

Columbus Audubon Song Sparrow

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Help Bluebirds and other cavity nesters

By Darlene Sillick

It's April and birds are thinking of one thing, it's time to raise a family. While this article will come out in May it is not too late to still lend a hand to help. There are a few things for you to examine before you run out and build or buy a nestbox.

Look around your own backyard. What is the habitat? Do you know where to place a nestbox and how to make it safe for the guests? What is the level of activity? Are neighbors' cats running loose and spending time in your yard and around your feeders? Before you put up a nestbox it is important to be responsible and do some homework. By putting up that nestbox you are accepting responsibility to the birds you hope to attract. Do some research online or pick up a book to learn more before you begin so you and especially the birds you hope to attract can be successful.

In Ohio, there are several species of secondary cavity nesting birds that you can hope to attract to your yard. A secondary cavity nesting species is one who cannot excavate his own nesting site and relies on holes exca-



By Nadya Bennett

A Tree Swallow perches on a nest box.

vated by woodpeckers or on the handiwork of humans to build him a safe home to raise his family. Each of these birds has specific habitat requirements and in some cases there is overlap and conflict when housing is at a premium. You have heard the phrase, location, location, location when looking for a home. The birds are looking for the right habitat, habitat, habitat.

In central Ohio we can attract Eastern Bluebirds, Tree Swallows, Tufted Titmice, Carolina Chickadees, Carolina Wrens and House Wrens to our man-made nestboxes. The ever present, non-native House Sparrow is always trying to capture a good home from one of our protected native species.

Let's start with the bluebird. They start to nest in April but they will nest two to three



By Wendell Long

An Eastern Bluebird.

times a season given the right nesting conditions. They prefer an open grassy space, short grass and perches (which may include trees, posts or garden stakes) to find their favorite food of spiders and ants to caterpillars to larger crawling, hopping and sometimes some flying insects. Try to place the nestbox 40 yards from a wood edge or structure and certainly away from a seed feeding station. Bluebirds will also eat fruit and berries so consider offering some bird friendly plantings in your yard. Offer water if it is not readily available.

Inspect your nestbox to see that you can open it for monitoring and cleaning and that it is ventilated and has good drainage. Make sure the inside of the door has grooves so the young can climb out for their maiden flight. Face the nestbox in a southeastern direction out of the prevailing northwest winds and

weather. Place a baffle on the pole (do not place the nestbox on a tree) and discourage climbing predators such as raccoons, snakes and feral cats.

Bluebirds build a nest of dried grass or pine needles in a week or less and are skillful to construct a level nest with a nice cup where they lay an egg a day (4-6 in a clutch) then begin incubation after the last egg is laid. Take the time to keep a notebook of your observations and be sure to monitor or open the nestbox weekly. The female will incubate the

2008 CA Birdathon: There's still time to sign up!

By Julie Davis

hat will our birdathon teams see this year, Blue-winged Warbler, Upland Sandpiper, Yellow-headed Blackbird or our own mascot, the Song Sparrow? Our teams are already hard at work planning their trips and recruiting sponsors. We are all looking forward to this great spring tradition. It is all of you, our members, who help make the Birdathon such a huge success. Your support is what makes this an exciting and fun event every year for our birding teams.

Our sponsors are as important to our success as our birders.

If you would like to become a sponsor, simply pick one of the teams, fill out the sponsorship form in this newsletter and send it in. You do not need to send your money in until you hear from your

CA Birdathon 2008 will help raise more dollars towards our \$100, 000 commitment to the Grange Insurance Audubon Center.

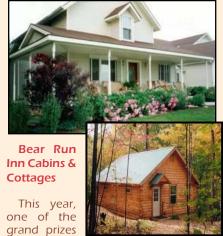
All of the profits from the birdathon this year will go to support the Grange Insurance Nature Center, which is located in our Important Bird Area.

This will be one of the nation's first urban Audubon Nature Centers Audubon Ohio envisions this as an opportunity to bring urban programs and education to children and families in the city. We hope our commitment will encourage new and larger donations towards this great cause.

If you have not formed a team yet, there's still time!

Just start with a couple of birding buddies, choose a team name and call Katryn Renard (614) 261-7171 to regis-

Two Grand Prizes to choose from



will be a free

night's stay at the gorgeous Bear Run Inn Cabins & Cottages. It's enough to make even non-birders want to participate in the Birdathon.

Check it out at www.bearrun.com and you'll see why.

The winner of the grand prize will

receive free accommodations for a weeknight (non-holiday) Aspen Cabin. Some



guests were enjoying a relaxing soak in the hot tub at this cabin tucked away in the woods when they noticed an owl building its nest in a tree. The entertainment was so good they soaked for an extra long time. Bear Run is located on 550 acres in the Hocking Hills. It has hiking trails, streams, ponds, fishing, fire rings, excellent star gaz-

ing, and, of course, plenty of birding opportuni-

> Audubon Lightwave 15 45x60 Spotting Scope

A worthy spotter for exploring nature!

The built-in 15-45x zoom eyepiece is perfect for watching everything from feeder birds at the far end of your backyard to waterfowl on the lake, or deer walking through nearby fields. It's water-

proof so you can explore in any weather. Nitrogen-purged so you can leave behind any concern over what dust, raindrops, or fog would do to your

Fully multi-coated optics for sharp, color-correct views.

The scope comes with: 15-45x eyepiece, padded storage case, objective lens cover, Ocular lens cover and deluxe tripod. http://www.eagleoptics.com/index.asp? pid=4091.

Ask friends and co-workers to sponsor you and then go birding! Count all the birds that you can identify in either five, 10 or 24 hours. On any day between May 2 and May 18.

Remember, you don't have to stay in Ohio to do your birding, so be creative. The teams that have already registered are listed below.

So, call now and add your name to the list.

Birdathon celebration is May 23 at Highbanks!

All of our teams and sponsors are invited to celebrate their birdathon success at our annual BAT celebration on from 6:30 -9 p.m. Friday, May 23 at Highbanks Metro Park nature center.

There will be a bird walk, live birds and animals, door prizes, two grand prizes and variety of desserts.

The grand prizes this year include a spotting scope, generously donated by Eagle Optics and free night's stay at Bear Run Inn Cabins & Cottages in the Hocking Hills.

You must turn in all of your pledge

money by May 23 to be eligible for the door prizes.

Please plan to join us for a great night of birding, food, prizes and FUN!!!!

