



Shorebirds with OOS!

Join OOS at Lakeside, Ohio, September 28-30, for our Eighth Annual Conference, as we focus on shorebirds. We'll have a featured speaker each night, a Saturday shorebird ID class with field trip to Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, a Sunday photography workshop (limited space), plus two movies! Our featured presentation on Saturday night is noted wildlife photographer Kevin Karlson, co-author of *The Shorebird Guide*. Karlson's new book, *Visions: Earth's Elements in Bird and Nature Photography*, will be published this summer. Registration details on the OOS website.



ANN OLIVER

The Cerulean

Spring 2012, Vol. 9, No. 1

Quarterly Newsletter of the Ohio Ornithological Society

www.ohiobirds.org • info@ohiobirds.org

Shorebird Extravaganza with OOS at Lakeside, September 28-30

Ann Oliver—Editor,
The Cerulean Newsletter

Lakeside, Ohio is THE place to be the last weekend in September, for the Eighth Annual OOS Conference and Shorebird Extravaganza, for both birds and birders! Shorebirds migrating south after their arctic breeding season will pass through our area to stop, rest, and feed on their way. Birders venturing to Lakeside will not stop, not rest, but will likely “feed” their souls with birding camaraderie and birds galore! The conference features speakers, field trips, movies, a photography workshop, the official OOS election of officers, a few fall warblers, and fun!

Kevin Karlson, famed photographer and co-author of *The Shorebird Guide*, is our Saturday keynote speaker. He'll present a shorebird ID class on Saturday at Ottawa

NWR, then lead an afternoon group field trip at the refuge. On Sunday, he'll present a small photography workshop (limited space). Friday evening, we'll hear from young birder Lukas Padegamis, who spent part of last summer volunteering

with the Arctic Shorebird Network in Alaska.

Keeping with the “shorebird” theme, we'll have a Saturday night screening of the movie “Epic Journeys: Tracking the Migrations of

Shorebirds in the Western Hemisphere” by Shawn Carey and Jim Grady. The monumental migration challenges faced by Red Knot, Piping Plover, and Semipalmated Sandpiper are highlighted.

See the OOS website for registration details (www.ohiobirds.org).



SHAWN P. CAREY

Lakeside has a generous offer for OOS folks! Reserve a hotel room at the Fountain Inn or Hotel Lakeside for \$10 off the current rate per night. This is an “online only” reservation rate. Go to: <http://www.lakesideohio.com> / and click the tab “Staying At Lakeside”. Please enter the event code “shorebirds” in the field provided.



Old Bird is Listening at Ottawa NWR

Bill Evans—Ithaca, New York

Old Bird is on top of Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge. No, not Big Bird from the children's television show *Sesame Street*, nor Big Brother from *Nineteen Eighty-Four*. But similar to the always "watching" fictitious surveillance state in the George Orwell novel, Old Bird is now listening to birds flying at night over select acoustic stations across the United States including Ohio, Arizona, North Carolina, Texas, and two locations in New York.

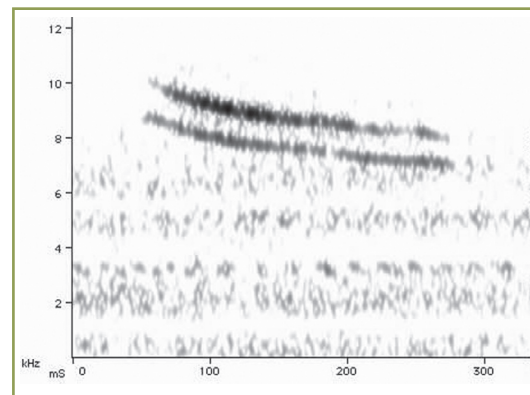
Old Bird refers to an avian nocturnal flight call monitoring station established at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge this spring. So, what is this contraption and what is its purpose?

