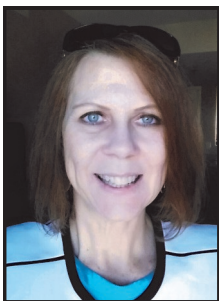


## From the Columbus Audubon president

Tamara James



Columbus Audubon will be greener in 2017. After several years of discussions and soul-searching, the Song Sparrow newsletter will be published in an email format only beginning in January 2017.

This change gives members and friends more timely information about upcoming field trips, reminders about programs, and news--from Columbus Audubon, Grange Insurance Audubon Center, and other sources.

To ensure that we have your correct address in our database, send an email to [member-ship@columbusaudubon.org](mailto:member-ship@columbusaudubon.org) with the word newsletter in the subject line and your name and email address in the message.

By reducing our eco footprint, Columbus Audubon will have additional funds to dedicate to conservation, well-renowned speakers, and scholarships. We also will reduce paper consumption and the environmental impact of a printed document.

With the flexibility of an email newsletter, we can also add new features or lengthen others. Are you a fan of the Creature Feature? Do you want to see more book reviews? Let us know by emailing [editor@columbusaudubon.org](mailto:editor@columbusaudubon.org).

A new year is coming and that brings changes and opportunities. We hope you'll see this change as a positive opportunity.



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

### Call for conservation grant applications

Conservation of birds, other wildlife, and their habitats has been a vital part of the mission of Columbus Audubon for over 100 years. In this spirit, Columbus Audubon offers a conservation grant program to support the conservation of Ohio's native bird species. The Conservation Grant Program offers financial support for innovative habitat management, habitat protection, and scientific research projects, especially in central Ohio.

Funding is open to non-profit organizations, businesses, clubs, educational institutions, and individuals. The Conservation Grant Program is supported by fundraising efforts such as the Bird Seed Sale and Birdathon. To all members who support these fundraisers: thank you. Your contributions go to good use.

Grant applications are currently being accepted through November 18, 2016. Application and eligibility details are available at [www.columbusaudubon.org/conservationgrants](http://www.columbusaudubon.org/conservationgrants). Grant recipients will be invited to share the results of their project with Columbus Audubon members at a future monthly program.

# Upcoming Events

## November Program: The Birds of Hocking County

7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 15, in the GIAC Multipurpose Room (one week early due to Thanksgiving)

**6:45-7:00 pm** Refreshments, Bird Quiz and social time

**7:00 pm** Welcome and Announcements

**7:15 pm** Conservation Spotlight: Steve Matthews, School of Environment and Natural Resources, OSU  
*Linking trees and birds to understand climate change impacts*

Bird distributions are shaped by many factors. As we enter a time of a rapidly changing global climate that is draped on top of a markedly reshaped landscape, understanding how these factors shape distributions will be critical to inform biological conservation and management decisions with climate change. We have developed tools to better understand how potential habitat changes may affect 147 bird species in the eastern United States based at a coarse-scale (20 x 20 km) with predictor variables of climate, elevation, and the distributions of 38 tree species. Results highlighted the potential for marked changes in species habitats. In the end, our data show that by including information on the distribution of vegetation, we gain a higher resolution perspective of how suitable habitat for birds has the potential to markedly shift under climate change.

### 7:30 pm Featured Speaker: John Watts, Metro Parks Resource Manager

*The Birds of Hocking County, Ohio*

Please join us as we welcome John Watts of the Franklin County Metro Parks and co-author of the recently published *Birds of Hocking County*.

Here in central Ohio, we know that Hocking County is one of the natural jewels of Ohio. The area is favored with impressive geological and biological diversity, and within that setting occurs one of the most diverse and accessible populations of birds to be found in the state. John will discuss the recently published book that he co-authored with Paul Knoop Jr. and Gary Coover: *The Birds of Hocking County, Ohio*. This volume documents 266 species of birds found in Hocking County and discusses the land use changes and county bird studies that have resulted in this extensive list — as well as public locations for birdwatching.

