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Flight Patterns

www.tri-moraineaudubon.org

FALL 2019

Volunteer Opportunities...

Fall Birdseed Sale— Our fall birdseed sale will be held on November 1st and 2nd. This sale is preorder only. Order forms will be mailed to those who have ordered previously. See page 3.

Christmas Bird Count—The Christmas Bird Count for Indian Lake is Dec. 14 and Dec. 15 for Grand Lake St. Marys. More details found in upcoming Winter newsletter. Mark your calendars!

TMAS Board Meeting - TMAS board meetings are scheduled for 7 p.m. September 24, and November 26, all held in the OSU Visitor/Student Center on Campus Drive. All are welcome to attend.

New Program Meetings-Field Trips— Look at the great program meetings and field trips planned for this fall. See page 2 and 3 for all the details.

The Ottawa River Cleanup, earlier cancelled due to weather, has been rescheduled for September 7. All other information remains the same. Details found in your Spring TMAS newsletter.

Year Without a Summer...

By Jeannine C. Roediger

We've all heard about the "year without a summer," an actual event that has happened more than once due to volcanic eruptions. The most notable was in 1816 after an eruption of Mount Tambora in 1815, in what is now Indonesia. The volcanic ash and dust caused a weather phenomenon that proved disastrous for agriculture the following year.

Perhaps this year we could say it was a "year without a spring." All the inclement and cool to cold weather this spring had an impact on local agriculture as well as livestock, wildlife, and birds. Flooding became a daily occurrence.

In my own yard bird nests were destroyed by the winds and rains. I found more baby birds fallen out of their nests than almost any year previous. It also affected insect populations, flower and tree blossoms, and pollination of the same. Not to mention that most local farmers got their crops out really late, or not at all. Unprecedented in the agricultural community. Crops in our area look pretty good, but one has to remember that timely rains are needed and a long to longer growing season before we can successfully harvest a crop.

Also of concern is the lack of honey bees. Early I saw none, then just a few as summer progressed. As they are our major pollinators this is of real concern to all of us. Now the weather is drier and is actually helpful to the bees as nectar is not washed out daily by rain. My late father-in-law, an apriarist, used to say that a dry year was much better than a wet one due to this fact.

One plus factor is several Monarch butterfly caterpillars on my milkweed plants. I have seen quite a few other types of butterflies. They too came later but they are here now.

If you have been around many years, you know that there are variables each and every year that denotes the success of our crops, of bird populations and all things affected by weather. We think we are in control, but our natural world holds the balance. We influence it through our habits and ways of living. Certainly food for thought as we go about our daily lives. (*Checkout Aaron Wilson's program meeting, pg. 2.*)



Flooded fields common this year

TMAS FALL PROGRAM MEETINGS



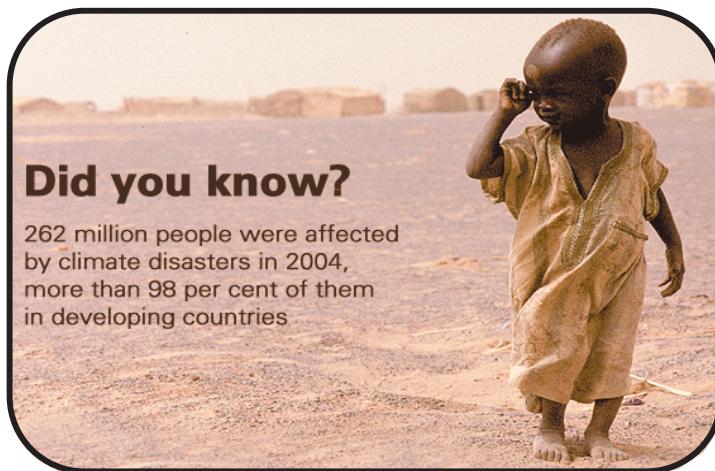
Rock Sandpiper Photo by Brian Zwiebel

Brian Zwiebel: The Magnificent Behavior of Shorebirds* Tuesday, September 3, 2019, 7:30 p.m.

