

Roz and Dave Horn: Columbus Audubon Members Par Excellence

Columbus Audubon has been so fortunate over the past years to have Roz and Dave Horn as —not just members—leaders of Columbus Audubon. The following are memories from some of our members who know and love Dave and Roz.

Roz's legacy with Columbus Audubon includes numerous years as chair and committee member for EcoWeekend, contributing to its lasting success. Dave's legacy includes CA past president and chair of the conservation committee. He also served as emcee of Birdathon celebrations, where he regaled us with tales of mistaken identity. (My favorite was the confession of a hydrant-type pipe that was passing for something more avian.)



In 2010, Roz and Dave received National Audubon's Great Egret award (www.columbusaudubon.org/index.php/about-us/awards-and-honors/58-resources/checklists/614-great-egret-dave-and-roz-horn). The citation read: In recognition of more than 35 years of service to the National Audubon Society and Columbus Audubon through their work as Officers, Board Members, Committee Chairs, managing EcoWeekend, working with the Avid Birders, and countless other volunteer activities; this dedicated couple has worked diligently and tirelessly to promote the Audubon mission and make Columbus Audubon what it is today.

Over the past several years, Dave and Roz have been spending more time with family and grandchildren in Massachusetts. They have made the commitment to move there, leaving behind many friends from Columbus Audubon and so many other organizations.

They leave big shoes to fill and a legacy for which we are grateful.

Tamara James

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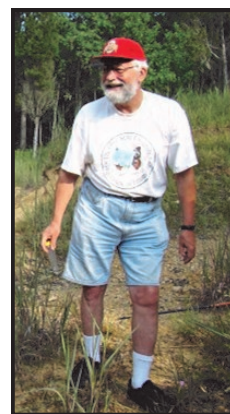
*A joint newsletter of the
Grange Insurance Audubon
Center and Columbus Audubon*

I've been involved with Columbus Audubon since the early 70's – a long time by anyone's count. I can't really remember a time without Dave and Roz Horn being there and doing things that really helped and really mattered. Between the two of them they knew just about everything worth knowing. As many Auduboners know, Dave really does know every bird out there. And, except for his misidentification of a fireplug for a pheasant, I don't think he ever got one wrong (correct me if I'm wrong Dave).

I've worked a lot with Dave, both at CA and elsewhere and in spite of it, I still like him. His presence, sense of humor and advice will really be missed. I'm hoping I can still call him when I need advice...although he hasn't given me his new phone number yet.

I've been trying to figure out a compliment I can make and it hasn't been easy to come up with something he hasn't already heard. The only thing I can really say (and I think this is a compliment) is that Dave Horn is the kind of guy I'd like to be when I grow up. Thanks for everything Dave.

Pete Precario



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Upcoming Events

January Program: Full Annual Cycle Research in the Birds of Ohio

Tuesday, January 26, 2016 in the GIAC multipurpose room

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

7:00 pm: Conservation Spotlight: Eddie Boyd, a recent graduate of Upper Arlington High School, just completed a thru hike of the Appalachian Trail. His journey took 141 days and he hiked 2,189 miles. Come and hear about his incredible journey and the flora and fauna he saw along this storied footpath.



7:30 pm: Full annual cycle research in the birds of Ohio by Christopher Tonra, PhD, Assistant Professor of Avian Wildlife Ecology, School of Environment and Natural Resources, The Ohio State University

Very few studies of vertebrate wildlife ecology examine more than one stage of the annual cycle, and even fewer have tried to elucidate how different stages interact with one another. This bias in vertebrate ecology has limited our understanding of the nature of population dynamics and moving beyond it is critical to effectively managing and conserving populations. Chris's research seeks to fill in these gaps in our understanding of wildlife populations with a particular focus on birds. He will present results from research on Neotropical migratory birds, examining how different stages of the annual cycle interact physiologically within individuals and discuss how he continues to expand

his research program here in Ohio.

Chris Tonra grew up in Long Island NY and started birding at 12 when a Red-bellied Woodpecker nested outside his window. He has a degree in anthropology from SUNY Albany, followed by a masters in wildlife ecology from Humboldt State in California. After his PhD at University of Maine/SMBC, he completed a post-doc with the Smithsonian. He started at OSU as Assistant Professor of Avian Wildlife Ecology in 2014. He is an avid bike commuter, gardener, cook, dabbles in carpentry.

