



# Columbus Audubon Song Sparrow

November 2003, Volume 35, No. 3

## IN THIS ISSUE

2

Anniversary Feature: Columbus  
Christmas Bird Count

3

Central Ohio Count Schedules

4

Activities

5

Anniversary Special Event:  
November Program

6

[www.columbusaudubon.org](http://www.columbusaudubon.org)

## Flora Feature: Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*)

By Rob Thorn

This bird is the common woodland jay of eastern North America. The genus name derives from cyano as blue and citta as noisy bird, while the species name cristata means crested. “Noisy Blue Crested Bird” is probably about as succinct a description of Blue Jays as is possible.

**Family:** Corvidae. This is the big family of crows, magpies, ravens, and jays. These gregarious, intelligent birds are worldwide in distribution, even being found in remote arctic and alpine habitats. The jays are more tropical than most members of the family, with many noisy, colorful jay species in Mexico and Central America. The genus *Cyanocitta* includes the Steller’s Jay, a darker western relative with some distinct differences in habitat and behavior.

**Range:** Largely central and eastern North America, extending from the Canadian maritimes and central Manitoba south to Florida and southern Texas. The heart of their range is the mixed oak forest of the central and eastern U.S., but their adaptation to human farms and settlements has allowed them to spread west along the Great Plains to the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains, all the way from Alberta to Colorado. As common as they are in the eastern U.S., it’s hard to grasp that they are uncommon to rare in the west. They’re uncommon in the Great Plains, and they’re unusual vagrants in the intermountain West and along much of the Pacific coast. They also are strikingly absent from the boreal forests of northern Canada, possibly because of the cold weather and lack of large nuts in those forests.

**Field Marks:** Boldly patterned with bright blue wings and tail, gray-blue back and crest, grayish-white breast, and white face, with an unusual black necklace running from the crest down around the breast. The blue color, as in most blue birds, is produced by a trick of light reflection rather than a pigment. Next time you pick up a jay feather, slowly turn it in the light to watch how the color brightens and fades. Blue jays have very distinct white rear margins to their wings and tails that help identify them in flight and appear to serve as visual markers to keep flying flocks together. They also have a distinctive flight pattern, with three to six quick, labored flaps followed by a short flat glide, and they always look like they’re a little uncomfortable flying any distance.

**Voice:** Many different sounds, but most often a loud, harsh ‘jeaaaay’. Among themselves, jays use a variety of soft whistles, whines, and clicks for communication, so the harsh scream is more often used to gather a flock around something interesting or dangerous, or to locate flock members in dense forests. Jays can also do a mean imitation of eastern forest buteos, especially Red-tailed and Red-shouldered Hawks. They often use these calls to scare nesting birds, thus revealing the locations of their nests. They can even do fair imitations of non-natural sounds like dripping faucets and car horns. More revealing about jays is when they are quiet, which is usually around their nests or during migration. You can always tell when the jays of your neighborhood are nesting because they become surprisingly quiet in the vicinity of their nests.

*See Blue Jay, page 6*

The *Song Sparrow* is published nine times each year by Columbus Audubon, a chapter of Audubon; Kristan Leedy, editor, [kleedy@larkspur-pro.com](mailto:kleedy@larkspur-pro.com).

# History of the Columbus Christmas Bird Count

By Jim McCormac

*Anniversary Special Feature*

The inaugural Columbus Christmas Bird Count (CBC) was held in 1913, fittingly the year of formation of Columbus Audubon, which has always sponsored this event. Begun only 12 years after the very first CBC, which was started by ornithologist Frank Chapman in 1900, the Columbus CBC has now been conducted 68 times in 80 years, and the last 49 counts have been consecutive.

Christmas Bird Counts are one of the greatest examples of “citizen science” in action, and from their humble beginning back in 1900, when 25 counts were held involving 27 birders, CBC’s have now become known throughout the Americas. Today, more than 1,800 counts are held, involving over 52,000 participants. These counts have generated stacks of data about trends in bird populations, both locally and regionally, documented irruptions of winter finches, and chronicled the invasion of introductions like the European Starling. Also, a side benefit of having so many observers afield during the CBC period, which runs from December 14 to January 5, is the inevitable discovery of rarities.