John Watts is the Resource Manager for the Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks and has worked for Metro Parks since 1986. He previously worked for the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves on rare species monitoring and habitat restoration and management. John coordinates and administers the Resource Management Program for over 27,500 acres of natural area park lands in central Ohio, which has restored over 4,000 acres of native habitat. He takes most pride in the restoration of over 1,600 acres of native tallgrass prairie in the former Darby Plains Prairies.



## Birding Optics Events

If you are interested in looking at binoculars and spotting scopes for birding and other outdoor recreational activities, in a setting that provides you with the opportunity to look at these optics, ask questions, and even compare them with what you already own, then this promises to be a worthwhile and helpful new event. This is not a sales event. It is an opportunity to come look at an impressive line of binoculars and spotting scopes, along with proven accessories, to improve your birding enjoyment. Please refer to the website for details: [columbusaudubon.org](http://columbusaudubon.org)



# Columbus Audubon

## Columbus Audubon 2016 Bird Seed Fundraiser

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

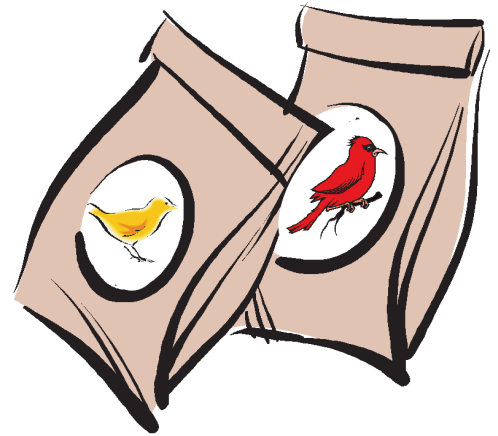
Columbus Audubon will be offering a seed blend for every budget and habitat along with peanuts and suet cakes to attract insect-eating and woodland species. Of course, traditional favorites such as Oil Sunflower, Sunflower Chips, Safflower and White Millet will be on the menu as well.

As we have done in the past, the CA Seed Order Form is available on the next page of the November/December issue of the Song Sparrow.

Look for the new and improved online order form along with product descriptions at [www.columbusaudubon.org/birdseed](http://www.columbusaudubon.org/birdseed). Many members 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 projects.

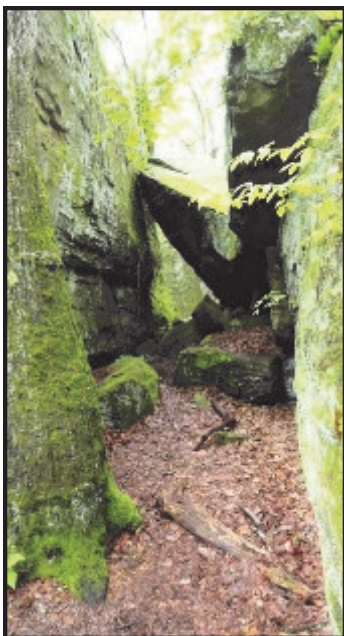
The Columbus Audubon Bird Seed online store will be available until Dec. 20. You can pick up your Bird Seed order Please pick up your seed order between Dec. 1 – 31 at Wild Birds Unlimited, 6654 Sawmill Rd, Columbus OH 43235.



## Give the Gift of NATURE for Christmas!

Columbus Audubon's annual Eco-Weekend is one of the BEST nature events in our community. Eco-Weekend is a family-friendly, programs/food/lodging "all-inclusive" nature-education group experience that is reasonably priced and is packed full with over 50 programs to choose from for nature-lovers from 4 to 94 years old. COME JOIN US!

Special Saturday programming for youth. Give your loved ones the gift of a Nature Retreat. Our 45<sup>th</sup> year event will be held May 5-7, 2017. Mark Your Calendars! And look for registration information in early February. Contact Maura Rawn for more information and to buy your Gift Certificates: 740-653-8574.



