

## Spread Your Wings For Bird Conservation

### International Migratory Bird Day at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center

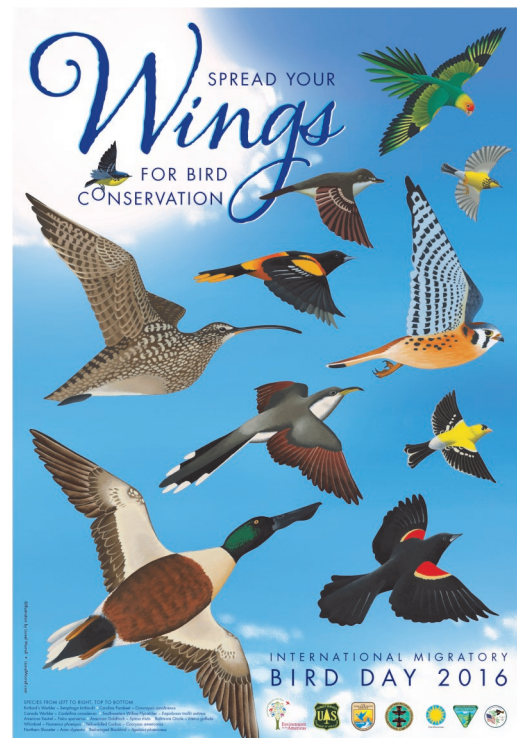
Saturday, May 14 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Donation suggested.

In 2016, International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD) will focus on how birds have inspired many of the most significant environmental conservation actions in the Americas. Citizens have the capacity in every country to support programs and laws that protect birds and their habitats, including a landmark treaty that, for the last century, has protected nearly all migratory bird species in the U.S. and Canada ~ the Migratory Bird Treaty

Come and celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Migratory Bird Act with bird hikes, nature crafts, and native plants. Come and learn why native plants are important to migrating birds and what you can do to help these traveling warriors.

Play the migration game and see if you survive and if all the resources you need are in place or if you will be stopped in your flight because of polluted water or lack of food. Compete against your siblings or friends to see who finishes first.



## IN THIS ISSUE

Leadership Letters	2
Upcoming Events	3
Creature Feature	4
Citizen Science	5
GIAC News	6-7
CA News	8
CA Field Trips	9-10
New Members/Supporters	11

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

## Wilson Education Fund hits milestone



Thanks to the generosity of donors like you, our John Wilson Memorial Education Fund has passed a milestone: We have distributed over \$10,000 in scholarships and support for environmental education. Among other things, Wilson Fund awards have helped send deserving young birders to Camp Colorado and to Ecuador for a summer semester program, provided scholarships for disadvantaged youths to attend summer camp at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center, and supported conferences that allow the public to learn about avian research in Ohio.

The Wilson Fund was created to honor the memory of John Wilson, long-time Columbus Audubon board member and treasurer. We think that John would be proud to see what has been done in his name.

If you have contributed to any of Columbus Audubon's fundraisers to support the Wilson Fund, you should be proud as well. Thank you!

### From center director Christie Vargo

#### Farewell

Dear Audubon Friends,

In thinking about my imminent departure as Center Director, I have been reflecting on my time and journey with the National Audubon Society – nearly 12 years wrapped in various roles with the Grange Insurance Audubon Center as...Development Director, Stewardship Board Member and Center Director. My leave-taking is truly bittersweet.

I am privileged and grateful for my Audubon tenure. Audubon is an amazing organization with amazing, talented and smart people among both National Audubon staff and on-the-ground volunteers who make so much of Audubon's work happen. The birds, the mission, the science and advocacy, the people and their passion, this reclaimed land and the place of honor the Audubon Center holds within it...I could not have dreamed of nor asked for a better way to end my career.

I call on each of you to reflect and remember where we started and how far we have come. Many held and carried this vision before I arrived. I am one person in a long-line, tending the Center vision, always with smart and talented people by my side. And now I am poised to pass the baton. I thank you for allowing me and joining me on this journey. I will carry this place and all of my Audubon friends and colleagues with me and in my heart.

