

A LOOK BACK AT 2010, PRAS's 44th year! by Kenyon Stebbins

The year 2010 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 2011.

2010 Indoor Programs: Our programs were as follows:

January 12: Trout Spawning Techniques at Oden Fish Hatchery, by Dan Sampson – 12 folks
February 9: Comparing the Little Traverse Conservancy & The Nature Conservancy, by Tom Bailey – 15 folks
March 9: The Buzz about Bees, by Scott Sandel – 21 folks
April 13: Looking Up or Looking Down – Migrants or Morels?, by Marilyn Smith -- 25 folks
May 11: Conservation of the Great Lakes Piping Plover" by Erin Roche -- 27 folks
June 8: Outdoor potluck at Spring Lake Park – 56 folks
September 14: Birding in Mexico from Texas to the Yucatan, by John & Joanne Biddick -- 59 folks
October 12: Fracking for Natural Gas in northern Michigan, by Dr. Grenetta Thomassey -- 51 folks
November 9: Travels in Southeast Asia, by Emily Meyerson – 43 folks
December 8: Members' Slide Fest & Holiday Treats – 26 folks

A total of **335 people** attended these **10 programs**, for an average of 33.5 folks per program. A big thanks to each presenter for sharing his and her knowledge and enthusiasm with us, and to Nancy Nowitzke and Cindy Mom for organizing them!

2010 Outdoor Activities:

Jan. 16 Snowshoeing at the Oden Fish Hatchery (Jake Snider) – 3 folks
Feb. 20 Snowshoe at the Jordan River Valley (Margo Hodder) -- 18 folks (w/ NCTrail also)
March 7 Cross-country Ski at Young State Park (Jim & Evelyn Howell) – 4 folks
May 4, 11, 18, 25 Bird walks at Pond Hill Farm (John & Joanne Biddick) – 45 folks
May 6, 13, 20, 27 Bird walks at Spring Lake Park (Sally Stebbins) – 52 folks
May 8 North American Migratory Bird Count – 15 folks
May 15 Dingman Marsh birding (John Kafer) – 14 folks
May 23 Birding along the Boyne River (Evelyn & Jim Howell) – 18 folks
June 11 Orchid trip near Straits Area (Steve Baker) -- 16 folks
June 12 Birding the Bay View Woods (Sally Stebbins) -- 13 folks
June 15 Chimney Swifts in downtown Petoskey (Cindy Mom) -- 18 folks
June 19 Late Spring Birding at the Waldron Fen (Nancy Waldron) – 25 folks
June 27 Birding NCMC & LTC's Clark Preserve (Sally Stebbins) – rained out
July 6 Paddling Burt Lake's Maple Bay & Bullhead Bay (Jake Snider) – rained out
July 15 Paddling Indian River Spreads (Mullett Lake) (Jill Ryan) – rained out
July 17 Birds & Blooms at Thorne Swift (Sally Stebbins) - 16 folks
July 25 Paddling Wycamp Lake with Cynthia Donahey & Art Schoolmaster – 5 folks
August 5 Touring Emmet County's Recycling Center (Trish Woollcott) – 8 folks
August 14 Birds & Blooms at Thorne Swift (Sally Stebbins) - 11 folks
August 20 Kayaking on Walloon Lake (Sally Pickering & Bill Brown) – rained out
August 22 Flora walk on a Charlevoix preserve (Diane Strezlinski & Susan Vrondran) – 8 folks
Sept. 8 Rare Ferns of the Eastern U.P. (Steve Baker) – 14 folks
Sept. 25 Fall Walk at the Waldron Fen (Nancy Waldron) – 22 folks
Oct. 17 Birding Wilderness State Park & Sturgeon Bay (Dick & Linda Taylor) – 13 folks
Oct. 22 Birding the Straits area (Steve Baker) – 15 folks
Nov. 6 LTC's Offfield Family Preserve (Kenyon & Sally Stebbins) – 16 folks
Dec. 14 Christmas Bird Count (Ed Pike) – 25 folks

In 2010 a total of **394 people** participated in these **31 outings**, for an average of 12.7 folks per outing. A big thanks to each field trip leader, and to Sally Stebbins, for coordinating them!

2010 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 Nancy Epstein for coordinating this important effort! And thanks also to Jake Snider for doing such a fine job with the raffles at each meeting!

January 12 – Nancy & Joel Epstein, Tom & Margaret Ritchie
February 9 – Ron Krause
March 9 – Jake Snider & Dolores Wehrenberg
April 13 – Sally Stebbins, Glen & Linn Williams, Clare Sullivan & Perry Nelson
May 13 – Ron Krause, Roberta Vander Breggen & Dolores Wehrenberg
Sept. 14 – Nancy Epstein, Suzie Frisk, Sally Stebbins, & Esther Summers
Oct. 13 – Carol Ross, MaryLou Tanton, & Mary Trout
Nov. 10 – Shirley Polakowski, Jake Snider, & Nancy Waldron