



CINCINNATI BIRD CLUB

PASSENGER PIGEON

VOLUME 53, ISSUE 5 MAY 2017

PROGRAM: MAY MEETING AND PICNIC

Date: Thursday, May 18, 2017

Time: 6:15 PM

Location: Sharon Woods

Meet: In the Picnic Area between the Visitor Center and Buckeye Falls Road. See the directions below.

Our May meeting will be a bit different this year. We have decided to forgo the normal monthly speaker format for a members picnic and evening bird walk. Make a note that the meeting time is earlier than normal. We will meet at

6:15 PM in the picnic grounds located between the Sharon Woods Visitor Center and Buckeye Falls Drive.

This is not a pot-luck so bring your own dinner and drinks, carry out or homemade, whatever suits you. We will have some drinks and desserts available and maybe a surprise or two. While we picnic, we can share stories, talk birding and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow birders while we eat out in a picturesque

setting. During our picnic we will conduct a short 10 minute business meeting. Spring migration will still be underway and all of our breeding birds will have returned by this date, so our meal should be pleasantly interrupted by plenty of bird activity in the surrounding trees. After we have eaten our meal, we will take a leisurely bird walk around the grounds until about dusk, 8:30 PM or so. If it rains we can move our picnic to a shelter (if we can find an unoccupied one) or even inside, as we will still have our normal meeting room available to us if needed. So why not come out and join us for what should be a pleasant and fun evening outdoors. This is our last meeting before our summer sabbatical and until the new season begins next September.

(Continued on page 2)

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *Meeting*
- *Messenger*
- *East Fork State Park Birding Festival*
- *Birdathon*
- *Volunteer Opportunities.*
- *Yard Birds*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

The Messenger.	2
East Fork State Park Birding Festival	3
Oxbow INC Birdathon	4
BioBlitz	4
Calendar	5
Festival Volunteers	5
Quiz Bird	6
Yard Birds	7
Yard Birds	8
Raptor Open House	9



FACEBOOK

The Cincinnati Bird Club is now

on facebook at [https://](https://www.facebook.com/cincinnatibirdclub)

www.facebook.com/cincinnatibirdclub Like our page and follow it for information about upcoming meetings,

Solitary Sandpiper. Photo by Bill Stanley

field trips and other bird club information.

EAST FORK BIRDING FESTIVAL KICKOFF


May 12 from 7 until 9pm at UC Clermont College Room S142/3. Donald Morse and the East Fork Birding Festival presents a free screening of the movie "The Messenger" to kick off the Festival. The movie is about song birds and the perils they face. More information about "The Messenger" can be found here:

<http://songbirdsos.com/>

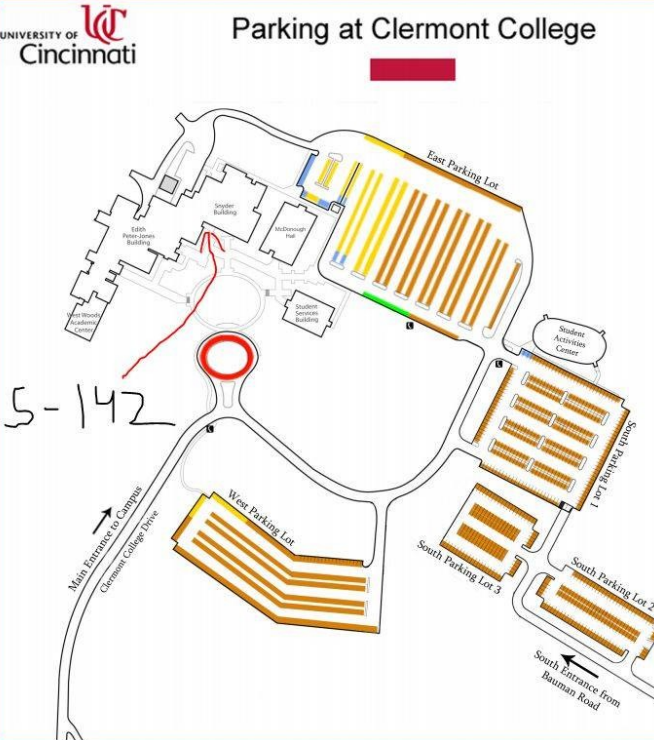
Here is a map showing the location of room S142/3 at Clermont College.

Clermont College can be found on Google maps here:

[UC Clermont](#)



Parking at Clermont College



UNIVERSITY OF Cincinnati

Please park in the appropriate color parking space. Violators will be issued a ticket.

- Visitor Spaces - Two Hour (6)
- Student & Visitor Spaces (1211)
- Faculty & Staff Spaces (176)
- Drop-off Area Only
- Handicap Spaces (30)
- Emergency Help Phone

Seasonal Motorcycle Parking Available in East Parking Lot

Ticket Fines:

- Parking outside a designated area: \$15
- No valid decal or parking permit displayed: \$25
- Parking in a handicap space without a placard: \$250
- Fines double after 10 business days.
- Additional fines apply for parking in firelanes and other restricted areas.