*Christie Vargo*



### From CA president Barb Revard

#### Learning to Stop, Look and Listen

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

The mission statement for Columbus Audubon is simple and to the point. It speaks to me and to the passion I have had for the environment since I was a small girl growing up in west-central Ohio.

I lived in a tiny town surrounded by farm fields and woodlots, garter snakes, box turtles and naturally, birds. My parents were not really fascinated with birds. According to them we had sparrows and black-birds, occasionally a hawk, and that was about it. My grandmother however, had a different outlook. On her farm just two miles down the road I discovered birds with colorful feathers! Maybe the difference was that Grandma had a little more time to sit with me and just watch nature around us. She taught me that American goldfinches were wild canaries and indigo buntings were bluebirds. Your field guide may disagree, but I know she was right! Because, to a five-year-old girl, learning to look, listen and observe was a more important lesson than getting the name correct.

On my grandparents farm I learned to sit quiet as can be to watch the frogs on the edge of the creek and the great blue herons flying overhead in the evening, returning to their roost in the neighbor's woods. I am sure most of you also had similar experiences, those special moments that opened your eyes to the beauty of nature. I think our responsibility is to share our passion with someone else.

Rachel Carson once said, "If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder, he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it, rediscovering with him the joy, excitement and mystery of the world we live in."

I believe adults too, need that companion to share nature with, to revel in the beauty of our natural world and to express joy at the simple things that surround us.

*Continued on page 7*



# Upcoming Events

## Birdathon 2016 - Join in on the fun!

If you enjoy the outdoors, watching birds, camaraderie and competition for a good cause, why not consider joining us in May for a Birdathon adventure? It's not too late to put together, join or sponsor a team. Columbus Audubon makes it easy to participate. Log on to [www.columbusaudubon.org/birdathon](http://www.columbusaudubon.org/birdathon) and we'll take you through the process of forming, joining or sponsoring a team. We'll also provide tips on fund raising for your team. Our goal this year is to raise at least \$10,000, which will help fund Columbus Audubon programs including conservation projects, our public programs, and youth scholarships.

You don't need to join a team to participate. Sponsors are just as important to the Columbus Audubon Birdathon as our team members. If you would like to sponsor a team, please contact a team member to make a donation or look for the team roster posted on our website, [www.columbusaudubon.org/birdathon](http://www.columbusaudubon.org/birdathon), and sponsor your favorite team online! If you have questions, feel free to contact us via e-mail at [birdathon@columbusaudubon.org](mailto:birdathon@columbusaudubon.org) or call

Tom Sheley at 614-578-9501.

So what are you waiting for? Join us for Columbus Audubon's 2016 Birdathon, and let the fun begin!

## COLUMBUS AUDUBON BIRDATHON

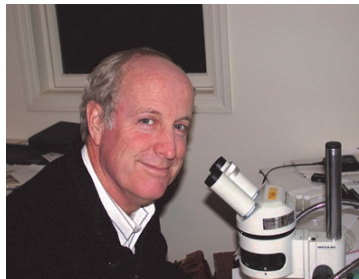


Tom Sheley

## An Evening Lecture with Author Doug Tallmay

Presented by Grange Insurance Audubon  
Center and Columbus Audubon

Thursday August 4 at 7 pm at  
Grange Insurance  
Audubon Center



### Rebuilding Nature's Relationships at Home

Specialized relationships between animals and plants are the norm in nature rather than the exception. Plants that evolved in concert with local animals provide for their needs better than plants that evolved elsewhere. Author Doug Tallamy will explain why this is so, why specialized food relationships determine the stability and complexity of the local food webs that support animal diversity, why it is important to restore life to our residential properties, and what we can do to make our landscapes living ecosystems once again.

Tallamy is currently professor and chair of the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware in Newark, Delaware where he has written more than 65 research articles and has taught insect taxonomy, behavioral ecology, and other subjects. He is the author of *Bringing Nature Home* and co-author of *The Living Landscape*. The program is free; donations at the door are appreciated.

