Audubon News and Views



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



Volume 58

September - October 2019

Issue No. 2

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
August		
Fri. 16	7:00 p.m.	Wildlife Rehabilitation, TWC, Wilmot. Join TWC Backpackers' & Dayhikers' Club as a presenter from Stark Parks shares about wildlife rehabilitation.
Sun. 18	2:00 p.m.	Wilderness Walk, TWC, Wilmot.
	ad advallan	Learn the natural history of the area and season. Walk around one trail with a TWC
	9	uide!
Tues. 27	5:00 p.m.	CAS Board Meeting, North Branch Library – 25th St., NW, Canton.
September		
Tues. 10	7:30 a.m.	CAS Field Trip, to Lakeside Daisy Nature Preserve. See Daisy on page 3.
Fri Sat.	13 - 14	Celebration of 10th Anniversary of the Grange Audubon Education Center, Columbu
Sat. 14	6:00 p.m.	CAS Chimney Swift Party and Bird Walk, Sippo Park Exploration Gateway (EG) Chimney Swift Tower.
Wed. 18	5:30 p.m.	CAS Pre-Meeting Bird Walk. Meet at the south-facing balcony overlooking Sippo Lake. Walk will go to the southeast toward Tyner Ave.
	7:00 p.m.	CAS Regular Meeting - "Extinct or Not? - An Active Search for the Ivory-billed
		Woodpecker",", presented by Matt Courtman. See September Program Preview, page 2.
Sat. 21	10:00 a.m.	Fall Mushrooms & More Identification Walk, TWC, Wilmot.
6		Enjoy a morning walk with chef and wild-food enthusiast, Don King, scouting the trails and identifying edible nuts, berries, plants & mushrooms. The public is welcome for this free walk.
October		
Sat. 5	8:30 a.m.	CAS Bird Walk, Stark Park's Tam O'Shanter Park, on Hills & Dales Road, about ½ mile west of Dressler Road.
FriSat. 11-12		Enchanted Forest, TWC, Wilmot. Friday $6:30-8:30$ p.m. Saturday $6-8$ p.m. For two nights the trails surrounding The Wilderness Center are filled with the laughter &
		excitement of families discovering the nocturnal creatures of the Enchanted Forest. Children ages 3 and under are free. Cost is \$6 for TWC members, \$8 for non-members. Pre-registratio is required. Call 330-359-5235.
Wed. 16	5:30 p.m.	CAS Pre-Meeting Bird Walk. Meet at the picnic shelter. The walk will to to the west.

See October Program Preview, page 2.

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September 18 Meeting Preview

PRE-MEETING BIRD WALK, 5:30 p.m.
REGULAR MEETING, 7:00 p.m.
"Extinct or Not?
An Active Search for the Ivory-billed
Woodpecker"
Presnted by Matt Courtman

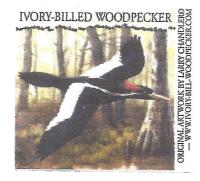
Whether or not the dazzling, enormous IVORY-BILLED WOODPECKER is extinct has been a hotly-debated topic in the scientific community since at least 1944. Matt Courtman, will stoke the debate by revealing exciting developments in his team's ongoing search for the Ivory-bill. Spoiler alert: Matt thinks that his team has found a population of Ivory-bills living in a forbidding and awe-inspiring Louisiana forest.

A native of Monroe, Louisiana, Matt is a graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy (New Hampshire), the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of Virginia School of Law. He is a former president of the Louisiana Ornithological Society. He has contributed to several birding publications. When he was nine, Roger Tory Peterson's *Field Guide to the Birds* included one of Matt's sightings for the range map of the American Goldfinch.

Growing up in Louisiana, Matt has been enthralled with the Ivory-billed Woodpecker ever since he was ten when he first held ACTUAL Ivory-bill specimens at LSU.