## The first Columbus count

The Columbus CBC didn’t exactly launch into existence like a cannon shot. The first count, held on December 26, 1913, had only one participant who found 14 species totaling 181 individuals. Tied for most common were the odd pairing of Tufted Titmouse and American Tree Sparrow, at 50 birds each. Certainly many more birds were around; possibly this unknown (to me) counter drank of the celebratory punch before the count instead of after; or perhaps the Great Flood of 1913 did wash our city of all but titmice, tree sparrows, three Red-shouldered Hawks, eight Downy Woodpeckers, two Hairy Woodpeckers, four Northern Flickers, three Blue Jays, 25 American Crows, two Black-capped Chickadees (what! no Carolina’s?), two White-breasted Nuthatches, two Brown Creepers, three Carolina Wrens, two American Goldfinches, and 25 “Junco sp.”

Our intrepid pioneer was back at it in 1914, running solo again and posting nearly the same results – 14 species. But he picked up Northern Cardinal and Purple Finch, while missing Black-capped Chickadee and American Goldfinch.

## Becoming an institution

Gradually the Columbus CBC picked up steam, and after intermittent starts and stops – 19 counts were run between 1913 and 1946 – became an established tradition in 1954 that has continued nonstop to this day. The average number of observers since 1954 has been 51 (high of 74 in 1975), and the average number of species tallied has been 71 (high of 82 in 1986).

## Pattern changes

A highly urbanized count like the Columbus CBC is sure to document changes over a 90-year period, and it certainly has. For instance, given the present status of Canada Geese, it’s hard to believe they were once only uncommon migrants here in central Ohio. They went unrecorded on the Columbus CBC until 1961, when 40 were found. It wasn’t until 1969 that Canada Geese were recorded annually, and then in relatively low numbers. Their number began to swell significantly by the mid-90s, and geese now number into the low thousands on the CBC.

House Finches, which are native to the western U.S. and were released in New York City in 1940, quickly advanced westward and began to colonize Ohio in the early 1970s. The Columbus CBC has documented this invasion quite effectively. Conversely, species that inhabit grasslands and farm country have diminished considerably in Franklin County, as we’ve lost most of that habitat, and the CBC has chronicled their disappearance, as in the case of the Eastern Meadowlark. Meadowlarks are not rare in Ohio during winter, although numbers vary depending upon the severity of the winter. This species hasn’t been recorded on the Columbus count since 1979.

## Rarities

Nothing gets birders fired up like rarities, and the Columbus CBC has had a few of those. So, what’s been the greatest rarity to bless our count? Well, the Varied Thrush of 1983 certainly ranks up there; at the time it was only about the sixth one discovered in the state. It failed to eclipse the Bullock’s Oriole of 1975, however, which was the first state record and has only been documented twice in Ohio since that time. The Common Moorhen discovered on the 2002 count was a great find – only three times prior had one been found in Ohio in winter. Five warbler species have been found on counts, the oddest being the American Redstart of 2001, as it was only the second Ohio winter record, and any self-respecting redstart would have been in the Central American tropics.



*See CBC, page 3*

## CBC

*continued from page 2*

However, my vote goes to the Bewick's Wren. A total of seven birds were found on five counts – 1921, 1925, 1927, 1928, 1931 – back when they were a fairly common and wide-ranging species in Ohio. Not long after that, this active and charismatic wren began to fade from our landscape, and today the Appalachian subspecies, which our birds were, is all but extinct. Their passing is a sad fact well chronicled by Christmas Bird Counts.

### 104th (2003 - 2004) Christmas Bird Count

This year marks the 104<sup>th</sup> season of Christmas Bird Counts, and the Columbus count will be held on Sunday, December 14. The more participants the better, even if you can only count the birds visiting the backyard feeders. Please become a part of citizen science in action and the world's best known bird census. You can contact Columbus CBC compiler Rob Thorn at 614-471-3051, to volunteer your services.

(Editor's note: See the chart below for dates of seven central Ohio Christmas Bird Counts. A \$5 fee for field observers is waived for participants age 18 and younger and for feeder watchers.)

