



THE NUTHATCH

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Follow us on

“Birding Spain and the Strait of Gibraltar”

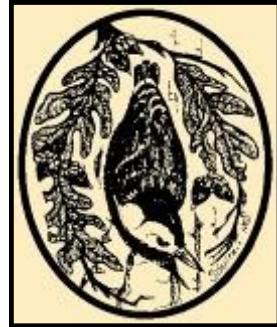
Tuesday, January 8, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

Sue Wright

Spain may not be high on your list of places to go for an exciting birding experience.

However, if you join us this evening for Past President Sue Wright's visit there, you just might be pleasantly surprised.

Photo credit: Sue Wright



“A Passage to South India”

Tuesday, February 12, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

Dorothy McLeer

When Dorothy McLeer visited South India, she saw some marvelous wildlife—and also the result of a tsunami that had hit the area a few days earlier.

Join us for an unusual presentation tonight.

Photo credit: Dorothy McLeer



“Biodiversity and Its Impact on Humanity”

Tuesday, March 12, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

Bradley J. Cardinale

How will loss of biological diversity alter the functioning of ecosystems and their ability to provide society with the goods and services needed to prosper?

Join us for a thought provoking presentation by Bradley Cardinale, Professor in the School for Environment and Sustainability at the University of Michigan.

Photo credit: Bradley Cardinale



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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Winter 2018

I recently picked up a book by Gwen Frostic, a Michigan artist who did nature prints and poetry. The book I got was titled **Beyond Time** and was published in 1971. The very first passage struck a chord with me. I'll provide it here. Enough said!

“This Earth ==
with its great green trees =
its infinite life ==
and boundless beauty ==
The only earth there'll ever be

These waters ==
of deep springs
of rivers and lakes ==
drops of dew ==
and clouds above ===
all the water there has ever been ===
all === there will ever be

The air all around ==
that everything must breathe ==
over and over =====
forever and ever

Love this earth ====
love it as much as life itself ==
earth from which all life has come =
earth to which all life returns . .

Love its waters ==
and keep them clean ====
water on which all life depends

Love clean air ==
care enough to keep it clear ==
clear enough to see the stars ===

And earth will remain ===
beyond time === “

Gwen Frostic '71

OAS BOARD MEMBERS

Elected Officers

President	Don Burlett	(248) 236-9486	baikalteal13@netzero.net
Secretary	Doris Applebaum	(248) 542-2506	ibis4247@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Elaine Ferguson	(248) 470-2212	fergusonelaine6@gmail.com
Membership Officer	Dave Frye	(248) 627-5650	kestrel11dcf@gmail.com
Field Trip Officer	Jeff Stacey	(248) 798-0508	jdstacey@ameritech.net
Program Co-Officer	Doris Applebaum	(248) 542-2506	ibis4247@sbcglobal.net
Program Co-Officer	Margaret Moran	(248) 646-7387	marmo48009@yahoo.com

Appointed Officers

Young Birders Club Rep.	Kathleen Dougherty	kad8186@msn.com
Hospitality Officer	Alice Marotti	amarotti@aol.com
Publicity/Fundraising	Phil Bugosh	peb729@gmail.com
Web Co-Editor	Don Burlett	baikalteal13@netzero.net
Web Co-Editor	Hannah Dunbar	oddbirdstoonest@gmail.com
Social Media Administrator	Janet Hug	jkissnhug@comcast.net
Nuthatch Editor	Mike Dougherty	mikeodoc@comcast.net
Seven Ponds Rep.	Dr. Greg Gossick	ggossickdds@sbcglobal.net
Environment/Conservation	Jerry Rogers	jhrogers10@sbcglobal.net



Don't forget to fill
the birdfeeders.



Sign up for the
Christmas Bird Count.

Banner photo credits: Common Redpoll, Bohemian Waxwing, Evening Grosbeak, Purple Finch - Jeff Stacey. Wild Turkey in tree - Mike Dougherty

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS
(Details of these outings are on the Field Trips page of our website at www.oaklandaudubon.org)

Date	Event	Trip Leader(s)
December 8, 2018 (Saturday) 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM	Oakland Owlet/OAS Program Cranbrook Behind the Scenes Pre-registration required Contact Kathleen Dougherty	Kathleen Dougherty
December 15, 2018 (Saturday) 07:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Christmas Bird Count Contact Jeff Stacey for details.	Jeff Stacey
January 13, 2019 (Sunday) 08:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Oakland Owlet/OAS Program Birding on Snowshoes Farmington Hills Nature Center See website for details.	Kathleen Dougherty
January 25 - 27, 2019 (Friday - Sunday)	Eastern UP and LSSU Hockey Contact Don Burlett for details and if you are planning to attend.	Don Burlett
February 3, 2019 (Sunday) 08:00 AM - 12:00 PM	St. Clair River Meet at St. Clair Metropark Nature Center. Metropark annual or day pass required	Don Burlett
February 16, 2019 (Saturday) 08:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Oakland Owlet/OAS Program Great Backyard Bird Count Meet at the EL Johnson Nature Center. See website for details.	Kathleen Dougherty
February 23, 2019 (Saturday) 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Short-eared Owls Location to be determined the week before the trip. See website for details and location.	Don Burlett

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS
(Details of these outings are on the Field Trips page of our website at www.oaklandaudubon.org)

Date	Event	Trip Leader(s)
March 6, 2019 (Wednesday) 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Beaudette Park Start at Beaudette Park. Details will be on website the week of the outing.	Don Burlett
March 9, 2019 (Saturday) 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Lake Erie Metropark See website for details. Metropark annual or day pass required	Jeff Stacey Jim Koppin

COUNTY EXECUTIVE DECLARATION

L. Brooks Patterson

Hereby Issues This Special Proclamation Declaring

The Year of the Bird in Oakland County, Michigan

To celebrate 100 years of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act

WHEREAS the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which protects over 1,000 species including birds in our backyards, and those that nest and/or migrate through Oakland County on their international journeys, marks its centennial year in 2018; and

WHEREAS each year, more than 226 migrating bird species grace us with reminders of their fortitude and persistence to make long journeys from Central and South America to or through Southeast Michigan and Oakland County; and

WHEREAS Oakland County habitats offer high quality sites for the annual Audubon Christmas Bird Counts for both Oakland Audubon and Detroit Audubon which provides decades-long records of area birds as well as Oakland County volunteers, environmentalists, naturalists, and birders who report local sightings throughout the year through eBird, a national platform for tracking birds globally; and

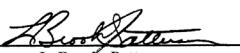
WHEREAS local agencies and volunteer agencies play critical roles in monitoring, studying, counting, feeding, enhancing habitat, and assisting injured birds including Oakland Audubon Society, Oakland County Parks and Recreation, the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, and other local park departments; and

WHEREAS Oakland County's high-quality natural areas provide habitat for many birds that allows researchers studying migration patterns, trends and populations several platforms for their work and serves as an ideal habitat for the reintroduction of the once-rare Osprey population with many lakes and rivers; and

WHEREAS Oakland County commits to ensure a safe environment for birds and humans by encouraging individuals to aid and enhance bird survival by avoiding planting non-native and invasive plants that reduce natural food sources and limiting the use of chemicals in yards and fields creating toxic and nutrient runoff in waterways.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE KNOWN that I, L. Brooks Patterson, Oakland County Executive, do hereby authorize the issuance of this special proclamation declaring 2018 the Year of the Bird in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Migratory Bird Act and urge the promotion of the conservation of our shared environment, the planting of native trees, and the protection of birds that live in and travel through Oakland County, the Huron and Clinton River Watersheds and the Mississippi Flyway.




