



THE KIRTLAND WARBLER

Quarterly Newsletter of the Kirtland Bird Club, Cleveland, Ohio

www.KirtlandBirdClub.org

2021–2022 Membership Year, No. 2, Winter Issue

Monthly Meetings

Kirtland Bird Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month, September through June at 7:00 p.m. Each meeting includes announcements, some club business, and a speaker program. Meetings are free and all are welcome!

Because of COVID19 we are meeting via Zoom instead of at our usual location, The Cleveland Museum of Natural History. We look forward to resuming in person gatherings in the future! If you are not a member and want to participate, contact us info@kirtlandbirdclub.org

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

7:00 PM on Zoom

Bird Rehabilitation

Presented by Tim Jasinski, Wildlife Rehabilitation Specialist at Lake Erie Nature and Science Center



Our December speaker is Tim Jasinski from Lake Erie Nature and Science Center. He will tell us about the work he does there - rehabbing birds that people find injured or in some other way incapacitated - including birds injured in collisions with buildings during migration. He works closely with [Lights Out Cleveland](#) and will share an update on Lights Out Cleveland as well.

Tim has been a “bird nerd” since around the age of five. He had feeders up and would mark in his field guide what species he had seen. He raised and bred caged birds starting when he was 13 years old, and now raises Homing Pigeons. He started as a volunteer at [Lake Erie Nature & Science Center](#) in 2007 and became a full time Wildlife Rehabilitation Specialist in 2013. Wildlife rehabilitation has been a passion of his for over 30

years! With Harvey Webster, he initiated the monitoring program for [Lights Out Cleveland](#) in Spring 2017. According to Tim, “Birds Rule!”

Monthly Meetings (continuation)

Wednesday, January 5, 2022

7:00 PM on Zoom

Ornithology News and Discoveries from 2021

Presented by Dr. Andy Jones



Dr. Andy Jones returned for his annual talk to the Kirtland Bird Club to highlight recent exciting findings from the world of ornithology. There are thousands of academic papers published every year on the biology of birds. These new discoveries are sometimes highlighted in newspapers, magazines, and on your Facebook feed, but far too many simply don't get the public attention that they deserve. Dr. Jones will highlight the taxonomic changes that birders will want to know about, as well as other discoveries that will simply make us more observant and more informed birders.

Dr. Andy Jones holds the William A. and Nancy R. Klamm Chair and Curator of Ornithologist at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. He received his BS in Biological Sciences from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and his PhD in Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Jones originally hails from east Tennessee, where his passion for natural history began at an early age; his first field notes were a count of toads in his front yard at age five. His current research involves the evolutionary history of birds, diagnosing new hybrid combinations, and migration insights from Lights Out Cleveland. Dr. Jones is responsible for the Museum's collection of avian specimens, which consists of over 35,000 study skins as well as thousands of nests, eggs, and skeletons. His other tasks include providing various services to the scientific community, the media, the Museum's exhibitions and education divisions as well as the public at large. Dr. Jones has served as the Secretary of the American Ornithological Society since 2014, and in 2017 was elected as a Fellow of that organization.

The Kirtland Warbler, the newsletter of the Kirtland Bird Club (KBC), Cleveland Ohio, is published quarterly. It contains KBC meetings and trip information, web site updates, other events and programs of interest, and issues of local concern. A subscription to The Kirtland Warbler is a benefit of club membership. Your contributions of articles, event information, photos, and drawings are welcome. Please send submissions to the Editor,

Monthly Meetings (continuation)

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

7:00 PM on Zoom

Sergei and Elena Smirenski, Co-Founders of Muraviovka Park for Sustainable Land Use in the Amur Region of Russia

Sergei Smirenski's love of birds started in childhood. In 1970 he began studying the birds of Russia's Far East at Moscow State University, graduating in 1973 and receiving his PhD in Zoology in 1986. Elena Smirenski graduated from Moscow's Teachers Institute in 1972. She worked as an editor and chief of the editorial staff of the Zoological Journal of the USSR's Academy of Science.