February Program: Columbus' Efforts to Combat & Adapt to Climate Change

Tuesday, February 23, 2016 in the GIAC multipurpose room

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

7:00 pm: Conservation Spotlight: Learn about GreenSpot from David Celebrezze, coordinator of the program. Is your house or work place a GreenSpot? David will share how to sign up and more insights of the program.



7:30 pm: Columbus' Efforts to Combat and Adapt to Climate Change by Erin Miller, Environmental Steward

Erin Miller, appointed by Mayor Coleman as the environmental steward for the City of Columbus in 2009, will share what the city of Columbus is doing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for a changing climate.

Erin is responsible for coordinating the implementation of the Columbus Green Community Plan, directing the Mayor's Green Team, and educating and engaging members of the community in sustainability initiatives, including development of the city's first comprehensive residential recycling program. Prior to serving with the City, Erin was the Director of the Center for Energy & Environment at Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and has been working in the environmental field for over 18 years. Erin graduated with a B.S. degree in Environmental Sciences & Ecology from Otterbein University in 1997. In 2014, she was awarded Otterbein's Young Alumni Award for Leadership and Citizenship as well as the MORPC Green Leader Award.

Upcoming Events

Audubon at Home Backyard Conservation Program Series

Monthly Audubon at Home programs will be offered at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center starting in January 2016. These will be offered the **second Wednesday of every month at 7 pm**. The programs will cover topics important to backyard conservation, and will include 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!

These programs are intended to help support homeowners enrolled in the GIAC's Audubon at Home Backyard Conservation Program, as well as for anyone interested in backyard conservation. Please RSVP to Amy at aboyd@audubon.org or 614-545-5486.

Wednesday, January 12: Audubon at Home, 7 pm

Learn 10 things that you can do in your yard to help it become a sanctuary for wildlife. Amy Boyd from the Grange Insurance Audubon Center will also discuss the GIAC's Audubon at Home Backyard Conservation Program.

Wednesday, February 10: Bird Feeding 101, 7 pm

Want to do some bird watching at home? Feeding birds and wildlife is the second most popular hobby in North America. Join staff from the Sawmill Road location of Wild Birds Unlimited as they guide you through getting started or improving your existing set-up. They will also discuss providing natural and supplemental foods that are nutritionally responsible.

Save the Date

Great Backyard Bird Count at GIAC

Saturday, February 13 & Sunday, February 14

The Great Backyard Bird Count is happening February 13-16. Please join us at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center as we participate in this annual event that engages bird watchers of all ages on Saturday, February 13 and Sunday, February 14. Everyone is welcome--from beginning bird watchers to experts. Warm drinks will be provided. So take as little as 15 minutes on one day, or you can count for as long as you like each day of the event. It's free, fun, and easy—and it helps the birds. You also can do this at home. For more information on our event, contact Amy at aboyd@audubon.org.

Be on the Lookout

The 2016 EcoWeekend brochure will be arriving in your mailbox at any moment. Check out the fantastic programs and register for the fun. Contact Maura Rawn for more information at 740-653-8574.

American Birding Expo Returning Like a Migrating Flock

If you missed the 2015 American Birding Expo, make plans now for the 2016 event.

September 16-18, 2016

Grange Insurance Audubon Center

Find more details at www.americanbirdingexpo.com.

Flight of Fancy

Friday, May 13

Grange Insurance Audubon Center's premiere annual event.

*One of a Kind Live Auctions

*Live Music

*Unique Silent Auction Items



Creature Feature

Screech Owl (*Otus asio*)

“We're leaving during the day, but I can give you a few pre-dawn hours. I might know where some Screech Owls are lurking.” With those words, Dave Horn became a Christmas Bird Count hero to me, the Columbus CBC compiler. Not only was it an audacious offer – he was leaving to visit family on Count day, after all – but Screech Owls are notoriously tricky winter residents to find in Columbus. Dave delivered, however, and not just that one year. He became a student again, this time of Clintonville's Screech Owls.

Screech Owls (*Otus asio*) are our smallest owls and have a totally unearned reputation for cuteness. Their large expressive eyes and ear tufts make them easy to anthropomorphize, but don't be fooled. These are fearsome little predators, and are often the last thing some hapless rodent sees in its lifetime. They are night-ambush predators that wait for a small creature to move underneath their perch, then drop on it to disable it with their talons and beak. The victim is often still alive when they swallow it whole. That's not exactly what comes to mind when I hear the word cute.

