

Oakland Owlets Field Trip to the Detroit Zoo Update

OAS Young Birders club visited the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak on Thursday, July 26 for a special guided tour. Joined by the Detroit Audubon Society, the tour generated lots of interest. A small group attended the day of the program. In addition to the exotic birds housed at the zoo, the group was able to catalog 17 native species including a fly over by two Peregrine Falcons. Native species like Turkey Vultures take advantage of left overs at the zoo. A complete list of native species is listed below.

Several of the zoo's iconic birds were seen including four penguin species at the penguin conservation center. Additionally, the group spent time viewing birds in the African and South American exhibits. Everyone was thrilled to see the Greater and Chilean Flamingos, the Gray-crowned Crane and the Pink Pelicans, to mention a few.

Zoo educator Carmen Volante guided the group through the Wilson Free-flight Aviary where Scarlet Ibis, Taveta golden weaver, African Pigmy Geese and more came into view. Everyone must see the pigmy geese. They are unbelievably tiny. A special thank you to Mike Reed and Carmen Volante for their assistance in making this event possible. The field trip was amazing.

Canada Goose
Wood Duck
Mallard
Green Heron
Black-crowned Night-Heron
Turkey Vulture
Ring-billed Gull
Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon)
Mourning Dove
Downy Woodpecker
Peregrine Falcon
American Crow
European Starling
Northern Cardinal
Red-winged Blackbird
American Goldfinch
House Sparrow
(photos by Kathleen Dougherty)

