

Protecting Birds from Wind Turbines (Now and in the Future)

Columbus Audubon supports development of alternative and sustainable energy using renewable resources such as solar and wind power. However, we remain concerned about ongoing lack of consideration for impact on birds (and bats) when sites are considered for locating wind turbines. Birds can and do die in collisions with turbine blades, towers and power lines; a 2012 study estimated 500,000 birds annually killed in collisions with turbines and towers. Ample documentation exists to demonstrate significant mortality among raptors when turbines are situated along a migration corridor, which is often the case because hawks, vultures and eagles are aided in their flight by the same breezes that keep fan blades spinning. Less-researched but clearly a hazard is presence of wind turbines near areas where migratory songbirds congregate. Many of our songbirds migrate at night and cannot see whirling turbine blades, which are hard enough to avoid in broad daylight. Most of these songbirds migrate at altitudes above the turbines, and they forage and nest below the blades. The problem comes at places where birds fly through the few hundred feet of air column in which fans are spinning. Exactly when and where migrating songbirds do this we don't really know clearly, but the matter is under study.



Western Lake Erie presents a "perfect storm" between migratory songbirds and wind power development. The Lake Erie shoreline has lots of wind and thus is an ideal location for turbines, but depending on where the turbines are located in relation to bird movement, birds and blades may be on a collision course. This critically

important stopover area for thousands of migrating birds is designated as an Audubon and *global* Important Bird Area (IBA). Many Audubon members visit this unique area regularly to enjoy an unparalleled spectacle of spring songbird migration. (It's pretty good the rest of the year too.) In addition, in early May thousands of birds bring an influx of thousands of birders who in turn spend thousands of dollars in the region.

Over 100 wind turbines have been proposed for the western Lake Erie area, and construction of one of the first was imminent at the Ohio National Guard facility at Camp Perry near Port Clinton. In a recent victory for conservation, the American Bird Conservancy (ABC) and the Black Swamp Bird Observatory (BSBO) challenged the Camp Perry project and threatened legal action citing the Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. In the face of a letter of intent to sue, the National Guard recently halted the project. We hope the Camp Perry wind turbine will never be installed.

The ABC and BSBO are to be congratulated for taking action, which not only halted the wind turbine at Camp Perry but also will send a message to other wind developers in the area that any project in the western Lake Erie area will be under intense public scrutiny. At a minimum every

continued on page 6

IN THIS ISSUE

CA Monthly Programs	2
Optics Expo/EcoWeekend	3
Creature Feature	4
Citizen Science	5
CA Annual Dinner	6
Birdathon	7
CA Field Trips	8 - 9
Monthly Calendars	10
GIAC News	11
New GIAC Programs	12 - 13
Audubon Adventure Camp	14
Donors & New Members	15

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

Columbus Audubon Monthly Programs

March Program – What’s New at the Zoo

Tuesday, March 25 in the GIAC multipurpose room

6:00 p.m. – Columbus Audubon’s anniversary dinner (**registration required, see insert for details or visit www.columbusaudubon.org/dinner**)

7:00-7:15 pm: Short Program by Emma Bennet, 8th grader from Houston TX. Emma is a TEDxYouth Poetry winner and will discuss endangered animals and humanity's effect on the environment.

7:15-7:30 pm: Refreshments and social time

7:30 pm: Main Program by Tom Stalf, president and CEO of the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium

Tom will share his animal guests with us and what is happening at the zoo in 2014 and the coming years. He will also talk about the zoo’s involvement in over 70 conservation initiatives and the impact locally and globally.

Tom Stalf leads the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, Zoombezi Bay, Safari Golf Club and the Wilds conservation center with a single focus – inspire people to make a difference for wildlife and wild places. Tom brings to his leadership role more than 20 years experience gained by first working as zookeeper and then advancing quickly through every aspect of zoo management.

Tom earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Western Illinois University. He lives on a small farm in Ostrander with his wife Colleen and their children, Kylee, Brendan and Brady, and a wide variety of farm animals.



April Program – Earth Day 2014, a Celebration of Ohio’s Greatest Natural Resources

Tuesday, April 22 in the GIAC multipurpose room

7:00-7:15 pm: Short Program by Amanda Duren, "Unconventional Conservation: Highways as Habitat for the American Kestrel." Amanda, program coordinator for Ohio Bird Conservation Initiative, will discuss the innovative nest box program.

7:15-7:30 pm: Refreshments and social time

7:30 pm: Main Program by Jim McCormac, avian specialist with the Ohio Division of Wildlife and former botanist with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Ohio is a treasure trove of biodiversity. Over 1,800 native plants green the state, providing habitat for nearly 200 breeding bird species. Countless insects fuel our birds and other predators, and some of these “bugs” are truly extraordinary. Our lakes and rivers spawn fabulous food chains, and we’re bookended by two of North America’s most significant aquatic ecosystems: the Ohio River and Lake Erie.

This program will explore Ohio’s greatest natural areas, look at what we’ve lost, and delve into our most interesting flora and fauna via images and words.

Jim McCormac is a longtime employee of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, writes the *Nature* column for the Columbus Dispatch, and has authored *Birds of Ohio* and the *Great Lakes Nature Guide*. His 2009 book *Wild Ohio: The Best of Our Natural Heritage*, is a celebration of the best remaining habitats in the Buckeye State. He is at work on a book on the wood-warblers of eastern North America.



Ohio Ornithological Society 10th anniversary celebration

Join your fellow OOS members at Shawnee State Park April 25 to 27, 2014 for a celebration of our 10th anniversary! Not only will this give you a chance to head south to meet the first big wave of spring migration, you'll also get to enjoy excellent presentations, the charm of the Shawnee State Park lodge, and the wonderful fellowship of a bunch of fun, avid birders. Registration forms will be available soon on the OOS website: ohiobirds.org . Join us!

GIAC Program/EcoWeekend

Free Optics & Gear Expo for Outdoor Enthusiasts



Friday, April 4 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Saturday, April 5 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sunday, April 6 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Organized and hosted by *Bird Watcher's Digest*, Eagle Optics, Time & Optics, and the Grange Insurance Audubon Center

The Birding Optics & Gear Expo aims to make optics shopping a little less daunting. Attendees will have the opportunity to view and try products from Eagle Optics/Vortex, Carl Zeiss Sports Optics, Leica Sport Optics, Swarovski Optik North America, Minox, Vanguard, Kowa Optimed, Celestron, Manfrotto, Clintonville Outfitters, Midwest Photo Exchange, and other optics and gear companies from around the world.