L. Brooks Patterson
 Oakland County Executive

2018 is the 100th Anniversary of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). In recognition of that anniversary and because of continued threats to birds and recent attacks on the MBTA, the National Audubon Society, National Geographic, Birdlife International, and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology teamed up to declare 2018 the “Year of the Bird”.

The OAS approached Oakland County with a request for an official proclamation making 2018 the “Year of the Bird” in Oakland County, which was granted. Thanks to the OAS members and the Oakland County commissioners who made this happen!

Field Trip Reports

August 11, 2018 – Point Mouillee SGA
Leader: David Frye



Twenty-two OAS Members were guided across the dikes by Jim Fowler on a beautiful August morning, looking for birds that one cannot expect to see in many other spots in Michigan. Point Mouillee often delivers species that would prompt one to remark, "What is that bird doing here? Isn't that a Gulf of Mexico bird?" Of special interest today was the prospect of seeing a King Rail that had been regularly seen here this summer. The contingent was treated to a tasty menu of birds, but really nothing extra-ordinary that morning – totaling 67 species in all. Bald Eagles, Ospreys, Great Egrets, Great Blue Herons, and Caspian Terns dominated the scene this day. Just when the group had resigned itself into having missed out on the King Rail, the bird decided to emerge from the high grasses and traipse across the path in front of our lead vehicle on the way back to the car park. The pedestrian rail then disappeared on the other side of the dike, to have been seen by only a handful of our members – but having been seen, just the same!



Photo credits: Janet Hug

August 19, 2018 – Ottawa NWR and Howard Marsh
Leader: Jim Koppin

Seven adventurous birders traveled to northwest Ohio in search of shorebirds and early fall migrants. While shorebirds were scarce we did find a nice variety of other birds. Our first stop was the newly constructed Howard Marsh. This Toledo Metroparks property had a good amount of birds and it has the potential to be a hot spot as the park matures. We were able to locate the pair of rare Black-necked Stilts that bred there this spring. We also found four species of terns along with the many gulls and egrets. Next stop was Ottawa NWR. This vast reserve has many large regulated ponds, tall-grass prairie, lakeside wood lots, and marshland. The different habitats provide a good mix of birds and other animals. It also hosts the largest concentration of Bald Eagles in the area. 59 species were observed.

September 01, 2018 – Highland Oaks County Park
Leader: David Frye

A perfect morning dawned and 13 eager birders explored this under-birded park. Multiple habitat types made for very interesting exploration and a somewhat surprising array of birds. In fact, we had not even begun to march out onto the trails, when the group enjoyed watching a Pileated Woodpecker from the car park. With that bird in the box, we were off and running, gathering up 41 species in total!

Field Trip Reports (continued)

August 24, 2018 - Oakland Owlets Field Trip to Bald Mountain Recreation Area
Leader: Kathleen Dougherty

The OAS evening field trip on Friday, August 24 at Bald Mountain Recreation Area highlighted summer insects and birds. Young birders and adult birders hiked about two miles. Mid-summer into the fall is the best time to hear the insect symphony. Several insect musicians performed. Sounds from various species of crickets, grasshoppers and katydids were audible. Although the light was fading, the group of nine tallied 14 of species of birds, plus 2 taxa that we were unable to identify as the light dimmed. The kids were excited to watch Cedar Waxwings in a wetland opening.

The insects we heard were varied, but familiar to anyone hiking in August in Michigan. Insect musicians included the fall **field crickets**, buzzy **ground crickets** and a few species of **tree crickets** including the snowy tree cricket also known as the temperature cricket. Its nickname is based on the belief that one can estimate the ambient temperature by counting the number of chirps made by the cricket in 13 seconds and then add this number to 40. As darkness engulfed the group near the end of the hike, **True Katydids** could be heard calling overhead on the tall deciduous trees. Although the group was small, it was nice to be outdoors on Friday night instead of in front of a screen. Good to know that insects are thriving at Bald Mountain since birds need them.

Photo Credits: Sue Greenlee (Cricket) and Paula Carlson (People on trail)



Field Trip Reports (continued)

September 23, 2018 – Almost Shiawassee NWR – Bay City State Park

Leaders: Don Burlett, Jeff Stacey

Sometimes, your best efforts don't result in what you think they will. A case in point was the field trip to Shiawassee NWR on Sept. 23, 2018. Despite our meticulous planning, they still arranged for a Youth Hunt on the day of the field trip and the refuge was closed to the public.

So, we checked out a few species while we were there and then the group of 8 birders drove to Bay City State Park and birded there. It was a pleasant, sunny day and we did see a good collection of birds including some late fall warblers. Highlights included three vireos (Red-eyed, Warbling and Philadelphia), a few ducks and the warblers. The trip list ended up being 60 species. Not too shabby. Sometimes the old saying – “no pain, no gain” just doesn't totally ring true. The lesson: Even when it doesn't work as planned, it still works out.



September 26, 2018 – Kensington

Leader: Mike Mencotti

Fourteen birders converged on Kensington Metropark September 26, as the Wednesday workshops/field trips continued. The morning started fall-like with clouds, brisk winds and cool temps. The birds, however, did not seem to mind, as we picked up a few pockets of warblers of mixed flocks. In fact, we had a well-rounded list with most bird families amply represented. About 11 a.m., the clouds broke, offering us great looks at soaring raptors. Trip highlights included 9 species of warblers, a Pileated Woodpecker and Bald Eagle. A total of 56 species were tallied.



Field Trip Reports (continued)

September 28-30, 2018 - Whitefish Point

Leader: Jeff Stacey

Fall migration at Whitefish Point can produce a fabulous array of birds. It can also be cold, windy, and wet. We got a taste of both on our fall weekend trip up north. We also got to experience the beautiful fall colors on the drive up M-123.

Waterfowl were moving in small numbers on Friday, but all the usual suspects made an appearance. Plenty of White-winged Scoters and Red-necked Grebes along with a pair of Red-throated Loons flew by the Point.

A few shorebirds were on the beach including a Dunlin, a pair of Sanderlings, a Least Sandpiper, and a ghostly-white Black-bellied Plover. Horned Larks and Lapland Longspurs were also present but had an uncanny knack for disappearing into the sparse grass. American Pipits were flying around as well.

