

May 7-16 **THE BIGGEST WEEK IN AMERICAN BIRDING**, Magee Marsh/Crane Creek/Ottawa NWR Region of Northwest Ohio (Lake Erie Marsh Region) celebrates the Warbler Capitol of the World during the peak of spring migration. The week's activities include a variety of programs and workshops; most are free. For more information visit www.biggestweekinamericanbirding.com or call 419-898-4070. TMAS financially supports Black Swamp Bird Observatory, a sponsor of this festival. TMAS' Big Birding Day is usually planned for this week. More later.

HANDCOCK COUNTY NATURALISTS PROGRAMS AND EVENTS. This group holds monthly program meetings the 2nd Thursday of the month, September through May, at 7:30pm 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 or Jill Taber, program chair, at 419-423-2415 or mysilvervette@sbcglobal.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 at 419-749-2999 or wlwval@verizon.net or Jean Perchalski, publicity chair, at 419-232-4108, 419-231-0495 (cell) or jeperch@roadrunner.com.

31st ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL WEEKEND

April 30-May 2, 2010

Tri-Moraine Audubon Society will hold its 31st annual Environmental Education Weekend at Camp Myeerah, SR 540 near Bellefontaine on April 30th through May 2nd. This weekend provides an opportunity to learn about and experience nature in a truly unique environmental setting. Camp Myeerah is comprised of nearly 500 acres of diverse habitat with meadows, lakes, streams and woodland. Camp Myeerah is one of 66 sites in Ohio which has been designated as an Important Bird Area (IBA). www.audubon.org/chapter/oh/oh/ibas.html

The education programs offered will include hands-on opportunities to learn and participate in field trips on birdwatching, wildflowers, stream/pond ecology, woody plants and other nature related programs. Timed to coincide with the spring migration of neotropical migrant warblers and the spring wildflowers, the weekend will provide a truly unique family oriented educational opportunity!

The weekend begins with registration starting at 5:00 PM on Friday, April 30th and ends on Sunday afternoon, May 2nd. All meals are provided for Saturday and Sunday. Camping options include **tree houses** which sleep 6 people and have sleeping pads on the floor, **platform tents** which have sleeping pads for 4, and **covered wagons** which have sleeping pads for 5. You may also bring your **own tent** to pitch near a small pond. **Dormitory accommodations** are available, if you prefer the option of a heated building with full restroom facilities.

Due to insurance considerations, this opportunity is **available for National Audubon members (or TMAS local Supporting members) and their immediate families only**. For information on joining the Audubon Society, please see the membership form on the EEW registration sheet or contact Bill Askins at waskins@woh.rr.com or 419-339-9751.

To view photo gallery of previous weekends, visit the Environmental Education Weekend Photo Gallery on Tri-Moraine Audubon's website at www.tri-moraineaudubon.org. For further information concerning the weekend contact either Don Rosenbeck at dmrosenbeck@gmail.com or Eric Broughton at ebroughton@woh.rr.com. Information is also available by writing Tri-Moraine Audubon Society, PO Box 5648, Lima, OH 45802-5648.

WAPAKONETA RECYCLE. On September 12th, 24 volunteers worked the chapter's annual Saturday morning stint at Wapakoneta's recycling facility. Thanks to the following for unloading vehicles of various recyclables and sorting all that plastic: Fern & Wayne Albertson (Ada); Mary Neeley (Alger); Don & Mary Rosenbeck (Jackson Center); Bob & Carol Bertrand, Rita & Tom Bitler, Brianna & Eric Broughton, Gino DiMattia, Diane Dorley, Dave & Steven Gratz, Mary Hofstetter, Lois Risser, Jason Smedley, Wayne Thelen (Lima); Beth Seibert (Spencerville); Mike & Rita Borges, Pam Doecker, and Dianne Knipp (Wapakoneta). Special thanks to Dianne Knipp for rounding up additional volunteers and the 4 Habitat for Humanity - Lima Area volunteers recruited by Gino DiMattia. Proceeds were divided by number of hours worked per volunteer. Total proceeds were \$450.32 with \$371.51 going to TMAS and \$78.81 to Habitat for Humanity. There wasn't as much plastic to sort (short pickup week), traffic was on the light side, and prices were down (PETE-2 Liter down 6¢ lb., HDPE-Milk down 5¢ lb., HDPE Color down 8¢ lb., and Alum. cans down 42¢ lb.). The market prices fluctuate.

SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATION

AUDUBON ADVENTURES for 2009-2010

Audubon Adventures (AA) is a National Audubon Society program that publishes educational materials about birds, wildlife, and their habitats for students in grades 3-6. These full-color materials include a classroom resource manual for the teacher and unit newspapers for each student. This year's edition is titled "Action for Planet Earth" and explores earth science topics from a conservation perspective. The focus is on energy, water, habitats, and getting involved in community projects for the good of the planet, the community, and individuals. AA integrates reading with science and other core disciplines and meets national and Ohio standards for science and language arts. Creative teachers can use AA in the classroom in myriad ways. TMAS has supported the AA program since its inception in 1984.

Tri-Moraine ordered 51 AA classroom resource kits for the 2009-2010 school year. We thank the following for their contributions in support of this outstanding program: Ann Beat - AA teacher, St. Girard School, Lima; Benjamin Logan Local School District, Logan County; Celina City School District, Mercer County; and the Walter James "Jim" Wright Memorial Fund in support of Allen County classrooms.

Participating school districts are listed by county -- ALLEN: Bluffton EVSD (3 grade 3 classrooms); Elida LSD (4 grade 4 classrooms, 5th grade students, 4 grade 6 classrooms); Lima CSD - Heritage ES (1 grade 3 classroom), Lima South MS (science magnet students); St. Gerard School, Lima (3rd grade students); St. Rose School, Lima (5th and 6th grade students); Perry LSD (3 grade 4 classrooms, grades 3-6 students in the enrichment program); Shawnee LSD (3rd and 4th grade students); Spencerville LSD (grades 3-6 students in the enrichment program) -- AUGLAIZE: Wapakoneta CSD - Northridge ES (2 grade 4 classrooms) -- LOGAN: Benjamin Logan LSD (4th grade students) -- MERCER: Celina East ES (4th grade students), Celina IS (6th grade students); Immaculate Conception School, Celina (grades 4-6 students). In addition, there are three Special Education teachers using AA in their upper-grade classrooms, one in the Ada EVSD in HARDIN County and 2 in the St. Marys CSD in AUGLAIZE County.

TRI-MORaine



AUDUBON SOCIETY

Serving Allen • Auglaize • Hancock • Hardin • Logan
• Mercer • Shelby • and Van Wert Counties in Ohio
P.O. Box 5648 Lima, OH 45802-5648
Mar/April 2010 Newsletter
Environmental Education Weekend Registration Form
Enclosed

