



THE FEATHERED FLYER

May 2021 - July 2021

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> CONNECT

WESTERN CUYAHOGA AUDUBON

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Birding IS for Everyone!

By Nancy Howell, WCAS Board Member

As a birder I have found that birders are some of the most giving people. A bit biased perhaps, but when out in the field, if someone spots an unusual or even common species that needs identification, birders will take the time to share their information. Birders often take new birders, young or old, "under their wing" to share knowledge. Birders love their birds and the outdoors. Now is the time to take steps that may not be easy - increase the birding experience with a more diverse and inclusive audience in a more equitable and just manner.

As a birder or nature enthusiast stepping outdoors, do you feel safe? Do you feel that you can walk in your neighborhood and admire the plants and wildlife, enjoy the sun and breeze? If you are walking in your neighborhood with binoculars, are you stopped or questioned? Not everyone shares these opportunities ... why? It may be as simple as not having a greenspace to go to and explore. It may be as complex as not feeling safe going beyond one's own home. It could be a deeper underlying factor that people don't feel welcome being outdoors and enjoying nature due to their skin color, economic status, religious beliefs, or gender identity. The outdoors IS for everyone and everyone MUST be welcomed! Not long ago Western Cuyahoga Audubon created a policy that addresses equity, diversity, and inclusivity. See, <https://bit.ly/3wlrLBC> This was drafted shortly after the incident in Central Park with black birder Christian Cooper. More recently, birder, J. Drew Lanhan, wrote a hard-hitting article, "What Do We Do About John James Audubon?" in which he questions John James Audubon enslaving "at least nine people". In response, two articles from National Audubon's staff, "Why Audubon Magazine Turned Its Spotlight to John James Audubon" and "Revealing the Past to Create the Future", brings to light National Audubon's views. A quote from the first article by Jennifer Bogo reads, "...that puts our own identity in the spotlight or challenges our parent organization (NAS) to reexamine its priorities." David Yarnold's quote states, "... we (NAS) can do far more as organizations and as individuals than we thought possible even six months ago. In order to do that, we have to own up to our pasts even while we chart a new future." Acknowledging these facts may be the beginnings of opening up the organization, but is it enough?

WCAS strives to be more diverse and inclusive, yet our chapter struggles as well. How do we develop a more diverse Board? What steps should our chapter take to go into neighborhoods to share the joy of birds and the outdoors? Is there a way to bring the excitement of birding and the outdoors to others virtually? What community leaders should we communicate with to bring the Audubon message to neighborhoods? We need the assistance of our members and social media community. Audubon chapters are the grass-roots of the parent organization, the National Audubon Society, and chapters will take leading roles in social change. Won't you join WCAS to help us begin working toward charting a socially just and inclusive future for those who may or may not have experienced a love for the outdoors and birds? You could be the spark and change someone's life.

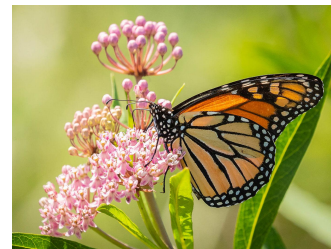
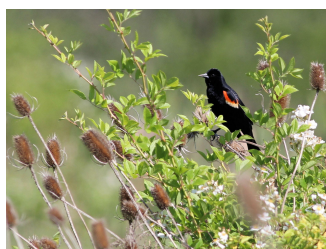
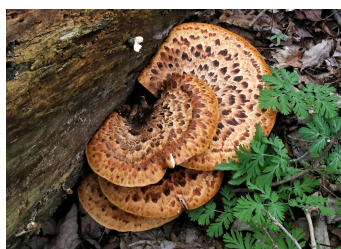


Above: Eastern Bluebirds at Lewis Road by Tom Fishburn.

