



Hoy Board Elections, At Our Next Meeting



Nashville Warbler, photo by Kristin Wegner

Since we've had to cancel our meetings for the last few months, we have not yet held our annual Board elections. (Many thanks to those who have stayed on extra time while we await our next election!)

Currently, we are planning to have our next Hoy meeting on Thursday, September 3, at 7:00 p.m. (with a bird walk ahead of time at 6:00 p.m.). Whether we meet will depend on the COVID-19 situation at that time, but if all goes well, we intend to host our elections during this meeting.

If you're interested in helping your fellow birders, please consider joining the board. No prior experience is necessary!

If you would like to run for a position, join a Committee, or learn more about what a particular Officer or Committee does, contact hoyinfo@hoyaudubon.org. Please consider giving the gift of your time to keep Hoy going strong!

So far, these members have expressed interest in running:

Officers

President: Jenny Wenzel	Treasurer: Sue Schuit
Vice President: Frank Sharkozy	Secretary: OPEN

Directors

John Dixon	Rick Fare	Eric Howe	Kristin Wegner
Helen Pugh			

Committees & Committee Chairs

Conservation: Sue Schuit	Field Trips: John Dixon
Education: Rick Fare	Programs: Frank Sharkozy
Newsletter: Kristin Wegner	Membership: Helen Pugh
Publicity: John Krerowicz	

Update re: COVID-19

Due to the ongoing situation with COVID-19, Hoy will not host our annual picnic in July, and we will limit our field trips to activities/locations where we can maintain social distancing.

If you attend our field trips, masks are recommended, and please bring your own water, snacks, and optics (binoculars and spotting scopes) to help minimize contact. We will also not be carpooling to events as we have in the past.

We will send out notifications of any future Hoy Audubon Society cancellations, including to upcoming field trips. Please watch Hoy's website, Facebook page, and your email for further updates.

Stay safe out there!



Your Hoy Audubon Board



Indigo Bunting, photo by Kristin Wegner

Remember to Renew your Hoy Audubon Society "Chapter Supporter" membership! Dues is \$15 per individual for the 2020-2021 membership year and is due on **July 1**.

We accept dues and donations via mail or via PayPal

www.hoyaudubon.org/join/

Hoy Board of Directors

President:	
Jenny Wenzel	262-488-8077
Vice-President:	
Frank Sharkozy	262-770-2481
Treasurer:	
Sue Schuit	262-752-5955
Secretary:	
Karen Gavahan	262-633-7136
Directors:	
John Dixon	
Rick Fare	262-902-9020
Eric Howe	
John Krowicz	262-694-8736
Helen Pugh	262-637-4359
Kristin Wegner	

Email addresses of Board members are available at: hoyaudubon.org

Next Board of Directors Meeting:

August 13, 2020. We will continue to meet via phone.

Newsletter Editor

Kristin Wegner

Ideas for the newsletter?

Send your suggestions, recaps of birding seminars/activities, fun facts, and birding tidbits to the Newsletter Editor at: Hoy Audubon, PO Box 044626, Racine, WI 53404 or email to: hoynewsletter@hoyaudubon.org

The Hoy Honker is the newsletter of the Hoy Audubon Society, Inc. PO Box 044626, Racine, WI 53404.

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Eastern Phoebe vs. Eastern Wood-Pewee

Now that spring migration is over, I thought it would be fun to compare two of our more common summer residents, Eastern Phoebe and Eastern Wood-Pewee. With both being in the flycatcher family and likely to be seen in parks, backyards, etc., they might be confused with one another. Here are some hints to hopefully make identification easier.

Let's start with the Phoebe. Being 7" long, it is about the size of a bluebird. It is rather drab in plumage with a grayish-brown back, tail, which it pumps quite often, and wings, which sometimes have faint wing bars (see side view). The tail pumping is a key field mark.

Its head and face are rather dark brown with a whitish throat and dingy whitish-gray breast and abdomen. Its bill is black, which is another key field mark. It is often seen in open areas around buildings and bridges where it builds its nest.

On the other hand, the Pewee is more of a woodland bird but it is also seen in wooded yards and parks, etc. They can and do occur in the same area as the Phoebe.



The Pewee is a bit smaller and slimmer than the Phoebe with its length being just over 6". It is more of a grayish-green color on the back with its wings being light black with two bold whitish wing bars, a good field mark.

The tail is the same color as the back. The head and cheeks are grayish with the cap being darker with a slight point on the top. The breast and abdomen are grayish-white.


Another good field mark to distinguish it from the Phoebe is its bill, which has a yellowish lower mandible. (Compare the birds at right to the birds above.)

Pewees are also known for flying out to catch an insect and often times coming back to the same perch repeatedly.

Probably the best way to separate them is their song. They both say their name, with the Phoebe calling "Feebee" and the Pewee calling "Peewee, pee woo."

Hopefully these tips will make separating the two easier. Enjoy your summer!

