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Fall 2014

Newsletter of the Tri-Moraine Audubon Society

WEB ADDRESS - <http://www.tri-moraineaudubon.org>

Officers

President

Dianne Knipp
419.738.6539

Vice-President

Position
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Treasurer

John Daley

Secretary

Candy Newland
419.991.3152

Members at

Large

Evelyn Prater
419.757.3461
Anne Smedley
419.222.3271

Program Chair

Eric Broughton
419.999.1987

Ed/Publicity

Carol Bertrand
419.227.9231

Ottawa River

Coalition Rep.

Dr. Leslie Riley
509.432.4834

Membership

Database Chair

Bill Askins
419.339.9751

Conservation

Chair

Dr. Eric Juterbock
419.995.8360

Newsletter

Editor

Eric Broughton
419.999.1987

Webmaster

Michael
Wildermuth

Volunteer

Chair

Bob Bertrand
419.227.9231

Hospitality Chair

Position Open

CALENDAR

TRI-MORAINÉ'S 2014-15 EVENING PROGRAM MEETINGS are scheduled the first Tuesday of the month, September through November and January through May. Meetings are held in the OSU-Lima Visitor/Student Services Center, 3900 Campus Dr., OSU-Lima. (Enter the campus off Mumaugh Rd.; first building on left). Meetings and events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. Dates and times appear in the calendar write-ups below. In case of bad weather (Level 2 in Allen Co.), meeting cancellations will be posted on WLIO (NBC/35) and WOHL (FOX/25).

THE GLACIERS ARE BACK! - CREATING THE ICE AGE EXHIBIT AT THE CINCINNATI MUSEUM CENTER – Tuesday, September 2, 2014, 7:30 p.m., OSU-Lima Visitor Center, Lima

Welcome the Ohio Historical Society's new curator of natural history, David L. Dyer for a fascinating behind-the-scenes look at how a major museum exhibit is created, from research to final installation. See how the empty Union Terminal Building in downtown Cincinnati was transformed into the Ice Age landscape of Ohio over a period of four years. This visually-oriented presentation will show the creation of the life-size tongue of a glacier, including a walk-through ice cave complete with chilly breezes and a waterfall. The photographs will also document museum artists creating life-size scientifically accurate sculptures of large Ice Age animals, a tour of the walk-through glacial outwash plain, the painting of a detailed 4,000 square foot mural of the Ice Age landscape which took over 2 years to complete, and the casting and building of large mammal skeletons – from a saber-tooth to a mastodon.

PRAIRIE CREEK TREATMENT TRAIN FIELD TRIP – Sat, Sept. 20, 2014, 10 a.m. (9 a.m. if you wish to car pool from Lima), Grand Lake St. Marys (GLSM)

Milt Miller, GLSM Restoration Manager, will lead a two hour field trip beginning at 10 a.m. at the Auglaize & Mercer Counties Convention & Visitors Bureau, 900 Edgewater Dr., St. Marys, OH 45885 (immediately across from the state park office on the north side of the lake) where Milt will give a general overview of all that is being done to restore GLSM and then we will travel over to the Prairie Creek Treatment Train (PCTT) for an hour tour ending around noon. Participants will carpool departing at 9 am from the Eastgate parking lot behind Wendy's on SR 309, Lima, or may meet the group there at 10 am. Contact Eric Broughton at 419.999.1987 or ebroughton@woh.rr.com for additional information. Also see "President's Message" for further details.

JOHNNY APPLESEED METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT 2014 APPLE FESTIVAL: Saturday and Sunday, September 27 and 28, noon to 6 p.m., Allen County Farm Park, 1582 Slabtown Road, Lima. Free admission. TMAS will have an information table in the North Barn. Our main focus will be advertising the chapter's Fall Birdseed Sale on November 1. Stop by and say hello as you enjoy free entertainment, wagon rides, apple butter making, outdoor cooking demonstrations, children's activities, and booths featuring woodcarving, quilting, etc. Lots of great food for sale, too. If you can volunteer to help at the TMAS booth, call Carol Bertrand at 419.227.9231.

