

Audubon *News and Views*



Newsletter of the Canton Audubon Society
A Chapter of the National Audubon Society
Established 1962



Volume 55

November – December 2016

Issue No. 3

The Canton Audubon Society is a non-profit organization, whose mission is to meet our members' varied interests in the field of nature. For some the focus is on birds and animals, for others it's on plants, and still others it's on waterways and diversities of the land. For all it is an interest to enjoy, to conserve, restore, share with others, and to educate both adults and students.

As a member of the **NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY**, you are also a member of the **CANTON AUDUBON SOCIETY**, and are invited to attend our monthly meetings held at 7:00 p.m., the third Wednesday each month (September thru June), at the **STARK COUNTY PARK DISTRICT'S EXPLORATION GATEWAY**, 5712 – 12th St. NW, Canton. You will receive **AUDUBON NEWS & VIEWS** September/October issue with our calendar of activities for the entire year.

Visit our website: www.cantonaudubon.org or phone 330-209-1261 for further information about our activities.

CALENDAR

November

- Sat. 12 10:00 a.m. **CAS Board Meeting**, Perry-Sippo Library.
Project FeederWatch Begins, see page 3.
- Sun. 13 2:00 p.m. **"Swamps of Ohio"**, The Wilderness Center (TWC), Wilmot.
Join TWC Botanizer Marvin Smith for an overview of the flora in our Ohio swamps.
- Tues. 15 **America Recycles Day**, see page 6.
- Wed. 16 7:00 p.m. **CAS Regular Meeting - "Turkeys in America"**,
Presented by Chuck Jakubchak See "November Meeting Preview", page 2.
- Fri. 18 11:00 a.m. **Wilderness Walk**, TWC, Wilmot.
Learn the natural history of the area and season. Spend the morning on a walk around a trail with a TWC guide!
- Sat. 19 8:00 a.m. **Bird Walk**, TWC, Wilmot.
Enjoy an early morning walk with TWC Bird Club!
- Mon. 20 7:30 a.m. **Adventures in Birding**, Stark Park's Walborn Reservoir, Reeder Ave. Trailhead.
Take a leisurely walk along the trails at Walborn Reservoir and search for the bird species that call this trail home. Birders of all levels of experience are welcome. Please bring your own binoculars.
Pre-registration required, call 330-409-8096.

December

- Sat. 10 1:00 p.m. **A Field Guide to Field Guides**, TWC, Wilmot.
Can you name all 9,000 species of birds or all 250,000 species of plants? If not, then you will need a field guide! This program teaches you what to consider when looking for a field guide, tips for using field guides, and hints for finding the right guide for your needs. We can also help you pick the perfect field guide for the nature lover on your holiday gift list.
- Wed. 14 6:30 p.m. **Annual Holiday Dinner - "Highlights of Recent Discoveries in Ornithology"**
presented by Dr. Andy Jones, Cleveland Museum of Natural History.
See December Meeting Preview; page 2, reservation form, page 7.
- Fri. 16 7:30 a.m. **TWC CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT**, The Wilderness Center, Wilmot. See page 3.
- Sat. 17 7:30 a.m. **QHP CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT**, Quail Hollow Park (Stark County Park District Park now),
Hartville. See page 3.
- Sun. 25 **Happy Holidays !!!**

Audubon News & Views

Volume 55 November - December 2016 No. 3

November 16 Meeting Preview

"Turkeys in America"

presented by Chuck Jakubchak

Turkeys In America looks at our favorite holiday and centers on the turkey, both wild and domesticated. The program will set the mood for the holiday season and provides the audience with interesting insight relative to the history of Thanksgiving. There will be enough "bird content" to qualify as an Audubon program and I believe it will entertain everyone that attends.

Refreshments this evening are courtesy of Linda Chen.

