

Art for Audubon is back!



This September Columbus Audubon will hold our 5th Art for Audubon: a fundraising special event that features the outstanding nature art of nationally, regionally and locally known artists working in a variety of media.

Art for Audubon will be held on Sunday, September 27, from 4:00 until 7:00 pm at the Columbus Zoo's new Africa Event Center. Over 100 items, from 2-D and 3-D art to sporting items and interesting packages will be displayed for bidding, guests will enjoy appetizers, silent and live auctions, a Columbus State student art exhibit and a visit from some of the Zoo's animals! This will be an event to remember, with the proceeds going to the John Wilson Memorial Education Fund. In the past, the fund has supported various camp scholarships for young birders as well as other worthy environmental projects.

Items available will include: Original art painted by zoo animals, naming rights for the bird feeders at Greenlawn Cemetery, a stay in a yurt at The Wilds, *Riverbank Kestrel* by Carl Brender, and much, much more!

If you would like to help this great cause by donating a piece of art, please contact Julie Davis at greenheron58@insight.rr.com. We are looking for nature related art, sculpture, photography, jewelry, etc. An event this big also takes a lot of hard work behind the scenes. If you would like to volunteer to help at the event or serve on a committee, please contact Julie Davis at: greenheron58@insight.rr.com.

Go to columbusaudubon.org/art to register and for more information as the date approaches.



Mary Heck with her art and the artist 2013

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



Don't Miss the First American Birding Expo

Grange Insurance Audubon Center

Friday, Saturday, Sunday October 2-4, 2015

www.birdingexpo.com

See all the details on page 3.

Upcoming Events

September Program: More Perils & Pitfalls of Birding

Tuesday, September 22 in the GIAC multipurpose room



6:45-7:00 pm: Refreshments and social time

7:00 pm: Conservation Spotlight: Audubon at Home by Amy Boyd, director of outreach and engagement at GIAC

Amy Boyd will share information Audubon at Home, a new and exciting program. Program topics included backyard conservation practices, garden design, citizen science, lawn care, rain gardens, native plants, floral design with natives, nest boxes, bird feeding, composting, pollinators, permaculture, backyard birds, edible natives and more. Learn how you can be involved in creating and maintaining habitat in your backyard.

7:30 pm: More Perils and Pitfalls of Birding by Bill Thompson III

In this completely new take on his wildly popular "Perils & Pitfalls" talk, Bill Thompson III tells tales of birds, birders, and the amazing things that happen when you're out there watching. He has been birding for four decades and in that time he has had some unusual experiences, met some unusual people, and learned a great many lessons (the hard way) about birding and human nature.

Bill Thompson III (or BT3 as he is better known) is a lifelong birder, the co-publisher of *Bird Watcher's Digest*, and the author of many books on birds and nature. Bill writes the Bill of the Birds blog and creates and hosts a podcast called *This Birding Life* which gets more than 750,000 episode downloads annually. He is the president and a founding board member of The Ohio Ornithological Society and also serves on the board of directors for the Roger Tory Peterson Institute.

October Program: A Conservation Vision for Central Ohio

Tuesday, October 27 in the GIAC multipurpose room



6:45-7:00 pm: Refreshments and social time

7:00 pm: Conservation Spotlight: Stratford Ecological Center by David Hoy, development director of Stratford

David Hoy will speak about the Stratford Ecological Center, a 236-acre farm and nature preserve operating a thriving environmental and agriculture education center serving over 7,500 children annually through school field trips, farm camps, specialized curriculum, and guided tours. Stratford has come to represent quality education, healthy food, healthy families, and sustainable living, standing as an important center of learning in Delaware County.

7:30 pm: A Conservation Vision for Central Ohio by Steve Fleegal, executive director of the Appalachia Ohio Alliance (AOA)

The conservation of land and water resources is a critical need in the 21st century. Clean water, outdoor recreation opportunities, spaces for nature-based education, connection and observation, and the provision of sufficient and appropriate habitats to assure the sustainability of Ohio's many native species. AOA is a local non-profit conservancy working on land and water conservation in our region. Steve will share AOA's emerging vision for regional habitat conservation including several nearby initiatives such as the Scioto River Flyway Corridor. He will also discuss some of AOA's conservation achievements and model for collaboration and community engagement.

