TRI-MORAINE’S 2009-2010 EVENING PROGRAM MEETINGS are scheduled the first Tuesday of the month September through November and January through May. Meetings are held in Fellowship Hall, lower level, Market Street Presbyterian Church, 1100 West Market Street, corner Cole and West Market Streets, Lima. You may use the courtyard entrance off the parking lot behind the church or, for those who wish to avoid steps, the elevator entrance on the west side of the church where handicapped-accessible parking is available. Follow the Audubon signs. A brief welcome and business update (10 minutes max) precedes the program. See calendar write-ups for details. All programs and events are free and open to the public unless noted otherwise.

CREDIBLE EDIBLES, Tuesday, September 1, 7:30 pm. Join Janet Sweigart as she shares basic information about collecting wild mushrooms. She will illustrate her presentation with mushroom replicas. An Allen County native, Janet is a tree farmer and operates J & J’s Woodland on the eastern edge of the county. Janet is in the woods every day and has eaten around thirty different species of wild mushrooms. Accompanying her talk will be a special collection of mushroom drawings by Richard Grimm, the founder of the Ohio Mushroom Society.

ALLEN, HARDIN, SHELBY COUNTIES HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY, Saturday, September 26, 9 am-3 pm. Allen County Fairgrounds, RAIN OR SHINE. Area media will be carrying more details. Watch THE LIMA NEWS for a list of acceptable items and a form you can clip and fill out ahead of time. You can also get the list and form from www.ncowaste.org. Expired or unused prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, and the new compact fluorescent bulbs are hazardous waste. ALLEN, HARDIN, SHELBY COUNTIES ONLY! Have your driver’s license showing your address handy if needed. HELP KEEP OUR DRINKING WATER SAFE! If you read the list of acceptable items you may be surprised at the number of hazardous items in your home. If you have questions you can call the Solid Waste District at 419-228-8278.

APPALACHIAN TRAIL ADVENTURE, Tuesday, October 6, 7:30 pm. Hike the Appalachian Trail with fellow Audubon member Allison Brady. Share the ups and downs, the ins and outs, and the joys and sorrows of long-distance hiking. In 2008 Allison was hired as executive director of the Heritage Trails Park District of Auglaize County. Her years of experience in outdoor recreation planning and land preservation are proving to be real assets to the HTPD. She’ll give us an overview of current progress and future plans. Allison also sits on the board of directors for the West Central Ohio Land Conservancy.

GRANGE INSURANCE AUDUBON CENTER (GIAC) & SCIOTO RIVER --- GREENLAWN IBA FIELD TRIP, Saturday, October 24. This new nature-based education center is located in the heart of Columbus. It is situated along an Audubon Important Bird Area (IBA) on a major migratory flyway where more than 200 species of birds, including Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, Osprey, Peregrine Falcon, and Prothonotary Warbler, have been recorded. The Center is designed to awaken and connect members of the community to the beauty of the natural world immediately surrounding them. A primary goal of this 18,000 square foot LEED certified facility is to inspire environmental responsibility and stewardship in the daily lives of students and visitors who enjoy the resources of the Center and surrounding Scioto Audubon Metro Park. This is the only Audubon Center in the US located in such an urban setting. A carpool will depart at 9 am from the Eastgate parking lot behind Wendy’s on Harding Highway (SR 309), Lima. Lunch, binoculars, camera, appropriate clothing/footwear, and field guides are recommended. Contact Anne at 419-222-3271 for further information. You can also check the GIAC website for more information: www.grangeinsuranceauduboncenter.org.
HANCOCK COUNTY NATURALISTS PROGRAMS & EVENTS. All are welcome. This group holds monthly program meetings the 2nd Thursday of the month, September through May, at 7:30 pm at Christ Church United Methodist, 225 West Bigelow Avenue, Findlay. 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 msilvervette@sbcglobal.net.

UPPER MAUMEE VALLEY NATURALISTS CLUB PROGRAMS & EVENTS. Programs are held the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Van Wert Women's Club, 654 South Washington Street. At last contact, Findlay's Bill Lanning was scheduled to present "All About Gourds" on September 17. October was TBD. For information about the club and additional details about upcoming programs contact Lyn Warren at 419-749-2999 or wlwval@verizon.net or Jean Perchalski at 419-232-4108, 419-231-0495 (cell), or jeperch@roadrunner.com.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY'S ReStore
The first two of the three Rs are “Reduce” and “Reuse.” Habitat for Humanity's ReStores are retail outlets that help local Habitat affiliates fund the construction of houses within the community by selling quality used and surplus materials. Many donations come from individuals. Examples of items accepted are used and new plumbing fixtures, windows, doors, electrical fixtures, furniture (wood / metal / plastic but no stuffed or padded furniture), garden & other hand tools, any type of building materials, wheelchairs, crutches, handicap ramps, appliances in working order, trim, books, the list is endless. All these materials are available for sale. The Lima ReStore is located at 123 East Wayne Street. Hours are Thursday from 10 am to 5 pm, Friday from 10 am to 5 pm, and Saturday from 10 am to 3 pm. To see if there's a ReStore closer to you check www.habitat.org/cd/env/restore.aspx?placeca. If you have questions about donations or need to make arrangements for pickup from the Lima ReStore call 419-236-4979. You can also email restore.habitat@wcoil.com. Take some time and drop in at the ReStore. Then you'll have a better idea of acceptable items—wallpaper, holiday decorations, mirrors, etc. DIYs and other shoppers should take a look.

AUDUBON ADVENTURES ALERT
A call by TMAS to National Audubon Society's assistance line for Audubon Adventures informs the chapter that AA will be ready for shipment by the end of September. If you haven't placed your order there's still time to get your subscription submitted. AA is an educational program for grades 3-6 classrooms in the chapter's eight-county service area. Call Carol at 419-227-9231 for information or to place your order. If she has your home number she has been trying to reach a few of last year's AA teachers to inquire about 2009-2010 renewals.

PRESIDENT'S CHAPTER NOTES.......TMAS board meeting Tuesday, September 29, 7 pm, Eric Jutberock's (Rushsylvania)......If you have any membership concerns contact Bill Askins, chapter membership database chair, at 419-339-9751 or waskins@woh rr.com. He's also the one you contact about an address change or new email address. .....Fern Albertson, Carol Bertrand, and Michael & Sharon Wildermuth attended an inexpensive full-day "Global Warming -Realities and Solutions: You Can Make a Difference " seminar at Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm (Dayton) on June 24. The workshop gave attendees a better understanding of the local, regional, and global implications of climate change. Actions at home and in the workplace can make a difference. Notice of this workshop arrived too late for meeting announcement or newsletter inclusion. Let the chapter know if you would be interested in receiving special notice of such opportunities in the future.......If you are a joint NAS/TMAS member note the expiration date in the upper right-hand corner of your mailing label. It may not be time to renew your membership in response to those Audubon renewal notices.