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday, September 30, 2014, 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend TMAS board meetings held at the **OSU Visitor / Student Services Center, 3900 Campus Dr., OSU-Lima Campus.**

MYEERAH WORK DAY – Saturday, October 4, 2014, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (8:00 a.m. if you wish to car pool from Lima), Bellefontaine, Ohio

The autumn olive which heavily infests the dam of the little pond at Myeerah poses a threat to the stability of the dam. It is not an immediate danger, but needs to be addressed before it becomes a bigger problem. The goal for this work day is to clear all the woody vegetation on the east side of the dam and to treat the stumps with herbicide. A chipper truck will be manned by city of Bellefontaine employees during the work day. US Fish & Wildlife will assist in seeding the area to grasses after it has been cleared. This is a chance to contribute to the enhancement of the property at Myeerah. There must be at least 8 volunteers working for things to run smoothly. 4 people will be needed to drag the freshly cut brush to the chipper truck, 2 very experienced chain saw operators are needed to cut the autumn olive brush, and two people are needed to spray herbicide on the freshly cut stumps. Lunch and beverages will be provided. Wear sturdy shoes and bring gloves. Dress for the weather. To volunteer your help or (for further information), contact Don Rosenbeck at 937.596.5330 (Jackson Center) or dmrosenbeck@gmail.com.

PROGRAM – LIVE RAPTORS – Tuesday, October 7, 2014, at 7:30 p.m., OSU-Lima Visitor/Student Services Center Diane Myers of the Black Swamp Raptor Rehabilitation Center will present a very interesting and educational program when she brings a live Bald Eagle, hawk, falcon, and owl to this month's meeting. This will be a very special opportunity to see these raptors up close. You'll see how they are similar and how they are different. The Black Swamp Raptor Rehab program was first established in 1989. In addition to the many educational programs to public and school groups, the program continues to provide care facilities and is devoted to the first aid and release of injured or orphaned birds of prey. The Black Swamp Raptor Rehab is fully licensed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources to rehabilitate and release injured birds of prey. This program, co-sponsored by the Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District, is free & open to the public.

ANNUAL RECYCLE FUNDRAISER - Saturday, October 11, 2014, will be our 21st year operating **Wapakoneta's Drop-off Center**. Volunteers work 8 a.m. until noon. The center is open to the public **9 a.m. until noon**. TMAS receives the proceeds from all recyclables handled. Proceeds are dependent on the volume of materials handled and market conditions. Aluminum cans pay best. Wapakoneta accepts #1, #2, #3, #5, and #7 plastics. No oil containers or pesticide bottles. You can leave the labels on clean tin cans. Also accepted are computers, modems, printers, other computer components, strings of outdoor/indoor decorative lights (bulbs included), shoes (each pair tied together, no heels over 2 inches, and no boots), and regular latex paint in liquid form, any size can, all colors (if paint is hard and dry it goes in regular trash). Twenty-five volunteers are needed to sort items and unload vehicles. Sorters work on an adjustable feed conveyer belt. For additional information (volunteer instruction sheet, list of acceptable items, map) and to volunteer your help, call Bob Bertrand at 419.227.9231.

ANNUAL FALL BIRDSEED SALE - Saturday, November 1, 2014, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., DeHaven Home & Garden Center in Lima. Walk-ins are welcome, but prepaid orders ensure sufficient stock on sale day and can be picked up from volunteers at additional locations. Sale fliers will be mailed the end of September to purchasers from the past two years, will be available at DeHavens, and will be posted on the chapter's website and Facebook page. Fliers list items and sizes available, bird eating preferences, and additional order information. If you would like to receive a sale flier or have questions, contact Anne at 419.222.3271 (Lima). Bird feeding brings enjoyment to young and old alike. That makes birdseed a great holiday or anytime gift. Prices are unknown at this time, but TMAS prices are competitive in the marketplace. Our Audubon sale is open to all. Please ask friends and neighbors to consider buying from us. All proceeds are used to fund local conservation and education programs and projects. Volunteers are needed to help those picking up birdseed. If Saturday is out for you, we pull orders on Friday night. Call Bob Bertrand at 419.227.9231 (Lima) if you can help.