Late in the day, we made trips to Vermilion Road and Farm Truck Trail looking for Spruce Grouse. We found a pair of Vesper Sparrows, but no grouse.

First light on Saturday brought us back to Vermilion Road to enjoy the brisk 39-degree morning. At least that area was sheltered from the wind. We searched all through the spruce bog adjoining "the Slab" for the better part of an hour only to finally find a male Spruce Grouse on the side of the road not 200 yards from where we parked. It flew into a nearby tree and was feeding for a while, offering great looks.



The rest of the morning was spent in the woods around Whitefish Point, hoping to stay out of the strong wind and rain. We were mostly unsuccessful in that aspect, but the birding was terrific. A Purple Finch was at the feeders along with several Red-breasted Nuthatches. Warblers and kinglets were common sights, with the Palm and Yellow-rumped Warblers being the most common. Other warblers included Black-and-white, Magnolia, Nashville and even a Northern Parula.

Sparrows were however the group that showed best. We found seven species including Fox, White-crowned, and Lincoln's.

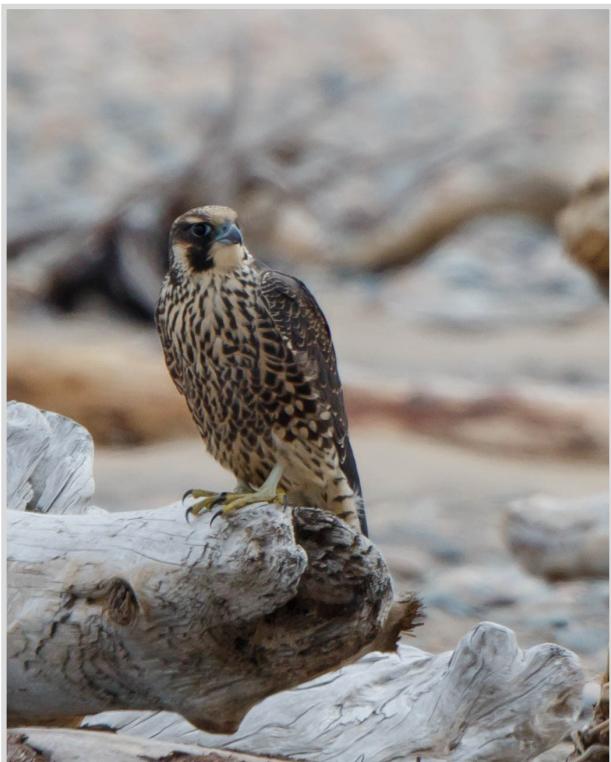
We hung out with the waterbird counters in the afternoon. A couple of Peregrine Falcons and a Merlin kept us company while we waited for migrants. It was mostly the same species of birds as the previous day, with an American Golden-Plover as a notable newcomer. A Rusty Blackbird spent the afternoon zipping around near us, staying clear of the raptors.

Sunday morning was also cold, wet, and windy. Unfortunately, the woods were much less active. While we managed to find some Pine Siskins and a couple more warblers (Black-throated Blue and Green), it was time to head home. Despite the unfriendly weather, it was a great trip, and everyone enjoyed it.

Photo credit: Jeff Stacey

Field Trip Reports (continued)

Pictures from Whitefish Point



Peregrine Falcon



Fox Sparrow



White-crowned Sparrow



Rusty Blackbird

Photo credits: Jeff Stacey

Field Trip Reports - continued

Pictures from Whitefish Point



American Pipit



Black-bellied Plover



Lapland Longspur

Photo credits: Jeff Stacey

Field Trip Reports (continued)

October 10, 2018 – Heritage Park and more

Leader: Mike Mencotti

Thirteen birders enjoyed beautiful fall colors, balmy weather and wonderful looks at birds during the Oct. 10 Wednesday workshop/field trip. We kicked in "Plan B" as Robert Long was closed for phragmites maintenance, so we began the morning at Heritage, our scheduled second stop. It was a fine idea. Birds were very active, as we had multiples of many species, including both kinglets, sparrows, waxwings, and Purple Finches. A highlight had to be a squirrel standing up to a young Red-tailed Hawk at eye level in the main meadow. We didn't stick around for the outcome, but the smart money had to be on the hawk! The Blue Jay and Robin flights were phenomenal as well. We then headed to Soccer! Soccer! to check out the meadows and fields. All in all, we tallied 43 species.

October 24, 2018 – Kensington

Leader: Mike Mencotti

The 17 participants trekked to Kensington Metropark on Oct. 24, and were treated to beautiful sunshine (at times) and excellent birds. The trip showed how fall migration is winding down for passerines. The Wednesday workshop group was scoping out some of the first migrant waterfowl of the season on Wildwing Lake, as two Pileated Woodpeckers made an appearance in the trees not far from the hundreds of Ring-necked and Wood ducks, Gadwall, and assorted divers and puddle ducks and geese. Interestingly, the sparrows seemed AWOL, but the usual gang of begging passerines ate out of our hands along the trails, delighting the group. Later, we enjoyed a couple of Bald Eagles at Kent Lake. A total of 48 species were seen.



A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Mike Mencotti for his Wednesday workshop leadership.

Photo credit: Jeff Stacey

Field Trip Reports (continued)

October 13, 2018 - Lake Erie Metropark
Leader: Kathleen Dougherty

The Young Birders Club October field trip stop was Lake Erie Metropark. Although there was heavy fog in the morning, the sky cleared, and it was a beautiful day by mid-morning. Only two people arrived at the start of the program. After waiting for any latecomers, we ventured on to the Marshland Museum. Migrating raptors including American Kestrels and Sharp-shinned Hawks seemingly dropped out of the sky once they broke through the low fog. There was an element of surprise to see these aerialists speed across the sky.

The walk traversed several habitats including nearby marshes, woodlands and openings. Migrating Rusty Blackbirds were everywhere. It was a great chance to see and hear them. Some late migrant songbirds lingered. The next stop was the hawkwatching spot along shoreline of Lake Erie where hawkwatch counters were recording the numerous migrating raptors. Being so close to the lake, a few new water birds were added to the list including Trumpeter Swan and Forster's Tern. It is amazing to see the kettles of raptors, assisted by the skilled volunteers adept at identifying raptors at such distances. A small group of people were huddled along the shoreline watching. In total, 37 species were seen. The Detroit Hawkwatch continues through November 30 so there is still time to see some migrating raptors this year. For more information visit this website. <http://detroitriverhawkwatch.org/>



Sharp-shinned Hawk



Photo credits: Kathleen Dougherty and OAS photo gallery

Field Trip Reports - continued

November 2-4, 2018 - Muskegon Weekend Trip

Trip Leaders: Don Burlett, Dan Gertiser (9 participants)



The group trudging through a quiet Port Sheldon Natural Area



Scanning the fields at the Coopersville Goose field

This was a field trip to the Muskegon area over the weekend and it turned out to be a pretty good field trip. Weather was quite acceptable until Sunday morning when the rain came. On Friday, we birded some parks in Ottawa County (near Grand Haven and Holland) and the birds were good. Things started quietly (a few comments surfaced but were quickly quelled....tee hee) but got better as the day and locations changed. Highlights included a Cackling Goose (Coopersville Goose field), Common Redpoll (Ottawa Sands county park), Red-headed Woodpecker (Ottawa Sands), Ruddy Turnstone (Coopersville Wastewater Treatment) and Short-billed Dowitchers (Coopersville Wastewater). At the end of the day we were feeling pretty good.

