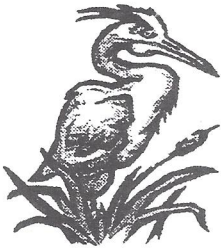


Audubon *News and Views*



Volume 56

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



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. 11 2:00 p.m. **History of Backyard Bird Feeding**, The Wilderness Center (TWC), Wilmot.
Did you know that about 40% of American households feed birds. Join naturalist Carrie Elvey for a look at this popular hobby.
- Tues. 14 2:00 p.m. **Wilderness Walk**, TWC, Wilmot.
Learn the natural history of the area and season. Questions, call 330-359-5235.
- Wed. 15 7:00 p.m. **CAS REGULAR MEETING: "Trip to South Africa".**
Presented by CAS members Lillian & Bill Oberjohn. See November meeting preview, page 2.
- Sat. 18 9:00 a.m. **Bird Walk**, TWC, Wilmot. Enjoy an early morning walk with TWC Bird Club. All ages are welcome.
10:00 a.m. **Family Backyard Birding**, TWC, Wilmot. Bring kids for an interesting look at backyard birding. Learn more about our feathered friends, their habits and how to attract them to YOUR yard. After the program, participants will make PINECONE BIRDFEEDERS to take home. (NOTE, peanut butter will be used. There will be an alternative available for anyone having a peanut allergy).

December

- Sat. 9 11:00 a.m. **Wilderness Walk**, TWC, Wilmot.
Learn the natural history of the area and season. Questions, call 330-359-5235.
- Wed. 13 6:30 p.m. **CAS Holiday Dinner**, at First Christian Church, Market Ave. North Canton.
Program "Chimney Swifts: Nature's Amazing Avian Insectivores" presented by CAS member Judy Semroc. See "Holiday Dinner, page 2, and reservation form on page 5.
- Fri. 15 7:30 a.m. **Christmas Bird Count**, The Wilderness Center, Wilmot. See CBC, on page 4.
- Sat. 16 8:00 a.m. **Christmas Bird Count**, Stark Park's Quail Hollow Park. See CBC, on page 4.
- Mon. 25 **Happy Holidays !!!**

Heads Up for 2018:

Ohio Bluebird Society's Annual Meeting, Feb. 24, 2018 - Grange Insurance Audubon Center, Columbus, OH. Focus of programming is "Secondary Cavity Nesters".
More information as available.

Shreve Migration Sensation, March 17, 2018 check shreveohio.com/migration-sensation

The Biggest Week in Birding, May 9-16, 2018, Crane Creek - Magee Marsh - Ottawa NWR

November Meeting Preview "Trip to South Africa"

Presented by Lillian & Bill Oberjohn
Canton Audubon Society Members

Bill and Lillian Oberjohn began their interest in birding after they retired from the Babcock and Wilcox Research Center in Alliance where Bill was a Mechanical Engineer and Lillian a Statistician. Lillian has maintained bird feeders for many years and Bill became interested in birding after he bought a point and shoot digital camera with a 10x zoom and started to photograph birds at the feeders.

This led to the purchase of their first binoculars and a birding trip to Florida in 2003 with Road Scholar. Bill upgraded his camera to a DSLR and he has enjoyed photographing birds on trips with Lillian to Texas, California, Costa Rica, Panama, Alaska, Southern Africa and most recently, Ecuador.

In their younger days they enjoyed downhill skiing on annual trips out west. They also bicycle..

Their presentation will cover highlights of their birding trip to Southern Africa with Road Scholar in January 2016. Depending on location and habitat, birding was done on foot, by boat, or by open-air safari vehicles. Birding on foot was done at the Walter Sisulu Botanical Gardens and the Modderfontein Nature Reserve near Johannesburg, South Africa, as well as on the grounds of lodges where they stayed. They took birding and game-viewing boat cruises along the Zambezi River in Zimbabwe and the Chobe River in Botswana. Safari activities included looking for birds and other wildlife (including four of the big five) in private reserves, private concessions, and national parks (specifically Chobe National Park in Botswana and Hwange National Park in Zimbabwe). Other activities included a guided bush walk, a tour of Victoria Falls from both the Zambian and the Zimbabwean sides, visits to the David Livingstone Museum and a local craft market in Livingstone, Zambia, a visit to a local village near the town of Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe and an Elephant Back Safari at the Wild Horizon Elephant Park.

Refreshments this evening are courtesy of Lee & Alan Dolan.