The Center offers excellent viewing areas allowing participants to sample products, and dozens of experts will be available to answer questions and offer advice on various products.

All registered attendees will be entered in the Expo Door Prize Giveaway. Registration is free but not required. Other giveaways will also occur throughout the event.

For more information or to register, visit www.birdwatchersdigest.com/expo or call 800-879-2473.

EcoWeekend 2014: Register before April 4

The EcoWeekend 2014 registration brochure was mailed to all *Song Sparrow* subscribers in February. Visit www.ecowekend.org, email ecowekend@columbusaudubon.org, or contact Dale Brubeck at 614-888-0685 to get a copy of the brochure or for more information.

EcoWeekend is a fun, affordable opportunity to experience nature and learn from expert program leaders at Camp Oty'Okwa (near Conkles Hollow) in the Hocking Hills. Programs run from Friday evening through Sunday morning. Design your own weekend by selecting from the many choices available for each session. This year, the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium brings fascinating animals from our world-renowned zoo for our Saturday evening group program.

EcoWeekend welcomes a wide variety of participants each year, from senior citizens to kids age 4 and up. Whether you choose to "rough it" in your own tent or relax in one of the cabins, take on strenuous hikes or enjoy indoor programs, there's something for everyone at EcoWeekend. Please consult the registration brochure for more information on lodging and our exciting program options.

What a beautiful gift for someone you care about: lifelong memories of EcoWeekend 2014. The total weekend cost for an adult is only \$130; the cost for a child age 6 through grade 8 is just \$85 (no charge for kids age 4 and 5). Send payment by April 4 registration deadline to the EcoWeekend registrar: Maura Rawn, 540 Coonpath Rd NW, Lancaster, OH 43130, specifying the name of the gift recipient(s). You can reach Maura at 740-653-8574.

For all the details, visit www.ecowekend.org, on Twitter (https://twitter.com/Eco_Weekend) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Eco-Weekend/284290572847>).



Dale Brubeck

Creature Feature: Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodius*)

I almost didn't see them. The small cluster of three pale birds was motionless, practically invisible against the backdrop of Florida beach sand. "Piping Plovers," chimed one of my partners... and we groaned. We were there on Marco Island looking for Snowy Plovers. They were the rare plovers in Florida at that time in the late 1970s. Piping Plovers were widespread winter residents on many Florida beaches. Little did we know that we were in one of the last strongholds of a species that was in population free-fall at the time. Fortunately, many have worked to protect these secretive beach sandpipers and their numbers have stabilized.



Photo by Earl Harrison

Piping Plovers (*Charadrius melodius*) are one of a series of small band-chested plovers found in North America. Unlike the brownish, tundra-nesting Semipalmated Plover (*C. semipalmatus*), pale Piping Plovers nest on beaches, dunes, and sandbars of light sand and cobble. They are summer residents and nesters over parts of the northern Great Plains, Great Lakes, and north Atlantic seaboard. The birds arrive back in these areas in May, and males start defending spots on the sand above the high-water mark. They scrape a mock nest and fill it with little shells and pebbles to attract a female, then follow with a cute courtship ritual involving peeping, strutting, and leg-kicks. The real nest of 3-4 eggs is incubated for about 26-31 days. After hatching, the precocial young leave the nest and are shepherded around by the

adults for another 20-30 days as they grow and learn to fly.

After fledging of the young, both adults and juveniles join the tide of southbound shorebird migrants in August and September, winding up on sandy beaches on the Gulf Coast, southeastern US, and Bahamas. These are the birds we see in Florida, where they're found as singles or small groups, usually mixed in with other flocks of shorebirds. They're easy to pick out from other shorebirds because of their posture and hunting methods. Unlike the frantic probing of most sandpipers, small plovers are very deliberate, standing erect and watching for a while before reaching down to grab a worm or beach flea. Less movement makes these birds easy to overlook, so you have to watch for them.

Piping Plovers are a treat to find, because they're much less common than their Semipalmated cousins. That 'much less common' part has a rather specific cause – Piping Plover nesting beaches have also become major playgrounds for Americans. As suburbanization spread Americans out from cities, isolated beach areas and barrier islands became not-so-isolated. Add in the development of dune buggies and fat-tire bikes, and few Atlantic or Great Lakes beaches were untrammelled by people by the 1980s. Before then, most beaches and dunes were uninviting locations, with few other animals. Nesting Piping Plovers are very vigilant; they stop feeding and try to distract any other animals away from their nests. When those other animals are humans picnicking and swimming in the area, the plovers find little time to feed and reproduce.

This human-plover confrontation has played out to an unusual detente. As Piping Plovers became scarcer and endangered, recovery plans were set up that involved closing parts of the dunes and isolated beaches during nesting season. In Atlantic beachfront tourist towns, this often pitted conservationists against local commercial interests, and closures became politically-sensitive. Now there are 'Plover Patrols' that monitor closed areas and nest sites, involving local residents and vacationers in plover recovery in a meaningful way. Beach closure and re-opening dates are bannered in local news.

Here in the Great Lakes, such conflicts have been rarer, mostly because the local Piping Plover population has disappeared from the more populous areas of Lakes Erie, Ontario, and Michigan. The stronghold of the Great Lakes population is in upper Lake Michigan, mostly from Grand Traverse Bay north, an area that has perhaps 60 nesting pairs. These areas have not seen large human intrusions, so the plover status here seems secure. The total population, however, is only perhaps 130-140 birds, so it is still vulnerable. Most of these birds appear to winter along the Gulf Coast, so a few come through Ohio. Piping Plover sightings here are scarce and newsworthy, so if you see one along a Lake Erie shore or local beach, pause to marvel at this rare little survivor.

Rob Thorn

Breakfast and Bird Banding at GIAC



This spring, you and your group of up to 10 people are invited to participate in Breakfast and Banding, an enjoyable program that focuses on the history of bird banding and the bandwork being done at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center. You and your group will also enjoy a light breakfast, accompany staff on net checks, and help to record data. It is a great way to get a more in depth experience and have a great time with friends or family. All proceeds from the programs will go towards conservation work at the GIAC. For more information see new programs offered at GIAC on page 12.

We will be entering our third spring bird banding at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center. If you have not already done so, this is the season to stop by and see all the migrants in their finest plumage. Warblers in glorious blacks, whites, rusts, blues, yellows and greens plus woodpeckers, sapsuckers, sparrows, tanagers, orioles, flycatchers and more. Each visit yields a chance to see one of these travelers up close as they return for the breeding season.