*Jim McCormac is a former Columbus Audubon trustee, a long time birder and works as a botanist for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves. He is author of Birds of Ohio, a comprehensive field guide to be released in March 2004, published by Lone Pine Publishing Company.*

## Oh deer, please drive safely

It's deer season, and I don't mean hunting. With more deer and less wild space, it's common to see roadway deer carnage year-round. Once the fall mating season starts, however, it's sad and downright sickening to travel some Ohio roadways, not to mention potentially dangerous. Cars and deer collide 25,000 times a year in Ohio, according to OSU Extension natural resources specialist Gary Graham. The OSU Extension newsletter *Ohio Woodlands, Watersheds and Wildlife* offers these tips to help you stay safe on the road.

- \* If you see one deer along the road, expect others to follow. Slow down and stay alert.
- \* When driving at night, use high beams when there's no traffic coming from the opposite direction. High beams will illuminate the eyes of deer on or near the roadway, giving you more time to react.
- \* Always wear a seat belt as required by Ohio law and drive at a safe, sensible speed for the conditions.
- \* Don't swerve your vehicle to avoid hitting a deer. If you cannot avoid the accident, then hit the deer while keeping full control of the vehicle. The alternative could be even worse.
- \* Stay alert. Deer can be unpredictable and may be startled by bright headlights, horns sounding and fast-moving traffic.
- \* Report any deer-vehicle accident to a local law enforcement agency, the Ohio Highway Patrol or a state wildlife officer within 24 hours.

## Central Ohio Christmas Bird Count Schedules

<u>AREA</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>ORGANIZER</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
<b>COLUMBUS</b>	December 14	Rob Thorn	614-471-3051
<b>HOOVER RESERVOIR</b>	December 20	Charles Bombaci	614-891-5706
<b>O'SHAUGHNESSY RESERVOIR</b>	December 20	Jim Adair	614-885-9523
<b>DELAWARE</b>	December 21	Jed Burt	740-368-3886 (d) 740-747-2936 (n)
<b>LANCASTER</b>	December 27	David Goslin	740-654-6917
<b>KINGSTON</b> (Circleville/Chillicothe)	January 3	Brad Sparks	614-751-6622
<b>BUCKEYE LAKE</b>	TBD	Jeff White	614-890-3486

# Coming Up

Columbus Audubon activities are for nature enthusiasts of all ages and skill levels. We invite you to join us for a field trip or program to learn more about birds and their central Ohio habitats, as well as other natural history topics. Our activities are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

.....  
**Wednesday, November 5, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Columbus Audubon Board Meeting**  
Museum of Biological Diversity.

**Thursday, November 6, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Birding 101: Winter Birding**  
**Highbanks Metro Park Nature Center**  
Come to learn or brush up on sight and sound identification of our winter residents. This will be a classroom session, followed by outdoor practice on Saturday, November 8.

**Saturday, November 8, 7:30 a.m.**  
**Birding 101: Bird Hike**  
**Highbanks Metro Park Nature Center**  
We'll take a 3-mile bird hike to practice our new identification skills. Bring binoculars.

**Sunday, November 9, 3:00 p.m.**  
**Birding at Hoover Reservoir**  
**Skill level: All**  
Join Mike Flynn for an afternoon of birding at Hoover Reservoir to look for waterfowl, gulls and winter visitors. Meet at the dam parking lot on Sunbury Road, and bring a spotting scope if you have one.

**Saturday, November 15, 7:45 a.m.**  
**Work Trip: Blackhand Gorge**  
**Skill level: All**  
Join us for this work trip to a geologically spectacular gorge in Licking County. We'll help east central preserve manager Greg Seymour construct a three-sided reminder fence to control access to the Blackhand overlook. Volunteers will see historical remnants of the Ohio Erie Canal and walk along the remains of a narrow railroad line cut through the solid rock towering above both sides of the path. (More information about the preserve can be found at <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/dnap/about.htm> under list of preserves.) Call DNAP work trip coordinator Roger Barber at 614-265-6467 by noon Monday, November 10 to sign up and reserve transportation space. Bring lunch, a water bottle, and meet at building E, Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources complex, 1889 Fountain Sq. (off Morse road). Questions? Call Sharon Treaster at 614-292-1395 (W).

**Saturday, Nov. 15, 7:45 a.m.**  
**Bird Walk at Sharon Woods**  
**Skill level: All**  
Meet OSU graduate student John Kuenzli and Scott Kimball at Sharon Woods Metro Park on Cleveland Ave. north of 270 to look for winter visitors and other year round residents in the park. Meet at the ranger station on the left after you enter the park. John has some interesting stories to tell about research projects that he has been involved in. Please come and meet John and Scott and see some of what Sharon Woods offers.