Highbanks Metro Park

9466 Columbus Pike (US Rt 23 N) Lewis Center, Ohio 43035

From I-270, take U.S. 23 north about 3 miles. Entrance is on the left, just before Powell Road.

For more information, call Elaine Smith at 850-0296.

-Julie Davis



Photo courtesy of Metro Parks

Highbanks Metro Park borders the Olentangy River.

Birdathon teams

Backvard Experience Marsh Madness - 100 Doug & Kristen Everman Chick-a-dees - 84 Bill & Deb Marsh Andrea Haslage **Gerry Brevoort** Lori Patterson Joan Frederick Metro Parks Stellar Jays - 90 Lynn Taylor Nina Hawranick Jim Davidson Lynn Singleton Jack McDowell Swans and Coots - 70 Cindi Henderson Joe Meara Alan Cohen Clyde Gosnell John O'Meara Chestnut Ridge John Watts Paul Knoop Katryn Renard Chachalacas - 100 Marlene Woo Lun Bill & Eric Reiner Neat Nests - 40 Scott Felker Scott, & Whitney Jaeb Louise Warner Sabrina & Kiersten Jaeb Eleanor Nunley Fred Lancia Two Footed Boobies - 90 Deck Birds - 1 Del, Myranda, & Jordan Parrott Marcia Brehmer Cheri Brown Marion Farber No Egrets - 80 Pat Barron Melanie Shuter **Becky Cummings** Bev May Mary Kay Wood Pete Precario Elaine & Larry Smith Roger Stout Two in a Bush - 65 Highbanks Hawk-eyes - 60 Laura Thomas Patty DeMaria Nadya Bennett Elaine Fujimora Suzan Jervey Pelicans - 33 Biani Moran Mark & Lauren Richards Doc Jordan Kim Leach Benjamin & Riley Richards Westerville Waxwings - 140 Darlene Sillick Julie & Ken Davis Scarlet & Gray Tanagers - 70 Rob & Ricki Lowry Ladybirds Who Lunch - 50 Joe & Susanne Gatesman **Tamara James** Barb & Stephen Revard Wild Birds Unlimited Kristan Leedy Mark & Susan Setterlin Riverside - 170 Michael Flynn Slate (Run) Colored Low Carbon Footprinters Joe Hammond Dave Horn Juncos - 100 **Steve Landes** Tom Sheley Katryn Renard Linda Benner



Sponsorship form

Sign me up! I would like to sponsor one of the teams above by pledging a specified amount of money for each species they see during the Birdathon. (For example, 100 species at 15 cents per bird would add up to a donation of \$15.) The money will be paid in cash or check to Columbus Audubon when I am informed of the results of my team's foray.

and the second	Team Name		_ Pledge	
My Name		Phone:	#	
Street, City, Sta	te, Zip Code			
Mail to: "Birdathon," c/o Columbus Audubon, P.O. Box 141350, Columbus, Ohio 43214				

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 and there is no need to register unless otherwise noted.

Note: Field trip times, dates and locations are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. If you plan on going on a trip, please contact the trip leader 24 hours ahead of time to make sure the trip has not been changed, postponed or cancelled. Also, check the Columbus Audubon Web site at www.columbusaudubon.org for any changes or additions to the field trip listings.

Field trips

Wednesday Walks at Whittier

Wednesdays, May 7, June 4, 7 a.m. Leaders: Paul Gledhill and Heather Raymond

Note: Wednesday walks are always held the first Wednesday of the month. Join Paul and Heather for a short walk around Whittier Peninsula to view wildlife as well as to watch the latest developments of the park and nature center. Meet at Lower Scioto Park in the boat ramp parking lot (Entrance is on Whittier Street, West of Front Street). Contact Paul Gledhill at (614) 848-7666 or gledhill-paul@yahoo.com, or Heather Raymond at (614) 785-0342 or

Saturday Walks at Whittier

heather columbus audubon@yahoo.com.

Saturdays, May 24 and June 21, 7 a.m. Leaders: Paul Gledhill and Heather Raymond

Join Paul and Heather for a short walk around Whittier Peninsula to view wildlife as well as to watch the latest developments of the park and nature center. Meet at Lower Scioto Park in the boat ramp parking lot. For more information, see contact info above.

Evening at Pickerington Ponds

Sunday, May 4, 6 p.m. Leader: Mike Flynn

Join us for a spring evening at one of central Ohio's premier wildlife areas. Spring migration will be in full swing, and this wetland ecosystem attracts a wide variety of birds and other wildlife. Come along with Mike Flynn as we observe the many sights and sounds of this thriving wetland area. Meet at Glacier Knoll parking lot. To get there, take I-270 south to U.S. Rt. 33 east (toward Lancaster) go approx. three miles to Canal Winchester/ state Route 674/ Gender Road.; turn left on Gender Rd., go approx. one mile to Wright Road., turn right onto Wright Rd., then go approx. one mile to Bowen Road. turn left onto Bowen Road., go approx. 1/4 mile to Glacier Knoll parking lot, and turn left. Call 769-1681 or e-mail: mflynn.wildandfree@gmail.com.

Whetstone-Northmoor Weekday Wander

Monday, May 5, 8 a.m. Leader: Dave Horn

We will bird for about two hours in Whetstone and Northmoor Parks. The Olentangy River floodplain is a natural corridor for land bird migration so we should see quite a few species no matter what the weather. Meet in the parking area for the Park of Roses (just across the bridge). Contact Dave Horn at horn.1@osu.edu.

Whetstone Weekday Wander

Friday, May 9, 7:30 a.m.

Leaders: Donna Siple and Lynn Wearsh

Join us for a morning walk through Whetstone Park in Clintonville, where we'll explore a variety of bountiful bird habitats

CA May Program

Sights and sounds of birds in Belize

Tuesday, May 27, 2008
7:00 p.m. social time, 7:30 p.m. presentation Innis House at Inniswood Metro Gardens

Belize is a friendly, English-speaking country only a few hours from Florida by air. Travel is safe and easy. The birding is a great introduction to the neotropics and there are the added benefits of numerous Mayan ruins and a fantastic barrier reef. This program will chronicle a 12-day trip to three very comfortable lodges in Belize taken by 8 friends in March 2005.