Screech Owls prefer forests, since tree cavities are their favored roost and nest sites, but will accept almost any site that has some trees, including orchards and city parks. Their nocturnal habits and excellent camouflage – they look just like lichen-splattered tree bark – hide them well from curious humans. Usually you need to know where they are ahead of time and then visit to hear their quavering call (or lure them out with a good imitation). Dave had learned of their territories in several Clintonville ravines.



Photo by Tim Daniel



Photo by Tom Sheley

Screech Owls come in several colors – pale gray, light brown, and rusty red – that probably have to do with color-matching the dominant trees in their areas. A Screech Owl will freeze in place when threatened, counting on its mottled color and irregular body profile to make it look like a piece of the tree on which it is sitting. If the color is off, however, it can give the game away to some animals like us. One time, while leading a trip along the Westerville Alum Creek bike path, I espied a small blob of rust up in a gray-barked Box Elder tree. It turned out to be a red-phase Screech Owl resting in a cavity, and led to the discovery of several additional gray-phase birds roosting there and in a nearby truss bridge.

Screech Owls don't really migrate. If you find them in an area, they're likely nearby all year. They're most territorial in late winter and early spring, a pattern held by many other owls, but they usually delay nesting until deep into spring. A nest usually has 1-3 fuzzy little owlets – yes, they're just as cute as the parents – and the parents both must hunt to feed the clutch, so it's often difficult to find nesting Screech Owls (they're just

too busy to call, kind of like adult human offspring). But when the owlets leave the cavity, there's often a week when the scolding of small birds will lead you to the owl family clustered in some branches.

Where can you easily find Screech Owls? There are no 'easily found' Screech Owls in central Ohio, at least not since the colony along the Alum Creek bike path went AWOL a few years ago. Pretty much every Metro Park has a few and going on their owl prowls starting in March will give you a fairly good chance. I've also heard them in a lot of the forested ravines and riparian areas around town, but not often enough to say which is the best. Almost anywhere with sycamores and oaks, the trees most likely to offer nest cavities, offers a decent chance. Dave diplomatically kept directions to his owls vague, probably fearing that excessive visitors might make the owls skittish. He was thinking of the birds, again.

Rob Thorn

Citizen Science

Ohio Conservation Conference Teaches Advocates How Best To Take Action

At Grange Insurance Audubon Center in Columbus, several dozen chapter leaders, environmental advocates, and officials met for the first Ohio Conservation Conference in October 2015. Marnie Urso, senior program manager for Audubon in Ohio, says the event re-energized attendees and strengthened partnerships across organizations.

State Rep. David Leland, who sits on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, gave a keynote address about the importance of engaging with elected officials. He said that if he gets just five letters on one issue, he pays attention—so he urged advocates to take the time to talk with their lawmakers and build relationships.

The conference drew attendees from six Audubon chapters in Ohio, the Nature Conservancy, Ohio Fish and Wildlife, and the Ohio Bird Conservation Initiative. Urso presented an overview of Audubon's **Birds and Climate Change Report**, and others led talks and discussions about the importance of native plants, Important Bird Areas, and public policy to address climate change.

The following day, Urso went with a few Audubon members to lobby for birds at the Statehouse in Columbus. They met with the offices of state representatives and senators, shared Audubon's climate science, and voiced their support for clean energy policies. In all, they met with staff from the offices of four lawmakers who span the political spectrum.



Join Landscape for Life Classes at GIAC

Dates: Thursdays Feb. 18, 25, March 3, 10, 17 & 31 (no class on March 24)

Time: 7-9 pm Fee: \$60 Register online at grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org/birds-wildlife

Harness nature's power to create a healthy, beautiful home landscape

Landscape For Life shows you how to work with nature in your garden, no matter where you live, whether you garden on a city or suburban lot, a 20-acre farm, or the common area of your condominium. Conventional gardens often work against nature. They can damage the environment's ability to clean air and water, reduce flooding, combat climate change, and provide all the other natural benefits that support life on earth—including us. The good news is that even one home garden can begin to repair the web of life. It's possible to create a great-looking garden that's healthier for you, your family, your pets, and the environment--and that saves you time and money.

