

## GIAC Audubon Adventure Camp

Summer is a time for children to relax, learn, explore, and enjoy the great outdoors. The Grange Insurance Audubon Center strives to make learning come to life in a green, urban oasis for kids from all over the central Ohio area through our Audubon Adventure Camp.

Elijah Thomas is a freshman in high school and has been participating in our programs for several years. Here is what he had to say about his camp experience:

*"I love birds and they are very important in my life. Adventure Camp gave me the opportunity to learn more about birds and migration in Ohio in the Frequent Flyers camp program. I will probably devote my life to the study of birds. The wonderful thing is that I got to explore a new skill, tracking, in the Animal Trackers Program."*

*The Grange Insurance Audubon Center gives kids like me the skills and knowledge to look at the world around us and appreciate all of its creatures. I am thankful I got to go to camp and hope lots of other kids can choose what interests them and attend a future Audubon Adventure Camp program."*



*I volunteer here all year and people have a lot of questions about nature and the birds at the Center. It is good to know that there are camp counselors and conservationists who can teach us new things about ecology and keeping our world beautiful while protecting endangered species."*

*My camp experience was an outdoor program that let me explore the wonders and everyday life of our creatures and birds in Columbus Ohio."*

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*A joint newsletter of the  
Grange Insurance Audubon Center  
and Columbus Audubon*

This year's Audubon Adventure Camp will offer nine different topics for campers going into first through fifth grades. New this year is Adventure Club for sixth through eighth grade middle school students. Club members will work on specific conservation projects at the Center in the morning, participating as citizen scientists. The afternoon will be spent mentoring younger campers while enjoying the fun of camp. Adventure Club members will learn planning and leadership skills and have an opportunity to work on real conservation projects while making new friends and having a blast! This program requires a two week commitment.

To learn more about Audubon Adventure Camp visit the website at [www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org/NatureEducation.html](http://www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org/NatureEducation.html) or see the list on page 3. Limited camp scholarships are available through the John Wilson Memorial Education Fund and the Harvey C. Lisle Campership Fund. Campership applications can be found on the website above. Campers must receive free or reduced lunch to be eligible for scholarships. Register now as space is filling quickly. If you have questions, please call Amy Boyd at 614-545-5486 or email [aboyd@audubon.org](mailto:aboyd@audubon.org).

# Columbus Audubon Monthly Programs

## May Program – The Wonderful World of Warblers

Tuesday, May 22 - 7:30 pm

Grange Insurance Audubon Center multi-purpose room

Wood warblers are some of the most sought after, intriguing birds of North America. These small, energetic birds with their vibrant colors and patterns, endearing behavior, and spectacular migrations fascinate birders and casual observers alike. Where do warblers originate? Why do they migrate such great distances? Where and how do we find them? Tom shares his fascination with wood warblers as he explores their origins, destinations, and diversity of niches. Ohio, with its diversity of habitats, happens to be one of the best locations in the United States to seek out both migrating and resident warblers. Tom will share some of his favorite hotspots to view and photograph warblers. We will wind up the program with a fun and informative photographic birder's quiz (field and ID guides allowed!). Tom is well-known to CA members and birders as the owner of Wild Birds Unlimited on Riverside Drive and a long-time Columbus Audubon trustee.



## Special May Program – The Natural Splendor of Panamá

Tuesday, May 15 - 7:30 p.m.

Grange Insurance Audubon Center multi-purpose room

Panamá is blessed with incredible natural beauty: over 975 bird species, hundreds of mammals, reptiles and amphibians, and a staggering 10,000 plants species.

Carlos Bethancourt, head guide at the Canopy Tower Lodge, will take us on a photographic journey across central Panamá that includes vivid images of toucans, hummingbirds, mouse opossums, and tongue-wielding orange nectar bats. Carlos was raised in the rural village of Huile, near the Canal Zone. He studied natural resources and ornithology at Mt. Hood Community College in Oregon and became a guide in 2000. He has attended numerous birding conferences in the US and Great Britain, where he has led tours, workshops, and presented programs on Panama birds.



Jim Beckman, founder of the birding tour company *Cheepers!*, will start the evening with amusing anecdotes from a 1998 birding trip to western Jamaica. As newbie international birders, Jim and wife Cindy experienced many adventures (both humorous and a little scary) in this Caribbean paradise. Cindy and Jim have birded in 15 countries on five continents since 1995 and have established contacts with expert guides in many of the world's best birding locations. Both Jim and Cindy are members of the board of directors of the Dayton Audubon Society.

## From the GIAC Board Chair & Center Director

As we are writing this, it is a beautiful spring day at the end of March. The weather has been unseasonably warm through the whole month. The *Columbus Dispatch* carried an article this morning attributing the record setting high temperatures to climate change. In the short term, we can't help but wonder what this bodes for our summer. It will be interesting to note as we sit down to read this summer issue of the *Song Sparrow*.

Climate change, habitat loss, threats to biodiversity, attacks on environmental legal protections, and a narrow base of support are problems Audubon and other environmental organizations face and address every day. In the long term, we can't help but wonder what kind of world our children will inherit and the price they will pay for our actions today.

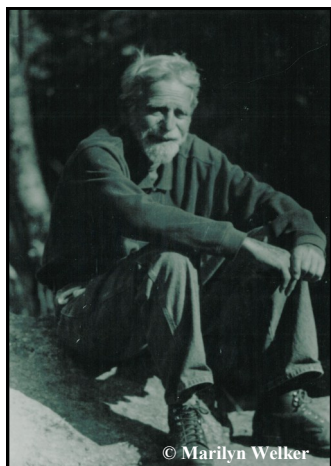
But we can make a difference. Audubon is about action and community engagement, with birds as our focus. The Grange Insurance Audubon Center is your local resource and connection to birds, conservation, and conservation action. The Center has something for everyone and for all ages, from educational programs to volunteer conservation projects. Conservation leaders of the future are attending Center programs every day. They are our hope for tomorrow.

We invite you to venture into the Scioto Audubon Metro Park to visit the Grange Insurance Audubon Center. The Center is here for YOU with no admission fee and free Audubon Afternoon programs every Saturday and Sunday. While you're here, you can learn about how to make a difference.