December 13

Canton Audubon Society Annual Holiday Dinner "Chimney Swifts: Nature's Amazing Avian Insectivores"

Presented by Judy Semroc
Canton Audubon Society Member

Judy's program discusses the natural history, behavior, human benefits and reasons for this species' marked population decline. Learn how our help is needed NOW & how you can be a part of the solution.

Judy Semroc currently works in the Natural Areas Division for The Cleveland Museum of Natural History as a Conservation Specialist. She is the founder of Operation Botanic Rescue (a volunteer plant rescue group), and Chrysalis in Time, the first Ohio chapter of the North American Butterfly Association (NABA). In 2013, Judy was the recipient of the "Outstanding Staff Achievement Award" for the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. She has co-authored two natural history guides, "Dragonflies & Damselflies of Northeast Ohio" in 2008, and "Goldenrods of Northeast Ohio: A Field Guide to Identification & Natural History" in 2017. As a former Petroleum Geologist and science teacher, Judy loves to share her passion for the natural world through hikes, interpretive programs and photography.

Judy, with friend and co-worker at CMNH, Larry Rosche, lead many field trips for the Museum.

The Holiday Dinner will be held at **First Christian Church**, 6900 Market Ave., N, North Canton. The doors will open at 6 p.m. with the silent auction activities starting. Reservations for the dinner are required, and the deadline is December 4. See page 5 for the reservation form.

Three meal choices for the dinner are: Swiss Steak,, Broiled Scrod, or Vegetarian Lasagna; with vegetable, roasted potatoes, salad, assorted pie desert, and beverage. The cost is \$16 per person.

As has been the tradition in the past, CAS will have silent auction items (feeders, books) and anything else members might wish to donate as a fundraiser for to help us continue our chapter work.



Questions, contact either Linda Chen (330-412-0820, or Cantonaudubonsociety@gmail.com) or Alan Dolan (330-832-2491 or leealandolan@yahoo.com).

You can find the reservation form on page 5 of this issue. Please make checks payable to Canton Audubon Society, or CAS.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on Dec. 13.

Carbon Offset Birding Project

by Laura Dornan

As birders, Tim and I have traveled many miles in Stark County, in Ohio, and across the U.S. and beyond. In doing so, we have seen beautiful and amazing birds.

We have used precious natural resources and let a carbon footprint that impacts wildlife populations and their habitat.

So does that mean we should stop all travel to look for birds? No more driving, our favorite route to look for waterfowl? Forego birding trips because we have to drive to the site? Should we never again chase a rare bird? Do Christmas Bird Counts do more harm than good? Unthinkable! But how can we, in good conscience, continue to use vehicles and airplanes to enable us to do what we love to do - go birding?



Enter the Carbon Offset Birding Project. This is a program that allows us to mitigate our energy and carbon footprint by giving financial assistance to projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, provide habitat and do the most good for birds.

We have been doing this for several years, ever since the idea was first introduced to us at the 2011 Midwest Birding Symposium. We keep a running tally of the miles we drive in a year to go birding. At the end of the year, we make a donation, based on the formula, to a project we feel is suitable and deserving. This donation is on top of any other charitable donations we make that year. Over the last six years, we have donated close to \$1,000 to organizations such as the Ohio Ornithological Society, Tri-Moraine Audubon, Friends of Metzger Marsh and The Nature Conservancy of Ohio.

We try to keep our COBP contributions in Ohio, But there is no reason they can't also be used further afield, especially if a trip out of state or out of country is involved in the calculations.

Below you will find the calculator that was provided at the 2011 MBS. Or you can use a formula of your own, such as \$1.00 for every 50 miles driven.

I hope that this will inspire you to use the COBP for each of your birding adventures. You will sleep better and still see some great birds.

Note: While my choice for the recipient of this year's donation does not quite fill my criteria of reducing greenhouse emissions, it is still quite deserving: the CAS Chimney Swift Tower Project.