# Columbus Audubon



## 2016 Bird Seed Sale Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone/Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailed orders must be received by December 15.

Order online at [www.columbusaudubon.org/birdseed](http://www.columbusaudubon.org/birdseed) through December 20.

Item	Code	Unit	Price (includes tax)	Quantity	Total
Audubon Select Blend	AA	20 lbs	\$12.50		
WBU Deluxe Blend	AB	20 lbs	\$15.99		
WBU Supreme Blend	AK	20 lbs	\$18.99		
WBU Choice Blend	AC	20 lbs	\$20.99		
WBU Choice Plus Winter Blend	AJ	20 lbs	\$26.99		
Ohio No Mess Blend	AL	20 lbs	\$ 16.99		
Black Oil Sunflower	AD	20 lbs	\$15.50		
Safflower	AE	20 lbs	\$21.50		
Sunflower Chips	AF	20 lbs	\$28.99		
White Millet	GD	20 lbs	\$10.99		
Nyjer ("Thistle")	AH	5 lbs	\$9.99		
Nyjer ("Thistle")	AG	10 lbs	\$18.99		
Peanut Pieces	AM	10 lbs	\$16.99		
Peanut Pieces	AN	20 lbs	\$27.99		
Whole Peanuts (In Shell)	FA	10 lbs	\$19.99		
Ear Corn (12-14 Ears)	AI	6.5 lbs	\$7.50		
WBU Peanut Suet Cakes	FB	11.75 oz	\$1.75		

Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to Columbus Audubon: Help support our  
conservation and education programs. Contributions are tax deductible. \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **Columbus Audubon** and mail to Columbus Audubon, 877 Mohawk St, Columbus OH 43206.  
For phone inquiries, please call Wild Birds Unlimited at 614-766-2103.

**Please pick up your order between December 1 - 31**

**at the New Wild Birds Unlimited**

**6654 Sawmill Rd., Columbus OH 43235**



# Grange Insurance Audubon Center

## From Audubon Center Director Dawn Tabata



One of my favorite business writers is Penelope Burk, best known for her book, *Donor-Centered Fundraising*. I've been referring quite a lot to Penelope's books since joining Grange Insurance Audubon Center.

One view in particular that I share, and I'll paraphrase, is "when non-profits are said to have a philanthropic culture, it is implicit that philanthropy is essential to achieving their mission. There is widespread acceptance of philanthropy as a core value, and everyone has a role in promoting it. As a nonprofit, when you embrace philanthropy as

"community building" you automatically make a compelling rationale for fundraising which inspires everyone around you to help raise money."

As Executive Director, I not only want to see a tradition of philanthropy, I want to instill a spirit of philanthropy. Not just doing, leading by example, but caring, teaching and coaching. This spirit is what created Grange Insurance Audubon Center. It embodied the passion, sacrifice, and fortitude that is this Center; the same spirit still lives in the hearts of our past, current and future partners and contributors.

Central Ohio is a community that exemplifies philanthropy. It is because of this generosity that children continue to benefit from abundant opportunities to learn, grow, and excel at Grange Audubon. Through our classroom instruction, partner camps, Audubon At Home, and scouting programs, just to name a few we provide a dependable, dynamic place for children and adults to learn, discover and experience the importance of nature and conservation. As one camper put it this summer, "Miss Allison, I didn't expect to have a good time outside, but I did." Thank you to our partners and benefactors, we hope that you had a "good time" this year—we know we did. We look forward to working with you next year.



## Audubon at Home Monthly Program Series

Each month an educational session is offered to help inform the public on things that can be done to create a more sustainable landscape while creating habitat for birds and other wildlife at home. No registration is required. Donations appreciated. All programs are at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center.

