



The Passenger Pigeon

The Newsletter of the Cincinnati Bird Club

September 2007 Vol 43 No. 6

September Bird Club Events

September Meeting:

**“Pelagic Birding.”
Presented by
Jay G. Lehman
Thursday, September 20. 7:00 p.m.
Sharon Woods
Visitor Center.**

This program will cover my east coast and west coast pelagic birding over the past five to seven years, during which I have photographed seabirds and mammals while looking for rarities and new life birds. The emphasis will be the birds and mammals that I photographed, but will also include photos by others of rarities that I did not photograph. This program will include winter, spring and summer trips taken out of

Hatteras, North Carolina, trips in the late summer and spring on The Searcher out of San Diego, and summer and fall Shearwater Journeys trips out of Monterey, Bodega Bay and Fort Bragg California. Information about these trips and what is expected will also be provided.

Jay Lehman is the president and program coordinator of the Cincinnati Bird Club. Jay works at P&G, but his passion is birding. Jay has gone on many birding adventures, including a long sojourn to Alaska two summers ago, and numerous trips throughout North America in search of both the extraordinarily rare and the

locally rare birds of our continent. In fact, as I write this, Jay is chasing a Fantailed Warbler “deep in the heart of Texas,” so to speak. Jay’s Pelagic Birding talk will cover some of the territory he has traveled in search of interesting birds, and this will be a good way to kick off the 2007-2008 Bird Club year. We’ll see you there!

September Field Trips:

Next to May, September is probably our best birding month. There are three trips scheduled, all chosen to take full advantage of the avian diversity September brings us. Find the time to get out on one or more; you shouldn’t

be disappointed.

—Jay Stenger,
CBC Field Trip
Coordinator

**Location: East Fork State Park
Date: Sunday, September 9, 8:00 a.m.
Leader: Bill Stanley, 513-724-2663.
tyrannus@fuse.net**

Our first trip of the new season will be to East Fork SP, where Bill will focus on the fall songbird migration, especially warblers, which will be well under way. Bill will lead us to several locations around the park that should be productive. While the focus will be migrant passerines, we expect

(Continued on page 2)

to find plenty of other species as well. We'll check the lake for shorebirds, terns and other seasonal waterbirds and be on the lookout for resident and migrating raptors. While we will walk a bit during the morning, it will be at a leisurely pace and over mostly level trails and roadsides. After we have birded various spots for songbirds we will concentrate on what the lake has to offer. Bill will probably stay at it until birding begins to tail off in the early afternoon. As Bill lives nearby, he knows the area as well as anyone. Feel free to contact Bill if you have any questions.

To find the meeting place, enter the park from the south side as if you were heading toward the beach. As soon as you pass the park office on the right, watch for a gravel drive on the left. We will meet in the pull

off at the front of the gravel drive. This is the area where the two ponds and the mountain bike trails are. To get the south side entrance to East Fork SP from I-275 take exit # 65, SR 125 (Beechmont Ave./Ohio Pike) and go east about 9 miles to the junction of Rt. 222. Turn left onto Bantam Rd. (opposite Rt. 222) and follow the signs to the park entrance.

Location:
Shawnee Lookout Park and the Oxbow.

Date: Saturday, September 15, 7:30 a.m.

Leader: Jay Stenger, 513-522-8147, jaystenger@cincinnati.com

Fall warbler migration should be near peak on this date and migrant songbirds will be our primary objective during the morning so we will begin this

trip at Shawnee Lookout. After our morning walk we will go next door to the Oxbow, stopping at Lost Bridge on the way. If water levels are favorable (low), as they usually are this time of the year, we should find some shorebirds as there migration will still be under way. Herons, egrets, terns and other waterbirds should also be expected as well as migrant and resident raptors. We plan to bird past noon or longer if the birding is good. We'll walk a bit at

Shawnee, but it will be easy and at a comfortable birding pace. These two locations can produce a long list at this season. A Hamilton County Park pass is required at Shawnee Lookout. We will meet at the Shawnee Lookout boat ramp lower parking lot at 7:30 a.m. The boat ramp is located directly across from the park

entrance. Please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions. Check out the following Hamilton County Parks link for directions.

<http://www.hamiltoncountyparks.org/aboutus/directory.htm>

Location:
Brookville Lake
Date: Sunday, September 23, 7:00 a.m.
Leader: Paul Wharton, 513-353-3403, pwharton@fuse.net

The Brookville Lake region has more to offer than just waterfowl. This trip has become annual and always produces great sightings. We have three goals 1) migrant raptors 2) migrant passerines and 3) migrant shorebirds. With a little luck with the weather we could be in for a big day. But even if one group is-

(Continued on page 3)

n't cooperating we're bound to find one that is. Paul has sharp eyes and a knack for spotting raptors. On last years September 24th trip we saw 12 species of diurnal raptors including 2 Peregrine Falcons, a Merlin, 14 Cooper's Hawks, 2 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 2 Broad-winged Hawks, 6 Ospreys, 2 Bald Eagles and a Northern Harrier. Warblers will still be near peak on this date and if we can find mudflats we will find shorebirds, terns and waders. We'll take a long leisurely morning walk (restrooms along the way) with one eye on the treetops and another one in the sky. Later we will check the north end of Brookville and possibly Hueston Woods for shorebirds. This trip will run well into the afternoon. Don't let the early start keep you at home; if you don't make this trip

you'll be sorry! We will meet at 7:00 a.m. at the park & ride lot, located at the I-74/I-275 Miamitown exit # 7 for SR 128. We will caravan from here to the Brookville area, about a 25-minute drive. Call or email Paul if you have any questions.

Here's a look at our first October trip:

Location: Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge.
Date: Sunday, October 7, 7:30 a.m.
Leader: Darlena Graham, 859-341-4893, darlena@fuse.net

Darlena's birding skills and intimate knowledge of Muscatatuck coupled with the fact that this is one of our regions best birding areas virtually guarantees an exciting day of birding. The varied habitats at this 8,000-acre refuge always attract a

diverse avifauna. Several distinct migratory patterns also converge at this time of the year. Neo-tropical warblers and other songbirds, sparrows and returning winter residents, raptors, shorebirds, waders, terns and ducks are all either beginning or winding down their fall migrations and make this an exiting time to bird. Add to all that the pleasant temperatures and glorious fall color that is usually the norm at this time of year and it should add up to a great day afield.

Darlena plans to stay until around 3:00 p.m. and there is no place to buy food and drink, so plan accordingly. A nice visitor center will provide the creature comforts.

We will meet at the Tanners Creek Boat Ramp at 7:30 a.m. and caravan to Muscatatuck from

there, about an hours drive due west on US 50. If you have any questions contact Darlena.

Tanners Creek Boat Ramp is located just south of US 50 in Lawrenceburg Indiana, just 3/4 west of the Tanners Creek Bridge. From the Cincinnati area take I-275 west to the US 50 Lawrenceburg, Indiana exit # 16. At the end of the ramp turn left onto US 50 and go west through Lawrenceburg. After crossing the bridge look for Tanners Creek Drive and turn left. There is a McDonalds at this corner and you should see a small boat ramp sign. Drive to the end of the road and meet in the boat ramp parking lot.



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Are Your Dues Due?

If you haven't sent in your dues yet for the September 2007 - May 2008 birding year, please fill out the form below and mail it in along with your membership fees.

VISIT US ON THE WEB:

www.cincinnatibirds.com/birdclub/index.php

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**
