

Annual Columbus Audubon potluck a real crowd pleaser

Columbus Audubon members and their guests had a special time at the annual potluck at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center March 22.

Members shared their favorite recipes, enjoyed each other's company, and celebrated those who have contributed so much to our organization. The new slate of trustees were introduced and voted in, and the evening was capped off with a thoroughly entertaining and educational program by the Columbus Zoo staff, which featured some very special animal guests.

Attendees enjoyed a wonderful spread featuring delicious homemade dishes. The dessert table alone was worth the trip, but the best was yet to come.

Event host and CA board president Julie Davis along with vice president Bill Heck, loosened up the crowd throughout the evening by drawing tickets



By Tom Sheley

Everyone digs in at the potluck on March 22.

for door prizes.

Three very deserving folks received this year's *Song Sparrow* awards. Sarah Dalton was awarded a Columbus Audubon *Song Sparrow* award for her years of education, conservation, and contributions to the community and nature. Clyde Gosnell and Louise

Warner were honored with a Columbus Audubon *Song Sparrow* award for their years of unwavering commitment to conservation and their generous donations of time, energy, and resources to CA and many other organizations.

Last awarded in 2008, the James Chase Hambleton Award

recognizes outstanding contributions promoting Columbus Audubon's mission, particularly in the areas of conservation and education. This year's award winner is Ralph Ramey. A retired chief of the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Ralph has a lifetime of contributions and achievements as a naturalist, conservationist, and community servant.

Also, certificates of thanks were presented to Sherry Holcombe and Dylan George.

A non-profit organization is only as good as its volunteers, and CA is fortunate to have many who are outstanding.

The Ohio Young Birder's Club Youth Advisory Board members Jacob Stinnett and Doug Whitman relayed to those in attendance the accomplishments the group has achieved since the chapter's formation a

See annual, page 15

Celebrate migration at GIAC's 'Wine and Warblers' on May 18

Spring and songbird migration season are a great time for outdoor adventures, and the Grange Insurance Audubon Center has a great new experience that combines outdoor walks with a fun and educational event – the 2011 Wine and Warblers.

You are invited to join us for this special evening of Wine and Warblers to be held at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center.

This fun, new, and casual event combines a variety of interests and has something for everyone! Whether you, your family members and friends (over age 21)

■ Are an experienced bird lover or novice

■ Are a wine connoisseur or newbie
■ Enjoy a party atmosphere with lots of people or the quietness of a park

■ Like inside the GIAC or the Center's outside observation decks



Event & ticket information

Wine & Warblers **Wednesday, May 18**
5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Ticket information

Cost: \$40 each, \$75 for a pair in advance and \$50 each at the door. (GIAC/CA members can receive \$5 off at the door).

Where to buy: To purchase tickets in advance online, go to www.GIAC-Audubon.org and click on "Tickets" until 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, May 11. Also, purchase tickets in advance at the GIAC Nature Store during Center hours with a check or credit card until Friday, May 13.

■ Like silent auctions or bird-banding demonstrations

You'll want to join in the festivities and raise funds to support the GIAC and its education, conservation, nature, and

research programs!

Your event ticket includes:

■ Valet parking
■ Heavy hors d'oeuvres and desserts from some of the wonderful GIAC-approved caterers

■ Wine tastings of 12 to 18 offerings from countries and areas that reflect the migratory path of warblers will be highlighted. For example, enjoy tasting the Llai Llai Chardonnay and Pinot Noir from the Bio Bio Valley in Chile – a potential destination of the Blackpoll warbler.

■ Guests will be able to explore, enjoy the food, and taste wines at their leisure and enjoy the event on the GIAC decks and overlook.

■ Bird-Banding Demonstration led by

See celebration, page 15

Song Sparrow

May-June 2011

Vol. 43 No. 5

Grange Insurance Audubon Center

www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org

Staff: Center Director: Vacant

Assistant Center Director: Doreen Whitley

Director of Development: Jeff Redfield

Facilities Operations Manager: Josh Cherubini

Finance and Office Manager: Kristen Clark

Educators: Allison Roush, Tori Strickland, Joe Jennings

Program Coordinator: Amy Boyd

Nature Store Manager: Patty Hecht

Volunteer Coordinator: Nancy Hartman

Office Phone: 614-545-5475

Center Hours: Summer Hours - Tuesday-Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 9-3, Sunday 11-5pm

Directions to the GIAC

From High Street (going south) turn right on Whittier (which runs along south end of German Village and Brewery District). From Front Street (going north) turn left onto Whittier. Follow Whittier, making no turns, across the bridge spanning the tracks, past the other side streets until you drive into the parking lot in front of the center.

GIAC Stewardship Board:

Sandra Nessing (Chair)

Greg Cunningham (Vice Chair)

Alan McKnight

John O'Meara

Christie Vargo

Beth Crane

Julie Davis

Barry Hunlock

Chester Jourdan

Tom Katzenmeyer

Dr. Bernie Master

Mark Real

Jan Rodenfels

Ellen Tripp

Jeff Chaddock

Columbus Audubon

Founded 1913

614-545-5475

www.columbusaudubon.org

Twitter: @ColumbusAudubon

Facebook: Columbus-Audubon

Officers: President: Julie Davis, 523-2180

Vice President: Bill Heck, 895-1940

Newsletter/Web Editor: Stefanie Hauck, (740) 972-1680

Treasurer: Warren Grody

Recording Secretary: Suzan Jervey

Trustees: Julie Davis, Mike Flynn, Joe Meara, Heather Raymond, Katryn Renard, Barbara Revard, Andrea Cook, Tom Sheley, Darlene Sillick, Suzan Jervey, Gerry Brevoort, Warren Grody, Bill Heck and Jackie Bain.

Additional chapter leaders:

Conservation: Dave Horn, 262-0312

Service in the Preserves: Katryn Renard, 261-7171

Education: Susan Setterlin, 457-8130

Programs: Mike Flynn, mflynn.wildandfree@gmail.com

Field Trips: Earl Harrison, eharrison@ehe.osu.edu

CA Web site: Bill Heck, bill.heck@gmail.com

Ohio Young Birders: Gerry Brevoort,

jbrevoor@columbus.rr.com

Eco Weekend: Roz Horn, 262-0312; Lois Day, (740) 549-0333

Membership: Joe Meara, 430-9127

IBA Committee: Heather Raymond, 785-0342

Birdathon: Julie Davis, 523-2180 or

Katryn Renard, 261-7171

Avid Birders: www.columbusaudubon.org/avids/avids.html

May-June activities

GIAC programs

Become a member today to receive special discounts on classes, special events and programs

Audubon Afternoons

What are Audubon Afternoons?

Audubon Afternoons are education programs conducted by Audubon naturalists. They deliver short presentations on a featured topic followed by an "Audubon Challenge."

The Challenge is a nature or conservation investigation and participants receive a small prize upon completion. Sometimes the program includes going on hikes with the naturalist, sometimes the participants are sent on Audubon Challenges on their own. Audubon Afternoons programs are ideal for families with kids.

The programs are held in GIAC classrooms on alternating weekends in May and June from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

on the following dates: May 14-15, May 28-29, June 11-12 and June 25-26. For more information, call 614-545-5486.

Audubon Adventure Camp Topics and Dates

Amazing Flyers - Session 1: June 20-24; Session 6: July 25-29

Eco-Friendly Kids - Session 2: June 27-July 1; Session 5: July 18-22

Animal Trackers - Session 3: July 5-8 (no Adventure Camp on July 4); Session 7: August 1-5

Audubon Artists - Session 4: July 11-15; Session 8: August 8-12

Conservation Countdown -

See GIAC activities, page 11

Columbus Audubon programs

Note: Field trip times, dates and locations are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. Please contact the trip leader 24 hours ahead to make sure the trip has not been changed or cancelled. Also, go to www.columbusaudubon.org for longer descriptions of each trip.

