

## Sandhill Cranes by the Thousands and Birders by the Hundreds

There are natural phenomena that are part of our cultural consciousness: in Ohio, it's "buzzards" returning to Hinckley; in California, it's swallows

returning to San Juan Capistrano. Another lesser-known but equally impressive phenomenon is the migration of Sandhill Cranes. Audubon members and leaders Christie Vargo and Bill Heck both share their recent excitement in two key crane locations: Jasper-Pulaski in Indiana and Platte River in Nebraska. Our Creature Feature writer, Rob Thorn, highlights Sandhill Cranes on page 4, to increase our knowledge of these interesting creatures. We hope that the articles give you a sense of the experience of crane migration and, perhaps, inspire you to make the trip next year.



### Jasper-Pulaski, Indiana

If you have never taken a Columbus Audubon field trip you are missing out! On a cold weekend in March, Mike Flynn offered up his expertise and coordination of a trip, complete with B&B accommodations, to the Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area in Indiana.

Here Sandhill Cranes stop over by the thousands to rest and refuel during their spring migration from places south (Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and Florida) making their way to nesting grounds in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, and parts of southern Canada. The prehistoric-looking Sandhills congregate in the Jasper-Pulaski wetlands to roost each night during their stay and have been doing so for eons. The fields and the wetlands of the area hold food sources of grain

waste, insects and grubs.

Although very aware of the Nebraska Platt River migration of Lesser Sandhill Cranes, I did not know of the Indiana migration until this trip. Unknowingly, I have seen this same population of Sandhills in Florida, known as the eastern population of the Greater Sandhill Crane, but I had not made the connections south to north.

While the fall migration is a spectacular sight, the spring migration is not to be dismissed. At sunset, flock after flock of Sandhill Cranes flies overhead and cranes lower their long legs as landing gear when they approached the ground. We could hear them long before the flock was visible. They seemed undisturbed by the hundred or so spectators on the observation deck bearing binoculars, spotting scopes and cameras. We made exuberant cries of joy as though enjoying fireworks on the Fourth of July and were answered with prehistoric squawks and calls. "Although I didn't witness the cacophony of the sunrise exodus from the roosting site, I heard it was truly spectacular and included an occasional pair dancing to reinforce their lifelong bond to each other."

Who knew? In our own Midwest backyard there is so much to explore and experience.

*Christie Vargo*

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

# Passing the Torch: Messages from Current and Future National Audubon Society Regional Directors

### *Alan Dolan: A Legacy of Service to National Audubon*

This year, Alan Dolan completes his second and final full term on the board of the National Audubon Society as regional director for the Mississippi Flyway – North. In this role, Alan has represented Audubon chapters in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin. Alan has served Audubon in this role for eight years, from 2007 through 2014, taking part in a remarkable 22 of 24 national board meetings during that time.

In talking about his experiences, Alan says that he has particularly enjoyed meeting Audubon people – staff, volunteers, and members – across the region and the country. He has been fascinated by how regional issues often are interconnected, with regional, national, and even international effects. And learning how Audubon works has been a never-ending process as the organization evolves at all levels to meet current challenges. As Alan notes, there's no instruction manual for the job.

When asked about his plans after completing his term as regional director, Alan mentioned two goals. First, as long-time president of the Canton Audubon Society, he wants to find a successor. Secondly, having learned so much about Audubon and met so many Audubon people, Alan would like to continue to serve as unofficial ambassador from the national organization to chapters in Ohio and across our region.

Columbus Audubon joins chapters across the region in thanking him for his service and wishing Alan and his wife, Lee, all the best in the coming years.

*Bill Heck*

### *Bill Heck, New Regional Director for National Audubon*

The job of the regionally elected director for the Mississippi Flyway - North is to represent the grassroots constituency's concerns in the eight states (as of January 2013) that make up the region. Keeping their interests, as well as the mission and interests of the National Audubon Society in mind during the execution of the three-year term, is imperative.

Bill Heck will be the fifth person—and fourth from Ohio—to hold this position since the nine regions were created about 1993-1994. Given the qualifications needed, Bill is ideally suited for the position. Bill has been an active and integral part of two chapters in Ohio: Audubon Miami Valley (Oxford) and currently Columbus Audubon. He knows Audubon chapters and will now get an education on the business side of Audubon. Everyone, staff and board members, are great to work with and very friendly and with varied backgrounds.

Having known Bill since before he retired and left AMV, I know that he has the tools to be a successful and communicative regional director. His background in information technology will serve him well both in communication with other directors and committees he's assigned to as well as with his constituents.

Should Bill need advice or help during his three-year term, he can always call on Hardy Eshbaugh and Liz Woedl, the first two regional directors representing this region, and coincidentally, both still active within AMV. I am ready to help him also.

Congratulations Bill, enjoy your position and have fun.

*Alan Dolan*

## It's Birdathon time again!

Our goal this year is to raise at least \$12,000, which will help fund Columbus Audubon programs including local conservation grants and projects, research projects, and youth scholarships. We need YOU to help. Now is the time to sponsor your favorite team. Please see page 11 for more info and the sponsorship form.



# Conservation Corner

## Attracting Wildlife Naturally: the Case for Native Plants

Long before man-made bird houses, bird feeders and cultivated packaged bird seed arrived on the scene, birds and other wildlife evolved in an environment where they and the native flora depended upon each other for survival. As man has changed the environment, and native seed and fruit producing plants, shrubs and trees have been replaced or out-competed by non-native counterparts, the balance has been altered. Too often we see a monoculture habitat featuring invasive honeysuckle, autumn olive, Callery pear, or garlic mustard that once featured native food and shelter-producing species, which has altered the diversity of wildlife. By removing non-native plant species in the backyard habitat and replacing them with native nectar, seed, fruit and nut bearing species, you will be rewarded with a greater diversity of birds, insects and other wildlife, and contribute to the overall health and stability of the environment. Bird feeding and attraction starts with the staples of food and shelter provided by native plants and can be supplemented with cultivated bird food, man-made bird houses and water features. For a list of bird-friendly native plants, shrubs and trees, visit [www.columbusaudubon.org](http://www.columbusaudubon.org).