(Continued from page 1)

ber. If you can't quite make it that early in the evening, come when you can. We should be easy to find in the picnic grounds before our walk begins. Directions: You have two choices to reach the Picnic Area. You could park in the Sharon Center parking lot and

walk west past a playground and across the bridge over Sharon Creek into the picnic table area. Or from the Sharon Road Park entrance you could immediately turn left onto Buckeye Falls Drive (just before the Visitor Center parking lot) and go to the first parking lot on the right. This is probably a shorter walk (if you're carrying a cooler) than

from the Visitor Center parking lot. There is a public first come first serve picnic shelter on the Visitor Center side of the creek, which we might be able to grab if not already taken. We will be easy to find, just look for the people with binoculars around their necks. Hope to see you there.



2017 East Fork State Park Birding Festival May 13-14th

Did you know there are active Bald Eagle nests in Clermont Co. this spring?

- Find out where you can find Bald Eagles locally
- Raptor, Inc. live owl presentation at **3pm Saturday only!**
- Bird Walks throughout the day, including a nocturnal hike for owls/woodcocks
- Bird specimens on display from the Cincinnati Museum Center's collection
- Talks on Bird Identification, Photography, Conservation
- There will be a free kickoff screening of the Messenger documentary on May 12th at 7pm at UC Clermont in Batavia
- Activities for Young Birders and Children of all ages, & more!

All activities will be centered at the south public swimming beach in Bantam, OH. For directions or more information, contact:

Donald Morse Jr. "Donald the Birder" at donalddthebirder@gmail.com and/or see the park website for directions:

<http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/eastfork>

Some organizations that will make this all possible include: Various private donors, Cincinnati Bird Club, Cincinnati Museum Center, Raptor Inc., [Donald the Birder's Blog](#)

OXBOW INC. THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL BIRDATHON

2017 will be the 31st year for the annual Oxbow INC. Birdathon fundraising event and has been a tradition of the Bird Club since the beginning. There are many ways to participate and it all goes for a good cause-the Oxbow. Teams or individuals can choose to do an all out blitz on the whole Birdathon area or they can count species in their yard or something in between. This year Donald Morris, Bill Hutchison I will be combining our Birdathon effort with the East Fork Birding Festival. Bill and I will be counting species in all of East

Fork State Park and the roads surrounding the park and Donald Morris will be counting from the festival area at the Harsha Lake South Beach. When you are Birdathoning in the East Fork Area stop by the East Fork Birding Festival. There will be a running list of birds seen in the park so you may get the inside scoop on that specie that has been alluding your team.

It only costs \$5.00 per person to register and that covers the tally dinner at Fernald on Saturday. You can also use the Birdathon to raise money for another organization by splitting the do-

nations you collect 50% Oxbow and 50% your organization.

Details about the Birdathon can be found on the Oxbow Inc web site here:

[OXBOW INC](#)

Or you can contact

Jay Stenger,
Oxbow Inc. Birdathon Committee
9761 Winton Rd.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45231
(513) 522-8147
jaystenger@cinci.rr.com



Willetts and Pectoral Sandpiper at East Fork State Park's Harsha Lake South Beach. April 29 2017. Both are very good species to find while doing the Birdathon.

Photos by Bill Stanley

JUNE SHAWNEE STATE FOREST BIOBLITZ

On June 3 and 4 Dave Ackerman of the Ohio Sierra Club is organizing a biological survey in an area of Shawnee State Forest and is looking for volunteers to identify birds in the area. He also needs people who can identify plants and other animal species as well. The purpose of this survey is to identify plants and animals in the area and possibly spare this area of Shawnee

from clear cutting. The state is allowing Shawnee to be logged.

If you would like to use your bird ID skills to aid in this effort contact Dave Ackerman to sign up.

ackey123@gmail.com

(513)233-2026

Birding Calendar

- May 12...The Messenger Film. Kick off for the East Fork Birding Festival
- May 12...Oxbow Inc. Birdathon.
- May 13...East Fork Birding Festival
- May 13...Oxbow Inc. Birdathon continues
- May 13...Cincinnati Nature Center Bird Walk at Long Branch Farm. [CNC](#)
- May 14...East Fork Birding Festival.
- May 18...Meeting and Picnic
- May 27...Cincinnati Nature Center Bird Walk. [CNC](#)

MAY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

EAST FORK BIRDING FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS

Date: May 13 and 14, 2016

Hours 7:00am until dark

There is going to be a Birding Festival at East Fork State Park South Beach and this is our chance to educate people about the birds in the park and let people know that we (birders) are using the park. Many groups like horsemen, mountain bikers, hunters, fishermen, geotreckers, scullers and more have a visible presence in the park and in turn help mold how the park is managed. We birders are a quiet, inconspicuous group whose use of the park is easy to overlook. Our participation in the festival can help to change this and we can bring attention to the importance of having places like East Fork State Park as an ecosystem where birds and other wildlife can live

free from the threat of development. With habitat that is preserved in our public lands like East Fork State Park, bird populations can continue to thrive into the future.