December 14

Annual Holiday Dinner, Program, and Silent Auction

"Highlights of

Recent Discoveries in Ornithology"

presented by Dr. Andy Jones,

Cleveland Museum of Natural History

Th

There are thousands of academic papers published every year on the biology of birds. These new



discoveries are sometimes highlighted in newspapers, magazines, and on your Facebook feed, but far too many simply don't get the public attention that they deserve. Dr. Jones will highlight the taxonomic changes that birders will want to know about, as well as other discoveries that will simply make you a more observant and more informed birder. From possible increases to your life list to newly described behaviors to the latest insights into migration, this talk will cover many exciting aspects of bird biology that were discovered in the last few years.

Dr. Andy Jones is the Director of Science, Head of the Department of Ornithology, and William A. and Nancy R. Klamm Endowed Chair of Ornithology, at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

See page 7 for the reservation form for the dinner. Our fare for the evening will consist of a choice of Baked Chicken, or Vegetarian Lasagna, with oven-roasted potatoes, green beans, tossed salad, assorted pies and beverage. The all-inclusive cost for the meal and program is \$15 person. **Reservation deadline is December 5, email reservation deadline is December 2**

The dinner, program, and silent auction will be held at **FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**, 6900 Market Ave. N, North Canton. That is about ½ mile north of Walsh University - East Maple St. / Washington Square intersection. Turn into the semi-circular drive, on the east side of Market Ave., and go to the north side of the facility, and to the back (Northeast side of the building). There is a covered entrance at the northeast corner, ENTER the building here. We'll have some signs out to guide you.

RESERVATIONS are required for the dinner, but not for the program. If you want to attend the program only, the cost is \$3 per person, payable at the door.

CAS BUSINESS SUPPORTERS

Please support Canton Audubon Business Supporters

THE LADY BUG GARDEN CENTER & GIFT SHOP

Donna Matako Landscape Services

8361 Portage St., NW Massillon
330-832-7080

Lawn care, Hardscapes, Snow Removal
Spring/Fall Cleanup, Tree & Shrub Services
M - F 8-6 Sat. 9-5 Sun. 10-3

HARTVILLE ELEVATOR

111 Prospect Ave., N Hartville
330-877-9320

M - F 8 - 5 Sat. 8 - Noon Sun. Closed

THE WILDLIFE GARDEN

4930 Portage St., NW North Canton
330-966-7666

M - F 9 - 8 Sat. 9 - 6 Sun. 10 - 4

Citizen Scientists Take Note!

Great Backyard Bird Count

Feb. 17-20, 2017

Every February, the Great Backyard Bird Count engages thousands of people around the world in reporting the birds they see. Last year's count tallied 5,689 species (over half of the world's birds). **BirdCounty.org**

NestWatch

About 75% of nesting attempts by eastern Bluebirds are successful in raising young birds to fledging. How do we know this? For decades, volunteer bird watchers have recorded birds at their nests to help scientists understand nesting behaviors and breeding success. You, too, can be a NestWatcher and witness the fascinating annual event of birds and witness the fascinating annual events of birds returning in spring, building nests, and raising young. **NestWatch.org**.

eBird

eBird is an easy way for people to keep track of bird checklists, online, but it's also a valuable source of data for researchers and conservationist. Scientists have used eBird data to identify the most important habitats of Reddish Egrets (a declining species) in Florida and Cuba. **eBird.org**

Project FeederWatch

Begins November 12, 2016

Northern Cardinals have been steadily increasing their range since 1989. That's the kind of scientific finding that's made possible by Project FeederWatch, a long term citizen science project to study bird population trends. FeederWatch is also a community of backyard birders learning and sharing about the birds that brighten up their winters. It begins the second Saturday in November and runs for 21 weeks, ending on Friday, April 7, 2017. **FeederWatch.org**

AUDUBON Christmas Bird Counts:

The Wilderness Center – 7:30 a.m.

Friday, December 16

Contact Ben Morrison by Dec. 1 if you want to participate.

(email: bmorr10387@aol.com)

Quail Hollow Park – 7:30 a.m.