Serve on the Columbus Audubon Conservation Committee

Many of the Columbus Audubon field trips and programs rely on the commitment of experts and scientists, as well as leadership and dedication of birders and volunteers of all types. Columbus Audubon has another way for our members to make a difference as a Conservation Committee member.

A commitment to the committee is not time intensive, and meetings are scheduled to accommodate members' schedules. Responsibilities include review of and decisions on conservation grant applications; support for national, state, and local initiatives that impact conservation and preservation; and decisions about Calamus Swamp, Columbus Audubon's property.

If you are interested in learning more about serving as a member of the Conservation Committee, please email editor@columbusaudubon.org.

Farewell to Dave & Roz Horn

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It hardly seems possible to say farewell Roz and Dave. You are both a treasure to all who know you. I consider you one of the blessings of my life! You have contributed so much to science, friendship, and our community. Through your fellowship and encouragement you have built up so many people, myself included.

I will never forget our time together on the Columbus Audubon Board as well as EcoWeekend. May God's blessings be upon you as you move forward on a new adventure. De Colores! Lots of Love!

Jan Rodenfels

It's finally happening: after several years of travel and gradual transition, long time Columbus Audubon friends Dave and Roz Horn are moving to Massachusetts. The phrase "end of an era" is overworked, but in this case remarkably apt, as Dave and Roz have been involved in CA and in the Columbus community for over 35 years.

The list of their accomplishments is far too long to recite here, but the short version is that Dave has served multiple terms on the CA board as well as serving as president; he also was a charter founder of the Avid Birders group and has led innumerable field trips, including some out of state. Meanwhile, Roz was, among other things, involved in running EcoWeekend for years, eventually taking on the role of committee chair. Their service to Audubon was recognized with a Great Egret award from National Audubon, one of its most prestigious honors.

Their move will take Dave and Roz closer to their two daughters who live in the northeast. But we certainly hope that they will come back often to visit all of their Columbus Audubon friends! We wish them well and thank them for their many contributions.

Bill Heck

Roz and Dave have been at the heart of sustaining EcoWeekend for many years. Roz has been on the committee for at least 16 years, acting as chair for 8 years. After retiring as chair, she has continued to support the committee.

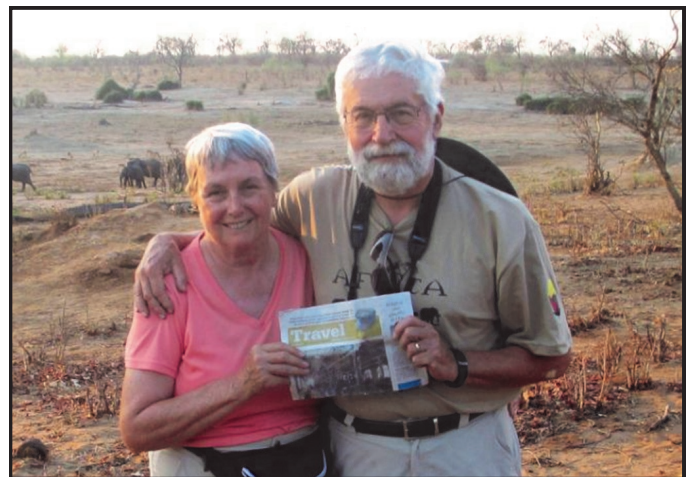
Dave may hold the longevity record as a field trip leader. When we needed someone to lead a field trip, Dave was there to help out. His knowledge and his willingness and ability to share it make him one of the finest leaders we have ever had. I'm very grateful for having known them and wish them well.

Lois Day

"Streaky breast. Streaky breast. What sparrows have a streaky breast?" That was what Dave asked when a new bird popped into the view of some not-so-experienced birders. That one question gave each of us a giant step forward in our quest to sort out the plethora of little brown birds. Dave is passionate not only about the birds; he is passionate about helping others learn. You can ask him to review the same field marks again and again and he'll add a new interesting fact with every telling. A bird walk with Dave is always a rich experience.

Both Dave and Roz have fervor for the life of Columbus Audubon. They strive to help the organization do well and they are relentless in their desire to offer opportunities for others to explore and become excited about our natural world. All of Columbus Audubon has benefitted from their leadership. Thank you, both, so very much.

Katryn Renard



From the Columbus Dispatch: Roz and Dave Horn of Columbus stop at Chobe National Park in Botswana. Although visitors get closer to the animals than they ever thought possible, the couple advises setting down the camera and getting caught up in the moment.