When you visit, you not only have a rare opportunity to make a direct connection with wildlife, you also have the opportunity to aid in gathering information for the planning of conservation and management efforts. Data collected from banded birds, such as accumulated fat, age and sex, will help to assess the stop-over habitat quality of the Scioto Important Bird Area. Sharing the knowledge you learn about birds helps to bring awareness about these amazing creatures and leads to even more conservation efforts. Everyone is welcome, so please stop by. We will be banding Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings during April and May. As always, banding is contingent on weather (we will not operate in heavy fog, wind, rain or extreme temperatures).

www.mothapalooza.org

Mothapalooza 2014!

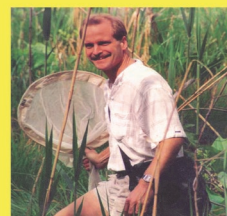
June 27-29, 2014

Burr Oak State Park Lodge, Glouster, OH



Join us for a weekend of moth and butterfly appreciation, field trips and workshops in beautiful Morgan County, Ohio.

Expert-led interpretive field trips will take place in various hotspots throughout the Burr Oak Region.



Keynote speakers include David L. Wagner, Author of "Caterpillars of Eastern North America" (shown above), and Fiona Reid, Author, and nighttime pollinator expert.



NATIONAL Moth Week
Global Citizen Science



Enjoy nightly Mothing Field Trips, daytime outings for Butterflying, Birding and native plant appreciation, Workshops in Moth rearing, Moth Photography, and Moth Attraction techniques.

Please check our website for details and to register!

www.mothapalooza.org

or email us at mothapalooza@gmail.com



Moth, Butterfly, Bird, Plant, and other wildlife experts will lead workshops and field trips throughout the event including Jim McCormac of Ohio Division of Wildlife and Dave Horn of the Ohio Lepidopterist Society.

Our website shows species lists, trip descriptions and much more - scan the code below to go there now!

Columbus Audubon Annual Dinner

Last year was such a success, we are doing it again! You're invited to Columbus Audubon's annual dinner at 6 pm before our March monthly program on Tuesday, March 25.

The dinner menu will be an Italian buffet catered by Berwick Manor. Once again GIAC is allocating their discounted catering services to our dinner. We are pleased to offer a wonderful dinner for only \$15 per person for members (non-members \$40, includes a CA/GIAC one year membership), and \$5 for children under 11. We think you'll agree that this is a real bargain and a great way to continue our new tradition. See the insert for more details. (Guests who won't be joining us for dinner should plan to arrive at 7:00 p.m. for the short program and 7:30 p.m. for the main program.)

Audubon's chief scientist visits again



Audubon's chief scientist, Dr. Gary Langham, was in Columbus recently to present Audubon's cutting edge research on the effects of climate change on birds and the implications for bird conservation. Speaking both to staff and to the public on Saturday, February 22, at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center, Dr. Langham described how Audubon scientists have combined massive amounts of data to predict how bird population ranges in North America and across the world will contract, shift, or expand.

The predictions that Audubon research can provide will help to focus conservation efforts on birds that will be most threatened by climate change and help to bolster those that will remain viable as climate change continues in the coming decades.

Much of the data on bird populations and ranges use in Audubon's models comes from you in the form of Christmas Bird Counts and Breeding Bird Surveys. Every time you participate in a Citizen Science project, you add to the database that enables Audubon to

target its conservation efforts!

Audubon research shows that, while some bird species will not be severely affected by climatic changes, many of our most beautiful and iconic species may well disappear from much of their current ranges. More detailed results of this ongoing research will appear in papers soon to be published in leading scientific journals.

For more information on climate change and its effects on birds, see <http://policy.audubon.org/climate-change-campaign> on the Audubon Web site. Be sure to let your elected officials know that you want them to act on climate!



continued from page 1

project must go through appropriate permitting processes before approval. More than that, given the huge number of protected birds passing through this area annually, we join BSBO and ABC in believing that it is unlikely that *any* wind developer can demonstrate a finding of "no significant impact" or can even claim there is any way to reduce the impact on birds, beyond installing turbines where birds are not present. There indeed *are* places where wind energy development should be prohibited due to the near-certain risk to migrating birds. The shore of Lake Erie's Western Basin is such an area. We must maintain vigilance.

For more information and updates, visit: www.bsbo.org and www.abcbirds.org.

Dave Horn

Columbus Audubon

Birdathon 2014: Let the fun begin!

A slight chill and low mist punctuate the pre-dawn stillness in the field adjacent to a woodlot in Oak Openings Metro Park near Toledo. Here, as the slightest hint of dawn creases the eastern sky, members of the Wild Birds Unlimited River-side team strain with anticipation for what is about to happen. Suddenly, a Whip-poor-will announces the dawn. There! Was that a Lark Sparrow bursting into song? A Barred Owl's raucous calls incite a male Wild Turkey to gobble from its roost. Within minutes the magic of dawn song give team members a lasting memory as hundreds of birds announce the arrival of the new day.

Dawn is breaking equally as exciting for the Slate Run Colored Juncos team at Columbus' Slate Run Metro Park. Tanagers, warblers and thrushes have awakened, a Pileated Woodpecker drums, and the calls of Sandhill Cranes reverberate through the air.

Meanwhile, team Deckbirds is celebrating the backyard visit of an American Robin as they partake of a continental breakfast from their selected starting and ending point: the home and deck of their choosing.



Each spring, teams of nature enthusiasts and birders organize to support Columbus Audubon through their annual Birdathon fundraiser event. This event is a highlight of the spring birding season for many of our teams and their sponsors, as well as the main fundraiser for Columbus Audubon. The concept is simple: join or form a team, collect donations and count all the bird species your team identifies in your chosen participation category on any day between May 3 and May 19, 2014. You don't even have to stay in Ohio. Be creative: bird anywhere in the world or in your own backyard. Our goal this year is to raise at least \$15,000, which will help fund Columbus Audubon programs including local conservation grants and projects, research projects, and youth scholarships. In the past the John Wilson Memorial Education Fund has allowed numerous children to attend the Audubon Adventure Camps at GIAC and sent OYBC youth to summer programs such as Hog Island. Our new Conservation Grant program was created to support the conservation of Ohio's native bird species through habitat management efforts, habitat protection (through easements or acquisition) and scientific research which occurs in central Ohio. CA has awarded grants to Dawes Arboretum (\$1500) and to Appalachia Ohio Alliance (\$3500). Your financial support to the Birdathon will help CA to continue to support these and other worthy causes.