### **Denny Forrest: Building Bird feeders**

Nov. 9 at 7 pm

After all the work you've put into your garden wouldn't a birdfeeder to feed all of your new found birds be the perfect addition? Join Denny Forrest as he leads us through the steps to construct your own bird feeder.

### **Kristina Rawson: Creating your own seed bombs**

Dec. 14 at 7 pm

We have collected lovely native flower seeds from around the center, now is the time to put these seeds to use. Join Kristina Rawson as she walks us through the steps to create our own seed bombs. These seed bombs can be used in your own backyard to create an explosive native plant garden.



# Grange Insurance Audubon Center

## Center welcomes its newest addition: Educator, Chrissie Wilson

Chrissie Wilson holds a Bachelor's in Environmental Science and recently graduated with honors with her Masters in Environmental Education from Slippery Rock University. Her passion for Environmental Education comes from her relationship with her grandfather. Through him she learned how to seek out new natural experiences and to learn from the world around her. He inspired her to remember how much different a child's life can be when he or she is exposed to hands-on education and given time to explore and experiment. She was raised in Dayton but moved away and spent some time in South Carolina and Georgia before moving to Columbus.



While living in Fort Jackson, South Carolina, she had the opportunity to work with their Wildlife Branch. It was there that she discovered she had the tools to teach young adults and children. After moving back to Ohio she completed an internship with The Nature Conservancy in Dublin and had the opportunity to lead special education events and volunteer projects. It was through these two internships she learned how to combine her love for teaching with her passion for conservation and her uninterrupted drive to discover more and more about the natural world.

She is grateful to have been accepted into her new position with the Grange Insurance Audubon Center. She has volunteered with the Audubon since 2012, she considers the center her second home. She is thankful for this opportunity to use her passion and knowledge influence the Columbus community for the better.

She holds a certificate in Project WILD and is currently working toward her Investigating Evidence certificate from the Cornell Lab. She is also a certified yoga, Tai Chi, and CPR/AED instructor. When she's not at the Audubon Center you'll find her in the woods walking with her two beautiful dogs, cross stitching, or curled up somewhere reading a book.

### A "Wild" Partnership with the Ohio Wildlife Center

The Grange Insurance Audubon Center is excited to be partnering once again with the Ohio Wildlife Center. The Ohio Wildlife Center is dedicated to fostering awareness and appreciation of Ohio's native wildlife through rehabilitation, education and wildlife health studies. They provide conservation programming both on-site and off-site, medical treatment to injured, ill or orphaned wildlife and provide 100% non-lethal solutions to human-wildlife conflicts through their wildlife control service. Education programming (and Administrative offices) are located in Powell at 6131 Cook Rd. while their Animal Hospital is located in Columbus at 2661 Billingsley Rd.

In the coming year the Ohio Wildlife Center will provide occasional live animal programs as an addition to a few of our educational programming opportunities at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center including storytime, education events, and Audubon at Home workshops. This opportunity will provide center guests an up close and personal encounter with a variety of Ohio's native wildlife. Our collective hope is that as we provide more awareness to these animals we are working to increase habitat for in our own neighborhoods, we can live more peacefully and effectively alongside them. Be sure to check the Grange Insurance Audubon Center website for scheduled events.

### Center programs

Preschool Storytime, Thursdays and Saturdays at 10 am in the Grange Insurance Audubon Center library.

*\*Due to the holiday closures, there will be no storytime on the following dates:*

Thursday, Nov. 24, Saturday, Dec. 24; Thursday, Dec. 29, Saturday, Dec. 31

Beginning Bird Hikes, each Saturday at 10 am.

Please meet at the front desk of the Grange Insurance Audubon Center.

*\*Due to the holidays, there will be no bird hike on Saturday, Dec. 24 or Saturday Dec. 31.*

# Columbus Audubon



## November & December Field Trips

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

### **Birdwatching for Beginners | Nov. 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 10 a.m.**

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. Contact Suzan Jervey at [sejervey@gmail.com](mailto:sejervey@gmail.com) for more information.