Bluebirds at Lewis Road

I went to the Lewis Road Riding Ring field, Bridle Trail in Olmsted Falls, Ohio Saturday late afternoon, March 13th. I love the light there that time of day to photograph the bluebirds. A year ago in April I had gone and taken some photographs of the birds there as well, so I had an idea of what to expect. But I took a bunch this year and put together an album of several photos. I edit my originals cropping them in different ways (sometimes the same original). My compositions are usually landscape and portrait images, but sometimes I prefer a square. I use mainly 5x7 and 8x10 formats, but also an occasional 3x5 format for a more panoramic look. Late afternoon light is nice, but I also favor darker than brighter images. I donate my photos to WCAS for public education and don't mind a brighter version or if those are composed differently for publication use. From what I understand bluebirds are short distance migrants. I see them year-round but less so in winter. I've heard returning males precede females looking for a nesting place. Most of the birds I saw yesterday were male. Guessing on this day, I saw as many as six males and only two females. They were quite active, mostly in the far back of the field. But I did see a pair nearer just as I drove in and parked. I also saw the new bluebird boxes. It sounds like there are a good number of volunteers to help monitor and maintain them. It's a wonderful project. I did make a donation early on and hope that was identified and directed accordingly. I don't often make designated donations but rather give to general funds or "where most needed" so organization leaders can use it as they deem best. But with this project being so appealing and close to home (I live in Berea), I am glad about this project and to participate. Thank you to the Jean E. Miske Memorial Fund for matching gifts. *Footnote for photographers:* I mainly use a Canon 80D camera body with a Canon 400mm prime lens for birds. This is not a professional quality "full-frame" camera but has a valuable sensor with a crop factor of 160% compared to the traditional film camera. And sometimes if enough light permits, I'll add a 1.4x teleconverter to give me another 40% closer image. ~ Tom Fishburn

WALKS AND FIELD TRIPS >>>



Photos (left to right): Jacob's-ladder, Dryad's Saddle, Red-winged Blackbird by Tom Fishburn; Monarch Butterfly by Allan Claybon.

WCAS Bird Walk COVID-19 Protocols

Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society's utmost concern is for the health and safety of our members and volunteers, their families, and communities we serve. We are limiting group sizes of current in-person activities, therefore, be sure to also stay connected through social media, participate in virtual programs and activities, and casually meet with 2-3 birding friends while observing COVID-19 social and physical distancing protocols for mutual health and well-being. Here are *five* reminders: (1) Limit group sizes to 10 people or less. (2) Use social distancing, working in a scattered fashion at least 6' apart from each other. (3) Plan to travel separately, unless part of a family living together. (4) Plan to bring and wear face masks. (5) Wash hands with soap and water or use a high-alcohol based gel hand sanitizer. Let's be safe so we can bird together again!

Virtual Field Trips, Digital Scrapbooking, and Online Community Meet Ups!

Michelle Brosius, Field Trip Co-Coordinator, WCAS, invites birders to participate in a monthly designated field trip location, share stories to a public digital scrapbook, and meet fellow birders in optional online community meet ups hosted at the WCAS Virtual Conference Center. Attendees are encouraged to take photographs, draw a picture or create art inspired by what they see, tally species, create a poem, a Haiku, questions or curiosities about birds, plants, or even a butterfly while visiting the natural area. Contributions are published to the [WCAudubon.org](https://wcaudubon.org) website. Email content to MichelleBrosius@WCAudubon.org

Virtual Field Trip May 2021

Dates: May 1- 31, 2021

Location: Oberlin Preserve, 46785 W Hamilton St, Oberlin, OH 44074 Park map: bit.ly/2PROQ4n

Featured Bird Species: American Goldfinch & Spring Warblers
Notes: Oberlin Preserve opened to the public August 2020 and consists of a restored native prairie habitat, as well as fields, woodlands, wet sedge meadow, and forested vernal pools. No restroom facilities.

