



Flight Patterns

www.tri-moraineaudubon.org

Fall 2017

Serving Allen, Auglaize,
Hancock, Hardin, Logan,
Mercer, Shelby, and Van
Wert counties

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Volunteer Opportunities...

Annual Recycle Fundraiser—Saturday, October 14 at the Wapakoneta Drop-off Center. Twenty-five volunteers are needed to sort and unload items from 8 a.m. to 12-noon. The Center is open to the public from 9-12-noon. TMAS receives the proceeds from all recyclables handled and are dependent on the volume of aluminum cans and market conditions. Aluminum cans, #1, #2, #3, #5 and #7 plastics to tin cans and computer components are accepted. Items are sorted on an adjustable-feed conveyor belt. This is our 24th year of involvement. For further information and to volunteer please contact Bob or Carol Bertrand at 419.227.9231.

Fall Birdseed Sale— Our annual fall Birdseed sale will be held in November but the location is still undetermined. **Location will be in different from previous years.** Watch for our sales flier, mailed in October for further info. Again volunteers are needed Friday or Saturday to help with this event; its proceeds are used to fund local conservation and education programs. Call Bob Bertrand at 419.227.9231 to volunteer. See page 3.

TMAS BOARD MEETINGS will be held September 26 and November 28 at 7 p.m. They are held in the Visitor/Student Center, 3900 Campus Drive, OSU-Lima Campus. All are welcome to attend the meetings.

UPCOMING PROGRAM MEETINGS—September 5, Dr. David Zuwerink, University of Northwestern Ohio, will present **People and Rivers:** How people influence aquatic life in Dug Run on the UNOH campus. See page 2 for details.

October 3, Marquita Tillotson, education coordinator at Nature's Nursery, will give a presentation on **Whooo's Spooky?** She will discuss the natural history of animals she will be showing. More information on page 2.

November 7, Jim McCormac on A Romp Through Ohio's Flora and Fauna. A wander through Ohio's varied habitats with visits to flora and fauna great and small. We'll look at well-known plants and animals, and obscure species that few have heard of or encountered. Details, page 2.

THE CONCERTS of LATE SUMMER

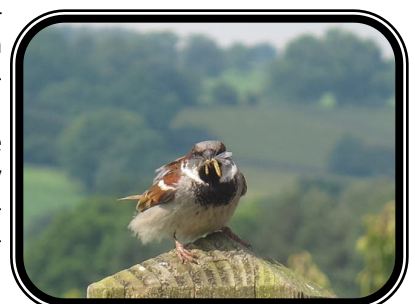
The symphony's string sections are sending out their notes, putting on a musical show that happens every year in the heat of summer and early fall. Instead of violin strings and orchestra pits the music comes from voices, legs and wings. Katydid, field crickets, tree crickets, tree frogs, locusts and various other less common creatures are the musicians. Their chirping, trilling and calling can fill the warm, late evenings with crescendos reaching fevered pitches. Their maestro, temperature, humidity, season and the time of day, determines the pitch, the length of playtime and whether it's played allegretto or largo. We become so accustomed to the show we barely hear it. But if you listen, the day and night is filled with the sounds of the creature orchestra.

One late summer evening years ago my city-dwelling sister was visiting when she suddenly asked, "What is that noise?" I listened and returned, "What noise?" "That noise," she replied. "What noise," I asked again. It took me a few before I realized she was talking about the cacophony of sound from all the wing tuning, leg rubbing insects that serenade us from late summer to fall.

To most people "bugs" are a nuisance, pests, even something to be frightened of, but usually they have spent little time getting to know these creatures whose populations far exceed our own. They are often beneficial, always misunderstood if they invade our territory and generally maligned.

Our birds rely heavily on these populations. For instance our Northern Cardinal's diet consists of 61 percent insects in the spring months and over 40 percent in the summer months, whereas the Scarlet Tanager's diet is almost all insects, as is the Yellow Shafted Flicker. Our swallows are almost entirely insect eating, capturing almost all their food on the wing. Most birds eat some insects, although our more common English Sparrow eats few insects, less than 10 percent of its diet.

The chorus begins with soft sounds like leaves trembling in the wind, the pine boughs sighing in the breeze, birds softly tweeting as they settle down for the night, then the insects begin tuning their instruments for the show of shows. Do you hear the tap of the maestro's baton? The show is on schedule. Let the music begin!



UPCOMING PROGRAM MEETINGS...