For more information on the search, visit his website: www.ivory-billconnection.com. If you want to discuss Ivory-billed Woodpeckers and/or birding generally, Matt would be delighted to hear from you at scout@ivory-billconnection.com.

Refreshments tonight: Connie Rubin



October 16 Meeting Preview

PRE-MEEETING BIRD WALK, 5:30 p.m. REGULAR MEETING 7:00 p.m.

"What Is A Bee"

Presented by Cali Granger

A Survey of the Native Bees of the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument in New Mexico

Though many people think first of the honey bee or bumble bee when they hear the word 'bee', there are in fact around 4,000 other bee species in the U.S. While we know quite a bit about honey bees and bumble bees, many of our native bees are understudied and little known. Fortunately, a growing desire to "save the bees" led many to become mindful of the important role they play in our ecosystem. Opportunities to study bees around the U.S. are becoming more common and provide much needed information about these mysterious pollinators. Join Cali Granger as she discusses her collaborative, multi-year, native bee collection survey completed at the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument in New Mexico. A study like this has never been done in this region of NM and will provide new and exciting information about the bee species there currently and in the future.

Cali received her Bachelor's in Biology from the University of Mount Union in 2013 and her Master's in Plant Health Management from The Ohio State University in 2019. Growing up, she has always been an insect lover and has worked with many insect-based research projects. In addition to research, she enjoys presenting insect programs to the public.



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Chapter Chatter

Congratulations to CAS member Bernardine Akkerman. She celebrated her 90th birthday in June....Also, congratulations to Lee & Alan Dolan who celebrated their 50th anniversary on July 12, followed by vows renewal and a reception / meal for 94 friends and relatives on July 13....Best wishes to Pat Jones for a complete recovery after her fall and breaking her humerus of her left arm, and cracking the ball....President Linda, Lee and Alan attended the NAS Convention in Milwaukee, WI – July 25-29. There were 600+ in attendance at the convention. Planning ahead, the 2021 convention will be July 16-19 in Tacoma, WA.

Beetle Species Found in Ohio

The American burying beetle, (Nicrophorus americanus) which were the first insect to be named to the federally endangered list, have been bred in captivity and been released for the past 20 years. It hasn't been found living in Ohio since 1974 — until May 2019 — in the WILDS. The three beetles, two females and one male, were discovered by Andrea Malek, a wildlife ecology technician from Zanesville. She has overseen the program for the past two years.

The American burying beetles are important because they turn decay into compost and help keep ecosystems in balance and clean Malek said.

In the wild, the beetles typically forage for a dead animal themselves, usually a bird or rodent. They drag it underground, strip off its fur or feathers and coat it with gooey secretions. The female beetle lays eggs in nearby dirt chambers and days later as many as 30 ravished larvae emerge. The entire family feeds off and lives in the mummified slime ball until the baby beetles fly off a couple of months later.

Malaek discovered the beetles sitting at the bottom of her trap, fashioned from a 5-gallon plastic bucket. Some question if the hand-reared bugs are capable of surviving Ohio's frigid winters. They are also not active if the spring weather is too cold. The inch and a half long insects have a lifespan of about one year.

Their ability to travel long distances – sometimes several miles in one night when searching for food or a mate – also made finding them a challenge. The beetles released this past summer had been captured from a wild population in Nebraska and were bigger than usual. Specimens previously came from Arkansas, a warmer climate. This may have led to the breakthrough, said Stephen Spear, director of wildlife ecology at The Wilds.

The Cincinnati Zoo also participates in the conservation program. It also captured its first overwintered beetle in May at the Fernald Nature Preserve in southwestern Ohio, perhaps supporting the theory of a cooler Nebraska vs. warmer Arkansas climate in the raising of the specimens.

Spear said, "it's a long-term goal, but now there's no reason to think we can't get them re-established all over the state of Ohio someday."