Our presenter, Earl Harrison, was born in New Jersey and has been birding since the age of 11. He is a life member and fellow of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, which was founded in 1890, and a member of the Cape May Bird Observatory. He was a volunteer at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia in project VIREO (Visual Resources in Ornithology) and at the National Wildlife Visitor Center of the US Fish & Wildlife Service in Laurel, Maryland. Earl moved to Columbus in 2006 after living and birding for many years in Pennsylvania and Maryland and he quickly became a member of Columbus Audubon. When not watching or photographing birds, he teaches and does research as a Professor in the Department of Human Nutrition at The Ohio State University.

including the prairie, Adena Brook area and wooded ravine. This is for all levels - beginners are absolutely welcome. We hope to see indigo buntings, orioles, tanagers, gnatcatchers, thrushes, vireos, waxwings, various warblers and maybe even a nesting wood duck. Approximately three hours. Meet at the Park of Roses parking area. From High Street turn west on Hollenback Drive, pass Whetstone Library and go straight about 1/4 mile. The road curves right at the bottom of the hill. Keep going over the small bridge, past the picnic area parking lot to the Rose Garden entrance. We'll meet below the shelterhouse. Contact Donna Siple at donnasiple@aim.com or Lynn Wearsh at lwearsch@sbcglobal.net.

Magee Marsh and Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Auto Tour

Saturday, May 10, 6:15 a.m. Leader: Michael Packer

This is International Bird Day at the lake and it is crowded with people from all over the state for good reason. Mid-May is the peak of bird migration and warblers are said to be "dripping from the

See Coming up, page 9

Backyards for Wildlife

Simple changes help native birds

By Toni Stahl

The birds sing, "Spring is here!" as I write this article just following the Columbus blizzard in March. I have visions of courting Cardinals carefully selecting seeds to feed to perspective mates and watching fledglings being fed by their parents outside our window (which makes a great photography blind too).

96 percent of all North American birds (excluding seabirds) feed their young with insects. Feed the bugs with the native plants to sustain Ohio's native birds. For scientific studies, read more in Doug Tallamy's *Bringing Nature Home*.

It's a time to remove Invasive plants that destroy Ohio's natural areas. Replace them with the native plants that songbirds have grown to depend upon for cover, food and places to raise young. The best food is what they find naturally: chemical-free bugs and native plants that produce fruits and seeds at different times of the year.

Since Ohio was originally forested, it would be most helpful if you start by removing Invasive woodland plants, (i.e. Alien honeysuckle and garlic mustard) and replace them with native forest plants.

To identify invasive plants, go to http://home.columbus.rr.com/nwfback-yardohio/ (no www) and click on the "Info I can use" tab, then the top, right link called 'Worst Invasive Plants in Ohio'.

Photos and tips can be found on www.oipc.info. Many people in central Ohio are so accustomed to seeing Amur Honeysuckle below the canopy trees that they think it is native.

To identify native plants, view instructions about how to create a native forest edge on our website. Click on the "How do I do this" tab; then click on the link to



By Marc Apfelstadt

Eastern Towhee.

May-June events

Nature Fair & Native Plant Sale, Saturday, May 3, Wild Birds Unlimited-Riverside, 5400 Riverside Dr, Columbus. NWF available 1-3 p.m.

Wild Night Out/In and Dublin Tree Fair, Saturday, May 10, Dublin Recreation Center, 5600 Post Rd., 9 a.m.-noon.

Butterfly Gardening, Saturday, May 10, Highbanks Metro Park, 2 p.m.

'Attract Native Songbirds to your Ohio Yard'. Keep in mind that even Hummingbirds are forest birds.

It was a pleasure to meet the members

who came our presentation at the Columbus Audubon meeting on April 22. Please email me with questions: marca@columbus.rr.com.

Columbus Audubon, CA KIDS looking for volunteers

A volunteer is someone who performs or offers to perform a service out of his own free will, often without payment. As you know, Columbus Audubon, is a non-profit organization run by a wonderful host of volunteers, with a 'volunteer' membership. We offer a lot of well rounded nature-based services to our membership and community, all staffed with volunteers. We have found recently that with our increased field trips, community activities and increased focus we are running a few volunteers pretty ragged. So we are making a plea to our membership to see if we

can find some fresh volunteers for Columbus Audubon. Can you volunteer to help? Can you help to lead a field trip? Can you offer to help our Education Committee, Conservation Committee, Membership Committee or is there some other area that appeals to you? Can you offer to step up and offer YOUR expertise to help us grow and become stronger in our community and continue to increase our visibility? Contact Julie Davis at greenheron58@insight.rr.com or Darlene Sillick at azuretrails@columbus.rr.com or any of our board members listed on the

back of this newsletter. Columbus Audubon for Kids is looking for energetic, happy, creative people to join the newest committee within Columbus Audubon. We now have over 100 children on our mailing list with more requests coming in every week. We hold at least one event per month and also have a meeting every month which usually lasts about two hours.

If you are interested in joining our committee or have any questions, please contact Nadya Bennett at nadya2003@msn.com or (614) 306-8215.

"Lights Out" programs help save birds during migration

By Dave Horn

uring their biannual migration, our feathered friends have many natural and human-caused obstacles to overcome to reach their breeding and wintering grounds. In the Western Hemisphere, these amazing creatures navigate from areas as far south as South and Central America, to as far north as Canada, using a variety of cues to keep them on course. During their migratory flights, they are guided in part by the constellations. But for reasons not that well understood, birds are also attracted to lights shining from buildings, radio/television towers, lighthouses, monuments and other tall structures. As a result, birds are adversely impacted as they circle the lighted buildings until exhausted, rendering them unfit for the remainder of their migratory journey. Furthermore, birds also may die or become injured by directly flying into the windows or buildings. If stunned or injured, they may become easy pickings for predators (i.e., raptors, feral cats, raccoons, gulls, crows, etc.) at dawn. The weather also plays a major role in how many birds are killed on any given night. On overcast nights, birds fly lower and are more likely to be trapped by lights. Also, they are more deaths when greater numbers of birds migrate with favorable winds (northerly in spring, southerly in fall). Bird collisions with human-built structures is steadily becoming a leading cause of bird mortality across North America. Currently, it is estimated that a migratory bird has a 43% chance of encountering a human-built obstruction as it travels to and from its breeding territory each year. That percentage is likely to grow alarmingly as urban sprawl increases along with new buildings lighting up the night sky, and the increasing use of reflective glass for construction. In a study conducted over a 20 year period by Dr. Daniel Klem of Muhlenburg College in Allentown, PA, it is estimated that collisions with windows kill between 100 million to over 900 million birds a year, making it the number one human-related cause of direct mortality to birds (indirect mortali

ty from loss of habitat may be higher).