### 2016 Birdathon Teams

#### Wayward Warblers – 100

Nadya Bennett  
Terri Kepes  
Barb Revard  
Stephen Revard

#### Wild Birds Unlimited Sawmill – 165

Bill Heck  
Steve Landes  
Chris Lotz  
Tom Sheley

#### Swans and Coots – 65

Alan Cohen  
Clyde Gosnell  
Paul Knoop  
Bruce Lindsay  
Helen Lindsay  
Katryn Renard  
Bruce Renard  
Omie Warner

#### Deck Birds – 1

Cheri Brown  
Pat Barron  
Bev May  
Pete Precario



## Bullfrogs (*Rana catesbeiana*)

### *Bullfrogs: the Frog that Ate the Midwest*

They're our ideal mental image of a frog: squat, slick, and green, with big eyes and a loud croak. They make homes in all our man-made habitats: farm ponds, reservoirs, and even roadside ditches. Plus they're good to eat...or at least their legs are, so that they're actually managed as a game animal. But there are still a lot of things you don't know about these ur-frogs. So let's meet the American Bullfrog.

Firstly, Bullfrogs (*Rana catesbeiana*) are one big frog. Unlike most of our frogs, Bullfrogs grow large, often exceeding 1/4 pound for a big adult. They're part of the frog family Ranidae that favor slow or static warm water for breeding, and they spend most of their lives near these watery retreats. This group includes the widespread Green Frog (*R. clamitans*) and southern Pig Frogs (*R. grylio*), both big bruisers but still not as big as Bullfrogs. Bullfrogs get this size from 2 things: the fast-growing tadpoles that can graze algae for multiple years, and adults that aren't fussy eaters, basically swallowing anything smaller than themselves. Since they metamorphose from a big tadpole, Bullfrogs can start eating big items right away, often crayfish, big insects, and other frogs, and the menu items only get bigger after that. A big population of bullfrogs in a pond can decimate other amphibians and invertebrates that aren't used to their predation.



Despite this catholic diet, bullfrogs are not as ubiquitous as you might think. Like most frogs, they have tadpole young; unlike many small frogs, however, their tadpoles take 2-3 years to grow before metamorphosing. Because of this, they need permanent water. The result is that you won't hear Bullfrogs calling from the shallow marshes or vernal pools favored by spring-calling frogs like peepers or chorus frogs. Nor can they reproduce in the flood pools or rain puddles favored by Toads and Treefrogs. In fact, you often won't hear their booming 'Jug-o-rum' mating calls until warmer weather – late May or June – after the water has warmed enough for their mating and egg-laying. If you note where you hear them, it's mostly in permanent ponds and swamps, places where their tadpoles have a chance to lead a full life of several years.

Living in ponds for that long means that young bullfrog tadpoles have to dodge 2 big problems: predatory fish and winter cold. Bullfrog eggs are eaten by lots of predators, but the tadpoles produce a skin chemical that makes them unpalatable for most fish. They can still be eaten by water snakes, herons, and predaceous water bugs, though. If they avoid predation their first year, they burrow into the mud bottoms of ponds and marshes to wait out the winter in a cold torpor. Most will metamorphose late in their second summer, but their troubles aren't over yet. Young bullfrogs are heavily preyed upon by garter snakes and older bullfrogs, so most have an innate dispersal behavior that will drive them to move up to 10 miles away from their birth pond, even in dry conditions. So a crop of young bullfrogs are almost like wind-blown seeds, spreading out from their birth-pond in search of new habitat.

What does all this add up to? Bullfrogs are now the Starlings of amphibians. They evolved in the warm swamps of the southeastern U.S., but have taken advantage of human-designed habitats to spread throughout the eastern U.S. and into the Great Plains. All of those farm ponds, drainage rockpits, and reservoirs make for perfect Bullfrog habitat. Humans have also deliberately introduced them all over the western U.S., as well as Europe, Asia, and Australia in a misguided attempt to provide sport, food, or insect-control. Their biology makes them the 'perfect invader', and their colonization of many of these habitats has come at the expense of many native amphibians. Bullfrogs have now been implicated as major factors in the decline of many other amphibians, especially other Ranid frogs adapted to slow-water habitats. If you're hearing calling bullfrogs from your pond, it's a good bet that some native frogs have gone missing. Perhaps it's time to harvest some of your Bullfrogs.