We're looking forward to your visit! **Greg Cunningham, Stewardship Board Chair** **Christie Vargo, Center Director**

# Outdoor Adventure

## Harvey C. Lisle camper scholarship program



Harvey Lisle lived his life as an avid naturalist, keeping a life list of birds. He was a beekeeper, a soil chemist, and grower of biodynamic fruit. He was a member of the Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association, the Anthroposophical Society, Nature Conservancy, and Audubon, along with many other organizations. He frequently lectured on soils and dowsing and authored the book *The Enlivened Rock Powders*. After his retirement from the post office in Norwalk he enjoyed international travel, visiting Japan, Peru, Egypt, Belize, Australia, and the Azores. Even after he passed in August 2009, his dedication to nature and Audubon continued.

One of his three daughters, Marilyn Welker, coordinated a significant gift from his estate to Grange Insurance Audubon Center, fulfilling one of his last wishes. To honor his gift, GIAC has named its camper scholarship program after him.

Each time GIAC receives a gift or donation directed to camper scholarships, regardless of the amount, GIAC will track and tally the gift. Each time the amount of three camper scholarships (\$600) is received, the Harvey C. Lisle Campership Fund will award another

(fourth) campership to a child in need who otherwise could not afford a week of camp. This summer's nine themed weeks of Audubon Adventure Camp are open for camperships.

GIAC will accept directed donations to the Harvey C. Lisle Campership Fund any time, and throughout the year there will be additional opportunities. The next such opportunity is at the Wine and Warbler silent auction where guests can 'bid' any amount and 'win' that amount applied to Lisle Camperships. For questions about this program, please contact Jeff Redfield or Amy Boyd at 614-545-5475.

### Audubon Adventure Camp 2012

Go to [www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org/NatureEducation.html](http://www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org/NatureEducation.html) for information and registration.

You can also call Amy or Allison at 614-545-5475 or email Amy at [aboyd@audubon.org](mailto:aboyd@audubon.org).

Session 1	June 18 – 22	Habitat Detectives
Session 2	June 25 – 29	Winged Wonders
Session 3	July 5 – 6	Wonders of Water
Session 4	July 9 – 13	Audubon Artists
Session 5	July 16 – 20	Operation Conservation
Session 6	July 23 – 27	Nature Invaders
Session 7	July 30 – Aug 3	What's Bugging You?
Session 8	Aug 6 – 10	In Touch with Nature
Session 9	Aug 13 – 17	Conservation Celebration

### Wildlife adventure outside my door

I walk quietly with binoculars in hand so I won't scare anything. As I round the corner, I see a flash of red on the top of my back fence below the hackberry tree. I stop so close that I don't need binoculars. I see a male cardinal bringing a female a special seed. She looks at him disapprovingly. He tries to reach her, but she moves away down the fence. He flies off, and I see him on the ground, shuffling through leaves until he finds the perfect seed. He flies back to her. He offers her the seed, and she moves away – but not very far. He moves closer. She stays. He gets beside her and gently reaches out, extending the seed in his mouth. As she gingerly takes the seed, it looks like they are kissing! She now trusts him to feed her when she will sit on their nest eggs.



**Toni Stahl**

Subscribe to *Nature Scoop* at [www.backyardhabitat.info](http://www.backyardhabitat.info) or email [marc-a@columbus.rr.com](mailto:marc-a@columbus.rr.com) with questions. Let's work together to help birds.







## Green Darner Dragonflies

Green darners (*Anax junius*) are most people's idea of a dragonfly. They are part of the darner family (*Aeschnidae*), a widespread family of big dragonflies. Big (up to 5 inches long), brightly colored, and exceedingly fast, darners are among the master aerialists of the insect world. They have to be, to survive in a world of hungry birds mostly much larger than themselves. Incredibly, they've done so by updating a very primitive flight system that started evolving before there were dinosaurs or birds. Their long wings cannot be folded up or tucked in, so for adult dragonflies, it's fly or die.

Green darners are the biggest darner in North America and also the most widespread. They have a green thorax and a blue (male) or brownish (female) abdomen. Like most darners, they're aerial for most of the daylight hours, continually patrolling for food and mates.

They can hover and even back up a bit, but they are most comfortable in fast forward flight, usually at least 3 feet high over land or water, often higher. They can eat any insect smaller than themselves, including smaller dragonflies. They grab their prey in flight with a basket-shaped array of legs and usually eat it while flying. The only times they stop flying are for sleep (when they grasp a stem and hang down) or for parts of mating and egg-laying. They're like the swifts of the insect world.



Male green darners are aggressively territorial, patrolling a patch of pond and physically ramming any intruders. If a receptive female should enter the territory, the male performs a looping aerial display. If she doesn't leave, he'll seize her behind the head with his abdomen while flying. She will then reach forward under him with her abdomen to receive sperm from a sac just behind his thorax. This leads to a bizarre-looking circle position called the 'wheel'; the pair often alight on vegetation while in the wheel. After 10-20 minutes, the female will uncurl her abdomen, while the male drags her aloft. They will search, as an attached pair, for grass and herb stalks sticking out of a puddle or shallow pool. Alighting on the stalk, the male will back the female down the stem so

that she can use her abdomen and ovipositor to insert an egg into the stem below the waterline. Watch this behavior here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=QmXwg0OpNHE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QmXwg0OpNHE). After multiple ovipositions, the pair release and the female flies off.

The egg is protected in the stem until hatching, whereupon the tiny nymph crawls out into the water. They are very different from the aerial adults, being shorter, brown/green-camouflaged, and gilled for survival in the water. They're ambush hunters, grabbing small worms, insects, tadpoles, and even tiny fish. They have an extensible, hooked lower 'lip' that they use to strike at potential prey with lightning speed. Here's an online video of the behavior: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9Q8gUTmyd8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9Q8gUTmyd8).

As it grows, the dragon fly nymph starts to take on more adult characteristics, such as long abdomen and wing buds. After it reaches a few inches, some combination of size and environment trigger the nymph to crawl up out of the water and eclose, in which it bursts through its old skin and re-forms itself as an adult dragonfly. It pumps itself into its adult shape, hardens for an hour or so, and then can weakly fly away. The process is elegantly summarized in this video: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=CyIF7eX6qmo&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CyIF7eX6qmo&feature=related).

Green darners have another secret: some of them migrate. Large flocks have been seen along mountain ridges and shorelines in both autumn and spring. Like monarch butterflies, this migration is a multi-generational affair: the dragonflies that journey south will not be the ones that come back north next spring. Unlike monarchs, though, green darners don't seem to gravitate to a specific area. We know little about the mechanisms or specifics about darner migration, so this is an area where some wow facts will likely come out over the next few years.

