



Linda Chen

Audubon *News and Views*

Canton Audubon Society is a chapter of the National Audubon Society

Established 1962

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Mission:

The Canton Audubon Society mission is to promote the enjoyment, protection, and conservation of birds, wildlife, plants, and their habitat in order to maintain Earth's biodiversity.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion:

Canton Audubon Society is dedicated to welcoming everyone of all races, ethnicities, religions, nationalities, genders, sexual orientations, ages, and abilities. To accomplish this, we will identify obstacles and improve opportunities for diverse audiences to pursue nature activities.

Membership:

As a member of National Audubon Society, you are automatically a member of Canton Audubon Society.

Meetings & Contacts

Meetings are free and open to the public. They are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7pm from September thru May.

Location: Stark Parks
Exploration Gateway, Sippo Lake
5712 12th St NW,
Canton, Ohio 44708.

Visit www.CantonAudubon.org
Or email:
CantonAudubonSociety@gmail.com

Like us on Facebook
Phone: 330-209-1261

CAS is a 501(c)3
nonprofit organization

*Denotes kid-friendly articles



BIRD LONGEVITY

By Laura Dornan



Bald eagles take five years to mature

For several years I did live bird and animal presentations while working at Quail Hollow State Park. One of the most frequently asked questions was "How old is that bird?" or another version "How long do (insert species) live?" Easy question, difficult to answer. The reason is, once a bird is beyond the juvenile plumage stage, they do not show signs of aging. No gray feathers or arthritis, they don't get bigger, they don't have growth rings to count. If we don't know the year the bird is hatched, there is no way to tell exactly how old a bird is. And if the bird has never been banded, we know even less.

All our knowledge of how long birds live comes from bird-banding data. By catching a bird that has been previously banded, we can confirm the time elapsed since it was first caught. But if the bird was an adult when it was first caught, we don't know the starting age. And only a small number of banded birds are caught or seen again. Many times, an 'average lifespan' of a particular species is given in the species account but this can be deceiving. The hard truth is most birds die before they are a year old. A bird that lays 4 to 6 eggs will be lucky to have 1 or 2 of the young survive to adulthood. Most will die before fledging or soon after. After the first year of life, the death rate drops dramatically. But the large number of birds that don't make it to adulthood really messes up the averages. One thing that has been learned through banding is that birds live much longer than one might expect.

With a little bit of knowledge of biology and natural history, we can make some interesting educated guesses about how long some birds live. For example, larger birds generally live longer than smaller ones. Birds that have smaller clutch sizes are often longer-lived. Birds that take longer to reach maturity and have more than one immature plumage are usually longer-lived. Birds that live on islands are often longer-lived than mainland counterparts. Birds that have a slower lifestyle, not reproducing until several years old or only laying eggs every two or more years, will live longer than birds with large broods every year.



Al Eibel banding American Goldfinch

In mammals, small species with high metabolisms live much shorter lives than large animals with slow metabolisms. Using this knowledge as a guide to life-spans, we would expect small birds with a high metabolism to live a similar length of time. In fact, a house mouse, in ideal conditions in captivity can live up to 4 years. A broad-billed hummingbird, ¼ the size of a mouse with a much higher metabolism, has been recorded living 14 years in the wild.

Here are a few examples of birds with longevity records. These have been taken from banding records, with some birds having multiple data entries and some showing less than a half-dozen.



Cardinals live longer than the science tells us they should.


Bald Eagle	38 years	Eastern Screech-owl	14 years
Red-tailed Hawk	30 years	American Robin	13 years
Great-horned Owl	28 years	Black-capped Chickadee	11 years
Blue Jay	26 years	Yellow Warbler	11 years
American Crow	17 years	Eastern Bluebird	10 years
Piping Plover	17 years	Ruby-Throat Hummingbird	9 years
Northern Cardinal	15 years	Tennessee Warbler	6 years

We obviously still have a lot to learn about bird longevity! Photos by Laura Dornan.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

► CAS Holiday dinner will take place December 7, (the *first* Wednesday), attendees should begin to arrive 5:45pm for check-in, dinner at 6:30pm. Location: First Christian Church, 6900 Market Ave, North Canton, OH 44721. The cost is \$17-18 /person. Entrees, exact cost and guest speaker TBD. See November/December newsletter for more info.

► **Masthead photo:** This issue's Cardinal photo was taken by CAS member Linda Chen.