*Rob Thorn*

## Global Big Day | May 14

Saturday, May 14, has been designated the Global Big Day by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Using the eBird platform, the lab is asking birders to enter what they see in their own backyard, local park, preserve, wilderness etc., what species of birds they see in that one day.

Birders from all over the world will unite to answer a single question: How many birds can we find as a global team in one day? During the inaugural Global Big Day last year, more than 6,000 species were recorded. All you have to do is record what you see on

<http://ebird.org/content/ebird> during the allotted time period. The

event works much like the Great Backyard Bird Count but with a much shorter timeframe. Any bird you see or hear counts. And the platform will take checklists until May 17 if you do not have time to enter the data on the count day.

For keeping track of birds you see in the field, you can use the eBird Mobile app. eBird Mobile is offered in 20 languages in Android and 10 in iOS. Just go to the Apple Store or Google Play to download.



*Stefanie Hauck*



## Migratory Bird Treaty Act Centennial

2016 marks the 100th anniversary of the Migratory Bird Treaty! Yes, all the way back on August 16, 1916, the United States and Great Britain (on behalf of Canada) signed a “Convention” or treaty to protect migratory birds.

We should give thanks for the wisdom and foresight of those in both governments who worked to ensure that, 100 years later, our birds would still be here. And we can celebrate the success of this treaty, along with several subsequent treaties, as we still enjoy “our” birds today!

Check out the [US Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Bird Treaty Centennial Web site](http://www.fws.gov/birds/MBTreaty100/) at <http://www.fws.gov/birds/MBTreaty100/> for more information.

## Life from the dead

When is being dead a good thing? When you’re a tree! Dead trees provide habitat for over one thousand species of animals nationwide.

If still standing upright, a dead tree is called a snag. When it falls to the ground it becomes a log. Whether vertical or horizontal, dead trees play an important role for all types of wildlife. Raccoons, squirrels, bats, owls and slugs all take shelter in dead trees. As small plant life including mushrooms grow on the dead tree animals will be attracted to it as a food source. When mosses, lichens and fungi grow on the snag they assist in its decomposition. As the snag or log rots, its nutrients will be returned to the soil and will enrich it. Often times this area acts as a seedling nursery for new growth of trees.

Hollow logs can provide shelter for a variety of mammals - shrews, chipmunks and foxes. Other species use the top of the log as a highway - deer mice - or a drumming site - ruffed grouse. Snakes will shelter alongside logs and turtle will bask on top of logs located near bodies of water. Many species of salamanders will also be attracted by the moist, decaying wood.

*continued on page 7*



# Grange Insurance Audubon Center

## Audubon at Home Monthly Program Series

Each month an educational session is offered to help educate folks on things they can do in their backyard to create a more sustainable landscape while creating habitat for birds and other wildlife. No registration is required. Donations appreciated.

### **Soak it In by Sara Ernst, Franklin Soil and Water District**

May 11 at 7 p.m.

Grange Insurance Audubon Center

Create habitat in your backyard with a rain garden that's designed to capture rainwater runoff, and learn how to use a rain barrel with soft water that plants appreciate. Keeping stormwater on your property and using it as a resource can prevent flooding and pollution downstream.

### **Welcoming Wildlife to your Backyard by Tisa Watts, ColumbusGardenCoach.com**

June 8 at 7 p.m.

Grange Insurance Audubon Center

Join us for an evening of exploration as you learn how to create an ideal habitat for birds and butterflies and other wildlife. All animals need food, water, shelter and space in order survive and thrive. Learn tricks of the trade from Tisa so that you can have the best habitat in the neighborhood and enjoy all the critters that will call your backyard home.