What about darners in central Ohio? They return here in April or May, depending on how warm weather is during the spring. This year, they've been here since early April. They forage over almost any lake or pond or marsh, so large wetlands are usually a good place to search for them. Pickerington Ponds and the Darby Creek wetlands are good places for them, as are some of the park ponds like Thoreau Lake at Blendon or Darby Bend Lakes at Prairie Oaks. Just look for the blue-green blurs circling high over the water. Come September, they'll make their exit, so enjoy them now.

**Rob Thorn**

# Grange Insurance Audubon Center

## Migrate to “Wine and Warblers” on May 9!

### Special Opportunity to be a part of “Top Flight”



Join local wine expert Roger Gentile for an extraordinary experience at Wine and Warblers

Wine and Warblers guests who register at the Top Flight level (\$250 per ticket) will have a very special experience: a warbler walk led by one of the featured authors and an exclusive wine event with local expert Roger Gentile.

Roger is currently president of Gentile's The Wine Sellers and has extensive expertise in wine and wine education. For 30 years, he headed the wine program at OSU's Creative Activities Program; he was guest lecturer of *Wine and Western Culture* classes at OSU for almost a generation and continues today with a series of wine tastings and classes conducted through his stores and with professional wine tasting organizations. Roger estimates that he has probably taught wine classes to well over 40,000 students, with many of them going on to become winemakers, winery owners, and wine sales professionals. In 2007, he received the John Daniels Award for wine education, only the second person in America to ever receive that accolade.

He has written two books, *The Basics of Wine*, used in his OSU classes, and *Discovering Ohio Wine*. Along the way, he was awarded an Emmy as “The Wizard of Wine” for the nationally syndicated *PM Magazine*. He has published a number of travel and wine articles for regional newspapers, *Taste Magazine*, *Key Magazine*, and the Les Amis du Vin group. Presently, he is a weekly wine columnist for the Dispatch Printing Company.

Roger has tasted wines from 16 different decades and conducted more than 2,000 wine tastings. He recently began a wine country hosting program, taking small groups of wine enthusiasts to the world's esteemed wine regions. Roger still takes joy in the next sip and thinks wine should be fun. Top Flight participants will be treated to the sensual approach, unmitigated enthusiasm, and sometimes humorous observations of a man who has no intention of ever retiring from his career.

*“I've been to a lot of wine tastings and have listened to several sommeliers pontificate their knowledge but none compared to Roger. He's not only learned and educational but makes wine fun throughout the process, as only he can describe the nuances of a wine with such excitement and passion that you want to have a love affair with it on the spot.”* --Jack Ruscilli



## Wine and Warblers features renowned wife and husband team Julie Zickefoose and Bill Thompson III

Wine and Warblers guests who register at the Cerulean level (\$100) or higher are in for an amazing experience with two very special and accomplished guests: the renowned Julie Zickefoose and Bill Thompson III. This Cerulean experience with Julie and Bill includes a limited-access book signing time, author-led warbler walk, and mingling.



Accomplished nature writer and artist Julie will be signing copies of her recently published, critically acclaimed book *The Bluebird Effect: Uncommon Bonds with Common Birds*. **Featured as an Oprah Book of the Week**, <http://www.oprah.com/blogs/Book-of-the-Week-The-Bluebird-Effect>, *The Bluebird Effect* offers the reader a chance to share Julie's experiences with some of the birds that have been in her care. Along with amazing stories of the bonds between rehabilitator and bird, the book is beautifully illustrated with 320 of the author's color paintings and illustrations.

BT3, as Bill is known to friends, is the editor of *Bird Watcher's Digest*, and is also accomplished author, avid birder, and guitar player. Bill specializes in books about bird identification, a notable example of which is the *The Young Birder's Guide to Birds of North America* (Peterson Field Guides) just released on April 24, 2012. Written to engage kids to go outside and watch birds, this lively guide presents useful and fun information for the young reader.

Please join Julie and Bill at the special events at Wine and Warblers. You'll be glad you took advantage of the opportunity to spend some time with these wonderful friends of the birding community.

# Grange Insurance Audubon Center

## What's happening at GIAC?

### Looking for a fun way to spend your spring and summer?

Come and join our volunteers at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center. Volunteers enjoy greeting visitors, working in the gift shop, working to restore the habitat, helping with bird conservation projects, working special events and other projects that might be of interest. Scheduling is flexible: some people volunteer every week, others once a month, and many in between. Volunteer application can be found online ([http://grange.audubon.org/PDF/Volunteer\\_Application.pdf](http://grange.audubon.org/PDF/Volunteer_Application.pdf)) or stop in the Center and pick one up. Fill out the application and return to Nancy Hartman, volunteer coordinator. All volunteers must pass a background check before they are eligible to volunteer. Volunteer orientation and training will be held at the Center on Saturday, May 5 or June 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.



### New Exceptional Volunteer Award

presented to Johann Cozart at GIAC annual volunteer recognition event

Grange Insurance Audubon Center volunteers gathered on March 6 for a delightful dinner catered by Weiland's. Volunteers learned about the National Audubon Society strategic plan from Center director, Christie Vargo, and how it relates to the work being done at the center.

Each volunteer was awarded a GIAC pin and those volunteers that have given over 100 hours received a rose. The highlight of the evening was the establishment of the Johann Cozart Award for Exceptional Volunteerism at GIAC. Johann exemplifies the following characteristics that make volunteers stand apart from others:

- **Connection:** engaging visitors and students; connecting with their common interests and conservation goals
- **Flexibility:** no job is too small or undesirable; no job is too large or overwhelming
- **Positivity:** upbeat attitude, active, and geared to actively and constructively solve problems in cooperation with staff
- **Friendliness:** smiles and greetings for all staff and visitors alike
- **Generosity:** not monetarily, but giving of their time and talents, sharing their life experience for the good
- **Trustworthiness:** fulfilling assigned responsibilities, possessing integrity to act according to the values, beliefs and principles held by Audubon

"Johann, there is nothing as strong as the heart of a volunteer and there is no one as strong as Johann," says Heather Stark, former Center director. "Johann has been there with us through thick and thin. When we were moving to the Center, Johann came and helped us pack and move. A job no one wants to help with and Johann was there smiling through the whole thing. Trying to get the Center up and operating was a monumental task and I personally could not have done it without Johann. She not only helped with literally *everything* but she made my life bearable during that time." Congratulations to Johann for an award well deserved.