(now a Stark Parks facility)

Saturday, December 17

Contact Ronnie Macko

**(email: ronimacko@aol.com,
call (330) 935-0952)**

2017 Audubon Convention

The next National Audubon Society Convention will be held July 14-17, 2017, in Park City, Utah. Put the dates on your calendar and stay tuned for much more information!

Songbirds in Snow

First-Class FOREVER Stamps



The sight of birds sitting on a snowy tree branch and the sound of their songs and calls bring joy in the depth of winter. Though many birds migrate to warmer climes before the snow falls, some hardy birds have ways to cope with the cold and to find food year-round.

The U.S. postage stamps are available in booklets of 20 stamps, at a cost of \$9.40 per booklet.

What Happens To Birds Caught In Hurricanes Like Matthew?

Tuesday, October 04, 2016 by eNature



Hurricane Matthew made its way towards the US East coast after hitting Haiti and Cuba with some of the highest sustained winds and rainfall totals in recent memory.

While Matthew's wind, rain and storm surge certainly affected many people, some folks are also wondering about the effects the hurricane may have on birds.

Numbers are hard to come by, but it's clear that many birds are killed outright by hurricanes. This is especially true of seabirds, which have nowhere in which to seek shelter from these storms. Beaches may be littered with seabird carcasses following major storm events. Most Atlantic hurricanes occur in late summer and early fall—and fall storms coincide with bird migration and may disrupt migration patterns severely.

Many birds get caught up in storm systems and are blown far off course, often landing in inhospitable places or simply arriving too battered and weakened to survive. Others, while not killed or displaced by storms, may starve to death because they are unable to forage while the weather is poor. The number of birds that die as a result of major hurricanes may run into the hundreds of thousands.

Healthy bird populations are able to withstand such losses and have done so for eons. However, hurricanes can have severe impacts on endangered species, many of which occur on tropical islands, often among the places hardest hit by hurricanes. For example, Hurricane Hugo in 1989 killed half of the wild Puerto Rican Parrots existing at that time. The Cozumel Thrasher, found only on Mexico's Isla Cozumel, was pushed to the edge of extinction by Hurricane Gilbert in 1988. Hurricane Iniki may have wiped out the last survivors of as many as three bird species when it hit Hawaii in 1992.

Apart from the direct, physical effects hurricanes may have on birds, they also can have detrimental effects on bird habitats. Cavity-nesting species can be especially hard hit

because the trees in which they nest often are blown down or snapped off at the cavity. Hurricane Hugo, which hit the Carolinas in 1989, destroyed most of the area's nest trees of the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker; one forest lost 87 percent of its nest trees and 67 percent of its woodpeckers. Only through the installation of artificial nest boxes have these populations been restored to pre-storm levels.

Although birds blown out of their normal haunts by storms often don't survive, bird-watchers by the hundreds may flock to see them. Usually, such sightings involve seabirds blown inland and appearing on lakes and reservoirs. First state records of many species have been obtained in this way. Some birders even head into hurricanes to see lost birds.* Others raptly study weather maps to try to predict where hurricane-swept birds will wind up. A few years back, during Isabel, birders were staked out in an organized fashion around New York's Cayuga Lake to see what showed up. Land birds blown out to sea typically perish unnoticed.

It's important to remember that the long-term effects of hurricanes on birds aren't necessarily negative. Every disturbance event is bad for some species but good for others. For instance, hurricanes create gaps in forests, creating habitat for species that require a brushy understory. Birds blown off course occasionally establish entirely new populations; such events may be responsible for much, if not most, colonization of remote islands by birds. Furthermore, hurricanes have been around for a long time and are part of the system in which birds evolved. It is only when they have impacts on species already pushed to the brink by humans, or if hurricane activity is increased by global climate change, that there is cause for concern.