One of the great revelations of the 20th century was the documentation that most bird migration in North America occurs in the stealth of night. Telescopes showing birds passing across the full moon and the auditory experience of songbird nocturnal flight calls were early indicators, but the completion of the NEXRAD weather radar network in the mid-1990s really showed us the continental magnitude of the phenomena – in fact, the remnant of what were much larger flights before Europeans occupied the con-

tinental. And it was in the mid-air caldron of those massive ancient flights that songbird flight calling likely evolved to serve a vital purpose for group cohesion and air traffic control.

Today, we can on occasion still hear thousands of calls on peak fall migration nights from just about anywhere in eastern North America. But it is much easier to hear and monitor these calls with a directional microphone -- the auditory equivalent of binoculars. And, in the last decade, advances in computer technology have made it possible to automatically extract digital copies of these calls from the night sky with a home computer. In other words, you can monitor the flight of migratory birds in transit from Canada to Central and South America from your home!

The acoustic station at ONWR has been monitoring and extracting flight calls almost every night since early April. A microphone atop the visitor center sends the audio signal of the sky to a computer inside the building. The computer runs software developed by Old Bird Inc and analyzes the sound stream to detect potential bird calls. The potential calls are transferred via the internet



LeConte's sparrow spectrogram courtesy Bill Evans.

to a server where the calls are accessed, sorted from false detections, and classified to species first thing in the morning. The number of calls and species information is accessible at: <http://www.oldbird.org/Data/2012/ONWR/ONWR.htm>

One of the highlights of the spring monitoring was a probable LeConte's Sparrow flight call. This is a long descending "tseep" note, somewhat similar to that of the White-throated sparrow, but without the warbles. The spectrogram shows how the frequency of the call descends over time. It's about 1/5th of a second in duration.

The monitoring at ONWR will continue through the summer and on through the fall migration. Nightly data for the fall migration will be available every morning by 8AM beginning on August 1st. In addition, the ONWR station will be part of a transect of monitoring stations running all the way to the Atlantic Ocean in fall 2012. So, birders will be able to see how the warbler and sparrow species composition varies across the transect.

Bill Evans is an ornithologist who has studied bird migration for more than a quarter century. He helped start the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's research into avian night flight calls in the mid-1990s and in 1998 founded the non-profit group Old Bird Inc. The group promotes education and awareness of the nocturnal migration of birds and the use of technology to prevent bird collisions with tall, man-made structures. Evans was a guest speaker at the 2007 OOS "Fall Warbler Symposium" in Lakeside, Ohio.



REBECCA HINKLE

Kirtland's Warbler – Star of New “Estuary” Trail at Ottawa

Rebecca Hinkle—Visitor Services Manager, Ottawa NWR

For the past year, Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge and partners have been working on two projects to improve access on refuge properties. These projects include a shorebird viewing platform on Benton-Carroll Road at the Boss Unit, and a new trail adjacent to west parking lot of Magee Marsh Wildlife Area.

Anyone who has birded the boardwalk at Magee Marsh Wildlife Area knows it is a special combination of habitat, location, and access creating amazing views of birds each spring and fall. But birds are not aware of political or land management boundaries: there are locations on the Ottawa refuge, given the right conditions, which host many of the same species as Magee. Unfortunately for birders, some areas are not readily accessible. So, while scouting for guided walks in the past, Ottawa keyed in on opening the area west of the boardwalk. Everyone could see the potential: great afternoon light for photographers, a wide path for tripods, elevated dike to allow eye-level viewing, and a line of birders peering in from the boundary. Thus, the idea of opening a trail was presented to the refuge manager, and the work began. The refuge cleared brush and moved stone on the dike to create a path from the Magee Marsh parking lot. The “Magee/Ottawa Partnership - Crane Creek Estuary Trail” opened this spring and birders immediately took advantage of this wonderful opportunity, as did a female Kirt-

land's Warbler. This rare migrant, which primarily nests in Michigan in large stands of young jack pines, was spotted by three Amish youths while birding the new trail on International Migratory Bird Day, May 12.



Hundreds of visitors made their way across the beach and down the dike to observe the Kirtland's - the first great discovery on the new trail! Plus, the far west end of the trail provides spectacular views of the Crane Creek Estuary, a potential spot for shorebird viewing under the right conditions.

