



Passenger Pigeon

Newsletter of the Cincinnati Bird Club

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September 2004

September Field Trips

Indian Creek State Wildlife Area Brown County, Ohio

Sunday, September 19, 7:30 a.m.

*Jay Stenger, (513) 522-8147,
jaystenger@cinci.rr.com*

Come with us and see this hidden gem during the peak of fall migration. This quiet 1,400 acre little-known area has a diverse number of habitats (woodland, fields, brushy areas, wetlands, several small ponds, the wooded corridor of Indian Creek, and nearby agricultural land) which should produce a great number of birds of a variety of species. Songbird migration will be well under way, and the wetlands should produce a number of other species. We will probably spend much of the morning walking the quiet gravel roadways, but it is level and easy. While this trip won't last much past noon, you might still want to bring your lunch and at least drinks. We may go on to Rocky Fork Lake afterwards, depending on reports from there.

Because this is a state wildlife area, there are few amenities. Restrooms are primitive (ie: outhouses) and few and far between. We will meet at 7:30 am, in the parking lot of the United Dairy Farmers located in Perintown, on US 50, at the corner (stoplight) of Roundbottom Rd. We will caravan from there to Indian Creek SWA, about a 20 minute drive. Gas/Restrooms/Supplies are all available at the UDF. To get to this meeting spot from I-275, take the US 50, Milford/Hillsboro exit # 59, and drive east about 3 miles. The UDF is on the right.

Miami-Whitewater Forest and Wetlands

Sunday, September 12, 8:00 a.m.

Joe Bens, (513) 353-4229, jbens@cinci.rr.com

Meet in the Miami-Whitewater Visitor Center parking lot, as near the lot entrance as possible. From I-74, take the Dry Fork Road exit and turn right. Turn right onto West Road at the first stop sign, then left into the park just after the small bridge, and follow the signs. A Park District auto sticker (\$3 annual, \$1 daily) is required. The plan is to first bird the wooded portions of the park, where we hope to find migrant warblers and other passerines, and then to move over to the wetlands to search for shorebirds, marsh and open country birds. While only a half day trip, this might last past noon, so plan accordingly. Boots are always a good idea at the wetlands.

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September Meeting

Thursday, September 16, 7:00 p.m.

Sharon Woods Visitor Center

Our September program, a joint meeting with RAPTOR, Inc., will feature raptor photographer and author, Brian Wheeler. His most recent book, *Raptors of Eastern North America*, was published in the fall of 2003. Mr. Wheeler will produce a "light hearted show" covering his recent travels to obtain images for his new books. This includes raptors and other birds of Colorado, Wyoming, Duluth, Camp May, Florida, Texas, Arizona, and Mexico.

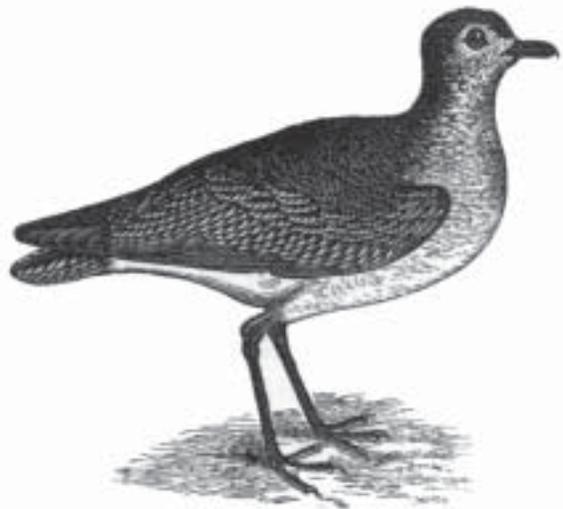
Mr. Wheeler is renowned as the illustrator, co-author, and co-photographer for *Peterson Field Guides: Hawks* and *A Photographic Guide to North American Raptors*. These books contain 630 of his color photographs and the most extensive text and largest, most comprehensive range maps ever published on North American raptors. He is highly acclaimed as a raptor photographer with numerous credits in magazines and books and paints life-sized images of North American birds. Mr. Wheeler obtained formal art training in design and illustration from the Paier College of Art, Hamden, Connecticut from 1975 to 1978. A fairly detailed biography may be found on the web at <http://www.virtualbirder.com/bkwheeler/bio.html>.

We have a limited quantity of his most recent book for sale with a portion of the proceeds benefiting RAPTOR Inc. The price is \$43.00. Brian will be available to sign this, or any of his other books at the program. You can reserve your copy by contacting Jeff Hays at jlhays@fuse.net or 513 821-9822. The book is also available at Wild About Birds in Milford Ohio 513 248-2044

For more info on RAPTOR Inc., see www.raptor.org

Rare Bird Hotline

It's time once again to sign up for the Bird Club's rare bird hotline. For anyone who isn't familiar with the hotline, the idea is that anyone who finds a rare bird in our area calls the top of the list, and that person then passes the word along to the next person. When the system works well, everyone has heard about the bird within a few minutes. For better or worse, with the increased usage of the internet, we are seeing fewer calls sent out on the hotline. You can expect that it will be used only for birds seen less than annually in our area, and which have been seen within the past few hours. More common birds, or birds which aren't reported to the hotline for a couple of days, probably won't be sent out. To sign up for the hotline, call Jay Stenger at 522-4245 (home) or 522-8147 (work). **YOU MUST CONTACT JAY TO SIGN UP FOR THIS YEAR, EVEN IF YOU WERE ON THE LIST LAST YEAR.** By signing up, you are promising that when you get a call, you will pass it on to the next person, and that if you can't reach that person, you will call down the list until you reach another birder. Answering machines and non-birding family members do not count. Please do not give us a work number unless you can receive, and make, calls at work.



Contributors Wanted

Passenger Pigeon by eMail

You can choose to receive your copy of the Passenger Pigeon by eMail instead of getting a paper copy through the regular mail. Getting the newsletter by eMail will save the Bird Club the expense of printing and mailing your copy, and you will receive it several days sooner than the paper copy would arrive. You will need to have the free Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer. If you do not already have it, a free copy can be downloaded from <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>.

To sign up for this service, send an eMail to the editor at keller@one.net. You can switch back to a paper copy at any time.

The Passenger Pigeon needs your help! Don't worry, we're not hitting you up for money. Instead, we need your contributions in the form of articles or artwork for our newsletter. Or should we say, *your* newsletter. Please send your submissions to Ned by the 20th of the month. If possible, I would prefer them by eMail to keller@one.net. But if that's not possible, you can also send them to 7899 Bridgetown Road, Cleves OH 45002.

Are Your Dues Due?

If you haven't sent in your dues yet for the September 2004 - May 2005 birding year, just fill out the form below and mail them in. If you've already sent your dues, why not give the form to a birding friend who isn't a member?

Bird Club Membership

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____

eMail _____

_____ Individual \$12.00 _____ Family \$15.00 _____ Student \$6.00

Make your check payable to Cincinnati Bird Club, and mail to:
 Peg Gatch, 11 Mound Avenue, Milford, OH 45150

<http://cincinnatibirds.com/goodbird/sighting.php>

Recent Bird Sightings

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