader: Judy Stepenaskie.

**March 7, 2020 (Sat) Field Trip to Mannington Marsh, NJ, 8:00 am to 2:00 pm:** Meet at Plymouth Meeting Mall at 8:00 am. We'll carpool to Mannington Marsh and nearby locations for waterfowl and shorebirds. Bring lunch. Check the Wyncote website and Facebook page for meeting location. Leader: Dennis Miranda.

**April 25, 2020 (Sat) Early Spring Migrants at Unami Hills:** The Unami Hills represent the largest contiguous forest in Montgomery County. Some of the county's rarest breeders can be found here including Barred Owl, Worm Eating Warbler, Cerulean Warbler and Red Shouldered Hawk. Check the Wyncote website and Facebook page for meeting location. Leader: Dennis Miranda.

**May 2, 2020 (Sat) Morning Bird Walk at Fort Washington State Park, 7:30 am:** Meet at the Militia Hill Hawk Watch Parking Lot as we look for warblers and other spring migrants. Leader: Peter Burns.

**June 7, 2020 (Sun) Breeding Birds of Houston Meadow, 7:30 am:** Meet Philly expert birder Keith Russell, PA Audubon, in front of the Rec Center at 900 Graykyn Lane in the Roxborough section of Phila., 19128. We'll look for warblers, vireos, flycatchers, orioles and other birds.

**July 25, 2020 (Sat) Field Trip to Coastal Delaware, 9:00 am:** Meet at the Visitor's Center at the Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge. We'll be looking for migrating shorebirds here and possibly at other nearby refuges on this all day trip. Bring lunch and snacks. Check the Wyncote Facebook Page or website for updates. Leaders: Margaret Rohde and Kristy Morley.

## Schedule of Evening Programs September 2019 to May 2020

The Wyncote Audubon Society schedules monthly programs each year from September through May. The meetings are generally held on the second or third Friday of each month at **Plymouth Friends Meeting House, 2150 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462**. Meetings are free and open to members, friends, guests, and visitors. All are welcome and encouraged to arrive early to meet one another and enjoy refreshments that are provided before the start of each meeting. Programs begin at **7:30 PM** and end about 9:00 PM. Mark your calendar!

**September 13, 2019: "Alaska's St. Paul Island or "I Can See Russia From Here;" Linda Widdop:** We will learn about the bird species at the Pribilofs, St. Paul Island. Located in the Bering Sea, this island is a destination for birders who want to see birds that are blown over from Russia and other parts of Europe and Asia.

**October 18, 2019: "Young Forests Are For The Birds;" Mike and Laura Jackson:** Sometimes it takes drastic action to help a species, but that's what Mike and Laura Jackson did on 29 acres of their forested property south of Everett, Pennsylvania. Back in 1985, when Laura's parents gave them the 114-acre property, the forest was in bad shape: a lot of trees were dead from gypsy moth defoliation.

**November 15, 2019: "Planting for Birds;" Cindy Nuss:** Since 1970 we have lost half the birds in the world, with habitat destruction listed as the number one cause of declining populations by far. Although we fight to preserve habitat as a group by educating and working with our governing bodies, we often fail to take a hard look at our own properties.

**January 17, 2020: "Birds Can Tell Us Things And We Should Listen;" Ron Rohrbaugh:** Learn how birds serve as bioindicators to help guide global and regional conservation priorities, including adaptation to climate change; and how birds truly are "canaries in the coal mine" when it comes to protecting human health.

**February 21, 2020: "Understanding the Factors That Drive Population –A Study in Chimney Swifts;" Margaret Rohde:** Aerial insectivores - swallows, nighthawks, martins, flycatchers, and swifts – are showing some of the greatest population declines among birds, and it's unclear exactly why. Chimney swifts, whose populations have declined by 52% in PA over the last 60 years, serve as a "canary in the coal mine" for this suite of species.

**March 20, 2020: "The Peregrines in the Steeple of St. John the Baptist Church;" Judy Stepenaskie:** Peregrines nested inside the steeple of St. John the Baptist R.C. Church, in a space previously occupied by Rock Doves. The steeple has one of the best views in all of Manayunk and the Peregrines have returned to it every year. In this talk, Judy tells the story of these Peregrines and their offspring.

**April 17, 2020: "The Philadelphia Mid-Winter Census 1987-2020;" Keith Russell:** When the Philadelphia Mid Winter Bird Census (PMWBC) was inaugurated on January 11, 1987, it was unclear how many birds a census conducted entirely within the confines of the nation's 5th largest city would find, especially during early January.