On Saturday, we started at the Muskegon Waste Water impoundments and things were okay with tons of Shovelers and Ruddy Ducks. We did get a Lesser Black-backed Gull at the trash mountain along with a partially leucistic Starling making heads turn (thought it was a Snow Bunting at first glance but we got them later). We also came back later in the day and got an Eared Grebe and another Cackling Goose. However, with things slow, we drove to Ludington to net the Rock Wren (at the state park) and Little Gull (at Ludington Waste Water facility).



Coopersville Wastewater Treatment facility

Field Trip Reports - continued



Cackling Goose with Canada Geese



Ludington State Park Rock Wren

On Sunday, with rain happening/predicted, we hustled back to Washtenaw County for the Spotted Redshank. All-in-all, a great weekend with lifers for many of the participants and a great collection of “rarities” to feed anyone’s appetite. A bit of driving but nobody was complaining. What more need I say.....great field trip. There were 66 species seen on this trip.



Bald Eagle eating a duck, not well identified by bill



Little Gull in center of pic (note white primary feather projection, not like Bonaparte's)



Happy Customers at Ludington



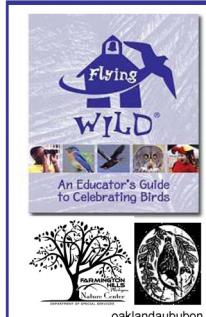
Spotted Redshank at Scio Church and Parker Road ponds

Field Trip Reports - continued

And finally, there was a comparison of lens covers of scopes from the trip. I'll let you guess which lens cover was Don Burlett's and which was Jen Benke's. (Hint: Remember the salary our trip leaders get!!)



Report photo credits: Don Burlett



Flying WILD Workshop

Sunday, Jan 27
1 - 5 p.m.

Hosted by: Farmington Hills Nature Center
24915 Farmington Rd~Farmington Hills, MI 48336

Designed for elementary, middle school, and high school formal and non-formal educators

Flying WILD: An Educator's Guide to Celebrating Birds provides activities that teach students about birds, their migration, their habitats and ways to help protect them. The Guide's many activities can be used to teach classroom lessons or to initiate service-learning projects and is intended for students, teachers, and community volunteers.

During the training session you will discover how to use the guide, and practice some of the unique hands-on activities within. You will receive the guide, a bird feeder and other take-home resources to get you started!

Fee: \$30/person (includes resources and refreshments)

Register at: <https://recreg.fhgov.com> Class # 211224

Contact (248) 477-1135 or asmith@fhgov.com for more info

2019 Oakland Owlets Field Trips

January - May

Birding on Snowshoes – Sunday, Jan 13, 1-3:30 pm Farmington Hills Nature Center in Farmington Hills

Explore winter birds on snowshoes on the trails at Heritage Park. Depending on snow depths, snowshoes will be available for rental at \$5/pair or you can bring your own. Register in advance to secure a pair of snowshoes. Dress for the weather and bring your binoculars. If snow conditions are not appropriate for snowshoeing, a winter hike will be substituted. This is also a chance to explore the Nature Center. **Meet at the Nature Center** at 24915 Farmington Road.
<http://ci.farmington-hills.mi.us/Activities/Parks-Facilities/Nature-Center.aspx>



Great Backyard Bird Count - Saturday, February 16, 8:30 – 11:30 am EL Johnson Nature Center ~ Bloomfield Hills & Beaudette Park ~ Pontiac

The Great Backyard Bird Count is one of the largest bird counts in the world. In 2017, 100 countries participated, and more than 180,000 checklists were submitted. Start at the E.L. Johnson Nature Center observing birds at their feeders and on the trails. Then, carpool to Beaudette Park in Pontiac on the Clinton River Trail to search for waterfowl and other urban birds. Nature Center staff will host the first stop. Dress for the weather and bring your binoculars. **Meet at the E.L. Johnson Nature Center** at 3325 Franklin Rd.

<https://www.mapquest.com/us/michigan/e-l-johnson-nature-center-283347366>

Owls & More – Sunday, March 24, 8:30 – 11:30 am – Lake St. Clair Metropark – Harrison Township

The resident Great Horned Owl at Lake St. Clair Metropark has been nesting in the same place for more than 20 years. In addition to the owls, Lake St. Clair Metropark is one of the premiere birding hot spots in the area. Plan to hike about two miles, visit the nature center and check out waterfowl on the lake and nearby wetlands. Dress for the weather. A Metroparks permit is required for park entry. **Meet at the Nature Center Parking Lot.**

<http://www.metroparks.com/parks/lake-st-clair-metroparks/>



Woodcocks & Woodland Birds – Friday, April 5, 6:00 – 8:30 pm Highland Recreation Area – White Lake

As American Woodcocks return to Michigan in spring, this unusual shorebird performs a unique aerial display known as the “sky dance”. It is an amazing sight to witness. Highland Recreation Area is ideal habitat for the woodcock and many other birds. Take an evening hike to see this outstanding natural area and then watch the “sky dance” at sunset. Dress for the weather and plan to hike 2 miles. Bring a lawn chair and binoculars. **Meet at the Goose Meadows Parking lot.** State parks passport is required for park entry.

<http://www.michigandnr.com/ParksandTrails/Details.aspx?id=455&type=SPRK>

2019 Oakland Owlets Field Trips

January - May (continued)

Spring Migration – Birding on the Clinton River Trail

Saturday, May 4 – 8:30 – 11:30 am – Rochester

May marks the return of many migrating birds to Michigan. Wood warblers begin to appear as the trees leaf. This is the best time of the year to see these brightly colored songsters. Over the next few weeks, Michigan's fields, forests and wetlands come alive as the dawn chorus announces that birds have returned to their breeding grounds. Plan to hike on the Clinton River Trail celebrating its 15th anniversary to see some of the birds along the trail. The trail parallels the river and both habitats teach the importance of the river and its recreation benefits to the region. This event is ideal for anyone interested in birding, the Clinton River, and hiking. **Meet at the Clinton River Watershed Parking Lot** located on 1115 Avon Road. <http://www.crwc.org/>



The Young Birders Club~Oakland Owlets offers field trips for youth 8 – 18 years. Young birders 15 years and younger must be accompanied by an adult. These programs are age-appropriate and provide educational materials and snacks for kids. Young birders are welcome to attend member programs and field trips. Young birders must complete a release form. Young Birders Club programs are open to all birders.