Whetstone Park bird walk

Friday, May 6, 7:30 a.m.

Join Donna Siple and Lynn Wearsch for a morning walk through Whetstone Park in Clintonville, where we'll explore a variety of bountiful bird habitats including the prairie, Adena Brook area and wooded ravine. Meet at the Park of Roses parking area. Contact Lynn Wearsch at lwearsch@sbcglobal.net.

Bird walk at Blendon Woods

Sunday, May 15, 7 a.m.

Take a short bird walk at Blendon Woods Metro Park. Meet at the nature center.

OYBC May field trip: warblers, warblers and more warblers

Saturday, May 14, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Join us at the Magee Marsh Wildlife Area during the Biggest Week in American Birding Festival -- on

International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD). We will meet up with OYBC students from around the state and have a fun day of birding together at Magee Marsh. We will meet near the warbler deck at the west entrance of the boardwalk at 9 a.m. Please contact Gerry Brevoort at jbrevoor@columbus.rr.com.

Spring migration along the urban Scioto

Saturday, May 14, 8 a.m.

You don't need to go to Lake Erie to see a big fallout of migrants. We have our own migrant traps and funnels, the best-known being the area along the Scioto River around the Greenlawn Dam, as well as the adjacent Greenlawn cemetery. Meet at the Scioto-Audubon Boat Launch, 395 West Whittier Street. Contact Rob Thorn, 614-551-0643 or robthorn2@gmail.com.

CA Birdathon field trip

Saturday, May 14, 6 a.m.

Have you wanted to do a "Big Day" or "May Run" (trying to see as many species as possible in a single day) or participate in the "Birdathon" (a Big

See CA programs, page 11

Outdoor adventure Scioto Audubon Metro Park

395 W. Whittier Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215

The Scioto Audubon Metro Park is full of outdoor adventure opportunities including rock climbing, sand volleyball, boating, fishing, and more.

Outdoor Climbing Wall

The Metro Park contains the largest no-cost outdoor climbing wall in the country towering at 35 feet high. Climbers must provide their own ropes and equipment to enjoy this activity and a liability waiver must be signed and turned in onsite. The climbing wall is open from 9 a.m. until one hour before the park closes. On the second Friday of each month from March through November, the wall stays open until midnight to offer more climbing opportunities.

For less adventurous folks, take in the park from above by climbing up to the water tower observation decks. This easy walk up four flights of stairs provides a beautiful view of the park, GIAC facility, wetlands, and downtown skyline.

Sand Volleyball

A popular activity during the warmer months is a game of sand volleyball with friends. The park offers three competition-sized courts located in the central activities area near the climbing wall.

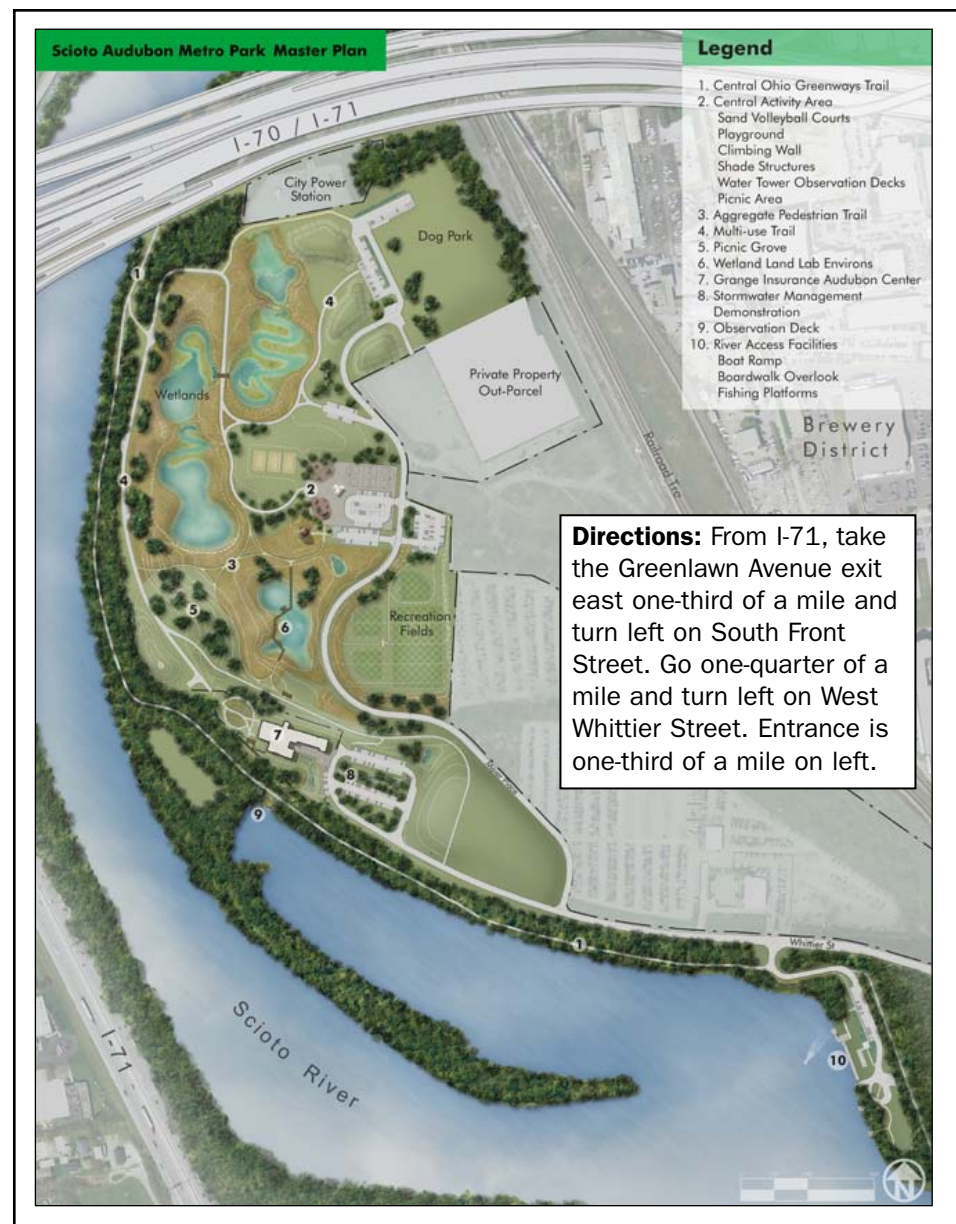
The courts are first come, first served but it's recommended that you bring your own ball. The courts are well-maintained by the Metro Parks staff and provide a free opportunity to have some fun and enjoy the beautiful spring and summer weather of central Ohio.

Boat Ramp and Fishing

The fun of Scioto Audubon Metro Park is not limited only to the comforts of being on the land. The Metro Park provides a boat ramp and elevated dock for fishing opportunities on the Scioto River. The river is accessible for small boats by launching from the boat ramp and heading up river.

This is a great place to bring your canoe and a packed lunch to enjoy a day on the water. Boaters should be aware that there is a low-head dam located down stream of the boat launch that can be very dangerous, especially during high water events.

It is recommended that all boaters and people fishing stay clear of the dam and not attempt to approach it. The Scioto River provides great fishing opportunities close to the downtown area. Many species



of fish can be caught in the area of the park and include bass, catfish, and more.

Dog Park

While there are many opportunities for outdoor adventures at Scioto Audubon for humans, consider bringing man's best friend along with you to enjoy some outdoor adventures too.

The two acre dog park has separate areas for large and small dogs. Each area is very safe for your dog and both have their own agility course so your dog can get some exercise and shake off those winter blues (and fur).