<u>CAS Field Trip to</u> <u>Expanded Lakeside Daisy State Nature Preserve</u>

After four years of work to obtain a land acquisition grant of \$1.6 million from US Fish & Wildlife Service, and negotiating with Lafarge Quarry in Marblehead, ODNR has increased the 19 acre preserve with a 118 acre addition at the cost of \$1.1 million..

The Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, closed on the property in early May, and the dedication ceremony was May 7 with Governor Mike DeWine, USFWS' Charles Wooley, and ODNR Director Mary Mertz in attendance.

The property will be used primarily for Lakeside Daisy recovery. Seeds and plants will be moved

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from the active property to the newly acquired property where plants are not abundant currently.

This new acquisition provides hope that the Lakeside Daisy can thrive in Ohio on some of its original alvar landscape.

The Ohio Natural Areas and Preserves Association (ONAPA) is sponsoring "A

Lakeside Daisy

Visit to the new Addition to the Lakeside Daisy Preserve" on Tuesday, September 10. CAS will have a field trip to this event. Meet at the Lowes parking lot on OH 21 and US 30 intersection, just south of Massillon, on September 10 at 7:30 a.m. to carpool.

ONAPA president Guy Denny, and VP Jennifer Windus will be the field trip leaders. If you plan on going, you must let us know because preregistration is required. Alan Dolan will be our leader, contact him – 330-832-2491.

Guy Denny is the retired director of ODNR's Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, and Jennifer is a retired DNAP employee also.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? Laura Dornan

Some time ago, I wrote to the first five people who received the Arnold Fritz Memorial Scholarship from Canton Audubon. I recently received a letter from Kaitlyn Lowry, the second to receive the award (in 2011) and the last of the five to hear from.

Kate graduated in 2013 with a degree in Environmental Education & Conservation. Her goal at that time was to become a naturalist at a State Park. I remember that she did a program for us, I believe in the fall after graduation. Unfortunately, I cannot remember what it was about! Though I am sure it had to do with plants, that is her passion. This is a reflection on my inadequate capacity to remember things, NOT on the program she presented, which I do remember as enjoyable.

After graduating from Hiram University, she worked at Cuyahoga Valley Environmental

Educational Center and then at Holden Arboretum. Then she served 2 years in Americorps; 1 year at an educational farm run by Dominican Sisters of Peace and 1 year at Wegerzyn Gardens Metropark, a part of Five Rivers Metroparks in Dayton. From there Kate went to Niagara Falls State Park, where she continued to work in the field of horticulture. She has since returned to Five Rivers where she is the Community Garden Coordinator & Education Coordinator, at Possum Creek Metropark.

As the Community Garden Coordinator, she is responsible for partnering with over 50 community gardens, providing free seeds, woodchips, compost, manure, & other resources and advice. She says it is her dream job and you can tell by the passion in her letter that it is so. As Education Coordinator she works with a small farm with goats, sheep, chickens, rabbits, & a donkey and a demonstration garden.

Kate finished her letter with an invite to show us around "her" park if we are ever in the area and a BIG thank you to Canton Audubon for in her words "helping me grow...With your help, I was able to do and learn and accomplish so much". I think that pretty well sums up the sentiments of all the recipients of the Arnold Fritz Memorial Scholarship. While the amount they are given is not huge, the support and confidence we give them is.

It has been so rewarding hearing from these young ladies and discovering how they have grown and how much they have experienced. From our 1st recipient, Stephanie, who is still studying geology by working on her PhD and doing research and consulting; #2, Kaitland; #3, Anna, who's education in geology and life experiences in agriculture, beekeeping, and crewing on a salmon fish boat have taken her places she never could have imagined; #4, Courtney, who is still right here in the Canton area, leading and working with young people to protect the environment; to #5, Shelby, the last recipient of this group and the 1st to respond to our inquiry about their current lives. We can be proud of every



one of these ladies but Shelby really shines with her work in the Peace Corps in Paraguay. What will she, and all the rest, accomplish next?