To register for Oakland Owlets field trips contact Kathleen Dougherty – kad8186@msn.com

Visit <https://www.oaklandaudubon.org/> for information about Oakland Audubon. Oakland Audubon is a chapter of Michigan Audubon.



Winter Finch Forecast 2018-2019

By Ron Pittaway

GENERAL FORECAST: This is an irruption (flight) year for winter finches in the East. Cone and birch seed crops are poor to low in most of Ontario and the Northeast, with a few exceptions such as Newfoundland which has an excellent spruce crop. It will be a quiet winter in the North Woods. Expect flights of winter finches into southern Ontario, southern Quebec, Maritime Provinces, New York and New England States, with some finches going farther south into the United States. Stock your bird feeders because many birds will have a difficult time finding natural foods this winter. This forecast applies primarily to Ontario and adjacent provinces and states. Spruce, birch and mountain-ash crops are much better in Western Canada. For the details on each finch species, see individual forecasts below.

PINE GROSBEAK: This magnificent grosbeak will move south in moderate numbers into southern Ontario and the northern states. The Mountain-ash berry crop in the boreal forest of Ontario and Quebec is below average and conifer seeds are in short supply. At feeders they prefer black oil sunflower seeds. Also watch for them on European Mountain-ashes and crabapple trees.

PURPLE FINCH: Purple Finches are now moving south out of Ontario. Most Purples will have departed the province by December because seed crops are poor on northern conifers and hardwoods. A few may linger at feeders in southern Ontario where they prefer black oil sunflower seeds.

RED CROSSBILL: Red Crossbills will be scarce this winter. Watch for them in pines. Red Crossbills comprise about 10 "call types" in North America. The western types seen last winter in the East have probably returned to their core ranges in western North America. Most types are impossible to identify without analyzing recordings of their flight calls. Recordings can be made with an iPhone and identified to type. Matt Young (may6@cornell.edu) of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology will identify types if you email him your recordings or upload them to an eBird checklist. This helps his research. Recordings uploaded to eBird checklists are deposited in the Macaulay Library. See link #4 for Matt's guide to Red Crossbill call types.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL: Most White-winged Crossbills have moved east to Newfoundland and west to Western Canada where spruce cone crops are much larger. Some should wander south this winter into southern Ontario and the northern states because of poor cone crops in the eastern boreal forest. Watch for them on non-native spruces and European Larch.

COMMON REDPOLL: This will be a flight year for redpolls. Birch, alder and conifer seed crops are generally poor to low in most of the Northeast so redpolls will come south into southern Ontario and the northern states. The first arriving redpolls this fall likely will be seen in weedy fields. When redpolls discover nyger seed feeders, feeding frenzies will result. Fidgety redpolls are best studied at feeders. Look for the larger and darker far northern "Greater" Common Redpoll (subspecies *rostrata*) from Baffin Island (NU) and Greenland. For subspecies ID see link #2 below.

HOARY REDPOLL: This will be the winter to see Hoaries in flocks of Common Redpolls. The "Southern" Hoary Redpoll (subspecies *exilipes*) breeds south to northern Ontario and is the subspecies usually seen in southern Canada and northern USA. Watch for the far northern "Hornemann's" Hoary Redpoll (nominate *hornemannii*) from high arctic Nunavut and Greenland. It is the largest and palest of the redpolls. Hornemann's was formerly considered a great rarity south of the tundra, but recently it has been documented more frequently in the south with better photos. For subspecies ID see link #2 below.

Winter Finch Forecast 2018-2019 (continued)

PINE SISKIN: Siskins are currently moving south because cone crops in the Northeast are generally poor on spruce, fir and hemlock. Many siskins also have probably gone to better spruce crops in Western Canada. Siskins relish nyger seeds in silo feeders. Link #3 below discusses siskin irruptions related to climate variability.

EVENING GROSBEAK: Expect a moderate flight south into southern Ontario and the northern states because both conifer and deciduous seed crops are generally low in the Northeast. At feeders it prefers black oil sunflower seeds. In April 2016 the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) listed the Evening Grosbeak a species of Special Concern due to strong population declines occurring mainly in central and eastern Canada.

THREE IRRUPTIVE NON-FINCH PASSERINES: Movements of the following three passerines are linked to irruptions of boreal finches.

BLUE JAY: A very large flight of jays is underway along the north shorelines of Lakes Ontario and Erie. The acorn, beechnut, hazelnut crops were generally poor to low in central Ontario and Quebec.

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH: This nuthatch is irrupting south because conifer seed crops are poor to low in most of the eastern boreal forest. Red-breasted Nuthatches also have moved east to Newfoundland where spruce crops are excellent. A report on eBird at Point Pelee National Park on 25 July 2018 was an early indication of a movement.

BOHEMIAN WAXWING: A good flight south into settled areas is expected because native Mountain-ashes in Ontario and Quebec's boreal forest have a below average berry crop. Flocks will likely wander farther south and east than usual. Watch for them feeding on European Mountain-ash berries, small ornamental crabapples and Buck-thorn berries. Swirling flocks of Bohemian Waxwings resemble starlings and make a continuous buzzy ringing twittering.

FINCH INFORMATION LINKS

1. Finch Facts, Seed Crops and Irruptions
<http://www.jeaniron.ca/2012/winterfinches.htm>
2. Subspecies of Common and Hoary Redpolls – ID Tips and Photos
<http://www.jeaniron.ca/2015/redpollsRP.htm>
3. Climatic dipoles drive two principal modes of North American boreal bird irruption
<http://bit.ly/1UrmTsI>
4. Crossbills of North America: Species and Red Crossbill Call Types
<https://ebird.org/news/crossbills-of-north-america-species-and-red-crossbill-call-types/>
5. Interview with Ron Pittaway in OFO News 34(1):1-3, 2016
<http://jeaniron.ca/articles/FinchForecasterFe2016.pdf>

Source: <http://jeaniron.ca/2018/wff18.htm>

Stewardship Work Day at North Oakland Headwaters Preserve

Young Birders Club conducted a stewardship work day at the Kimball Preserve, a property owned by the North Oakland Headwaters Land Conservancy (NOHLC) on **September 22**. No young birders attended; however, nine adults worked to control invasive species and planted native plants at the Preserve. The Nels Kimball Preserve is a 20-acre natural area along the Clinton River in Clarkston, Michigan. Oakland Audubon joined forces with the NOHLC to help the conservancy do stewardship on this preserve. The volunteer group armed with loppers and pruners **removed about three cubic yards of Glossy Buck-thorn**. Small shrubs were also pulled by hand. Glossy Buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*) is an invasive shrub/small tree that grows in woodlands and, along wetland edges. It grows rapidly and within a short time, forms dense thickets that outcompete native plants. Native to Eurasia, Glossy Buckthorn was introduced as a wildlife planting, but soon its aggressive nature became apparent. This plant is difficult to control and negatively impacts native plants. Displays of spring wildflowers like trillium and jack-in-the-pulpit are replaced by monocultures of Glossy Buckthorn.