Editor's Notes:

Lee and I arrived in Florida to visit her cousin on the Monday after Matthew passed and was crawling its way up the east coast thru South and North Carolina. The local newspaper in Daytona Beach had an article about 30 Gainesville area birders welcoming an unexpected evacuee – a black-capped Petrel, a bird native to Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

Audubon News & Views

Volume 55 November - December 2016 No. 3



It was seen flying over Newmans Lake near Gainesville on Saturday, October 8, by FL Ornithological Society President Adam Kent. The bird is a 16 inch long gull-like bird with distinctive black and white markings, which had only been seen once before in

Alachua County and only once elsewhere in inland Florida. The bird is rare even in its normal breeding territory. Once thought to be extinct, black-capped Petrels spend most of their lives at sea, returning to land only to breed. Only about 2,000 breeding pairs are estimated to exist according to Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

Also reported in the local paper was the destruction of 800 sea turtle nests in northern Palm Beach County. Loggerhead Marinelife Center data manager Sarah Hirsch said the impact was minimal because it has been a record-breaking year for nesting. Some 15,000 nests had already hatched along the 10-mile stretch of beach monitored by the facility before the hurricane. 63 percent of the 1,200 nests - most of the green turtle nests - that had not hatched were lost to the hurricane. About 450 nests are still incubating.

Florida Fish and Wildlife regulations bar officials from removing nests, even with the threat of hurricanes. The eggs are prone to movement-induced mortality.

Your "Canton Audubon Society" Board Member Bio's

Since June 1, 2016, Canton Audubon has made many changes to their board makeup. There are new faces, and some have changed positions held. With that in mind, beginning with this issue, you will learn more about your leaders - in their own words. We will try to profile two leaders in each issue.

Connie Rubin

Connie joined the board on June 1. Her love of nature is a legacy of her late husband, Howard, who died in 2010. Together for 39 years they camped and hiked in many national parks with their daughters, Ellen & Alice. Ironically, Connie reports they seldom noticed birds, until Howard, and eventually Connie, began taking nature photos and joined the Nature Photo Club at the Wilderness Center. These hobbies, plus a propensity for writing, led Connie to spend 1997-2013 serving as volunteer coordinator, public relations coordinator, and grant writer for the Stark County Park District, 8 years of which coincided with Howard's work as Development Director of The Wilderness Center.

As Howard fought cancer from 2008-2010, they watched birds outside their bedroom window in North Canton. After Howard passed, Connie continued her interest in birding, joining the Canton Audubon Society and learning that birding is a wonderful way to see the world while following a passion that supports environmental conservation. Connie's other passion is politics. She is a lifelong member of the League of Women Voters and two years ago ran an unsuccessful campaign to become a state Senator. Her daughters now live in Albany, NY and Olympia WA, and Connie is enjoying retirement.



Scott Watkins

Scott joined Canton Audubon's board about 1 year ago to finish a departing member's term. He is now our chapter's Vice President as of June 1.

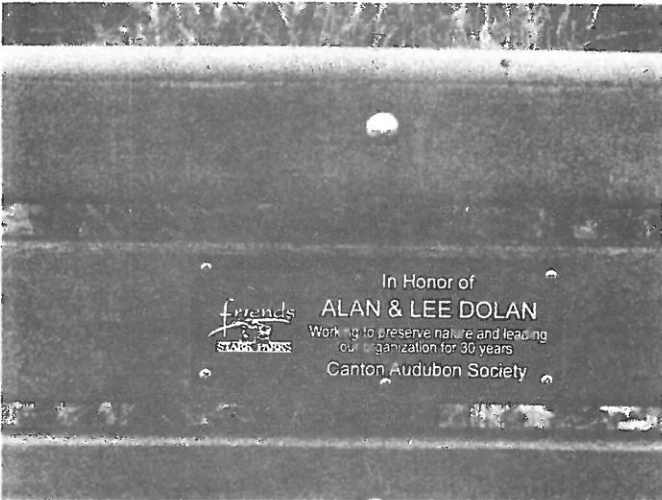
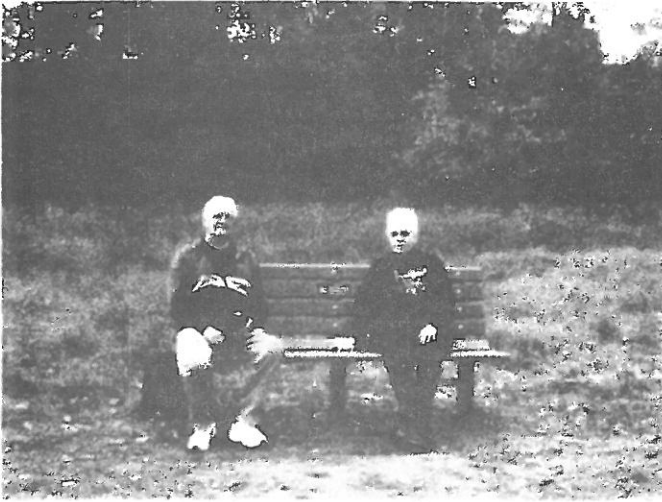
From 1989 to 1999, Scott was in the U.S. Navy, working with submarines. In 2000 he joined Kent State University, at its Kent Campus as an Energy Management Supervisor.