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LIMA, OH
PERMIT NO. 153

Address Service Requested

PRESIDENT'S CHAPTER NOTES.....You'll want to mark the following three dates on your calendar. The Ottawa River Coalition's annual Good Friday fish fry will be held at the Allen County Fairgrounds on April 2 from 11 am to 6:30 pm. Watch area media or call 419-227-9231 for more details closer to the event date. Tri-Moraine is a member of the ORC. The annual membership picnic is set for Tuesday, July 6, in the Miami Shelter at Ottawa Metro Park, SR 81 just east of Marimor, Lima. The Tuesday, October 5, monthly program meeting will feature "Owls" by Jim McCormac. Jim is the avian specialist for the ODNR's Division of Wildlife and always gives a spectacular presentation.....On Saturday, January 23, Eric Broughton and I attended the reorganization of COAC (Council of Ohio Audubon Chapters) in Columbus at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center. There was a great deal accomplished and the Council is on its way to full activation.....TMAS board meeting, Tuesday, March 30, 7 pm, Market Street Presbyterian Church, Lima.....The official time for electing new officers and board members is the annual meeting in May preceding the monthly program meeting. Nominations are open for president (2-year term), secretary (2-year term), and member at large (3-year term). Submit nominations to Bill Light, nominations committee chair, at 419-991-8234, wjlight@wcoil.com, or via the chapter's mailing address. Nominations must be received no later than March 31. Prior consent of nominees is required. The slate will be presented at the April 5 program meeting.....For those of you who have never attended EEW, you might want to take a look at the "Environmental Education Weekend Photo Gallery" section on the chapter's website.....At the February program meeting, Jackie Light gave me some of the early TMAS newsletters including issue #1 dated July 1975. Thank you, Jackie!.....The Camp Myeerah Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program is moving ahead rapidly. In March or April, depending on weather conditions, the removal of various invasive species on about 90 acres will be followed by the reseeding of warm season prairie grasses and forbs. The project is a collaborative effort by the Girl Scouts of Western Ohio, US Fish and Wildlife, Tri-Moraine Audubon Society, and Pheasants Forever of Logan County. Volunteers are still needed. If you can help, contact Don Rosenbeck at 937/596-5330 (Jackson Center) or dmrosenbeck@gmail.com.....Carol Bertrand



Check out ODNR's website to learn more about the inaugural Division of Wildlife Legacy Stamp. Amateur photographer/TMAS member Russell Reynolds submitted his winning Baltimore Oriole photograph (at left) for this first stamp. TMAS is ordering stamps for sale at future meetings and events. Call Carol at 419-227-9231 for more info and stamp orders: cost is \$15 each. To preorder or to pay at program meetings, make checks payable to TMAS.

2009 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT RESULTS

Although the weather was far from promising as the TMAS crew arrived at McDonalds in St. Marys for the Grand Lake CBC on Saturday, 19 December 2009, we have seen worse. The temperature during the day ranged from 28-34 F, but the 7-12 mph winds, generally from the northeast, made it feel colder than that. Water was mostly frozen, skies were cloudy all day, and there was from 0 to 2 inches of snow on the ground, with flurries or light snow most of the day. There were 13 counters, in 5-6 groups: Curtis Gingerich and Timothy Schlabach (Belle Center); Don and Mary Rosenbeck (Jackson Center); Andrew and Jackie Augustine, and Michael Miracle (Lima); Allison Brady (New Bremen); Eric Juterbock [coordinator] (Rushsylvania); Bill Angel, Jill Bowers, and Frank Kuhlman (St. Marys); and M. L. (Doc) Stephenson (Wapakoneta). We spent 24.3 group hours in cars covering 277.2 miles, and 12.75 group hours on foot over 15.2 miles, between 0800 and 1730 hrs.

We recorded the following Grand Lake (GL) birds (new species or record high numbers for the last 21 years are bolded): **Double-crested Cormorant, 1**; Canada Goose, 2726; Mallard, 432; Hooded Merganser, 1; Ruddy Duck, 2; duck, sp(p)., 27; Great Blue Heron, 13; Bald Eagle, 3; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; *Accipiter*, sp., 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 16; hawk, sp., 1; Amer. Kestrel, 19; Ring-billed Gull, 37; Herring Gull, 20; gull, sp(p)., 309; Rock Pigeon, **307**; Mourning Dove, 256; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 9; Downy Woodpecker, 23; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; No. (Y-S) Flicker, 3; woodpecker, sp(p)., 3; Blue Jay, 27; Amer. Crow, 16; Horned Lark, **812**; Carolina Chickadee, 20; chickadee, sp(p)., 16; Tufted Titmouse, 14; White-breasted Nuthatch, 17; Brown Creeper, 8; Carolina Wren, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 4; No. Mockingbird, 1; **Gray Catbird, 1**; Cedar Waxwing, 8; Euro. Starling, **4207**; Amer. Tree Sparrow, 100; Song Sparrow, 19; Field Sparrow, 8; sparrow, sp(p)., 29; Dark-eyed (S-C) Junco, 110; Lapland Longspur, 30; No. Cardinal, 92; Brown-headed Cowbird, 2; House Finch, 13; Amer. Goldfinch, 42; and, House Sparrow, **1338**. This is 43 species and 11148 individuals.