Meanwhile, shorebird viewing has been increasing in the flooded fields on Benton-Carroll Road for

years. But the narrow side shoulders and deep ditches did not allow for safe roadside viewing on this heavily traveled road. With the refuge's purchase of the Boss Unit, and plans for providing spring shorebird habitat, access was improved this year with the removal of a barn and installation of a ten car parking area. Funds have been raised and plans are being finalized for the construction of an elevated observation deck on this unit. Input from the birding and photography community has been valuable in the development of plans.

These projects exemplify what can happen when people share ideas and work together. Ideas were brought to refuge managers by partners and visitors. Fundraising was done by the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Association, donations came from individuals and organizations, including donations from Midwest Birding Symposium and Toledo Naturalists' Association. Many individuals have stepped forward to volunteer their time toward construction of the new deck. The refuge hopes the birding community continues to connect with the refuge staff in the future.

Editor's Note:

Rebecca Hinkle is the OOS Northwest Regional Director. She lives with her husband and two children in Martin, adjacent to the refuge.



The Sandy Ridge Eagle Has Landed

Lisa Romaniuk—
North Ridgeville



LISA ROMANIUK

My name is Lisa Romaniuk and I have been an Ohio Department Of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife, eagle nest monitor for thirteen years. I started volunteering for DOW when I saw a pair of Bald Eagles nesting in my community: I was concerned about the eagles because the land was being developed. In the years since then, I have been monitoring eagles, their nesting progress, and have seen the eagle population rebound. I have witnessed many nesting seasons and watched tiny eaglets grow into beautiful, majestic eagles. But I have also had the unfortunate experience of seeing nests fail and witnessing the cruelty of nature.

This year, I thought I was going to experience another tragedy. The Sandy Ridge nest in North Ridgeville lost the male adult eagle. The female was left alone with two six-week old eaglets. The eaglets develop rapidly and need a steady supply of food to support their growth. It is a daunting task for one eagle to provide enough food for two growing eaglets.

On top of that challenge, the biggest danger to the eaglets are other eagles. Eagles are territorial and have been known to kill unprotected eaglets. With the male gone, the female has to leave the eaglets alone to hunt. A male eagle looking for a mate poses a danger. Males won't raise another eagle's offspring. The Sandy Ridge female was fighting many battles, defending her nest and eaglets from other nesting eagles, and new males.

As I watched her struggle to keep her eaglets fed, I noticed one of the

The new male, upper right, joins the female Bald Eagle, center, at her Sandy Ridge nest, nearly 2 ½ weeks after the original male partner disappeared. One of the juveniles is visible on the lower left, partially hidden by foliage.

eaglets was dominant and taking all the food. The female could not hunt enough, due to the threat of male eagles, so food was not sufficient. One of the eaglets was going hungry and frequently whining for food. I thought we were going to watch this poor eaglet starve to death.

But on Saturday, May 26th, I witnessed something amazing. The female had brought food, but only enough for one eaglet. Suddenly a new male eagle flew into the nest. I was shocked and frightened. I expected that eagle would harm the eaglets, but he had brought in a huge fish. He allowed the dominant eaglet to pull some off but then he offered the rest to the smaller eaglet. The female eagle was also shocked. She screamed several times at the

Continued on page 5



LISA ROMANIUK

This female Bald Eagle was a single-parent on May 15, after her male partner suddenly disappeared a week earlier. One of the eaglets is visible in this image.

Continued from page 4

new eagle, but he just continued to stay in the nest with the eaglets. By the end of the morning, both the nesting female and the new eagle were perched peacefully together. Both eaglets had more than they could eat the rest of that day.

Only time will tell how this will continue to play out, but I am so thankful that this female eagle received a helping hand with her eaglets.

Editor's Note:

Lisa monitors eagle nests in Huron, Vermillion, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Cleveland, and Brecksville as a volunteer, but she is an accountant by profession. As of early June, the two Sandy Ridge eaglets appeared to be getting ready for flight, and the new male Bald Eagle remained present at the nest.



