

A LOOK BACK AT 2007 by Kenyon Stebbins

The year 2007 was another busy one for PRAS, and we hope you enjoyed not only our indoor programs, but also our outings. Here's a summary of most of what happened. Hope to see you out there in 2008!

2007 Indoor Programs: Our programs were as follows:

January 9: Exploring the Great Lakes using Underwater Robots, by Mark Gleason – 55 folks
February 13: Conservation Restoration... a Natural Investment, by Rebecca Humphries -- 73 folks
March 13: Birding in the Amazon & Andes of Ecuador & Peru, by Kenyon Stebbins -- 57 folks
April 10: Ten Things You Can Do to Conserve the Environment, by Kate Melby – 40 folks
May 8: Up Close and Personal in Your Own Backyard, by Bud Germond – 52 folks
June 12: Outdoor potluck at Bayfront Park – 40 folks
September 11: Piping Plover Recovery & Predator Control, by Patrick Ryan – 35 folks
October 9: Challenges of Climate Control in the Great Lakes Region, by Knute Nadelhoffer -- 58 folks
November 13: What the Heck are the Birds Doing? by Torrey Wenger – 35 folks
December 9 Members' Slide Fest & Holiday Treats – 18 folks

A total of **463 people** attended these **10 programs**, for an average of 46 folks per program. A big thanks to each presenter for sharing his and her knowledge and enthusiasm with us, and to Margo Hodder & Connie Vorenkamp for organizing them!

2007 Outdoor Activities:

Jan. 14 Cross-country ski at the U-M Biological Station (Kathy & Jim Bricker) -- 15 folks
Feb. 18 Snowshoe outing at the Bay View Woods (Sally Stebbins) -- 8 folks
Feb. 24 Snowshoe outing at Jake Snider's Woodlot (Jake Snider) -- 11 folks
March 10 Winter Rafting Trip on the Jordan River (Sally Stebbins) – 12 folks
March 24 Early Spring Walk at LTC's Five Mile Creek Preserve (Doug Fuller) – 21 folks
April 20 Snipe "hunt" at the Waldron Fen (Ron Svoboda) – 25 folks
April 28-30 Whitefish Point Bird Observatory Spring Fling -- ???
May 1,8,15, 22, 29 Bird walks at Pond Hill Farm (John & Joanne Biddick) – 72 folks
May 3,10,17,24, 31 Bird walks at Spring Lake Park (Sally Stebbins) – 45 folks
May 12 North American Migratory Bird Count – 10 folks
May 20 Dingman Marsh birding (John Kafer) – 18 folks
May 26 Birding Fisherman's Island State Park (Jill Anderson & Sharon Szczesny) – 11 folks
June 2 Take a Kid Birding at NCMC's Natural Area (Sally Stebbins) – (cancelled due to low interest)
June 9 "Dawn Chorus" at Thorne Swift Preserve (Sally Stebbins) -- 8 folks
June 16 Kirtland's Warbler trip in Grayling w/ USFWS (Sally Stebbins) -- 14 folks
June 23 Chimney Swifts in downtown Petoskey (Cindy Mom) – 19 folks
July 14 Birds & Blooms at Thorne Swift Nature Preserve (Sally Stebbins & Jodi Riggs) – (cancelled due to rain)
July 24 Paddling to the Black Hole (Cindy Mom) – 8 folks
July 28 Birds & Blooms at Thorne Swift Nature Preserve (Sally Stebbins & Jodi Riggs) – 10 folks
August 4 Birds & Blooms at Thorne Swift Nature Preserve (Sally Stebbins & Jodi Riggs) 10 folks
August 6 Paddling the Indian River Spreads (Jill Ryan) – 14 folks
August 18 Birds & Blooms at Thorne Swift Nature Preserve (Sally Stebbins & Jodi Riggs) – 19 folks
August 25 Hiking the North Country Trail (Margo Hodder) – (cancelled due to rain)
Sept. 9 Birding Wilderness State Park & Sturgeon Bay (Dick & Linda Taylor) – 20 folks
Sept. 22 Birding Pond Hill Farm (John & Joanne Biddick) -- 21 folks
Oct. 7 Fall Walk at the Waldron Fen (Nancy Waldron) – 20 folks
Oct. 24 Birding the Straits area (Steve Baker) – 9 folks
Nov. 10 Fall Birding – Spring Lake to Round Lake (Dick Taylor) – 9 folks
Dec. 1 From Carp Creek Gorge to Burt Lake (Jim & Kathy Bricker) -- 3 folks
Dec. 14 Christmas Bird Count – 16 folks

A total of **448 people** participated in these **37 outings**, for an average of 12 folks per outing. A big thanks to each field trip leader, and to Sally Stebbins, for coordinating them!

2007 Treat Providers: Our indoor programs are made extra special, thanks to the delicious treats that seem to almost magically appear on the table each month. Thanks to the following folks for their "magic", and to Evelyn Howell for coordinating this important effort!

January 9—Jim & Evelyn Howell, & Hank & Carol Ross
February 13 -- Ron Krause, Jane Smith, & Dolores Wehrenberg
March 13 -- Sally Pickering, Ed & Diane Strzelinski, & Glen Williams
April 10 – Kathy & Jim Bricker, Lu Kramer, & Jake Snider
May 8 – Audrey & Clint Etienne, Paul Nowak, & Sharon Taylor
Sept. 11 – Margo Hodder, Martha Lancaster, & Tom Ritchie
Oct. 9 – Jim/Evelyn Howell, Jan Miller, & Sharon Szczesny
Nov. 13 – Ron Krause, Sally Pickering, Kris Skornia