People and Rivers:*

Tuesday, September 5 at 7:30 p.m. OSU Visitor/Student Center

This program with Dr. David Zuwerink shows how people influence aquatic life in Dug Run on the University of Northwestern Ohio campus. Dug Run is a tributary of the Ottawa River. It flows through the UNOH campus with a more urban setting on the East side and more suburban setting on the West side. Discussion will center on the populations of fish and macroinvertebrates, differences between each side of campus, and changes that have been observed.

Dr. Zuwerink grew up in Michigan, but has travelled to many places. He was in the Peace Corps in Paraguay where he worked with farmers on agroforestry systems and beekeeping. He has also worked on many avian research projects for various organizations. He has been teaching for 10 years, and has been at UNOH for 6 years.



A Romp through Ohio’s Flora and Fauna *

Tuesday, November 7 at 7:30 p.m. , OSU Visitor/Student Center

This program will be a pictorial adventure presented by Jim McCormac and will let us wander through Ohio’s varied habitats with visits to flora and fauna great and small. We’ll look at well-known plants and animals, and obscure species that few have heard of or encountered. The importance of ALL the cogs of the ecological wheel, and the need to protect everything will be shown.

Jim worked for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for 31 years as a botanist, and later specialized in wildlife diversity projects, especially involving birds. He has authored or coauthored six books, including “Birds of Ohio” (Lone Pine 2004); and “Wild Ohio: The Best of Our Natural Heritage” (Kent State University Press 2009). The latter won the 2010 Ohioana Book award. He is a coauthor of the “Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas II” book. Jim writes a column, “Nature,” for the Columbus Dispatch, and regularly publishes a natural history blog. He has written numerous articles and delivered hundreds of presentations throughout the eastern United States. He was named 2015 Conservation Communicator of the Year by the Ohio League of Sportsmen. Jim is an avid photographer, shooting a range of natural history subjects. He has had hundreds of photos published in various forums.

2018 Program Meetings...

January 2: Tri-Moraine Audubon Society members Photo Safari and Potluck

February 6: Eric Juterbock, Ohio State-Lima: Amphibians of the Appalachians

March 6: Barb Snyder, Master Gardener: The Buzz About Native Bees*

April 3: Family Night: Fun nature-related games and prizes for members of all ages.*

May 1: Becky Mitchell, Allen County Soil and Water Conservation District: Best Management Practices to Improve Soil and Water Resources in Allen County*

All held in the Visitor/Student Center, on Campus Drive, OSU-Lima Campus.

* Co-Sponsored by Johnny Appleseed Metro Park District.

Submissions by Jackie Augustine



Whooo’s spooky? *

Tuesday, October 3 at 7:30 in OSU Visitor/Student Center

Presented by Marquita Tillotson, who is the education coordinator at Nature’s Nursery, she will speak about Nature’s Nursery Center for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation Education and its two-fold mission to provide medical care to injured, orphaned or ailing wild animals and to provide educational opportunities about the natural world. She will describe how Nature’s Nursery helps the community, and then discuss the natural history of all the animals she will show that evening. She will bring an owl and several other ‘mystery’ animals.



Nature’s Nursery is nonprofit wildlife rehabilitation center that also focuses on conservation education. They have been around for 28 years, and help (on average) 2,500 each year.

FIELD TRIPS PLANNED...

New Field Trip Chair Dan Hodges has set up some field trips you may want to join. **Saturday, September 16 at 1:30 p.m.** will be an Important Bird Area hike to Kendrick Woods, 971 Defiance Trail, Spencerville, Ohio. IBA denotes exactly what you would think, a location that is critical to the health and survival of our avian friends.

Kendrick woods is one of only a handful of IBAs in west-central Ohio, and we are proud to have it. Join TMAS and Johnny Appleseed Metro Park District as we unveil the long-awaited IBA designation and take a hike in these fantastic woods. Please dress for weather and ground conditions.



Saturday, October 14 at 1:30 p.m. in Lawrence Woods at 13278 County Road 190, Kenton, Ohio. Join us as we travel to Lawrence Woods a 1,000 acre forest in Hardin County known for large, mature trees in swamp forests.

We will carpool for the 45-minute drive and explore the one-mile boardwalk. Dress for the weather and meet to carpool behind Wendy’s in Lima’s Eastgate Mall parking lot on State Route 309, Lima. We should return about 4:30 p.m. This program is co-sponsored by the JAMPD. Submitted by Dan Hodges



Annual Fall Bird Seed Sale...