ANN OLIVER

Eddy Pausch, from Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, and Jen Sauter, President of The Ohio Ornithological Association, erect an OOS donated feeder behind the Ottawa headquarters in early May.

OOS Sponsors Ohio Young Birder to Cornell Lab Event

Sue Evanoff—Director-At-Large, Massillon

The Ohio Ornithological Society congratulates Kristina Polk of North Ridgeville, Ohio! Kristina is one of ten young birders selected to attend the Fourth Annual "The Cornell Lab Young Birders Event", July 19 - 22, 2012. OOS is sponsoring Kristina with a scholarship to help her take part in this event held in Ithaca, New York.

The Young Birders Event aims to bring together teenagers (students who will be sophomores, juniors, or seniors in high school) interested in pursuing a career with birds. The young birders will meet people who have successful careers that involve birds in a variety of ways from ornithological researchers to tour leaders, to audio specialists and computer scientists.

Kristina is a high school honor student who loves wildlife photography, animals (especially orcas), deer, and birds. She'll be a senior this fall. She's part of the Lorain County Metroparks Teen Corps, member of the Ohio Young Birders Club, and has been birding since 2010. Kris-



PHOTO USED WITH PERMISSION OF KRISTINA POLK

tina says Gray Catbird "solidified" her passion for birds on International Migratory Bird Day, 2011.

Kristina's goal is to be a wildlife biologist studying wild birds. Hobbies include bird-watching, photography, creating artwork, and blogging.

CONGRATULATIONS from OOS, Kristina!

Editor's Note:

Kristina Polk also just won new Trinovid binoculars in Leica Sport Optics' "Great Leap Forward for a Young Birder" promotion with *Bird Watcher's Digest*. A hearty thank you to Leica Birding for their generosity and ongoing support of young birders in North America.



Dottie—The Garlic Mustard Slayer

Ann Oliver—Editor, *The Cerulean Newsletter*, Cincinnati

Birders who love Magee Marsh Wildlife Area have The Friends of Magee Marsh (FOMM) to thank for planting bird-friendly species along the boardwalk. Nine-hundred native plants, including Columbine and Wild Geranium, were put into the soil last spring by this small volunteer organization. Pink flags marked the locations. Money raised this spring, through a fundraiser called “Walk on the Wildside” went toward the purchase of an additional 24 flats of native plants.

For the past ten years, pulling invasive Garlic Mustard has been the particular focus of FOMM. This annual labor-intensive effort was started by the late Duane McDowell, a trained horticulturalist. His wife Dottie continues his work, dedicating her time to battling the noxious, early-blooming biennial herb which chokes out other botanical life at the famed birding location. Dottie, school groups, and cadre of other volunteers from FOMM, continue to manually pull Garlic Mustard, filling multiple trash bags bound for the dumpster. Eliminating it entirely from the ecosystem, as well as the allelopathic properties of the roots, should help native plant species rebound.



Dottie McDowell.



ANN OLIVER (3)

The root of all evil: allelopathic properties of Garlic Mustard produce chemicals inhibiting the growth of nearby plants. The entire Garlic Mustard stalk, from the top to the roots, needs to be bagged for proper disposal.

OBBA II Species Sponsorship Auction: **SOLD!**

A big round of thanks to all birders who participated in the Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas II online "Species Sponsorship Auction" which ended on May 31, 2012. Generous patrons of the forthcoming atlas publication pledged support for 149 different birds. When the auction was complete, \$12,000 dollars was raised toward printing the Atlas. Field work for OBBA II was conducted during the breeding season from 2006 through 2011, with the help of volunteers and birding enthusiasts.

The published Atlas will provide the most comprehensive account of Ohio breeding birds to date, and will be thoroughly illustrated with full color maps and photographs. OBBA II and the Ohio Ornithological Society (OOS) created the sponsor-a-bird auction to generate funds for the Atlas book. Winning bidders will be recognized by name as the official sponsor in the species account in the published Atlas book. The anticipated date of publication of the Atlas is 2013.