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In a few more years, I will contact the next group of scholarship winners to learn how they too are making a difference.

AUDUBON'S North American Grasslands & Birds Report (2019)

Audubon's report identifies the birds most vulnerable to climate change and the places they will need as temperatures rise.

North American Grasslands and Birds are an **URGENT CONSERVATION PRIORITY.**

Fewer than 40 percent of the 550 million acres of historical grasslands that once stretch from Alberta to Mexico remain today. Most of these grassland acres were converted to cropland, others to energy development or other uses. All these tallgrass, mixed grass, shortgrass prairies, and desert grasslands are lost, so are the wildlife that depend on them.

Not surprisingly, grassland species are among the most imperiled group of birds in the United States - total populations have declined more than 40% since 1966, and some species, like the Lesser Prairie-Chicken. hover at the brink of extinction. Bison. antelope, and monarch butterflies re only a few examples of the other wildlife that face a diminished future if we allow remaining grasslands to disappear or degrade. Human health and livelihoods are also intertwined with the fate of grasslands. Pollinating insects thrive in fields of wildflowers and native grasses, while the deep roots of native plants trap nutrients and water - and keep prairies resilient through natural cycles of drought, fire, grazing, and storms.

To view the North American Grassland Birds Report 2019, go to:

[https://www.audubon.org/conservation/working-lands/grassiands-report?ms=digital-eng-email-ea-x-engagement 20190729 eng-email grasslands-report&utm source=ea&utm medium=email&utm campaign=engagement 20190729 eng-email&utm content=grasslands-report]

Make sure to vote Nov. 5, 2019!



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STARK COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

Administration: 330-477-3552
5300 Tyner St., NW Canton 44708
The Exploration Gateway (EG)
5712 – 12th St., NW Canton 44708

330-409-8096 www.**StarkParks.com**

TERRA DEPOT

4202 Portage St., NW North Canton 44720 330=526-8067 www.theTERRAdepot.com

Mon. – Fri. 9-6 Sat. 9-4 Bird seed, feeders, houses Decorations, gifts, succulents Canton Audubon Society P.O. 9586 Canton, OH 44711-9586

100% RECYCLED PAPER

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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 NAME ADDRESS CITY STATE____ ZIPCODE EMAIL. PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYALBE TO & MAIL TO: Canton Audubon Society P.O. Box 9586 Canton, OH 44711-9586



CANTON AUDUBON SOCIETY 2019 - 2020 Monthly Programs

Our 58th Year

All Programs begin at 7:00 p.m. Unless otherwise stated, our meeting location is Stark Park's Exploration Gateway (EG)

5712 – 12th St., NW, Canton - Downstairs in Room C.

<u>2019</u>

June 19 SUMMER "PICNIC IN THE PARK" at Stark Park's Covered Pavilion, 4 p.m.

Eat about 6:00 p.m. Bird Walk before & after picnic. Bring covered dish to

share, personal utensils. CAS will provide meat and beverage.

September 18 **PRE-MEETING BIRD WALK,** 5:30 p.m.

Leaving from south-facing balcony of the EG building and heading EAST.

REGULAR MEETING, 7:00 p.m., "Extinct or Not? - An Active Search for the

Ivory-billed Woodpecker", presented by Matt Courtman.

October 16 **PRE-MEETING BIRD WALK,** 5:30 p.m.

Leaving from south-facing balcony of the EG building and heading WEST.

REGULAR MEETING, 7:00 p.m., "What Is A Bee" presented by Cali Granger.

November 20 REGULAR MEETING, 7:00 p.m., "Why Is My Field Guide Always Changing",

presented by Andy Jones.

December 11 ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER, 6:30 p.m., "Famous People & Their Fowl Obsessions",

presented by Dwight Chasar - CVNP bird Walk leader.

At First Christian Church, 6900 Market Ave., North Canton. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.