Grange Insurance Audubon Center

From Audubon Center Director Christie Vargo

Dear Friends,

As we enter into the new year, looking back and looking forward, one thing is clear – the Grange Insurance Audubon Center has found its way into the heart of Columbus. The Center has become known as “Central Ohio’s Urban Oasis, where discovery inspires conservation.” The long journey to definition and visibility has been with you by its side.



What is the Audubon Center? Is it education, welcoming all of the diversity of the Columbus City Schools? Is it the inspiration for conservation, where those who enter gain knowledge and connection with nature and are motivated to take action? Is it a sanctuary where unions of marriage are celebrated? Is it the birds that tell their own stories and capture hearts in their own right? Is it a gathering place for community conversation and action?

It is, as you well know, all of this and more. Still in its infancy at only six years since opening, the Audubon Center has come into its own, taking on a life and personality together with a circle of family and friends. This faithful circle will carry the Center forward and help it to grow into whatever it needs to be. The Center needs you, your vision, your passion, and your action.

In the next few months I will be leaving to start a new journey called retirement. Of necessity, I will step back and allow the transition to unfold in whatever ways are best for the Center and the community. I am proud of what we have accomplished together and thank you for being a part of the Center’s journey and mine.

Demonstration Solar Panels Installed

A 1.4 kW solar electricity system was completed and installed at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center in late Sept. The system and readouts will be used in educational programming for students, property owners and journeymen electricians. The project is especially remarkable because of the number of entities that came together to make it happen. Glen Kiser and the Foundation for Environmental Education spearheaded the project. Thomas Van Cleef and SolarCascade.org served as project manager and contributed to site and IT preparation. Trent Parker and the Electrical Trades Center mobilized students for the installation. Additional thanks goes to the Brian David Robertson Foundation, Canadian Solar, and the Columbus Ohio Chapter of IBEW. This incredible collaboration will be part of the story shared as we introduce students and visitors to solar energy.



Grange Insurance Audubon Center

National Audubon Society 2016-2020 Strategic Plan

The Audubon network is developing the next strategic plan to take the organization, members and impact to the end of this decade. The following is a brief outline of the work to date.

Vision: What We Do

Audubon creates a brighter future for birds by caring for the places they need and by building durable public will to ensure birds thrive.

Mission: How We Do It

These four mission elements describe how we work to mobilize a network of staff, partners, and supporters to care for birds and the places they need, and, ultimately, to ensure a better future for all.

Drive conservation impact at scale

Expand the body of bird knowledge

Build durable public will

Connect and lead the most effective conservation network in America

Core Strategies: Our Priorities

Building Climate Resiliency

Sharing Our Seas and Shores

Water for Birds and People

Conserving Birds on Working Lands

Building Bird-Friendly Communities

The work of the Grange Insurance Audubon Center and Columbus Audubon will address two of the core strategies primarily: Water for Birds and People and Building Bird-Friendly Communities. The objectives as defined through National Audubon strategic planning process follow:

Water for Birds and People

- Influence policies to increase water flow to rivers, lakes and estuaries
- Build public will for bird-friendly water management
- Restore riparian bird habitats

Building Bird-Friendly Communities

- Create local opportunities to connect people with birds
- Implement distributed solutions to distributed threats
- Provide programs to help people and communities protect birds and their places

How we implement these strategies and objectives will be up to us locally, and much work is already underway in both of these areas.

Where are IBAs? They have been discussed at length throughout the strategic planning process and they are now integrated into all five core strategies, instead of leaving them as a standalone strategy as in the 2012-2015 strategic plan. IBAs will focus all of Audubon's work in across each of the strategies and will be featured prominently throughout the plan. They are the places on the ground where the strategies come to life.

More about *building a durable public will*, which is where local chapters and Centers and Sanctuaries excel:

- Broaden and diversify support for conservation
- Inspire change in behavior and consumer choices
- Pursue an ambitious public policy agenda
- Create a One Audubon membership program in 2016
- Establish a relevant, contemporary brand platform
- Identify clear target audiences for growth and diversity
- Create a One Audubon membership program in 2016
- Deepen people's commitments to action, advocacy, and philanthropy

Columbus Audubon



January & February Trips

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

Bird Hike at Blendon Woods

Friday, January 1 at 8:00 a.m.