State atlases like Ohio's can be fairly sizeable and expensive books, and thus the goal was to generate funds through a variety of sources (businesses, conservation organizations, and individuals) to lower printing and purchasing costs. OBBA and OOS hope to make this important reference available and affordable to as many birders, nature enthusiasts, and Ohioans as possible. Numerous other states have taken a similar approach for lowering the cost of purchasing their bird atlases: most recently, New York and Pennsylvania.

ASHES TO NO ASHES: Emerald Ash Borer Tragedy

Ann Oliver—Editor, *The Cerulean Newsletter*, Cincinnati

"Ashes to ashes, dust to dust" says a passage in the Anglican burial service. But birders making their yearly pilgrimage to Magee Marsh Wildlife Area will see "*ashes to no ashes*". The fate of certain ash trees will be either sawdust or a home to woodpeckers in the immediate vicinity of the boardwalk.

Because of damage from the non-native Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), ash trees in proximity of walking trails, the parking lot, and the boardwalk will be removed for safety concerns. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife, will remove only ash trees presenting a danger to the general public. Numerous other ash trees have been marked

so government staff can monitor the health status of each affected tree over the next five years. Trees likely to naturally regenerate in the Magee Marsh area include box elder, cottonwood, Kentucky coffeetree, and hackberry.

Emerald Ash Borer is an exotic Asian insect initially detected in 2002 in ash trees in Michigan. In the ensuing decade, despite an extensive multi-state "don't move firewood campaign", EAB has become widespread throughout Ohio and beyond. So far, there is no effective large scale treatment method. Millions of ash trees have been killed, serving as a tragic reminder of the impact of non-native species on our native plants and wildlife.



ANN OLIVER

A photographer on the Magee Marsh Wildlife Area boardwalk is close to an ash tree affected by Emerald Ash Borer.



In Search Of Birds And The Meaning Of Life

Big Year: Part 1

By: Matt Stenger

"Birding huh? That seems kinda strange."

The judgmental police officer looked to his partner as if to say, "That was a good one huh?" as they chuckled in a way I can only describe as unsettling.

It was April 7th; I had just come off a great visit home where I celebrated my 34th birthday with my most cherished friends. I was coming to realize, perhaps for the first time in my life, how very important the people I care about are. Life was good today, I was happy, feeling lucky to have been able to surround myself with such great people.

I was driving south on U.S. Route 51 through a small town in Tennessee on my way to the Lower Rio Grande Valley in South Texas when I noticed the black SUV tailgating me. He whipped around me, pulled up on my left, and gave me a smug look before dropping back in behind me and turning on his lights. His back up pulled up shortly after. The officers told me I got pulled over because my tags came back "unlisted". I figured handing them my license and registration would make quick work of the mix up and I'd be on my way. Instead it sparked an interrogation that resulted in them making fun of me for liking birds, "just like the bullies in elementary school" I thought.



Audubon's Oriole.

When they found out I was on my way to South Texas they did everything short of jump for joy. It must have been obvious to them at that point that they had bagged themselves a real live Mexican drug lord, so they made up a hasty lie about being a "Drug Taskforce." In a small town with 3 police officers? HA! "Well... what on earth can we get this Yankee for now?" I imagined this must have been the collective reasoning of these two idiots.

They asked to search my car which, I should have refused, but I had birds to chase and on top of that, these morons were putting a stink in my good mood. I figured if I played their game I'd get to go sooner, so after being patted down like some kind of criminal and having my car ransacked, I watched the

collective brain power of the two strain for something else to hold me for before they finally gave up. As they walked back to their cruisers, the look of disappointment in their body language suggested that I would forever be "the Yankee that got away".

I learned many lessons from this encounter: for the rest of the year, I never told another police officer what I was doing. I stuck to phrases like, "I'm traveling" or "I'm on vacation". I learned that in the eyes of the uninspired, if you look like a derelict, you must be a derelict. It seems, in the mind of those guys, there was zero possibility that I could, perhaps, be telling the truth, that maybe some people do actually drive 2,000 miles to be inspired by the splendid beauty of Mother Nature. They could not see the courage it took for me to stand up once again after hitting rock bottom so hard it literally knocked the life out of me, or at least the love of life. They did not see the mental fortitude required for me to turn my back on every comfort I had previously known, actual or perceived, or the strength required to forge a new, more pure path for my heart to follow. They could not see 33 years worth of my life's demons and my closet's skeletons marching in battalions,

Continued on page 9

MATT STENGER



Black-vented Oriole.