VENOMOUS SNAKES OF OHIO - Tuesday, November 4, 2014, 7:30 p.m. OSU-Lima Visitor/Student Services Center Join respected herpetologist, rattlesnake researcher and lead author of a much-anticipated book on Ohio reptiles, Doug Wynn, for this fascinating program on the venomous snakes of Ohio. Doug will cover identification and life history/ecology of the Ohio snake species.

BOARD MEETING – Tuesday, November 25, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS - SAVE THESE DATES: Saturday, December 13, 2014, Indian Lake; Sunday, December 14, 2014, Grand Lake St. Marys. For additional information, contact Eric Juterbock at 937.468.2606 or juterbock.1@osu.edu. Full details will be published in the next newsletter.

TREAT YOURSELF OR A FRIEND & SUPPORT AUDUBON ADVENTURES - Bird Watcher's Digest (BWD), a magazine about bird watching, for bird watchers, by bird watchers (North America's leading magazine for bird watchers), flew off the press in Marietta, Ohio, in 1978. For each new one-year subscription at BWD's regular rate (\$19.99), BWD will return half the cost (\$10.00) to TMAS to support our education program in classrooms in schools in our 8-county service area. Before you order, read all three order options for full information. 1) To place your order by mail, you may use a form available on our website or at chapter public events and monthly program meetings. Only NEW paid subscriptions are eligible (no renewals and no bill-me's). BWD rents its subscription list. You may get around this by checking the "Mark my name nonrentable" on the form. 2) If you have questions, or if you prefer to order by telephone, please call BWD at 1.800.879.2473. Be sure to mention our code "SSTMAS" so that TMAS will get credit for your subscription. 3) You may order through www.tri-moraineaudubon.org/BWD.html

2014 ANNUAL APPEAL INTERIM RESULTS - Once a year, Tri-Moraine Audubon Society, an all-volunteer, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, asks for the financial support of members and friends to help the chapter fulfill its mission. This year, givers could designate their gift for 1) Area of greatest need, 2) Camp Myeerah or 3) Grand Lake St. Marys. A total of \$25,175.00 has been raised as of August 21, with the majority of donations going to Camp Myeerah, 450 acres in Logan County, now protected in perpetuity for public use and enjoyment. Members and friends can be proud of the chapter's achievement to this end. This report only covers Myeerah, one of six Important Bird Areas in the chapter's 8-county service area. Our next newsletter issue will update the donor list and cover the remainder of the annual appeal distributions.

The sum of \$22,000 in annual appeal donations has been given to the Bellefontaine Joint Recreation District for Myeerah use. BJRDC Director Kris Myers thanks TMAS for the chapter's enthusiastic support plus invaluable financial assistance. Funds have paid for a new roof for the lodge, well repairs needed to make the water system functional, new upright commercial refrigerator and freezer for the lodge kitchen, basic lodge kitchen needs such as pots and pans, a microwave oven, stainless steel tables, a shelving unit, updates to lodge light fixtures to improve the looks of the dining area, refinishing of the lodge floor, dormitory stove, and the list goes on. The chapter added \$6,000 to the annual appeal funds and 50 camp foam floor mattresses for the dorm and round and rectangular tables for the lodge and dorm were purchased plus other smaller items. TMAS also purchased a used refrigerator for the dorm. Our thanks to Don Rosenbeck who obtained a donation of wood for picnic tables from Lowe's of Bellefontaine and supervised the table assembly at Environmental Education Weekend. We thank Lowe's for their support of Myeerah.