**Saturday, November 15, 8:00 a.m.**  
**Blendon Woods Metro Park Bird Walk**  
**Skill level: All**  
Join Rob Lowery and Bruce Simpson at the Blendon Woods Metro Park nature center. Rob and Bruce are avid birders and spend a lot of time exploring Blendon. They enjoy showing beginners where the best spots are for many species. Blendon Woods features nature trails, Walden Waterfowl Refuge and Thoreau Lake. The park is at 4265 Ohio Rt. 161, 1 mile east of I-270, Westerville. If you have questions about the walk, call Rob at 740-549-1689. For a map, visit <http://www.metroparks.net/maps.htm>.

**Saturday, November 15, 6:00 p.m.**  
**Owl Prowl in Powell**  
**Skill level: All; individuals and families**  
Join Darlene Sillick at the parking lot of Scioto Ridge Elementary for an owl program and a short walk into a woodlot to give a hoot for screech and great horned owls. Some feathered surprises will be part of the program. Dress in layers and plan to spend 60 to 90 minutes. You may bring small flashlights, but use them only as instructed by the walk leaders. Take Sawmill Parkway north to the first traffic light past Powell Road. Turn right onto Big Bear Ave., which dead ends into the school. Park in the lot to the left of the front of the school. Contact Darlene at 614-761-3696 or [azuretrails@columbus.rr.com](mailto:azuretrails@columbus.rr.com) if you have questions.

**Sunday, November 16, 2:00 p.m.**  
**Ohio Nature Education Facility and Morris Woods State Nature Preserve**  
**Skill level: All**  
Visit the home of Manon Van Schoyck, former CAS board member and founder of Ohio Nature Education (ONE), a non-profit environmental education organization. ONE currently cares for 26 non-releasable wild animals which they incorporate into their programs. Cameras are encouraged as most of the animals will be on display. We will then travel a short distance to Morris Woods State Nature Preserve - an awesome yet often overlooked preserve- for a hike through woods and field. Sturdy shoes recommended. Meet at Northridge Middle and High schools, located at 6097 Johnstown-Utica Rd (Rt.62), to carpool. From Columbus take 270 East to 161 East, exit at Rt. 62- New Albany/Johnstown. Turn left onto Rt. 62, follow through Johnstown. The schools are located about 5 miles past the town square, on the right. Park in the lot near the flag pole. Contact Manon if you have questions: 740-967-8320 or [mvs@ohionature.org](mailto:mvs@ohionature.org).

**Sunday, November 23, 11:00 a.m.**  
**Hoover Reservoir**  
**Skill level: All**  
Columbus Audubon trustee Julie Davis, Ken Davis and Jen



Sauter will take you in search of waterfowl at some areas of Hoover Reservoir you may be familiar with as well as venture into territory that may be new to you. Bring spotting scopes and field guides and wear warm layers of clothing. The leaders will give a lot of individual help identifying waterfowl and the usual late November cast of feathered characters. Meet at the dam parking lot on Sunbury Rd. For more information, call Julie at 614-523-2180. The program should last 2 to 2.5 hours weather permitting.

**Tuesday, November 25, 7:30 p.m.**

**Monthly Nature Program**

What's the nature of Columbus Audubon? Come to our program and find out. See description below.

**Tuesday, December 9, 7:00 p.m.**

**Birding 101: Spotting Scopes and Binoculars  
Highbanks Metro Park Nature Center**

Tom Sheley and Mike Flynn of Wild Birds Unlimited will discuss optics and how to use them. They will have some scopes and binoculars available for participants to try.

**Thursday, December 11, 7:00 p.m.**

**Birding 101: Owls**

**Highbanks Metro Park Nature Center**

This class will focus on sight and sound identification of our winter residents. Slides, specimens and handouts will comprise the classroom time, capped with a trip outdoors that same night to call owls at Highbanks.