In an effort to reduce or minimize the adverse impact of lighted buildings on birds during their migration, three major cities are at the forefront of addressing this issue: Chicago, Toronto, and New York.

Through their "Lights Out" program, Chicago is the first U.S. city to dim tall building lights to save birds' lives. Now coordinated by the Chicago Audubon Society, the program is a cooperative effort between the City of Chicago, the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) of Chicago, Audubon, and Chicago's Field Museum. During the spring and fall migrations, over 30 of Chicago's tall buildings all dim or turn off their decorative lights for almost 5 months out of the year, putting them in the forefront of North American cities taking action help birds.

Researchers at the Field Museum have conducted studies by collecting dead birds adjacent to a lakeside building and a downtown skyscraper. One building was found to have killed an average of over 1,500 birds a year when lights were not extinguished. According to one of the researchers, that number was reduced by about 80 percent when indoor lights were turned off – proof that the "Lights Out" program can save thousands of birds every year. Museum biologists estimate that

over ten thousand birds would be killed in Chicago each year, if lights were not extinguished as part of the "Lights Out" program.

In Toronto, the "Lights Out Toronto!" program is a collaboration among community partners and government agencies, led by the Fatal Light

Awareness Program (FLAP) and the City of Toronto, to promote and facilitate bird and energy conservation within the urban environment. As a result "Bird Friendly the program, Development Guidelines" have been developed which offers a comprehensive list of development strategies to make new and existing buildings less dangerous to migratory birds, including how the building and site is lit at night, as well as adopting new practices for building operations and site management. If a building is verified as bird-friendly based on established criteria, it is hoped that a competitive advantage could be achieved by identifying these features to an increasingly environmentally concerned and aware market-

Volunteers from FLAP, a registered charity formed in April 1993, patrol Toronto's downtown core in the early morning hours to rescue live birds and collect the dead ones during migration seasons. The City of Toronto and FLAP have mapped the downtown core identifying commercial buildings where bird collisions are likely to be a concern. As a result, the number of bird rescue zones covered by volunteers has increased and new "holding stations" where members of the public can leave injured birds have

See Lights Out, page 11

Invasive species: Dutch Elm Disease

By Bruce Lindsay

Seventy years ago, American elms were one of the nation's most popular trees, gracing many urban and rural landscapes. This changed drastically with the arrival of Dutch elm disease.

Dutch elm disease is a fungal disease, which is spread by the European elm bark beetle. The fungus is believed to be native to Asia. It is thought to have arrived in Cleveland in about 1928, arriving in a shipment of logs from the Netherlands destined to be made into furniture. A much more virulent strain appeared in the 1940s, gradually killing American elm trees throughout

much of North America. Treatment of diseased trees is costly and, at best, only prolongs the life of a tree for five or ten years.

An elm tree reacts to the presence of the fungus by plugging its own tissues. Water and nutrients are prevented from traveling up the trunk of the tree, eventually killing it. Often, an upper branch of the tree starts to yellow and whither in the hot summer months. The rest of the tree eventually succumbs, with large branches dying off. Finally, with no nutrients provided by the leaves, the roots die. Small suckers may grow up from the stump, but as the new tree grows, the fungal damage repeats itself and the new tree dies.

Amazingly, some American elms appear to be resistant to Dutch elm disease. We have such a tree next to our house. The tree is approximately 85 years old. In that time, it has survived droughts, ice storms, and high winds and still manages to thrive. Scientists are studying these disease-resistant trees and are working on developing genetically engineered trees which will not be affected by the fungus. If all goes well, the American elm may make a comeback and once again grace our landscape with its vase-shaped form. Invasive species are sometimes impossible to control, but their damage, while devastating, does not always have to be irreversible.

Green Lawn Cemetery birdscaping underway

By Tom Sheley

This month marks the beginning of the second phase of a master plan to improve bird habitats and the continued beautification of Green Lawn Cemetery. Over a year ago the Columbus Audubon board approved funding to upgrade the bird feeders, provide nesting boxes and add trees and shrubs attractive to wildlife. Columbus Audubon and Green Lawn Cemetery board members and staff have long recognized the significance of this important area for wildlife and as an educational opportunity for visitors. What has resulted is a win/win collaboration which has benefited both the cemetery and the birding community.

Last year the feeding stations around "The Pit" were revitalized with new suet, seed and Nyjer feeders placed near the refurbished Columbus Audubon kiosk. Last month three new nest boxes for bluebirds and swallows were placed in the Memorial Prairie. April marked the beginning of several staged tree and shrub plantings to help improve habitats, replace non-native shrubs and beautify and renew the environment at Green Lawn Cemetery. I have been working with Scott Hughes of Green Lawn Cemetery and Green Lawn board member Jim McCormac of ODNR in selecting and placing trees and shrubs throughout the cemetery. Only Ohio native trees and shrubs are being introduced, all of which provide food, cover and nesting habitat for birds. Finally, after running around the state to various tree farms to dig, pick up and stage all the trees and shrubs, and working with Scott Hughes to flag the species and planting locations, the stage was set for our first dig. On Sunday, April 6, a small but enthusiastic group of volun-



(Above) Volunteers hard at work planting trees are from left, Nadya Bennett, John Price and John Wilson. (Below) From left, Nadya Bennett, John Price, Darlene Sillick, Susan Setterlin and Tom Sheley next to a big pile of rocks they dug up at the site.



See Birdscaping, page 11

GIAC and CA to offer joint membership, newsletter

Audubon in Columbus is about to go through another change as we reach an important milestone. The Grange Insurance Audubon Center and Columbus Audubon have joined forces to provide the citizens of Central Ohio with a joint membership and newsletter. This will afford members the benefits of both organizations through one membership. All current Columbus Audubon members will automatically be joint members through our opening in May 2009.

At that time, current members will be asked to upgrade your membership to the joint membership which will include more benefits associated with the Center like discounts on the nature store and programs and rental opportunities.

Between now and May 2009, you may be interested in our Founding Membership Program. \$100 Founding Memberships help fund the development of the center and will display your support permanently as your name will be etched on a leaf on our "Founding Members Tree."