Trip & Meet Up Registration: <https://bit.ly/2PVsPBW>

Virtual Field Trip June 2021

Dates: June 1-30, 2021

Location: Cuyahoga Valley National Park (suggested sites: Beaver Marsh or Station Road). Visitors can access the Beaver Marsh from the Ira Trailhead (3801 Riverview Road, Cuyahoga Falls 44264). Park map: <https://bit.ly/3uLdZg5>

Featured Bird Species: Scarlet Tanager, Orioles (Orchard & Baltimore) & Wood Duck. Also, keep a look out for beaver kits and otters!

Notes: Choose your favorite site(s) within Cuyahoga Valley National Park, but if you're not sure where to go, we suggest Beaver Marsh and Station Road as two good birding locations.

Trip & Meet Up Registration: <https://bit.ly/3gfeIBZ>

Virtual Field Trip July 2021

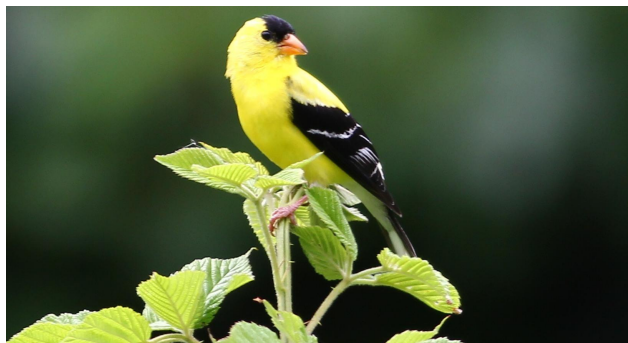
Dates: July 1-31, 2021

Location: Kopf Family Reservation, Armour Rd Trail, Avon Lake, OH 44012. Park map: <https://bit.ly/3wSOMIN>

Featured Bird Species: Red-headed Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-Pewee

Notes: Kopf Family Reservation is open 8:00 a.m. to Sunset and has three miles of woodland trails.

Trip & Meet Up Registration: <https://bit.ly/3uQyIV7>



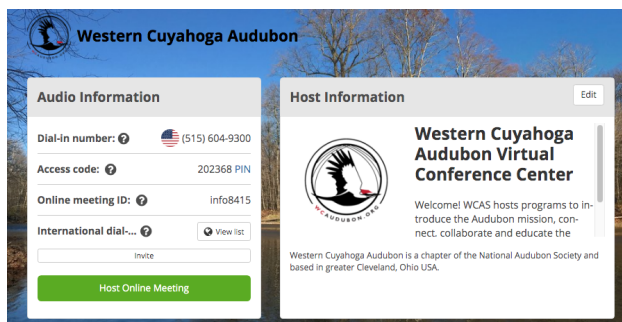
Above: American Goldfinch by Tom Fishburn.



Above: Baltimore Oriole by Allan Claybon.



Above: Red-headed Woodpecker by Allan Claybon.



Go to the **WCAS Virtual Conference Center** for chapter virtual programs. Download FREE Desktop & Mobile Apps at <https://www.freeconferencecall.com/downloads-2>

PROJECT UPDATES



Bluebird Nesting Box Project Update

Funded by the Jean E. Miske Memorial Fund and contributions to WCAS, in March we were able to procure and install 5 bluebird nesting boxes at the Lewis Road Riding Ring. 5 volunteer monitors have been trained. We have been monitoring twice a week and will

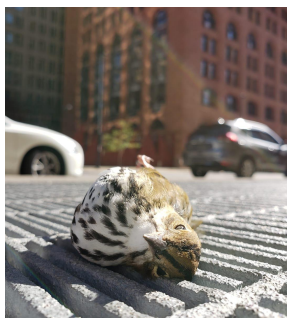
continue to do so during the nesting season. Although we have not observed any activity yet, the season is just beginning and the area has been quite windy. WCAS is committed to this project for the foreseeable future. Success, continued interest and availability of funds will dictate the future of the program. We could use one more monitor. If interested, contact Kurt Miske at kurtsacct@sbcglobal.net. WCAS is currently soliciting donations to help fund the project. The Jean E. Miske Memorial Fund will **match 1 for 1 every dollar donated up to \$500**. Excess funds, if any, will benefit WCAS. Please go to <http://bit.ly/2LWzQQm> for details and to make a donation.