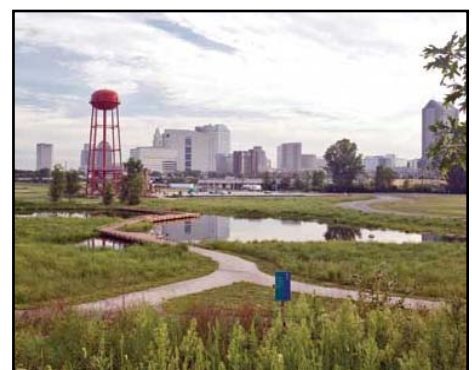


Photo by Kinzelman Kline Gossman

The wetlands are surrounded by boardwalks with the water tower observation area, playground and rock wall in the background.

Grange Insurance Audubon Center

Get ready for Audubon Adventure Camp

Do you remember the lazy days of summer as a kid when you went out of the house in the morning and didn't come back home until supper time? Those were the days when children were free to play outside for hours on end, not worrying about much of anything except not being late for dinner. Unfortunately, those lazy days of wild and free, unstructured play are a thing of the past for most kids today. Now our children are scheduled for programs in the summer, mostly out of necessity due to working parents.

As we worked to develop our education programs here at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center, we were all too aware of the lack of free "nature play" that children get today. So we have created Audubon Adventure Camp, an awesome summer day camp. Children going into grades 1-8 can look forward to getting back to the wild while they are here at camp this summer. We will offer nine weeks of day camp from June 20 through August 19.

We have a variety of topics planned that will engage the children directly in our conservation work here at the center, all while having a blast! The natural environment and the animals that it supports need our children's help to protect and defend it for future generations. Campers will understand the human impact on the environment and be empowered to take action. They'll be encouraged to get involved in the work that Audubon is doing to help protect our natural world.

GIAC is still in the process of reclaiming



Fun at summer camp in 2010.

what was once a wasteland into a beautiful green oasis in the heart of Columbus. Campers will pull invasive species and replace them with native plants. They'll learn how our everyday actions impact river pollution and how our Scioto River is connected to the Mississippi River basin.

So when planning your child's summer, please consider Audubon Adventure Camp. We want your child to have that

feeling of fun in the outdoors. Our staff will be ready to explore the wild with your camper and create a summer that won't soon be forgotten.

Register on line now at grange.audubon.org (click Summer Programs on the Nature Education tab). Call program coordinator Amy Boyd with questions at 614-545-5486 or email aboyn@audubon.org.

Do you have what it takes to be a Columbus GreenSpot?

Columbus Mayor Michael B. Coleman founded the GreenSpot program for citizens who were looking for answers to important questions such as: What exactly does green mean? How can I get green? How does being green impact our city?

The Grange Insurance Audubon Center is a City of Columbus GreenSpot and is committed to meeting the criteria for the program: conserving energy, conserving water, and reducing, recycling, and reusing waste.

Here are a few green tips to help you get started building a greener home and community:

Conserve Energy: Drive fewer than 10 miles per week.

Conserve Water: Run your dishwasher and washing machine only when they're full.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Carry reusable bags when you shop.

To become a GreenSpot, all it takes is a commitment to those three criteria.

Within each, you decide which lifestyle changes fit you and your home best.

With just a few small changes you can help the environment and create a more environmentally-friendly home.

When you go shopping think about buying more energy-efficient and eco-friendly products for your home.

You can learn more about the GreenSpot program by visiting www.columbusgreenspot.org. You can also join us every Wednesday at 10 a.m. for the director's tour of your GIAC GreenSpot!



-Doreen Whitley

Let the craziness begin!

Birdathon 2011

Bird 5, 10, 24 hours a day April 30 - May 16 locally or out of state

Birdathon!™ is a peculiar event - the bird watching equivalent of a walkathon. Somehow people who love birding are able to convince birders and non-birders alike to pledge money for every type of bird seen on a particular day. Even more peculiar is that this happens across the entire nation every May. National Audubon sponsors this birding competition every year, and Columbus Audubon is just one of many participating local chapters across the United States.

What will our Columbus Audubon Birdathon (BAT) 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. Or, you can sponsor a team and fulfill your pledge with PayPal on the CA website.

The proceeds from the BAT this year will go to two very worthy causes. Twenty-five percent will go to GIAC to support their educational programs. Seventy-five percent will go to the newly created John Wilson Memorial Education Fund. This fund was created by the CA board to honor our longtime dedicated volunteer and friend, John Wilson, who passed away last December. This fund will be used to provide scholarships and assistance for environmental education programs at Columbus Audubon, the GIAC, and other locations.

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 reg-

ister. Ask friends and co-workers to sponsor you and then go birding! Count all the species that you can identify in either five, 10 or 24 hours any day between April 30 and May 16.

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. Call now and add your team to the list.

Birdathon Celebration

All of our teams **and** sponsors are invited to celebrate their Birdathon success at our annual BAT celebration. Our celebration will take place on **Tuesday, May 24**, during our regular monthly program at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center. There will be a bird walk at 6 p.m., followed by our speaker, Tom Hisson, education coordinator and naturalist at the Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm near Dayton, Ohio. We will enjoy snacks and draw for our two grand prizes.

Again this year, we have two great prizes to present at our annual BAT celebration.

Eagle Optics has once again generously

donated binoculars. The Ranger SRT 8x32 (list price \$360) are especially favored for their superior edge-to-edge sharpness, lightweight, durable body, and affordable price.

The soft rubber, multi-position eyecups guarantee comfortable viewing during extended use. Customers value the Ranger's rich color details, 393-foot field of view, three foot close focus, and Platinum Protection unlimited, unconditional lifetime warranty.

See for yourself why our customers love taking the Ranger SRT on a short hike or around the world at www.eagleoptics.com.

As is Columbus Audubon custom, we have two grand prizes to offer in a drawing to birders who turn their donations in by May 24.

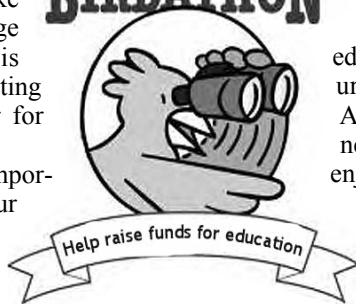
The lovely Zinck's Carriage House <http://zincksinn.com/category/the-carlisle-house> in the heart of Amish country has donated a free night's stay to the winner of the first drawing.

The Amish are known for their birding skills and what better place to go than their home territory?

Located at the edge of Berlin, Zinck's Carriage House has easy access to the birds of the countryside as well as the activities of town.

-Julie Davis

**COLUMBUS
AUDUBON
BIRDATHON**



Gathering room at Zinck's Carriage House.

Columbus Audubon

2011 Birdathon teams

Deck Birds - 1

Cheri Brown
Pat Barron
Bev May
Pete Precario

Marsh Madness - 100

Bill and Deb Marsh

Metro Parks

Stellar Jays - 100

Jim Davidson
Joe Meara
John O'Meara
John Watts

Mudflats Herons - 160

Julie and Ken Davis
Jackie and Tom Bain

Neat Nests - 40

Fred Lancia
Jordan Parrott and
grandchildren

Ohio Young Birders - TBD

Gerry Brevoort
Susan Setterlin
Young birders TBD

Pelicans - TBD

Lauren & Mark Richards
their dog

Quick Three Beards - 170.5

Dave Horn
Greg Miller
Troy Shively
Bill Whan

Red-Eyed

Weary-os - 100

Earl Harrison
Alyn Harrison
Joe Eickholt
Andrea Cook

Slate (Run)

Colored Juncos - 100

Linda Benner
Andrea Haslage
Lori Patterson

Randy Rogers

Swans and Coots - 70

Alan Cohen
Clyde Gosnell
Paul Knoop
Katryn Renard
Marlene Woo Lun
Louise Warner

Two Footed Boobies - 90

Marcia Brehmer
Marion Farber
Melanie Shuter
Mary Kay Wood

Two in a Bush - 62

Patty DeMaria
Elaine Fujimora
Biani Moran

Wild Birds Unlimited

Riverside - 170

Michael Flynn
Bill Heck
Steve Landes
Tom Sheley

**COLUMBUS
AUDUBON
BIRDATHON**



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.