Continued from page 8

working tirelessly to destroy the little bit of my soul I had managed to keep together. They could only mock me as I soared on the wings of a life-long dream in search of some peace to rest my soul in. The searing pain of being wrongfully judged left a mark on me that I will never forget. Not because I hold a grudge but because, in an effort to protect my fragile heart, I have no doubt wrongfully judged people too.

When I began my Big Year, on January 1st of 2011, I set out with a goal in mind: to open my heart, pour the pieces of my broken soul out into the universe, try to quiet my troubled mind, and hope beyond hope that this would be enough to reawaken the innocent love of nature that the young boy inside of me still possessed. At least I hoped it was still there. Perhaps I could even convince him to share some of his wisdom, after all, what little wisdom I had left, I had just tossed to the wind in what felt to me like a daring bet where I had wagered my soul against the odds that looking at birds might somehow heal me. Was this crazy? I thought so, but I had nothing left to lose. Plus I reasoned, "what perfectly mediocre, sane, and rational person had ever changed the world by sitting back and watching life pass them by?"

I had quit trusting people's inten-

tions many years ago: after all, I had spent enough time in the darkest depths of my psyche studying in detail all the hurts caused by those who supposedly loved me that I had learned a relationship leading to pain was a matter of when, not if. Frankly it was quite shocking to me then, in the wee hours of the morning on January 10th, I received an email from a birder I had never met offering me a place to stay in the Rio Grande Valley. "Get your butt down here NOW!", she said. "There are a lot of rarities that you need to see." At 3:00 am I was on the road, the thrill of my first big chase keeping me awake. I arrived at an old church, remodeled into a home, and was warmly welcomed in by Claire and Scott. After a shower and some food I had hoped to get a bit of rest as I had about 4 hours of sleep in the past 2 days. Instead, we headed straight for Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park hoping to see a Black-Vented Oriole.

A what? Now is as good a time as any to tell you that on January 1st I added Greater White-Fronted Goose to my life list as number 285. On that first day in the Rio Grande Valley a rather famous lister told me the number 285 was nothing to be proud of. "Don't tell anyone about that, just keep it to yourself" he said. Short of telling me I was a shame-

ful example of a birder, he made it clear that he was not impressed with me one bit. "People with numbers like that don't do big years." "I don't care about numbers so much" I said, "I want to get to know the birds." I wanted to reconnect with my love of birding in the biggest way possible and a Big Year was VERY BIG.

"There will be time for that later. Now, what's your next move?" He pushed. I didn't have a "next move" heck I didn't even have a current move. I woke up on January 1st and went birding for the pure love of it. I would be reminded throughout the year by him and a few others that my big year was not a "real" big year, though I beg to differ.

In the end I got to see the Black-Vented Oriole and many other "Valley" specialties. The birding was great but...(continued on the OOS website: www.ohiobirds.org/stenger).

Editor's Note:

Matt Stenger tallied 681 species during his Big Year, putting nearly 64,000 miles on his vehicle. In 2011, he left behind a job as a Hamilton County Naturalist: Stenger is now available for guided bird trips, nature education, photography, and speaking engagements: <http://nextgenerationnature.com/>.

This article was first published in Wetland Matters, the quarterly newsletter of Oxbow, Inc. Part Two and Part Three will be featured in upcoming issues of this publication and will be available on the OOS website.



Hot in Cleveland: **FISH CROWS** Nest in the Metropolis of the Western Reserve!

When I woke up on April 22nd, did I think I would be spending my day dashing back and forth across the busy intersection of Cedar and Green in University Heights with a recording device, or riding in the passenger seat of a car with my head out the window following a crow? Of course not, but it was the perfect way to spend Earth Day 2012.