### **Sawmill Saturday | Nov. 5 at 10 a.m.**

Join the friends of the Sawmill Wetlands at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of every month to explore and relax in the beautiful wildlife habitats at Sawmill Wetlands. Walk the boardwalk with your family or just relax and enjoy the break from the development that surrounds the Sawmill area. Volunteers from the Friends of Sawmill Wetlands can help you learn more about this Northwest Columbus gem.

### **Bird hike at Blendon Woods | Nov. 6 at 9 a.m.**

Search the woods for migrating songbirds like warblers, vireos, tanagers, and more. Meet at the nature center at 9 a.m. Some binoculars available. Search the woods for migrating songbirds like warblers, vireos, tanagers, and more. More information can be found at [www.metroparks.net](http://www.metroparks.net).

### **Service in the Preserves: Conkles Hollow | Nov. 12 at 7:45 a.m.**

Two hundred feet. That's how high the cliff walls are at Conkles Hollow State Nature Preserve. The views are terrific from the rim trail, especially in autumn. This is a lovely time to be in the Hocking Hills and we'll get to spend the day there as do some minor construction near the deck on the upper trail. Meet at 7:45 a.m. in the parking lot inside the gate house at the Ohio Department Natural Resources Complex, 2045 Morse Road, to travel in the ODNR van to the site. Please call Katryn Renard by the preceding Wednesday at (614) 261-7171 to sign up, reserve space for transportation, and to help us determine tool requirements. No special skills are required, but bring lunch, water, work gloves and appropriate footwear. You will need to complete the Dept. of Natural Areas volunteer form to participate in this activity. We will return to ODNR by 5 p.m. The Service in the Preserves program is a partnership with Columbus Audubon and Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Volunteers from CA go to

various State Nature Preserves about once every six weeks during the school year. We work on projects that range from invasive species removal to building boardwalks. This is especially important now during these lean times of budget cuts throughout ODNR.

### **Late Migrants of Alum Creek & Hoover Reservoir | Nov. 12 at 8:30 a.m.**

Migration doesn't end when the last neotropicals head for Mexico. Plenty of temperate migrants, raptors, and waterfowl keep streaming through well into November. We'll try to catch some of these birds as they come through these two reservoirs north of the city, stopping at several great spots along their shorelines. Meet at the New Galena Boat Launch of Alum Creek State Park (off Africa Rd north of Big Walnut Rd) at 8:30 a.m., and dress for the usual unpredictable late Fall weather. The trip should be over by 2 p.m. For more information, contact Rob Thorn, 614-551-0643 or [robthorn@earthlink.net](mailto:robthorn@earthlink.net)

### **Avid Birders: Waterfowl | Nov. 12 at 5:30 a.m.**

Cooler temperatures will bring early waterfowl. The warming climate is delaying the waterfowl migration these days, but we can hope. The Avid Birders meet to carpool at 5:30 a.m., usually in the southeast corner of the Worthington Mall parking lot. We occasionally change the meeting location, so please check this Web site the day before the trip! Contact Bill Heck at [bill.heck@gmail.com](mailto:bill.heck@gmail.com) for details.

### **Birdwatching for Beginners | Dec. 3, 10 and 17 at 10 a.m.**

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. Contact Suzan Jervey at [sejervey@gmail.com](mailto:sejervey@gmail.com) for more information.



*Continued on page 9*

## It's almost time for the Christmas Bird Count

More than 50,000 observers participate each year in this all-day census of early-winter bird populations. The results of their efforts are compiled into the longest running database in ornithology, representing over a century of unbroken data on trends of early-winter bird populations across the Americas.

Simply put, the Christmas Bird Count, or "CBC", is citizen science in action.