Steve has more than eight years of land conservation leadership experience. Prior to joining the land trust community Steve was the principal of a municipal consulting firm, engaged in planning, funding and implementing a wide range of public realm projects. A graduate of Virginia Tech, Steve has served on the board of directors of a half dozen non-profit organizations.

Upcoming Events

The American Birding Expo is Landing at GIAC

In England, where the per capita ratio of bird watchers to “normal” citizens is the highest of any region on Earth, there is an annual event called the British Birdwatching Fair or BirdFair for short (www.birdfair.org.uk). It draws nearly 30,000 people annually to a cluster of large tents placed in the middle of farm fields along a reservoir and raises hundreds of thousands of pounds annually for bird conservation. Why do so many people visit BirdFair? Because it’s an amazing opportunity to see every product, service, destination, tour, book, organization, and so on that’s aimed at bird watchers and nature enthusiasts. It’s a shopping paradise for everyone from backyard bird feeder to globe-trekking life lister.

I’ve been going to the BirdFair regularly over the past decade. It was co-founded by my dear friend Tim Appleton who has managed the Rutland Water Nature Reserve, BirdFair’s home since the event’s start in the late 1980s. Tim and I have discussed bringing the BirdFair concept to the United States for years. My colleagues at *Bird Watcher’s Digest* and I even tested doing a sales-oriented event for birders in 2013 and 2014 with the Birding Optics & Gear Expo at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center. Both of these test events went very well, which made me want to think bigger—always a dangerous thing.

And that’s how the American Birding Expo came into existence—based upon the concept of the BirdFair and the positive reception of the Birding Optics & Gear Expos (www.birdingexpo.com). The inaugural American Birding Expo will be October 2-4, 2015 at GIAC and the Scioto Metro Park in Columbus. Exhibitors from 27 countries and six continents, plus 35 US states will be inside GIAC and inside a 50 x 200-foot, all-weather tent in the adjacent parking lot. Imagine that! Exhibitors from places including New Zealand, Uganda, Hungary, South Africa, Chile, the Falkland Islands—all coming to Columbus, Ohio to meet and connect with our birding community!

Entry to the Expo is free and open to the public, and we have more than 650 attendees who have registered as Expo VIPs to receive special gifts and preferred treatment from vendors and exhibitors. We invite all Columbus Audubon members to register as Expo VIPs by September 1 or simply to stop by for any of the three days of the Expo. Columbus-area members of the American Birding Association can start their Expo weekend off early by attending the [ABA Summit](#) which will be held Wednesday evening, Thursday, and Friday (that’s September 30, October 1-2) prior to the Expo. The Summit is free to ABA members, and all Summit attendees will have the opportunity to enter the Expo Friday morning, before its official opening at 1 p.m. on October 2.

Continued on page 7

Nature and Wildlife Photography Workshop

Saturday, September 26 from 9 am to 12 noon

What to bring: Camera, fully charged batteries, camera operation manual (if you have it), pen and paper for notes. Optional: Bring some photos that you have questions about regarding what you could do better or why they didn’t turn out as you had hoped.

Mark your calendars to join renowned Ohio photographers, Tim Daniel and Nina Harfmann for a hands-on nature photography workshop on Saturday, September 26. If you’ve ever missed that “perfect” shot, this combination classroom and fieldwork program is designed to help you. Topics covered indoors will include photography basics as well as composition and helpful techniques for capturing the very best wildlife and wildflower photos. The gardens and wildlife at GIAC will provide the perfect opportunity for you to practice your skills and get a chance to work one-on-one with professional photographers.

Tim Daniel has been a photographer with the Ohio Division of Wildlife for 17 years. He is a board member of Columbus Audubon and has led many workshops on wildlife photography, bats, raptors and owls. Tim’s photography has been featured in local and national publications and used in ODNR publications. Nina Harfmann is an Ohio photographer, writer and naturalist. Her written work has been published in *Bird Watcher’s Digest* and *Birding*, the magazine of the American Birding Association.