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

Birdwatching for Beginners at Grange Insurance Audubon Center

Saturday, January 2 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

If you've wondered what birdwatching is about but can't see a bird in a pair of binoculars, this is for you. Bring your binoculars or use ours. We'll teach you tricks to start or improve upon a fun hobby. Weather permitting, we'll go on a short hike or 'arm chair' bird watch. For more information, contact Suzan Jervey at sejervy@gmail.com or 614-546-7857.

Service in the Preserves: Stages Pond SNP

Saturday, January 9 from 7:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Service in the Preserves group has been to Stages Pond in Pickaway County before and with a little more effort, the remaining large patches of honeysuckle and autumn olive can be eradicated. All skill levels are welcome. Please call Katryn Renard by the preceding Wednesday at 614-261-7171 for details and to sign up, re-serve space for transportation, and to help us determine tool requirements. Bring your lunch, water, work gloves and appropriate foot gear. You will need to complete the Dept. of Natural Area's volunteer form to participate in this activity.

Birdwatching for Beginners at GIAC

Saturday, January 16 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

See description at January 2.

Winter Birds of the Urban Scioto

Saturday, January 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

We'll explore along the Scioto River, first around the Greenlawn dam and then visit nearby open-water sites, looking for congregations of gulls, herons, and waterfowl. If we have time, we'll visit the nearby Green Lawn Cemetery in search of its winter specialties like sapsuckers, pine siskins, and merlins. Meet at the Scioto Audubon Park boat launch, off Whittier Ave west of Front Street and dress warmly. For more information, contact Rob Thorn, 614-551-0643 or robthorn@earthlink.net.

Waterfowl at Lake Logan in Hocking County

Saturday, January 30 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Join photographers and birders Tim Daniel and Nina Harfmann to look for overwintering waterfowl. Meet at the Lake Logan beach parking lot. For more information and to register, contact Tim Daniel at tdaniel123456@gmail.com or 937-578-3105.

Birdwatching for Beginners at GIAC

Saturday, February 6 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

See description at January 2.

Bird Hike at Blendon Woods

Sunday, February 7 at 9:00 a.m.

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

Winter Birds of Hoover Reservoir

Saturday, February 13 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

We'll visit some of the Hoover hotspots, depending on where there is open water, looking for overwintering loons, grebes, goldeneye, mergansers, and other diving ducks, as well as eagles, hawks, and the expected masses of gulls. Meet at the Hoover Dam parking area along Sunbury Road and dress warmly since we'll be exposed to the wind along the shore. For more information, contact Rob Thorn, 614-551-0643 or robthorn@earthlink.net.

Birdwatching for Beginners at GIAC

Saturday, February 20 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

See description at January 2.

Waterfowl at Lake Logan in Hocking County

Saturday, February 27 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Join photographers/birders Tim Daniel and Nina Harfmann for a trip to look for overwintering waterfowl. Meet at the Lake Logan beach parking lot. For more information and to register, contact Tim Daniel at 937-578-3105 or tdaniel123456@gmail.com.

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In Memoriam: Tom Thomson (1924-2015)

Tom Thomson, long-time Columbus birder and originator of one of the very first telephone rare bird alerts passed away. His obituary from the *Columbus Dispatch*:

Thomson Nelson P. Thomson "Tom", born January 23, 1924. Passed away December 5, 2015. Graduate of North High School, 1942. Navigator of U.S. Navy WWII. Graduate of OSU School of Journalism in 1949. Was the Founder of the *Short North Gazette*. Author of *Birding in Ohio*. Past feature writer and nature columnist for *Columbus Citizen-Journal*. Passions were writing, birding, poetry, photography, nature, and family. He is preceded in death by former wife and best friend Jeanne and brother David. Survived by Janet (Gary) Campbell, Jeff (Kim) Thomson, James Thomson; and many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Thank you to Mt. Carmel West Hospital and granddaughter Carrie Bailey for the tremendous amount of support and care. A private memorial will be held for the family. Please send memorial contributions donations to Mt. Carmel Hospice or the Audubon Society. Arrangements entrusted to EDWARDS FUNERAL SERVICE, 1166 Parsons Ave., Columbus, OH 43206. www.EdwardsFuneralService.com.