Do you enjoy being outdoors, watching birds, camaraderie, and a good cause? Why not consider joining us this spring for a Birdathon adventure? Columbus Audubon makes it easy to participate. We can help you form a team, find a team looking for members, or to sponsor a team. Your level of participation is entirely up to you. Log on to www.columbusaudubon.org/birdathon and we'll take you through the process. We'll also guide you through deciding on one of the participation categories and provide tips on fundraising for your team.

You don't need to join a team to participate. Sponsors are just as important to the CA Birdathon as our team members. If you would like to sponsor a team, look for the team roster posted on at www.columbusaudubon.org/birdathon. You can contact a team member to make a donation and sponsor your favorite team online!

Of course, an event such as this would not be complete without an after-party for all the participants, and our Columbus Audubon Birdathon event celebration stands to be one of the best ever! Food, refreshments, a bevy of awards and fabulous prizes along with the inevitable fun and crazy Birdathon stories, and you have the makings for quite a party. Add to that a presentation by a special guest speaker, and it becomes an event you just can't miss!

So what are you waiting for? Join us for Columbus Audubon's 2014 Birdathon, and let the fun begin!

Tom Sheley & Julie Davis

Columbus Audubon



March & April Field Trips

For complete descriptions of all trips, visit our web site: www.columbusaudubon.org/calendar

Birds at Char-Mar Preserve in Westerville

Sat., March 8 at 8:30 am

Join Darlene Sillick as she guides us in locating and identifying the bird life found trailside in the preserve. Bring binoculars if you have them; a limited number will be available for loan. The loop trail is 1.7 miles long, which would be the maximum walking distance depending on conditions and where the birds are located. For more information, contact Darlene at azuretrails@columbus.rr.com or 614-288-3696.

Ducks of the Darby Plains

Sun., March 9 at 9:00 am

Tired of waiting for spring? Join us as we sharpen our birding eyes on the early migrant waterfowl and songbirds of the wetlands and fields of the Darby Creeks area. Meet at the Darby Bend Lakes parking area in Prairie Oaks Metro Park at 9:00 am. Don't forget this is the first day of Daylight Savings Time. For more info, contact Rob Thorn at 614-551-0643 or robthorn@earthlink.net.

Late Winter Birds of Killdeer Plains

Sun., March 9 at 1:00 pm

Join us as we slowly drive the roads of this spectacular 2000-acre wildlife area in search of Rough-legged Hawks, Northern Harriers, Short-eared Owls, shrikes, and many others. Weather permitting, we will also stop on the way at a special place to observe Snow Buntings, Lapland Longspurs, and Horned Larks. Meet for carpooling from Worthington Mall parking lot for the 1.5 hour drive to Killdeer. Dress warmly and be prepared for a few wet or muddy fields. Bring food, water, binoculars, and spotting scopes. Return time to Columbus at your decision. Contact Mike Flynn at 614-769-1681 or mflynn.wildandfree@gmail.com.

Bird Hike at Blendon Woods.

Sun., March 9 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Join Naturalist Bruce Simpson in search of waterfowl and other migrants. Meet at the nature center. Bring binoculars or borrow ours. For more information, call Blendon Woods Metro Park at 614-895-6221.

Service in the Preserves: St Mary's River Wetlands State Nature Preserve, Mercer County

Sat., March 15 at 7:45 am

Join us as we enjoy the day near the river and remove multiflora rose in one of our newest state nature preserves. Meet in the parking lot inside the gate house at the ODNR Complex, 2045 Morse Road, to travel in the ODNR van. Registration required; call Katryn Renard by the preceding Wednesday, March 15 at 614-261-7171 to register and reserve space for transportation. No special skills are required; bring your lunch, water, work gloves and appropriate foot gear.

Alum Creek Reservoir Waterfowl

Sun., March 16 at 9:00 am

Please join Tom Bain in search of migrating waterfowl. We will rendezvous at 9:00 am at the Cheshire Road boat ramp parking area just north of Cheshire Road along Africa Road (a couple miles south of Route 36/37). Please dress to walk several short trails to viewpoint around the reservoir. We will return to the boat ramp rendezvous by 1:00 pm. For more info, contact Tom at bainnature@insight.rr.com or 614-312-7513.

Ducks and Dinner at Hoover Reservoir and Lomas Del Sol

Wed., March 26 at 6:30 pm

Join us at the Sunbury Road Kroger just north of OH-161 at 6:30. Meet at the north end of the parking lot to carpool to look for ducks. We will return to Lomas Del Sol for affordable good eats, drinks, and company (6047 S Sunbury Rd.). For more info, contact Tom at bainnature@insight.rr.com or 614-312-7513.

Avid Birders

Sat., March 29 at 5:30 am

Meet to carpool in the southeast corner of the Worthington Mall parking lot. As usual, the destinations will be chosen and announced a few days before the trip, depending on reports of birds to be seen across Ohio. All birders are welcome! Bring water, lunch, and snacks, and dress appropriately for the weather. For more information, contact avidbirdersleads@columbusaudubon.org.

Birds at Birds at Deer Haven Preserve in Delaware

Sat., April 5 at 8:30 am

Join Darlene Sillick as she guides us in locating and identifying the bird life found trailside in the preserve. Bring binoculars if you have them; a limited number will be available for loan. For more information, contact Darlene at 614-288-3696 or azuretrails@columbus.rr.com.

Darby Creek Wetlands

Sun., April 6 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Join Jeff Pontius at the Battelle Darby Wetlands Nature Center. Jeff will lead the search for shorebirds in one of the most productive habitats in central Ohio. Contact Jeff at pontiusjeff@yahoo.com for more info.

Bird Hike at Blendon Woods.

Sunday, April 6 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Join Naturalist Bruce Simpson in search of waterfowl and other migrants. Meet at the nature center. Bring binoculars or borrow ours. For more information, call Blendon Woods Metro Park at 614-895-6221.

field trips continued on page 9

Wildlife Diversity Conference 2014

Ohio Department of Natural Resources hosts the 2014 Wildlife Diversity Conference on Wednesday, March 12 at Aladdin Shrine Complex in Columbus.



The newest Ohio Wildlife Legacy Stamp and Pin will be available at the conference. The stamp features a painted turtle and proceeds supporting wildlife diversity conservation, research and education in Ohio.

The all-day conference will provide opportunities to ask questions, share ideas and network with others interested in natural resource conservation and management. Author David FitzSimmons will share his conservation story along with powerful images. Barn Owls are on the rebound; learn how you can help. Learn more about cavity nesting birds, the value of museum taxidermy collections, the American Woodcock, surveying small and large streams for the fishes of Ohio, and view captivating footage from trailcam videographers and learn how you too, can get some great videos.