Creature Feature

Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*)

I was gazing out at the bird-feeder when the hawk cruised in. As the birds scattered, I expected the usual Cooper's Hawk, but was startled when a Red-shouldered Hawk did a quick turn past the feeder and chased a squirrel off into the bushes. I never did see the outcome, but made a mental note: another adaptation by a very adaptable buteo. Red-shouldered Hawks were rare around Columbus when I moved here 20 years ago, but they seem to be adapting to urban habitats and becoming more common in Columbus parks.



Red-shouldered Hawks (*Buteo lineatus*) are the handsome relatives of Red-tailed Hawks. In most of the US, they're seen less often than their open-country cousin. This has less to do with their numbers (they're common) than with their preference for moist forest habitats. I grew up in Florida, one of the few places where this pattern is reversed: Red-Shouldered Hawks were everywhere and far outnumbered their larger congener. This switch also shows up in many of the forested river valleys of the South and the Appalachians, even in urban riverside forests. As mature forest has returned to many of the hills and valleys of the eastern US, even in large city parks, Red-shouldered Hawks appear to have moved in.

This shifting pattern tells us something about Red-shouldered Hawks. They're forest skulkers and often nab lots of non-mammal prey. Frogs, snakes, lizards, birds, crayfish – they're all on the Red-shouldered menu. The classic pose of a hunting Red-shouldered is a perched bird,

hunched-over and looking down. Basically, any small animal that has the misfortune of moving under a perched Red-shouldered might join it for lunch. This is quite unlike the soaring hunting that characterizes Red-tailed Hawks. Not that Red-shouldered hawks won't learn some new tricks. Some of them will stalk calling frogs on their mating ponds; others have learned to check bird-feeders, as much for the mammals as for the birds. This is a quite flexible hawk.

Because of their stealthy nature, a Red-shouldered can go unnoticed most times of the year. There are a few times when they are not so retiring. In early spring (read: March and April here in central Ohio), they set up territories, flying and calling much of the daylight hours. The males do a very noisy flight display, soaring in high circles up over the female, calling their distinctive “kee-yer” repeatedly, before diving down past her. Both sexes will build the nest or refurbish an old nest. Once the female has laid her 2-4 eggs, the noise level becomes much lower, and the birds can be hard to find. When they are feeding hatchlings, however, calling starts up again, probably to deter other Red-shouldered Hawks from poaching food from their territory. Here in central Ohio, nesting pairs are now in many of our Metro Parks and riverside woodlands; the birds at Blacklick Woods have been particularly easy to locate the past few years. This past summer they nested square in the middle of a picnic area, and they made dives at a few parkgoers before the nest area was taped off. Not exactly 'unnoticed'.

The other time to see Red-shouldered Hawks is on migration. Like other North American buteos, many of these hawks flock up and head south for the winter. You can see the occasional small flock around central Ohio, but your better bet is to head up to Lake Erie. In fall, flocks of many hawk species funnel around the west end, and huge totals can be seen at Lake Erie Metro Park south of Detroit. Red-shouldered Hawks tend to peak in late October here. In spring the direction is reversed, and the better spots are along the Ohio shore, at Magee Marsh, and Maumee Bay. Not all of our birds pull up stakes in the fall, however. Some Red-shouldered Hawks appear to tough out the winter here in central Ohio, and local Christmas Bird Counts always find a few of these hardy individuals. As our urban areas gain more trees and parks, these hawks seem to be making themselves at home here any time of the year.

Explore more details at <https://www.audubon.org/field-guide/bird/red-shouldered-hawk>.

Rob Thorn

Citizen Science

Two Seasons of Conservation Actions: My Adventure in Citizen Science



As a long-time Columbus Audubon member but an infrequent birder, most of my conservation interest has been focused on how I can be a better steward of the Earth. My philosophy is that all the small actions I take add up, whether it's recycling, turning off lights, reducing my consumer habits, going mostly meatless, driving a Prius, and using organic lawn care services. This year, I decided to up my game.