~ Kurt Miske, WCAS Board Member



The Wednesday Woodcock Watch last evening (4/14) was one of the BEST! The participants were great and the woodcock really did their stuff. At least 3, possibly 4 birds calling, two of them fairly close. At one point we watched 2 woodcock in flight chasing each other which everyone was able to see. A little while later a woodcock flew right

over us, wings whistling ... The clouds were ominous and I was sweating bullets that things were going to happen ... and it did. Thrilled to pieces!" ~ Nancy Howell, Host



Lights Out Cleveland is a group of local partnering organizations working together to create awareness about the effects brightly lit buildings have on nocturnally migrating birds. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/3deqwcB>

Photos: Penny Brandau, Nancy Howell, and Janice Soos Farral.

Virtual Field Trip Report Dec 2020, Jan & Feb 2021

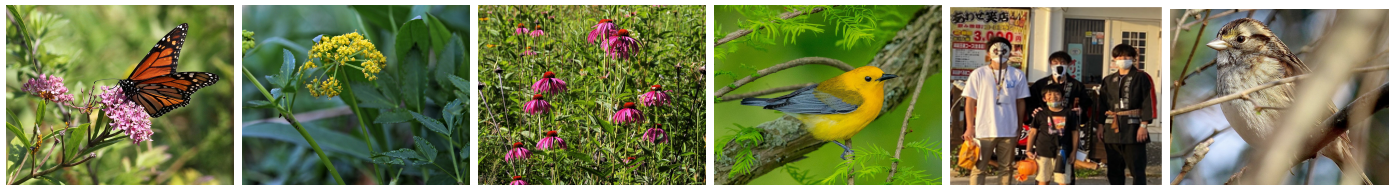
December's virtual field trip took place at **Sandy Ridge Reservation**. Seven participants hoped to see the American Tree Sparrow and winter waterfowl; e.g., Trumpeter Swan and American Black Duck. All target species were seen. This Reservation is a popular hotspot for birders in Northeast Ohio and I encourage you to plan a visit if you have never gone before. December birding can be rough, but not at Sandy Ridge, as the birds still turned up even with the lakes frozen over near the end of the month. Mary Ann and John Henderson shared a helpful tip for birders who want to bring a scope, "If you are carrying a scope, consider parking near the back entrance, in the Sandy Ridge housing development, on Songbird Lane (off Center Ridge Rd.). This will put you closer to the ponds, and you won't have to carry your scope as far." I got a lifer on the field trip, having never seen a Brown Creeper before. Tom Fishburn took lovely photographs of the Sandhill Cranes before they left for warmer temperatures. Watch the program video: <https://youtu.be/15thV1qvak4>

In January, five participants visited the **Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation** in search of the Bald Eagle as there is a nest in the area that was discovered in 2017. It is the first active Bald Eagle nest in Cleveland in a century. The reservation is an urban oasis for wildlife and provides critical wetland habitat for a variety of bird species. Several Bald Eagle, mostly juveniles, were seen throughout the month in addition to an American Wigeon, which was a lifer for Shaun Missig! Other notable species seen included the American Black Duck, Common, Hooded, and Red-breasted Merganser, and Pied-billed Grebe. Also, Al Rand and Nancy Howell both spotted a Mallard x American Black Duck Hybrid! Watch the program video: <https://youtu.be/SrQCsqe0T5o>