The group also planted milkweeds - Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) and Butterfly-Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*). Both species are favorites of Monarch Butterflies and other pollinators. This workday was one of many

events throughout the Clinton River Watershed. The Clinton River Watershed Council sponsored this event and provided snacks and more. This was a great chance for Oakland Audubon to support stewardship in the community and assist non-profit agencies in preserving natural areas that birds need. Special thanks to **Kathleen Sexton** and **Jack Benson** from the Clinton River Watershed Council and **Sue Julian** from the NOHLC along with the volunteers who came to help.

Photos by Kathleen Dougherty & buckthorn by B.S. Walters



LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDED TO DORIS APPLEBAUM



It is with great pleasure that we announce that the Executive Board of the Oakland Audubon Society has voted to honor Doris Applebaum with Lifetime Membership in our organization.

As a Member, her contributions to our organization include Secretary and Program Chair for many years and continued support of many other activities. Her activism in support of wildlife and other conservation efforts have been outstanding and the organization is richer for it. Volunteers come and go but she has remained active and directly involved for much longer than most people. It is this continuous service to the organization that stands out amongst your peers.

Thank you for your contributions!

2018 Christmas Bird Count

The OAS will be participating in the Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC) on December 15, 2018. **Your help is needed!** You can join a team to go out in the field for the count, or if you live in the count area you can help by doing a feeder watch. At the end of the count day (4:00 p.m.) join us at the Wint Nature Center at Independence Oaks County Park for the count compilation, food and fun! Please contact Jeff Stacey for more information.

Miscellany

Submitted by: Doris Applebaum

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COSTS MONEY: CAN YOU HELP?

Hunters provide a huge part of the funding for wildlife conservation in the U.S., but there is a looming problem: the number of hunters is in serious decline, and so is the future of wildlife conservation funding.

Recently, some researchers approached this potential problem by looking at the purchase of Duck Stamps from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. A Duck Stamp is like a license to hunt waterfowl on federal lands, and the money received from these sales has been a major source for the purchase of wetlands, a type of habitat that is considerably diminished in our country.

Though this habitat exists thanks to hunters, there is much for non-hunters to enjoy in these special areas. And there is a way for non-hunters to contribute to wildlife conservation: you don't have to be a hunter to buy a Duck Stamp.

It is estimated that there are about 11 million hunters in the U.S., compared to about 86 million people who consider themselves wildlife watchers, with about 45 million of those being birders. If birders bought Duck Stamps, the decline in funding for wildlife habitat could be reversed.

A Duck Stamp costs \$25. If that seems like a lot of money to you, consider the Junior Duck Stamp, which costs just \$5. Both of these kinds of stamps feature beautiful paintings of waterfowl species. They can be purchased from some conservation groups, at sporting-goods stores, and from the U.S. Postal Service's Stamp Fulfillment Services, P. O. Box 219424, Kansas City, MO 64121-9424.

If you want a relatively inexpensive way to contribute to wildlife habitat, think about purchasing Duck Stamps.



(Some of the information for this article was found in the Anthropocene Weekly Science Dispatch transmitted on the Internet on September 26, 2018, and some was found in *USA Philatelic*, the U.S. Postal Service's periodic publication about available stamps.)

Miscellany (continued)

Submitted by: Doris Applebaum

WINE AND WILDLIFE

If you enjoy a glass of wine (or more than that), here's something to think about.

The traditional stoppers on wine bottles are made of cork, but this tradition is being replaced by synthetic stoppers made of plastic or aluminum. This change represents a threat to the Mediterranean cork forests and the wildlife that depends on them, and is also detrimental to the environment.

Cork trees are evergreen oaks, often called cork oaks. They're the basis of a sustainable industry, as the harvesters can strip the bark from a tree as many as 16 times—once every 9 years—without harming the long-lived tree.

Cork forests harbor tremendous plant diversity; only the Amazon and Indonesian rainforests have more. These forests also provide refuge for some endangered wildlife species, including the Iberian Lynx, with only about 150 individuals remaining. Also, many thousands of Eurasian Cranes gorge on the cork acorns as they end their northern migration and prepare for the breeding season.



Picture credit: Gadini (Pixabay.com)

The cork forests anchor the soil, their roots help to protect the water supply, and they are estimated to capture over 20 million tons of carbon dioxide every year. Every 1,000 cases of wine with cork stoppers equal the carbon offset obtained from 17 solar panels, while production of synthetic stoppers generates up to 24 times more CO₂ than the production of cork.

Cork stoppers can even be recycled. It's not easy, but some Whole Foods stores have a recycling box for them. Or you can go to corkforest.org/find-a-dropbox/ to find a possible location.

If the demand for cork declines too much, the cork oaks are likely to be replaced by hardwoods for lumber, or the land could be cleared for developments like shopping malls. So, by insisting on wine that comes with a natural cork stopper, you can help to protect an extremely diverse ecosystem and the wildlife and environment it benefits.

(Information for this article was found in the Fall 2018 issue of *Defenders* magazine, published by Defenders of Wildlife.)

Miscellany (continued)

Submitted by: Doris Applebaum

NEW MIGRATION RESEARCH

Some animal migration is instinctive—monarch butterflies, for example. Much bird migration also seems to be instinctive, and it has generally been believed that this also applies to mammals. However, new research indicates that, rather than based on instinct, mammal migration may be more dependent on knowledge from individuals that have experienced previous migrations.

Researchers from the U. of Wyoming followed the migration of several hundred bighorn sheep and moose by way of GPS collars. Some of these animals followed a migratory route that had been known to have been in existence for a hundred years. Animals in this group had no trouble migrating successfully and were able to find good places to feed when needed.

Animals in another group had been reintroduced to their area only a few generations previously. They migrated, but not as skillfully as the animals who were following a route that had been around for many generations.

Animals in a third group had been recently reintroduced to their area. They did not migrate at all unless more-experienced individuals were in the vicinity.

The researchers estimated that at least a dozen generations are needed in order for a stable migration culture to develop from the beginning, as each generation accumulates more knowledge of the migratory pattern.

These results are considered to pertain to hoofed mammals (ungulates) and indicate that plans for reintroduction of migratory ungulates need to consider whether the necessary migration knowledge exists; otherwise, the reintroduction may fail.

This research also reinforces the importance of conserving existing migration corridors, stopover locations, and non-migration range. All of these places are critically important for the conservation of migratory mammals.