Tom Sheley

### A Standout Native Garden Perennial

My yard is mostly shaded, so I keep close watch for bloom-time in the one spot where flowering perennials will grow. This is my tiny cutting garden – an unknown variety of shrub rose, sedum, daisies that get beaten down by and never recover from rain storms, and my favorite, the native *Echinacea purpurea*. I love its hardiness and pretty composite-family flowers.



The *Echinacea purpurea*'s standout feature is a spiny cone in the center, giving the flower its common name, purple coneflower. The cone is surrounded by petals (or ray flowers) that have the singular job of attracting pollinators such as butterflies. Species such as painted ladies, swallowtails, fritillaries and monarchs visit coneflower plants regularly.

Purple coneflowers also attract birds that love to eat the seeds out of the mature cone. Among them are goldfinches, blue jays and cardinals, and hummingbirds are also attracted. If you're trying to bring these birds to your feeders, look for Echinacea seed in wild bird seed brands. It's more fun, though, to plant Echinacea and leave the na-

ked stems standing through the winter. Keep your eyes open for goldfinches perched on the dark cones, swaying against a snowy backdrop while pulling out seeds.

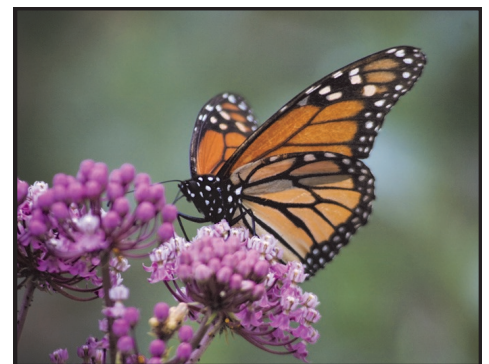
Kristan Leedy

### Milkweed for Monarchs

Experts believe that 2014 could be the Monarch butterflies' last migration due to rapid loss of habitat. If so, Monarchs will disappear from Ohio. The population count this winter was alarmingly the lowest *ever* recorded (see graph on page 14).

Native Milkweed has the only leaves the Monarch caterpillars can digest. Milkweed contains a chemical that makes Monarch butterflies taste badly to predators. *Native* Milkweed protects the Monarch butterfly, but non-native *Tropical* Milkweed causes mortality by disrupting its migratory pattern.

Please help save Monarchs in your garden. Plant ten pesticide-free Native Marsh/Swamp or Butterfly Weed) with summer and late-blooming nectar plants.



*continued on page 14*



## Creature Feature: Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis*)

We heard the bugling overhead, a resonant cackling that sounded more like dinosaurs than birds. “Sandhill Cranes!” I called out, “look high, and look carefully. They might be really high up. Those calls really travel.” Try as we might, however, we couldn't see the birds, despite hearing them overhead. They must have been really, really high up, basically invisible against the blue sky. It wasn't the first time that I'd heard but not seen these large birds. High-flying flocks are typical of this species.

Flocks, by the way, is what most cranes are famous for, and Sandhills are no exception. Most American birds breed in northern Canada and migrate south in flocks to winter in fields in Texas, New Mexico, and Mexico. Small outlier nesting populations exist in the American Rocky Mountains, southern Ontario-Michigan-Ohio, Mississippi, Florida, and even in Cuba. These last three populations are non-migratory and endangered, while many of the Midwestern populations are threatened.

It's their spring migration for which Sandhill Cranes are most famous. In winter, their flocks scour meadows and grasslands for grains, berries, insects, and small animals, but as they head back north, their habitat preference starts to change. The flocks start to home in on fens and wet meadows of the Great Plains, ranging from the bottomlands of Kansas and Nebraska over to the wet prairies of Illinois and Indiana. Huge traditional staging areas have evolved along the Platte River in Nebraska and in the Jasper-Pulaski wetlands of the Illinois-Indiana border, offering the chance to see cranes flocking in the thousands.

Their habitat preference isn't the only thing that changes. They start courtship during migration, with a complicated reciprocal dance involving leaping and strutting, coupled with head tosses, wing-flares, and rattling calls. This pair-dancing can be very elaborate and is one of the highlights of viewing large flocks in the spring. Once a pair bond has been formed, the cranes stay together for years if not life. They choose a fen or wet meadow to nest, building a

shallow reed nest and laying 1-3 eggs in it. The young chicks, called colts, are precocial, but often struggle to follow their parents through the tall grasses of their favored meadows. Many times you can spot the adults, but can only tell that chicks are present by the moving grass near the adults' legs.

Most of Ohio's Sandhill Cranes are passage birds migrating to and from Michigan or Ontario. Their migration times have gradually shifted, so that southbound birds can be seen anywhere from October through December, while northbound birds go from March to early May. The most reliable flock is a small group of 10-15 birds that will often spend the late fall down in Pickaway and Fayette Counties, roosting on the flats and marshes around Deer Creek State Park. We also have a handful of nesters in Ohio, mostly single pairs that hang around wet meadows and prairies in parks and preserves in the central and northern parts of the state. Locally, we've had a family group that forages between Slate Run Metro Park wetlands, Walnut Woods, and Pickerington Ponds. If you visit any of these parks in the summer, watch for these tall birds as they stride around the wetlands there.

*Rob Thorn*



Photo by Earl Harrison



## Hey, Everything Poops

Many densely urbanized areas lie in the migratory path of Neotropical migrants, and often urban parks and forest fragments may be the only available stopover sites for them to rest and refuel. The result can be high concentrations of migrants in urban green spaces during spring and fall. However, it is largely unknown whether these sites provide suitable resources for migratory birds or whether they are selected because essentially there is no other choice.

At GIAC we conduct migratory bird banding to assist in evaluating our urban stopover site quality and deciphering long term effects of our habitat management on breeding and migratory bird populations. We are interested in the relation of the habitat characteristics of our Metro Park to food availability. More specifically just what proportion of non-native plants food is in these bird's diets?