► **TWC Enchanted Forest, October 7, 2022 at 6:30pm – October 8, 2022 at 8:30pm** 



The Enchanted Forest is coming to The Wilderness Center soon! Visitors will meet costumed volunteers such as Bat, Spider, Owl, and Opossum and will be escorted along pumpkin-lit trails. Characters will sing, tell jokes and share stories of life in the woodlands. Learn about the importance of nocturnal species during the adventure! Tickets will go on sale September 1, 2022 for members and September 8, 2022 for the general public. Make sure you get your tickets and get your preferred time slot?

The Wilderness Center, 9877 Alabama Ave. SW, Wilmot, OH 44689 Phone: 330-359-5235

► Please contact CantonAudubonSociety@gmail.com for questions.

YOUNG BIRDER of the YEAR MENTORING PROGRAM



The American Birding Association has provided a mentoring program for youth ages 10-18 for 24 years. This goal-oriented program helps young birders discover and grow birding skills, network with peers and others in the birding community, and learn from birding experts. The Young Birder of the Year Mentoring Program (YBYMP) offers 5 modules to choose from that will appeal to a

broad range of interests and talents: Field Notebook, Conservation/Community Leadership, Illustration, Writing, Photography. Young Birder of the Year titles are bestowed in two age divisions and field work is conducted from July 1, 2022-February 29, 2023. Participants may do as many or as few modules as they choose and do not have to be vying for YBY to participate in the program. Field work for the modules must be conducted between July 1 and February 30. Submissions must be uploaded by March 1.

Learn more about YBYMP or to register: www.aba.org/young-birder-year-contest/ Questions: ybymp@aba.org

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

All upcoming programs will be both in-person and via Zoom

September 21, 2022 at 7pm

"Birds of Tanzania" by Jeffrey Hall



Renowned as a site for wildlife safaris, the East African nation of Tanzania should be equally well known for its avifauna. Locations such as the Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater, Olduvai Gorge, and Zanzibar offer the bird enthusiast the opportunity to see a remarkable variety of birds. Some are big...some are beautiful...some are bizarre...and some are all three at once! "Birds of Tanzania" will introduce many of the most notable of these birds, sharing not only stunning photos, but also facts, anecdotes, and even legends about these amazing creatures. Jeffrey is President of Bartramian Audubon Society.

Pre-meeting bird walk at 5:30pm, meet at EG south facing balcony.

October 19, 2022 at 7pm

"Ohio Bats" by The Wilderness Center

Ohio's bats have been through a lot in the last decade. This program will look at the life histories of common Ohio bats, discuss the impacts of White Nose Syndrome, and explore ways that you can help. ***October is Bat Appreciation Month!** **Pre-meeting:** Meet & greet the bats at the Wildlife Conservation Center at 5:30pm. Bird walk at the Cottonwood Wetlands, if time permits. *Little brown bat, Ann Froschauer/USFWS →*



CAS AUTUMN BIRD WALK *(Canceled for inclement weather)*

Big Day/Birdability walk: Saturday, October 8, 2022 at 9am. Location: Wildlife Conservation Center (WCC) at Sippo Lake, 800 Genoa Ave NW, Massillon, OH 44646. Trails behind the center are mostly flat with packed gravel. Meet in WCC parking lot. ***Birdability Week is October 17-23.**

HUSTON BRUMBAUGH NATURE CENTER

Phone: (330) 823-7487 email: naturecenter@mountunion.edu

Bird Walk Sunday, September 11 at 1-3 p.m. A guided bird walk to search for summer residents fueling up before migration and fall migrants resting and feeding before continuing their journey south. Bring your binoculars, or loaner binoculars are available. ***Registration required.**

Shorebird Excursion Saturday, September 17 at 8-11 a.m. Every fall, thousands of shorebirds migrate through Ohio. The mud flats of nearby reservoirs are a great place to observe the birds. Several species may be seen including sandpipers, plovers, ducks, gulls and herons. Please wear appropriate footwear for muddy areas. The location of the program will be determined a few days prior based on local conditions. ***Register for notification and directions.**

UPCOMING BIRDING FESTIVALS



Cape May Fall Festival
October 13-16, 2022
<https://njaudubon.org>

Florida Birding & Nature Festival
October 20-23, 2022
www.fbnfestival.org



Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival
November 9-13, 2022 www.rgvbf.org

CHAPTER CHATTER

- Paul and Jacki Lemmon welcomed baby boy, Warren Lemmon, on 7/18/22, weight 6 lb 2oz, and 18.5" long. Mom and baby are both doing well and are back home.
- As some of you might know, Sandy Muirhead-Gould has been ill for a while. She has good and bad days so feel free to send her a card or letter to help cheer her up. Sandy's address: 1957 Timberwyck Lane, Burlington, KY, 41005.
- CAS would like to thank Bruce & Beth Altieri and Lindsay Baker for their generous donations to us "in loving memory of Wilma Marie Mohr" from Canton, Ohio.