Seven participants visited **Bradley Woods Reservation** in Westlake, Ohio for February's virtual field trip. The Black-capped Chickadee was our target species, and although almost everyone had at least one observation, these endearing birds proved to be shier at Bradley Woods than usual. The Tufted Titmouse earned an honorable mention in the scrapbook as it was overwhelmingly present during the month. Bradley Woods is a unique swamp forest and formerly the site of an old sandstone quarry. The Quarry Loop Trail was a favorite trail, offering a nice stroll through a small meadow before leading to several forest pools and quarry remains. Other notable species included Pileated Woodpeckers and the American Robin showing off beautiful colors in the snow. Watch the program video: https://youtu.be/kn_MK96v6Ik

Visit, 'Virtual Field Trips 2021' tile at the wcaudubon.org WCAS home page. ~ Michelle Brosius, WCAS Board Member & Field Trip Co-Coordinator

VOLUNTEER, FUNDRAISING AND ADVOCACY >>>



Above: (left to right) Native Plants Swamp Milkweed, Golden Alexander, and Purple Coneflower by Tom Fishburn. Prothonotary Warbler by Allan Claybon. Bird Masks and Halloween by Nanami Komesu. Featured Instagram @wcaudubon bird: White-throated Sparrow by Elizabeth Ouwerker.

WCAS Volunteer Opportunities, Project Work, and Leadership Roles. Consider volunteering for nonprofit board leadership, program development, fundraising, and bird friendly coffee sales; help out on the web by sharing news and stories on social media, work remotely online or outdoors; help construct projects at monthly Guardians of Nature meetings; become a volunteer coordinator who leads recruitment, placement, and retention of volunteers and attends virtual Board meetings. We have many rewarding opportunities in conservation work. Interested? Email info@wcaudubon.org Learn more: <https://bit.ly/3aazSh0>

Thank You Volunteers! Dr. Jackie Augustine, Buster Banish, Christine Barnett, Penny & Fritz Brandau, Michelle Brosius, Wendy Clark, Allan Claybon, Mary Lou Czajka, Bill Deininger, Carrie Elvey, Katie Fallon, Gloria Ferris, Tom Fishburn, Dave Graskemper, Nancy Howell, Tim Jasinski, Debra Jesionowski, Jo Ann Bastian Kubicki, Michelle Manzo, Bruce Missig, Shaun Missig, George Mychkovsky, Drina Nemes, Penny O'Connor, Mary Anne Pfrogner, Amanda Sebrosky, Chuck Slusarczyk Jr., Kaoru Tsubone. **Thank You Partners!** Avian Conservation Center of Appalachia, Redstart Birding, Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, Port of Cleveland, Bird Watcher's Digest, Nodding Onion Gardens, Swarovski OPTIK, Cleveland Metroparks. **Welcome New Members!** Jennifer Coddling, Courtney Miller, Shaun Missig, Lisa Ruppel, Paul Schweigert, Judith Shaw.

Spring Warbler Challenge 2021, April 1 through May 31, 2021! Through the spring songbird migration, April 1-May 31, WCAS challenges birders to see and list as many species of **spring warblers** as possible. The entry with the most species receives a WCAS membership for one year or extension for a second year (a \$40.00 value) and an Urban Birding Cleveland t-shirt. For rules and to register, go to <http://bit.ly/39FZtNt> Entries due no later than June 12, 2021 to info@wcaudubon.org.

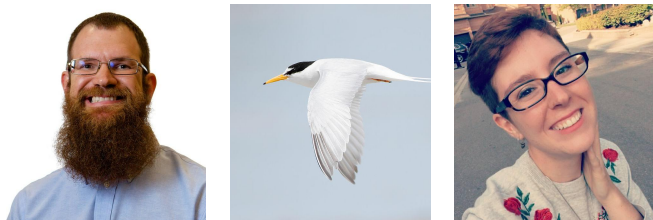
Native Plant Online Sale. Native plants are what birds need to flourish! WCAS promotes and sells a wide variety of bird friendly plants through the growing season. Proceeds pay for plant costs and support chapter activities. Selections include (pictured above): Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) Height: 2-4 ft Color: white to pink Blooms: June-August. Golden Alexander (*Zizia aurea*). Height: 1-3 ft Color: Yellow Blooms: April-August. Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*). Height: 2-3 ft Color: Purple Blooms: July-September. Live plants are sourced locally at [Nodding Onion Gardens Native Plant Nursery](http://www.noddingoniongardens.com), Columbia Station, Ohio and delivered in a black plastic, Trade Gallon #300. Clean drop-off delivery is available in Cuyahoga, Lorain, Medina-Brunswick, and Summit-Hinckley counties. See all plants and purchase at the Store www.wcaudubon.org/store. Questions? Contact Kaoru Tsubone kaorutsubone@wcaudubon.org