\$100 Founding Membership benefits:

Subscription to Audubon magazine; free CA field trips and programs throughout the year; volunteer opportunities; bi-monthly Song Sparrow newsletter (a joint publication of Columbus Audubon and the Grange Insurance Audubon Center); an invitation to attend the CA annual meeting; an invitation to attend a special "Founding Members" tour before the Center is open to the public; your name etched on a leaf on our "Founding Members Tree" in the Center and the satisfaction that their membership supports learning opportunities for thousands of urban youth.

Please visit www.GrangeInsuranceAudubonCenter.org or www.columbusaudubon.org to sign up for a Founding

Your contribution will help fund the development of:

An 18,000 square foot nature education facility in the heart of Columbus utilizing environmentally-friendly "green" technology and design

Nature trails

A nature playground

Hands-on educational exhibits for children and adults

Outdoor gardens and wildlife viewing areas

A wetland and other outdoor learning stations

And much more!

Membership. All Columbus Audubon members will also receive a brochure in the mail. Again, current members will all receive a joint membership until May 2009. The Founding Membership Program is an opportunity to give a donation to the development of the Center and receive special recognition for the additional support needed to get the Center capital campaign to the finish line.

Starting with the next Song Sparrow newsletter, you will notice a few changes. As we work together to produce a newsletter that supports both the Grange Insurance Audubon Center and Columbus Audubon, we will be making a few changes to the look and layout of the newsletter. We hope you like the changes and we will work very hard to continue to offer the quality of newsletter which we have delivered in the past. These are exciting times and we are excited to be at such an important time in the history of Columbus Audubon and the Grange Insurance Audubon Center.

Preservation Parks of Delaware County offers a host of programs

Birds big and small, programs for all ages, even art and meteors beckon in Preservation Parks of Delaware County this spring and summer. The parks are open morning to dusk, every day of the year, with hiking trails, bird observation areas, naturalist-led programs and special

New this year are Family Outings in the Parks. How about a family visit to a pond habitat (May 24 at Emily Traphagen Preserve)? Or maybe you'd like to test your knowledge on the environment during "Nature Jeopardy" (June 21 at Gallant Woods Preserve)? Also at Gallant Woods, nature lore around the campfire will be the focus of the July 26 family outing, and an overnight campout (August 9-10) will give you a chance to 'ooh and aah' as Perseid meteors streak across the sky.

During Wild Town Walks in Delaware, Powell, Sunbury and Galena, you'll see that nature doesn't exist only "out in the country." You'll probably see Cooper's hawks and starlings and a host of other birds that have made themselves at home in town.

Our new Adult Nature series will focus on "Birding 101" along with one tree hike, and children's programs will give kids a chance to explore flowers, water, insects and dirt!

If you get a chance, visit Hogback Ridge Preserve for information on how ospreys were reintroduced to central Ohio. Then drive a little further north on Hogback Road to see these beautiful birds raising their young from platforms in the northern

May-June Preservation Parks programs

These programs and events are offered by Preservation Parks of Delaware County. Visit www.preservationparks.com or call (740) 524-8600 for more information.

May 3: Park Explorers (ages 6-12), "Flower Power." 10 a.m., Gallant Woods Preserve, 2151 Buttermilk Hill Road.

May 17: Adult Nature Series, "Birding 101." 8 a.m., Hogback Ridge Preserve, 2656 Hogback Road.

May 20: Preschool Park Pals, "Flower Power." 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., Gallant Woods Preserve, 2151 Buttermilk Hill Road.

May 24: Family Outing, "Pond Discovery." 7 p.m., Emily Traphagen Preserve, 5094 Seldom Seen Road.

May 25: Hound Hike (walk with your socialized canine), 7 p.m. Emily Traphagen Preserve, 5094 Seldom Seen Road.

May 28: Wild Town Walk, Delaware. 7 p.m. Meet at City Park, Washington Street and Park Avenue.

June 7: Park Explorers (ages 6-12), "Water Wonders." 10 a.m., Char-Mar Ridge Preserve, 7741 Lewis Center Road.

June 10: Preschool Park Pals, "Water Wonders." 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., Gallant Woods Preserve, 2151 Buttermilk Hill Road.

June 17: Wild Town Walk, Powell. 7 p.m. Meet at Village Green Park, 47 Hall St. June 21: Adult Nature Series, "Birding 101." 8 a.m., Emily Traphagen Preserve,

5094 Seldom Seen Road. June 21: Family Outing, "Nature Jeopardy." 7 p.m., Gallant Woods Preserve, 2151 Buttermilk Hill Road.

June 22: Hound Hike (walk with your socialized canine). 7 p.m., Hogback Ridge Preserve, 2656 Hogback Road.

section of Alum Creek Reservoir.

Preservation Parks' "Art in the Park" event on June 1 will feature area artists performing, displaying and selling original works of art. And if you want to learn more about what we have to offer, join us June 22 for our "Summer Park Safari Bus Tour."

For Audubon members who live in Delaware County, Preservation Parks is your county parks district. For our neigh-

bors in other counties, the parks are a resource for you to enjoy as you explore the natural world.

Visit www.preservationparks.com or call (740) 524-8600 for information on each of the six parks, future development, programs and events.

- Sue Hagan, public relations specialist, Preservation Parks of Delaware County

South Side Settlement students preparing for 2nd annual Bird Festival

More than 50 students in South Side Settlement House after-school program have been keeping records of the number of birds at their three feeder stations as well as identifying the species recorded. They have also assisted in cataloging bird species and populations at the Scioto Audubon Metro Park. Despite the challenges of extreme weather, the students have been documenting their findings on charts in their classrooms as well as entering the data onto the eBird internet site which is managed by Cornell University. Students hope to determine the effects of weather on populations seen at the feeders and compare that data to data collected from the Scioto Audubon Metro Park.

The second annual bird festival "Celebrate Birds," on May 21 from 5:30-7:30 p.m., will be a culmination of a school year of learning about urban birds. Older students will give on grounds tours for visitors to the bird feeder stations and share their experiences regarding their observations. Younger students will display their observation data charts and run fun bird activities for visitors as well as display their bird art. Live bird ambassadors will be available for learning opportunities, slide show of the year's activities on display and light refreshments will be served. Contact Susan Setterlin at 457-8130 or rsetterl@columbus.rr.com.

South Side Settlement students learning how to identify birds in the

Scioto Audubon Metro Park with GIAC educator Doreen Whitley.

Coming up

Continued from page 4

trees" at Magee Marsh. Last year we saw over 100 different species of birds in 8 hours along the lake. Join Michael on a walk along the boardwalk in the morning. After lunch we will drive the auto tour of Ottawa NWR looking for waterfowl, rails, and Yellow-headed Blackbirds. Pack a lunch and drinks. We will be carpooling from Worthington Mall. Contact Michael Packer at packerdigital@yahoo.com.