Prior to the turn of the century, people engaged in a holiday tradition known as the Christmas "Side Hunt." They would choose sides and go afield with their guns; whoever brought in the biggest pile of feathered (and furred) quarry won.

Conservation was in its beginning stages around the turn of the 20th Century, and many observers and scientists were becoming concerned about declining bird populations.

Beginning on Christmas Day 1900, ornithologist Frank Chapman, an early officer in the then budding Audubon Society, proposed a new holiday tradition-a "Christmas Bird Census"-that would count birds in the holidays rather than hunt them.

So began the CBC. Thanks to the inspiration of Frank M. Chapman and the enthusiasm of twenty-seven dedicated birders, twenty-five CBCs were held that day.

The locations ranged from Toronto, Ontario to Pacific Grove, California with most counts in or near the population centers of northeastern North America. Those original 27 Christmas Bird Counters tallied a total of 90 species on all the counts combined.

The CBC is the oldest and largest citizen science event in the world. For over a hundred years, people have gathered together during the winter holiday season to count birds. For many people, this is an annual tradition that has passed from one generation to the next.

In the process, they have created a vast pool of bird data that is the most comprehensive available for mid-December to early January. It is a fertile source of information on the status and distribution of early winter bird populations and is studied by scientists and interested people the world over.

While there is a specific methodology to the CBC and you need to count birds within an existing Christmas Bird Count circle, everyone can participate!

If you are a beginning birder, you will be able to join a group that includes at least one experienced birdwatcher.

If your home is within the boundaries of a Christmas Bird Count circle, you can report the birds that visit your feeder or join a group of birdwatchers in the field. If you have never been on a CBC before and you want to participate in a count this year, including feeder counting, please contact your count compiler prior to the count.

The CBC season is December 14 through January 6 each year. Your local count will occur on one day between those inclusive dates. If you have more than one local count, they will probably be conducted on different dates within the CBC season. You can pick the most convenient date, or participate in more than one count.

On page 10 are the Christmas Bird Count leaders throughout central Ohio. Please contact one of them to join in and help make a difference through citizen science.

-Stefanie Hauck



*for more information on Christmas Bird Count see page 10*



## November & December Field Trips continued

### **Sawmill Saturday | Dec. 3 at 10 a.m.**

Join the friends of the Sawmill Wetlands at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of every month to explore and relax in the beautiful wildlife habitats at Sawmill Wetlands. Walk the boardwalk with your family or just relax and enjoy the break from the development that surrounds the Sawmill area. Volunteers from the Friends of Sawmill Wetlands can help you learn more about this Northwest Columbus gem.

### **Wintering Raptors, other wildlife | Dec. 3, 1 p.m.**

Location: Killdeer Plains, Ohio

Time: 1pm- dusk

Description: All are welcome. Eagles, hawks, owls, water-fowl

Details: [mflynn.wildandfree@gmail.com](mailto:mflynn.wildandfree@gmail.com)

### **Bird hike at Rocky Fork Metro Park | Dec. 4 at 9 a.m.**

Search the woods for migrating songbirds like warblers, vireos, tanagers, and more. Meet at Rocky Fork Metro Park bulletin board near the shelter at 9 a.m. Some binoculars available. Search the woods for migrating songbirds like warblers, vireos, tanagers, and more. More information can be found at [www.metroparks.net](http://www.metroparks.net).

### **Avid Birders: Winter birds | Dec. 10 at 5:30 a.m.**

Winter birds: gulls and waterfowl — or maybe pursuing reported rarities. The Avid Birders meet to carpool at 5:30 am, usually in the southeast corner of the Worthington Mall parking lot. We occasionally change the meeting location, so please check this Web site the day before the trip! As usual, we will announce more specific information on the Avid Birders mailing list a few days in advance. Contact Bill Heck at [bill.heck@gmail.com](mailto:bill.heck@gmail.com) for details.