For information, please call 1.800.WILDLIFE (1-800-945-3543) or visit www.ohiodnr.com/wildlife.



Wilson Symposium at Ohio Wesleyan University

In 1814, publication of the ninth and final volume of Alexander Wilson's monumental *American Ornithology* completed the first major scientific publication of the young republic and laid the foundation for American ornithology.

Two hundred years later, Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware celebrates Wilson's life and accomplishments in a symposium *Alexander Wilson and the making of American Ornithology* on Wednesday, April 23. Program details and registration, along with an exhibit of Wilson's artwork, publications and notes, are available at Wilson200.owu.edu.

For more information, please contact Prof. Edward H. (Jed) Burtt, Jr. at ehburtt@owu.edu or 740-368-3886.

field trips continued from page 8

Service in the Preserves: Scioto Brush Creek State Nature Preserve, Adams County

Sat.-Sun., April 12-13 (overnight)

Join us on this overnight trip to build bridges in Scioto Brush Creek State Nature Preserve. This is a lovely preserve that boasts a clean creek and unusual wildflowers. Departure at 7:45 am on Saturday. Registration required; call Katryn Renard by the preceding Wednesday at 614-261-7171 to register and reserve space for transportation. No special skills are required; bring your lunch, water, work gloves and appropriate foot gear.

Pickerington Ponds & Blacklick Creek Greenway

Sun., April 13 at 8:30 am to 12:00 noon

Join us at the Wood Duck parking area as we bird the wetlands and woods of SE Franklin County in search of late waterfowl, early shorebirds, and all manner of songbirds. For more info, contact Rob Thorn at 614-551-0643 or robthorn@earthlink.net.

Avid Birders

Sat., April 26 at 5:30 am

Meet to carpool in the southeast corner of the Worthington Mall parking lot. As usual, the destinations will be chosen and announced a few days before the trip, depending on reports of birds to be seen across Ohio. All birders are welcome! Bring water, lunch, and snacks, and dress appropriately for the weather. For more information, contact avidbirderleads@columbusaudubon.org.

Osprey Social and Mudflats Grill

Wed., April 30 at 6:30 pm

Join us on the Hoover boardwalk (Area M) at 6:30 to see Ospreys and other birds, followed by affordable good eats, drinks, and company at Mudflats Grill on the Galena Square (31 Columbus St.). For more info, contact Tom at bain-nature@insight.rr.com or 614-312-7513.

Amphibians and Early Bird Migrants at Sheedy Nature Preserve

Sat., April 12 at 9:00 am to 12 noon

Join Tom Bain to explore buttonbush swamp pools for amphibians, wildflowers, and early birds. Meet at 9:00 am in the small parking lot. We will return to vehicles by noon. Sheedy NP is located in SW Morrow County a short distance north of the county line, Ball Road (56), along Bloomfield Road (204). For more info, contact Tom at 614-312-7513 or bainnature@insight.rr.com.

Special out of state trip!

Spring Dance of Sandhill Cranes at Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area, Indiana

Sun., March 23 (possible extra day of Sat. or Mon.)

This trip will give us the opportunity to observe the courtship behavior of the Greater Sandhill Crane, including their amazing courtship dance. For details, contact Mike Flynn at 614-769-1681 or mflynn.wildandfree@gmail.com.

Columbus Audubon and GIAC Events

Schedule of Events

GIAC events are in black text.

www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org

CA events are in green text.

www.columbusaudubon.org

Bird Hike at the GIAC

Sat., March 1 9:00-10:00 am

Audubon Afternoons: Raptors

Sat. & Sun., March 1-2 1:00-3:00 pm

Junior Explorers: 3rd – 5th grade

Sun., March 2 3:00-5:00 pm

Wee Naturalists: Preschool Program

Wed., March 5 10:00 am-noon

Junior Explorers: 3rd – 5th grade

Wed., March 5 4:00-6:00 pm

Preschool Story Time Thursdays

Thur., March 6 10:00 am

Birds at Char-Mar Preserve in Westerville

Sat., March 8 at 8:30 am

Bird Hike at the GIAC

Sat., March 8 9:00-10:00 am

Audubon Afternoons: What's in our Water?

Sat. & Sun., March 8-9 1:00-3:00 pm

Ducks of the Darby Plains

Sun., March 9 at 9:00 am

Bird Hike at Blendon Woods.

Sun., March 9 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Wee Naturalists: Preschool Program

Wed., March 12 10:00 am- noon

Afterschool Audubon Art Class: 5th – 8th grade

Wed., March 12 4:00-6:00 pm

Preschool Story Time Thursdays

Thur., March 13 10:00 am

Fireside Fridays: Sensory Night Hike

Fri., March 14 7:00-9:30 pm

Service in the Preserves: St Mary's River Wetlands State Nature Preserve, Mercer County

Sat., March 15 at 7:45 am

Bird Hike at the GIAC

Sat., March 15 9:00-10:00 am

Audubon Afternoons: Habitat Hike

Sat. & Sun., March 15-16 1:00-3:00 pm

Alum Creek Reservoir Waterfowl

Sun., March 16 at 9:00 am

Junior Naturalists: 6th – 8th grade

Sun., March 16 3:00-5:00 pm

Wee Naturalists: Preschool Program

Wed., March 19 10:00 am-noon

Junior Naturalists: 6th – 8th grade

Wed., March 19 4:00-6:00 pm

Preschool Story Time Thursdays

Thur., March 20 10:00 am

Bird Hike at the GIAC

Sat., March 22 9:00-10:00 am

Audubon Afternoons: Take a Quest

Sat. & Sun., March 22-23 1:00-3:00 pm

Spring Dance of Sandhill Cranes at Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area, Indiana

Sun., March 23

Wee Naturalists: Preschool Program

Wed., March 26 10:00 am-noon

Afterschool Audubon Art Class: 5th – 8th grade

Wed., March 26 4:00-6:00 pm

Ducks and Dinner at Hoover Reservoir and dinner at Lomas Del Sol

Wed., March 26 at 6:30 pm

Preschool Story Time Thursdays

Thur., March 27 10:00 am

Avid Birders

Sat., March 29 at 5:30 am

Bird Hike at the GIAC

Sat., March 29 9:00-10:00 am

Audubon Afternoons: Habitat Restoration

Sat. & Sun., March 29-30 1:00-3:00 pm

Bird Banding & Breakfast

Tue., April 1 9:00-10:30 am

Wee Naturalists: Preschool Program

Wed., April 2 10:00 am-noon

Junior Explorers: 3rd – 5th grade

Wed., April 2 4:00-6:00 pm

Bird Banding & Breakfast

Thur., April 3 9:00-10:30 am

Preschool Story Time Thursdays

Thur., April 3 10:00 am

Birds at Deer Haven Preserve in Delaware

Sat., April 5 at 8:30 am

Bird Hike at the GIAC

Sat., April 5 9:00-10:00 am

Bird Banding & Breakfast

Sat., April 5 9:00-10:30 am

Audubon Afternoons: What's in our Water?