On a cold day in March, I signed up to participate in Audubon at Home through GIAC.

On a rainy day in June, I registered my pledge with the City of Columbus to be a Green Spot household. A humid day in July found me purchasing native plants for my expanding garden area (and shrinking grass coverage). And on a sunny Saturday morning in August, attendance at a Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District (FSWCD) workshop on rain barrels, rain gardens, composting, and native plants.

Through the Audubon at Home (AAH) onsite assessment visit, I've identified which plants and bushes in my yard are beneficial habitats and which need to be removed (no surprise: garlic mustard and honeysuckle). I added bee balm and milkweed (*Monarda* and *Asclepias*) to my yard through the AAH plant allowance. You can learn more about the Audubon at Home resources at <http://grange.audubon.org/audubon-home-23>.

My increased knowledge of native plants helped me feel less of an amateur at the FSWCD workshop. I knew I wanted to add a rain barrel to my yard, and I came away thinking more about a rain chain than a downspout diverter. I'm intrigued by rain gardens and admire those who compost, but I don't think I'm ready for either yet. Based on my residential location, I'm eligible for two of three rebates; I'm choosing the rain barrel and native plants rebates (\$50 each). Instead of considering the composting rebate, I'll use the kitchen counter composting kit I received at the end of the workshop.

There are more than 12,000 Green Spot members in Columbus. Visit www.ColumbusGreenSpot.org and register your pledge and choose how you will commit to conserving energy, water, and reducing, recycling, and reusing. Join me in this adventure in conservation.

Tamara James

Audubon at Home Education Series

Lights Out and Bird Friendly Buildings

Amanda Duren, Ohio Bird Conservation Initiative

Wed., September 9 at 7:00 pm at the Audubon Center

Every spring and fall, millions of birds migrate through Columbus on their way to or from their breeding grounds. Many birds migrate at night, and lights on tall buildings or aimed at the sky can cause birds to strike windows or circle buildings until they fall from exhaustion. Lights Out programs protect migrating birds by working with building owners to limit lighting during migration seasons. In this presentation, Amanda Duren, program coordinator for the Ohio Bird Conservation Initiative and Columbus Audubon board member, will discuss the Lights Out program in downtown Columbus and share tips for preventing window collisions from happening at your home

Wed., October 14 at 7:00 pm at the Audubon Center

Topic to be announced. Please visit www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org and www.columbusaudubon.org for information.



Grange Insurance Audubon Center

Audubon's Ohio Conservation Conference

Protecting Birds in a Changing Climate

Our warming world poses profound challenges to conservation. The effects of climate change are already apparent—from habitat loss to devastating breaks in the delicate links that connect birds, migration, and food sources. The Ohio Conservation Conference will gather Audubon's statewide network and partners to enable stewardship and collaboration and to empower volunteers and professionals alike to take bird conservation to the next level. Columbus Audubon and Grange Insurance Audubon Center are cosponsoring the conference.

For more than a century Audubon has protected birds and their habitat for the benefit of humanity as well as the earth's biodiversity. Our legacy is built on science, education, advocacy, and on-the-ground conservation. Conference participants will learn how to take steps to protect birds and address the climate change threat in their backyards, in their communities, in the Important Bird Areas (IBAs) near their homes, and in the state house.

Audubon members and friends are invited to attend the conference on Sunday, October 25 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm (preceded by an optional bird walk at 7:30 am) at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center. Registration is \$25 and includes lunch; details available at www.columbusaudubon.org/conference.

United Way Day of Caring: Tuesday, September 8

Serve from 9 am to 12 noon and enjoy lunch afterwards



Rally your company to participate in the United Way Day of Caring on Tuesday, September 8. Corporations from all over Central Ohio will take a break from their regular work and help non-profits such as GIAC with many projects. Our work will focus on invasive species removal such as honeysuckle and other plants that have invaded the Whittier Peninsula and need to be removed. Join us for a day of fun and comradery as we work to improve the habitat for birds and other wildlife in the Scioto Audubon Metro Park. Lunch will be served for volunteers at noon. Please register your group with the United Way of Central Ohio. Contact Amy Boyd at aboyd@audubon.org for more information.