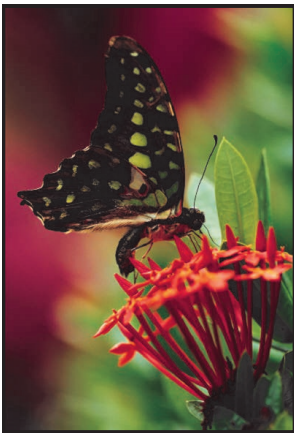
Many species of birds including species that are primarily insectivorous rely on fruit during fall migration. To understand the utilization of fruiting plants by migratory and resident birds at our urban site fecal samples will be collected from all species. Yep, we are collecting poop! There is actually a lot one can learn from it.

Due to the fast metabolism of birds, invertebrate and plant matter found in fecal matter will be assumed to have been consumed locally. Non-native honeysuckle has been shown to out-compete native plants and support fewer native insects. Plus it retains its fruit later into the fall. As such it may play a larger role in the diet of migrants because native fruits and insects are simply not available. By monitoring the fecal samples of birds during migration we will begin to understand what migrants are feeding on and how that changes as we manage the habitat.



## The Birds and the Bees: More about Climate Change

According to research sponsored by National Audubon, climate change is leading to significant changes in many birds' geographical distributions; major declines and perhaps extinction of many species may result in the next several decades. National Audubon expects to make details of this research available soon, but meanwhile less widely known (but perhaps better understood) is the relationship between climate change and insects.



Plant-feeding insects' development is closely timed to that of the host, meaning that shortly after a tree's buds open, huge numbers of little caterpillars emerge to feed on tender new foliage. Many of our most attractive songbirds such as warblers and tanagers depend on those caterpillars being present to fuel their northward migration. For many of our birds timing of migration is largely controlled by day length. This means that the birds appear in Ohio at about the same time annually. Over the thousands of years that our climate has been relatively stable, insect-eating birds have passed through our area at just the time when food supply (mostly small, easy-to-eat caterpillars) is at a peak. If trees leaf out earlier and insects respond, it is quite possible that within a few decades the formerly dependable food supply will not be present when migrants come through.

Most insects have wings and are ridiculously prolific, allowing them to respond rapidly to changing food-plant availability. This is already happening, as British scientists are discovering, using forty years of data from their "Butterfly Monitoring Scheme." Closer to home, since 1996 the Ohio Lepidopterists have had a Long-term Butterfly Monitoring Program. Recent analysis of Ohio's butterfly data clearly shows sensitivity to rising temperatures and butterflies are emerging earlier than in past years. The program also is discovering more southern species during the last few years. Climate change impacts insects, which can adapt faster than birds.

For more information visit: <http://policy.audubon.org/climate-change-campaign>.

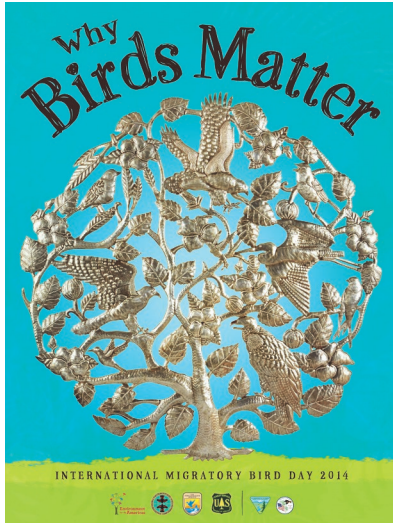
*Dave Horn*



# Grange Insurance Audubon Center

## International Migratory Bird Day

Saturday, May 10 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm



Come celebrate International Migratory Bird Day 2014 at GIAC and experience the many ways that birds matter to the earth, to ecosystems, and of course to us. Some bird species provide practical services such as insect and rodent control. Others disperse seeds or pollinate our flowering plants, trees, and shrubs. And of course birds have long been an inspiration for the arts. In the spirit of all birds do and are we will have family-friendly games, bird hikes, and craft activities through the day. There may even be a chance to do a little shopping for mom.

We will have a showing of the artwork of 94 sixth-grade art students from Larry Larson Middle School in Grandview Heights. Their art teacher Chris Sauer challenged the students with the assignment, "Ohio Bird Silhouettes." It serves different purposes both artistically and educationally. Students used watercolors to learn the concept of combining simple shapes to make more complicated forms.

They explored interactive websites, bird cams, videos and photos to learn bird appearance and also their

habitats, calls and interactions with nature. Visitors are invited to view the artwork and vote on their favorites. The top 10 selections will be displayed at the GIAC.

**Save the Date**

### Bands, Birds and Beer = B3

**Friday, September 26**

Coming back for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year  
Central Ohio's Premier  
Mountain Rock Band  
**Grassinine**



Sponsored by Donatos Pizza

Check out [www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org](http://www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org)  
for new and exciting additions to the event this  
year!



## Back and Better than Ever: Flight of Fancy

**New Name! Lower Price! Great Cause!**

*Experience Nature & One of the Best  
Skyline Views in the City*



*formerly Wine & Warblers*

**Thursday, May 29 from 6:00 pm to 9:30 pm**

Grange Insurance Audubon Center  
505 W. Whittier Avenue (in the Brewery District)

### Featuring:

Fabulous appetizers, dinner & desserts  
Wine tastings from around the world  
Complimentary wine & beer bar  
Warbler Walks to see beautiful song birds  
Exciting musical entertainment  
Memorable nature activities  
Unique items in silent and live auctions

# Grange Insurance Audubon Center

## May & June Programs at GIAC

The education team is excited to offer these programs for late spring and early summer. Come check out these newer classes and bring your friends. Register for all fee based programs and explore more detailed descriptions online at [www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org/summer-programs](http://www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org/summer-programs). For questions or more information: call Allison Roush at 614-545-5482 or email [aroush@audubon.org](mailto:aroush@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.