Sat. & Sun., April 5-6 1:00-3:00 pm

Bird Hike at Blendon Woods.

Sun., April 6 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Darby Creek Wetlands

Sun., April 6 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Junior Explorers: 3rd – 5th grade

Sun., April 6 3:00-5:00 pm

Bird Banding & Breakfast

Tue., April 8 9:00-10:30 am

Wee Naturalists: Preschool Program

Wed., April 9 10:00 am-noon

Afterschool Audubon Art Class: 5th – 8th grade

Wed., April 9 4:00-6:00 pm

Bird Banding & Breakfast

Thur., April 10 9:00-10:30 am

Preschool Story Time Thursdays

Thur., April 10 10:00 am

Fireside Fridays: Starry Night Hike

Fri., April 11 7:00-9:30 pm

Amphibians and Early Bird Migrants at Sheedy Nature Preserve

Sat., April 12 at 9:00 am to 12 noon

Bird Hike at the GIAC

Sat., April 12 9:00-10:00 am

Bird Banding & Breakfast

Sat., April 12 9:00-10:30 am

Audubon Afternoons: Macroinvertebrate Mayhem

Sat. & Sun., April 12-13 1:00-3:00 pm

Service in the Preserves: Scioto Brush Creek State Nature Preserve, Adams County

Sat.-Sun., April 12-13 (overnight)

Pickerington Ponds & Blacklick Creek Greenway

Sun., April 13 at 8:30 am to 12:00 noon

Bird Banding & Breakfast

Tue., April 15 9:00-10:30 am

Wee Naturalists: Preschool Program

Wed., April 16 10:00 am-noon

Junior Naturalists: 6th – 8th grade

Wed., April 16 4:00-6:00 pm

Bird Banding & Breakfast

Thurs., April 17 9:00-10:30 am

Preschool Story Time Thursdays

Thur., April 17 10:00 am

Bird Hike at the GIAC

Sat., April 19 9:00-10:00 am

Bird Banding & Breakfast

Sat., April 19 9:00-10:30 am

Audubon Afternoons: Nature Journaling

Sat. & Sun., April 19-20 1:00-3:00 pm

Junior Naturalists: 6th – 8th grade

Sun., April 20 3:00-5:00 pm

Bird Banding & Breakfast

Tue., April 22 9:00-10:30 am

Wee Naturalists: Preschool Program

Wed., April 23 10:00 am-noon

Afterschool Audubon Art Class: 5th – 8th grade

Wed., April 23 4:00-6:00 pm

Bird Banding & Breakfast

Thur., April 24 9:00-10:30 am

Preschool Story Time Thursdays

Thur., April 24 10:00 am

Avid Birders

Sat., April 26 at 5:30 am

Bird Hike at the GIAC

Sat., April 26 9:00-10:00 am

Bird Banding & Breakfast

Sat., April 26 9:00-10:30 am

Audubon Afternoons: Beginner Bird Hike

Sat. & Sun., April 26-27 1:00-3:00 pm

Bird Banding & Breakfast

Tue., April 29 9:00-10:30 am

Wee Naturalists: Preschool Program

Wed., April 30 10:00 am-noon

Osprey Social and Mudflats Grill

Wed., April 30 at 6:30 pm



Grange Insurance Audubon Center

New Staff at GIAC



Jeff Yost , Development & Marketing Manager

GIAC is pleased to announce the hiring of Jeff Yost as our new development and marketing manager. Jeff comes to us with background in corporate marketing and advertising. He also has nearly ten years in the nonprofit fundraising arena with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and more recently Habitat for Humanity in Massachusetts. A native of central Ohio, Jeff has returned home and looks forward to working with our friends and supporters. Jeff can be reached at GIAC by calling 614-545-5479 or by email at jyost@audubon.org.


Work for the Planet and Celebrate Gratitude for the Good Earth

Come join us to celebrate Earth Day Gratitude Columbus 2014 by volunteering a morning with the GIAC in the Scioto Audubon Metropark. During the week of April 19-26 at projects across the region, thousands of your neighbors will pick-up shovels and hoes, grab garbage pickers and honeysuckle poppers, and put in the hard work needed to keep our communities clean and green. All this will culminate in a celebration in Columbus on Saturday, April 26.

At the GIAC, we will be offering two chances to come out and make a difference for the planet. Projects will include a river clean-up, removing invasive plants, planting native plants, and working in our native gardens. There will be opportunities for all ages and fitness levels. Lunch will be provided. So recruit some friends, family, and co-workers for a fun and rewarding morning. Register online at www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org/visit-us.

Who: Ages 5 and up When: April 19 and/or April 22 from 9 am -12 pm Fee: Free but registration required





Check out our new website!
www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org

Like us on Facebook too!
www.facebook.com/grangeinsuranceauduboncenter

Fireside Fridays

Fireside Fridays, a new program that started in February, is geared toward families and individuals age 5 to adult. Participants will explore a variety of seasonal themes with activities, an indoor/outdoor fire, s'mores, and a beverage. The program will occur one Friday evening of each month between 7-9 pm. The program will be led by GIAC educators.

Admission prices are \$5 per member and \$8 per nonmember and can be paid the day of the event.



The Best Way to Watch RED WHITE & BOOM 2014!



The Grange Insurance Audubon Center is offering a very limited number of tables (16) for this year's Red White & Boom annual firework celebration Wednesday, July 3 from 5:30 to 11:30 pm.

Enjoy a pre-fireworks evening in the Scioto Audubon Metro Park, then watch the fireworks from the best spot in the city. No need to find a port-a-john or fight the crowds, and our Play Room will be open for kids from 6-9 pm.

\$400 table includes: Ten (10) tickets, 2 parking passes, buffet with burgers, brats, and all the trimmings. BYOB & onsite bartender must collect and serve your alcoholic beverages.

To purchase your table or for more information, contact Jeff at 614-545-5479 or jyost@audubon.org. Individual and smaller group tickets will go on sale after May 15 only if space is available.

Grange Insurance Audubon Center

New Programs at GIAC

The GIAC education team is excited to announce a new lineup of programs for this spring. Bring your friends and come check out the new classes.

