



# Flight Patterns

Serving Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Logan, Mercer, Shelby, and Van Wert Counties in Ohio

**Newsletter of the Tri-Moraine Audubon Society**  
**Jan/Feb 2010**

**WEB ADDRESS - [www.tri-moraineaudubon.org](http://www.tri-moraineaudubon.org)**

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Tri-Moraine's January 5 program meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall, lower level, Market Street Presbyterian Church, 1100 West Market Street, corner of Cole and West Market Streets, Lima. You may use the courtyard entrance off the rear parking lot or the elevator entrance on the west side of the church where handicapped parking is available. Follow the Audubon signs. 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, meeting cancellations will be posted on WLIO (NBC/channel 35) and WOHL(FOX/channel 25.) A good idea!-Bring a donation of soap or personal hygiene items for the West Ohio Food Bank to the January 5<sup>th</sup> potluck. **NOTE FEBRUARY MEETING WILL BE HELD AT OSU-LIMA AG SERVICE CENTER BUILDING.**

## CALENDAR

**Jan. 5 ANNUAL PHOTO SAFARI & POTLUCK** Tuesday, January 5, 6:30pm. Fellowship Hall will open at 6pm. TMAS will provide fried chicken and beverages. Members and guests should bring a hot or cold dish, salad, rolls, side dish, or dessert and their own table service. Slide/PowerPoint presentations will be given by those attending who opt to share some of their favorite nature photography accompanied by brief narration. Slide projector, carousel, digital projector, laptop, and screen will be furnished. Join fellow nature enthusiasts for a most enjoyable evening.

**Feb. 2 WHY ARE SOME MALE PRAIRIE CHICKENS SO SEXY?** Tuesday, February 2, 7:30pm at Agricultural Service Center lecture hall at 3900 Campus Dr., OSU-Lima. Audubon member Dr. Jackie Augustine, Assistant Professor, Biology Department, OSU-Lima, will discuss her PhD work in Kansas. She studied prairie chickens for five years examining morphology, behavior, territory, and testosterone in male prairie chickens. The talk will be geared to the nature enthusiast and will include photos and videos of prairie chickens.

**Feb. 6 WINTER BIRDSEED SALE**, Saturday February 6, 9am-4pm pickup at DeHaven Home and Garden Showplace, 775 Shawnee Road in Lima and 15276 US 224 E in Findlay. The winter sale was started at the request of purchasers who lack space to store large quantities of birdseed. The sale is by preorder only. Order forms will be mailed January 4 to those who made purchases any time in 2008 and 2009. If you would like an order form or have questions, contact Anne Smedley at 419-222-3271. Your completed order form must be mailed by Friday January 22 to ensure sufficient stock on sale day. All proceeds fund local conservation education programs and projects. Remember, prepaid orders only and pickup at either DeHaven location.



**Feb. 13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT (GBBC)**, Friday through Monday, February 12-15, hosted by 12-15 the National Audubon Society and Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. Participation in the GBBC is free, educational, easy, and best of all, FUN! This online citizens-science census counts birds anywhere at any time during the scheduled weekend. Data is sent via the Internet. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Help scientists define the status of winter birds. Obtain more details and participate by visiting [www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org). This is a great activity for individuals, classrooms/groups, and families. Need a list of species native to your area that you might see? Regional lists can be found on the website. Need to learn about common backyard birds? A helpful bird guide can be found at [www.birds.cornell.edu/programs/AllAboutBirds/BirdGuide/](http://www.birds.cornell.edu/programs/AllAboutBirds/BirdGuide/).

**HANDCOCK COUNTY NATURALISTS PROGRAMS AND EVENTS.** This group holds monthly program meetings the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, September through May, at 7:30 pm at Christ United Methodist, 225 West Bigelow Avenue, Findlay. All are welcome. For more information about the organization and details about upcoming programs and events contact Betsy Worden, newsletter editor, at [bworden001@woh.rr.com](mailto:bworden001@woh.rr.com) or Jill Taber, program chair, at 419-423-2415 or [mysilvervette@abcglobel.net](mailto:mysilvervette@abcglobel.net).

**UPPER MAUMEE VALLEY NATURALISTS CLUB PROGRAMS AND EVENTS.** All are welcome. Programs are held the third Thursday of each month at 7pm at the Van Wert Women's Club, 654 S. Washington St. For more information about the club and details about upcoming programs and events contact Lyn Warren, president, at 419-749-2999 or [wlvval@verizon.net](mailto:wlvval@verizon.net) or Jean Perchalski, publicity chair, at 419-232-4108, 419-231-0495 (cell) or [jeperch@roadrunner.com](mailto:jeperch@roadrunner.com).

NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE BY EMAIL: Contact Bill Askins, chapter membership database chair, at [waskins@woh.rr.com](mailto:waskins@woh.rr.com). State name, mailing address, email address, and your desire to receive Flight Patterns via email. You will receive an email notice of website availability containing a URL you can click on that will take you to the newsletter (in PDF format) on the chapter's website.



AUDUBON SOCIETY

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 • Mercer • Shelby • and Van Wert Counties in Ohio  
 P.O. Box 5648 Lima , Ohio 45802-5648

**Jan/Feb 2010 Newsletter**  
**Remember the BIRDSEED SALE FEB. 6th!**

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**FALL FUNDRAISING RESULTS**

FALL BIRDSEED SALE. Anne Smedley reports that 11,637 pounds of food, plus ears of corn, for our feathered friends were sold and that the sale raised \$2008.99 (including \$411.25 in donations). The Society thanks those who purchased seed, DeHaven Home and Garden Showplace for providing both Findlay and Lima store locations for the sale and for all the other great backup support, and Northland Quick Print for printing the sale fliers. Many thanks are extended to the volunteers who picked up and distributed seed in their communities, made the posters, prepared mailing labels and mailed fliers, waited on customers, answered questions, and toted those heavy bags: Dick Carpenter (Ada); George Bilbrey (Delphos); Don & Mary Rosenbeck (Jackson Center); Bill Askins, Bob & Carol Bertrand, John Daley, Bill Light, Tom Sciranka, Anne & Jason Smedley, Carol Wright (Lima); Bill Angel (St. Marys).

**AUDUBON ADVENTURES TEACHER ALERT**

At the time your kit was packed and shipped, the Pennies for the Planet poster-guide and student newsletters were on back order. A call to the Audubon Adventures office elicited information that the material will be shipped after the first of the year, but no date was specified.

**PRESIDENT'S CHAPTER NOTES.....**We welcome Dianne Knipp (Wapakoneta) as our new Fight Patterns editor.....TMAS board meeting, Tuesday, January 26, 7:00pm, Market Street Presbyterian Church.....The eleven field trippers who visited the new Grange Insurance Audubon Center in Columbus on Oct. 26 were impressed by the environmental aspects of the building. However, the building's interior needs some hands-on exhibits and additional displays to attract and hold the interest of the general public.....The chapter's annual appeal letter was mailed December 14. It was not mailed to Audubon Adventure teachers, student members, organizational members, or those who have recently made thoughtful monetary donations. CORRECTION: The year in the last line of paragraph five in the annual appeal letter should read 2010.

**CAMP MYEERAH WILDLIFE HABITAT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Several months ago your board discussed the possibility of undertaking a long-range program to improve the quality of the wildlife habitat at Camp Myeerah in Logan County. An Important Bird Area (IBA), Camp Myeerah is one of six IBA's in Tri-Moraine's eight-county service area. This 500+acre-property, owned by the Girl Scouts, is the site of the chapter's annual Environmental Education Weekend (EEW) each May. Tri-Moraine nominated Camp Myeerah for Important Bird Area status. The IBA is exhibiting severe problems with a number of invasive plant species including autumn olive, bush honeysuckles, and multiflora rose.

Don Rosenbeck, TMAS past president and EEW co-chair, agreed to spearhead this program given the go-ahead by the Girl Scouts. Permission was granted to put together a sustainable land management plan for CM. In late August, chapter members and Girl Scout personnel toured the property with Service Forester Steve McGinnis to evaluate both problems and possible solutions. In September, the search was on for volunteers and included a letter sent to all Audubon members in Logan County. On Oct. 17, a small band of volunteers tackled wild grape vines decimating a pine grove and autumn olive shrubs/small trees. On Nov. 2, chapter members and Girl Scout personnel toured the property with Mike Retterer from the Natural Resource Conservation Service (ODNR-division of Wildlife and Pheasants Forever) to evaluate the property from a more habitat-centered perspective. Enthusiasm was high and ideas were percolating all over the place. On December 16, your chapter was represented by Don Rosenbeck, Carol Bertrand, Conservation Chair Dr. Eric Juterbock, and Dr. Jackie Augustine at a meeting at the Girl Scout Lima Regional Office to discuss the possibility of a grant to give this project a big boost in 2010.

As the program progresses there is a need for volunteers. If you can volunteer, contact Don Rosenbeck at 937/596-5330 (Jackson Center) or [dmrosenbeck@gmail.com](mailto:dmrosenbeck@gmail.com) for more information, or if you can help. Volunteers can be then be contacted as needed.