### **Birding the Urban Scioto | Dec. 11 at 9 a.m.**

Our own Scioto River is an under-appreciated winter birding locale, hosting a variety of lingering waterbirds and landbirds. We'll start at the Scioto Audubon park, looking for lingering herons, ducks, and finches. Then we'll work our way up the river, looking at the series of dams, pools, quarries, and parks up past downtown and through Grandview and Marble Cliff out to Griggs dam. The variety of habitats along this stretch of urban river is surprising, and attracts an equally surprising mix of birds. Meet at the Scioto Audubon Whittier Ave boat launch at 9 a.m., and dress for unpredictable weather. The trip should be over by noon. For more information, contact Rob Thorn, 614-551-0643 or [robthorn@earthlink.net](mailto:robthorn@earthlink.net)

### **New Year's Day Hike | Jan. 1, 2017, Noon**

Location: Blackhand Gorge, Ohio

Time: Noon-3:30 p.m.

Description: All are welcome. Begin 2017 with a hike in the great outdoors

Details: [mflynn.wildandfree@gmail.com](mailto:mflynn.wildandfree@gmail.com)

### **Bird hike at Blendon Woods | Jan. 1, 2017 at 8 a.m.**

Search the woods for migrating songbirds like warblers, vireos, tanagers, and more. Meet at the nature center at 8 a.m. Some binoculars available. Search the woods for migrating songbirds like warblers, vireos, tanagers, and more. More information can be found at [www.metroparks.net](http://www.metroparks.net)



## Save the Date!

### The Great Backyard Bird Count takes flight Feb. 17-20, 2017

The 2017 Great Backyard Bird Count is just around the corner! Sign-up now!

If you're new to the count, or have not participated since before the 2013 merger with eBird, you must create a free online account at <http://gbbc.birdcount.org> to enter your checklists. If you already have an account, just use the same login name and password. If you have already participated in another Cornell Lab citizen-science project, you can use your existing login information, too.

*Continued on page 11*

#### *Christmas bird count continued from page 8*

The information below lists the counts to be held in the Central Ohio region. For further information about a count, please contact the count leader.

Circle	Date	Leader	Contact info
Buckeye Lake,	TBD	Jeff White	<a href="http://buckeyelakebirds.info">buckeyelakebirds.info</a>
Columbus	Dec. 18	Rob Thorn	<a href="mailto:robthorn@earthlink.net">robthorn@earthlink.net</a>
Delaware County	Dec. 18	Rich Bradley	<a href="mailto:spidrs@gmail.com">spidrs@gmail.com</a>
Hoover	Dec. 17	Lee McBride	<a href="mailto:leemcbride50@yahoo.com">leemcbride50@yahoo.com</a>
O'Shaughnessy	Dec. 31	Darlene Sillick	<a href="mailto:azuretrails@columbus.rr.com">azuretrails@columbus.rr.com</a>
Killdeer Plains	Jan. 1, 2017	Ed Lux	<a href="mailto:luxea22@msn.com">luxea22@msn.com</a>
Kingston	Jan. 1, 2017	Brad Sparks	614-751-6622

#### Circle locations

The **Buckeye Lake** Christmas Bird Count is centered at the site of the old Buckeye Lake Amusement Park, just south of Hebron and north of the lake itself. The count circle includes all of the lake and surrounding area.

The **Columbus** Christmas Bird Count is centered at 39.9833 degrees North by -82.9167 degrees West, which is just southwest of the intersection of East 5th Avenue and Stelzer Road. The count circle includes much of the city of Columbus and surrounding suburban areas.

The **Delaware Reservoir** Christmas Bird Count is centered at 40.3833 degrees North by -83.05 degrees West, which is approximately the center of Delaware Reservoir. The count circle includes the Delaware Reservoir and Wildlife area as well as the city of Delaware and surrounding suburban and rural areas.