Find detailed descriptions and registration for all fee based programs at www.Grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org/learn. For questions or more information, call Suzan Jervey at 614-545-5483 or email sjervy@audubon.org.

Preschool Programs

Wee Naturalists Wednesdays



Explore the wonders of nature in the heart of the city at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center! Preschool-age children can bring their favorite adult to join our educators as we explore the Scioto Audubon Metro Park and the Nature Center through stories, nature hikes, activities and more each month on Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 12 noon.

Who: Preschoolers (3-5 year

olds) and their favorite adult

When: Wednesdays, monthly

Fee: Members \$80 per monthly program, non-members \$120.00 per monthly program

Preschool Story Time Thursdays

Join one of our dynamic volunteers for Preschool Story Time at 10:00 am on Thursdays. Enjoy a nature based story in our beautiful library and bird viewing room. After the story, little ones can romp and play in the Forest Room where they can dress up like birds, play with puppets, and climb into the tree tops in our forest. Registration is not required for this program.

Who: Toddlers and Preschoolers

When: Thursdays at 10:00 am

Fee: Free



School Age Programs

After School Audubon Art Class

Students will explore various art topics and mediums linking art, nature and conservation.

Who: 5-8 graders

When: 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month starting in March from 4-6 pm

Fee: \$25 members/session or \$30 non-members/session

Junior Explorers

Students will discover the wonders and mysteries of nature as they explore the Audubon Center and Scioto Audubon Metro Park; a variety of topics will be covered.

Who: 3-5 graders

When: 1st Wednesday from 4-6 pm or 1st Sunday from 3-5 pm of each month starting in March.

Fee: \$20 member/session or \$30 non-members/session

Junior Naturalists

Students will investigate and delve into various nature topics utilizing the Audubon Center and the Scioto Audubon Metro Park.

Who: 6-8 graders

When: 3rd Wednesday from 4-6 pm or 3rd Sunday from 3-5 pm starting in March

Fee: \$20 member/session or \$30 non-members/session

School Groups

Audubon Field Trips

Teachers bring your students to the Center for a unique field trip in the heart of the city. All of the programs meet the core curriculum and state standards. Two hour education programs are available with a choice of the following topics: Birds and Birding, Aquatic Habitats and Conservation Action. Other topics available for 7th grade and up.

Who: K- 2

When: Dates based on availability between 9:30 am and 3 pm

Fee: \$5 per student (25 students \$125 minimum)

Grange Insurance Audubon Center

Family Programs

Bird Banding and Breakfast

Participants will enjoy a light continental breakfast and bird banding demonstration with Anne Balogh our conservation manager, for your group of up to 10 people

Who: (all ages)

When: Tuesday, Thursday, or Saturday in April, May, September, October

When: 9-10:30 am

Fee: \$75/session

Fireside Friday

Come one and all for a delightful evening at the Center. Enjoy the topic of the evening followed by a story or song at the indoor/outdoor fire and s'mores/beverage. In case of rain, programs will be held inside by the fireplace.

Who: ages 5 and up

When: 1st Friday every month from 7-9 pm

Fee: \$10 member per person/session or \$15 non-member per person/session

March - Sensory night hike and campfire! Take a night hike led by a GIAC educator and explore the five senses!

April - Oh Starry Night! Take a night hike led by a GIAC educator and explore the heavens! Learn how animals use the stars!

Weekly Bird Hikes

Come and take hike with our Educators or Volunteers to see what you can find in our Scioto Audubon Metro Park.

Who: all ages

When: 9-10 am all Saturdays starting in March

Fee: Free

School Groups

Audubon Field Trips

Teachers bring your students to the Center for a unique field trip in the heart of the city. All of the programs meet the core curriculum and state standards. Two hour education programs are available with a choice of the following topics: Birds and Birding, Aquatic Habitats and Conservation Action. Other topics available for 7th grade and up.

Who: K-12

When: Dates based on availability between 9:30 am and 3:00 pm

Fee: \$5 per student (25 students or \$125 minimum)

Jill Holl Receives Top Award



On February 12 Jill Holl received GIAC's top volunteer award. The Johann Cozart Outstanding Award was presented by director Christie Vargo. Jill is often the warm smile visitors receive at the front desk and is always willing to do a little

extra around the Center. She helps with bird banding, Project FeederWatch, and work in the store. Last year, she worked 464 hours and earned the Dragonfly pin, the only volunteer in the category of more than 250 hours. Certificates and pins were awarded to 48 other volunteers for their service at GIAC in 2013.



SAVE THE DATE

Wine & Warblers
In your own Backyard

Sample numerous wines and foods
from among Columbus' best
wine purveyors and restaurants while
enjoying beautiful natural
surroundings and one of the best
city skyline views in Columbus

Thursday May 29, 2014

Grange Insurance Audubon Center
505 W. Whittier Street
Columbus Ohio 43215

DETAILS COMING SOON AT

www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org

All proceeds benefit children's education and other programs of
Grange Insurance Audubon Center.

Columbus Audubon



Registration for Audubon Adventure Camp Now Open

Weekly Sessions June 9 to August 15

It's never too early to start planning summer activities for your kids. Want to make sure your children spend some quality time unplugged and outdoors this summer? Register them now to come spend those warm and sunny (and even rainy) days breathing in some fresh air and exploring the great outdoors at Audubon Adventure Camp...where every day is an adventure at the Center and in the surrounding habitats of the Scioto Audubon Metro Park.

The Grange Insurance Audubon Center offers a unique day camp that is sure to please both campers and parents alike. Campers will spend the day engaged in activities that provide hands-on experiences and encourage them to investigate and explore the natural world around them. Campers will spend the "lazy" days of summer dipping in the wetlands, hunting for insects, catching butterflies and dragonflies, building shelters in the forest, painting masterpieces, investigating natural resources, conquering invasive plant species, tracking animals, bird-watching, fishing and much more! This camp allows your child to not only learn about the natural world and the importance of conservation but to take steps to will learn how they can make a positive impact on the world around them by taking action.

Thanks to our great camper/parent feedback, we've added new three-day preschool and kindergarten camps, age specific as well as multiple age group sessions, and Thursday night overnights during our 6-8th grade camp sessions. Registration is now open, so share with your friends and don't wait. Weekly sessions are available from June 9 to August 15 and camp runs daily from 9 am to 4 pm with before and after care available if needed (not available the week of preschool and kindergarten sessions). Go to www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org for weekly session topics, complete program descriptions, and to register online. If you have any questions, please call Allison Roush at 614-545-5482 or e-mail aroush@audubon.org.