### International Migratory Bird Day celebration

A Mother's Day songbird spectacular: Saturday, May 12 from 9:00 a.m. to noon

Join GIAC for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Mother's Day & IMBD celebration. Bring mom along with the entire family to experience a unique Mother's Day. A continental breakfast will be provided in the morning with family activities and hikes. Learn about the winged wonders of spring migration and the threats posed to our spring indicator species, the American Redstart, and other migratory birds in the Scioto-Greenlawn IBA (Important Birding Area). Learn how we can all make a difference to protect the habitats they will need to help them survive on their long journey.

We'll also be hosting our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Redstart Rewards art contest. Children entries are free and adult entries (18+) are \$3. Prizes will be awarded during the IMBD Celebration and winners will be notified via phone if they are not present. For information visit [www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org](http://www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org).



# Grange Insurance Audubon Center

## GIAC exhibits *Mr. Linnaeus' Larks & Owls*

In time with the wildflowers blooming outside is a very interesting piece of art by Brandon Antczak (United States, b. 1985) exhibit at GIAC.

Brandon earned his Bachelors of Fine Art from the Columbus College of Art & Design in 2007. It was here he combined components of collage and printmaking with modern day digital photography and photo mechanics, the process of transferring photographic media to another materials surface. His work frequents plant and animal life, an influence sealed early on when his parents owned a Virginian house that bordered woods and a small stream. His large-scale, childhood-influenced prints are unconventional in that they embrace technical imperfections as integral part of the work.



The piece exhibited is titled *Mr. Linnaeus' Larks & Owls* and refers to Swedish taxonomist Carl Linnaeus' (1707 – 1778) flower clock. The flower clock is a planting concept Linnaeus published in 1751 that would take advantage of certain plants that characteristically open and close their blooms at certain times to predict the time of day. The idea remains purely theoretical in that one such garden was never planted successfully. In celebration of this idea, Brandon compiled images for each specific plant species from herbariums around the world. Using water as a solvent he transferred the ink from each plants' image onto paper using a printing press. The swelling of the paper combined with the pressure from the press, caused creases to form in the paper, a physical attribute reminiscent of plant roots. Brandon estimates for this one image's creation it passed through the printing press over 132 times. The artwork will be on display through June 2012.

### GIAC Upcoming Events

*Saturday, May 5, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.*

**GIAC volunteer training/orientation**

*Saturday, May 12, 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon*

**International Migratory Bird Day & Mother's Day**

*Saturday, June 2, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.*

**GIAC volunteer training/orientation**

*Saturday, June 16, 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon*

**Birdfest**

*June 18-25 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.*

**Audubon Adventure Camp: Habitat Detectives**

*June 25-29 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.*

**Audubon Adventure Camp: Winged Wonders**

*Every Saturday and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.*

**Audubon Afternoons**

Audubon Afternoons are fun weekend activities for kids and families to enjoy. Take hikes with our naturalists or volunteers to learn about the many habitats that surround the Grange Insurance Audubon Center and the wildlife that lives here. Learn how to identify birds or try to catch dragonflies. Maybe even meet some of our animal ambassadors and hold a turtle or a frog.



### May/June GIAC education events for Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts

*Saturday, May 5, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon*

**Conservation Cubs (Tigers - Webelos), \$10/scout**

*Saturday, May 5, 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.*

**World Conservation Days (Wolf specific), \$9/scout**

*Sunday, May 6, 12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m.*

**Outdoor Cubs (Tigers), \$8/scout**

*Saturday, May 19, 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.*

**Explore the Many Wonders of Water (Brownies), \$9/scout**

*Saturday, May 19, 12:30 pm. – 3:30 p.m.*

**Get Energized and Take Eco-Action (Junior), \$10/scout**

*Sunday, May 20, 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.*

**Journey between Earth and Sky (Daisy), \$8/scout**

*Friday, June 22, 7:00 p.m. – Sat., June 23, 10:00 a.m.*

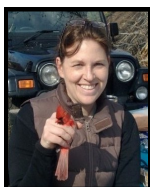
**Girl Scout Overnight, \$30/scout**

# Grange Insurance Audubon Center

## GIAC Staff and Board Updates

**Amy Boyd** has been promoted from program coordinator to director of education and conservation. In her new role she will direct the conservation program while continuing her role as director of the education program.

**Patty Hecht** has been promoted from part-time nature store manager to full time facility and nature store manager. Her new duties will include management of the facility maintenance and repair contracts and support to the rentals program.



GIAC is pleased to welcome **Anne Balogh** as conservation manager. Anne started in her new role on March 30 and comes with a wealth of experience in the field. She has a bachelor's degree in environmental science, a master's degree in biology and additional graduate work in environmental education. Recently she worked as an IBA project manager for Audubon in Pennsylvania. There she successfully trained and supervised interns, ran a bird banding station, removed invasive species, designed and completed a marsh bird survey for the park, monitored piping plover activity and oversaw volunteer recognition. She also worked for three seasons as an avian lab technician for the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center. In this role she supported the Neighborhood Nestwatch program, which is a citizen science program in rural, urban and suburban communities, requiring significant private landowner participation.

## New GIAC board members

Please join Grange Insurance Audubon Center in welcoming three new members to the Stewardship Board. Some of you might remember **Lori Overmyer**, vice president of Goettler Associates, who served as fundraising counsel to Audubon Ohio through the capital campaign to build the Center. Lori brings skills in fundraising and organizational development and will serve as chair of the fund development committee. **Steven Puckett** was with the Ohio Department of Education for 30 years and will share his expertise in finance, operations, and risk management. **Leslie Strader** is with the City of Columbus in the Mayor's Office of Environmental Stewardship. In addition to her city connection and her expertise in environmental stewardship and sustainability, Leslie adds the perspective of a young professional to the Stewardship Board. Welcome Lori, Steve, and Leslie! We are excited to add their voices, skills, and expertise to GIAC.

## Planned Giving



Have you thought about including the Grange Insurance Audubon Center in your estate plans? There are many ways to do so from simply designating a specific dollar amount or residual in your will to the more complex establishment of a charitable remainder trust or charitable gift annuity.