Birthday Fundraisers. Consider celebrating your birthday with a WCAS fundraiser on Facebook. Or, for an upcoming birthday for a special child, family member or someone you'd like to honor by making a gift at <https://bit.ly/2Wx1rtT>

From Birding Friends in Japan: Bird Masks and Halloween Fun by Nanami Komesu, OKIU Class of 2022. "Warm Greetings from Okinawa, Japan. I am a university student studying local economics and the environment at Okinawa International University (OKIU). As a class activity, our junior seminar participated in the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society's mask contest last year. We made 14 masks, mainly inspired by migratory birds. We picked Black-faced Spoonbill and others nesting or wintering on Awase Tidal Flat in Okinawa. We wore our bird masks on Halloween, trick-or-treating with local elementary school students near Awase Tidal Flat and visited local businesses to promote migratory bird conservation and cheer up locals during the pandemic. We also reminded them about fire safety as part of an Okinawan tradition. Thank you for sharing this opportunity to make the most of a difficult time. We had fun."

WCAS invites you to connect with us on Instagram! Please follow [@WCAudubon](https://www.instagram.com/WCAudubon) to receive bird content and engage in an exciting program in which we feature a daily bird photo. Instagram users can simply use #WCAudubon when sharing their bird photos for a chance to be featured by our organization. We share the photo, a fun or interesting fact about the bird, and tag the photographer so you can see more of their work. Questions? Contact michellebrosius@wcaudubon.org

PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES >>>



Above: (left to right) Blake Mathys, Little Tern, and Tammi Fierro-Zeis.

Member Meetings and Speaker Series 2020-2021. Programs are free and open to the public. Member Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Speaker at 8:00 p.m. at join.freeconferencecall.com/info8415

Program: "The Central Ohio Owl Project"

Presenter: Blake Mathys, Ohio Dominican University

Date & Time: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Description: Gaining a better understanding of Ohio's owls is a goal of Ohio Dominican University ornithologist Blake Mathys. Last fall he launched the Central Ohio Owl Project, but his research actually extends beyond the title, as Mathys will accept owl reports from anywhere in the state. **Registration:** <https://bit.ly/2PYa8gg>

Program: "Conservation Through Education: Developing a Bilingual Education Program to Conserve Little Terns (*Sternula albifrons*) in Okinawa, Japan"

Presenter: Kaori Sunagawa, Assistant Professor, Okinawa International University

Date & Time: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Description: Japan lists the Little Tern (*Sternula albifrons*) as endangered due to population declines and habitat loss. Their colony in the Awase Tidal Flat is the biggest in Okinawa, but due to dredging and a reclamation project, the main sandbar on which they nest has eroded and fewer birds are using it. Ms. Sunagawa believes bird habitat conservation depends on the larger community appreciating these birds. Since 2019, she and Okinawa International University students have given presentations to local schools, created birdwatching lessons and tours, and helped elementary students paint little tern decoys. Their experience conserving the California Least Tern has informed educational activities in Japan. **Registration:** <https://bit.ly/3dLubXN>



Visit The Rock Pile Garden Center, 900 Nagel Rd, Avon, OH 44011. Mention you're a member and WCAS gets a small contribution. Tell your cashier you want your donation to go to WCAS! www.therockpile.com