Scott Watkins

Fry Family Park

The July 16th walk at Fry Family Park was led by Scott Watkins with seven attendees. Forty-four bird species were seen or heard including a group of 20 bobolinks and a family of Orchard Orioles with 2 fledglings.

← *Hummingbird Clearwing moth on Bee Balm*



Fry Family Park



Sigrist Woods, TWC

Sigrist Woods, The Wilderness Center

There were four attendees at the August 6th TWC walk which was led by Scott Watkins. Twenty-nine species were seen or heard. A Yellow-billed Cuckoo called for 30 minutes and we had a brief encounter with a Barred Owl.

Ebony Jewelwing Damselfly, TWC →



Scott Watkins

ARMCHAIR ACTIVIST--PLASTIC POLLUTION

Every year, 17 billion pounds of plastic enters the marine environment. Despite efforts to promote recycling, less than nine percent of plastics in the U.S. are actually recycled. Birds are particularly vulnerable to plastic pollution. Many seabirds, like Laysan Albatross, are seriously injured or killed when they ingest or become entangled in plastic trash. To address the plastic pollution crisis, Congress has introduced the Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act of 2021 (S.984/H.R.2238). This bill would put the onus on manufacturers to take care of the plastic waste that they produce, ultimately reducing the amount of plastic that gets into our oceans and the toll it takes on birds.

Take action today: Search Break Free from Plastic Pollution to read about this Act and then contact your U.S. Representative and Senators to ask them to pass the Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act. The bill is currently stalled in the Senate Finance Committee. Both Ohio Senators are on this committee. Contact Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown, and Senator Rob Portman, to ask them to support the Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act and to work towards moving this bill along.

RECOVERING AMERICA'S WILDLIFE ACT LEGISLATION (H.R. 2773; S. 2372)

The U.S. House of Representatives passed Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA) in June 2022. RAWA provides funding for (1) the conservation or restoration of wildlife and plant species of greatest conservation need; (2) implementation of the wildlife conservation strategies of states, territories, or the District of Columbia as well as tribal lands; and (3) wildlife conservation education and recreation projects.

RAWA would create a \$1.3 billion annual, dedicated fund for on-the-ground wildlife conservation and would invest more money in the State Wildlife Grant Program and Tribal-led plans. State fish and wildlife agencies develop State Wildlife Action Plans that identify at-risk species and specific actions needed for their protection and recovery. These plans have identified more than 12,000 species nationwide in need of proactive conservation efforts.

Ohio, with more than 400 species of concern, would receive \$20 million yearly from RAWA. See Ohio's 2015-2025 State Wildlife Action Plan here - <https://ohiodnr.gov/discover-and-learn/safety-conservation/wildlife-management/state-wildlife-action-plan>

The bill has broad support from hunters, anglers and outdoor enthusiasts. It will go to the U.S. Senate next for a vote. *Please contact U.S. Senators Portman 1-(800)-205-6446 and Brown 1-(888)-896-6446 to voice your RAWA support.

www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/2372

www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2773?s=1&r=9

www.nwf.org/Our-Work/Wildlife-Conservation/Policy/Recovering-Americas-Wildlife-Act

SHERWIN-WILLIAMS BUILDING UPDATE

By Nancy Howell, WCAS

Once again, Western Cuyahoga Audubon, thanks any of our members or guests who took the time to send letters to the City of Cleveland Planning Commission and/or the Sherwin-Williams Company regarding bird-safe construction of the new Sherwin-Williams headquarters building. Since the last WCAS newsletter, information has come out that is along the positive lines, much of this is due to the work of Patricia Kellner of the Kirtland Bird Club.

Here is what has transpired since the last Sherwin-Williams article. The City of Cleveland Planning Commission had their scheduled meeting on Friday, June 3 with Sherwin-Williams as the Agenda item. This came up quickly and was communicated right after the Memorial Day weekend ... such poor timing. The agenda for the Friday, June 3 meeting did not mention the windows or bird safety, however, prior to the meeting of the Downtown Design Review Committee on Thursday, June 2, it was noted that "at this meeting, City Planning Director, Joyce Huang, believes the bird concerns will be addressed verbally."

Patty Kellner sent this message which I think most of us will agree on, "Our (the birding community) latest efforts seem to have been fruitful! Of course, it's not over yet, the building is not up yet. Hopefully discussion will continue between Sherwin-Williams and Lights Out Cleveland (and the avian consultant who needs to be recruited to work for the birds as well as against nuisance birds.)" Kirtland Bird Club (thank you Patty Kellner and Paula Lozano) and WCAS have tried to provide as much accurate information as possible regarding all that has transpired.

