



Passenger Pigeon

Newsletter of the Cincinnati Bird Club

Vol. 41 No. 8

November 2005

November Program

Avian Research and Education Institute (AREI): Bird Banding in Outdoor Classrooms and Education

Thursday, November 17, 7:00 p.m.

Sharon Woods Visitor Center

David Russell will talk about the AREI, a non-profit established by David and his wife, Jill, and the use of bird banding stations as outdoor classrooms for schools, clubs, community members, etc. They have banded 96 species and nearly 3000 individuals since beginning this endeavor last year! This presentation will combine some information about migration with discussing the uses of bird banding. David has photographed at close range many common and unusual warblers and other migrants during the banding operation. I'm looking forward to seeing many of those included in this program. These include Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows banded and photographed this fall at Miami Whitewater Wetland.

About the Speaker: David Russell is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Zoology, Miami University, in Oxford, Ohio. His academic interests listed on the Miami University, Department of Zoology website are molecular systemics, entomology, and ornithology. He teaches Environmental Biology. David describes himself as "about 6'5" with a beard, not much hair on top and a propensity for chasing birds." Whenever there is a rare bird in the Cincinnati

area, one can expect to see David and wife Jill show up. He contributes to ornithological knowledge in the area with reports on and photographs of unusual and rare birds in the Oxford area and at Hueston Woods State Park. These contributions can be found on Birding in Cincinnati, Ned Keller's website, and in The Ohio Cardinal. His wife, Jill, is also a Visiting Assistant professor in the Department of Zoology, Miami University in Oxford.



In This Issue

November Program	1
November Field Trips	2
Rare Bird Hotline	2
Christmas Count Dates	3
Are Your Dues Due?	3

November Field Trips

Brookville Lake / Hueston Woods

Sunday, November 13, 7:30 a.m.

Ned Keller, 941-6497, keller@one.net

We'll cover Brookville Lake thoroughly, looking for waterfowl and whatever else comes along. From there, we'll move on to Hueston Woods State Park. By mid-November, we should be at the height of waterfowl migration, and Brookville is a great spot to find them in large numbers. Hueston Woods generally has fewer birds, but we often get closer looks.

Meet to caravan at the Park & Ride lot on S.R. 128, at I-74 Exit 7, marked Cleves-Hamilton. This is the first exit after crossing over the Great Miami River. Bring lunch. We will return mid to late afternoon.

Summit Lake State Park

Saturday, November 19, 7:30 a.m.

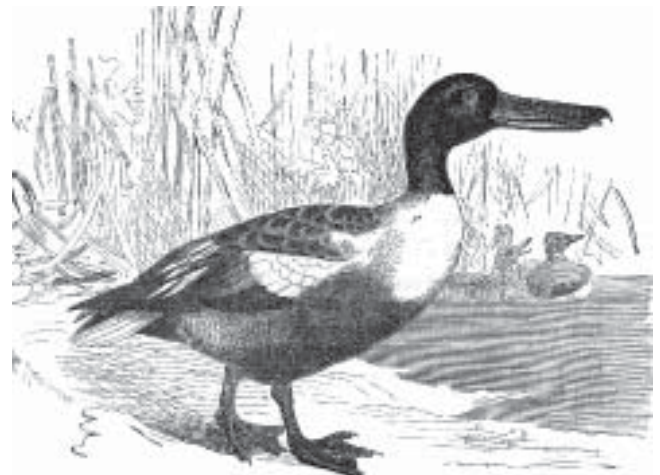
*Jay Stenger, 522-4245,
jaystenger@cinci.rr.com*

In past years, Summit Lake State Park, located in Henry County, Indiana, about 30 miles north of Brookville Reservoir (which we may visit on the way back) has been one of the hottest waterfowl areas in our region. The park has both shallow water for puddle ducks and deeper water for divers; and the entire lake has restricted boat speeds, so there is a minimum of disturbance for the birds. We expect to find abundant waterfowl, along with raptors and other late migrants and winter residents. Dependin on our timing, we may also visit the north end of Brookville Lake on the way home

Meet to caravan at the Park & Ride lot on S.R. 128, at I-74 Exit 7, marked Cleves-Hamilton. This is the first exit after crossing over the Great Miami River. Bring lunch. We will return mid to late afternoon.

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.



Christmas Count Dates

We'll have all the details next month, but mark your calendars now for this year's Christmas Counts.

- Caesar's Creek (New Count!): December 15
- Ohio River: December 17
- Hamilton-Fairfield: December 17
- Western Hamilton County: December 18
- Paint Creek Area: December 18
- Cincinnati: December 26
- East Fork Lake S.P.: January 2



Are Your Dues Due?

If the box on the cover is checked, you have only one more issue of the Passenger Pigeon left. To avoid missing anything, just fill out the form below and mail it in. If you think your dues were paid, check with Peg Gatch at (513) 831-3378.

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

Field Trips:
Jay Stenger
522-4245

President:
Jay Lehman
527-4701

Treasurer:
Peggy Gatch
831-3378

Programs:
Jay Lehman
527-4701

Newsletter:
Ned Keller
941-6497

Bird Club Officers

Ned Keller
Cincinnati Bird Club
7899 Bridgetown Road
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If this box is
checked, your
dues are due.