"Birds have always held a special fascination to me since I was a young child. I enjoy learning about different species, songs and habits. I volunteer with Stark Parks at the Wildlife Conservation Center and have really enjoyed working with injured and orphaned birds."

Scott is married to Linda Watkins, who works at Stark Parks as a Wildlife Rehabilitation Specialist.

Chapter Chatter!!

Thank You Canton Audubon!



Lee and Alan wish to thank members of the Canton Audubon Society who generously donated to the bench placed in Stark Park's Sippo Lake Park to honor their contributions to the chapter for the last 30 years. The bench is now in place, about one quarter mile east of Sippo's Exploration Gateway building. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. We invite anyone who would like to relax and enjoy the solitude, birds, and scenery, to visit the bench and sit for a while.

Canton Audubon Society members are on the move, not only checking out other parts of this great country, but also other locations around the world. Sharla and Bob Rohrbaugh journeyed to the Galapagos Islands to commune with the local

wildlife. As evidenced by our chapter's October program presenter, Marlene Bolea journeyed to Ecuador to see the birds there. All reports are that her program was one of the best our chapter has ever had. Alan reports the threatened Florida Scrub Jays are still active in various locations.

If you have traveled somewhere interesting to check out the wildlife or environment, please let us know so we can let others know. If you know of interesting programs our chapter might like to host, please contact one of the board members with any information or suggestions you may have.

America Recycles Day

November 15, 2016

The national recycling rate has increased over the past 30 years.

The current recycling rate is 34%.

JOIN US IN RECYCLING MORE.

For America Recycles Day 2016, I pledge to:

Learn

I will find out what materials are collected for recycling in my community.

Act

Within the next month, I will reduce the amount of waste I produce, I will recycle more, and I will buy products made with recycled content.

Share

In the next month, I will encourage one family member or one friend to take the #BeRecycled pledge.

Here's what others have committed to recycle, what action will you take?

- 6% Shampoo Bottles**
- 32% Plastic Shopping Bags**
- 29% Plastic Bottles and Caps**
- 23% Unwanted Mail**
- 10% Mobile Devices**

All About Owls

Kyle Carlsen, Assistant Editor of Bird Watcher's Digest wrote an article All About Owls, in electronic edition of eWire.

Test Your Knowledge!

1. How many owl species exist worldwide?
 - a) About 30
 - b) About 75
 - c) About 150
 - d) More than 200
2. Which of the following characteristics is not common to all owls?
 - a) Eyeballs that don't move in their sockets
 - b) Zygodactyl feet (claws form an X shape)
 - c) Nocturnal
 - d) Down-turned, hooked bills
3. What is North America's smallest owl species?
 - a) Northern saw-whet owl
 - b) Elf owl
 - c) Flammulated owl
 - d) Northern pygmy-owl
4. True or false?

