



Passenger Pigeon

Newsletter of the Cincinnati Bird Club

Vol. 41 No. 2

February 2005

February Program

Members Bird Photographs/Slides/Digital

Thursday, February 17, 2005 - 7:00 p.m.

We had to cancel the members photo program last month due to bad weather. So, we'll try again this month.

This program will be bird slides taken by members. Please remember to limit the number of slides to about 10 to 20 per member, so that everyone gets a chance to show their photographs. For those into digital photography, there is a digital projector available at the visitor's center where our meetings are held. I plan to have my laptop computer there, to show a few of my digital photos. My laptop has a CD-ROM drive. If you have pictures on another type of drive, please contact me well in advance of the meeting to discuss how to show your photos. Alternatively, bring your own laptop. You can e-mail me at lehman.jg@pg.com or call me at 513-622-2399 (work, day) or after 8:00 pm at 513-527-4701 (home).

ECOAN Update

In the December 2004 edition of the Passenger Pigeon I wrote about a conservation group in Cusco, Peru called ECOAN (Asociacion Ecosistemas Andinos, web site <http://www.ecoanperu.org/ingles.htm>). On a recent trip to Peru, our guide Alexis Gallo a member of ECOAN had shown us the wetlands of 803 hectares just east of Cusco and adjacent to the towns of Huacarpay and Lucre, fed by the polluted Lucre River that ECOAN would like to see maintained as Wetlands. I am happy to report that in a recent letter to me Alex & Susana wrote that ECOAN had formed a strategic alliance with the Regional Government and together they have formed The Wetlands of Huacarpay Conservation Committee. From the above web site I found the name of an ECOAN contact if any of the bird club members want more information. It is Constantino Aucua, President of ECOAN, Urb. Ttio Q-1-13 pasaje "Uriel Garcia" Wanchaq, Cusco, Peru.

Albert E. Lane



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February Field Trips

Great Miami River & Butler County Locations

Saturday, February 19

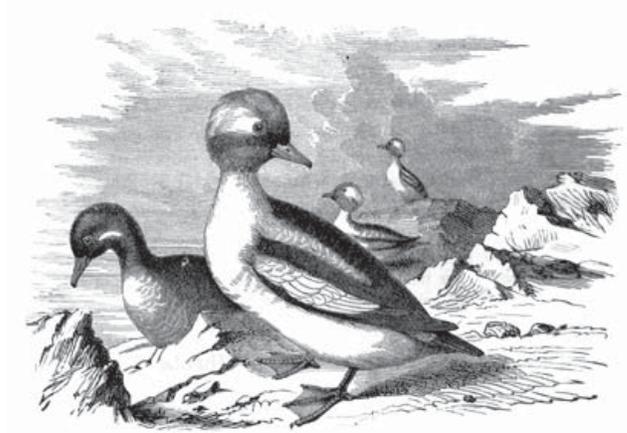
Leader: Mike Busam, (513) 755-0057 or email at mjb@schaffer.cc

Meet at 8:00 AM, in the parking lot of The Hamilton Riverside Natural Area (directions below)

Join Mike for a morning trip to several sites along the Great Miami River in Butler County to look primarily for waterbirds and waterfowl. These spots usually have plenty of wintering birds, but spring migration for many of these species should be getting underway as well. Mike will begin at the Hamilton Riverside Natural Area and caravan to several other spots from there. This is a half day trip and will be over by noon. If reports are good from Gilmore Ponds, and time permits, Mike may end the trip there. We did this trip last year in February and it was well attended and was quite successful. If you have any questions concerning this trip, feel free to contact Mike by phone or email.

Directions from inside I-275: I-275 to the Route 4 exit. Follow Route 4 North, towards Hamilton, until you reach the traffic light at Symmes Road. (The old Fisher Body plant sits on the northeast corner of the intersection). Turn left onto Symmes Road and follow Symmes until you reach River Road. Turn right at River Road. While on River Road you'll pass Joyce Park before coming to a three-way intersection where St. Clair (named for you-know-who) runs into River Road. Stay on River Road. The next traffic light marks the intersection of River Road and Fairview, the road that leads to Riverside Natural Area. Turn left onto Fairview and drive about 300 yards until you reach the parking lot—you

can't miss it. You can also take I-75 to Route 129 (Mike Fox Highway). Take 129 west into Hamilton. Cross Route 4, then after the railroad underpass turn left on Martin Luther King Boulevard (there is a McDonald's on the left, as well). Right on Knightsbridge. Left on River Road/Neilan Boulevard. Right on Fairview.



Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area, Wyandot County

Saturday, February 26, 2005

Co-leaders; Joe Bens and Jay Stenger

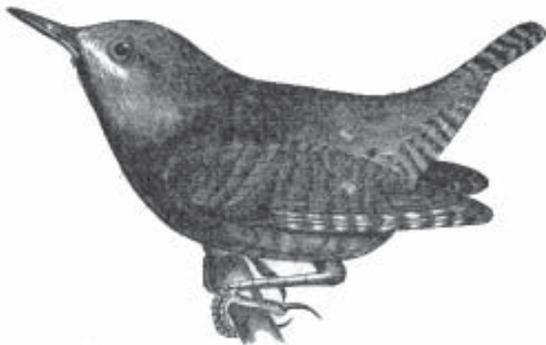
For meeting place and time, call or email Jay at (513) 522-4245 or jaystenger@cinci.rr.com

Join us on this all day trip to Killdeer Plains to search for hawks, owls, waterfowl and a number of other interesting winter and early migrant species. Killdeer Plains is located in northwest-central Ohio and is about a 2.5 hour one way drive from Cincinnati. Because of the nature of this long distance trip, we ask you to call or email ahead and let us know to expect you. At that time we will give you the meeting location, which is not decided yet. The meeting time will be 9:30 AM. We will caravan from the

meeting place and should arrive at Killdeer Plains around noon. We will stay until complete dark (6:15 pm?), to look for Short-eared Owls, which may not begin their nightly forays until then. If you stay with us the whole day, you can expect not to arrive home until around 9:00 pm or later.

This may sound like a lot of trouble, but Killdeer Plains is always worth the effort. We expect to find Short-Eared, Long-Eared, Great Horned and possibly Northern Saw-whet Owls. Bald Eagles, many Northern Harriers, Red-tailed Hawks and American Kestrels, Rough-legged Hawks, and accipiters should be easily seen. Waterfowl should be diverse and plentiful as spring migration will be well under way, and I would not be surprised to see American Woodcock displaying at dusk. Northern Shrike, Lapland Longspurs and Snow Buntings are all possible, even though the date is getting late for them. We should also find Red-headed Woodpeckers and Ring-necked Pheasants and a number of other species.

The trip will consist of mostly driving through this large area, with frequent stops to view birds. There will probably be a short walk or two, and in February that means wet ground, so wear appropriate footwear and dress warm. Bring your lunch and drinks. Winter weather won't cancel this trip, but severe weather will. Call if your unsure. We hope to see you on what should be a great day of birding.



Contributors Wanted

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.

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

Recent Bird Sightings

Field Trips:
Jay Stenger
522-4245

President:
Jay Lehman
527-4701

Treasurer:
Peggy Gatch
831-3378

Programs:
Jay Lehman
527-4701

Newsletter:
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941-6497

Bird Club Officers

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