In 1980 Sergei and Elena Smirenski and Sergei Winter established the Crane Working Group of the USSR, the first species-oriented non-government organization in the Soviet Union. Twelve years later Sergei and Elena, with financial support from the International Crane Foundation (ICF) in Wisconsin, organized an International Workshop about the cranes and storks of the Amur River Basin. Then, in 1994, through the International Socio-ecological Union and with support from ICF and Pop Group Co., Ltd., over 12,000 acres of wetlands near Muraviovka Village in the Amur Region of Russia was leased for 50 years and named Muraviovka Park for Sustainable Land Use. A year later this



land and adjacent areas were added to the list of wetlands of international importance by the Ramsar Convention. In 2010, the park area was over 16,000 acres and its lease was extended to 2058

Muraviovka Park boasts over 700 species of vascular plants and over 300 species of birds, including six species of cranes. It is a critically important area for White-naped, Red-crowned and Hooded Cranes, Oriental White Stork, Yellow-breasted Bunting and other avian species on the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Threatened Species, . The park's activities include monitoring numbers of wild cranes, managing a breeding program of endangered cranes in captivity and releasing them into the wild. It prevents forest fires, conducts reforestation,

organizes annual international summer camps at Muraviovka Park and in other parts of the Amur River Basin, including China. It hosts tourists, organizes festivals and other special environmental events, too.

The Friends of Muraviovka Park, a volunteer group established in 1998, provides important monetary and in-kind support to the park's activities and development.

<https://m.facebook.com/Friends-of-Muraviovka-Park-200362133317888/>

<https://savingcranes.org/crane-numbers-growing-at-muraviovka-park-russia/>

Upcoming Field Trips

Registration is required for each field trip. Group size is limited to 10 participants. (Larger groups will be split into smaller ones with additional leaders.) Masks are required as directed by the Ohio Department of Health. Additional guidelines for safety during Covid-19 will be provided to all registrants. Register by sending e-mail to info@kirtlandbirdclub.org

Christas Bird Count *Saturday, December 18, 8:00 AM*

Circle: A count must be entirely within a 15-mile (24 kilometer) diameter circle. The same center point should be used each year. The Cleveland Count's center point is a half mile west of Richmond and Chardon Roads, along Chardon Road.

Count Period: Counts are conducted within the official count period, 14 December thru 5 January. The Cleveland CBC is typically the Saturday before Christmas.

Count Day: The count must be conducted within one 24-hour calendar day.



How Christmas Bird Counts Started

The Christmas Bird Count (CBC) was started in 1900 by Frank Chapman along with 26 other conservationists. The count was intended as a way of promoting conservation by counting, rather than hunting, birds on Christmas Day of 1900.

Now in its second century, it has evolved into far more than just another holiday tradition. The CBC, to quote CBC Director Geoff LeBaron, is "increasingly accepted by ornithologists and conservationists alike as the best, if not only, tool available for assessing the long-term trends in the early winter bird populations of North America".

With the cumulative historical CBC data now on-line, there are many thousands of individual counts from December 25, 1900, to the present available for perusal and scientific research. You can read more about the history and research uses of the CBC [HERE](#).

Click [HERE](#) to read more about Christmas Bird Counts on the National Audubon Society website.

If you want to participate e-mail to Dr. Andy Jones ajones@cmnh.org

Upcoming Field Trips (continuation)

January Field Trip

Rocky River Nature Center

Saturday, January 8, 2021, 9:00 am - Noon

24000 Valley Parkway, North Olmsted, OH
Meet at: Parking lot of the Rocky River Nature Center.

Leaders: Bill Deininger and Dave Graskemper

Add to your list of 2022 First of the Year Birds on the trails at the Rocky River Nature Center. Target birds are the area's resident wintering species, including Eastern Bluebirds, Barred Owl and all the woodpeckers. Loaner binoculars will be available for use during the trip.

If it's raining or there are hazardous road conditions, the field trip may be canceled.