There were 14 TMAS birders who met at McDonalds in Russell's Point at 0730 hrs on Sunday, 20 December 2009, for the Indian Lake CBC. Five counting groups included: Ralph Shively (Bellefontaine); Evelyn Prater (Harrod); David Bohla (Indian Lake); Don and Mary Rosenbeck (Jackson Center); Andrew and Jackie Augustine (Lima); Eric Juterbock [coordinator] (Rushsylvania); Bill and Sally Angel (St. Marys); and, Brianna Braun, Dianne Knipp, Troy Shively and M. L. (Doc) Stephenson (Wapakoneta). Winds were from the southwest at 4-9 mph, with temperatures 25-31 F. There was very little open water (ice covered most of the lake and much of small streams), 0-3 inches of snow on the ground, and it was mostly cloudy all day (briefly partly sunny in late afternoon). We covered 358 miles in 29 group hours by car, and 7.35 miles in 8 group hours on foot, between 8 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.

We recorded the following Indian Lake (IL) birds (conventions as above): Canada Goose, 1390; Mute Swan, 1; Amer. Black Duck, 4; Mallard, 411; **Common Merganser, 2**; duck, sp(p)., 40; Great Blue Heron, 1; Bald Eagle, 1; No. Harrier, 4; Cooper's Hawk, 5; Red-tailed Hawk, 33; Amer. Kestrel, 39; Amer. Coot, 2; Ring-billed Gull, 332; Rock Pigeon, 119; Mourning Dove, 628; E. Screech Owl, 1; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 37; Downy Woodpecker, 66; Hairy Woodpecker, 7; No. (Y-S) Flicker, 6; woodpecker, sp., 1; Blue Jay, 58; Amer. Crow, 103; Horned Lark, 755; Carolina Chickadee, 36; chickadee, sp(p). 16; Tufted Titmouse, 33; White-breasted Nuthatch, 34; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Brown Creeper, 5; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; Hermit Thrush, 1; Amer. Robin, 3; No. Mockingbird, 6; Euro. Starling, 1803; Cedar Waxwing, 8; Amer. Tree Sparrow, 202; Field Sparrow, 20; Song Sparrow, 26; Swamp Sparrow, 10; White-throated Sparrow, 12; White-crowned Sparrow, 5; sparrow, sp(p)., 10; Dark-eyed (S-C) Junco, 71; No. Cardinal, 126; Snow Bunting, 1; Lapland Longspur, 4; Brown-headed Cowbird, 17; Common Grackle, 3; House Finch, 49; Amer. Goldfinch, 61; and, House Sparrow, **1997**. This is a total of 50 species, and 8611 individuals.

There were several record high counts for specific species, as well as new species recorded, based upon the records I have for the last 21 years. In most cases these are likely due to the relatively short time span for which my records extend. One exception is the cormorant at GL, but they have been recorded previously at IL, and they have been getting steadily more numerous and often problematic in the area. The high numbers with pigeons, starlings and house sparrows are clearly a result of catching the right time to pass by landfills and feedlots. As one example, Curtis, Timothy and I were very conservative in tallying 1000 starlings at a feedlot across the road from the landfill south of Celina on a second trip around the block – and we saw none the first time. Overall, the number of both species and individuals at IL were in the top quartile; GL species count was rather low (and a little over 20% below last year), but the number of individuals was a record high. Not bad for the December weather we were having.

Thanks to all of the volunteers – keep your binoculars handy!