- article by John Dixon



**Renew your
membership
online!**

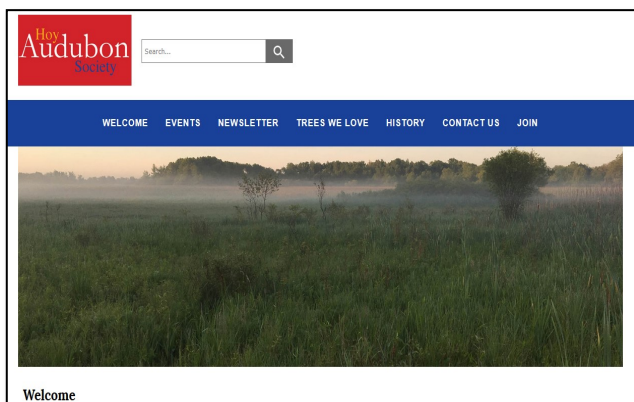
In addition to accepting dues and donations via mail, Hoy also accepts them via PayPal. If you want to pay your dues online, here's what to do:

1. Visit www.hoyaudubon.org/join/
2. Follow the instructions in *Donate With a Debit or Credit Card* section.
3. Once you click the Donate button, you'll be taken to PayPal to complete your donation.
4. Use the *Write in special instructions* field to specify the donation's purpose: Chapter Membership Dues, Trees We Love, or General Conservation and Education.

Website Upgrade

Exciting news: We are embarking on an upgrade for the Hoy website with a streamlined layout.

You'll see our new look the next time you visit us online:



Changes are still in progress as we migrate content and tidy up text, but we hope this new format will make it easier to find the information you're looking for.

Kudos to Eric Howe for his long hours immersed in templates and HTML to bring us this lovely new website!

Spring Scarlet Tanagers

We had a stunning pair of Scarlet Tanagers in the yard in May. We hope they teamed up and found a good, wooded nesting site out there somewhere. This male was the brightest I'd seen in a long time, too red to seem real. If I gaze at his photo too long, he hurts my eyes.



The female, with her calmer tones of gold, olive, and gray and her large, horn-colored bill, looked so different that at first we had her pegged as a Summer Tanager. Oops.



They brought to mind this odd bird from the previous spring. Nope, not a camera trick—that male was orange, more tiger than tanager. Orange tanagers aren't true color morphs, though; they tend to be males under a year old.



-article and photos by Kristin Wegner

Upcoming Activities

Due to the ongoing situation with COVID-19, Hoy will not host our annual picnic in July, and we will limit our field trips to activities/locations where we can maintain social distancing.

If you attend our field trips, we ask that you wear a mask, and please bring your own water, snacks, and optics (binoculars and spotting scopes) to help minimize contact. We will also not be carpooling to events as we have in the past.

If you have questions or need directions to field trip locations, contact hoyfieldtrips@hoyaudubon.org.

Saturday, August 15, 9:00 a.m.

Hoy Field Trip: Horicon Marsh

This is the 12th year that we'll be going as a group to Horicon, one of Wisconsin's premiere birding hotspots. We will meet at the Auto Loop Trail parking area off of Hwy 49 at 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, August 29, 8:00 a.m.

Hoy Field Trip: Wind Lake Sod Farms

Meet at the corner of Burmeister and Britton Roads

We'll meet at the sod farms and, from the roadside, look for Buff-breasted Sandpipers, American Golden-Plovers, Brewer's Blackbirds and other fall migrants.

Thursday, September 3, 6 p.m. bird walk + 7 p.m. meeting

Hoy Meeting, Program: Chimney Swifts

River Bend Nature Center, 3600 N Green Bay Rd, Racine, WI

- We'll start with a bird walk at 6 p.m., followed by our meeting at 7 p.m.
- Sandy Schwab, Chair of the Wisconsin Chimney Swift Working Group, will talk about the conservation of chimney swifts and the group's work to protect chimney habitat that is being used by swifts for nesting and roosting. Chimney swifts depend almost entirely on man-made structures for nesting and roosting sites, and their population is in decline.
- We'll also host our annual Hoy Board elections, which have been delayed due to COVID-19.
- **Important note: Whether we meet will be dependent on how the COVID-19 situation continues to unfold.** If meeting in person seems too risky or our venue decides they are not ready to host, we will cancel this meeting. Please watch Hoy's website and Facebook page for updates.

Thursday, September 10, 5:30 p.m.

Hoy Field Trip: Bird Walk, Petrifying Springs

761 Green Bay Rd Kenosha, WI Meet at lot 2

Meet at lot 2; Rick Fare will lead, looking for fall migrants.

Saturday, September 12, 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Big Sit

Carre-Hogle Park, 1729 Main St. Racine, WI

Hoy's 10th Big Sit is a FREE EVENT and open to EVERYONE! It is an easy activity for those with limited mobility, as birders watch from a stationary location. Bring binoculars, sunscreen, water, snacks, and a folding chair. If social distancing measures are still being advised at this time, we ask that you wear a mask, and we will space out our chairs.



Baltimore Orioles, photo by Kristin Wegner

- ♦ View the Hoy Honker in full color at www.hoyaudubon.org
- ♦ Visit Hoy on Facebook at www.facebook.com/HoyAudubonSociety

Join [Hoy Audubon](http://www.hoyaudubon.org) or renew your Membership!

Renewals for Hoy Audubon Society "Chapter Supporter" memberships are due on July 1 of each calendar year. Chapter Supporter dues are \$15 per individual.

Please send a check payable to **Hoy Audubon Society**.

Total amount enclosed: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Hoy distributes newsletters and field trip announcements by email. Please enter your email address below to be added to this distribution.

Email _____

Send check and information to: **Hoy Audubon Society**
P.O. Box 044626
Racine, WI 53404