Who: Preschoolers (3-5 year olds) and their favorite adult

Fee: Members \$20 per monthly program; non-members \$30 per monthly program

When: Each Wednesday in May and June from 10 am to 12 noon

#### Preschool Story Time Thursdays

Join one of our dynamic volunteers for Preschool Story Time. Enjoy a nature based story in our beautiful library and bird viewing room. After the story your 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

Fee: Free

When: Each Thursday in May and June from 10 am to 11 am

### School Age Programs

#### After School Audubon Art Class

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

Who: Fifth to eighth graders

Fee: Members \$25 per session; non-members \$30 per session

When: Wednesday, May 14 from 4 pm to 6 pm; From Nature to Abstract Art

Wednesday, May 28 from 4 pm to 6 pm; Natural Weavings

Wednesday, June 11 from 4 pm to 6 pm; Oh Gourds

#### 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: Third to fifth graders

Fee: Members \$20 per session; non-members \$30 per session

When: Sunday, May 4 from 3 pm to 5 pm or Wednesday, May 7 from 4 pm to 6 pm; Wonders in the Wetland

Sunday, June 1 from 3 pm to 5 pm or Wednesday, June 4 from 4 pm to 6 pm; Cold-Blooded Science

#### Junior Naturalists

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

Who: Sixth to eighth graders

Fee: Members \$20 per session; non-members \$30 per session

When: Sunday, May 18 from 3 pm to 5 pm or Wednesday, May 21 from 4 pm to 6 pm; Beginning Ornithology

Sunday, June 15 from 3 pm to 5 pm or Wednesday, June 18 from 4 pm to 6 pm; Orienteering

### Family Programs

#### Bird Banding and Breakfast

Participants will enjoy a light continental breakfast and bird banding demonstration for up to 10 people with Anne Balogh, our conservation manager. Call 614-545-5481 or email [abalogh@audubon.org](mailto:abalogh@audubon.org) to make reservations at least one week in advance. Spots will fill quickly so don't delay.

Who: All ages

Fee: \$75 per session

When: Tuesdays, Thursdays, or Saturdays in May from 9 am to 10:30 am



*continued on page 8*

# Grange Insurance Audubon Center

## AARP Member Meet & Greet

Hosted by Grange Insurance Audubon Center Thursday, May 22 from 2:00-4:00 pm

Learn about Audubon's conservation and education work here in Central Ohio as well as volunteer opportunities. Take a "behind the scenes" tour of the Audubon Center and, if desired, its surrounding grounds. Refreshments will be served. Space is limited; register online at [http://aarp.cvent.com/Columbus\\_Audubon\\_052214](http://aarp.cvent.com/Columbus_Audubon_052214) or call 1-877-926-8300.

*Continued from page 7*

### Fireside Friday

Come one and all for a delightful evening at the Center. Various topics will be explored and then enjoy a story or song at the indoor/outdoor fire and s'mores and a beverage. In case of rain, programs will be held inside by the fireplace. Email [aroush@audubon.org](mailto:aroush@audubon.org) to RSVP for this event. Pay at the door.

Who: Ages 5 and up

Fee: Members \$5 per person per session; non-members \$8 per person per session

When: Friday, May 2 from 7 pm to 9 pm; Sensory Night Hike and Campfire

Friday, June 13 from 7 pm to 9 pm; Oh Bats and Campfire

### 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

Fee: Free

When: Saturdays, 9 am to 10 am

### 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 are available for seventh grade and up.

Who: K-12

Fee: \$5 per student or \$125 minimum

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

## The BEST View in Town for 2014 Red White & Boom!



The Grange Insurance Audubon Center is offering a very limited number of tables for this year's Columbus Red White & Boom annual firework celebration on Wednesday, July 3 from 5:30 pm 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, 505 W. Whittier Road, on the Whittier Peninsula on the banks of the Scioto River! 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.

A \$400 table Includes: 10 tickets, 2 parking passes, buffet with burgers, brats, and all the trimmings. It's BYOB and an 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](mailto:jyost@audubon.org). Individual and smaller group tickets will only go on sale after May 15 if space is available. This great opportunity sold out quickly last year so call now

*Proceeds directly benefit the mission and educational programs of GIAC*



# Grange Insurance Audubon Center

## Want to get your hands dirty?

Are you an individual, member of a church, business or other group that would like to help make one of our city's hidden treasures better? Does working up a sweat hauling brush under the open sky sound like a fun day? Perhaps a more leisurely morning working in the garden is more your speed? What about helping to count birds or conduct butterfly surveys? If you like being outdoors and making a difference we have some projects for you!

This year we are in need of green thumbs as we have a number of exciting garden projects. Many of the gardens are at the GIAC but we will also be forming a Volunteer Garden Group that assists homeowners with designing their yards using recommendations from our Audubon at Home program. The GIAC will be providing intensive training on backyard gardening and conservation for this group of volunteer leaders. If you want to learn more about Ohio's native plants, the beneficial creatures they attract, and like tending a garden and sharing your knowledge, this could be for you.

If habitat restoration is your thing grab some work gloves and join other volunteers for Grange Insurance Audubon Center's workdays. Workdays are a great opportunity to spend time outdoors, make new friends who share a concern for the environment, and make a meaningful contribution. Restoration workdays happen throughout spring, summer, and fall. We will have official workdays scheduled so please check [www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org](http://www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org) or [www.facebook.com/GrangeInsuranceAudubonCenter](https://www.facebook.com/GrangeInsuranceAudubonCenter) for updates. In addition we can schedule workdays for you or your group anytime; just give us a call. If you want a more long term relationship you can adopt a part of the park to maintain.

We will also have a number of opportunities to become a citizen scientist and monitor bird, butterfly and plants at the Scioto Audubon Metro Park. Please contact Anne at [abalogh@audubon.org](mailto:abalogh@audubon.org) or 614-545-5481 for more information.



**SPACE IS LIMITED! REGISTER NOW!**  
**[WWW.GRANGEINSURANCEAUDUBONCENTER.O](http://WWW.GRANGEINSURANCEAUDUBONCENTER.O)**

**10 Exciting  
Weekly  
Adventures  
to chose from**

**Ages pre-K thru  
Exiting 8th  
graders**

**Before and After  
Care Available**

# Columbus Audubon and GIAC Events

## Schedule of Events

GIAC events are in black text.

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

CA events are in green text.