**Avid Birders**

For the trips listed below, bring a lunch and meet at the Worthington Mall parking lot for carpooling. Questions? Contact Bill Whan, daniel@iwaynet.net; Doreen Linzell, dlinzell@att.net; Joe Hammond, kestrel@columbus.rr.com. Or check the Web site [www.jjhammond.com/kestrel](http://www.jjhammond.com/kestrel).

Saturday, November 1, 5:30 a.m.

Look for late fall migrants. Destination TBD

Saturday, December 6, 5:30 a.m.

Travel to northeastern Ohio to look for waterfowl, gulls and other winter birds.

**Non-Columbus Audubon Events**

Activities of like-minded organizations are included as space allows. They are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

**Butterfly Observers Group**

**Tuesday, November 4, 7:30 p.m.**

Wild Ones member Don Plummer will discuss "Native Lilies" at Inniswood Metro Gardens. For more information, phone 614-939-9273 or see [www.for-wild.org](http://www.for-wild.org).

**Wild Ones-Natural Landscapers**

**Saturday, November 8, 10:00 a.m.**

Wild Ones member Don Plummer will discuss "Native Lilies" at Inniswood Metro Gardens. For more information, phone 614-939-9273 or see [www.for-wild.org](http://www.for-wild.org).

**Columbus Natural History Society**

**Monday, November 10, 7:30 p.m.**

Allison Cusick will present "Welcome to the Marvelous World of Ferns" at the Museum of Biological Diversity. For more information contact Barbara Bloetscher at [bloetscher.1@osu.edu](mailto:bloetscher.1@osu.edu).

**Delaware Bird Club**

**Monday, November 24, 7:30 p.m.**

Jim McCormac will give a presentation on birds and birding in central Ohio. Ohio Wesleyan University, in the new Science Center. Contact Darlene Sillick with questions at 614-761-3696 or [azuretrails@columbus.rr.com](mailto:azuretrails@columbus.rr.com).

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## CA Nature Program

Through the Years with Columbus Audubon

*Moderated Panel Discussion*

**Tuesday, November 25**

**Inniswood Metro Gardens**

**7:00 p.m. social time; program starts at 7:30**

We'll continue celebrating Columbus Audubon's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary by inviting some of our good friends to reflect on recent and not so recent chapter history and nature lore, and ponder our future. Our panel will be comprised of long-time Columbus Audubon stalwarts who are sure to have memorable insights and wonderful stories to share. Please join-in the conversation! This promises to be a lively and memorable evening.

Refreshments are served at all programs. Please come early for social time. Location: Inniswood Metro Gardens. Take I-270 to the Rt. 3 Westerville exit and head north to Schrock Road. Turn right on Schrock, proceed to Hempstead Road and turn right again. Inniswood is less than a mile on the left.

### Anniversary Special Event



Please remember Columbus Audubon in your estate plans. For more information, contact Marc Blubaugh at 614-895-0857.

# Introducing.....[www.columbusaudubon.org](http://www.columbusaudubon.org)



Fearless Webmaster John Arnfield.

We are thrilled to announce the Columbus Audubon Web site is now live at **[www.columbusaudubon.org](http://www.columbusaudubon.org)**. You may recall we launched a redesign of the site in June. The CA board then authorized purchasing a domain name and migrating the site to a commercial server.

A bit of history. Before this change, our site resided on a server maintained by the Ohio State University Geography Department, which employed our Webmaster, now professor emeritus John Arnfield. The department generously donated space to us on their server.

As our needs have changed and we grapple with the sad truth that John and wife Joan, will sometime move back to their homeland in England, we thought it wise to look for a new Web home for CA. This also gave us the chance to purchase a domain name that is memorable and more intuitively found than [www.geography.ohio-state.edu/CAS/](http://www.geography.ohio-state.edu/CAS/).

The changes to our site have meant a very busy year for Webmaster John. He and Joan have escaped to England and surrounds for a well deserved vacation. A few November updates to the site will not be made until after John's return mid-month.

Please use our relocation as an excuse to visit [www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org).