2020

January 15 **REGULAR MEETING,** 7 p.m., **Member's Night.**

February 19 REGULAR MEETING, 7 p.m., "The Life & Times of the American Woodcock",

Presented by Heather Shaw.

March 18 **PRE-MEETING BIRD WALK,** 5:30 p.m.

Leaving from south-facing balcony of the EG building and heading EAST.

REGULAR MEETING, 7 p.m., Evan Huegul, Stark County Wildlife Officer.

April 15 **PRE-MEETING BIRD WALK,** 5:30 p.m.

Leaving from Picnic Pavilion WEST of the EG building.

REGULAR MEETING, 7 p.m., "Warbler Warmup", presented by Matthew Valencic.

May 20 **PRE-MEETING BIRD WALK,** 5:30 p.m.

Leaving from south-facing balcony of the EG building and heading **EAST**.

REGULAR MEETING, 7 p.m., "All Things Bright, Bold and Beautiful",

presented by Mary Lou Juber.

If the weather is questionable or threatening, tune in to WHBC, AM 1480 radio for meeting information & updates, or call Scott Watkins, 330-209-1261.



CANTON AUDUBON SOCIETY 2019 - 2020 Field Trips / Important Dates



Field Trips are subject to change (additions/cancellations). Notice of changes will appear in the AN&V newsletter, as well as being announced at the monthly meetings. Contact Scott Watkins (330-209-1291).

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June 1 CAS Metzger Park Annual Sign Bird, 9:00 a.m. Meet at Metzger Park in Louisville

June 9 CAS Field Trip – Clear Fork Gorge – Mohican State Park, 8:00 a.m

June 19 CAS Annual PICNIC AT Sippo Lgke EG Shelter, 4:30 p.m. Bird walk, eat at 6.

July 20 CAS Field Trip to Kent Bog, for Veery Songs. Morning Trip.

August 21 Chimney Swift Watch Party and Bird Walk — 6:00 p.m. at Sippo Exploration Gateway

(EG) Chimney Swift Tower.

September 10 CAS Field Trip, Lakeside Daisy Preserve, new addition. Leave 7:30 a.m. Field trip will

join ONAPA field trip with leaders Guy Denny and Jennifer Windus.

September 14 CAS Chimney Swift Party and Bird Walk, 6:00 p.m. at Sippo Exploration

Chimney Swift Tower.

September 18 CAS Pre-Meeting Bird Walk, 5:30 p.m. Sippo EG.

October 5 CAS Bird Walk, Tam O'Shanter Stark Park. JOIN CAS members for a morning walk at the

recently converted gold course to nature area in Canton. Walk starts at 8:30 a.m.

Entrance is located on the north side of Hills and Dales Ave., across from the Hills and

Dales Village entrance.

October 16 CAS Pre-Meeting Bird Walk, 5:30 p.m. Sippo EG.

December Christmas Bird Counts:

14th - Quail Hollow Park — contact Ronnie Macko — 330-935-0952.

20th - The Wilderness Center - contact Ben Morrison - 330-206-8679.

2020

January 1 Christmas Bird Count – Tri-Reservoir – Ethan Kistler

February 14-17 GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT, Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center, Alliance.

Join the Nature Center and CAS members to document winter species of birds

March 18 CAS Pre-Meeting Bird Walk, 5:30 p.m. Sippo EG.

April 15 CAS Pre-Meeting Bird Walk, 5:30 p.m. Sippo EG.

April 22 Earth Day Walks, Jackson Bog SNP. 7:30 a.m. Bird walk. 5:30 p.m. Nature Walk

Led by Alan Dolan (330-832-2491). Bring binoculars, bird books. Dress for weather.

April 24-27 City Nature Challenge, using iNaturalist computer and phone application, participants

go out and enjoy and document and learn about species in our area.

May 20 CAS Pre-Meeting Bird Walk, 5:30 p.m. Sippo EG.