The Society gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the following donors to date for their 2014 Annual Appeal contributions: Fern & Wayne Albertson, Anonymous (13) - no name is listed unless consent was given on the donor form, Bob & Carol Bertrand, Robbin Clark, John R. Daley, Carole Dugan, Virginia R. Eickholt - In Memoriam from the Eickholt Family, Ivan & Rachel Friesen, Kevin L. Haver, The Heinrich Family Foundation - Jim & Jan Heinrich, David & Karen Howell, John & Susan Hric, J. Eric Juterbock, William Kirkwood, Kiwanis Club of Lima, Inc., Dianne Knipp, Bill & Jackie Light, Bambi Markham & Jane Krites, Gloria McCloy, Candace Newland, Jacqueline Paguirigan, Evelyn Prater, Lois Risser, Don & Mary Rosenbeck, Elizabeth B. Shelly, Smedley Family, Bruce Smith, Jim & Karen Spurgat, Jennifer Stark, Annette & Doug Swisher, Beth Theisen, Heidi Tracy, Phillip M. Valentine, Elizabeth Vogt, Amanda Wischmeyer & Jon Tuttle, Jack Woodward. We also thank those members and friends who make in kind and financial donations at other times of the year.

Current Myeerah projects are additional clearing of trails, rehabbing of the shelter houses, painting of the lodge inside and out as time and funds permit, and signage placement. TMAS has been awarded a \$2,259 signage grant from National Audubon's IBA Small Grants Program for Myeerah. Future needs include two bridge repairs and improvement and expansion of parking areas.

If you have not made your 2014 Annual Appeal donation and wish to do so, you may obtain a donor form at an upcoming program meeting, download one from the summer newsletter on our website, or call 419.227.9231 to have a copy mailed to you. Needs keep cropping up and any help you can give will be appreciated.

TRI-MORAININE



AUDUBON SOCIETY

Serving Allen • Auglaize • Hancock • Hardin • Logan
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FALL 2014 Newsletter

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WATCH THOSE RENEWAL NOTICES FROM NAS; The National Audubon Society (NAS) does not include membership expiration dates on its renewal notices. Look in the upper right-hand corner of the mailing label on your chapter newsletter. If it reads “10/17 M”, that means that your NAS dual membership expires in October of 2017. If it reads “04/15 SM”, that means that your local supporting membership expires in April of 2015. If you want to pay your dual membership way ahead, that’s your call, but the chapter is receiving dual membership expiration dates from NAS extending out to 2023.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Please check the calendar of events for field trips and special programs this fall. Your officers and field trip chairperson have put thought and effort into finding a wide variety of interesting programs for your enjoyment and education. We hope you can join us on some of our field trips and at our regular program meetings.

One field trip I would like to highlight is a trip to the Grand Lake St. Marys (GLSM) Water Treatment Train Habitat and Wetlands on September 20. This new area is part of the multi-pronged approach to solve some of the toxic algae issues at GLSM. In an effort to create a man-made filtering sequence leading up to a natural filtering wetlands at the south side of GLSM, a natural habitat for wildlife was also created. A real surprise has been the speed of renewal for all sorts of wildlife (ducks, geese, egrets, deer, and many frogs and snakes) returning to the area. With food sources and nesting locations nearby, it has attracted many bird species yet to be documented. A Bald Eagle nesting in the area is not far away. Plans are in place to establish Phase Two of the Water Treatment Train and on the field trip we should see what those plans comprise and see how Phase One is doing after two full years of operation.

St. Marys River - Grand Lake St. Marys is one of six Important Bird Areas in our region. Some Audubon members earmarked GLSM to receive funds from their 2014 Annual Appeal donation. Learn more about how TMAS supports conservation and habitat restoration at this field trip event September 20.

For those of you following the Minnesota Vikings new stadium controversy, be sure to read the article “Why Should Birders Be Worried About the New Vikings Stadium?” in the July-August issue of AUDUBON or follow Audubon Magazine on Facebook. The Minnesota Vikings new stadium could kill thousands of migratory birds unless stadium builders take immediate action to incorporate bird safe measures. You may be able to help urge builders to incorporate a better bird-safe glass into their current plan.

Wishing you good birding!
Dianne