- Eric Juterbock

2010 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION WEEKEND REGISTRATION FORM

April 30 – May 2, 2010

To view past photos visit the Environmental Education Weekend Photo Gallery- tri-moraineaudubon.org

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Early Bird - April 16, 2010

Regular - April 23, 2010

Name:

Phone:

Address:

City:

Zip:

e-mail address:

List all other members of your family/group that will be attending (include ages if under 18):

Vehicle Make/Model:

License No.:

Your anticipated – Arrival date:

& time:

Departure date:

& time:

A. REGISTRATION FEE: Due to insurance regulations, the weekend is open to Audubon MEMBERS ONLY
(To become a member, please ALSO complete the Supporting (Local) Membership form found below)

Early Bird registration must be postmarked on or before 4-16-10; \$10.00 late fee due per person if postmarked after 4-23-10
We reserve the right to limit the total number of attendees due to limited camp accommodations.
NOTICE: ABSOLUTELY NO REFUNDS EXCEPT FOR MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

Qty		Early Bird Registration (On or before Apr 16)	(Regular Registration) (Apr 17 - 23)	Registration Fee (Qty x Fee)
	Adults (13 and older) -	@ \$26.00 each	Add \$6.00 each	
	Children (2 - 12) -	@ \$16.00 each	Add \$6.00 each	
	Children - Under 2 -	FREE	FREE	
Total Registration Fee:				

Please indicate any dietary restrictions/preferences: Veg (# people) Other (# people)

B. LODGING - Please indicate by ☐ (check) a 1st **AND** 2nd choice (in case of unavailability of your 1st choice)
(Please indicate the quantity of each desired ONLY IF more than 1 unit is required – i.e. 2 tents)

(1 st Choice)	(2nd Choice)	ACCOMMODATIONS (note quantity available in each category)	
		PERSONAL TENT	* We MAY only allow families of 4 or more to reserve these units IF camp accommodations are limited
		TREEHOUSE* (sleeps 6) - 4 units	
		COVERED WAGON* (sleeps 5) - 7 units	
		DORMITORY (bunk beds - sleeps 30)	
		PLATFORM TENT (sleeps 4 - 5) – 12 units (2 wheelchair accessible units are available upon request)	

Please make **checks payable** to **TRI-MORaine AUDUBON SOCIETY**, and **Mail registration** form to Eric Broughton, 3167 Clement Dr, Lima OH 45806-1101.

A program brochure will be “mailed” as confirmation of your reservation; please indicate whether you would prefer to receive the brochure via _____ **e-mail** or _____ **regular mail**. (**Please check only one.**)

TMAS CAMP MYEERAH EEW POLICIES

- 1) Parents, grandparents and guardians must supervise the children under their care in a manner which assures the children's safety and that of other persons, as well as the environment.
- 2) No individual campfires are allowed.
- 3) No firearms or weapons of any kind are allowed.
- 4) All participants must adhere to the **Girl Scouts of Western Ohio** policies. The Girl Scout policies will be posted at the Camp Myeerah Lodge.

Failure to follow these policies shall result in corrective action that may include expulsion from the campground and may affect future registration for EEW programs.

Become a Supporting Member of TRI-MORaine AUDUBON SOCIETY – ONLY FOR THOSE CURRENTLY NOT NATIONAL AUDUBON MEMBERS

Tri-Moraine, a totally volunteer 501(c)(3) organization, is a chapter of the National Audubon Society (NAS).

TMAS serves Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Logan, Mercer, Shelby, and Van Wert Counties.

All members receive a membership card, eligibility to attend Environmental Education Weekend, the chapter's mailings including its bi-monthly newsletter & a 10% discount on chapter nature store purchases. To report membership issues, contact Bill Askins at 419-339-9751 or e-mail waskins@woh.rr.com.

Name (please print)

Telephone

Street, PO Box, Apt. No.

City, State, ZIP

E-mail

All dues renew annually at same rates:

[] Individual (18 and over) -- \$10 [] Couple -- \$15 [] Student (through HS) -- \$5 [] Do not share name with NAS

[] Family -- \$20 (Circle one): Parent(s)/children under 18 OR Grandparent(s)/children under 18 [] Contact me about volunteer opportunities

Please Circle desired newsletter format: Paper or E-mail [] Do not send Flight Patterns (newsletter)

Check for \$_____ enclosed (Payable to Tri-Moraine Audubon Society - PO Box 5648 Lima, OH 45802-5648)