The adventure began when Andy returned to our home from the grocery store with some edibles and the comment that he might have seen a Fish Crow in the parking lot. Seconds after unpacking the groceries (keeping a bag of chips for the road) and grabbing a camera, we were off! I wanted to see this possible Fish Crow while I had the chance! And maybe even help confirm its identity.

I would not call myself an expert on crows, but I do have an advantage over many people; for the past six years I have been caring for the animals in the Perkins Wildlife Center at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and the captive American Crows are counted amongst my favorites. And in exchange, I am counted amongst their favorite humans. That is what I assume, anyway, since every day when I enter their exhibit, within a minute I have one crow sitting on each of my shoulders and cawing in my ears. Up until the moment I was in the Heinen's parking lot scrutinizing the crow in question, I hadn't realized the full advantage of this squawking in my eardrums. But as soon as I heard our parking lot

Michelle Leighty—Perkins Wildlife Center Co-Manager
The Cleveland Museum of Natural History

crow's vocalization, I agreed with Andy. It was not like any of the typical American Crow calls I was so used to hearing. Andy knew what Fish Crows sound like and I knew what American Crows do not sound like and our suspicion was growing.

It was time to document! After we spent several minutes running between grocery store and gas station parking lots with the recording unit and camera, our crow flew south, and the chase was on! Andy drove while I searched and soon we were tracking the bird through a Shaker Heights neighborhood. When the crow landed and we had parked the car, we were surprised to find that our possible Fish Crow had become six possible Fish Crows, with a nest to boot! We spent that afternoon observing the colony, and returned the following morning. When we felt confident with our identification, Andy hit the listservs with our photos and audio files, and crow experts agreed with the assessment. We had found the first documented Fish Crow nest in Ohio!



MICHELLE LEIGHTY (2)

Editor's Note: The Ralph Perkins II Wildlife Center & Woods Garden celebrates Ohio's native animals and plants. This 2.2-acre outdoor gallery adjoins the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Information: www.cmnh.org/site/AtTheMuseum/Wildlife/PerkinsWildlifeCenter.aspx

NOMINATION OF OOS BOARD MEMBERS

Five of the thirteen positions on the Ohio Ornithological Society board of directors will be open at the 2012 annual meeting in September. We are seeking nominations from the OOS membership to fill these posts. Candidates should be members in good standing of the OOS. Board members are expected to attend quarterly board meetings and the annual meeting, participate in OOS events, and help spearhead various OOS initiatives.

The upcoming openings are:

CENTRAL DIRECTOR (Term from 2012-2014). Nominees must live in one of the following counties, which are represented by this post: Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Hocking, Licking, Madison, Marion, Morrow, Perry, Pickaway, Union.

EAST CENTRAL DIRECTOR (Term from 2012-2014). Nominees must live in one of the following counties, which are represented by this post: Ashland,

Carroll, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Knox, Muskingum, Richland, Stark, Tuscarawas, Wayne.

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL DIRECTOR (Term from 2012 – 2014). Nominees must live in one of the following counties, which are represented by this post: Adams, Auglaize, Brown, Butler, Champaign, Clark, Clermont, Clinton, Darke, Greene, Hamilton, Highland, Logan, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby, Warren.

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE (Terms from 2012-2014). Two positions are open. Nominees can reside anywhere in Ohio.

Please submit suitable candidates' names and addresses by July 15th, 2012, with their permission, to:

OOS
P.O. Box 14051
Columbus, OH 43214

Or via e-mail to Ann Oliver:
annieobirder@yahoo.com

Members' Corner

THE CERULEAN is the official newsletter of the Ohio Ornithological Society (OOS). THE CERULEAN is published four times a year. It contains timely information regarding upcoming field trips and meetings, recent bird sightings and current hot spots, trip reports, as well as other pertinent birding information. A subscription to THE CERULEAN is included among the benefits of the OOS. Members of the OOS are encouraged to contribute announcements, articles, photographs, drawings, and other birding related information to the newsletter. Seasonal deadlines for contributions to THE CERULEAN are as follows:

Spring: March 1
Summer: June 1
Fall: September 1
Winter: December 1
Send contributions for the newsletter to cerulean1@ohiobirds.org, or by regular mail to THE CERULEAN, c/o OOS, P.O. Box 14051, Columbus, Ohio 43214. For more information see the Publications page on the OOS web site at www.ohiobirds.org. Because the newsletter is sent as bulk mail, subscribers should remember the Post Office will not forward this newsletter to a new address. Please notify us at oosmember@gmail.com if you have recently moved.