Program: "Inclusive Engagement for Everyone 2020+: Encouraging Inclusive Activism and Environmental Engagement in a Virtual World"

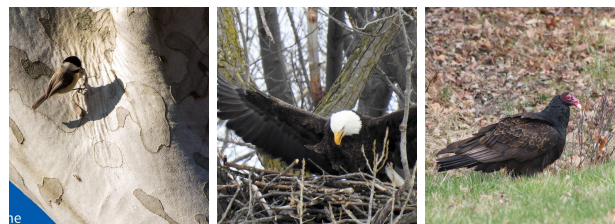
Presenter: Tammi Fierro-Zeis, Audubon Washington and Audubon Miami Valley

Date & Time: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Description: The years before 2020 were all about reaching out to underserved communities, building rapport with others, and keeping all peoples engaged in environmental projects, protections, and activism. COVID-19 social distancing abruptly severed ties and we had to get creative. Communities and environmental organizations experienced barriers to internet accessibility, computer illiteracy and digital leadership know-how - further stymied by an inability to safely lead programs in person. Our program features stories about the tools and brilliant, creative ideas that have kept everyone engaged in our new, remote world.

Registration: <https://bit.ly/2QazFDi>

Guardians of Nature. Citizen scientists provide feedback and suggestions to improve chapter activities and build conservation projects. Join us for meetings: Thurs May 20 & 27, June 17 & 24, July 15 & 22 at 7:00 p.m. **WCAS Book Club.** Two monthly Sunday programs from 7:00-8:00 p.m. The first session features an author speaker and Q&A. The second session discusses favorite nature books. It's especially fun when authors participate! May 16 & 23, June 20 & 27, and July 18 & 25. Book discount codes offered on some books. Tickets are \$20 per month for two sessions, or \$12 per session for non-members, \$10 members.



Winners: (left to right) Francis Enane's January "Chickadee Sees His Shadow", February Bald Eagle by Anna Kozlenko, and for March, "The Valiant Vulture" by Alisa Gerbec.

Bird of the Month Photo Contests raise public awareness of bird species through photography excellence. Winners are announced at monthly member meetings. Prizes include a 1-year subscription to *Bird Watcher's Digest* and a copy of David Lindo's, *How to Be an Urban Birder*.

NEWS >>>



Support Bird Banding Stations In Central America

In conjunction with the Council of Ohio Audubon Chapters (COAC), WCAS has an opportunity to assist with monetary support of \$500.00 of one or possibly more bird banding stations in Nicaragua through the Institute for Bird Populations (IBP). IBP works with numerous bird banding stations in North America, but data is sorely lacking in areas where neotropical migrants spend their time in the winter, central and south America. Lauren Helton, IBP's staff biologist, has been communicating with COAC and how funds from Ohio's Audubon chapters could help. By combining the resources of several chapters, many of the banding stations could be supported. The administrative costs to operate this program is covered by other funding **so 100% percent of any donations** go directly to the stations (IBP will even cover bank transfer fees, etc.). Nicaragua is an incredibly biologically diverse country, where millions of migratory birds from the U.S. migrate through or spend the non-breeding season. The country has a remarkably robust community of bird banders that have been active in the Monitoring Overwinter Survival Initiative (MoSI) program since its inception. MoSI also spends time within the communities, providing employment and educating communities on the importance of protecting habitat. Some of the species banded at the stations in Nicaragua are: Wood and Swainson's Thrushes, Scarlet and Summer Tanagers, Gray Catbird, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, as well as Worm-eating Warbler, Black-and-White Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, Golden-winged Warbler, Yellow Warbler, and Chestnut-sided Warbler to name a few. Even more exciting is the potential for a virtual program to talk with the banders since all of the potential sites to fund have internet at the station or home. In addition, each of the banding teams has someone who knows English or they have bilingual assistants that can help translate and are happy to meet online and talk about their birds and banding program. Please consider making a donation to WCAS to support the banders and the research on the birds that travel to Nicaragua. Donate at <https://bit.ly/2Pllwfh>



Above: (l to r): Smithsonian seal, Black-throated Blue Warbler by David Lewis, and Blackburnian Warbler by Tom Fishburn.