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

### Preschool Story Time

Thurs., May 1 10:00 am

### Fireside Friday\*

Fri., May 2 7:00-9:00 pm

### Audubon Afternoons: Fantastic Fish

Sat., May 3 1:00-3:00 pm

### Birding Banding and Breakfast\*

Sat., May 3 9:00-10:30 am

### Bird Hike at Blendon Woods

Sun., May 4 at 8:00 am

### Audubon Afternoons: Fantastic Fish

Sun., May 4 1:00-3:00 pm

### Junior Explorers, Wonders in the Wetlands\*

Sun., May 4 3:00-5:00

### Evening at Pickerington Ponds

Sun., May 4 at 6:00 pm

### Birding Banding and Breakfast\*

Tues., May 6 9:00-10:30 am

### Wee Naturalists\*

Wed., May 7 10:00 am-12 noon

### Junior Explorers, Wonders in the Wetlands

Wed., May 7 4:00-6:00 pm

### Preschool Story Time

Thurs., May 8 10:00 am

### Birding Banding and Breakfast\*

Thurs., May 8 9:00-10:30 am

### Birding Whetstone Park

Fri., May 9 from 8:00 am to 11:00 am

### Scioto Migrants

Sat., May 10 at 8:00 am

### Birding Banding and Breakfast\*

Sat., May 10 9:00-10:30 am

### Audubon Afternoons: Spring Wildflowers

Sat., May 10 1:00-3:00 pm

### Birdathon Field Trip

Sun., May 11 at 9:30 am

### Audubon Afternoons: Spring Wildflowers

Sun., May 11 1:00-3:00 pm

### Birding Banding and Breakfast\*

Tues., May 13 9:00-10:30 am

### Wee Naturalists\*

Wed., May 14 10:00 am-12 noon

### After School Audubon Art Class: from Nature to Abstract Art\*

Wed., May 14 4:00-6:00 pm

### Preschool Story Time

Thurs., May 15 10:00 am

### Birding Banding and Breakfast\*

Thurs., May 15 9:00-10:30 am

### Birding Banding and Breakfast\*

Sat., May 17 9:00-10:30 am

### Audubon Afternoons: Invasives Beware

Sat., May 17 1:00-3:00 pm

### Audubon Afternoons: Invasives Beware

Sun., May 18 1:00-3:00 pm

### Junior Naturalists: Beginning Ornithology\*

Sun., May 18 3:00-5:00 pm

### Birding Banding and Breakfast\*

Tues., May 20 9:00-10:30 am

### Wee Naturalists\*

Wed., May 21 10:00 am-12 noon

### Junior Naturalists: Beginning Ornithology\*

Wed., May 21 4:00-6:00 pm

### Preschool Story Time

Thurs., May 22 10:00 am

### Birding Banding and Breakfast\*

Thurs., May 22 9:00-10:30 am

### Birding Banding and Breakfast\*

Sat., May 24 9:00-10:30 am

### Audubon Afternoons: Macroinvertebrate Mayhem

Sat., May 24 1:00-3:00 pm

### Barn Owls of Killbuck Marsh Wildlife Area

Sun., May 25 at 8:30 pm

### Audubon Afternoons: Macroinvertebrate Mayhem

Sun., May 25 1:00-3:00 pm

### Birding Banding and Breakfast\*

Tues., May 27 9:00-10:30 am

### Wee Naturalists\*

Wed., May 28 10:00 am-12 noon

### After School Audubon Art Class: Natural Weavings\*

Wed., May 28 4:00-6:00 pm

### Birding Banding and Breakfast\*

Thurs., May 29 9:00-10:30 am

### Preschool Story Time

Thurs., May 29 10:00 am

### Service in the Preserves: Daughmer Savannah State Nature Preserve

May 31 at 7:45 am

### Birding Banding and Breakfast\*

Sat., May 31 9:00-10:30 am

### Audubon Afternoons

Sat., May 31 1:00-3:00 pm

### Audubon Afternoons

Sun., June 1 1:00-3:00 pm

### Birds at Gallant Woods Preserve

Sun., June 1 at 1:30 pm

### Junior Explorers: Cold Blooded Science\*

Sun., June 1 3:00-5:00 pm

### Wee Naturalists\*

Tues., June 3 10:00 am-12 noon

### Wee Naturalists\*

Wed., June 4 10:00 am-12 noon

### Junior Explorers: Cold Blooded Science\*

Wed., June 4 4:00-6:00 pm

### Preschool Story Time

Thurs., June 5 10:00 am

### Birding by Kayak

Sat., June 7 from 8:30 am to 12:00 noon

### Audubon Afternoons: Wildflower Wonder

Sat., June 7 1:00-3:00 pm

### Audubon Afternoons: Wildflower Wonder

Sun., June 8 1:00-3:00 pm

### Wee Naturalists\*

Wed., June 11 10:00 am-12 noon

### Afterschool Audubon Art Class: Oh Gourds!\*

Wed., June 11 4:00-6:00 pm

### Preschool Story Time

Thurs., June 12 10:00 am

### Fireside Friday: Sensory Night Hike

Fri., June 13 8:30 pm

### Avid Birders

Sat., June 14 at 5:30 am

### Audubon Afternoons: Butterflies, Bees and More

Sat., June 14 1:00-3:00 pm

### Bird Hike at Blendon Woods

Sun., June 15 at 8:00 am

### Audubon Afternoons: Butterflies, Bees and More

Sun., June 15 1:00-3:00 pm

### Junior Naturalists: Orienteering\*

Sun., June 15 3:00-5:00 pm

### Wee Naturalists\*

Wed., June 18 10:00 am-12 noon

### Junior Naturalists, Orienteering\*

Wed., June 18 4:00-6:00 pm

### Preschool Story Time

Thurs., June 19 10:00 am

### Audubon Afternoons: What's in our wetland water?

Sat., June 21 1:00-3:00 pm

### Audubon Afternoons: What's in our wetland water?

Sun., June 22 1:00-3:00 pm

### Wee Naturalists\*

Wed., June 25 10:00 am-12 noon

### Preschool Story Time

Thurs., June 26 10:00 am

### Audubon Afternoons: Cold-blooded science

Sat., June 28 1:00-3:00 pm

### Audubon Afternoons: Cold-blooded science

Sun., June 29 1:00-3:00 pm



# Columbus Audubon

## Birdathon 2014: Let the exuberance begin!

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

What will our Columbus Audubon Birdathon teams see this year: Blue-winged Warbler, Upland Sandpiper, Yellow-headed Blackbird or our own mascot, the Song Sparrow? Our teams are already hard at work planning their trips and recruiting sponsors. We are all looking forward to this great spring tradition. It is all of the team members who help make the Birdathon a successful, exciting and fun event every year.