Link to Rocky River Reservation's Nature Trails:
<https://birding-in-ohio.com/cuyahoga-county/rocky-river-reservation-nature-center-trails/>

Link to eBird Bar Chart:
<https://ebird.org/barchart?byr=2011&eyr=2021&bmo=12&emo=1&r=L805099>



February Field Trip

Time, place and leader TBD

Field Trip Report

November 13th Field Trip Lakefront Locations on the West Side



On a chilly, windy Saturday morning the Kirtland Bird Club's November field trip started at Rocky River Park in Rocky River. Twelve participants, club members and guests, enjoyed good views of rafts of Surf Scoters, Buffleheads and Bonaparte's Gulls. One Common Tern was spotted in the passing stream of Bonaparte's, and Common Loons were feeding with small, tight flocks of Bonaparte's. Two Bald Eagles brought the total species seen here to 22.



Photo by Anna Kozlenko

Field Trip Report (Continuation)



Photo by Paula Lozano



Photo by Anna Kozlenko

Ten people continued to the next stop, Columbia Road Park in Bay Village. Fewer species were seen, but everyone enjoyed views of the natural waterfall and Lake Erie from the overlooks. A third Bald Eagle was added to the trip list here. The next stop was Cahoon Memorial Park West in Bay Village. From the parking lot 13 Killdeer were counted on the soccer fields south of Lake Road. We joined another group of bird-watchers, who reported seeing and photographing a Pacific Loon before we arrived.

The east end of the Huntington Reservation was our final stop. Using the Water Tower to block the wind, we scanned the lake for waterfowl. An immature Bald Eagle landed in a nearby tree and was soon joined by a fourth-year Bald Eagle. The last bird added to the trip list was a Great Blue Heron that landed on the beach near the mouth of Porter Creek.



Photo by Anna Kozlenko

President Letter



This time 2 years ago I was just beginning my journey as KBC President. After a steady decline in membership the club had assembled to consider disbanding. Members had voted to get a consultant to take a careful look at the club's future, and I had agreed to be the interim President during this time. Three of KBC's members organized the process and hired a consultant. We got speakers and continued meeting. We seemed to be getting back on track.

In March 2020 COVID began to surge, and we cancelled the third and final session of our "Revitalizing the KBC" retreat. We decided to try Zoom for our April 2020 meeting, but our scheduled speaker said "no way." We met anyway, and had a lovely short presentation by then high school student Helena Souffrant, who had attended Camp Colorado with our support. (Helena was fine presenting on Zoom and actually helped us

navigate the platform.) What I remember most from that meeting though was how happy people seemed to be to be able to say hello to each other, and how patient and kind they were with me and Helena and with each other. My heart was in my throat going into that meeting, but it was full coming out.

The pandemic and retirement gave me an opportunity to learn new platforms to use for KBC. Besides Weebly - our website platform, Facebook, and Zoom, we now use Eventbrite and YouTube. No way will I ever catch up with the teenagers or twenty-somethings in terms of technology, but it's been fun learning how to use these technologies to help KBC grow.

Our next big Zoom adventure was Andy Jones' annual update on ornithology in January 2021. We anticipated a big crowd, and I made sure to get a one-month upgrade on the Zoom platform so we could accommodate over 100 people. As those of you who attended may recall, we discovered midway through that meeting that the upgrade hadn't taken effect. For every person who signed in, one person got bumped out. I asked couples who were watching on two screens to get cozy and share a screen, but still people were getting bumped off of Zoom. Again, the nicest thing happened: people volunteered to go off-line and watch the program later so others could watch it live. And nobody complained! People were just nice.

Our biggest Zoom adventure of 2021 was our New Birder course on Zoom. Eight KBC members stepped up to create PowerPoint presentations and speak to the participants over the course of six sessions, ending during the peak for songbird migration. Our participants were very appreciative.

All through 2021 we birded outdoors, often masked, not getting too close, not sharing cars or sharing meals. There were debates about how safe we were outdoors. After vaccines arrived and COVID cases declined in the spring to 2021, we decided to resume field trips. What fun to be back together! Fred Dinkelbach led us on a great trip to Richmond Heritage Preserve. Paula Lozano was the leader for a field trip to Sandy Ridge Reservation that spanned two days and a November trip along the lakefront on the West Side. Each of these trips brought out club members, and people helped each other see birds.