Could this be you?

Removing birds from a mist net for banding. Reading a story to preschoolers. Greeting visitors to the Center. Pulling weeds from our rooftop garden. All these are jobs done by the nearly 100 people who volunteer for the Grange Insurance Audubon Center.

GIAC recruits volunteers yearlong, especially as spring arrives and our citizen science and education programs increase. Training is provided and many of the jobs take little or no prior experience. Besides the satisfaction of helping, volunteers get to know people with similar interests. Jobs are varied and help is needed weekends and weekdays.

Our most visible volunteers are the greeters and nature store attendants. Many visitors don't realize that we are located in an Important Birding Area. You can share your passion for birds and nature with these visitors and perhaps instill excitement for a new generation of conservationists.

Citizen science volunteers assist with butterfly surveys, bird banding, point counts, and gathering habitat and nest box data. While previous birding experience is helpful, there are many ways for a new birder to help.

An exciting project will begin this spring and summer with our GIAC gardeners. A new display, Audubon at Home, will be installed to show visitors how to encourage wildlife in their own backyards.

Educational programs occur every month of the year and volunteers are needed to assist with hikes and preplanned activities. School groups come throughout the week and youth groups after school and on weekends.

For more information on becoming a GIAC volunteer, contact Suzan Jervey, educator and volunteer coordinator at sjervery@audubon.org, 614-545-5483, or go to the GIAC website for an application.

Columbus Audubon (Founded 1913)

Mission: To promote the appreciation, understanding and conservation of birds, other wildlife and their habitats, for present and future generations.

www.columbusaudubon.org

www.facebook.com/columbusaudubon

614-545-5497

Twitter: @ColumbusAudubon

Officers

President: Bill Heck, 614-895-1940

Vice President: Suzan Jervey

Treasurer: Maura Rawn

Recording Secretary: Nina Harfmann, nina.natureremains@gmail.com

Past President: Julie Davis

Trustees (through June 30, 2014): George Arnold, Tim Daniel, Julie Davis, Amanda Duren, Warren Grody, Bill Heck, Dave Horn, Tamara James, Suzan Jervey

Additional chapter leaders

Birdathon: Dave Horn, davehorn43@columbus.rr.com

Conservation: Dave Horn, 614-262-0312

Eco Weekend: Dale Brubeck, dbrubeck@columbus.rr.com; Lois Day, 614-793-8843

Field Trips: information@columbusaudubon.org

Membership: Joe Meara, 614-430-9127

Newsletter Editor: Tamara James, editor@columbusaudubon.org

Newsletter Designer: Julie Davis, greenheron58@insight.rr.com

Programs: Darlene Sillick, azuretrails@columbus.rr.com

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

Web site: Bill Heck, webmaster@columbusaudubon.org

Web/Social Media: Stefanie Hauck

Grange Insurance Audubon Center

Mission: To awaken and connect participants to the beauty of the natural world in the heart of Columbus and inspire environmental stewardship in their daily lives.

www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org

Facebook: GrangeInsuranceAudubonCenter

614-545-5475

Twitter: @grangeaudubon

Staff

Center Director: Christie Vargo

Director of Outreach and Engagement: Amy Boyd

Finance and Operations Manager: David Chew

Conservation Manager and Educator: Anne Balogh

Education Program Manager: Allison Roush

Development & Marketing Manager: Jeff Yost

Educators (part time): Susan Wasmund, Traci Weaver

Volunteer Coordinator and Educator (part time): Suzan Jervey

SCA Interns: Rachael Esh, Adam McFadden

Facility Attendant (part time): Ian Dowden

Office and Development Assistant: Linda FreemanWalker

Winter hours (through March): Tuesday – Friday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.;

Saturday 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.; Sunday Noon – 5 p.m.; closed Mondays

Summer hours (April 1): Tuesday – Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Saturday

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.; closed Mondays

Directions to the GIAC: From High St. or Front St. turn

west on Whittier (which runs along south end of German

Village and Brewery District). Follow Whittier, making no turns,

across the bridge spanning the tracks, until you drive into the parking lot in front of the Center.

GIAC Stewardship Board

Greg Cunningham (Chair)

Frances Beasley

Alan McKnight*

Rich Shank

Jeff Chaddock

Sandra Nessing

Leslie Strader

Julie Davis

John O'Meara*

Jamie Taylor

Arpana Dial

Lori Overmyer

Christie Vargo,

Carol Drake

Steven Puckett

Ex Officio

Bill Heck*

Jan Rodenfels

* Appointed

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

Thank you recent GIAC donors (through January 2014)

Steven Anderson	Eric Lipschutz
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Ralph Kowaluk	Thomas & Joan Welch
David Lambert	Brad and Magita Willen
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Welcome new & renewed members (through January 2014)

Dennis Ansley	Stacey McGinnis
Alik & Janna Antec	Susan Middleton
Ashrae Columbus	John & Mary Sue Nantz
Mark Baranoski & Emily Eby	Mary Ellen Nesham
Lester Barnhart	Tarra Nystrom
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John Litchfield	Tina Thomas
Marilyn Ann Logue	Gary & Lynn Wearsch
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Kellie McDermott	Rich & Liz Zingale

Return in 5 days to
Columbus Audubon/GIAC
505 W. Whittier St
Columbus, OH 43215
DBA-National Audubon Society

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Columbus Audubon/Grange Insurance Audubon Center joint membership

Part of the Audubon Network in the Mississippi Flyway

Join now and receive individual and family benefits:

- Nationally acclaimed *Audubon* magazine
- *Song Sparrow* bi-monthly local newsletter
- Email updates and Action Alerts (as you choose: local and/or national)
- 10% discount at GIAC's Nature Store
- Free and discounted local programs and field trips
- Invitations to local member-only and special events
- Local science and volunteer opportunities
- Ability to rent the Center for your special events
- Knowing you support education and conservation action in your community!

Join now at the organization membership level and receive associate benefits:

- Volunteer days and opportunities for associates and employees
- 10% discount to employees for one session of Audubon Adventures summer day camp
- Knowing you are contributing to the quality of life in your community

___ **Classic Membership \$100** (individuals, families and organizations)

Receive a free Grange Insurance Audubon Center ball cap

___ **Premier Membership \$250**

___ **Basic Organizational Membership \$75**

___ **Basic Family Membership \$45**

___ **Basic Individual Membership \$30**

___ To help the environment
check here to receive the *Song Sparrow* electronically, include
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Please note: local and national membership expiration dates may differ.

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Columbus, OH 43215