### **Bat Night at GIAC**

June 9, 7-10 p.m.

Grange Insurance Audubon Center

Join the Bat Conservation, a nonprofit dedicated to saving bats and bat habitat, for an evening about bats. Meet live bats from around the world up close and learn how they are important to your backyard and the food you eat. Participate in activities, crafts, and bat house building. End the evening at sunset with a walking tour along the woods and trails around the Scioto Audubon Metro Park in search of native bats. The echolocation demonstration will amaze and delight.

Please RSVP to Amy Boyd, [aboyd@audubon.org](mailto:aboyd@audubon.org) with name and number of children and adults.

Donations appreciated.

Sponsored by Propestmen of

Ohio <http://propestmen.com/ohio/>



For more information about the Organization for Bat Conservation: <https://batconservation.org>



### **Bands, Birds and Beer = B3**

Join us for Bands, Birds, and Beer at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center

Local Mountain Rock Band  
Grassinine will be back this year!



**Friday, September 16 from 6-11 p.m.**

**Admission:** (includes beer mug)

\$20 admission (on-line) until Wednesday, Sep14.

\$35 for 2 admissions

\$25 at the door per person

Event will be held rain or shine. Bring blanket or lawn chairs for outside seating.

Beer and Wine will be available for sale.

*Come hungry and enjoy a variety of food trucks.*



## NEW Membership Program

Effective April 15, 2016 changes have been made to our membership structure. From now forward, whether you are a new friend or are renewing, we invite you to become a Supporter of Columbus Audubon (CA) and the Grange Insurance Audubon Center (GIAC). Benefits of this change are listed in the newsletter and more will be added! This change will no longer include membership in the National Audubon Society or subscription to their magazine. By joining CA and GIAC *you* are supporting bird conservation and environmental education right here in central Ohio!

*life from the dead continued from page 5*



And, of course, there are the cavity nesting birds! Wood ducks, bluebirds and pileated woodpeckers will nest in cavities of snags. Limbs on snags also provide perches for raptors as well as momentary landing spots for flycatchers.

Any dead tree that is too close to a home or building should be carefully evaluated and removed if it will potentially fall onto your home. The log can then be placed strategically elsewhere on your property. A pile of branches can act as a refuge for small animals too. Creating a wood pile can give small animals shelter from enemies and severe weather.

If you can replant a new tree to replace the one that died be sure to plant a native species. If possible, plan for a variety of trees that can

provide food throughout the year. A mixture of fruit and nut trees will feed animals through several seasons. And don't forget evergreens! These trees are excellent at providing shelter in inclement weather, as well as seeds from their cones. The life cycle of trees, including the life they provide after death, can be a boost for wildlife and will also provide fun for your family as you observe the new life from your dead tree!

*Barb Revard*

*CA president letter continued from page 2*

I know that Columbus Audubon can be, and already is, that connection for our community. The members and volunteers of Columbus Audubon share their joy and wonder of the natural world week after week, month after month. Please join a field trip, work trip or a monthly program or volunteer to keep our organization a strong community resource. I have so enjoyed getting to know more CA members this past two years while I served as your president. I am in awe of the commitment of our volunteers and know that the future will always be bright when we have such amazing people sharing their passion for nature and the environment with others in our community. Oh, and just to set the record straight, when my Mom became a grandmother (with a little more time on her hands) she became quite the birder! She planted native plants, kept her birdfeeders filled and had binoculars and a field guide next to the kitchen window. Just a few weeks before she passed away she called me early one morning, so excited that she had rose-breasted grosbeaks at her feeders!

*Barb Revard*

## Tamara James receives 2016 Song Sparrow award



You often hear of the 3 T's in volunteerism - Time, treasure and talent, hoping that a volunteer will give one of those to your organization. Tamara has consistently given all 3 to CA. Time volunteering for CA in so many ways over the years, Treasure by maintaining membership in CA/GIAC and donating generously to our organization. And, finally Talent.