Sponsors are also important team members; your sponsorship supports the birders and the mission of Columbus Audubon. 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 pay your pledge at [www.columbusaudubon.org/birdathon](http://www.columbusaudubon.org/birdathon).

Our goal this year is to raise at least \$12,000, 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 enabled 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.

All of our teams and sponsors will be invited to celebrate their Birdathon success at our annual celebration. There will be a bird walk, door prizes, two grand prizes and dessert. The grand prizes this year include the Vortex Viper HD binoculars, a binocular harness, lens pen and vortex optics hat courtesy of Vortex Optics and Wild Birds Unlimited Riverside Drive. (retail value \$735). The second prize is a one night's stay for two at the beautiful Inn at Cedar Falls in the Hocking Hills.

If you have not formed a team yet, there's still time! Just start with a couple of birding buddies, choose a team name and email Julie Davis at [greenheron58@insight.rr.com](mailto:greenheron58@insight.rr.com) to register. Ask family, friends and co-workers to sponsor you and then go birding. Count all the birds that you can identify in up to 24 hours any day between May 3 and May 19.

Remember, you don't have to stay in Ohio to do your birding, so be creative. This year's registered teams (so far) are

### Early Birders (OYBC)

Central Ohio Young Birders Members  
Advisors: Darlene Sillick, Susan Setterlin, Tim Daniel, Nina Harfmann

### Deck Birds

Cheri Brown, Pat Barron, Bev May, Pete Precario

### Happy Feet

Suzan Jervey, Tod Jervey, Chrissy Hoff, Susan Wasmund

### Low Carbon Footprinters

Dave & Roz Horn, Katryn & Bruce Renard

### Metro Parks Stellar Jays

Jim Davidson, Joe Meara, Johan Meara, Janie Voelker, John Watts

### Mudflats Herons

Jackie Bain, Tom Bain, Julie Davis, Ken Davis

### Neat Nests

Fred Lancia, Jordan Parrott

### Red-Eyed Weary-o's

Alyn & Earl Harrison, Suzan Jervey

### Slate (Run) Colored Juncos

Linda Benner, Andrea Krava, Lori Patterson

### Swans and Coots

Alan Cohen, Clyde Gosnell, Paul Knoop, Katryn Renard, Omie Warner

### Two in a Bush

Patty DeMaria, Elaine Fujimura, Margaret Moran

### Wandering Warblers

Nadya Bennett, Barb Revard, Stephen Revard, Geoff Winningham

### Wild Birds Unlimited Riverside

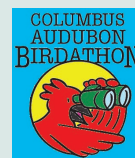
Bill Heck, Steve Landes, Tom Sheley

### Wild Birds Unlimited Westerville

Charlie Bombaci, Mike Flynn, Dan Hall, Darlene Sillick

### Witchety Witchety Witches

Tamara James, Kristan Leedy



## Sign me up to be a Birdathon Sponsor!

I will sponsor my favorite team. Go to [www.columbusaudubon.org/birdathon](http://www.columbusaudubon.org/birdathon), click Pledge Now, and follow the instructions, OR send a check to Columbus Audubon Birdathon, c/o Elaine Smith, 4420 Jennydawn Place, Hillard OH 43026. Be sure to note the team you are team you are sponsoring. For any pledge over \$35, please give your address for tax purposes. Your generous donation is tax deductible.



# Columbus Audubon



## May & June Field Trips

For complete descriptions of all trips, visit our web site: [www.columbusaudubon.org/calendar](http://www.columbusaudubon.org/calendar)

### Bird Hike at Blendon Woods

*Sun., May 4 at 8:00 am*

Join Naturalist Bruce Simpson in search of migrating birds. Meet at the Nature Center. Bring binoculars or borrow ours. For more information, call Blendon Woods Metro Park at 614-895-6221.

### Evening at Pickerington Ponds

*Sun., May 4 at 6:00 pm*

Join Mike Flynn in search of the newly arrived spring migrants and breeding residents. Meet at Glacial Knoll parking area at 6:00 pm. For more info, contact Mike Flynn at 614.769.1681 or [mflynn.wildandfree@gmail.com](mailto:mflynn.wildandfree@gmail.com).

### Birding Whetstone Park

*Fri., May 9 from 8:00 am to 11:00 am*

Explore bountiful bird habitats in the heart of Clintonville. This hike, led by Donna Siple and Lynn Wearsch, is for all levels—beginners are absolutely welcome. Meet at the Park of Roses parking area.

For more info, contact Lynn Wearsch at [lmari5436@gmail.com](mailto:lmari5436@gmail.com).

### Scioto Migrants

*Sat., May 10 at 8:00 am*

Join us as we revel in the first waves of Neotropical songbird migrants along the Scioto River corridor and Greenlawn Cemetery. Meet at the Scioto Audubon boat launch (first left off Whittier west of Front) at 8:00 am. For more info, contact Rob Thorn at 614-551-0643 or [robthorn@earthlink.net](mailto:robthorn@earthlink.net).

### Birdathon Field Trip

*Sun., May 11 at 9:30 am*

Have you wanted to do a “Big Day” and see as many birds as you can? Join us as in this open Birdathon team exploring Ottawa NWR, Magee Marsh, and the Lake Erie shore. We will attempt to see 100 species. Meet at 9:30 am at the Visitor Center of the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge (14000 West State Route 2, Oak Harbor, OH 43449) or 6:30 am at Worthington Mall to carpool. For more info, contact Earl Harrison at 614-505-1123 or [Harrison.304@osu.edu](mailto:Harrison.304@osu.edu).

### Barn Owls of Killbuck Marsh Wildlife Area

*Sun., May 25 at 8:30 pm*

Travel to the heart of Amish country to explore birds and other wildlife that live in this expansive wilderness area. Ken Duren, ODNR wildlife biologist will lead us to a Barn Owl nesting site to observe their behavior. Bring waterproof boots. Meet at Killbuck Marsh Wildlife Area, at the parking lot at the end of Force Road on the east side of the wildlife area. For more info or a possible rendezvous earlier in the day, contact Mike Flynn at 614-769-1681 or [mflynn.wildandfree@gmail.com](mailto:mflynn.wildandfree@gmail.com).