Editor—Ann Oliver
(annieobirder@yahoo.com)

Welcome New Members!

We would like to welcome our new members who have joined us since our last issue:

Donna Agan
Mindy Billingham
Bob Carlsen
Kay Clark
Amanda Conover
Barbara Dickson
Dawn Hammer-Tabata
Nancy Helm
Karen Kassel
Drue Keller
Olivia Kittle
Anne Mauro
Mary Parrett
Candace Patz
Lisa Rainsong
Ryan John Trimbath
Rita Wesseling
Rick White
Leroy R. Yoder

Thank you for your donations!

We would like to thank and acknowledge the following members who have given generous donations which have been deposited into the Ohio Ornithological Society's Conservation & Education Fund. Donations are used for promoting conservation, education and research of Ohio's avifauna. Thank you!

Donna Agan
Paul J. Baicich
Elaine Barnum
Mindy Billingham
Henry Fortlage
Grace Franklin
Dawn Hammer-Tabata
Karen Kassel
Lois Main
Christine Moran
Candace Patz
Lisa Rainsong
Mary E. Reinthal
Paul & Amanda Rodewald
Philip & Elizabeth Samuels
Bert Szabo

Online Subscription Available!

Please consider subscribing to the online newsletter. Get the latest issue delivered directly to your email address. No more waiting for snail mail! Plus, you'll save a tree or two in the process. Email our OOS Membership Coordinator: oosmember@gmail.com

Ohio Ornithological Society Membership Application

For an online version of this application visit: www.ohiobirds.org/join.php



Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

(For electronic news updates, special events, and field trips)

\$ _____ **Donation Amount - Additional donation to the OOS Conservation Fund**

\$ _____ Membership Dues

\$ _____ Total Payment Enclosed (Please make checks payable to OOS)

How did you hear of OOS? _____

Are you interested in:

☐ Volunteering? How? ☐ Distributing OOS flyers within your club or community?

- ☐ \$15 Student/Limited Income
- ☐ \$25 Individual
- ☐ \$40 Family or Nonprofit
- ☐ \$100 Patron or Business
- ☐ \$250 Sustaining Member
- ☐ \$500 Benefactor
- ☐ \$1,000 Lifetime Benefactor

Mail to: Ohio Ornithological Society ♦ P.O. Box 14051 ♦ Columbus, Ohio 43214



Made with 30% recycled fiber and chlorine-free pulp from well-managed forests. Printed with soy ink.

Please Check Your Membership Renewal Date, IN RED, Next To Your Address! Thanks!

**PLEASE TAKE THE
TIME TO RENEW
YOUR MEMBERSHIP
IN, OR JOIN,
OHIO'S BIRDING
NETWORK: OOS!**

**UNITED TOGETHER,
BIRDS IN OHIO CAN
MAKE A HUGE
DIFFERENCE FOR BIRDS &
CONSERVATION**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Craig Caldwell - Westlake
Julie Davis - Westerville
Susan Evanoff - Massillon
Cheryl Harner - Mansfield
Rebecca Hinkle - Martin
Peter King - Westerville
Ann Oliver - Cincinnati
Bob Scott Placier - Vinton Co.
Randel Rogers - Galloway
Dr. Jill Russell - Liberty, IN
Dan Sanders - Powell
Jen Sauter - Rockbridge
Bill Thompson III - Marietta

Welcome! Our mission is to preserve Ohio's bird habitats. We are a statewide organization devoted to advancing our collective knowledge about them, and our ability to speak with one voice to preserve Ohio's bird habitats.

OUR MISSION . . .

THE OHIO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 14051 • Columbus, Ohio 43214



NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
SUGARCREEK, OH
PERMIT NO. 44