Big Sit!: It's the laziest birding event ever!

Jim McCormac, Bill Heck, and others identify as many birds as possible in one day at one location.

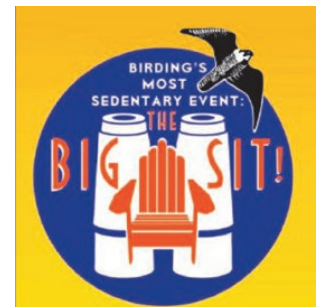
It's October 11, 12:00 am – 12:00 noon at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center... on the roof!



Support the Big Sit! with a pledge today at columbusaudubon.org/bigsit.

All funds raised go to support Columbus Audubon's conservation programs.

Then come to the Grange Insurance Audubon Center anytime on Sunday, October 11 to see how we're doing...or send us up some coffee to help keep us awake.



Grange Insurance Audubon Center

From Audubon Center Director Christie Vargo

Dear Friends,

Today is July 29 and more than 90 degrees. Up to this point we have had rains that have kept vegetation lush and green. Our newly planted Audubon At Home demonstration garden has thrived and filled in beautifully.

The rains, though, have been heavy. Flash floods, nitrates in our drinking water, algal blooms on Lake Erie and inland lakes have predominated the news. As I follow the news, I am more and more convinced that the messages we convey and demonstrate at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center are the way of the future. Permeable pavement, native plants, green infrastructure that slows the rain water are just a few examples of ways to redirect the rain to the ground water table instead of to our rivers and streams.

Audubon is striving to make Columbus a Bird-Friendly Community. Not surprisingly, many techniques that address storm water issues also benefit birds. To learn about what you can do on your own property, residential or commercial, plan to visit the Center or attend one or more of our monthly Audubon At Home workshops.



On another note, by the end of the summer nearly 1,500 children attending a variety of community-based day camps throughout Central Ohio will have passed through the Center and our educational programs. They visited the varied habitats of the Scioto Audubon Metro Park, studied the wetlands, and learned about our green building and, of course, birds. We extend our thanks to the Metro Parks for providing educators to assist with serving local agencies and their campers.



Birding Expo Continued from page 3

Ohio has become an epicenter of great birding events, including the Midwest Birding Symposium; the Biggest Week; Birds, Bands & Beers; and the wonderful offerings of Columbus Audubon, the Ohio Ornithological Society, and all of Ohio's dedicated birding organizations. The Buckeye State is the envy of many of our neighbors for our active, connected birding community. We hope that the American Birding Expo will add further luster to our reputation as one of the most bird- and birder-rich parts of North America.

Please plan to join us at the American Birding Expo. It's going to be a huge amount of fun.

—Bill Thompson, III

Publisher, *Bird Watcher's Digest*

Founder, American Birding Expo

Volunteers are welcome to join the Expo team to ensure the success of this exciting event. If you would like to be a part of the Expo volunteer team, please register on the Expo site:

www.americanbirdingexpo.com/make-arrangements/volunteer.

Grange Insurance Audubon Center

2015 Jan Rodenfels GIAC Stewardship Awards Presented to John O'Meara and Alan McKnight



The Jan Rodenfels GIAC Stewardship Award was created and initially presented to Jan Rodenfels herself; it honors GIAC volunteers who have made significant contributions to the Center across many avenues of service from fundraising to conservation to advisory. As John O'Meara and Alan McKnight retired from their positions, they also retired from serving on the GIAC Stewardship Board. Both were instrumental in establishing not only the Center but also the Scioto Audubon Metro Park. The project included brownfield reclamation, Metro Park development, and construction and programming of the Audubon Center. In their respective roles as directors of the Metro Parks and Columbus Recreation and Parks, they each remained active with the Center in appointed

positions on the Stewardship Board. The Center board, staff, and volunteers extend their sincere appreciation to John and Alan, each for more than a decade of service to the Center. Both will remain active with the Center and we look forward to our continued work with them.