Join the WCAS Bird Friendly Coffee Club! Birds & Beans® Coffee is Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center Bird Friendly®-certified beans, 100 percent shade-grown, USDA Organic, and Fair-Trade certified. 5% of annual chapter sales support conservation projects. Order by 10th/month at WCAS Store <https://bit.ly/3mydKC9>



Mitchell's Homemade Ice Cream Gift Card Fundraiser Who doesn't like Ice Cream? WCAS loves ice cream after a morning or afternoon of birdwatching. We think you might too. We've partnered with Mitchell's Homemade Ice Cream to sell [ice cream gift cards](#) in \$10 denominations. Ice cream, frozen

yogurt, sorbet, vegan ice cream - all delicious! Summer's just around the corner and a perfect time for ice cream! Purchase gift cards at WCAS Store <https://bit.ly/39uvDgH>

The Western Cuyahoga Audubon Feathered Flyer is published 4 times per year in Feb, May, Aug and Nov.

Western Cuyahoga Audubon programs are open to the public. Donations are appreciated.

Email: info@wcaudubon.org

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Web: www.wcaudubon.org

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Interested in Volunteering? Send an email to info@wcaudubon.org

Visit the Store to download reports, articles, become and renew membership, and donate at <https://bit.ly/2taLgnk>

President

WCAS is currently Board run.

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Nancy Howell

Recording Secretary - Shared

Directors-at-Large

Michelle Brosius, Gloria Ferris, Bruce Missig, Kurt Miske, Mary Anne Romito, Tom Romito

Field Trip Coordinators

Michelle Brosius, Tim Colborn, Kaoru Tsubone

Ambassadors

Global Ambassador: David Lindo; Ambassador to Japan: Kaoru Tsubone.

Web & Marketing

Betsey O'Hagan

WCAS Makes Five Special Awards at NEOSEF 2021. Ryan McMullen, Hawken School, Gates Mills, OH and Rachael Tomasko, Padua Franciscan High School, Parma, OH are recipients of the top two Special Awards made by WCAS at the 2021 Northeastern Ohio Science and Engineering Fair (NEOSEF). Respective projects are, "Developing a cheaper and faster prioritization model using environmental impact and removal cost for aquatic dams" and, "The Potential of *Elophila obliteralis* larvae (Lily Pad Leaf Cutter Moth) as a biological control for the invasive aquatic plant *Nymphoides peltata* (Yellow Floating Heart)". Read the article: <https://bit.ly/3d7gsyb>

The Council of Ohio Audubon Chapters (COAC) hosted a successful virtual Spring Gathering on Saturday, April 3, 2021. Topics included collaboration on projects between chapters and other institutions. Read the Report: <https://bit.ly/3dSBj11> Audubon Chapters meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM and COAC Board meetings are the third Tuesday of each month, again at 7:00 PM. Meetings are held via [FreeConferenceCall.com](https://www.freeconferencecall.com). All are welcome to join the COAC virtual meetings. For more information, visit the Council of Ohio Audubon Chapters (COAC) website at <https://counciloac.org>

Visit the **WCAudubon Store** to become or renew membership, or make a donation. The Store offers a selection of nature books, maps, articles, reports, native plants, tickets, and bird friendly coffee. Visit www.wcaudubon.org/store/

"I just wanted to say thank you for the emails. It sure does break up the day! I love getting them!" ~ *David Hinz*



Shop today at **AmazonSmile** and designate Western Cuyahoga Audubon as your charitable organization of choice. When you shop at smile.amazon.com the AmazonSmile Foundation donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to Western Cuyahoga Audubon.