Because owls regurgitate pellets (the fur, feathers, and bones of their prey), they don't "go to the bathroom."
5. What do you call a group of owls?
 - a) A parliament
 - b) A congress
 - c) A senate
 - d) A house of delegates
6. Which owl species can be found across North America throughout the year?
 - a) Great horned owl
 - b) Barred owl
 - c) Barn owl
 - d) Ubiquitous owl
7. Which of the following owls is most likely to nest in a backyard nest box?
 - a) Short-eared owl
 - b) Screech-owl
 - c) Burrowing owl
 - d) Owls rarely nest in backyard nest boxes

Now the pressure is on you. Bring this page with your answers for these questions to our November meeting. There will be prizes for the person(s) turning in the most correct answers.



Pumpkin Bird Feeder Makes a Happy Harvest For Birds

Provide a seasonal feast for the birds in your area with this DIY activity. Halloween, harvest festivals lead to an abundance of pumpkins. Why not share some gourd indulgences with the birds?

Materials:

- Small to medium sized pumpkin, up to 10 pounds
- Small sticks • Twine or rope • Birdseed

Steps:

1. Cut the pumpkin in half.
2. Scoop out the seeds, leaving a hollow inside with 1/2-inch thick shell wall.
3. Insert two sticks across the open pumpkin to create perches for the birds.
4. Knot two lengths of rope together at the center and tack the knot to the bottom of the pumpkin feeder. Hang the other ends of the rope in your chosen feeder location.
5. Fill with birdseed.

Canton Audubon Society Holiday Dinner Reservation

December 14, 2016

First Christian Church

6900 Market Ave. N, North Canton

Doors open – 6:00 p.m.

Dinner starts - 6:30 p.m.

Silent Auction from 6:00 p.m. – 8:35 p.m.

Baked Chicken - Vege. Lasagna
B C VL

Name & Dinner Choice

Phone/Email _____

Number of Reservations @ \$15 each _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to C. A. S.
and mail to:

CAS P.O. Box 9586 Canton, OH 44711

RESERVATION DEADLINES:

Mail - December 5 - Email – December 2

Canton Audubon Society
P.O. Box 9586
Canton, OH 44711-9586

100% RECYCLED PAPER

PRESIDENT - Linda Chen, 330-494-9026
V.P. - Scott Watkins
SECRETARY - Denise Lesko
TREASURER - Myra McCoy
DIRECTORS - Kristen Beck 2015-2017
- Joanne Ditter 2015-2017
- Laura Dornan 2016-2018
- Chuck Hewett 2015-2017
- James Massie 2016-2018
- Bob Rohrbough 2016-2018
- Connie Rubin 2016-2018
- Alan Dolan Past President
- Alan Dolan
- Alan Dolan, Linda Chen,
Mary Schilstra
EDUCATION - Lee Dolan
MEMBERSHIP - Laura Dornan
PROGRAMS/FIELD TRIPS - Linda Chen, Scott Watkins
Laura Dornan
PUBLICITY - Laura Dornan
SOCIAL MEDIA - Scott Watkins
RECYCLING - Diane & Tom Hert
SCHOLARSHIP - Laura Dornan
WEB SITE - Scott Watkins, Linda Chen, Brandi Keller

www.cantonaudubon.org - Like us on Facebook
Email: cantonaudubonsociety@gmail.com

Canton Audubon Society
P.O. Box 9586
Canton, OH 44711-9586

CANTON AUDUBON SOCIETY
Chapter Supporter Membership Application
Does not include National Audubon Society Membership

_____	Song Sparrow (student)	\$10
_____	Cardinal	\$20
_____	Bluebird	\$50
_____	(business supporter, 2 year)	
_____	Screech Owl (sustaining)	\$75
_____	Bald Eagle (life)	\$300
_____	Other (name your amount)	
_____	Introductory National Audubon Society /	
_____	Canton Audubon Society membership	
\$20		

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____
ZIP CODE _____
Please make check payable to & mail to: