



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

# Flight Patterns

## Newsletter of the Tri-Moraine Audubon Society

Fall 2012

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

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Eric Broughton  
419.999.1987

#### Vice-President

Position  
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John Daley

#### Secretary

Candy Newland  
419.991.3152

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##### Large

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419.757.3461  
Anne Smedley  
419.222.3271

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Dr. Jackie Augustine  
567.712.4155

#### Ed/Publicity

Carol Bertrand  
419.227.9231

#### Ottawa River

#### Coalition Rep.

Dr. Leslie Riley  
509.432.4834

#### Membership

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419.339.9751

#### Conservation

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419.995.8360

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419.738.6539

#### Webmaster

Michael  
Wildermuth

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419.227.9231

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## CALENDAR

**TRI-MORAINE'S 2012-13 EVENING PROGRAM MEETINGS** are scheduled the first Tuesday of the month, September through November and January through May. Meetings are held in the Visitor/Student Services Center, 3900 Campus Dr., OSU-Lima. (Enter 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 cancelations will be posted on WLIO(NBC/channel35) and WOHL(FOX/channel 25).

Program Meeting  
September 4  
7:30pm



**CAMPING AND BIRDING IN NEW ZEALAND.** Tuesday, September 4, 2012, 7:30pm. TMAS charter members Bill and Jackie Light will share their adventure trek to New Zealand. Bill and Jackie have been active in local environmental education and preservation projects for over thirty years. The Lights and former members, Nelson and Jan Moore, spent five weeks in a rental car touring, exploring, birding, and camping through a nature lovers paradise. This presentation will include excellent photography and narration as we kick-off the first program meeting of the year.

Field Trip  
September 8  
9:00am depart



The Charity A. Krueger Farm Discovery Center was dedicated on May 10, 2012.

**AULLWOOD AUDUBON FARM DISCOVERY CENTER & PRAIRIE,** Saturday, September 8, 2012. Dayton's Aullwood Audubon Center, (National Audubon Society) programming promotes environmental education, the protection of birds/other wildlife, and establishing habitats on which they depend. Aullwood, a 200-acre sanctuary, includes 6 miles of hiking trails winding through prairie, forests, ponds, farmland, and meadows. During our visit we will check out the new Aullwood Farm Charity A. Krueger Discovery Center and Prairie and wander along some of the trails. You can find more information at [www.aullwood.center.audubon.org](http://www.aullwood.center.audubon.org). We will meet in the Eastgate Shopping Center parking lot behind Wendy's on SR 309, Lima at 9:00am and carpool to/from. Admission: \$4-adults, \$2-children 2-18, children under 2-free. **Members of the NAS receive free admission with membership card.** Dress for the weather. We will stop at a fast food restaurant on the way home for lunch. Contact Eric Broughton at 419.999.1987 for additional information.

Board Meeting  
September 25  
7:00pm

**TMAS BOARD MEETING,** Tuesday, September 25, 2012, 7pm. All are welcome to attend TMAS board meetings held at the Visitor/Student Services Center, 3900 Campus Dr., OSU-Lima Campus.

Program Meeting  
October 2  
7:30pm



**THE WORLD OF NATIVE PLANTS AND BIRDS,** Tuesday, October 2, 2012, 7pm. Tom Hissong, Education Coordinator at the Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm, will present a colorful PowerPoint program on the fascinating relationships between native plants and birds and how often one group could not exist without the other. Hissong is well known for his expertise as an avid ornithology instructor/bird watcher. Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm located in Dayton has recently celebrated its fifty-fifth anniversary. Do not miss this presentation, it promises to be a great one!

Field trip  
October 8  
9:00am depart



**QUARRY FARM NATURE PRESERVE AND CONSERVATION FARM,** Saturday, October 8, 2012. This is a wonderful nature area privately owned and operated in Putnam County located nearly halfway between the villages of Ottawa and Pandora. There are woods and wetlands that house birds, reptiles, dragonflies, amphibians and rare plants. Our group will participate in a special workshop there entitled "Wetland Wonderland"- a study of the water, plants and animals of a large wetland and vernal pools. For more information, visit their website at [www.thequarryfarm.com](http://www.thequarryfarm.com). Meet in the Eastgate Shopping Center parking lot behind Wendy's on SR 309, Lima at 9:00am. Dress for the weather and wear appropriate footwear. We will carpool back to Lima by lunchtime. Please contact Eric Broughton at 419.999.1987 for additional information.

October 13  
(new date for  
TMAS)  
Save this date  
Volunteers needed



**ANNUAL RECYCLE FUNDRAISER.** Saturday, October 13, 2012, will be our 19th year manning Wapakoneta's Drop-off Center. Volunteers work 8am until noon. The center is open to the public 9am until noon. TMAS receives the proceeds from all recyclables handled. Proceeds are dependent on the volume of materials handled (paid by pound) and market conditions. Aluminum cans pay best. Wapakoneta accepts #1, #2, #3, #5, and #7 plastics. *No lids. No oil containers or pesticide bottles.* Leave the labels on clean tin cans. Also accepted are computers, modems, printers, other computer components strings of outdoor/ indoor decorative lights (bulbs included), and shoes (Each pair tied together, no heels over 2 inches, and no boots).

Twenty-five volunteers are needed to sort items and unload vehicles because there is now more vehicle traffic and sorters work on an adjustable feed conveyer belt. For additional information (volunteer instruction sheet, list of acceptable items, etc.) and to volunteer your help, call Bob Bertrand at 419.227.9231.

Program Meeting  
November 6  
7:30pm



**IN OHIO'S BACKYARD: SPIDERS,** Tuesday, November 6, 2012, 7:30pm. Join Dr. Rich Bradley, Associate Professor, EEO Biology, OSU as he shares information about Ohio spiders. Dr. Bradley is the author of *In Ohio's Backyard: Spiders* published by the Ohio Biological Survey and maintains the "Spiders of Ohio" website. Dr. Bradley specializes in population biology and biodiversity of arachnids, primarily spiders and scorpions. This program is co-sponsored by JAMPD and TMAS. (Check JAMPD's programming for other great fall programs, some listed below calendar).

Field Trip  
November 17  
10:00am



**TECUMSEH NATURAL AREA,** OSU-Lima/Rhodes Campus, Saturday, November 17, 2012. The wooded area around campus is one of the largest and most pristine wooded areas remaining in Allen County with approximately 200 acres of forest. The campus wood land represents a small segment of the original forest that used to cover this area and is thus part of Ohio's biological heritage. While primarily a beech/maple forest, there are also massive oaks and sycamore trees. There are trails, ponds, and a few other surprises in this wood land. We will meet on campus at 10:00am in front of Galvin Hall. Dress for the weather and wear appropriate footwear. Please contact Eric Broughton at 419.999.1987 for additional information.

Bird Seed Sale  
November 3  
9am-4pm



**ANNUAL FALL BIRDSEED SALE.** Saturday, November 3, 2012, 9am-4pm, DeHaven Home & Garden Center in Findlay and 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 also be available at both DeHaven locations, and posted on the chapters' website or Facebook page. Fliers list items and sizes available, bird eating preferences, and additional order information. For answers to any questions you might have, 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. Volunteers are needed to help those picking up birdseed. Call Bob Bertrand at 419.227.9231 (Lima) if you can help.

Board Meeting  
November 27  
7:00pm

**TMAS BOARD MEETING,** Tuesday, November 27, 2012, 7pm. All are welcome to attend TMAS board meetings held at the Visitor/Student Services Center, 3900 Campus Dr., OSU-Lima Campus.

December 15 & 16  
Christmas Bird  
Count (CBC)  
Save these dates

**CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT,** Saturday, December 15, 2012, Indian Lake; Sunday, December 16, 2012 Grand Lake St. Marys. To sign up for the count (or any additional information), please contact Eric Juterbock 419.995.8360 day, 937.468.2606 evening, [juterbock.1@osu.edu](mailto:juterbock.1@osu.edu) (email), or, surface mail at 4240 Campus Drive, Lima, OH 45804. More details will be published in the next newsletter.

January 3  
Save this date

**POTLUCK DINNER AND SLIDE SAFARI** (starts at 6:30pm). This is a fun evening for all ages...enjoy a program highlighting the photography of our members. (Samples below).



**OUTDOOR OPPORTUNITIES** abound with the *Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District*. Call the JAMPD office at 419-221-1232 or visit [www.jampd.com](http://www.jampd.com) for additional information.

Support the JAMPD at their 2012 **Apple Festival** on Sept. 29 and 30 at the Allen County Farm Park. The 2012 **Walking Through Autumn** hiking series is a great opportunity to exercise, learn more about nature, and explore our area JAMPD parks. Dress for the weather and bring your sense of adventure as you go exploring. All hikes start at 9 a.m. on Saturday: Sept 15 - Kendrick Woods; Sept 22 - Heritage Park; Sept 29 - Lippincott Bird Sanctuary; Oct 6 - Deep Cut; Oct 13 - Ottawa Metro Park; Oct 20 - Fort Amanda Park; Oct 27 - McLean Teddy Bear Park; and Nov 3 - Allen County Farm Park.

**WATCH THOSE RENEWAL NOTICES FROM NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY.** When you receive your renewal notices from the National Audubon Society it does not include your membership expiration date. You can find your expiration date by looking in the upper right-hand corner of the mailing label on this newsletter (e.g., 06/12). This means that a dual National/Chapter membership expires June 30, 2012. If you want to pay your membership way ahead, that's your call, but the chapter is receiving membership dates extending out to 2019. Any membership concerns regarding your expiration date, the spelling of your name, address change, or new e-mail provider? Contact Bill Askins, chapter membership database chair at 419.339.9751 or [waskins@woh.rr.com](mailto:waskins@woh.rr.com).

## CAMP MYEERAH ALERT!

Tri-Moraine is fortunate that one of our board members is a local Girl Scout leader. On July 12 she received an email notifying her about an August 2 town hall meeting at Woodhaven Program Center in Lima concerning an unsolicited offer to purchase the 485-acre Camp Myeerah. The Girl Scouts of Western Ohio note "that the Board has not made a decision to sell Camp Myeerah but is merely taking the offer into consideration." A GS website posting dated 7/23/12 reads ". . . the proposal is set to be voted on at the September 2012 Board meeting." The proposed purchaser has not been announced pending the Board's decision regarding the proposal, but the purchase is for personal use (?). A website posting and a town hall meeting handout dated 7/16/12 states that at its June 2011 meeting "the Board accepted a recommendation that Tier 3 camps will be sold or investigated for other options for ownership, management, or use of the camp." Tri-Moraine made a presentation at the August 2 town hall meeting. We have received no response from the Girl Scouts.

On the GS website under "Three Camp Tiers", it states that Tier 3 camps have low use and significant limitations that restrict their use. Camp Myeerah is designated a Tier 3 camp for many reasons, four follow. 1) Low usage is easily explained due to the total lack of program offerings available at the camp. Even without programming, GS camper days increased by over 7% from 2010 to 2011. Only one-day events, such as an Earth Day celebration, have been permitted the past few years. For this reason the "cost per camper day" is high. 2) "Limited program features (primarily lake/wetlands area)." Any Tri-Moraine members who have been to Camp Myeerah for our annual Environmental Education Weekend know the infinite variety and depth of the programs available to participants of all ages. 3) "Capacity not needed to serve Girl Scouts." Camp Myeerah sure is needed by Girl Scouts in this region. Camping is a core value of GS and there's no camping (the tent variety) at Lima's Woodhaven Program Center. 4) "Remote location." Camp Myeerah is located on SR 540 off US 33 easily accessed by scouts in this area. For additional GS information about Camp Myeerah: [www.girlscoutsofwesternohio.org](http://www.girlscoutsofwesternohio.org). For comments and questions about this decision email- [council@girlscoutsofwesternohio.org](mailto:council@girlscoutsofwesternohio.org); call- 513.489.1025 (Cincinnati) or 1.800.537.6241, or write- Girl Scouts of Western Ohio, 4930 Cornell Road, Cincinnati, OH 45242-1804.

The GS state that "while the proposed offer does not guarantee how the facility would be used in the future, the potential buyer has noted interest in keeping the facility 'as is' as a natural area. In addition, there are some limitations on usage and potential development due to the existence of a conservation easement affecting a large portion of the facility."