Join Brian Zwiebel for an exploration into The Magnificent Behavior of Shorebirds. From migration to the breeding grounds and beyond Brian will share his passion for shorebird behavior through his award winning photography and personal experiences on the breeding grounds of the high arctic. You will learn of the mind bending migrations of the Whimbrel and Bar-tailed Godwit and Brian will recount his personal observations of breeding behavior not in scientific literature. Be forewarned, you may never look at a wintering shorebird on a beach or mudflat the same way again!

Brian is a part-time professional nature photographer and is a co-owner and guide of Sabrewing Nature Tours. He has been birding for over 25 years, most of that time with a camera and super telephoto lens. Brian has written articles for Audubon's online magazine, Naturescapes.net, B&H Explora Blog and the Nature Travel Network.

His award winning bird images have been featured in numerous magazines and books and have been featured at the National Center for Nature Photography.



Did you know?

262 million people were affected by climate disasters in 2004, more than 98 per cent of them in developing countries

Jackie Augustine: Robots and Drones for science: Not just science fiction*

Tuesday, October 1, 2019, 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Jackie Augustine, associate professor at The Ohio State University at Lima, is a behavioral ecologist who studies the mating behaviors of wild birds. Jackie started studying prairie-chickens as a PhD student at Kansas State University, and has now been studying them for nearly two decades.

Her current research utilizes robots to study how males attract mates in Greater and Lesser Prairie-Chickens, two declining species whose ranges overlap in western Kansas. Another project is determining whether drones could be used to survey for prairie-chickens in the future. Dr. Augustine will describe what fascinates her about prairie-chickens during a presentation which will include videos of robots and drones in action.



Dr. Augustine with prairie-chicken

Aaron Wilson: How changing climate threatens wildlife: from habitat, to biodiversity, and species

Tuesday, November 5, 2019, 7:30 p.m.

Our long-term weather observing networks clearly indicate that Earth is warming, and this warming is primarily caused by human influence on natural systems. But the changes extend well beyond just temperature to include precipitation, extreme events, and shifts in seasonal patterns. A changing climate makes life more difficult not only for humans but also wildlife. What are the global and local trends in climate? How are these changes connected to impacts on wildlife populations now and in the future?

Aaron Wilson is a research scientist at the Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center and OSU Extension at The Ohio State University. His expertise includes weather, applied climatology, and climate change. He works in the State Climate Office of Ohio. He enjoys engaging students of all ages, focusing recently on local agricultural impacts to changing weather patterns. He encourages all of us across the rural to urban gradient to think about the personal face of climate change and how it impacts our lives.

Submitted by Jackie Augustine

* Co-sponsor- Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District

September's Council Meet at Cincinnati

On Sunday, September 15, the Audubon Society of Ohio (Cincinnati's chapter) will host representatives from Audubon chapters throughout Ohio at the fall workshop of the Council of Ohio Audubon Chapters (COAC). The event will be held at the Fernald Nature Preserve.

The day is going to be filled with field trips, talks, conversation, and networking. The schedule includes nature hikes, a discussion of chapter success stories, a speaker explaining the history of Fernald, a COAC business meeting, and a special presentation by Raptor Inc., a non-profit dedicated to conservation of local birds of prey via rehabilitation, education and research.

Please attend to show the strength of our chapter. For more information, contact Jackie at augustine.63@osu.edu or 567-712-4155 or see COAC's facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CouncilofOhioAudubonChaptersCOAC/>.

'Plants for Birds' garden

On May 28, 8th graders from South Science Technology Magnet dedicated their 'Plants for Birds' garden in front of their school. Tri-Moraine received a \$1000 Collaborative Funding grant from the National Audubon Society to support the purchase of native plants. The Lima News interviewed Jackie Augustine about the event. Below is a photo of the students and Audubon members.

Submitted by Jackie Augustine




Congrats to our member Sondra Dreitzler of Cridersville for having an idea published in the comic strip "Pluggers." This is the 14th time!

FALL BIRDSEED SALE

November 2nd from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Layman Feed & Lawn, 705 E. Main St. (SR 309), Elida. This sale is by preorder only.