Picture credit: Skeeze (Pixabay.com)

(Information for this article was found in the Anthropocene Weekly Science Dispatch transmitted on the Internet on September 19, 2018.)

My supply of questions is again running low, with only the more difficult (for me) or complicated ones remaining. Please forward your questions either directly to me by email (amazilia3@gmail.com), or to any OAS officer who will forward them to me. You can also send photos, if you have a question or comment about anything you may want me to comment on.

Some bird families only have one species listed under them. Can you list a few and describe a bit about the bird?

The past decade or so has seen many changes to the classification of birds of the world, much of it based on genetic evidence. This research has shown some surprising relationships, solved some long-standing puzzles, and created new mysteries! Classifying birds (and other organisms and plants) is an attempt to order living things in a kind of family tree based on their evolutionary relationships, with more primitive ones at the base of the tree and more advanced ones on the outer branches. An additional challenge comes from trying to create a linear list, for books and checklists that reflect this family tree. Sometimes this is not successful. Some species do not seem to have any close relatives, so are classified into their own families. The 2017 Clements world checklist of birds shows 35 families that contain just a single species. I have listed them all at the end of this column, since I took the time to manually compile them, to satisfy your curiosity. A lot could be said about these species, and there isn't room in this short column for all that. But perhaps the most interesting of these are the two species that are also in their own Order, giving them an even greater level of uniqueness. These two species are the Hoatzin and the Cuckoo-Roller. The Hoatzin is a South American species that has always been considered unique, but was long classified with, or close to, the guans, curassows, and chachalacas. It is now placed closer to the cuckoos! And the Cuckoo-Roller is found in Madagascar, and looks like some species in the Roller Family (Coraciidae), but is different enough, or puzzling enough, to also deserve its own order. Two other species were formerly in their own Orders, but are now grouped together in one. They are the Sunbittern from the Neotropics, and the strange Kagu from New Caledonia which is placed in the same Order in which the Sunbittern has long been classified. The songbird order, Passeriformes, has gained quite a few new Families recently, including 21 with just a single species. About half of these Families existed before, but some have resulted from DNA evidence like the Przevalski's Pinktail from central Asia, which used to be classified with the rosefinches. The Spotted Elachura is one that I cannot figure out where it used to be classified. Often, the family or species name of these unique birds is given the genus name if nothing else has been applied to them in the past. But I cannot find Elachura among genera in older references. Among the puzzles that may have been settled is the Bananaquit (formerly Coerebidae), which is now firmly in the Tanager family, which has also been greatly expanded to include other birds that don't look like tanagers including grassquits and seedeaters. Another puzzle, the Black-capped Donacobius, has been classified in several different ways before now finally getting its own Family. It was called the Black-capped Mockingthrush for many years, and was classified with the Mockingbirds and Thrashers (Mimidae). But different studies came to different conclusions, and relationships were suggested with the Wrens, and even with some Old World Warblers! Closer to home, there are 4 single-species Families in North America.



A pair of Black-capped Donacobius duetting, and displaying their bare yellow neck sacs. Jorge Chavez town, San Martin, Peru. July 16, 2018. Photo by Allen T. Chartier.

NATURE NOTES (continued) by Allen Chartier

They are the Osprey, Limpkin, Olive Warbler, and Yellow-breasted Chat. The Olive Warbler was removed from the Wood Warbler family (Parulidae) many years ago, and yes, our Yellow-breasted Chat has finally been removed from that family too. Putting the chat into its own Family puts to rest (maybe only temporarily) speculation that it might belong to some other Family. So, if you're looking for a stable bird list, I'd suggest you give up that dream, and perhaps look forward to some new single-species Families with future taxonomic revisions!

What does leucistic mean and how does it happen with birding plumage?

The terms albino/albinistic and leucistic/leucism have been used in varying ways, so it is difficult to know even in published journals what exactly is being described. In the strictest sense, an albino completely lacks pigment, including in the eyes, so any other condition is technically not an albino. For example, all white birds with dark eyes are often also called albinos, but these are more properly called leucistic. Leucism is a partial loss of pigmentation, resulting in white, patchy, or pale coloration. While albinism is genetic, the

causes of leucism are not well understood. Some cases may be genetic, but some may be dietary, with a lack of nutrients in the bird's diet preventing proper formation of the normal pigments. Some birds that have been banded showing white feathers have been recaptured later, after a molt, with normally-colored feathers. As a bird bander myself, I see birds with random white feathers nearly every year in a variety of species. It is perhaps more common in the thrushes than some other species, but it is also not too unusual in Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, as in the photo (left) of an adult female that was at least 6 years old at the time this photo was taken. But there is no evidence that I'm aware of that age has any relationship to white in some or even most of a bird's feathers. Some female birds are known to acquire more male-like plumage as they age. For example, older female Baltimore Orioles can have extensive black feathering on the head, which may be related to hormone levels resulting in more melanin (black pigment) in those feathers.



© Allen T. Chartier

example, older female Baltimore Orioles can have extensive black feathering on the head, which may be related to hormone levels resulting in more melanin (black pigment) in those feathers.

Don't be shy! If you have a question you would like Allen to answer in a future Nature Notes column or a topic you are interested in hearing more about, you can email it to him at:

amazilia3@gmail.com

NATURE NOTES (continued) by Allen Chartier

Single-species (Families), and the [Orders] they are classified within:

Shoebill (Balaenicipitidae) [Pelecaniformes]
Hamerkop (Scopidae) [Pelecaniformes]
Osprey (Pandionidae) [Accipitriformes]
Kagu (Rhynochetidae) [Eurypygiformes]
Sunbittern (Eurypygidae) [Eurypygiformes]
Limpkin (Aramidae) [Gruiformes]
Magellanic Plover (Pluvianellidae) [Charadriiformes]
Egyptian Plover (Pluvianidae) [Charadriiformes]
Ibisbill (Ibidorhynchidae) [Charadriiformes]
Plains-wanderer (Pedionomidae) [Charadriiformes]
Crab-Plover (Dromadidae) [Charadriiformes]
Hoatzin (Opisthocomidae) [Opisthocomiformes]
Oilbird (Steatornithidae) [Caprimulgiformes]
Cuckoo-Roller (Leptosomidae) [Leptosomiformes]
Sapayoaa (Sapayoidae) [Passeriformes]
Sharpbill (Oxyruncidae) [Passeriformes]
Stitchbird (Notiomystidae) [Passeriformes]
Bornean Bristlehead (Pityriaseidae) [Passeriformes]
Wattled Ploughbill (Eulacestomatidae) [Passeriformes]
Mottled Berryhunter (Rhagologidae) [Passeriformes]
Blue-capped Ifrita (Ifritidae) [Passeriformes]
Malaysian Rail-babbler (Eupetidae) [Passeriformes]
Bearded Reedling (Panuridae) [Passeriformes]
Wallcreeper (Tichodromidae) [Passeriformes]
Black-capped Donacobius (Donaciobiidae)
[Passeriformes]
Przevalski's Pinktail (Urocynchramidae) [Passeriformes]
Spotted Elachura (Elachuridae) [Passeriformes]
Palmchat (Dulidae) [Passeriformes]
Hylocitre (Hylocitreidae) [Passeriformes]
Hypocolius (Hypocoliidae) [Passeriformes]
Olive Warbler (Peucedramidae) [Passeriformes]
Rosy Thrush-Tanager (Rhodinicichlidae)
[Passeriformes]
Puerto Rican Tanager (Nesospingidae) [Passeriformes]
Wrenthrush (Zeledoniidae) [Passeriformes]
Yellow-breasted Chat (Icteriidae) [Passeriformes]