On a separate note, Matt Shumar, of the Ohio Bird Conservation Initiative, and Tim Jasinski, from the Lake Erie Nature and Science Center and head of the Lights Out Cleveland group, met with representatives of Rocket Mortgage Field House (RMFH). The newer portion of RMFH, which has highly reflective glass and is well-lit, has become a major contributor of migratory bird mortality in spring and fall. The representatives listened to Matt and Tim and we hope that they are considering a solution to reduce bird strikes. Again, another promising development due to the dedicated and persistent work of many. Thank you.

Nancy Howell is a board member and treasurer for both Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society (WCAS) and Council of Ohio Audubon Chapters.

*NOTE: Sherwin-Williams is now considering bird-window collision deterrents on the lower seven levels of their glass-clad complex.

BIRDING TIPS FOR NEW (& NOT-SO-NEW) BIRDERS

This is the eighth in a series. While the tips offered here may seem to be directed towards people new to birding, we are sure that even those who have been birding for decades will find some tidbits of helpful information.

**Editor's note: This article is not about the HOW of bird photography (that info is available from many other sources) but about the WHY. The author has been asked to share her experiences to help you find your own WHY.*

BIRDING AND PHOTOGRAPHY: A FEW THOUGHTS

By Shari Jackson

I have always enjoyed taking pictures. After finishing college and starting my career in 1971, it wasn't until the late seventies that I was able to afford my first single lens reflex camera and three lenses. I didn't know much but I did a lot of reading and, through trial and error, taught myself how to use this equipment. I remember being so excited and running around taking pictures of anything and everything.

Everything except birds, that is. I was very fortunate to have grown up on twenty-seven acres of natural land with a variety of habitats including a creek, a beaver dam, overgrown fields, and an old orchard. The unfortunate part was I had nobody with much real knowledge to teach me the natural history of this beautiful land and all of its plants and creatures. Still, I did grow up with a deep love for nature and the desire to learn much more, especially about birds.

Then, in the late eighties, I became aware of this new trend called "birding". My job had taken over the majority of my life and other interests were placed on the back burner. I decided this might be the opportunity to get me back out in nature and to pick up where I left off. So, I jumped right in, joined the bird club at Quail Hollow S.P., dusted off my camera and said "I'm going to take pictures of birds".

It didn't take long for me to realize that birds are not the easiest things to photograph, especially when not sitting still. I found it to be frustrating and very expensive when I had so many unacceptable images. The cost of film and developing were prohibitive for me. I also realized I had a lot to learn about the birds if I wished to get decent photos of them. So, I scaled back taking pictures and learned how and when I had the best chance of getting a good photo.

Then a miracle happened: the advent of digital cameras and auto focus. Now I could afford to take twenty bad frames to get one good one. Since the first digital cameras the technology has advanced by leaps and bounds and continues to improve. Now there is photo equipment to fit every budget and every aspiration.

So now I have this great technology at my fingertips, but I am still working on the other half of the equation: knowing and understanding the subject. I have spent the last 34 years getting to know my subjects and will continue to work on it as long as I am able. Sometimes you get great shots by serendipity; but most often it's because you put yourself in the position to get the shots you seek. They are the results of your knowledge, patience and skill.

So, why take pictures of birds? One obvious reason is for documentation such as posting on eBird or to send to the records committee with your rare bird report. Other reasons are more personal. Memory is the big one for myself. Pictures have the ability to evoke all of the sensual memory of the moment you pressed the button. I enjoy looking through my pictures and experiencing a flood of memory. Another reason may be for artistic purposes. These images may emphasize a particular feature or take advantage of unusual light or background to evoke a certain mood for example. Lastly, in light of precipitous declines in bird populations and the possible fruition of dire forecasts, I feel that I need to take pictures of birds no matter how common. Each species has a place and meaning in the natural history of birds.

I was asked to write a little piece on how photography enhances the birding experience and how it makes you a better birder. At first, I wasn't very keen on doing it, but now I am glad I spent some time thinking about it. It made me realize that these skill sets are complimentary. They enhance each other.

I am not an expert photographer by any means. My pictures are not worthy of National Geographic; but I will keep birding and taking some pictures along the way.

DID YOU KNOW



October is Raptor Month. It's time to celebrate birds of prey of all shapes and sizes. From small owls and kestrels to large owls and eagles, these swift and deadly hunters of the skies are beautiful to behold.

"Raptor" comes from a Latin word meaning "plunderer"?

There are 8 owl species to be found in Ohio?