Order forms will be mailed in late September to those who made purchases in 2018. If you would like an order form or have questions, contact Anne Smedley at 419.222.3271 or download a form from the chapter's website or Facebook page.

Mail your completed order by Friday, October 19th to ensure you receive your order. All proceeds benefit local conservation, education programs and projects. Volunteers are needed for this sale. Call Bob Bertrand at 419.227.9231 if you can help.

TMAS FALL FIELD TRIPS

Putnam Memorial Wetlands

Saturday, September 21st, 1:30 p.m.

Carpool from Wendy's @ Eastgate (2 p.m. at Wetlands)

Come explore with us as we tour these beautiful wetlands. Initiated in 2007, this restored wetland complex has a wide diversity of plants and animals, and it's right in our own backyard! Formerly farmland, these 60 acres of wetlands are dedicated to Bryan Putnam.

You can learn more about the project and see some of the progress at their website - <http://putnamwetlands.com/>. We will carpool from the Eastgate parking lot behind Wendy's on Harding Hwy at 1:30 p.m., arriving at the wetlands (2 mile west of Roundhead on Route 385) at 2 p.m.

Grand Lake St Mary's Fish Hatchery and more

Sunday, October 13th, 2:30 p.m.

Carpool from Wendy's @ Eastgate (3 p.m. at Hatchery)

Come experience the magnificent behavior of shorebirds firsthand and build on what we learned at the September program meeting!

While our songbirds have mostly moved on, this is the peak time for shorebird migration. We'll start at the Fish Hatchery and see what we can find before moving on to good birding spots nearby. We will carpool from the Eastgate parking lot behind Wendy's on Harding Hwy at 2:30 p.m., arriving at the fish hatchery at 3 p.m.

Tecumseh Nature Preserve

November 16th, 1:30 p.m. at OSU Lima

OSU Lima maintains a beautiful, 200 acre preserve that includes a variety of forest types as well as a recently restored prairie.

While we take a breath before the holiday storm, we'll meander under massive oak trees, gawk at a Great Blue Heron rookery and generally enjoy the brisk autumn air in the great outdoors. Meet at the trail head at the end of the parking lot northeast of the visitor's center.

Submitted by Dan Hodges

Presidents Message...

Members of Tri-Moraine Audubon often field questions from the public about how best to attract birds to one's home. A wonderful resource is Audubon.org Native Plant Database. To access the database, just type in Audubon.org into your preferred search engine.

Once on the page, click the drop-down list under the "Birds" heading at the top of the page and choose "Plants for Birds." Once you type in your email address and zip code, you are directed to an extensive listing of native plants for your specific area.

Each plant listing includes common and scientific names for each species, description and photo, growth habit, water and sunlight needs, how it benefits birds, and a listing of species attracted to the plant. Additional information is provided as to which plants are butterfly and caterpillar friendly making your choices truly good for the environment.

In addition, information is provided for the nearest Audubon Centers and nurseries offering native plants for sale. What to do if you don't live near one of the native plant nurseries? Several of our Tri-Moraine Audubon members very generously share native seed and plants from their own gardens, at no charge, during our monthly program meetings.

Planting natives is an excellent step in attracting birds to your property, but don't let lack of space or time deter you! Tri-Moraine Audubon Society offers two opportunities each year for you to support birds and TMAS by purchasing birdseed for winter feeding through our birdseed sale. Information can be found in this newsletter for an upcoming sale.

Ultimately, education is key to supporting birds and all of nature. We hope you will attend our monthly FREE program meetings to learn about birds and all aspects of the environment from our excellent and informative speakers! You will find more information regarding upcoming programs in this newsletter, on our Tri-MoraineAudubon.org website, and our Facebook page – Tri-Moraine Audubon Society. Plant native!

Cheryl Erwin TMAS president



Native Goldenrod

Address Service Requested

November Birdseed Sale

Fall 2019 Newsletter

P.O. Box 5648, Lima, OH 45802-5648

Shelby • and Van Wert Counties in Ohio

Hancock • Hardin • Logan • Mercer

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