If the Grange Insurance Audubon Center and/or the National Audubon Society are already in your estate plans, thank you! Please let us know and become a member of the GIAC Legacy Society as well as the NAS Grinnell Legacy Society!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Best way to contact you \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ I have included Audubon in my estate plans  
    ☐ Grange Insurance Audubon Center  
    ☐ National Audubon Society
- ☐ I am interested in learning more about how to include Audubon in my estate planning. Please contact me.

Return to: 505 W. Whittier St Columbus OH 43215 Attn: Jeff Redfield

## Support Audubon by shopping locally

Stop at The Bird House, our own nature store and take a piece of GIAC home with you. The nature store carries hundreds of nature related items. Choose from a variety of bird feeders and houses, children's educational toys and games, nature gifts, and crafts. Field guides, birding, ecology, and Ohio related books are only a few of the topics carried in the store. We also carry products that are recycled and repurposed, along with fair trade jewelry, bamboo socks, and compostable paper products. All store proceeds help to support GIAC's programs and to help us preserve the sanctuary.




The nature store is open for our spring/summer hours: Tuesday through Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*Remember that a Grange Insurance Audubon membership entitles you to a 10% discount in our nature store along with membership in Columbus Audubon, a 12 month membership to National Audubon, a subscription to the bi-monthly Song Sparrow newsletter, discounted fees on workshops and classes, volunteer opportunities, and building rental opportunities at GIAC. Stop in and see us soon!*



# May 2012






Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <b>6</b> Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	<b>7</b> Note: GIAC is closed EVERY Monday	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Tour of LEED Gold GIAC building to a.m.	<b>3</b> 	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Warblers at Hoover & Birding at Blendon 8:00 a.m. GIAC Volunteer training 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
<b>13</b> Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Columbus Audubon Special Program 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.	<b>16</b> Tour of LEED Gold GIAC building to a.m.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Whetstone Park of Roses Bird Walk 7:30 a.m.	<b>12</b> International Migratory Bird Day & Mother's Day 9 a.m. - Noon Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
<b>20</b> Birding at Green Lawn 1 p.m. Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	<b>21</b> Walk at New Albany Country Club 9 a.m.	<b>22</b> Columbus Audubon Monthly Program 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.	<b>23</b> Tour of LEED Gold GIAC building to a.m.	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>19</b> Botany & Birding at Dawes 7:30 a.m. Migration on Scioto IBA 8 a.m. Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
<b>27</b> Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Tour of LEED Gold GIAC building to a.m.	<b>31</b>		<b>26</b> Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

**Calendar Key**

GIAC events are in plain black text. For complete descriptions of any event or program, see pages 5-7.

Columbus Audubon events are in bold green text. For complete descriptions of any event or program, see pages 11-12.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	Note: GIAC is closed EVERY Monday			<b>1</b>		<b>2</b> Birding at Green Lawn 8:30 a.m. GIAC Volunteer training 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
<b>3</b> Nature Photography at Inniswood 3:00 p.m. Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Tour of LEED Gold GIAC building 10 a.m.	<b>7</b> An introduction to eBird Refreshments 6:30 p.m. Program 7:00 p.m. <b>Must RSVP to:</b> aboyd@audubon.org	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Birds of Clear Creek Metro Park 8:00 a.m.
<b>10</b> Calamus Swamp Work Trip 10 a.m. Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Tour of LEED Gold GIAC building 10 a.m.	<b>14</b> 	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Birding by kayak 8 a.m. Birdfest at GIAC 9 a.m. - Noon Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
<b>17</b> Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	<b>18</b> Audubon Adventure Camp: Habitat Detec- tives ALL WEEK	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Tour of LEED Gold GIAC building 10 a.m.	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Avid Birders 5:30 am Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
<b>24</b> Audubon Afternoons at GIAC 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	<b>25</b> Audubon Adventure Camp: Winged Wonders ALL WEEK	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 

GIAC events are in italic black text. For complete descriptions of any event or program, see pages 5-7.

## Calendar Key

**Columbus Audubon events are in bold green text. For complete descriptions of any event or program, see pages 11-12.**

# Columbus Audubon

## Birdathon 2012 - Ready, Set, Bird!

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. National Audubon sponsors this birding competition every year, and Columbus Audubon is just one of many participating local chapters across the United States.

Our teams are already hard at work planning their trips and recruiting sponsors. Your support is what makes this an exciting and fun event every year for our birding teams. If you would like to become a sponsor, simply pick one of the teams, fill out the sponsorship form below and send it in.

Or, you can sponsor a team and fulfill your pledge with Pay Pal on the CA website. The proceeds from the BAT this year will go to John Wilson Memorial Education Fund, which provides Scholarships for environmental education programs at Columbus Audubon, Grange Insurance Audubon Center, and other locations.



### *Birdathon Teams for 2012*

#### **Candles of the Swamp (82)**

Brenda Rushka  
Donna Siple  
Lynn Wearsch

#### **Deck Birds (1)**

Cheri Brown  
Pat Barron  
Bev May

Pete Precario

#### **Early Birders (104)**

Ohio Young Birders Club  
Gerry Brevoort  
Tim Daniel  
Sheila Fagan  
Susan Setterlin  
Darlene Sillick

#### **Low Carbon Footprinters (60)**

Linda Benner  
Joanne Dole  
Dave & Roz Horn  
Katryn & Bruce Renard

#### **Mudflats Herons (140)**

Julie and Ken Davis  
Jackie and Tom Bain

#### **Neat Nests (40)**

Kiersten Jaeb  
Fred Lancia  
Jordan Parrott

#### **Quick 3 Beards (171)**

Bob Conlon  
Dave Horn  
Troy Shively  
Bill Whan

#### **Slate (Run) Colored Juncos (100)**

Linda Benner  
Andrea Haslage Krava  
Lori Patterson  
Randy Rogers  
Brad Sparks

#### **Stellar Jays (100)**

Jenny Bowman  
Jim Davidson  
Joe Meara

Jan Velker  
John Watts

#### **Swans and Coots (70 )**

Alan Cohen  
Clyde Gosnell  
Paul Knoop  
Katryn Renard  
Louise Warner

#### **Two Footed Boobies (90)**

Marcia Brehmer  
Marion Farber  
Melanie Shuter  
Mary Kay Wood

#### **Two in a Bush (62)**

Patty DeMaria  
Margaret Moran

#### **Wild Birds Unlimited Riverside (170)**

Michael Flynn  
Bill Heck  
Steve Landes  
Tom Sheley

### *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 my teams' results.

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_ Pledge \_\_\_\_\_

My Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Street, City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: "Birdathon," c/o Columbus Audubon, 505 W. Whittier, Columbus, OH 43215



# Columbus Audubon



## May & June Field Trips and Programs

For complete descriptions of all trips, visit our web site:

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

### **Prothonotary and Other Warblers at Hoover Nature Preserve** *Saturday, May 5 at 8:00 a.m.*

Charlie Bombaci will lead us on an expedition to see one of our most beautiful nesting species, the prothonotary warbler. We'll also see what other migrants and local species can be found. Charlie maintains about 250 nest boxes for prothonotary warblers and other cavity nesting species at Hoover, making him one of North America's best known "prothonotary grandfathers." Contact Charlie Bombaci at [charlesbombaci@aol.com](mailto:charlesbombaci@aol.com).

