



# Flight Patterns

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

## Newsletter of the Tri-Moraine Audubon Society

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

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Sept/Oct 2007  
Volume 35 No. 5

**Tri-Moraine's 2007-2008 monthly program meetings** are scheduled the first Tuesday of the month September through November and January through May. The September, November, January, February, March, and May meetings will be held at 7:30 p.m. 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 parking is available. Follow the Audubon signs. A brief welcome and business update kick off each meeting followed by the program no later than 7:45 p.m. **Our October meeting will be held in Ada.** See the calendar write-up for details. The April meeting will be held in Celina. Mark the Tuesdays on your calendar and join us. You'll be most welcome.

Sept  
4th

**ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS: LEOPOLD, EMERSON AND SUZUKI; Tuesday, Sept. 4, 7:30 p.m.** Dr. Mark Dixon, Ohio Northern University Assistant Professor of Philosophy and co-chair of the Working Group on Religion, Ethics and Nature will present a program outlining our ethical obligations to the natural environment. This presentation proposes an environmental ethic that builds upon insights due to land manager and conservationist Aldo Leopold, Transcendentalist philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Zen Buddhist philosopher D.T. Suzuki. Leopold argues that human beings must realize their essential interdependence with the natural environment, Emerson encourages a reverential attitude to nature, and Suzuki insists that the proper response is compassion. These insights – interdependence, reverence, and compassion – represent the foundations that are essential to a viable environmental ethics.

Sept  
8th



**On September 8th (Saturday)** TMAS will man Wapakoneta's recycling center from 8 a.m. until noon. The chapter receives the proceeds from all recyclables handled. Aluminum cans pay best. For additional information or if you can help, call Bob or Carol Bertrand at 419/227-9231. Cans (dry & crushed if possible) can be donated at the Sept. 4th monthly meeting. Public drop off hours are 9a.m. until noon.

Sept  
15th

**ALLEN COUNTY ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY**, Saturday, September 15, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Allen County Fairgrounds, RAIN or SHINE. Area media will be carrying more details. Watch for the list of acceptable items and a form you can fill out in [The Lima News](#). This will save you time when you get there. The morning is the busiest time. That translates into a longer wait.

Oct  
2nd

**LIFETIME OF LOONACY: MY LIFE AS A LOON BIOLOGIST, Tuesday, October 2nd, 7:30p.m.** at Ada Visiting Nurses 4392 St. Rt. 235, Ada. On right hand side of road heading North on 235 just prior to Ada. Parking in front. Note change of location from regular meeting site. Dr. Jay Mager, Ohio Northern University Assistant Professor of Biology teaches several courses, including ornithology. Dr. Mager's research emphasis is ecology with a particular interest in birds. His work on loons in northern Wisconsin is the basis for his slide presentation highlighting the life history of loons and some important research conclusions which should lead to better methods in loon preservation. Jay is a Tri-Moraine/National Audubon Society member and chaired the chapter's 2007 judging committee to select winners of the TMAS annual science fair awards at the OAS District Science Day held at ONU.

Oct  
20th

**HOCKING HILLS STATE PARK.** Join us as we hike and explore the beautiful geological features of this scenic park. The area is full of cliffs, caves, streams and waterfalls. It is home to plant life that is found in few places in Ohio. The eastern hemlocks, Canada yew and yellow and black birch are remnants of the cool period caused by the last glacier. The deep gorges of the area continue to provide the cool, moist environment these plants need to survive. We will hopefully also enjoy some fall color, and fall bird migration. We will depart from behind Wendy's on St. Rt. 309 at 8 a.m. Look for a red minivan with a TMAS sign on the front and back windows. Please bring comfortable hiking shoes and clothes, field guides and binoculars and a sack lunch. We will eat in one of the picnic areas upon arrival. We can stop for dinner on the way back. If anyone wishes to meet in Bellefontaine or has any questions please contact Anne Smedley at 419-222-3271 or [jmedley@wcoil.com](mailto:jmedley@wcoil.com). This trip is open to the public.

Nov  
3rd



**BIRDSEED SALE**, Saturday, November 3, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at DeHaven Home & Garden Showplace in Lima. Those who have pre-ordered seed in the past know that purchases can be picked up at DeHaven's Findlay store or from volunteers in five other locations. Are there others out there who would be willing to volunteer for their areas? Sale flyers will be mailed at the end of September. If you do not receive one contact Anne Smedley at 419-222-3271 or [jmedley@wcoil.com](mailto:jmedley@wcoil.com). Take a bird to lunch!

Nov  
6th


**AI Gore's "INCONVENIENT TRUTH."** Full details next newsletter.

### IT'S FOR THE BIRDS---FEEDER OBSERVATIONS

This winter help the Cornell Lab of Ornithology put feeder observations to work for science and conservation. FeederWatch is fun and for the birds. The \$15 sign-up fee for new participants helps defray the cost of materials which include a beautiful poster of common feeder birds, instruction booklet, and resource guide offering tips on watching and feeding birds. Those renewing their participation in the program pay \$12. Consider these citizen science projects, too: Urban Bird Studies, The Birdhouse Network (formerly Nest Box Network), and the new Project Bird Sleuth (replaces Classroom FeederWatch). For details check out the Lab's home page at <http://birds.cornell.edu> or call 1-800-843-2473.