A Note from the Editor

It's with mixed emotions that this is my last issue as editor of the *Song Sparrow*. Since 2012, I've worked with volunteer leaders, contributors, and presidents of Columbus Audubon to bring members and readers information about birds, conservation, nature, programs, and more. I've learned from each issue's Creature Feature, kindly submitted by deadline from Rob Thorn. And Tom Sheley, Tim Daniel, and Earl Harrison have provided photographs to illustrate the creatures. I've developed deeper friendships with GIAC staff and CA members through their contributions, and Julie Davis, who's been my partner in crime as newsletter designer.

As my day job gets busier, it's been necessary to find ways to carve more hours from my day. Leaving my *Song Sparrow* role was a tough one, but I'm just one of a long line of talented and dedicated volunteer editors. I look forward to the arrival of the next issue and experiencing the surprise of the content without editorial preview.

Tamara James

Field trips continued from page 9

Service in the Preserves: Siegenthaler Esker State Nature Preserve in Champaign County

Saturday, February 27 from 7:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Siegenthaler Esker is always a favorite for the SIP work trippers. There are multiple piles of wood from invasive species and weed trees that need to be cleared. Our job will be to burn these mounds until they are nothing but ashes.

Meet in the parking lot inside the gate house at the ODNR Complex, 2045 Morse Road, to travel in the ODNR van. No special skills are required; bring your lunch, water, work gloves and appropriate foot gear. Call Katryn Renard by the preceding Wednesday at 614-261-7171 to register and reserve space for transportation.

CA Upcoming Programs

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Spend an evening with Jeff Gordon, president of the American Birding Association.

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

Hope Taft, former First Lady of Ohio, will join us to talk about her work promoting the benefits of native plants and gardening.

New and Renewed Members (Oct-Nov 2015)

Alecia Archie	Christine Kasselman	Madeline Pfister
Mary Jane Carter	Lauren Kattner	Russell and Mary McNamara
Michael and Karen Cohn	Lauren Kleinman	Pollock
Phyllis Duryee	Katherine Koon	Patrick Reardon
Denise Falzone	Lauren Kraft	Elizabeth Shlapack
Denise M. Falzone	Carrie Krebbeks	Greg Sklenar
John Firebaugh	Lauren Kuhn	Deena Snapp
Jim Forster	Terry Maloney-Rose	Leslie Swanson
Mary Kay Geiger	Anastasia Milakovic	Stephanie Taylor
Ashley Harris	Laura Moorman	Michael Thureau
Erich Hiner	Linda Narney	Ellen and Thomas Tripp
Matthew Hoffman	Robert O'Brien	Wendy Vaughan
Molly Holbert	Jessica Pever	Stacy Whitted
Catherine Hunziker	Madeline Pfister	

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

Officers

President: Barbara Revard, bsrevard@gmail.com, 614-580-4469

Vice President: Suzan Jervey, sejervy@gmail.com

Treasurer: Maura Rawn, maura2garden@yahoo.com

Recording Secretary: Amy Boyd, aboyn@audubon.org, 614-545-5486

Past President: Bill Heck, bill.heck@gmail.com

Trustees (through June 30, 2016): George Arnold, Tim Daniel, Julie Davis, Lindsay Deering, Tamara James, Suzan Jervey, Barbara Revard, Tom Sheley, Christie Vargo (ex officio)

Additional chapter leaders

Birdathon: information@columbusaudubon.org

Conservation: Dave Horn, 614-262-0312

Eco Weekend: Maura Rawn, maura2garden@yahoo.com, 614-653-8574

Field Trips: Tim Daniel, information@columbusaudubon.org

Membership: Joe Meara, 614-430-9127

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

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

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

Website: 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](https://www.facebook.com/GrangeInsuranceAudubonCenter)

614-545-5475

Twitter: @grangeaudubon

Staff

Center Director: Christie Vargo

Outreach and Engagement Director: Amy Boyd

Education Manager and Volunteer Coordinator: Allison Roush

Development and Marketing Manager: Jeffrey Yost

Office & Finance Assistant: Kristina Rawson

Facility Attendants: Linda FreemanWalker & Monica Johnson

Center Hours: Mon - closed; Tues - Thurs - 10 am to 5 pm; ; Fri & Sat - 10 am to 3 pm; Sun - 12 noon to 5 pm (Center periodically closed for special events. Calling ahead is advised to ensure Center will be open for your visit.)

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.

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