The **Hoover Reservoir** Christmas Bird Count is centered at 40° 12' N, 82° 5' W, which is near Interstate 71, 7.5 miles north of Ohio Route 161. It includes Hoover and Alum Creek Reservoirs; parts of the Olentangy River; Highbanks, Inniswood and Sharon Woods Metro Parks; and Camp Mary Orton, as well as suburban and rural areas.

The **O'Shaughnessy Reservoir** Christmas Bird Count is centered at 40.2167 degrees North x -83.2167 degrees West, which is in Union County just northwest of the intersection of Watkins Road (CR 104) and State Road (CR 96). The count circle includes much of the O'Shaughnessy Reservoir, suburban Dublin, and rural areas.

The **Killdeer Plains** Christmas Bird Count is centered in Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area eight miles south of Upper Sandusky. Wyandot County Road 115 provides access from State Route 294, two miles west of Harpster, and from State Route 309, eight miles west of Marion. State Routes 67 and 294 border the area on the west and north.

The **Kingston** Christmas Bird Count is centered at 39.4667 degrees North by -82.8667 degrees West, which is in Ross County, just south of Kingston-Adelphi Road between OH 159 and Whisler Road. This location is roughly two miles east of Kingston and just south of the Pickaway County – Ross County line. The count circle includes the town of Kingston and rural areas in both Pickaway and Ross Counties.

## 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: Tamara James, [tamajam@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tamajam@sbcglobal.net)

Vice President: Amy Boyd, [aboyd@diosohio.org](mailto:aboyd@diosohio.org), 614-545-5486

Treasurer & Recording Secretary: Maura Rawn,

[maurazgarden@yahoo.com](mailto:maurazgarden@yahoo.com), 740-653-8574

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

**Trustees (through June 30, 2017)** George Arnold, Amy Boyd, Tim Daniel, Lindsay Deering, Sheila Fagan, Jill Holl, Angelika Nelson, Tom Sheley, Dawn Hammer Tabata (ex officio)

### Additional chapter leaders

Birdathon: [information@columbusaudubon.org](mailto:information@columbusaudubon.org)

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

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

Web/Social Media: Stefanie Hauck

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## 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)

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614-545-5475

Twitter: @GIAC\_Columbus

### Staff

Executive Director: Dawn Hammer Tabata

Education Manager and Volunteer Coordinator: Allison Clark

Office and Finance Assistant: Kristina Rawson

Educator: Chrissie Wilson

Facility Attendants: Linda Freeman Walker and Monica Johnson

**Center Hours:** Monday closed, Tuesday-Thursday 10am-5pm, Friday-Saturday 10am-3pm, Sunday 12pm-5pm (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 cross the bridge spanning the tracks, until you drive into the parking lot in front of the Center.

## GIAC Stewardship Board

Rich Shank, *Chair*

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Tamara James\*

Tim Maloney\*

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Aaron Pickrell

Belinda Jones

Betsy Sidorenko

Jamie Taylor

Maury Walsh

Dawn Tabata,

*ex officio*

\* appointees

## Great Backyard Bird Count continued from page 10

Then, simply tally the numbers and kinds of birds you see for at least 15 minutes on one or more days of the count, Feb. 17-20, 2017. You can count from any location, anywhere in the world, for as long as you wish!

Scientists and bird enthusiasts can learn a lot by knowing where the birds are. Bird populations are constantly in flux. No single scientist or team of scientists could hope to document and understand the complex distribution and movements of so many species in such a short time. Scientists use information from the Great Backyard Bird Count to get the "big picture" about what is happening to bird populations.

Launched in 1998 by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, the Great Backyard Bird Count was the first online citizen-science project to collect data on wild birds and to display results in near real-time.

Now, more than 160,000 people of all ages and walks of life worldwide join the four-day count each February to create an annual snapshot of the distribution and abundance of birds.

The Great Backyard Bird Count is led by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, with Bird Studies Canada and many international partners.



**Return in 5 days to**

Columbus Audubon  
505 W. Whittier St  
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