Mother's Day Walk at Glacier Ridge Wetlands

Sunday, May 11, 2 p.m. Leader: Mike Flynn

Join us as we celebrate Mother's Day with a short walk to view one of the premier wetlands in central Ohio. This is prime time for spring bird migration. We will view the wetlands from the observation tower, then we will explore the wetlands up close and look for spring migrants as we walk the boardwalk. From I-270 (Dublin), take Exit 17B (Rt.33/Rt.161) west toward Marysville. Exit at Rt.161/Plain City/Post Rd. Turn right at the stop, go a very short distance to Hyland Croy Rd., and turn left. Go about a mile to the Honda Wetlands entrance. Follow the road to the parking lot. Call 769-1681 or e-mail mflynn.wildandfree@gmail.com.

Green Lawn Cemetery Bird Walk

Tuesday, May 13, 9 a.m. Leader: Katryn Renard

Columbus Audubon has a tradition of guiding birdwalks at the ever popular migratory bird trap, Green Lawn Cemetery. This year is no exception. We will meet at the cemetery office, on the right just inside the gate, and either walk or drive back to the famous 'pit.' Then our eyes and ears will lead us from there as we track down warblers and other spring delights. Please join Katryn Renard in this well-loved birding spot. Contact Katryn at 261-7171 for more information.

Dusk at Glacier Ridge, Honda Wetlands

Friday, May 16, 7 p.m. Leader: Mike Flynn

This new wetland area has already proven itself to be a significant habitat for birds such as ducks, herons, egrets, rails, bitterns and many others. Experience the magic of dusk at this special place with Mike Flynn as we look and listen for the dusk life here. Meet at the parking lot. To find it, take I-270 (Dublin) to U.S. Route 33/ state Route 161 west (exit 17B), toward Marysville. Exit at the Rte. 161/ Plain City/ Post Road. Turn right at the stop, and then an immediate left onto Hyland Croy Road. Drive approx. one mile north to the Honda Wetlands entrance. Turn left and follow road to the parking lot. Call 769-1681 or e-mail mflynn.wildandfree@gmail.com.

Prothonotary Warblers and Osprey at Hoover Reservoir

Saturday, May 17, 10 a.m. Leader: Charlie Bombaci

Meet at Area M, Front Street, Galena. Our hike will begin with the boardwalk at Area M where we will watch for the nesting Osprey and possibly a Bald Eagle or two. Our main target, the

See Coming up, page 10

Unique field trip opportunity!!!

Kirtland Warbler trip, Michigan

Friday-Sunday, June 13-15 Leaders: John Price and Mike Flynn Reservations required, 15-person limit

Join Columbus Audubon as we take a very exciting trip to Grayling, Michigan to view one of the rarest warbler species known, the Kirtland Warbler. The Kirtland Warbler almost exclusively inhabits two distinct areas of the western hemisphere. The first being that of the Bahama Islands where they migrate for the winter season, the second, fortunately for us, is our neighboring state to the north, Michigan. The Kirtland Warbler sets claim to a habitat of Jack Pine Forest within a fifty mile radius from a small town named Mio, Michigan. The best time to see these birds is between early May and late June. This habitat they use for nesting is closed to the public, however CA has arranged a professionally guided tour with the United States Fish and Wildlife service to gain a more "up close and personal" experience to this coveted species. We hope to leave Friday afternoon and stay through Sunday. We will be meeting our guide 7 a.m. Saturday morning for a three hour tour. This trip can feasibly hold about fifteen people. Reserve your spot early! After our tour and catching our breath, other species of interest in this habitat include claycolored sparrows, brewer's blackbirds, black-billed cuckoos, lincoln's and vesper sparrows. Call for details concerning accommodations, trip fee and reservations. Contact John Price, johno_price@yahoo.com or call 216-2473.

About John Price

My name is John Price, and more than likely I am unfamiliar to most. I hope for that to change in the short future, as I am looking forward to meeting, birding, and most of all, learn-

ing from the majority of you. I am originally from Columbus. I went to high school at St. Charles, and continued on to Bowling Green State University where I received a Bachelors degree in Spanish. During my sophomore year at BGSU I decided to become a whitewater rafting guide on the New and Gauley Rivers in West Virginia. This year will mark my 11th year as a river guide and kayak instructor on both of those absolutely amazing rivers. I have to say that my life would



John Price

not be what it is today without the experience I gained from working in West Virginia, not to mention that that is where my love for birding began. Every year in the spring our company (North American River Runners - had to give a little plug) has an employee reunion called "meltdown." One of the guides, known as "Tiny," asked me if I would like to go birding with him the next morning. Well, being the adventurous spirit that I am, and never having been birding before, I figured why not! We started at 5:30 a.m.!!!!! Which, if you're a complete novice to the world of birding seems to be an insanely early time to wake up...especially for a young raft guide. So, still asleep I climbed into his truck and we headed for the rim of the New

See About John Price, page 12

Coming up

Continued from page 9

to call them in close. Next we will hike along the old roadbed that Oxbow Rd. To get to the Walnut Street parking lot, take Sunbury runs through Area N in search of resident Prothonotary Warblers Road north from S.R. 161, through Central College, then continue and migrating songbirds. This riparian corridor on a good day can • north, past the traffic light at the dam, to the next light at Walnut bring lots of great species through this area. If time permits and the Street. Turn right into the parking lot. Call 769-1681 or email: mflyarea isn't too wet we may take an off-trail detour to explore some of nn.wildandfree@gmail.com the wetland forest habitat. Wear sturdy boots and bring your binoc- • packerdigital@yahoo.com. ulars if you have them. We will meet in the parking lot at Area M on Front Street in Galena. This will also be a CA Kids program. For • any questions, please e-mail charlesbombaci@aol.com.

Bird Walk for the Vision Impaired

Monday, May 19, 7 p.m.

Whetstone Park, Registration requested Leaders: Katryn Renard and Mike Flynn

Are you vision impaired and curious to identify the birds calling near your home? Please join us for a walk in Whetstone Park as we identify the songs of the common birds as well as any unusual ones that may be calling that evening. We will not be pausing to locate the birds visually, but instead will be concentrating on acquainting • the trails here are rough & wet. Meet at the Westerville Community you with the songs you hear everyday. Meet behind Whetstone Center, off Cleveland Ave 1 mile north of Library, between the parking lot and the tennis courts. Please call at robthorn@earthlink.net or 471-3051. Katryn Renard 261-7171 to register. She will need to know if you will be arriving by car or by bus (Whetstone Park is on the bus line), if you will have a guide, and your phone number.

