

B I R D W A T C H E R ' S

D i g e s t

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August 29, 2005

Kirtland Bird Club  
c/o Tom Romito  
4310 Bush Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44109

Dear Tom Romito:

It is my pleasure to notify you that the Kirtland Bird Club has been selected to receive the second annual Eirik A.T. Blom Memorial Award. The Blom Award was established in 2003 to honor the memory of Eirik A.T. Blom, one of North America's foremost field birding experts, a widely published author, and a mentor to hundreds of beginning bird watchers. Rick Blom died on December 11, 2002, after a long battle with cancer.

Rick Blom believed that local and regional bird clubs are the lifeblood of a thriving birding community. He regularly perused hundreds of bird club newsletters looking for interesting material for his "Quick Takes" column in *Bird Watcher's Digest*. This reading also helped him stay abreast of trends and issues of importance to bird watchers everywhere.

The purpose of the Blom Award is to support the communications mission of a deserving bird organization. An organization is chosen annually from the pool of applicants and the award funds are earmarked to support that organization's communications with members and the public at large. The 2005 Blom Award is presented to the Kirtland Bird Club to support its ongoing publication of the Cleveland Bird Calendar project. The 2005 Blom Award carries with it a grant of \$250.00. Enclosed please find a check to the Kirtland Bird Club in this amount from the Marietta Community Foundation, coordinator of the Eirik A.T. Blom Memorial Fund.

On behalf of the Blom Fund, the Blom family, and all of us at *Bird Watcher's Digest*, please accept this award with our heartfelt thanks and best wishes. It is comforting to know that Rick continues to be a part of the great tradition of field work and the sharing of bird knowledge by the Kirtland Bird Club.

Sincerely,



William H. Thompson,  
Editor, *Bird Watcher's Digest*  
For the Eirik A.T. Blom Fund

Cc: Blom Family; Jack Moberg, Marietta Community Foundation;  
Bill Elsa Thompson, BWD Founding Publishers; file