### **Birding at Blendon Woods Metro Park** *Saturday, May 5 at 8:00 a.m.*

Please join park naturalist Bruce Simpson on a bird walk on the trails around Blendon Woods Metro Park. Meet at the Nature Center. Contact Bruce Simpson at [Simpson@MetroParks.net](mailto:Simpson@MetroParks.net).

### **Whetstone Park of Roses Area Bird Walk** *Friday, May 11 at 7:30 a.m.*

Join Donna and Lynn Wearsch for a morning bird walk where we'll explore a variety of bird habitats including prairie, Adena Brook area, and a wooded ravine. Meet in the big parking lot by the Park of Roses rose garden and main shelter house at 7:30 a.m. Contact Lynn Wearsch at [lwearsch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lwearsch@sbcglobal.net) or 614-459-2806.

### **Botany and Birding Field Trip to The Dawes Arboretum** *Saturday, May 19 at 8:30 a.m.*

Explore and enjoy The Dawes Arboretum with botanist David Brandenburg as he guides us on an off-trail wildflower walk; after lunch at the main building, conservation director Lori Totman will take us on a tour of the new Dutch Fork Wetland area. Afterwards, you're free to explore on your own. Meet in the main parking lot no later than 8:30 a.m.; we'll be carpooling from there. Contact Darlene Sillick at [azuretrails@columbus.rr.com](mailto:azuretrails@columbus.rr.com) or 614-288-3696.

### **Spring Migration in Scioto and Greenlawn Area** *Saturday, May 19 at 8:00 a.m.*

If you can't get up to Lake Erie or don't have the full day for birds, join Rob for a morning at one of Columbus' most diverse birding areas. We'll start at Scioto Audubon, nose around the bike path, riparian woods, and fields of this premier migrant trap. We'll be on watch for an array of warblers, flycatchers, tanagers, and grosbeaks as we hope for a good fallout. We'll also see what we can find at the nearby Greenlawn cemetery later in the morning. This is a great time for rarities. Meet at the Scioto Audubon boat launch (off Whittier Street west of Front St.) at 8:00 a.m. The trip should be over by 1:00 p.m. Contact Rob Thorn at [robthorn@earthlink.net](mailto:robthorn@earthlink.net) or 614-551-0643 or 614-471-3051.

### **Birding at Green Lawn Cemetery** *Sunday, May 20 at 1:00 p.m.*

Over 200 species of birds have been seen at Green Lawn Cemetery. Join Warren Grody and Darlene Sillick while we search for birds, fill the feeders, and make some exciting discoveries...because that's what happens at this amazing and historical cemetery. We'll meet at the Greenlawn office. Contact Darlene Sillick at [azuretrails@columbus.rr.com](mailto:azuretrails@columbus.rr.com) or 614-288-3696.

### **Walk at New Albany Country Club** *Monday, May 21 at 9:00 a.m.*

Situated in the heart of New Albany is an outstanding wildlife habitat, which also happens to be a country club and golf course. New Albany Country Club recently received designation as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary by Audubon International for its outstanding efforts to provide a high quality, environmentally sound wildlife habitat. NACC has invited CA to get a first-hand look with a private tour of the habitat. Join Tom Sheley for birding and exploring this unique wildlife habitat project. Meet at the bag drop/cart stand in the parking area behind the clubhouse. Contact Tom Sheley at 614-578-9501.

### **Birding at Green Lawn Cemetery** *Saturday, June 2 at 8:30 a.m.*

See description for May 20 field trip.

### **Intro to Nature Photography at Inniswood Metro Gardens** *Sunday, June 3 at 3:00 p.m.*

Many people appreciate nature photography and want to learn how to take better photographs. Several photographers will help guide participants through questions about basic photographic aspects including equipment, lighting, and composition. Inniswood offers a beautiful, quiet outdoor setting with a variety of subjects. All levels of experience are welcome, whether you have a camera and tripod, are just getting started or don't own a camera. Contact Mike Flynn at 614-769-1681.

### **Birds of Clear Creek Metro Park** *Saturday, June 9 at 8:00 a.m.*

The forests and valleys of the Hocking Hills offer a lot of bird activity after migration ends in central Ohio. We'll hunt for unusual breeding birds of Clear Creek, one of the closest and most accessible portions of the area. We'll focus on forest birds, including red-shouldered hawks, forest thrushes (wood, hermit, and veery), vireos, tanagers, and the 18+ species of warblers. Grab your birdcall app or CD to review birdsongs to prep for the morning chorus. Meet at 8:00 am in the Starner Road parking area (roughly 1 hour from most of Columbus). Wear rugged footwear; bug repellent, sunscreen, water, snacks are also suggested. This trip should be over by 2:00 p.m. Contact Rob Thorn at [robthorn@earthlink.net](mailto:robthorn@earthlink.net) or 614-551-0643 or 614-471-3051.

### **Calamus Swamp Work Trip** *Sunday, June 10 at 10 a.m.*

Join members of the CA conservation committee for spring cleaning at Calamus Swamp. We'll be sweeping vegetation from the boardwalk (if it's above water), removing and replacing the chicken wire stapled to slippery boardwalk sections, picking up trash, and pulling garlic mustard. All necessary tools will be onsite. Bring a sack lunch or enjoy the fast foods of Circleville. Calamus is located 1/3 mile south of the intersection of SR 104 and US 22 in Pickaway County. There is an unmarked gravel parking lot on the east side of 104 just after you come over a slight rise. Contact Dave Horn at [horn.1@osu.edu](mailto:horn.1@osu.edu) or 614-262-0312.