Migrant Corridors of Columbus: Three Creeks to the Scioto

Sunday, May 25, 7 a.m. Leader: Rob Thorn

several of the best migrant corridors in the metro area. We'll start • trip). at the Confluence access of Three Creeks Park, where one of the few urban 'old growth' riparian areas attracts a great variety of birds. Then we'll work our way north and west to the Whittier • peninsula along the Scioto, a proven migrant trap that is only getting better as it is redeveloped as the new Scioto Audubon Metro Park. We'll finish with a side trip to Green Lawn Cemetery where • neo-tropical migrants accumulate due to its isolated position at the top of the Scioto floodplain. Meet at the confluence area of 3- • Saturday June 21. Details will be on the Columbus Audubon web-Creeks Park, off Bixby Rd. east of Hamilton Road. Join us for the • whole trip, or plan to meet us at 1 or 2 of the stops. Contact Rob Thorn at robthorn@earthlink.net or 471-3051.

Denison University Biological Reserve

Sunday, June 1, 7:30 a.m. to Noon

Leader: Michael Packer

With 350 acres of native forest, seven natural springs and four ponds, Denison University Biological Reserve is where students • research Ohio nature. The pristine habitat and shaded trails make for one of the nicest bird hikes east of Columbus. Join Michael for a leisure 2 mile walk searching for nesting Yellow-breasted Chats, • Blue-winged warblers and butterflies. Bottled water and a snack suggested. Meet at Blendon Woods Nature Center. We will carpool from there. Contact Michael Packer at packerdigital@yahoo.com. •

Canoe & Kayak Trip, Hoover Reservoir

Sunday, June 8, 4 p.m.

Leaders: Michael Packer, Donna Sheley and Mike Flynn Join Michael Packer, Donna Sheley and Mike Flynn for an afternoon on the water in search of Bald Eagles, Ospreys, Prothonotary •

Warblers and other exciting subjects as we paddle around the north end of the reservoir. NOTE: You must have your own licensed • watercraft and legal safety gear. We will launch from the Oxbow Rd. area. If you are not familiar with this location, we will meet at Prothonotary Warbler nests close to the boardwalk and we will try • 3:30 pm at the Walnut St. parking lot and caravan from there to Packer

Upper Alum Lake: the hidden oasis

Sunday, June 8, 7 a.m. Leader: Rob Thorn

If you think of Alum Lake as a noisy haven of beachgoers and boaters, be prepared for a little mind-shift. The narrow northern end of the State Park has forest-covered bluffs, old fields, and pocket swamps that provide homes for a surprising array of birds, including locally-uncommon species like Blue-winged and Cerulean Warblers, Ovenbirds, kingbirds, cuckoos, and tanagers. We'll try to sample the variety of habitats here, looking for a wide assortment of territorial birds. Wear tough, water-resistant shoes, as many of Center, off Cleveland Ave 1 mile north of I-270. Contact Rob Thorn

Service in the Preserves (work trip)

Location TBD

Saturday, May 31, 7:45 a.m.

All skill levels are welcome. Please call Katryn Renard for details n this trip at 261-7171. Please complete the Dept. of Natural Area's volunteer form to participate in this activity (contact Spring migration will be flowing through Columbus as we hit treaster.1@osu.edu for forms or fill one out on the morning of the

101 classes

Photography 101

Saturday, June 21, Time: TBD

Highbanks Metro Park Nature Center

Hosted by Highbanks Metro Park and Columbus Audubon on site or by contacting Highbanks Metro Park. Do you have suggestions for a 101 class or 101 series? Please contact Darlene Sillick if you have theme ideas or if you want to teach one of our 101 classes at azuretrails@columbus.rr.com or 761-3696.

Avid Birders field trips

Visit http://www.columbusaudubon.org for details.

Metro Parks programs

Joint CA/Blendon Woods Metro Park programs

May/June Birdwalks: Saturdays, May 10 and June 14, 8 a.m., meet at the Blendon Woods Metro Parks nature center for a bird walk to be led by naturalist Bruce Simpson. Call 895-6221.

Highbanks Metro Park (meet at nature center)

Warbler Hike: Saturday, May 3 at 7 a.m. **Butterfly Gardening:** Saturday, May 10 at 2 p.m.

Glacier Ridge Metro Park

Wildlife Festival: Sunday, May 18 1-4 p.m. **Birds and Bloom Walk:** Saturday, May 24 at 9 a.m.

Bluebirds

Continued from page 1

eggs for 14 days and they will all hatch on the same day. Try not to disturb the female during hatching. It could be harmful to the young if they become chilled or damp because you opened the box during cool, wet weather. Use a mechanic's mirror and flashlight instead of opening the box. By watching the behavior of the adults you will be able to see them flying to the nestbox with food and leaving with a whitish fecal sac in their beaks. The parents can feed the young 30 to 50 times a day. Offering mealworms can help the adults and later the young.

As the young grow older, be careful to keep good notes and do not open the nextbox after they are 12 days old. Opening the nestbox after the 12th day can cause the young to prematurely fledge or leave the box too early and lessen their chance to survive. The young fledge or leave the nestbox between 18-22 days of age. The adults, primarily the male, will carefully watch over the young after fledging and will teach them to fly and hunt for their own food. By about two weeks after fledging the young will begin to hunt on their own. Life is not

always so easy for bluebirds and some of the other cavity nesting species.

Pick up the most widely read book by Julie Zickefoose *Enjoying Bluebirds More*. Visit the websites of *Bird Watchers Digest*, Cornell University and the Birdhouse Network http://www.birds.cornell.edu/birdhouse and the North American Bluebird Society to obtain more useful information.

Another species who moves into a nestbox are Tree Swallows, a neo-tropical migrant and delightful aerial insect eater who prefers to be somewhat close to water. They line their dried grass nests with curved feathers. Tree Swallows will have a clutch of about seven eggs and sometimes raise two families.

House Wrens are also neo-tropical migrants and are called the boss-of-the-brush land and eat insects while they scold us from the shrub and brush habitats they prefer.