1. Can you name them all?
2. Bonus question—which one cannot be found in Ohio year-round?

A few years ago, it was believed that only 6 species breed in Ohio.

3. Extra bonus question—which one was most recently discovered to breed here?

Answers: 1. Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Long-eared Owl, Short-eared Owl, Barn Owl, Eastern Screech-owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, and Snowy Owl. 2. Snowy Owl. 3. Northern Saw-whet Owl.

STREAM RESTORATION IN CVNP

Ten thousand feet of streams have been restored in Cuyahoga Valley National Park thanks to the work of ACE (American Conservation Experience), a service-focused organization providing young adults with outdoor work opportunities. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) partnered with ACE crews to install over 160 engineered log jams in headwater streams within the park during the summer of 2021. These log jams will slow down the water to reduce erosion and movement of sediment, generate riffles and pools to create better habitat for aquatic life, and reduce nutrients entering the Cuyahoga River and Lake Erie. The partnership between the two organizations allowed TNC Ohio to provide much needed stream restoration that would have been cost-prohibitive otherwise and gave the young adults practical professional experience in conservation work. *Source: TNC Our Ohio Nature, Fall/Winter 2021*

NEW STARK COUNTY PARK DISTRICT DIRECTOR



The new director of the Stark County Park District dropped by to "say hello" to Audubon members who met at the Sippo Lake Park Exploration Gateway in May.

The new director is Dan Moeglin, who served as Canton's City Engineer from 2005 until his appointment as Stark Parks' Director by the Stark County Park Board. In addition to working with Stark Parks on a variety of trail projects over the years, Moeglin has served on the District 19 Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC) that oversees use of Clean Ohio Fund grants for this area. Moeglin is now its Vice Chairman.

The Park Board simultaneously named Derek Gordon as Deputy Director, a new position. Gordon was serving as Director of Special Projects for the Stark County District Library, and previously served as Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Canton for five years. They replaced Bob Fonte, who served as director of Stark Parks from 1994 until May 2022.

CAS Business Supporters

Dumont Seed

619 30th St NW, Canton, OH 44706
330-492-0204
Bird Seed, Feeders, Supplies, Lawn,
Garden

The Ladybug Garden Center

Donna Mataka Landscape Services
8361 Portage St NW, Massillon, OH 44646
ph:330-832-7080
Birding supplies Landscapes,
Garden, Spring/Fall Clean-up
M-F:9a-6p, Sat: 9a-5p, Sun: 10a-3p

Hartville Elevator

11 Prospect Ave N, Hartville, OH
330-872-9320
Birds seed, Feeders and supplies
M-F 8am-5pm, Sat: 8am-noon
Sun: closed

Stark County Park District

Administration: 330-477-3552
5300 Tyner St NW,
Canton, OH 44708
Exploration Gateway (EG)
5712 12th St NW, Canton, OH 44708
330-409-8096 www.StarkParks.com

Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center

University of Mount Union
1972 Clark Ave. Alliance, OH 44601
330-823-7487
T-F: 9am-4pm, Sat 1pm-5pm,
Sun 1pm-5pm, Mon: Closed

The Terra Depot

7404 Shepler Church Ave SW
Navarre, OH 44662
330-417-6257
Bird Seed, Feeders, Houses, Statuary
www.theTERRAdepot.com

Canton Audubon Society
P.O. Box 9586
Canton, Ohio 44711



The Newsletter of Canton Audubon Society

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Linda Chen, President - 2021-2023
Scott Watkins, VP - 2021-2023... ph 330-209-1261
Laura Brown, Treasurer - 2021-2023
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Marlene Bolea - 2021-2023, 1st term
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Chuck McClaugherty - 2022-2024, 2nd term
Myra McCoy - 2021-2023, 1st term
Megan Shoenfelt - 2022-2024, 1st term

AN&V: Laura Dornan, Linda Chen

Conservation: Linda Chen

EDI: Chuck McClaugherty, Laura Dornan,
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Education: Lee Dolan

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Programs/Filed Trip: *Scott Watkins,
Laura Dornan, Linda Chen

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Joyce Stevens, Bob Rohrbaugh, Rose Ann Carper

Social Media: Linda Chen, Chris Lamb

Website: Scott Watkins

The Wilderness Center Trustees (1 seat available):

George Goldsworthy
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*We serve Stark, Tuscarawas, Carroll and parts of
Columbiana, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison,
Holmes, Mahoning, Summit & Wayne Counties.*

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/...\$20

Canton Audubon Society Joint Membership

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AND MAIL TO:

Canton Audubon Society

P.O. Box 9586

Canton, Ohio 44711-9586

* OR, PAY ONLINE via CAS WEBSITE *