Team Name _____ Pledge _____

My Name _____ Phone# _____

Street, City, State, Zip Code _____

Mail to: "Birdathon," c/o Columbus Audubon, P.O. Box 141350, Columbus, Ohio 43214

Backyards for Wildlife: Creating a butterfly garden in your yard

Butterfly gardens are for beauty and the birds. In my last article, I discussed how native caterpillars are important food for native birds. Using plants that attract butterflies often support other insects too, which are all high-protein bird food.

I choose the plants on which native butterflies lay their eggs. For a time-saving start on plant selection, see "Attract Butterflies to your Ohio Yard" at www.backyardhabitat.info on the "How Do I Do This" tab for more information.

How to start: Locate a small space sheltered from wind with 6+ hours of sunlight (I put it where I can see and enjoy it)

Plant purple, yellow, white, or blue flat-topped, different-sized flowers that bloom at different times throughout the seasons as different butterflies are adults in spring, summer, and fall

Plant similar colors together (a large batch of yellow, instead of mixing yellow and blue plants, should catch their compound eyes)

Wait to rake leaves until early summer

after all butterflies are out of their winter cover and flying

Keep your lawn and garden chemical free (I use organic lawn care and manually control garden pests since chemicals kill butterflies) Native butterfly caterpillars rely on native plants for their very survival. Each kind of caterpillar usually eats the leaf of only one family of plant, called a host plant. Host plants, which include trees, provide cover and food to eat, so holes in their leaves are a good thing!

I select nectar, sap, and host plants native to my area. Some butterflies eat sap from trees rather than nectar. Remove invasive plants that choke out required plants. When planting herbs and things for me to eat, I plant extra for the caterpillars.

Only a few butterflies migrate. Building a Butterfly Log Cabin will help keep them warm. Others hide under bark and in leaf litter so provide native trees (like Cherry and Hackberry) and keep some leaves in your garden. Leave native grasses (like Little Bluestem, *Schizachyrium scoparium*)

and other bunch-type plants standing over winter for the caterpillars and chrysalis to stay warm. Then cut them high (not all the way to the ground).

For butterflies to drink water, I put a small dish filled with rocks near cover and plant Cup Plants (*Silphium perfoliatum*) that hold dew and rainwater. I also wet some dirt so they can suck nutrients. I enjoyed a beautiful, orange Eastern Comma who drank regularly from a small indentation in a stepping-stone every day when I fill my birdbath.

Over a three-year period, I went from having three different kinds of native butterflies in my yard to 35 kinds, including all five major families. Different types become adults to fly at different times of the season. The little white ones you see throughout the season are European Cabbage White butterflies.

Seventy-eight percent of the species observed had chemical-free, caterpillar host plants near nectar plants in my yard. For more go to at www.backyardhabitat.info.

Welcome new Columbus Audubon trustees

To fill a 2 year term

April Robinson is a 12 year veteran who has worked in the field of alcohol and substance abuse. She holds an Ohio Certified Prevention Specialist I credential from the Ohio Professional Credentialing Board. Her education background is in accounting and business administration. Ten years of her career were spent working for a drug and alcohol facility in Mansfield, Ohio as the prevention director of youth services. April collaborated with Malabar Farm, Gorman-Rupp Nature Center, Kingwood Center, and Snow Trails of Richland County. She provided outings that allowed the youth to experience nature first hand. She is currently the coordinator of the Drug-Free Delaware Coalition of Delaware County.

To fill a 3 year term

Jackie Bain is a health educator with the Delaware General Health District. She is formerly the education coordinator and a naturalist for Preservation Parks of Delaware County. She serves on Columbus Audubon's conservation and program committees and has been a consultant for Eco Weekend. Bain is a former chair and co-founder of the Simon Kenton Boy Scout Council's conservation committee where she has been involved in coordinating envi-

ronmental education and service projects with Ohio youth for over ten years. She also served on the conservation staff for the 2005 National Boy Scout Jamboree. In 2007 Bain was awarded the Boy Scouts of America's national William T. Hornaday Conservation Gold Badge in recognition of her efforts with youth and environmental education.

Andrea Cook is a current board member and is running for her second full term. She serves on Columbus Audubon's membership committee. With a MA in Anthropology, she has spent the last 14 years doing fundraising and management work for environmental and educational non-profits.

Tim Daniel has been with ODNr Division of Wildlife for 16 years, where he is a public information officer, photographer, and event planner. He has a degree in business administration from Franklin University and has been on the board of directors of the Ohio Wildlife Center in Columbus, a raptor education program in Logan County, and the Outdoor Writers of Ohio.

William (Bill) Heck currently serves as vice president and webmaster for Columbus Audubon. He is also a member of the Columbus Audubon Avid Birders coordi-

nating committee and is treasurer of the Black Swamp Bird Observatory. He previously served on the Audubon Ohio board and the nominating committee of the Ohio Ornithological Society. A former resident of southwestern Ohio, Bill has been president of Audubon Miami Valley, the Audubon chapter serving Butler and Preble counties; served as treasurer of the Three Valley Conservation Trust, and was treasurer of the Environmental Mobile Unit in Oxford.

He retired in 2007 after a career in information technology management in both the private and public sectors. He holds BA, MA, and MBA degrees.

Dave Horn has been a member of Columbus Audubon since 1973 (and other chapters before that). He is currently conservation chair and coordinates our Entertainment Book fundraiser, besides leading field trips and Eco Weekend programs. He has been on the Board before (1996-2002) and served as president 1998-2000 and again 2004-05. Dave and his wife Roz were awarded the Great Egret award last year, the highest volunteer award from National Audubon. He is professor emeritus of entomology at Ohio State (sort of retired) and executive director of the Ohio Biological Survey.

Ohio Young Birders chapter recognized for conservation work

This year's annual meeting of Columbus Audubon was a time to celebrate the future. Members of the central Ohio chapter of the Ohio Young Birders Club (OYBC) delivered a presentation to the gathering and were, in turn, recognized for their conservation efforts.

Introducing members of the chapter's Youth Advisory Board (YAB), CA President Julie Davis noted that, "John James Audubon himself would have been very pleased to see these energetic, creative, passionate young people with us here tonight. Surely Mr. Audubon recognized the essential connection, from generation to generation, in the work of conservation when he said: 'A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by his fathers, but borrowed from his children.' (These students are) *our* link to the future — the Ohio Young Birders."

YAB members Jacob Stinnett and Doug Whitman provided an overview of the OYBC chapter's activities of the last nine months, as well as their plans for the future. Included in the accomplishments of this group were two community service projects. Last October the OYBC students designed, built, and installed a bird-feeding station as part of an outdoor education center at a Columbus City School. And in March these young birders built nest boxes and installed a grid of 16 boxes at Glacier Ridge Metro Park. Both projects reflect the club's mission to celebrate nature, work for conservation, and share their interest in birds with others.



OYBC members with their certificates at the CA potluck on March 22. By Tom Sheley

Columbus

Audubon recognized the dedication of these OYBC students with Certificates of Appreciation "in recognition of outstanding public service as a member of OYBC Central Ohio Chapter." Receiving certificates were: Aaron Tayal, Jacob Stinnett, Doug Whitman, Nick Baltutis, Ada Cleary, Clare Jusdanis, Georgia Lockwood, Emily LeMaster, Daniel Hauck, and Sarah Seeley.