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## Blue Jay

*continued from page 1*

Sitting along the northern margins of the old eastern Oak belt, Ohio has abundant Blue Jays. Our jays appear to include both summer and winter residents, and probably many migrants. Jays will eat a wide variety of things, favoring bugs and nestlings in the summer, but switching to acorns, nuts and corn in the fall and winter. Despite an abundance of food, though, jays appear to be poorly suited for prolonged cold temperatures. Their plumage is not very dense, and they don't roost in cavities or large aggregations, so they probably lose much heat. Many of the Blue Jays in Canada and the upper Midwest migrate south, and large numbers are often counted migrating in loose flocks along mountain ridges or along the shores of the Great Lakes. When they were more dependent on acorns and beechnuts as winter foods (such as during early settlement days), most jays may have migrated into the southern U.S., and there are historical accounts of immense migrations. Now many appear to have expanded their winter range by taking advantage of human farms and towns as the eastern U.S. became less forested.

Blue Jays are one of the species of concern with the advent of West Nile Virus in this hemisphere. Initial reports suggested that they were as vulnerable as crows to the virus, but subsequent data has not shown their populations being much affected by the disease. Winter population trends of jays, as monitored by Audubon Christmas Bird Counts, have not revealed any big drop in jay numbers in the northeastern U.S. over the last few years. In central Ohio, the Columbus, Delaware and Hoover counts haven't noticed any jay decline either; in fact, they were very numerous last winter. It could be that jays' small flocks limit the spread of the disease, or maybe they're just more resistant to the virus.

Blue Jays are conspicuous almost anywhere in central Ohio, especially in the summer and fall. Especially look for them around feeders in the fall and winter, particularly feeders that stock peanuts, one of their favorite foods. Feeders at many Metro Parks are excellent places to see them; I've had particular luck at the feeders around the nature centers at Blendon Woods and Highbanks, possibly because of all the nearby oaks. If you can't get enough of jays, you might want to journey to areas along the Gulf Coast in winter, especially from the Florida panhandle to eastern Texas. This was probably one of the original winter strongholds of the species, and they are abundant wherever live oaks are numerous in this area. Closer to home, you can stake out favored places to watch jays on migration. Maumee Bay and the nearby Michigan coastline can host massive numbers of migrating jays in October as well as April. The eastern shore of Lake Erie, all the way from Lake County to Ashtabula and further east into Pennsylvania can have big movements of jays as well. But near or far, take some time to appreciate this colorful and adaptable survivor.

## Take note . . . . .

### Bird seed pick up

If you ordered seed from Columbus Audubon, you can pick it up anytime during the month of November at the Wild Birds Unlimited store on Riverside Drive, Columbus. Store hours are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday - Saturday, and noon - 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.

### Your everyday bird reports

Please send news of your local bird sightings for publication in the *Song Sparrow* to [kleedy@larkspur-pro.com](mailto:kleedy@larkspur-pro.com), or call them in to the office at 614-451-4591. **You do not have to have a rare bird sighting to make a report.** Birds you are seeing at your feeder, the park, your school, or from your office window all are fair game for the bird reports. Include as much information as possible about your sighting, including location, date, time, and weather. Don't forget to give your name!

### Song Sparrow available by e-mail and on the Web site

Send an e-mail to [casmem@juno.com](mailto:casmem@juno.com) if you wish to receive the newletter by e-mail. Say whether you want to get it only by e-mail, or if you would still like to receive a copy by postal mail as well. You can also go to our Web site and download the newsletter in PDF format. Please remember that the newsletter *usually* is available on the Web page before you get it in the mail. All our programs, trips and courses are posted on the Web site, along with a variety of other useful information and links. Check it out at our new URL: **[www.columbusaudubon.org](http://www.columbusaudubon.org)**.

### Would you like to display your artwork or collections at Columbus Audubon monthly programs?

Nature artists, photographers, collectors, etc., are invited to display their work or collections - insects, rocks, decoys, etc. - at monthly programs. If you are interested, please contact program chair Mike Flynn at 614-882-9493.

### Columbus Audubon 90th anniversary t-shirts still available

You can purchase one at our montly programs (see page 5 for the November program description) or e-mail [kleedy@larkspur-pro.com](mailto:kleedy@larkspur-pro.com). Cost is \$12 for sizes S, M, L, \$15 for XL and XXL.