Tamara James first got involved with CA in the 1990's as our volunteer coordinator. In this role she took on the challenge of organizing volunteers for various CA activities and to represent CA at gardening, environmental, wildlife and other nature events throughout central Ohio. This was before the widespread use of email, and she devoted many hours to actually calling volunteers on the telephone to make sure events were covered. She also created ways to recognize volunteers for their efforts. Ultimately, she successfully developed the ranks of CA volunteers, thanks to her wonderful people and organization skills and the support she gave volunteers.

While she served as volunteer coordinator, she also was voted onto the Board of Trustees. Always thoughtful, she could be counted on to ask the hard questions in service to our members. She helped guide important Board decisions, such as the one to purchase and preserve Calamus Swamp, and helped make the first Art for Audubon fundraiser a huge success.

She took a break from CA around 2003, but fortunately for us, we managed to lure her back a few years later. Until recently, she served as our newsletter editor and spent untold hours of time working on the CA newsletter. She is currently back on the CA board and continues to ask those hard questions on certain board issues. Outside of CA, Tamara has been the interim state director of AARP for the last year and before that served as their manager of outreach. She is also on the board of the Midwest Biodiversity Institute and is on the Friends of the Library board with Columbus Metropolitan Library. In her spare time she enjoys a little bird watching and is currently fostering rescued greyhounds. In honor of this work and so much more, we are delighted to present the 2016 Song Sparrow Award to Tamara James.

The Song Sparrow Award was established in 1996 and is Columbus Audubon's highest honor. It recognizes outstanding contributions by Columbus Audubon members who promote CA's mission often over the course of their membership. Traditionally, at least one Song Sparrow award is given every year for education, conservation, and/or meritorious service.

*The Song Sparrow Award was established to commemorate Margaret Morse Nice's groundbreaking scientific contributions on the life histories of Song Sparrows. Nice's pioneering work put Ohio on the map of the ornithological world.*

## Eco-Weekend Thanks

THANK YOU to all who joined us at EcoWeekend 2016! We had over 10 new program leaders this year who are experts in their fields of interest, bringing us new knowledge and new experiences, along with our returning program leaders offering our most popular programs. It is our program leaders, youth leaders and participants, young and old, that make EcoWeekend the unique and wonderful family nature retreat that it is. Plan to join us in 2017! We also want to thank the following sponsors for their generous gifts of fine foods for our youth program and salad bar: Kroger Marketplace, Lucky's Market and Meijer-Lancaster. One more thing - if you have an artistic leaning, try your hand at designing our 45th year t-shirt design for 2017! Contact Maura Rawn, EcoWeekend Chair for more information.

[maura2garden@yahoo.com](mailto:maura2garden@yahoo.com)

Maura Rawn



# Columbus Audubon



## May & June Trips

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

### **Bird hikes at Blendon Woods | Sunday, May 1**

Search the woods for migrating songbirds like warblers, vireos, tanagers, and more. Naturalists will guide separate beginner and intermediate/advanced groups, so all birders are welcome. Meet at the nature center at 8 a.m. Some binoculars available. Search the woods for migrating songbirds like warblers, vireos, tanagers, and more. Some binoculars available. Naturalist Andrea Krava will lead the beginner group, and naturalist Bruce Simpson will lead the intermediate/advanced group. More information can be found at [www.metroparks.net](http://www.metroparks.net).

### **Advanced Birding at Clear Creek | Sunday, May 1**

Join John Watts, Metro Parks' Resource Manager, to look for some of Clear Creek's most spectacular spring migrants. Bring binoculars. Meet at the Creekside Meadows Parking Lot at 8 a.m. More information can be found at [www.metroparks.net](http://www.metroparks.net).

### **Warbler Walk at Highbanks | Sunday, May 1**

Take a 1-mile hike in search of colorful spring migrants. Meet at the nature center at 8 a.m. More information can be found at [www.metroparks.net](http://www.metroparks.net).