### Service in the Preserves: Daughmer Savannah State Nature Preserve, Crawford County

*May 31 at 7:45 am*

Join us at one of the few remaining oak savannahs as we work to remove invasive teasel. Meet in the parking lot inside the gate house at the ODNR Complex, 2045 Morse Road, to travel in the ODNR van. 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.

### Birds at Gallant Woods Preserve

*Sun., June 1 at 1:30 pm*

Locate and identify bird life along the trails. Bring binoculars; a limited number will be available for loan. Meet in the parking lot. For more info, contact Darlene Sillick at [azuretrails@columbus.rr.com](mailto:azuretrails@columbus.rr.com) or 614-288-3696.

### Birding by Kayak

*Sat., June 7 from 8:30 am to 12:00 noon*

Search for avian residents on Twin Lakes in a leisure kayaking trip. Kayaks and instruction for beginners provided; cost is \$20 per person. Meet at The Adaptive Adventure Sports Coalition (TAASC) in Shawnee Hills. Please pre-register with Darlene Sillick at [azuretrails@columbus.rr.com](mailto:azuretrails@columbus.rr.com) (preferred) or 614-288-3696.

### Avid Birders

*Sat., June 14 at 5:30 am*

The Columbus Avid Birders will explore grassland habitats in search of breeding birds, such as Upland Sandpiper, Bobolink, Blue Grosbeak, and sparrows. Bring your lunch and meet at the Worthington Mall parking lot. For more info, contact [AvidBirder-Leads@ColumbusAudubon.org](mailto:AvidBirder-Leads@ColumbusAudubon.org).

### Bird Hike at Blendon Woods

*Sun., June 15 at 8:00 am*

Join Naturalist Bruce Simpson in search of nesting birds. Meet at the Nature Center. Bring binoculars or borrow ours. For more infor-

## Voice Your Opinions

Birds use song to communicate with potential mates or about potential predators. We want you to “sing out” and let us know what you think about the *Song Sparrow* so we can continue to deliver what you like and improve where we should.

- What newsletter features to you especially like?
- Which features do you always read? Which do you always ignore? (We know: the answer is none of them.)
- Do you have suggestions on topics we should cover in future issues?

Send your comments, complaints, and suggestions to [editor@columbusaudubon.org](mailto:editor@columbusaudubon.org). On June 1, we'll do a random drawing from all submissions and send gift cards to three lucky responders.

## Kayaking and Birding with Columbus Audubon



Below are excerpts from the Ohio Young Birders Club field trip with Columbus Audubon on Saturday, June 9, 2013. *To experience this unique trip, see details about Columbus Audubon's upcoming Birding by Kayak event on the field trips page.*

The Ohio Young Birders Club members met at [The Adaptive Adventure Sports Coalition](#) (TAASC) to go on a kayaking and bird watching tour at Twin Lakes, an inlet to the Scioto River in Powell, Ohio. We started our tour at around 9:00 in the morning. I saw many different species of birds during the two hours we were kayaking, and I brought

my binoculars with me so I could see birds from a distance.

--Joey Tomei, Ohio Young Birders Club member

When everybody is in the water finally, we head downstream towards the lake. Along the way I see a Great Blue Heron and a Double-crested Cormorant, but not much else. But then we reach the bridge where the Cliff Swallows nest. I start seeing a lot of Catbirds, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, American Goldfinches, and Song Sparrows to name a few. After this we find an outlet from the lake. We go down it some way and find a mother Mallard and her four babies, and about fifteen feet away from her is a Green Heron fishing.

We then find a large tree across the stream and we have to turn around. I continue around the circumference of the lake, and I find directly in front of me a gorgeous male Prothonotary Warbler. He was so yellow he was almost orange on his breast.

As we go on the list gets longer: Cedar Waxwings bathing and more warblers. Then a nest is spotted, but we don't know what it is. Directly above that is a Kingbird nest. After this I keep going around the lake, but not for long. It's time to go. We head back the way we came.

--May Martineau, Ohio Young Birders Club member

When you think about it, kayaking and birding seem to be an odd couple. After all, kayaking is a water sport, while the birders tend to stay well away from an element that could turn their birdwatching equipment into a soggy (or shorted-out) mess. But the Twin Lakes in Powell, Ohio are home to many species of water-loving birds, and the best way to get up close and personal with these creatures is to approach them from the water, rather than from the land.

--Alexander Martin, Ohio Young Birders Club guest

## Save the Date for Columbus Audubon's first 5K run/walk

### Take Flight: Fast as a Falcon

**Saturday, November 8**

Get ready to lace up your running shoes! Whether you're a marathon runner or a couch potato, we invite you to participate in Columbus Audubon's first 5K event at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center and the Scioto Audubon Metro Park.

More details and registration will be available soon. If you would like to be part of the 5K planning team, please contact George Arnold at [garnold@csc.edu](mailto:garnold@csc.edu).

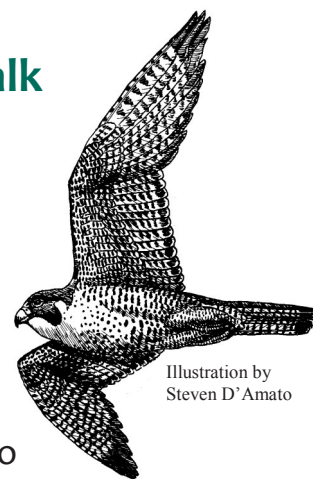


Illustration by  
Steven D'Amato

Cover story continued from page 1

## Platte River, Nebraska

In March, Mary and I, along with a few other central Ohio bird lovers, had the opportunity to view one of the truly amazing migration spectacles of the world: the Sandhill Crane stopover in Nebraska. Each year, more than 500,000 Sandhill Cranes, over 90% of the global Sandhill Crane population, stop during their northward spring migration to feed in the Platte River basin in central Nebraska. On any given day during this period, 100,000 or more cranes may be in the region. The main area used by the birds encompasses as little as 70 miles of river, so the density of crane numbers on the river between late February and late March is extraordinarily high. Tens of thousands of cranes often are visible from one spot.