Round-Trip Air Travel (per person)

Short Range <400 miles	Medium 400-1,500 mi	Long 1,500-3,000 mi	Extended 3,000+ miles	Air total
0.12 tons \$2.40	0.23 tons \$2.60	0.65 tons \$12.50	1.24 tons \$24.80	

ROUND TRIP AUTO TRAVEL (PER PERSON)							
SINGLE DRIVER							
	100 - 200 MILES	200 - 400 MILES	400 - 600 MILES	600 - 800 MILES	800 - 1,000 MILES	1,000 - 1,200 MILES	CAR TOTAL
COMPACT CAR	.049 TONS \$1.00	.098 TONS \$1.95	.147 TONS \$2.90	.196 TONS \$3.90	.244 TONS \$4.85	.293 TONS \$5.85	
MID-SIZED CAR	.098 TONS \$1.95	.196 TONS \$3.90	.293 TONS \$5.85	.391 TONS \$7.80	.489 TONS \$9.75	.587 TONS \$11.70	
SUV, TRUCK, VAN	.138 TONS \$2.65	.261 TONS \$5.20	.391 TONS \$7.80	.522 TONS \$10.40	.652 TONS \$13.00	.782 TONS \$15.60	
ADDITIONAL PASSENGERS							
SMALL CAR	.049 TONS \$0.50	.098 TONS \$0.95	.147 TONS \$1.45	.196 TONS \$1.95	.244 TONS \$2.40	.293 TONS \$2.90	
MEDIUM CAR	.098 TONS \$1.00	.196 TONS \$1.95	.293 TONS \$2.90	.391 TONS \$3.90	.489 TONS \$4.85	.587 TONS \$5.85	
SUV, TRUCK, VAN	.138 TONS \$1.35	.261 TONS \$2.60	.391 TONS \$3.90	.522 TONS \$5.20	.652 TONS \$6.50	.782 TONS \$7.80	
ADDITIONAL DONATION							\$
FULL AIR AND CAR TOTAL							\$

Christmas Bird Counts

The **Wilderness Center CBC** is Friday, December 15. New counters should contact Ben Morrison by **December 1**. His email address is **BMorr10387@aol.com**, or by phone at 330- 206-8679.

The **Quail Hollow CBC** will be Saturday, December 16, starting at 8 a.m.. Ronnie Macko is the contact person in charge, home phone is 330-935-0952. She doesn't have caller ID so if they would speak slow and clear - frequently she can't understand what people say when they leave a message. She prefers emails: **ronimacko@aol.com**.

Areas are assigned ahead of time and there is no group meeting place but most start around 8am. She does need birders to walk Quail Hollow Park.

New CBC participants are welcome and they don't need to be expert birders. Most of the birds we see are resident birds she reports. She can put new birders with someone else.

CAS BUSINESS SUPPORTERS

THE LADY BUG GARDEN CENTER & GIFT SHOP

Donna Mataka 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

HUSTON-BRUMBAUGH NATURE CENTER

University of Mount Union

16146 Daniel St., NE Minerva

330-823-7487

M - F 9-4 Sat. 1-5 Sun. 1-5

Mon. - Closed

STARK COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

Administration:

5300 Tyner St., NW Canton 44708

330-477-3552

The Exploration Gateway (EG):

5712 - 12th St., NW Canton 44708

330-409-8096

StarkParks.com

Registration for Audubon Camps in Hog Island Maine Now Open

Summer camp for adults, teens and families, starting May 27 and running through September 14 are now open for registration.

Go to **hogisland.audubon.org**, call 843-340-8673, or email: **hogisland@audubon.org**.

Canton Audubon Society And Meyers Lake Property

Wetlands play an integral role in the ecology of our watershed. The areas help reduce the impact of floods and absorb pollutants, as well as recharging groundwater and storing carbon. The combination of shallow water and high levels of nutrients also provide the ideal habitat for a wide diversity of animals and plant life..

Over the past 200 years, Ohio has lost approximately 90% of the wetlands in the state. Of the remaining 10%, only 3% are original, pristine wetlands that are being preserved. Protecting these important sites for biodiversity and precious freshwater resources is a priority for The Wilderness Center.

In part, this explains why TWC executive director Dr. Jeff Corney was so pleased to recently accept the donation of an 11.6 acre wetland at Meyers Lake in Canton from the Canton Audubon Society.

The Canton Audubon Society (CAS) had been gifted the wetland in 1979 by the Sinclair family, who had previously owned the Meyers Lake, the Moonlight Ballroom and the amusement park formerly located on the property. The gift had been made to preserve the wetland from any future development, and it was with the spirit of that original gift in mind that the wetland was presented to The Wilderness Center.

During an open house reception at the Meyers Lake Village Hall on July 29th, CAS president Linda Chen declared that their membership had determined The Wilderness Center to be the best recipient of the wetland, "given their commitment to preserve and maintain our environment." Besides, members of the Canton Audubon Society founded the Stark Wilderness Center (now The Wilderness Center) in 1964, two years after their own (CAS) founding.