GIAC Welcomes Kristina Rawson



Please join us in welcoming Kristina Rawson as part-time Office and Finance Assistant for the Grange Insurance Audubon Center. Kristina and her husband have relocated to Columbus from the Washington DC area. While Kristina will be teaching part time at Ohio Dominican, she will also bring to us tremendous office, bookkeeping, and customer service skills.

We're Saying it Loud and Clear: Thank You

A huge thank you to the Columbus Audubon chapter for their help in refurbishing the sound and projection systems in the Center's multi-purpose room. We hope all our visitors will take a moment to notice and appreciate what their support has meant to the quality of your experience at the next program or event at GIAC.



Columbus Audubon



September & October Field Trips

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

Photography 101 Workshop at Ohio Wildlife Center

Sun., October 25 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Columbus Audubon and Ohio Wildlife Center are co-hosting this workshop led by Tim Daniel, public information officer for ODNR Division of Wildlife. Topics covered will include getting goods photos in bad lighting; understanding what makes a great nature photo; looking at the same old things in new and creative ways; how to get breathtaking, action-stopping photos; and telephoto equipment that won't break the bank. Workshop fee is \$30 (split between the CA and OWC) and will be held at OWC (6131 Cook Road, Powell). Parking is on Dublin Road just south of Cook Road and the workshop will be held inside and outside on the OWC grounds. Some of the education animals from Ohio Wildlife Center will be on display for the event.

Registration is required; deadline is October 18. To register and pay through PayPal, go to columbusaudubon.org/photo.

For more information, contact Darlene Sillick at dsillick118@gmail.com.

Chimney Swift Migration 2 trips

Fri., September 11 at 6:30 pm, Westerville, location TBD. Sponsored by Wild Birds Unlimited Westerville.

Sat., September 12 at 6:30 pm, Sells Middle School, Dublin. Sponsored by Wild Birds Unlimited Sawmill.

Come to count the Chimney Swifts as they prepare to migrate south. Bring your binoculars, a chair or other seat if you like, and insect repellent just in case. There will be handouts and study skins for added learning. For location or more info, contact Darlene Sillick at dsillick118@gmail.com.

Migration Along the Urban Scioto

Sun., September 13 at 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Join us as we experience autumn migration in downtown Columbus. We'll start at Scioto Metro Park boat launch, then work our way upstream along the Scioto River greenbelt. This green corridor in the middle of urban Columbus is a good migrant funnel, and we expect to find a variety of migrating waterbirds, swallows, flycatchers, vireos, warblers, and the like. Be prepared for plenty of walking. For more details contact Rob Thorn, 614-551-0643 or robthorn@earthlink.net.

Bird Hike at Blendon Woods

Sun., September 13 at 8:00 am

Join Naturalist Bruce Simpson in search of migrating warblers migration warblers during a 2-mile walk through the woods. Meet at the nature center. Bring binoculars or borrow ours. For more information, call Blendon Woods Metro Park at 614-895-6221.

Migration at Alum Lake & Hoover Reservoirs

Sat., October 3 at 8:00 am

Migration should be very good as we survey these two reservoirs north of Columbus. We'll meet at Westerville Community Center (350 N. Cleveland Ave., Westerville, 43082) and start at Alum, where the small woodlands at the southern end of the lake are excellent migrant traps, and the wide lower reservoir attracts a wide variety of waterfowl. After taking in the morning migrants there, we'll move to the upper end of nearby Hoover Reservoir. Bring sturdy shoes (for lots of wet walking on dewy trails), snacks, and a windbreaker/jacket if the weather is cold. For more details contact Rob Thorn, 614-551-0643 or robthorn@earthlink.net.



EcoWeekend is Columbus Monthly Editor's Pick for Best of Columbus 2015: City Life

Columbus Audubon members have known for decades that EcoWeekend is an amazing experience for urban and suburban nature lovers. This year, it was selected by the editors at Columbus Monthly magazine for the Best of Columbus 2015: City Life award for long-running adventure.