The sheer density of birds and the fact that they congregate to roost overnight on islands in the Platte River makes for two stunning shows per day. In the evening as dusk falls, lines of cranes pour in to the river from the scattered fields where they have been feeding during the day. The site is awe-inspiring and the noise can be deafening as the cranes land, dance, and call to communicate within their family units. In the morning as dawn breaks, the sequence is reversed: first one or two, then a few, then hundreds and thousands of cranes rise, beating the air with their wings and calling to each other as they ascend to fly out to the fields where they will eat waste corn.

This magnificent migration has been going on for upwards of 10 million years, as shown by crane fossils found in Nebraska. Sandhill Crane populations declined in the early 20th century due to habitat loss and other factors. Since then, however, conservation efforts in both public and private sectors, many spearheaded by Audubon, have allowed crane numbers to increase to current levels. The current healthy population represents a win not only for conservation, but also for the economic health of central Nebraska, where thousands of ecotourists flock every spring.

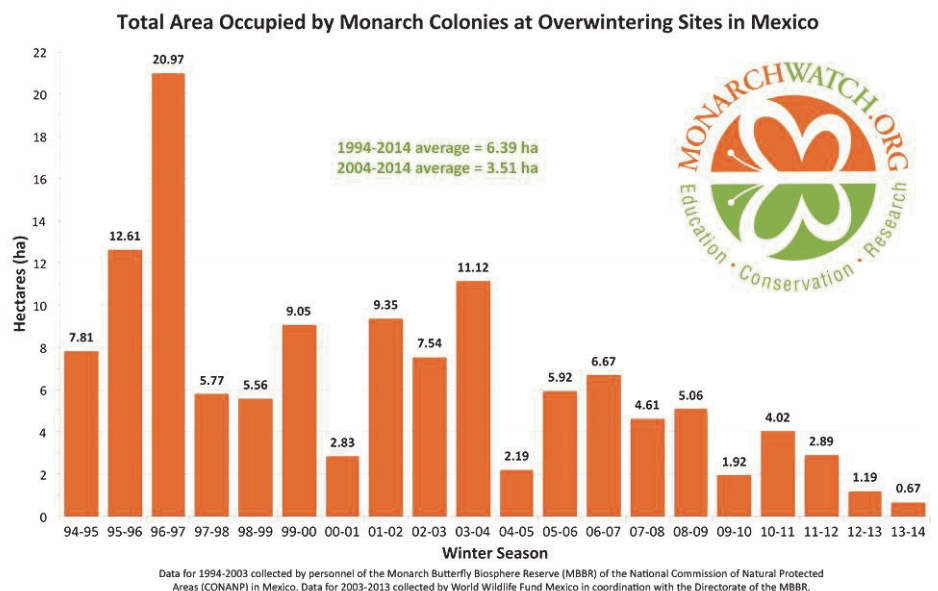
We were among those spectators, joining others on a trip sponsored by our friends at the Columbus Zoo in cooperation with the Crane Trust for a truly moving experience. But even if you can't make it to Nebraska, you can see Sandhill Cranes right here in Ohio. A few have been seen recently in Pickerington Ponds and more nest in the northeastern part of the state. Wherever you go, we hope you enjoy seeing these magnificent creatures soar along their ancient routes.

Bill Heck

Milkweed continued from page 3

To keep leaves easy to chew, water your Milkweed. I have Monarchs reproduce in my garden and migrate through my yard. Please spread the word to plant a Monarch Trail. Here are some places to buy native plants: [www.backyardhabitat.info/PDF\\_Files/alternative%20Plant%20Source%20List%20-%20Ohio.pdf](http://www.backyardhabitat.info/PDF_Files/alternative%20Plant%20Source%20List%20-%20Ohio.pdf) and <http://plantmilkweed.org/>. For more information, see [www.backyardhabitat.info/PDF\\_Files/attract\\_butterfly\\_ohio.pdf](http://www.backyardhabitat.info/PDF_Files/attract_butterfly_ohio.pdf), watch this video with Monarchs mating in my yard [www.youtube.com/watch?v=maJiosDkhGo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=maJiosDkhGo) or email me at [info@backyardhabitat.info](mailto:info@backyardhabitat.info).

Toni Stahl



Graph : Hectares = ~2.47 acres. Source:

[www.monarchwatch.org/blog/2014/01/monarch-population-status-20/](http://www.monarchwatch.org/blog/2014/01/monarch-population-status-20/)



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

[www.facebook.com/columbusaudubon](https://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](mailto: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](mailto:davehorn43@columbus.rr.com)

Conservation: Dave Horn, 614-262-0312

Eco Weekend: Dale Brubeck, [dbrubeck@columbus.rr.com](mailto:dbrubeck@columbus.rr.com); Lois Day, 614-793-8843

Field Trips: Suzan Jervey, [information@columbusaudubon.org](mailto:information@columbusaudubon.org)

Membership: Joe Meara, 614-430-9127

Newsletter Editor: Tamara James, [editor@columbusaudubon.org](mailto:editor@columbusaudubon.org)

Newsletter Designer: Julie Davis, [greenheron58@insight.rr.com](mailto:greenheron58@insight.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](mailto:webmaster@columbusaudubon.org)

Web/Social Media: Stefanie Hauck

## Thank you recent GIAC donors (February - March 2014)

Cardinal Health Foundation	John & Gerlinde Lott
Ozias Clifford Fund	Jeffrey Miller
Alexander Darragh	Edwin H. & Nellie M.
Robert Holmes Fund	Rausenberger Fund

## 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](http://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

SCA Interns: Rachael Esh, Adam McFadden

Facility Attendant (part time): Ian Dowden, Monica Johnson

Office and Development Assistant: Linda FreemanWalker

**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

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Jamie Taylor

Christie Vargo,

Ex Officio

\* Appointed

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

## Welcome new & renewed members (February - March 2014)

William Ansley

Tenley Aufdencamp

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Tammy Vaughn

Jutta Wait

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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 email below.

Please note: local and national membership expiration dates may differ.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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### Method of payment

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

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

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