While they are delightful little sprite songsters, they are territorial in nature and they check out any cavity near their shrub habitat and sometimes at the mercy of evicting other bird species. Their willingness to nest close to people in small gourds or small

wren boxes up close to our windows make them a popular bird to attract and enjoy.

Chickadees and titmice, year round residents and cousins, prefer a woods or wood edge to build a nest. The nest of the chickadee is a large moss nest and the titmice are a mixture of moss and dried leaves and grass. Both species can hiss at you when you monitor their nests. This is just a sampling of some of our backyard favorites. Providing food, water, cover and housing is a rewarding experience for the whole family

You will learn together, feel like you are really lending a hand to who ever moves in to your backyard housing then share your experiences with others. It is very important to eliminate the use of pesticides and to try to garden with native plants for the benefit of the well being of your guests. Birding is the number two hobby in the country second only to gardening.

Keep a field guide handy, binoculars, journal and good resources to help you. The rewards are endless and your contributions to conservation important.

Spread the word to your friends and neighbors so they can join in on the fun.

Birdscaping

Continued from page 7

teers braved the sunshine and 65 degree weather to join me in placing 24 native trees and shrubs around the office and front quadrants of Green Lawn Cemetery. Now, twenty-four didn't seem like such a big number, especially considering we had originally planned on placing the entire inventory of 65 in one dig before some amount of sanity came to bear, and we figured we would knock them out in an hour or so. What we hadn't figured though, was that just below the grassy surface lay a very impressive glacial deposit of boulders, rocks and pebbles. It took less than a minute



Tom Sheley installs one of three bluebird box set-ups at Green Lawn Cemetery on March 6.

before we were all clanging our shovels against the rocky substrate. Three small excavations around the entry sign yielded over 200 lbs. of rocks. Things eventually improved once we moved to the hilltop west of the office and encountered better soils. It took about four hours to complete the project including an application of deer repellent. Many thanks to John Price, Nadya Bennett, Susan Setterlin, John Wilson and Darlene Sillick.

Lights Out

Continued from page 6

been established. From 2000 to 2006, FLAP reported that 22,064 dead birds were recovered from the top 30 "most lethal" building structures within the Toronto region.

In 1997, New York City Audubon's "Project Safe Flight" established the "Lights Out NYC" program. Mayor Bloomberg's administration has endorsed this program to turn out external lights of tall buildings between midnight and 6 a.m. and shield interior lights as well. The Empire State Building is setting an example by becoming the icon building for this project. It is hoped to enlist the cooperation of many other buildings that pose a similar hazard. Since the beginning of this program in 1997, volunteers patrolling the perimeter of several New York City buildings during spring and fall migrations have found more than 4,000 injured or dead birds covering over 100 species. The bird species most frequently impacted include White-throated Sparrows, Common Yellowthroats, and Ovenbirds.

Last spring in Columbus, Eagle Scout Tyler Corbin gathered data on bird collisions with buildings in Columbus, and found very few dead birds. This seems to go against the national trend, and the reason is unclear. Perhaps there are sufficient migration corridors along our creeks and rivers, and the birds avoid downtown. It is also possible that many birds did hit buildings and someone (or some thing) other than Tyler found them first. Our Conservation Committee would like to investigate this further. If you find a dead bird beside a building, and you have a digital camera, take the bird's picture and e-mail it to Dave Horn (horn.1@osu.edu). We would like to get a "Lights Out" program going in Columbus.

- Rob Lowry and Dave Horn

About John Price

Continued from page 9

for the rim of the New River Gorge. He handed me what looked, and smelled...like a twenty year old Peterson Field Guide and an old pair of binoculars. He briefed me on how this whole birding process worked and what we would probably see. Let me just say that at that time I had no idea that such a creature as a Wood Thrush, Great Crested Flycatcher, or Rose-Breasted Grosbeak even existed, let alone what they looked like and how to tell them apart for goodness sake. After about an hour passed and I'll never forget this, he said to me, "now, when the sun comes up over that ridge, these birds are going to explode in song."

Just then, on the very edge of a branch, with the sun at just the right angle, we spotted a Black and White Warbler squeakin' his wheel as loud as he could. I was hooked!!! That's all it took. It was my "spark" bird. I'm sure we all have our own unique variation of this same experience.

Since that day I have done everything I can to be held completely breathless at the site of some of the most beautiful species on this planet! This excitement has fully led into passion, and that passion has led into education.

It has been almost nine years since I have lived in Columbus. During my absence, I have been blessed to experience and live in some very beautiful places in the East. I lived in St. Mary's County, Maryland for two years (very southern tip), where I was a caretaker of a National Historic Landmark. I lived on the property in a cottage on the Patuxent River. I was fortunate to live a hundred yards from a nesting pair of Bald Eagles, and got my first experiences with waterfowl.

From there, I moved to Sarasota, Florida to do carpentry. I was then offered a job in Charlotte, North Carolina, which I accepted.

I helped run a remolding company and also worked to train river guides at the United States National Whitewater Center. I guess I was homesick, and in July of last year, I moved back to Columbus. It's been quite a whirlwind, but let me say that there is no place like Columbus, Ohio. The people are great and the birding is outstanding. I just recently started back to school full-time at The Ohio State University in order to gain a second degree in Biology. My current goals are to first graduate...but to also become an active member in our birding community. I hope to be a common face with Columbus Audubon, a solid chapter I may add, and look forward to meeting the people that help it to run so smoothly and those that take advantage of the programs that this organization offers.

Thanks for you time and I hope to see you all on the trails.

Columbus Audubon KIDS!

The Spring CA KIDS newsletter has hit the streets and the Summer issue is on its way! Contact Nadya Bennett, CA KIDS Committee Chair to join up! You can contact Nadya at nadya2003@msn.com or (614) 306-8215.

Columbus Audubon Founded 1913 740-549-0333 www.columbusaudubon.org

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Additional chapter leaders:

CA Webmaster: Bill Heck, 895-1940
Conservation: Dave Horn, 262-0312
Service in the Preserves: Katryn Renard, 261-7171
Education: Susan Setterlin, 457-8130
Programs: Mike Flynn, 882-9493
Field Trips: Earl Harrison, 505-1123
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Scioto-Whittier IBA Committee: Paul Gledhill, 848-7666
CA KIDS: Nadya Bennett, (614) 306-8215

Birdathon: Julie Davis, 523-2180 or Katryn Renard, 261-7171 OYB (12-18 year olds): Darlene Sillick, 761-3696

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