### **Birdwatching for Beginners | Saturdays, May 7 and 21**

If you've wondered what birdwatching is about, but can't even 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. Meet at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center at 10 a.m. Trip ends at 11:30 a.m. Contact Suzan Jervey at [sejervey@gmail.com](mailto:sejervey@gmail.com) for more information.

### **Migration Madness at Sharon Woods | Saturday, May 7**

Explore the park on a 2-mile stroll in search of resident and migratory birds. Binoculars available. No experience necessary! We even have binoculars you can borrow. Although this is not an accessible program, the Edward Thomas Trail is very hard-packed small-size gravel. Meet at the Shrock Lake restrooms at 8 a.m. Please call the Sharon Woods Naturalist Office if you have questions about accessibility. 614-865-4507.

### **Birding at its Best: Battelle Darby Creek | Saturday, May 7**

Enjoy a morning chorus of warblers, finches, orioles and other birds. Meet at the Indian Ridge Bulletin Board at 8 a.m. More information can be found at [www.metroparks.net](http://www.metroparks.net).

### **Big Sit Birding at Blendon Woods | Sunday, May 8**

Naturalists will be sitting at the Nature Center birdwatching windows to tally all the different bird species seen through the windows from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Help find birds and learn identification tips throughout the day. Some binoculars available. More information can be found at [www.metroparks.net](http://www.metroparks.net).

### **Whetstone Park | Monday, May 9**

Join Donna Siple and Lynn Wearsch for a morning walk through Whetstone Park of Roses, to explore a variety of bird habitats in the park, the Adena Brook area and nearby wooded ravine. This is for all levels – beginners are welcome. We hope to see indigo buntings, orioles, tanagers, gnatcatchers, thrushes, vireos, waxwings, various warblers and maybe even a nesting wood duck. Trip duration is approximately three hours. Meet at 8 a.m. at the Park of Roses parking area just below the shelter house. Contact [lmair5436@gmail.com](mailto:lmair5436@gmail.com) for more information.

### **Nest Quest | Saturday & Sunday, May 14-15**

Scour the trails looking for a variety of items in a nest-themed scavenger hunt, during this drop-in program at Deer Haven Park. Program runs from noon to 5 p.m. both days. Discover which animals in the park build nests and where to look for them. Take home a kit to provide your backyard birds with nesting material. Contact Rich Niccum at [rniccum@preservationparks.com](mailto:rniccum@preservationparks.com) for more information. Directions to Deerhaven Park can be found at [www.preservationparks.com](http://www.preservationparks.com).

### **Spring Migration Bird Walk at Blacklick Woods | Saturday, May 14**

Take a 2-mile walk to search the trails for migrating songbirds. Meet at the nature center at 8 a.m. More information can be found at [www.metroparks.net](http://www.metroparks.net).

*Continued on page 10*

## CA Field trips continued from page 9

### **Ohio Young Birders: Young Birder Walk: Birding the Famous Magee Marsh | Saturday, May 14**

Meet at the east end of the Magee Marsh Parking Lot at noon. Each year, the OYBC offers a young birders walk at Magee Marsh during the Biggest Week In American Birding festival and it's always a blast! Join young birders from all over the state and the country and meet some really cool field trip leaders, too! This year the young birders will have an opportunity to learn from experts Kenn Kaufman, Scott Weidensaul, Steve N.G. Howell, Mark Shieldcastle, and Noah Strycker. No need to be a member and young birders of all ages are welcome! Please pack your lunch! To RSVP, contact [info@ohioyoungbirders.org](mailto:info@ohioyoungbirders.org).

### **Green Lawn Cemetery | Sunday, May 22**

Join Warren Grody and Darlene Sillick as they fill the bird feeders and look for the usual suspects plus a few surprises at one of the oldest cemeteries in central Ohio. Meet at 1 p.m. in the office parking lot inside the iron gate at 1000 Green Lawn Ave., Columbus. Contact Darlene at [azuretrails@columbus.rr.com](mailto:azuretrails@columbus.rr.com) for more information.