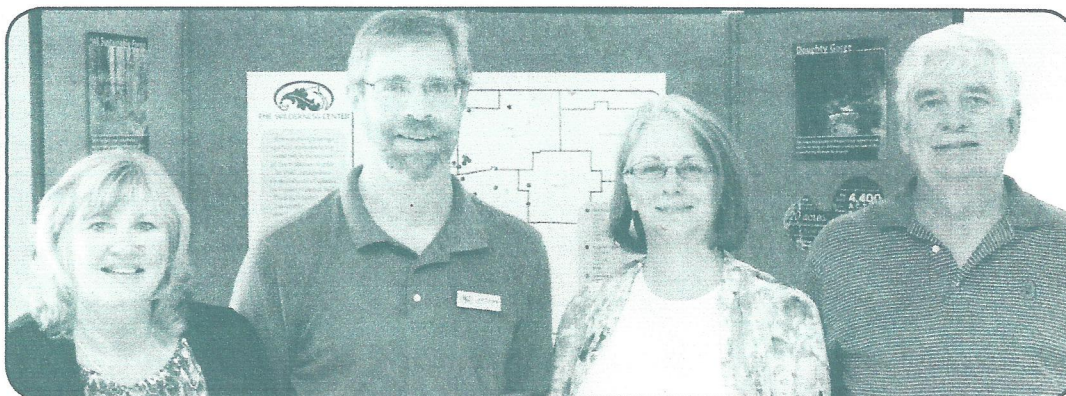
Audubon News & Views

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As conservation manager and senior biologist Gary Popotnik explained, preserving the health of the wetland will also serve a vital role in protecting the overall health of the lake. Meyers Lake is unique in that it is a kettle lake, or glacial lake, and is host to two rare species of fish. The Iowa darter and blackchin shiner, both thought to have been extirpated from Ohio waters. Both of these fish require clear water to survive and are either primarily or exclusively found in glacial lakes.

The Wilderness Center is honored to add the Meyers Lake wetland to our protected lands. The Canton Audubon Society, having served as the steward and guardian of the Sinclair property for 38 years, is honored to have found an obvious GREAT STEWARD to protect this gem in a developing environment.

Two interesting facts about this property when CAS first acquired it. Judy Semroc, who will be presenting her program on Chimney Swifts in December, visited the property in September 1988 representing Operation Botanic Rescue, to inventory the property. Allison Cusick, field botanist for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, visited the property during the summer of 1978, to determine if Natural Areas and Preserves would accept the property. He only found gray birch, a potentially threatened tree, of any value on the property. He also observed that the property had a problem because neighbors were dumping yard scraps and grass clippings on the property. Its dedication was not warranted.



An open house at Meyers Lake Village Hall where an 11.6 acre wetland was donated to the preservation and protection of The Wilderness Center included (left to right) Meyers Lake Village mayor Beth Williams, The Wilderness Center executive director Dr. Jeff Corney, Canton Audubon Society president Linda Chen, and former TWC board member and current CAS board member Bob Rohrbaugh.

**Canton Audubon Society
Holiday Dinner Reservation
December 13, 2017, 6:00 p.m.
First Christian Church
6900 Market Ave., N, North Canton**

Names _____

Phone or Email _____

Meal Choice: _____ Swiss Steak _____ Broiled Scrod _____ Vegetarian Lasagna

Meal cost is \$16 per person. _____ Reservations at \$ 16 each = \$ _____ enclosed

Please make checks payable to Canton Audubon Society or CAS

QUESTIONS?? Call Linda Chen 330-412-0820

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 4, 2017

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

100% RECYCLED PAPER

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WEB SITE - Scott Watkins, Linda Chen,
Brandi Keller

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

CANTON AUDUBON SOCIETY

Chapter Supporter Membership Application
Does not include National Audubon Society Membership

_____ Song Sparrow (Student)	\$ 10
_____ Cardinal (Basic individual / family)	\$ 20
_____ Bluebird (Business supporter, 2 years)	\$ 50
_____ Screech Owl (Sustaining)	\$ 75
_____ Bald Eagle (Life)	\$ 300
_____ Other (Name your amount)	\$ _____

Introductory National Audubon Society /
_____ Canton Audubon Society membership \$ 20

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PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO & MAIL TO:

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