-Gerry Brevoort, OYBC advisor



By the central Ohio chapter of the OYBC
Installing the nestboxes.

OYBC completes nestbox project at Glacier Ridge Metro Park

building. There were seven kids, a lot of adults and seven power drills, so in no time we had 19 birdhouses finished. Then we crammed them all into Darlene's car.

On March 19, we installed the nest boxes at Glacier Ridge. There were five OYBC members and park volunteers, parents, and OYBC advisors who were all happy to lend a helping hand. We met Dick Tuttle who is an experienced birder and also experienced at putting up nest boxes. Dick's nickname is "Mr. Bluebird."

Dick taught us to set up nest boxes according to a grid. A grid ensures that the boxes are far enough apart from each another so that they are appealing homes to the desired birds. Installing the boxes in a grid also catches people's eyes as they move past it because the nest boxes align in many ways. We want visitors to the park to notice the nest boxes, get curious, and maybe learn a little something about the birds that live in them.

The first step in putting up the grid was to set where the first nest box was to be. Then we hammered a tall pole into the ground. Next we put on the baffle. Finally, we screwed on one nest box.

Meanwhile, another group was measuring out where the other nest boxes would go. We learned the Pythagorean theorem

can help make precise 90 degree angles. We measured 75 feet one way and then 75 feet another way, forming a right angle. Then we used the Pythagorean Theorem to get our right angle precise. From our first right angle we formed a box, and then we added a box onto that, always staking where nest boxes were to go.

We split into two teams, a measuring team and an assembly team.

After a while we started to communicate more and that made the job much easier.

We started to see one big square forming that was four boxes long and four boxes wide. Soon we were on our last nest box. When we had finished it, we stood back to admire our work. We had put up 16 nest boxes. Suddenly, in flew two tree swallows! Our nest boxes are next to a school at Glacier Ridge Metro Park's north entrance. There is a paved path next to where we put our boxes, so even people with disabilities can come to see birds.

At the end, I felt good because I knew that I had helped a lot of birds, as well as people with disabilities and kids in school who will come to enjoy the birds.

*Aaron Tayal, Student Member
Central Ohio Chapter - Ohio Young
Birders Club*

The Ohio Young Birders Club (OYBC) Central Ohio Chapter started a service project in March to build and set up nest boxes at Glacier Ridge Metro Park.

The project received support from Columbus Metro Parks and from our chapter's grant from North Face.

Building nest boxes was fun. Before we started the project, Darlene, one of our advisors, taught us about the birds we were helping. The birds we wanted in our nest boxes were Eastern Bluebirds and Tree Swallows. They are called secondary cavity nesters. We were helping these birds to find places to nest. We watched a movie of what happens inside a bluebird nest box. We even got to touch real birds that had been stuffed and were on loan from Ohio Wesleyan University.

Then we went to the basement to start

MAY 2011



1	<u>Sunday</u>	2	<u>Monday</u>	3	<u>Tuesday</u>	4	<u>Wednesday</u>	5	<u>Thursday</u>	6	<u>Friday</u>	7	<u>Saturday</u>
CA Birdathon: Teams will be out birding May 1-16		NOTE: GIAC closed every Monday				Tour of LEED Gold GIAC building 10 a.m.				Bird walk at Whetstone Park 7:30 a.m.			
8		9		10		11	Tour of LEED Gold GIAC building 10 a.m.	12		13	CA Birdathon field trip to Magee Marsh, 6 a.m.	14	Audubon afternoons 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. OYBC May field trip: Magee Marsh 9 a.m - 3 p.m. Spring migration along the urban Scioto 8 a.m.
15	Bird walk at Blendon Woods 7 a.m. Audubon afternoons 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	16		17		18	Tour of LEED Gold GIAC building 10 a.m. Wine & Warblers 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.	19		20		21	Dublin Kiwanis Riverway Park bird walk 8 a.m.
22	Birding at Clear Creek Metro Park, 9 a.m. Birds of the Glacier Ridge Honda Wetlands 4 p.m.	23	Nature Walk at New Albany Country Club 9 a.m.	24	CA May Program: Travels of an Ohio Naturalist 7 p.m. Birdathon Celebration 6 p.m. at the GIAC	25	Tour of LEED Gold GIAC building 10 a.m.	26		27		28	Audubon afternoons 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
29	Audubon afternoons 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Bird hike at Clear Creek Metro Park 3 p.m.	30		31									



Calendar
key

GIAC events are in plain text. For complete descriptions of any event or program, see page 2.

Columbus Audubon events are in bold. For complete descriptions of any event or program, see page 2.

JUNE 2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	NOTE: GIAC closed every Monday		1 Tour of LEED Gold GIAC building 10 a.m.	2	3	4 Service in the Preserves: Stages Pond SNP 7:45 a.m. Birding by kayak at Twin Lakes, 8:30 a.m.
5	6	7	8 Tour of LEED Gold GIAC building 10 a.m.	9	10	11 OYBC June trip: Birding by kayak, 8:30 a.m. Audubon afternoons 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
12 Birdfest 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Audubon afternoons 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	13	14	15 Tour of LEED Gold GIAC building 10 a.m.	16	17	18 International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD) and Mother's Day Event 9 a.m. - 12 noon
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Audubon afternoons 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Audubon Adventure Camp - Amazing Flyers - Session 1: June 20-24						
			Tour of LEED Gold GIAC building 10 a.m.			
26 Audubon afternoons 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Haus und Garten Tour 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.	27	28	29	30		
Audubon Adventure Camp - Eco-Friendly Kids - Session 2: June 27-July 1						



CA programs

Continued from page 2

Day to raise money for conservation) but have not? Well, now is your chance! Join the Red-eyed Vireos as we bird our way from Columbus to Magee Marsh. We'll car-pool from Worthington Mall. Contact Earl Harrison at harrison.304@osu.edu or (614-505-1123).

Dublin Kiwanis Riverway Park bird walk Saturday, May 21, 8 a.m.

Join us for a walk starting at Kiwanis Riverway Park to see migrating birds and learn about point counting with Birding for a Better Columbus. Contact Darlene Sillick at azuretrails@columbus.rr.com.

Birding at Clear Creek Metro Park Sunday, May 22, 9 a.m.

Clear Creek is one of Central Ohio's premier birding spots. It is possible to see and hear over 80 species of birds, including 20 species of warblers, in one outing. Contact Tom Sheley at (614) 578-9501.

Birds of the Glacier **Ridge Honda Wetlands**

Sunday, May 22, 4 p.m.

Come join us for a weekday evening walk along the boardwalk. We will meet at the main parking lot of the Honda Wetlands Education Area. Call Mike Flynn at 614-769-1681.

Nature Walk at New Albany Country Club Monday, May 23, 9 a.m.

Join Tom Sheley on a walk around one of Central Ohio's unique wildlife habitat proj-

ects. We will meet at the bag drop/cart stand in the parking area behind the Clubhouse. Contact Tom Sheley at (614) 578-9501.

CA May Program: Travels **of an Ohio Naturalist**

Tuesday, May 24, 7 p.m., social time, 7:30 p.m., presentation

The Earth is filled with tremendous natural beauty and wonder. Tom Hissong, Education Coordinator and naturalist at the Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm near Dayton, Ohio, has had the opportunity to travel to many exciting destinations around the globe. In this program Tom will share some of his favorite photographs and experiences from such destinations as Ohio, South Florida and the Everglades, the north woods of Michigan, the canyons and mesas of the southwestern United States, Australia, the Peruvian Amazon and Andes, Panama, Kenya, the High Arctic of Norway, and Mexico. Be sure to join us on this special trip of beauty and wonder!

Bird hike at Clear Creek Metro Park Sunday, May 29, 3 p.m.

Want to highlight your Memorial Day weekend by spending some quality time outdoors? A spectacular place to do that is the Clear Creek Metro Park. We will car-pool from the McDonald's on Rt. 33 at Carroll. Call Mike Flynn (614) 769-1681.

Service in the Preserves: **Stages Pond SNP**

Saturday, June 4, 7:45 a.m.

We most likely will see great blue herons

fly over Stages Pond to their rookery and if we're very lucky we may see some quail. That will be part of our compensation for replacing 400 feet of split rail fence and painting a bird blind or two. Meet in the parking lot inside the gate house at the Ohio Department Natural Resources Complex to travel in the ODNR van to the site. Please call Katryn Renard by Wednesday, June 1 at (614) 261-7171 to sign up.

Birding by kayak at Twin Lakes

Saturdays, June 4 and July 16, 8:30 a.m.

Join us for a full morning of birding by kayak! We will be paddling and birding at Twin Lakes in Powell, Ohio, at The Adaptive Adventure Sports Coalition (TAASC). The cost is \$20 per student/paddler. We will paddle for 2 to 2.5 hours. Please bring cash or a check payable to TAASC on the day of the event. Please RSVP by contacting Darlene Sillick at azuretrails@columbus.rr.com or 614-288-3696.

OYBC June trip: Birding by kayak

Saturday, June 11, 8:30 a.m.

Join the Central Ohio Chapter of Ohio Young Birders Club for a full morning of birding by kayak! We will be paddling and birding at Twin Lakes in Powell, Ohio, at The Adaptive Adventure Sports Coalition (TAASC). The cost is \$20 per student/paddler. Please bring cash or a check payable to TAASC on the day of the event. For more information, contact Darlene Sillick at azuretrails@columbus.rr.com.

GIAC activities

Continued from page 2

Session 9: August 15-19.

Upcoming special events

Birdfest: come celebrate all things bird and welcome the summer solstice

Sunday, June 12 from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD) and Mother's Day Event

Saturday, June 18 from 9 a.m. – 12 noon

GIAC Scouts and education dates

Saturday, May 7 from 9 a.m. – 12 noon

Conservation Cubs (open to Wolves, Bears and Webelos). Cost is \$10 per Scout. Earn your Wildlife Conservation Belt Loop and Pin all in one day at the GIAC!

Saturday, June 11 from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Outdoor Cubs (open to Tiger Cubs). Cost is \$8 per Scout. Come explore the

great outdoors on the Whittier Peninsula and you'll be well on your way to earning the Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award!

Saturday, June 11 from 12 noon – 3 p.m.

World Conservation Days (Webelos specific). Cost is \$9 per Scout. Come and get a jump-start on earning your Cub Scout World Conservation Award!

Saturday, May 21 from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. **Journey Between Earth and Sky** at the GIAC (Daisy). Cost is \$8 per Scout. Take a journey through the changes between Earth and Sky at GIAC, a hidden treasure in the heart of the city. You'll be inspired to explore the nature of change at your home or in your community when you leave!

Saturday, May 21 from 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **Explore the Many Wonders of Water at the GIAC** (Brownies). Cost is \$9 per Scout. Start your Wonders of Water journey at the GIAC by learning about

why water is so important, where we find it around center, and why we should conserve it. You'll be ready to spring into action upon returning home to your own community!

Sunday, May 22 from 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **Get Energized and Take Eco-Action at the GIAC (Junior)**. Cost is \$10 per Scout. Energize yourself for your Get Moving journey and investigate the world of energy. You'll be inspired to innovative change at home and in your community!

GIAC offers Birthday parties

It's a great time to get outside and have some fun! The GIAC offers all-inclusive birthday parties—from invitations and cake to activities and party favors.

Call Allison Roush at 543-5482 for more information or to book a party. Here are a

See GIAC activities, page 15

Grange Insurance Audubon Center

New art on display at the center



GIAC is excited to have two new exhibits to beautify our space: one by a local sculptor and one by a local photographer.



Michelle Stitzlein

Two sculptures from the “Moth Series” by Michelle Stitzlein are on display at GIAC.

Michelle began working on this series in 2003, inspired by “myriad varieties of beautiful, exotic moths in my own backyard.”

Stitzlein’s work turns cast-away junk into beautifully crafted sculptural pieces. Her pieces are joined together in the most creative way from old piano keys, tin cans, license plates and bicycle tires, among other things. The transformation of found objects into beautiful art propels the viewer to reassess that which is often overlooked.

Michelle said, “As an artist and as a person, I ask myself to look closer, lest I miss the one exquisite trait in something oftentimes regarded as distasteful, old, tired, unimpressive or just plain ugly so that I may see it again with fresh eyes.”

Michelle received a BFA in 1989 from the Columbus College of Art and Design

and later founded Art Grange Studios in Baltimore, Ohio with her husband Nathaniel Stitzlein, who is also an artist. At Art Grange they share their love of all art with the public by offering tours of the studios as well as art workshops for all ages. Check out more of their art and the story of their studio at www.artgrange.com.

Mike Maier

Mike Maier is a Central Ohio nature photographer. He especially enjoys capturing the natural artistry of birds. His primary goal is to showcase our resident birds along with the great diversity of species that pass through this area during spring and fall migrations. People are always surprised learn that most of his photos are taken within a 20 mile radius of his Westerville home.

He also photographs when he travels as evidenced by his stunning photos of Wood Ducks and Prothonotary Warblers from the Carolinas and Bald Eagles from Michigan and Minnesota.

In 2007, he formed Avian Expressions by Mike Maier to use his photography as a means of engaging people to appreciate, protect and preserve nature. Mike’s work has been displayed in numerous Ohio venues including birding conferences, art festivals and galleries.

Mike generously donates his time and photographs to help nature-related organi-



(Above) One of the pieces on display at the center.
(Right) Mike Maier.



zations in their educational, public relations and fund raising efforts. These organizations include Columbus Audubon, Ohio Ornithological Society, Black Swamp Bird Observatory and the Ohio Wildlife Center. Check out more photographs by Maier at <http://mike-maierphotos.zenfolio.com>.

Meet James Pack, new intern at GIAC

James Pack, a senior at The Graham School, has joined GIAC as an intern throughout this school year. Internships are an integral part of a student’s education at The Graham School. Students choose internship sites based on their individual interests and areas of study. James chose the GIAC because he loves nature and views conservation as an important practice in preserving the natural world.

Since he’s been with us he’s been impressed and encouraged by the number of younger students who come here to learn. While at the Center, James has assisted in our educational programming with these younger students and has helped with animal care as well. James greets our students with a warm smile and his enthusiasm for all things nature is evident in all he has done at the GIAC.

In his free time, James enjoys camping, hiking, researching and practicing primitive skills, taking part

in Native American culture and ceremonies, rock climbing and as he says “pretty much anything that will ensure that I get muddy and sleep in the woods!” His favorite activity is tracking because he feels it’s like trying to solve a very complex puzzle, from identifying the animal to figuring out when it was there, what it was doing, and where it was headed. “I love the mystery of it because essentially you are able to read the Earth like a book,” James says.

After high school James hopes to travel around, spend some time on reservations in the Southwest and Canada, and explore as many wild places left on the continent as possible. Eventually he hopes to work for a primitive survival school like the Tracker School in New Jersey. The GIAC education team has enjoyed having James as an intern this year and he will be missed when he leaves in late spring.

-By Allison Roush

GIAC Wish List

- Leaf Blower
- Split Firewood
- Chain Saw
- Leaf Rakes
- Garden Rakes
- Full Set of Silverware
- Crock Pot
- New 2” or larger binders
- Dry Erase Markers and Eraser

Grange Insurance Audubon Center

Jeff Chaddock, new GIAC Stewardship Board Member

In January 2011 the GIAC Stewardship Board welcomed new member, Jeff Chaddock. Jeff and his partner Mark Morrow hosted the first "Step Up-Step Out" program in June 2010 at their home in Miranova Place for residents of Miranova Place and Waterford Tower, their friends and family, and the GIAC Board and staff. As well as a history of supporting the GIAC, Jeff brings a variety of skills and talents to the Stewardship Board.

In 1988, Jeff joined Ameriprise Financial Services in a financial planning capacity and is currently a senior financial advisor with Ameriprise Financial Services. Jeff has been ranked nationally in the top one percent of 18,000 advisors for the past 15 years, with significant assets under his management. His dynamic speaking style and fresh marketing strategies have made him a favorite keynote speaker within the financial services industry. To date, he has spoken to more than 100 marketing groups across the US.

In response to numerous requests for presentations, Jeff formed his consulting firm in 1994, which he aptly named Achieving WOW. He became a published author with his book, *Achieving WOW*, now in its second edition. Jeff was named as one of the



Jeff Chaddock

country's top 1,000 financial advisors in 2010 by *Barron's* magazine.

Jeff holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications from Ohio University. Jeff enjoys traveling and working with charitable organizations such as the Columbus AIDS Task Force and Make-A-Wish Foundation.

He also serves on the board of directors at Ohio University. He resides in both Ohio and Florida.

When Jeff was asked to share what motivated him to join the GIAC Stewardship Board, he replied: "After two decades of focusing on higher education initiatives, I find myself becoming equally passionate on environmental education. The GIAC provides one of the most exciting 'back drops' for meeting the mission of environmental outreach to the region. I could not be more pleased to be involved with the GIAC Board, staff, and members."

Nancy Hartman joins GIAC team as the 'volunteer' coordinator

GIAC is excited to welcome Nancy Hartman to our team as the "volunteer" Volunteer Coordinator. Nancy brings a wealth of experience with her and we have put her right to work attracting more volunteers to the Center.

During the first part of Nancy's career she worked as a volunteer coordinator for Northwest Ohio Development Center. The second part of her career she worked in the training and development field for a variety of industries and organizations.

"I was really interested in working at the Audubon Center because of the values of conservation and preservation of the animal kingdom. Just the building itself speaks of the commitment to the environmental change that is taking place here," Hartman said.

Nancy has been able to work here through a program sponsored



Nancy Hartman

by the AARP Foundation. This program matches displaced experienced workers with a non-profit organization as part of their training program. This keeps the individual involved and in a work environment while they continue to look for full-time employment. This program also provides specialized training for the displaced employee to help them strengthen their job skills so that they may become gainfully employed faster. If you are interested in learning more about this program, please

contact www.aarpworksearch.org.

GIAC benefits from German Village event online ticket sales

Always the last Sunday in June, the German Village Haus und Garten Tour is an annual event filled with traditions and surprises, much like the neighborhood it showcases.

German Village will open its doors and garden gates for the 52nd Annual Haus und Garten Tour on Sunday, June 26 from 9:00 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Visitors are invited for this day-long event throughout Historic German Village, 233 acres on the National Register.

The German Village Haus und Garten Tour is a celebration of renowned designs, enchanting gardens, and award-winning restorations. Guests may meander through the open sites at their own pace, while stopping to enjoy Marketplatz, the signature shopping forum.

Support two organizations: You can help the Grange Insurance Audubon Center and the German Village Society when you purchase your German Village Haus und Garten Tour tickets online and enter our special discount code.

Three dollars from each ticket will be donated to the GIAC.

52nd Annual
German Village
Haus und Garten Tour

Here's how:

- Visit www.germanvillage.com.
- Click on the Calendar link to find details on the German Village Haus und Garten Tour.
- Click "Buy Tickets" to get to

Eventbrite, the GVS online ticket purchasing site.

- Enter **Audubon** in the "Partner Code" box during check out.
- A confirmation email will be sent to you and voilà! That's it!

Tickets went on sale April 1. This promotion is valid **ONLY** for tickets purchased in advance via the German Village Society website and will end at 4 p.m. Saturday, June 25.

The GIAC is pleased to continue our efforts of community collaborations. Efforts such as this are part of our "Step Up – Step Out" in which the GIAC partners with community groups to link people to the Center and create mutually beneficial programs.

Grange Insurance Audubon Center

Share Your Support – Let Others See

This time of year, as eloquently reflected in this issue's theme of "outdoor adventure," there are a lot of people visiting GIAC and Scioto Audubon Metro Park for their own outdoor adventures. There are also more events, wedding receptions, meetings, and gatherings as part of the Center's rental program. GIAC is busy throughout the whole year, but the six-month period from May 1 to October 31 is by far the busiest for special events.

Over 40,000 people have visited GIAC in 18 months. A common question we hear from Center visitors is, "who are your supporters?" One part of our answer is that the Center would not have been possible without the support of businesses, companies, and foundations. They are recognized accordingly throughout the Center as most would expect. What's interesting is that visitors also love to see the name of *individuals* who have helped make a difference. There are many naming rights and recognition options in the Center. In the upcoming months we will be finalizing the campaign contributors recognition wall (including significant individual gifts and pledges) with a new display in the hallway to the left of the reception desk and Nature Store.

You can display your support or recognize family, friends or special occasions

with gifts of \$100 and \$250. These options were part of the initial capital campaign and are still available to you.

Founders Wall

To the right of the entrance of the Bird Viewing/Library room is the Founders Wall (look for the display with the three large great egrets). For just \$100, an individual, couple, or family can have their name(s) displayed for years to come as one of our earliest supporters! You can also use this

gift to honor or recognize someone else. There are 12 columns displaying names of Founders Wall donors. The largest 8 columns are already full (thank you again to so many of you who supported us in this manner!), leaving just the four smallest ones. Another one is almost full and when these are filled, this option is complete. Contact us for more information or send your gift noted

"for Founders Wall" and share what you want posted (space is 15 characters per row, 3 row maximum).

Pavers

Almost every person who comes into GIAC walks past the GIAC Recognition Paver display which is at the front of the



GIAC Entry Court. At 56 rows x 22 bricks (or approximately 1232 bricks), this display will be sharing the names of

supporters or other recognition for years to come. The cost of a paver is \$250. Currently 137 pavers recognize donors, businesses, Audubon chapters and groups, families, loved ones, tributes in honor or in memory of someone special, wedding anniversaries, birthdays, and other messages. (For example, friends of Amy Stomieroski recognized Amy's 40th birthday with a paver last summer!)

In the spring, we will install the pavers donated during the winter. GIAC is also designing a display that lists which bricks are in which location (for easier reference) and will be sharing and recognizing some of them over time in the *Song Sparrow*. Those interested in a paver should contact GIAC staff at (614) 545-5475.