### Contribute to conservation by fertilizing your lawn

Nutrient management is a conservation practice you can apply to your lawn, according to the Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District newsletter *Frankly Speaking*. Fertilizing at the right time and applying fertilizer properly increases its absorption. Improved absorption in turn greatly reduces runoff into our water supply. As luck would have it, November is a good time to fertilize your lawn. At this time of year, the grass will put down more and deeper roots after being fertilized. To see a fertilization schedule and find out the amount of nutrients needed for your lawn, go online at <http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/4000/index.html> to get OSU extension fact sheet HYG4006, Fertilization of Lawns. After applying fertilizer, sweep particles that landed on the sidewalk back into the lawn and water sensibly. Excessive watering can carry the fertilizer down the street to a storm drain and into streams, contributing to algae bloom, which robs streams of the oxygen needed by our aquatic creatures.

## 2004 Entertainment Books

The 2004 Entertainment Book is available at the bird supply stores listed below, through Columbus Audubon or directly from Dave Horn (614-262-0312, [horn.1@osu.edu](mailto:horn.1@osu.edu)). The cost will again be \$30. Proceeds from the sales support Columbus Audubon's educational activities.

Accent on Wild Birds	1285 Grandview Avenue, Grandview	614-486-7333
Better Earth	59 Spruce Street, Columbus, in the North Market	614-224-6196
Backyard Experience	3337 N. High Street, Columbus	614-261-0355
Wild Bird Center of Dublin	6535 Perimeter Drive, Dublin	614-734-3333
Wild Bird Supplies & Gifts	738 East Lincoln Avenue, Worthington	614-431-2473
Wild Birds Unlimited	21 Cherry Park Square, Westerville	614-899-9453
	5400 Riverside Drive, Columbus	614-766-2103
	6839 East Broad Street, Reynoldsburg, Blacklick Shopping Ctr.	614-860-1133
Columbus Audubon Society	1065 Kendale Road North, Columbus	CALL AHEAD 614-451-4591

## Memberships

Memberships in Audubon and Columbus Audubon and gift memberships are available through Columbus Audubon. The rates below are available to NEW subscribers.

### Audubon Membership

Includes membership in the national organization and Columbus Audubon; includes 4 issues of Audubon magazine and 9 issues of the chapter newsletter, local activities, and when submitted with our chapter code helps fund our programs.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 - 1-year introductory rate (your renewals will be \$35)  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$30 - 2-year introductory rate  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 - 1-year student/senior rate

### Columbus Audubon Chapter Only Membership

Chapter only membership includes 9 issues of the chapter newsletter, local activities and helps fund our programs.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 - 1-year new membership  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 - Renewal

If this is a GIFT MEMBERSHIP, please fill out the recipient information below:

Recipient's name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

If this membership is FOR YOU, please fill out your contact information below:

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Clip this form and mail to Columbus Audubon, Membership Chair, P.O. Box 141350, Columbus, OH 43214**  
**Please make checks payable to: Columbus Audubon. Thank you for your support!**

**Chapter code S57**

To change your mailing address, call Joe Meara at 614-781-9602 or e-mail [casmem@juno.com](mailto:casmem@juno.com).

## Columbus Audubon

**Founded 1913**

**614-451-4591**

**[www.columbusaudubon.org](http://www.columbusaudubon.org)**

Officers: President: Pete Precario, 228-1984

Vice President: Dave Horn, 262-0312

Secretary: Revolving

Newsletter and Web site Editor: Kristan Leedy,  
818-9440

Treasurer: John Wilson, 481-8872

Trustees: Marc Blubaugh, Ken Buckley, Jackie Gribble, Susan Setterlin, Darlene Sillick, Susie Burks, Sharon Treaster, John Arnfield, Julie Boreman, Julie Davis, Mike Flynn

Additional chapter leaders:

Conservation: Dave Horn, 262-0312

Work Projects: Sharon Treaster, 846-8419

Education: Susan Setterlin, 457-8130

Programs: Mike Flynn, 882-9493

Field Trips: Darlene Sillick, 761-3696

Audubon Adventures: Dave Horn, 262-0312

Eco Weekend: Lois Day, 451-4591

Membership: Joe Meara, 781-9602

Corresponding Sec'y: Emily Eby, 855-3879

Calamus Committee: Kylene Kruse, 262-0375

Birdathon: Katryn Renard, 261-7171

CA Phone Line: Lois and John Day,  
451-4591

WOSU Radio Program Coordinator: Tom Thomson,  
464-0103

Avid Birders: <http://www.jjhammond.com/kestrel/avids/avids.htm>

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