*For more Field Trips see page 15*

## From CA President *Bill Heck*

The *Song Sparrow* theme this issue is outdoor adventure. In March, I was fortunate enough to participate in a major outdoor adventure: a birding and nature trip to the Philippines.

The Philippines is a tropical paradise of lush forests filled with mischievous monkeys and beautiful birds, lovely beaches, and oceans teeming with fish and other sea life. Well, not quite. All are threatened by overpopulation, uncontrolled illegal logging, pollution, overhunting, and more.

Seeing the perils threatening the Philippines made me think about the natural gifts in our own backyard that we often take for granted. The forests, meadows, streams, and lakes of Ohio and across our country have been abused, and even now some of our own natural resources are under attack. We have managed to preserve a remarkable amount. Right here in central Ohio, we can enjoy outdoor adventures in our local and state parks, and we can easily travel to forests, riversides, and lakeshores. Further afield, we can enjoy our national parks, ocean coasts, and mountain scenery.

But we can't take these for granted. You and I, all of us, need to value and appreciate the natural beauty that surrounds us. We need to remain vigilant and to take action to safeguard and conserve our environment, our natural heritage. I hope that you will join with Audubon to help ensure that our greatest outdoor adventures, the ones that we will share with our children and grandchildren, still lie before us.

## Conservation Corner: Just Do It!

As I think about this issue's theme "outdoor adventure" I am reminded that many of the outdoor places we enjoy and admire are available because somebody *did* something, and I am betting that a lot of those nameless "somebodies" were not paid or even recognized. They did it mainly because they enjoyed outdoor adventure and made a decision that being a part of it meant passing the opportunity along to others yet to come. Part of appreciating nature is to *do* something to help others enjoy the adventure.

CA and GIAC are loaded with opportunities for involvement at all levels. I've highlighted just a few below, and at the end of the article you can find where to get additional information.

**Service in the Preserves** takes regular forays to Ohio's State Nature Preserves to assist with trail maintenance, construction of boardwalks and bridges, removing invasive species, and other outdoor tasks that preserve managers deem necessary. It's not all hard work and no play; participants enjoy "nature breaks" to admire unique flora and fauna. Usually the adventure is one day but occasionally trips go overnight to locations further afield, from the steamy tropics of the Ohio River to "Buckeye Riviera" on the shores of Lake Erie. There is adventure aplenty amid great natural beauty, and in these days of cutbacks in public funding, the preserves really need the help.

**Calamus Swamp** is a glacial-relict wetland (actually a fen surrounded by swamp) in Pickaway County owned and managed by CA. With a generous donation from Crane Plastics, in 2001 CA constructed a boardwalk partially encircling the wetland, and there is a trail the rest of the way. Volunteers who appreciate the outdoors maintain the trail and boardwalk. We host regular work parties and visitors are welcome to drop in on Calamus at any time to appreciate this unique habitat and also to help keep an eye on the place. (On occasion thoughtless people dump trash, tires, and other stuff.)

**Prothonotary warbler nest boxes** have brought this species back to prominence in central Ohio. Long-time CA member Charlie Bombaci has overseen installation of hundreds of nest boxes for warblers in Hoover Nature Preserve, and the population of breeding pairs has gone from nearly zero to 60. Other cavity nesting birds also use the boxes. Installing and maintaining the boxes takes a lot of time, and Charlie can always use help.

**Bird conservation at GIAC** involves helping track birds in the vicinity of the Center through census, banding, and nest box maintenance. The Center is situated in the midst of a designated Important Bird Area and volunteers who enjoy watching birds can participate in data gathering and maybe the excitement of discovering one of the rarities for which the Scioto riverbank is known.

These are only some highlights; there are many opportunities to *do* something while enjoying outdoor adventure. Visit our website at [www.columbusaudubon.org](http://www.columbusaudubon.org), or give me a call at 614-262-0312.

*Dave Horn*

## Invasive species: lily leaf beetle

The lily leaf beetle (sometimes called the red or scarlet lily leaf beetle) has not yet arrived in Ohio, which is why we feature it in this issue. Many readers of the *Song Sparrow* spend a lot of time outdoors gardening, birding, and just enjoying nature and are more likely than most to spot something new. The adult lily leaf beetle will attract your attention; it is bright red except for a black head and is about the size of a ladybird beetle but flatter and about twice as long as wide (in contrast to the roly-poly shape of lady beetles). There are other red beetles but they are larger.



Photo courtesy of  
Maine Department of Agriculture

Adult beetles overwinter and lay eggs in spring. The yellowish larvae are about ¼ inch long and yellow-orange although they camouflage themselves with their excrement. Adults and larvae eat leaves of many members of the lily family and are particularly fond of some of our ornamental lilies. Slight damage is mostly cosmetic—holes in the leaves—but a heavy infestation can result in loss of vigor. Larvae feed on the undersurface of the leaves. As with many other invasive species the beetle is of European origin and arrived in Canada in the 1940s. Initially it spread slowly; in the past decade populations in New England and upstate New York have mushroomed, and we might expect arrival in Ohio at any time, if indeed the beetles are not already here.

Most insecticides used in garden insect control are effective for lily leaf beetle. Gardeners who are concerned about chemicals in the environment can use insecticides containing “neem,” which is a naturally-occurring plant abstract. There is an effort underway to import natural enemies (parasitic wasps) of the beetle for biological control. This ultimately may lead to success, as the beetle is not a major problem in Europe where the natural enemies are present. For those who worry about whether we might introduce another invasive species as part of a biological control effort, decades ago that may have been a possibility but there are stringent protocols in place today to prevent that from happening.

If you believe you have found a lily leaf beetle infestation, contact your local OSU Extension office, the Ohio Department of Agriculture, or me ([horn.1@osu.edu](mailto:horn.1@osu.edu)). For more information: [www.uri.edu/ce/factsheets/sheets/lilyleafbeetle.html](http://www.uri.edu/ce/factsheets/sheets/lilyleafbeetle.html).

Dave Horn

## Students get unplugged with Ohio Young Birders Club

Not all teenagers spend 24 hours a day with a cord, headphones, or some sort of electronic device attached to their bodies. Columbus Audubon is proud to sponsor the Central Ohio Chapter of the Ohio Young Birders Club (OYBC) — young people who know how to unplug and have fun!

In March, OYBCers celebrated the unusually warm weather with a full day outdoors. Forty-one bird species were tallied by the students while birding at Castalia Pond in Erie County, taking a behind-the-scenes tour of a state fish hatchery, and watching a female bald eagle on her nest. And that was just in the morning!