### **Bird is the Word | Saturday, May 28**

Join Delaware Preservation Park staff for a one-mile bird walk around Deer Haven's Tree Swallow and Bent Tree Ridge trails. We will search for lingering migrants, as well as summer residents in their breeding territories. This is a great opportunity to introduce your family to bird watching. Loaner binoculars will be provided if needed. Meet at the nature center at 9 a.m. Directions to Deerhaven Park can be found at [www.preservationparks.com](http://www.preservationparks.com).

### **Birdwatching for Beginners | Saturdays, June 4 and 18**

If you've wondered what birdwatching is about, but can't even 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. Meet at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center at 10 a.m. Trip ends at 11:30 a.m. Contact Suzan Jervey at [sejervy@gmail.com](mailto:sejervy@gmail.com) for more information.

**Ohio Young Birders Birding by Kayak | Saturday, June 4** This is the sixth year of OYBC's popular Birding by Kayak, hosted by TAASC and central Ohio OYBC. This event is open to all OYBC members, their parents/guardians & immediate family only and of course our awesome advisors. We will launch from the TAASC Adventure Center in Powell. Meet at TAASC at 8 a.m. Cost is \$10 for OYBC members who have own kayak and \$20 for members without a kayak. If there is enough interest, archery will be available after getting off the water for another \$5. This event is open to all OYBC members, their parents/guardians & immediate family only. Register at [www.taasc.org](http://www.taasc.org) or with cash or a check made out to TAASC at registration check-in the day of the event. Anyone in need of scholarship money in order to attend this trip from the central Ohio Young Birders Club should contact OBYC Advisor Susan Setterlin [rsetterl@columbus.rr.com](mailto:rsetterl@columbus.rr.com).

**Columbus Audubon Birding by Kayak | Sunday, June 5** Join Darlene Sillick to kayak on the beautiful waters of the Twin Lakes at the The Adaptive Adventure Sports Coalition (TAASC) facility in Delaware County just north of Shawnee Hills. Cost is \$20 per person (without a kayak) and \$10 if you bring your own. Pre-registration and a signed liability waiver is required. Register at [www.taasc.org](http://www.taasc.org). Meet at 8:30 a.m. Bring your own lunch, water, snacks etc. Contact Darlene Sillick at [azuretrails@columbus.rr.com](mailto:azuretrails@columbus.rr.com).

### **Avid Birders | Saturday, June 11**

The Avid Birders meet to carpool at 5:30 am in the southeast corner of the Worthington Mall parking lot. This time it's our semi-annual trip to Harrison County. We'll be looking for grassland birds, including Upland Sandpipers and Henslow's Sparrows. As usual, we will announce more specific information on the Avid Birders mailing list shortly before the trip.



## 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)

614-545-5496

Twitter: @ColumbusAudubon

### Officers

President: Barbara Revard, [bsrevard@gmail.com](mailto:bsrevard@gmail.com), 614-580-4469

Vice President: Suzan Jervey, [sejervy@gmail.com](mailto:sejervy@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Maura Rawn, [maura2garden@yahoo.com](mailto:maura2garden@yahoo.com)

Recording Secretary: Amy Boyd, [aboyn@audubon.org](mailto:aboyn@audubon.org), 614-545-5486

Past President: Bill Heck, [bill.heck@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:information@columbusaudubon.org)

Conservation: Dave Horn, 614-262-0312

Eco Weekend: Maura Rawn, [maura2garden@yahoo.com](mailto:maura2garden@yahoo.com), 614-653-8574

Field Trips: Tim Daniel, [information@columbusaudubon.org](mailto:information@columbusaudubon.org)

Membership: Joe Meara, 614-430-9127

Newsletter Editor: Stefanie Hauck, [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

Website: Bill Heck, [webmaster@columbusaudubon.org](mailto: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](http://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

Office & Finance Assistant: Kristina Rawson

Facility Attendants: Linda FreemanWalker, Monica Johnson & Bob Zahler

**Center Hours:** Monday closed, Tuesday – Saturday 10am – 8pm, Sunday – noon – 8pm (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.

## GIAC Stewardship Board

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