Thank you for Support

New Members

James R. Andrix
Paul D. Bingle
Black Swamp Bird Observatory
Kathryn Caldwell
Joyce Charron
Neillynn M. Crawford
Michael Dalton
L.J. Day
Barbara Durbin
Jessica Ann Faller
John and Kay Ferguson
Noah Fox
Barbara A. Gabalski
Sandra Ganz
Emerson and Carol D. Gilbert
Warren Grody
Nancy Hartman
DC Heiman
Dorothy L. Howard-Flynn
Catherine Hunziker

Judith Lynne
Mary B. Marsh
Ann Marie Micenmacher
Sara, Sam and Ben Morris
Julien and Sherri Morrisette
Roberta Novak
Maureen O'Malley
Cheryl Broomfield Onesky
John and Lee Anne Reat
Jeffrey M. Rosa
Jennifer Seeds
Barb Setterlin
Jeffrey L. Shaffer and Amy L. Serre
Karen Sharp
Eugene Shifrin
Samantha C. Skutnik
Mary Ann Spicer
Deborah Tong
Mark Tranovich
David C. Wible and Mary L. Cusick
Rita J. Ziegler

Louanne Zipfel

Donors

Cardinal Health Foundation, Inc.
The Columbus Foundation
Cynthia Cooper
John Davis and Dr. Vivian Witkind Davis
Michael B. Denne and Kathryn A. Denne
Ann Griffen and Gene Leys
J.F. (Rick) Kroner III and Debbie Kroner
Lynne Lawson and Charles Lawson, Jr.
J. Jeffrey McNealey
Sarah J. Milligan
Tom and Carrie Schepman
Joan Schoeniger
David B. Steiner and Nancy R. Steiner
Dr. and Mrs. Charles D. Stienecker
Mark Tranovich
Walter & Haverfield LLP
The Wilds

Celebrate migration at GIAC's 'Wine and Warblers' on May 18

Continued from page 1

GIAC Assistant Director and Director of Conservation, Doreen Whitley at approximately 6:45 p.m. Guests can observe the demonstration from the GIAC Boardwalk.

■ Participate in the Silent Auction and peruse a variety of special and unique items (many of them related to wine or warblers) at auction throughout the evening. There will also be a way to win other prizes for \$10 a selection.

■ Warbler Walk "Flights" will enable guests to sign up for a 20-25 minute walks to see and hear warblers in the areas surrounding the Center. The first "flight" begins at 5:30 p.m.; the last one leaves at 7:30 p.m. Walks will be led by experienced

Audubon birders.

■ Specialty-led walks will be available associated with sponsorships and support.

■ Author Kenn Kaufman, and his wife, Kimberly, will lead a special bird walk. Guests can pre-order Kenn's new book which came out in April, *The Kaufman Field Guide to Advanced Birding*.

Those who pre-order the book through the GIAC will be among the first to get his autograph.

Sponsor-a-Warbler: Individuals, groups and companies can support GIAC through Sponsor-a-Warbler packages.

Sponsorship package features vary depending on the level and amount of support and may include tickets, opportunities to sign up for specially-led walks, an

advance book signing and participation in bird-banding.

Sponsorship levels are represented by warbler names.

Entry-level Sponsor-a-Warbler packages are the **American Redstart level** and the highest sponsorship-level packages are the **Kirtland's Warbler** (the most rare warblers). Sponsors and their levels will be recognized in the event program and on displays.

For best recognition and inclusion on materials, confirmation of sponsorship is requested by Wednesday, May 11. Some Sponsor-a-Warbler opportunities will be available during the event.

For more information on sponsorships, contact Jeff Redfield at (614) 545-5475.

Annual Columbus Audubon potluck a real crowd pleaser

Continued from page 1

year ago.

Kudos to CA members Gerry Brevoort, Darlene Sillick, Susan Setterlin, and Tim Daniel for contributions as advisors, leaders, and mentors providing opportunities to allow these outstanding young people to blossom. Gerry Brevoort presented Certificates of Appreciation to OYBC students Nick Baltutis, Ada Cleary, Daniel Hauck, Clare Jusdanis, Georgia Lockwood, Emily LeMaster, Sarah Seeley, Jacob Stinnett, Aaron Tayal, and Doug Whitman.

Tom Stalf, senior vice-president of operations at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium ended the evening with a bang or well a couple of tweets,

growls and barks of the animal ambassadors he brought along with him. Stalf educated us on the natural history of each species and conservation efforts at the zoo and in their native habitat.

We marveled at the stealth of the Barn Owl and a Chilean Flamingo strutted for the crowd. An African Penguin eyed us with curiosity. Everyone got a close encounter with the showy Sulfur-crested Cockatoo. The wide-eyed Red-ruffed Lemur was a first sighting for many.

Barbara Revard modeled a fashionable sling pouch complete with a young Grey Kangaroo. A young Cheetah and its companion dog stole the show. The evening drew to a



By Tom Sheley

(Above) Darlene Sillick and Fred Steck admire a baby wallaby held by Barbara Revard of the Columbus Zoo. (Left) Julie Davis, CA board president with the Chilean Flamingo.

close and we took with us a greater understanding of our natural world and the role of our zoo in conservation, and a

greater appreciation for those who have supported and continue to support our mission.

-Tom Sheley

GIAC offers specially themed Birthday parties

Continued from page 11

few ideas to inspire your next special birthday gathering:

Happy Bird-Day! Come and learn about birds from their special beaks and feet to the ways they communicate, then grab some binoculars to explore the exciting world of bird-watching.

Nature Explorers. Explore nature on the Whittier Peninsula in any season just

minutes from the heart of downtown Columbus! Investigate what makes up nature, where can you find it, how do you observe it and how does it change throughout the year.

Flutterby Butterfly (seasonal). You'll go through many changes as you grow, but come learn about all the changes a butterfly goes through before it gets its wings!

Operation Conservation. Think you have to be all grown up to make a differ-

ence in the world? No way! Join us on Operation Conservation! Come learn about conservation and how to live more lightly on our earth. We'll explore soil, water, air and wildlife and learn about ways to conserve it so we can all enjoy the world for years to come. You'll be a certified conservation hero when you leave.

For more Birthday party descriptions, go to <http://grange.audubon.org>.

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO

Columbus Audubon/GIAC
505 W. Whittier St.
Columbus, OH 43215
DBA - National Audubon Society

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
COLUMBUS, OHIO
PERMIT 5146

Columbus Audubon/Grange Insurance Audubon Center joint membership

Apply now for joint membership in Columbus Audubon (CA) and the Grange Insurance Audubon Center (GIAC). We offer these membership levels:

Basic Individual \$30. Includes membership in GIAC and CA, The Song Sparrow newsletter, subscription to Audubon magazine, and many other benefits.

Basic Family \$45. Includes the benefits above plus discounts at the GIAC Nature Store and on GIAC programs for your entire family.

Chickadee \$100. Includes all standard membership bene-

fits plus enrolls you as a Founding Member of GIAC plus an Audubon coffee mug.

Great Blue Heron \$250. Includes all of the above plus your choice of an Audubon cap or tote bag.

Bald Eagle \$500. Includes all of the above plus a copy of the world-famous Guide to North American Birds by David Sibley.

Great Egret \$1000. Includes all of the above plus a personalized birding day in the Columbus area with a guide from Columbus Audubon.

Joint membership benefits are (all levels):

- * Membership in the national Audubon society
- * Subscription to Audubon magazine
- * 10% discount at the GIAC nature store
- * Discount on GIAC program fees
- * Free CA field trips and programs throughout the year
- * Volunteer opportunities
- * Invitations to special events at GIAC
- * Building rental opportunities at GIAC
- * Bi-monthly Song Sparrow newsletter, a joint publication of Columbus Audubon and the Grange Insurance Audubon Center (electronic delivery only for basic membership)
- * An invitation to attend the CA annual meeting
- * Discounts at partnering affiliates
- * Voice in CA/GIAC conservation initiatives

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Method of payment

Check the box to receive the
Song Sparrow electronically

☐

Check (made payable to the Grange Insurance Audubon Center)

Master Card

Visa

Discover

Card expiration: _____

Name as it appears on card _____

Please return form to: Kristen Clark,
Grange Insurance Audubon Center
505 W. Whittier Street, Columbus 43215

Or to: Columbus Audubon Membership Chair,
P.O. Box 141350, Columbus, Oh 43214
Chapter code S57