Columbus Audubon's annual EcoWeekend is a award-winning favorite for good reasons: family-friendly, programs, food, lodging; it's an "all-inclusive" nature-education group camping experience that is reasonably priced and is packed full with more than 40 programs to choose from. And special activities on Saturday include programs for youth and an evening program that always pleases.

Update on Columbus Audubon 2015 Bird Seed Fundraiser

Fall migration is upon us and time is drawing near to think about stocking up on seed for the bird feeding season. Columbus Audubon's Bird Seed Fundraiser is a perfect way to stock up on fresh, quality bird food and lend a helping hand to both birds and Columbus Audubon.



Columbus Audubon will be offering a seed blend for every budget and habitat along with peanuts and suet cakes to attract insect-eating and woodland species. Of course, traditional favorites such as Oil Sunflower, Sunflower Chips, Safflower and White Millet will be on the menu as well.

As we have done in the past, we will include the CA Seed Order Form in the November/December issue of the *Song Sparrow*, after the new seed crop becomes available and we are able to offer the best possible prices.

Look for the online order form along with product descriptions at www.columbusaudubon.org/birdseed as soon as prices become available in early October. Many folks have found shopping online easy and convenient with credit card processing by PayPal.

Remember, all proceeds from the Bird Seed Fundraiser go to Columbus Audubon to help fund our many conservation and education programs and projects.

Check Out the Franklin County Checklist

Columbus Audubon's friend and noted avid birder Bill Whan has graciously shared his Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Franklin County.

This is not just another list of local birds: an *annotated* checklist is very different. Annotated means that the historical record for every bird species ever seen in Franklin County is discussed in detail. That's over 120 pages of information. You don't have to read it all at once; it's a reference that you can use at home or in the field.

Wait, carry 120+ pages into the field? Yes: the checklist is in PDF format so that you can download it to your tablet or smartphone, or you can read it on your computer at home...or even print part or all of it.

Bill periodically updates this checklist as new information becomes available, so visit the link occasionally..

In his recent review of the checklist, Dr. Bernard Master, internationally known birder and another friend of Columbus Audubon, calls it "...a tour de force" and says that "...it belongs in every Ohio birder's library...." You can download your own copy at www.columbusaudubon.org/franklincounty.

Bill Heck

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

614-545-5496

Twitter: @ColumbusAudubon

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Conservation: Dave Horn, 614-262-0312

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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

Outreach and Engagement Director: Amy Boyd

Education Manager and Volunteer Coordinator: Allison Roush

Finance and Operations Manager: David Chew

Development and Marketing Manager: Jeffrey Yost

Office & Finance Assistant: Kristina Rawson

Facility Attendants: Linda FreemanWalker & Monica Johnson

Center Hours: Monday – closed; Tuesday – Friday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. (unless closed for a special event); Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sunday noon to 8 p.m. (unless closed for a special event). Call to verify hours.

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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Tony Collins*

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Alan McKnight*

Jim McCormac

Sandra Nessing

Tim Maloney*

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Aaron Pickrell

Barbara Revard*

Leslie Strader

Betsy Sidorenko

Jamie Taylor

Maury Walsh

Christie Vargo,

ex officio

* appointees

Thank you recent GIAC donors and New Members

Theresa Bragg	Bill Hohman
Duane Buck	Kristin Johnson
Jeanne Budde	Subha Lembach
Jason Buehner	Joan Lloyd
William Bush	Mary McCarron
Mary Cash	Jennifer & Robert McKell
Tom Cathers	Gary Neumann
Kimberly Cochran	Jessica Rannow
Cheryl Colvin	Ellen Rapkin
Vicky Crane	Janie Reeves
Mariann & Jim Crowley	Gary Snyder
Columbus Urban League	Judy Swabby
Heather Doherty	Nathaniel Swigger
Holly Fabrizio	Lajos & Wilhelmina Szabo
Jens Griesshammer	Mary Wenig
Dan Hall	Mary Anne Wilsbacher
Rebecca Hanshaw	Craig & Carol Young



Columbus Audubon's 5k walk/run will return in spring 2016 at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center and Scioto Audubon Metro Park. More details to come.

Deadline for proposed submissions for the November-December issue of the Song Sparrow is September 20.

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