Bird Briefs (articles to look at on-line)

Submitted by Don Burlett

Bird Briefs

Songbirds Perceive Color In Categories Like People Do

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/grrlscientist/2018/08/09/songbirds-perceive-color-like-people-do/#1b1eee6e3260>

How we perceive color is an important factor in daily life. The fact that birds use a similar system provides a very interesting evolutionary concept to understand. Using Zebra Finches, researchers studied how birds look at color and differentiate between colors. Categorical perception is the key concept here. An interesting study and some insight into birds and breeding selection.

Have We Found The First Parrot Breeders In North America?

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/grrlscientist/2018/08/13/have-we-found-the-first-parrot-breeders-in-north-america/#4dba17d27fb1>

Hard to fathom that Scarlet Macaws were bred by indigenous people back between 800 and 1200 AD in New Mexico. However, skeletal remains of these macaws were found and studied by researchers to understand where they came from and what they were doing there. Because they held great social value in these groups, the macaws were bred and kept far from their place of origin. Interesting story about birds and their place in society.

How House Sparrows Became Our Closest Avian Companion

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/grrlscientist/2018/08/21/how-house-sparrows-became-our-closest-avian-companion/#3612c8271bb5>

We all know that House Sparrows associate closely with people. However, genetic changes that led to the evolution of the House Sparrow closely match changes in humans and dogs that occurred over the ages based on our conversion to an agricultural species. Interesting study and comparison of how birds evolve right alongside other species. Fun read!

Macaws Communicate Their Emotions By Blushing And Fluffing Facial Feathers

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/grrlscientist/2018/08/23/macaws-communicate-their-emotions-by-blushing-and-fluffing-facial-feathers/#3a8426332702>

Emotional responses by macaws can be studied and understood. Feather ruffling and blushing are two means by which macaws can show an emotional response. Understanding this is important because so many people have birds like these as pets.

'Hyperalarming' study shows massive insect loss

https://www.washingtonpost.com/science/2018/10/15/hyperalarming-study-shows-massive-insect-loss/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.6d1283797068&wpisrc=al_news_alert-hse--alert-national&wpmk=1

This is a scary report about loss of insects around the world. It will, of course, directly affect our birds and eventually us. Not for the faint of heart.

Scottish GPs to begin prescribing rambling and birdwatching

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/oct/05/scottish-gps-nhs-begin-prescribing-rambling-birdwatching>

Finally, a positive article about Birdwatching. It's good for your health and doctors are taking notice. Now, don't you feel better!!??

BIRD ID QUIZ (WINTER 2018)



A) _____

B) _____



C) _____

Last (Fall '18) issue photo quiz answers:

Quiz a) Bay-breasted Warbler, b) Blackpoll Warbler and c) Blackburnian Warbler

Explanation: a) Note buffy undertail and flanks, unstreaked breast, vague eye spectacles; b) White undertail coverts, faintly streaked breast, narrow, dark eyeline; c) Facial pattern and light streak on forehead, streaking on flanks and sides

How'd you do with the ID's of the winter birds? Keep score throughout the year to see how you do!

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

September 20, 2018

The board members were sorry to hear that Mike Mencotti will not be doing his Wednesday morning field trips next year.

Our Facebook page now has 997 likes.

Seven Ponds Nature Center has begun putting lines of “dot” stickers on all large windows on the side and back of the building, to prevent birds from crashing into the windows. It has been working well.

Young Birders Club events have been scheduled for each month for the rest of the year.

OAS will participate in National Audubon’s Climate Watch project, monitoring White-breasted Nuthatches over the next several years to see how they are affected by climate change.

OAS will help out at the Hawk Woods Fall Festival in Auburn Hills in October; this event usually attracts at least 1,000 people.

Doris Applebaum, Secretary



Have you seen something interesting or have a unique story to tell about a trip, hike or other experience?

Have you read a good book about the natural world you'd like to review?

We're always looking for input from our members for the newsletter!

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS

Date	Time	Program	Location
Tues., January 8	7:00 p.m.	Birding Spain and the Strait of Gibraltar	First United Methodist Church (see below)
Tues., February 12	7:00 p.m.	A Passage to South India	First United Methodist Church (see below)
Tues., March 12	7:00 p.m.	Biodiversity and Its Impact on Humanity	First United Methodist Church (see below)

Monthly membership meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month (except December, May, July and August) at 7:00 p.m., at the First United Methodist Church, 1589 West Maple Road, Birmingham, in the Thomas Parlor. The facility is located on the south side of Maple Road between Southfield and Cranbrook Roads. There is plenty of lighted, free parking and barrier-free access. Our meetings are free and open to the public. For meeting cancellation information, check our website, call a board member or call the church at (248) 646-1200.

MEMBERSHIP MESSAGE

Welcome New Members!

Kayla, Rod, and Andrea Niner

Diane Hoagland

Cathy Elias

Our membership drive for 2019 is underway! Please pay your membership dues at a monthly meeting or by mailing in the membership form on page 33.

Thanks to everyone who helps sustain OAS with your membership contributions. We would be nowhere without you!



OAKLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Mobile: (____) _____

Email address: _____

Please indicate with an (X) in the box any personal information above you do not want listed in the OAS membership directory.

Check also if you are a member of:

- National Audubon Society
 Michigan Audubon Society

OAS needs and welcomes volunteers — please participate if you can!

Check if you have the skills to help:

- Become a board member
 Lead a field trip or present a program
 Fill an open position (Position: _____)

Please check appropriate line:

- Member renewal
 New member
 Change of address

OAS Membership Fees

- Individual \$15
- Family \$20
- Contributing \$25
- Supporting \$50
- Benefactor \$100

Please make checks payable to:
OAKLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Mail to:
OAS MEMBERSHIP
2780 SCENIC MEADOWS DRIVE
ORTONVILLE, MICHIGAN 48462

Our Mission

- To provide, on a local level, access to the natural world through educational programs such as meetings and field trips.
- To advocate the preservation of wildlife habitats and endeavor to create interest in native birds, other animals and plants in Michigan.

*Oakland Audubon Society is a 501(c)(3) organization.
Your donation is 100% tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*