Tri-Moraine owns the conservation easement on the property concerned. We have a long association with the GS. Girl Scouts of Appleseed Ridge, Inc. merged with Girl Scouts of Western Ohio effective January 1, 2008. Camp Myeerah is one of six Important Bird Areas in our service area and we are engaged in habitat restoration involving 102.5 acres on the property (90 acres of grasslands and a 12.5-acre pollinator patch for butterflies and hummingbirds). To read the chapter's take on the situation go to the chapter's website ([www.tri-moraineaudubon.org](http://www.tri-moraineaudubon.org)) or Facebook (Tri-Moraine Audubon Society-with cardinal logo where you can click on the "Like" button and you'll automatically receive any information updates). For a paper copy of the Chapter's August 2 presentation call 419.227.9231. Copies will also be available at the September program meeting.



Lake MacDonall at Myeerah



Myeerah Lodge



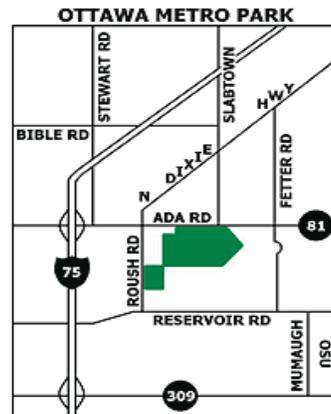
Conestoga wagons: popular with campers

Camp Myeerah, located approximately 8 miles north east of Bellefontaine, has a mix of open grassy fields and forest-like areas perfect for hiking and exploring or just to spend a relaxing day in the wilderness.

Camp Myeerah is designated an Important Bird Area and with Tri-Moraine help has created a nature wetlands walk for bird and animal discovery located on the north side of the camp. (Photos and information taken from Girl Scouts of Western Ohio website).

**Address Service  
Requested**

The annual Summer Picnic was held on July 3, 2012 at the Ottawa Metro Park. Members and guests shared a wonderful potluck meal. After dinner a program by TMAS member and JAMPD volunteer, Phil Valentine, highlighted butterflies and habitat of this general area. Members enjoyed the walking trails around Lima Lake, fishing, or other park amenities before and after the meeting.



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.** Fall is my favorite time of year for many reasons. I am looking forward to cooler temperatures this fall after this past very hot summer. I'm also looking forward to the many excellent programs, field trips, and activities that have been planned and organized for all of you. Watching the National Geographic channel is no substitute for talking with an expert and asking questions or getting out and walking through the woods with all the sights, sounds and smells of nature. If you've never attended an Audubon event because you are new to the area or never had the time before, this is a great time to come to a program meeting or a field trip. I must confess that my enjoyment of nature is equally matched by my enjoyment of the wonderful people who are involved in this great Audubon chapter. I suppose sitting at home has become so easy and convenient that we don't realize the rewards of getting out and sharing time with other nature lovers. It is not uncommon to have local professors, expert photographers, experienced bird banders and monitors, and many other amateur naturalists at one of our monthly program meetings sharing sightings, experiences, and their wisdom with the rest of the group. You will leave these program meetings smiling, informed, and well fed. The field trips involve a little more walking, but are just as fun and informative. (While there are many things I am looking forward to this fall, I must admit there is one event that will take place that has me just a little worried...My daughter, Brianna, will be getting her driver's license this fall. Fair warning!) I do hope you'll get out of the house a little more and join us at a meeting or fieldtrip. Be alert! I may even have a riddle or two for you. Eric B.



You can now find Tri-Moraine Audubon Society information on Facebook. Look for information about field trips, important bird sightings, and upcoming events. Check out the information and become a Facebook friend. Be sure to click the "LIKE" button for TMAS updates as they occur. Look for the TMAS cardinal logo.

Have you checked out our Facebook page? Did you know you can post your own special bird and nature photos? Did you enjoy a past program meeting? Be sure to tell us on Facebook how much you enjoyed a field trip or program meeting. Your comments will guide programming in the future and it is more interesting when we have a variety of postings. Please give it a try and share some of your favorite photos.