**May 15, 2020: "Birding With BQ in Arizona;" Brian "BQ" Quindlen:** Southeastern Arizona is a birder's paradise! On Brian's first-ever trip to this region, he and his friends made the most of their time exploring as many hotspots as they could fit into five days. Through photography and digiscoping, they observed many of the species that make Arizona a premier birding destination in the United States!

## Wyncote Audubon Society Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs

### President

\*Leigh Altadonna

### Vice-President & Militia Hill Hawk Watch

\*Rich Conroy

### Secretary and Nominating Committee

\*Greta Brunschwylar

### Treasurer and Citizen Science

\*Constance Sanchez

### Advocacy

\*Tykee James & Leigh Altadonna

### Annual Appeal & Birdathon

Janet Starwood

### Audubon Adventures/Education

\*Leigh Altadonna

### Christmas Bird Count

Kristy Morley

### Chimney Swift Project

\*Margaret Rhode

### Climate Watch

\*Robin Irizarry and Margaret Rohde

### Community Outreach

\*Sherry Krider

### Crosswalks

Jennifer Sherwood

### Field Trips

\*Judy Stepenaskie

### Griscom Scholarships

Peter Burns

### Hospitality & Annual Dinner

\*Marlene Morano

### Important Bird Areas

\*Robin Irizarry

### Membership

\*Wendy Clymer

### Programs

\*Jane Henderson & \*Kevin Roth

### Website and Social Media

Marsha Pearson:

### Urban Programs

\*Tony Croasdale

### Youth Representative

\*Sean Bradley

*\*Denotes Member of the Board of Directors*

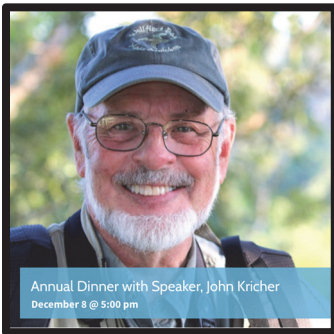


# Wyncote Audubon Society

## 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Dinner

**Sunday, December 8, 2019: Social Hour: 5 PM, Dinner: 6 PM, Program: 7:30 PM**  
**North Hills Country Club, 99 Station Avenue, North Hills, PA 19038**

The Wyncote Audubon Society established the Annual Dinner in 1988. It was created as an opportunity for members to enjoy an evening together in a social setting, hear a program presented by an outstanding speaker, and as an opportunity to recognize individuals who have made meaningful contributions to conservation. This year we will observe the 31st Wyncote Audubon Society Annual Dinner! Join the fun!



### Keynote Address

#### *"The Enigma of Bird Behavior"*

John Kricher taught college-level ecology and ornithology for 48 years, has led many birding tours, and has lectured widely. His quest to watch birds has taken him over 30 countries and to all of the continents. He is a fellow in the American Ornithological Society and past-president of both the Wilson Ornithological Society and the Association of Field Ornithologists. John has also been an instructor at the Hog Island Audubon Camp in Maine. He has authored several books, most notably *A Field Guide to Eastern Forests* (Houghton Mifflin) and *The New Neotropical Companion* (Princeton University Press). His most recent book is *Peterson Reference Guide to Bird Behavior*, to be published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in spring of 2020. He lives with his wife, Martha Vaughan, in Hingham, Massachusetts.

**William Dutcher Award:** Jane Clarkson Henderson will be honored with the presentation of the National Audubon Society's William Dutcher Award. This award is given to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions as leaders of a chapter of the National Audubon Society. Jane has had a long association with Wyncote Audubon, both as a Board member and an Officer. She served as President for nine years and has served as the Program Chair for many years, faithfully creating the line-up of monthly programs each and every year. The Wyncote Audubon annual field trip schedule prominently featured Jane's September visits to local Chimney Swift roosts and her spring and fall bird walks at Fort Washington State Park. Jane's leadership and countless hours of service have earned her this well-deserved recognition and very special award from the National Audubon Society.



**John Dornan Conservation Award:** John Kricher will be honored with the presentation of the John Dornan Conservation Award. This award recognizes individuals or organizations that have made a major contribution to conservation in our region. John has been devoted to the enjoyment and study of birds since he received his first bird book, *The Golden Nature Guide to Birds*, at a very tender age. His interest in birding and ornithology took focus when he joined the Wyncote Bird Club in 1959 and spent many hours at Briar Bush, then home of Florence Griscom, who was his first mentor. He served for several years as secretary of the Wyncote Bird Club and was a Griscom Scholar.

## Make Your Reservation NOW!!

[wyncoteaudubon.org](http://wyncoteaudubon.org)

**Registration: \$49.00 per person**

**For additional information contact**

**Marlene Morano at 215-840-2352 or via email: [ikemorano@gmail.com](mailto:ikemorano@gmail.com)**