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AUDUBON SOCIETY

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#### A MESSAGE FROM THE PAST THAT SPEAKS LOUD & CLEAR TODAY

**Dr. Nelson J. Moore, president of Tri-Moraine from June 1987 through May 1990, wrote the following in "The President's Corner" that appeared in the Sept./Oct. 1988 issue of *Flight Patterns*.** With each day that passes, our planet becomes more uninhabitable. This bold statement may not seem evident to the average person, but most ecologists would support it. Evidence for this is rapidly mounting as scientists measure various parameters such as water, soil, biological diversity, and atmospheric gases in the world's ecosystems. Intuitively, one might reach this conclusion by realizing that our 5 billion human population will increase to 6 billion in 12 years [it did and by the end of 2006 it had increased to over 6 1/2 billion]. This pressure plus increasing access worldwide to tools and new technologies will bring about vast environmental problems in the next century and possibly sooner. However, the concern of many ecologists today is not with the obvious. They are asking: How far can our ecosystems be stretched and still function? How long will it take until environmental catastrophes occur? Biologists know that all environments have various buffers and built-in mechanisms for recovery. Some ecosystems are very fragile while others are not. All environments, however, are interconnected and interrelated, so the collapse of one may affect others. Most Americans have some understanding about these concepts, as shown by reputable national polls over the last ten years that indicate environmental concerns should be priority issues for government . . . If you feel as I do, there are many times when I would rather forget these discouraging problems and just enjoy life. However, I believe that the struggle for a quality environment now and in the future for humankind and the other organisms with which we share this planet is one of the noblest in which we can participate. We of Tri-Moraine Audubon . . . can make a difference. During this next year, whenever possible, let's encourage our legislators to be environmentally aware and show them how we all profit with a wholesome environment. Let's encourage them to seek long-term solutions and pass environmental legislation that will be practical, equitable, and effective.

#### ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE, A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

The Ohio Environmental Council asked TMAS (OEC member) to sign an endorsement form in support of The Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act of 2007 (S.549/HR.962). Members at the July picnic voted that the chapter submit the endorsement. Your personal support would also help. The overuse of antibiotics is causing antibiotic resistance in humans, a public health crisis. The Union of Concerned Scientists estimates that 70% of all antibiotics and related drugs in the U.S. are added to the feed of livestock and poultry for other than therapeutic reasons (used to promote slightly faster growth and to compensate for crowded, stressful, and often unsanitary animal-husbandry conditions). This legislation would phase out such use.

#### Congressional Contact Information

Sharrod Brown -- Phone Numbers: 216-522-7272 (Cleveland) 202-224-2315 (Wash.)

George Voinovich -- Phone Number: 800-205-6446

Both can be reached by email via [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov)

John A. Boehner -- Phone Number: 800-582-1001 Email via [johnboehner.house.gov](mailto:johnboehner.house.gov)

Paul E. Gillmor -- Phone Number: 800-541-6446 Email via [gillmor.house.gov](mailto:gillmor.house.gov)

Jim Jordan -- Phone Numbers: 419-423-3210 (Findlay) 419-999-6455 (Lima)

Email via [www.jordan.house.gov](http://www.jordan.house.gov)

Call your public library for addresses if you prefer to write letters. Letters could be subject to delay.

#### HELP STOP GREAT LAKES INVADERS!

Aquatic invasive species are one of the biggest threats facing the Great Lakes today. The Great Lakes Regional Collaboration said in its 2005 report that the world's greatest freshwater lakes are "succumbing to an irreversible 'invasional meltdown' that may be more severe than chemical pollution." Invasive species cost the Great Lakes region an estimated \$5 billion every year. There are 185 invasive species already and another is discovered every 28 weeks. Most invasive species enter the Great Lakes in the ballast waters of ships entering the Lakes from far-off places. It is time for Congress to aggressively address the threat of invasive species to the Great Lakes. Congress needs to pass strong ballast bills this year. You can help by contacting your members of Congress. Ask them to defend our Great Lakes from further aquatic invaders by supporting strong ballast water legislation. (Thanks to Cheryl Mendoza, Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat & Fund, for this information.)

#### St. MARYS RIVER/GRAND LAKE IMPORTANT BIRD AREA HABITAT PRESERVATION & CONSERVATION PROJECT

Whether your talents lie in the area of birding, wildflower identification, photography, graphics, water quality, organizational skills, working with people, some other area of expertise, just helping as needed, or learning more about these valuable regional resources, you are needed. Tri-Moraine is building a volunteer base for current and future project use. To obtain a brief fact sheet about the project and a volunteer form please contact Carol M. Bertrand, 1232 Belvidere Avenue, Lima, Ohio 45801-3533, 419-227-9231, or email [aekovic@yahoo.com](mailto:aekovic@yahoo.com) (chapter secretary).