After a picnic lunch, the young birders were treated to an incredible program at Back To The Wild, a rescue and rehab center. The day was capped off with the thrill of standing in the raptor flight cage as one of the center’s bald eagles soared past with a rush of air!

OYBC’s annual Spring Fling, held in central Ohio in April, always brings together young birders from across the state. Students reconnect with old friends or make new ones, celebrate nature, and develop their birding skills. This year’s stops included the OSU Wetlands, Whittier Peninsula, Blendon Woods Metro Park, and Hoover Dam.

Whether experienced or brand new to birding, OYBC teens love spending time outside. On May 12, the students will participate in Columbus Audubon’s Birdathon as “The Early Birders,” attempting to break last year’s record of 102 birds in one day. And in June they’ll hit the water in kayaks to do some birding in Powell.

The outdoor adventures are endless and the fun boundless! Why not join us? OYBC is open to ages 12-18 and everything you need to join is at [www.columbusaudubon.org/oybc](http://www.columbusaudubon.org/oybc). Gerry Brevoort, Advisor to Central Ohio Chapter - OYBC



**Columbus Audubon Founded 1913**[www.columbusaudubon.org](http://www.columbusaudubon.org)

614-545-5497

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Newsletter/Web Editor: Stefanie Hauck

Treasurer: Warren Grody

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Birdathon: Julie Davis, 614-523-2180 or Katryn Renard, 614-261-7171

Conservation: Dave Horn, 614-262-0312

Eco Weekend: Roz Horn, 614-262-0312; Lois Day, 740-657-1604

Education: Jackie Bain, [jjbain@insight.rr.com](mailto:jjbain@insight.rr.com)Field Trips: Earl Harrison, [eharrison@ehe.osu.edu](mailto:eharrison@ehe.osu.edu)

Membership: Joe Meara, 614-430-9127

Ohio Young Birders: Gerry Brevoort, [jbrevoor@columbus.rr.com](mailto:jbrevoor@columbus.rr.com)Programs: Darlene Sillick, [azuretrails@columbus.rr.com](mailto:azuretrails@columbus.rr.com)

Service in the Preserves: Katryn Renard, 614-261-7171

Web site: Bill Heck, [webmaster@columbusaudubon.org](http://webmaster@columbusaudubon.org)**Grange Insurance Audubon Center**[www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org](http://www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org)

614-545-5475

**Staff**

Center Director: Christie Vargo

Director of Development &amp; Marketing: Jeff Redfield

Finance &amp; Office Manager: Kristen Clark

Director of Education &amp; Conservation: Amy Boyd

Facility &amp; Nature Store Manager: Patty Hecht

Conservation Manager: Anne Balogh

Educators: Allison Roush and Tori Strickland

Educators (part-time): Joe Jennings and Mindy Tehan

Facility Assistants (part-time): Ian Dowden and Monica Johnson

Volunteer Coordinator (part-time): Nancy Hartman

**Spring and Summer hours** :Tuesday – Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.;

Saturday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**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**

Greg Cunningham (Chair)

Julie Davis (Vice Chair)

Frances Beasley

Jeff Chaddock

Beth Crane

Carol Drake

Bill Heck\*

Chester Jourdan\*

Alan McKnight\*

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John O'Meara\*

Lori Overmyer

Steven Puckett

Jan Rodenfels

Milt Schott

Leslie Strader

Christie Vargo, Ex Officio

\* Appointed

**Welcome New & Renewed Members****February & March 2012**

Doug & Julie Addis  
 Barbara Ambos  
 Lisa Avery  
 Lori Beals  
 Amy Boland  
 Jenny Bowman  
 Joann Brown  
 Ann Buhr  
 Jennifer Cooke  
 Mary Core  
 Benjamin Edwards  
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 Anne Kennedy  
 Sandra Kettler & Paul Price  
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 Barbara Martens  
 Sieglinde Martin  
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 William & Monica Tenney  
 Tracy Van Niel  
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 Anthony & Sarah Will  
 Roger & Madeline Williams  
 Susan Wilson  
 Paula Ziebarth  
 Michael J. Zook

**Thank you recent GIAC donors  
February & March 2012**

Doug & Nancy Allenson	SunTrust Bank
Cardinal Health Foundation, Inc	Cliff Timbrook
Alexander Darragh	US Green Building Council
Anne Goodge	Central Ohio Chapter
(in memory of William R Goodge)	United Way of New York City
Regina Lach	Beatrice Weiler
Jeffrey Miller	Brad & Magita Willan
Sandra M. Nessing	Vivian Witkind-Davis

**Field Trips continued from page 12****Birding by Kayak**

Saturday, June 16 at 8:30 a.m.

Join us for birding by kayak on Twin Lakes in Powell with the Adaptive Adventure Sports Coalition ([www.taasc.org](http://www.taasc.org)). We hope to see the prothonotary warbler nesting sites and check off many nesting residents while we dip our paddles. Certified TAASC volunteers will provide instructions. Bring water, snacks, binocs, and sun-screen. RSVP to Darlene to reserve a kayak; cost is \$20 per kayak. There will be a few tandems available. Contact Darlene Sillick at [azuertrails@columbus.rr.com](mailto:azuertrails@columbus.rr.com) or 614-288-3696.

This newsletter is printed on 100% recycled stock with soy ink.

**Return in 5 days to**  
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## 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, 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 benefits plus enrollment as a Founding member of GIAC and 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 the Birds of North America 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
- \* Building rental opportunities at GIAC
- \* Subscription to Audubon magazine
- \* Bi-monthly Song Sparrow newsletter, a joint publication of Columbus Audubon and the Grange Insurance Audubon (electronic delivery only for basic membership)
- \* 10% discount at the GIAC nature store
- \* Discount on GIAC program fees
- \* Free CA field trips and programs throughout the year
- \* An invitation to attend the CA annual meeting
- \* Volunteer opportunities
- \* Discounts at partnering affiliates
- \* Invitations to special events at GIAC
- \* Voice in CA/GIAC conservation initiatives

Name \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ To help the environment check here to receive the Song Sparrow electronically

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Method of payment

Check \_\_\_\_\_ Master Card \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_\_\_  
(made payable to the Grange Insurance Audubon Center)

Name (as it appears on card): \_\_\_\_\_ Card expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

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