We are looking for volunteers to work at the festival. What we would like to do is have someone to point out birds on the lake and around the beach to people at the festival. In addition, we would like to have people lead groups to bird in various places around the lake. While doing so the volunteer can inform people about how important places like East Fork State Park are to birds as a stop during migration or a place to nest. Volunteers can also tell festival participants about the Cincinnati Bird Club. The festival will run Saturday and Sunday from 7am

until dark and we are looking for people to work for an hour or two at a time or however much time you would like to be there. If you have a scope and are willing to set it up and use it to show people water birds or even the eagles that live on the lake that would be good, but not required.

Donald Morris is organizing the festival. Many of us know Don, who is a vigilant East Fork birder and finds many good birds in the park.

If you want to volunteer you can contact Don at

donalddthebirder@gmail.com

(513)807-9424



Watch for an email soon with the answer for last months quiz bird.

PATCH AND YARD BIRDS



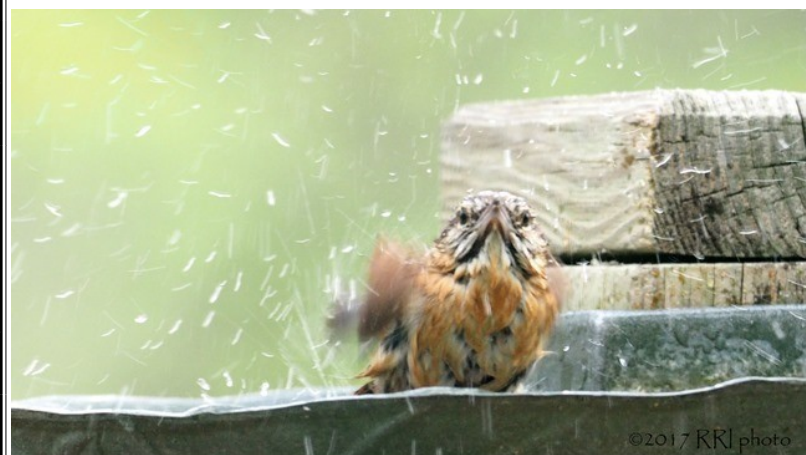
Dennis Meyers has been catching the spring migration at local birding spots with American Redstart and Cerulean Warbler at Shawnee Lookout. Baltimore Oriole at Kroger Hills and Orchard Oriole, Palm Warbler, Warbling Vireo and Solitary Sandpiper at Otto Armleder Park.

Photos by Dennis Meyers



Your photos can appear in the Passenger Pigeon too. If you have bird photos that you want to share send them to the Passenger Pigeon Editor at tyrannus58@gmail.com

PATCH AND YARD BIRDS



Bob and Linda Ireton had a great woodpecker day at their feeder with all of the normally occurring woodpeckers except Northern Flicker. What a day! In Bob's photos you can see the difference in structure and bill shape of the Down and Hairy Woodpeckers.

Photos by Bob Ireton.

Your photos can appear in the Passenger Pigeon too. If you have bird photos that you want to share send them to the Passenger Pigeon Editor at tyrannus58@gmail.com



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Learn how YOU can help protect these magnificent birds of prey.

**THE LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH
APRIL-NOVEMBER 1:00 PM-4:00 PM**

or by scheduled appointment. Call (513) 825-3325 or visit www.raptorinc.org





CINCINNATI BIRD CLUB

c/o Newsletter Editor
3491 Bootjack Corner Rd
Williamsburg, Ohio 45176

President

Jack Stenger: jackstenger@gmail.com

Program Chair

Brian Wulker: bdwulker@gmail.com

Treasurer

Lois Shadix: lcshadix@fuse.net

Field Trips

Mike Busam: mbusam@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Bill Stanley: tyrannus58@gmail.com

Park VIP

John Stewart: j_stewart@cinci.rr.com

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
[CINCINNATI BIRD CLUB](#)
[FACEBOOK](#)

Bird Club Membership

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

_____ Individual \$12.00 _____ Family \$15.00 _____ Student (under 18) FREE

Make your check payable to Cincinnati Bird Club, and mail to our Treasurer:

Lois Shadix (lcshadix@fuse.net), 2928 Saddleback Dr, Cincinnati, OH 45244

2016-2017 DUES:

IF YOU HAVEN'T SENT
IN YOUR DUES YET
FOR THE SEPTEMBER
2016 - MAY 2017
BIRDING SEASON,
PLEASE FILL OUT THE
FORM AND MAIL IT IN
ALONG WITH YOUR
MEMBERSHIP FEES