The Fall Birdseed Sale will once again be held in early November and we are excited about the new pick-up location. Details will be outlined in the sale flier when the location is confirmed.

Times and dates and the new location will be determined and sent in October !!!!!

Walk-ins are welcome, but prepaid orders ensure stock on sale day and can be picked up from volunteers at additional locations.

Sale fliers will be mailed in October to the previous years’ purchasers and copies are available on the chapter’s website and Facebook page. Date and location will be outlined in the sale flier. This is one of our biggest fund raisers, so we need your help.

If you would like a sale flier or have questions contact Anne at 419-222.3271. TMAS prices are competitive and the sale is open to the public.

All proceeds are used to fund local conservation and education programs. Volunteers are needed to help either Friday for prepaid orders or Saturday at our new location. Call Bob Bertrand at 419.227.9231 to volunteer.

IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS...Bird Life International initiated the IBA concept in mid-1980s. It saves habitat for birds and focuses our attention on the areas. The Ohio IBA program began in 1999. Our chapter dedicated the St. Marys River-Grand Lake St Marys IBA in May of 2009. The river traverses through Mercer and Van Wert counties. It includes the river corridor and lake, the St. Marys Fish Hatchery and the Mercer Wildlife Area on the west. It provides habitat for mixed bird species. There are six IBAs in Tri-Moraine’s eight-county area: Kendrick Woods and Metzger/Ferguson Reservoirs (Allen), Lawrence Woods (Hardin), McAfee Tree Farm (Mercer), Myeerah Nature Preserve (Logan) and St. Marys River-Grand Lake St Marys (Auglaize, Mercer, Van Wert).

Don’t Forget!! CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS...

Christmas Bird Counts will be held December 16th at Indian Lake area and December 17th for Grand Lake St. Marys area This is an important way to see the varieties of birds in our area. For additional information you can contact Eric Juterbock at 216.905.8909 or online at juterbock.1osu.edu Further details will be in our December newsletter.

AUDUBON ADVENTURES REACHING CHILDREN...

Tammy Campbell, Van Wert SWCD education coordinator, has sent a thank you to TMAS for providing Critter Construction for the Delphos Library Children’s Program. Two sessions of the Nature Hour activity provided booklets for 80 participants, kindergarten through fifth grade. She reported the children loved the take-home materials and enhanced hands-on activities. Submitted by Jennifer Waltz



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Fall 2017 Newsletter

November Bird Seed Sale

Address Service Requested

← President's Message... →

President's message:

We are very excited to start another program year providing educational and informative programs for our meetings beginning September 5. Thank you to our Program Chairperson Jackie Augustine, and other TMAS members for arranging such a great line-up of educators and experts. A highlight of the program year will be November 7 with author and naturalist, Jim McCormac. Jim hosts a popular Facebook blog and is an active writer and photographer. In February our board member, Dr. Eric Juterbock, will present a glimpse of his work on Appalachian salamanders highlighted by his outstanding photographic skills. Next year we will host a Family Night (April 3, 2018) full of nature related games and prizes...be sure to bring the entire family for this program...and keep the date open!

The TMAS board recently approved funds for an informative nature ID sign at Tecumseh Natural Area on the OSU-Lima Campus. OSU staff and students are developing a Prairie Restoration site at the SE corner of Mumaugh and Reservoir Rds. (find gravel parking lot and site map on line). Another contribution of note was to the Gilliland Nature Sanctuary, Franklin Twp. Greenspace Committee, Mercer Co., OH for habitat development in their prairie fields. TMAS contributes to endeavors that protect, develop and maintain good land and wildlife management in our IBAs. We appreciate your commitment to all projects and when you return your Annual Appeal donation, know it is used 100% for Important Bird Areas in our region.

As part of our year-long celebration of TMAS's 40th Anniversary, on September 16 at 1:30 p.m. we will be gathering at Kendrick Woods-JAMPD, which is a designated IBA, to dedicate a sign and highlight TMAS's commitment to the conservation of bird populations. Following the short ceremony to dedicate the IBA, we will explore the woodland trail. Be sure to meet new board member, Dan Hodges, wearing two hats, JAMPD and TMAS....he will be leading the woodland tour and take us on a wonderful Saturday afternoon walk.

Enjoy the benefits of TMAS membership by attending a field trip or program offered this fall. Several will be held in cooperation with Johnny Appleseed Metro Park District which helps us stretch our resources to provide quality programs.

Until the next time we meet, Good birding to you, Dianne