Over the summer we supported the Cleveland Metroparks with booths at three events they held to promote the CHEERS lakefront development project. We didn't meet a lot of future birders, but we took a few on walks with our loaner binoculars, showed people a few great birds, and enjoyed spending time together.

Late in the summer we started planning for in-person meetings, but the COVID resurgence has sent us back to Zoom, which is where we anticipate meeting for the rest of the year.

President Letter (continuation)

This fall we've written letters to the Cleveland City Planning Commission and the leadership of Sherwin Williams to promote bird-safe measures in their new headquarters downtown. Time will tell if our efforts succeed, but regardless we plan to join the effort to make Cleveland a bird-friendly city where buildings are as safe as possible.

Birds and birders and all the possibilities are what keeps me inspired. How about you? Thinking ahead to 2022 and beyond, what would you like to see us do?

Patty Kellner

PS

From Andy Jones about New Year's vows... Andy's 2021 pledge to himself was to eBird every day. So far, he's on PS track! That was a BIG pledge. Not all pledges have to be that big. What I know from practicing medicine is that for a pledge to be successful, it has to be important to you and it has to be something you believe you can do. On a scale of 1 to 10 how important is your pledge to you? On a scale of 1 to 10, how likely is it you will do it. A likelihood of 7 or more is a good sign. If your likelihood is below 7, scale back your pledge. (If Andy told me last year his likelihood was a 5, I would have suggested he consider success eBirding 5 days a week.)

Thinking ahead to 2022, what do you want to pledge?

To do a big year?

To try for the January 100?

To start a yard list?

To start a life list?

To do a bird census?

To volunteer for Lights Out Cleveland?

To take a trip to Minnesota in winter to see owls?

To spend more than one day at Magee Marsh?

To plant a native tree, shrub, or perennial in your yard?

To staff a KBC booth at an event?

To create a one-hour program about birds for elementary school students?

To help create an after-school Zoom Bird Club for middle schoolers?

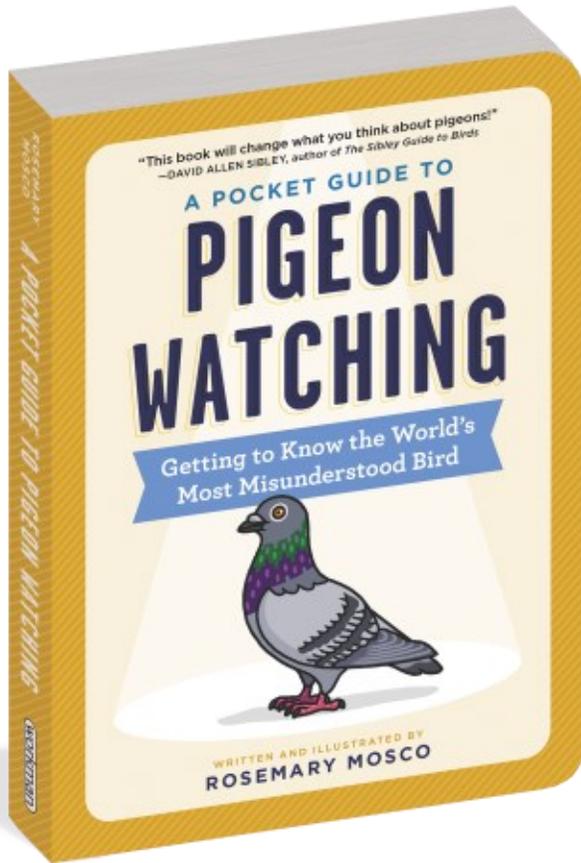
To help the Kirtland Bird Club reach a broader and more diverse audience?

To bird every day?

What exciting possibilities for 2022! Just name yours and go for it!

Book review

By Ann Chasar



Do we take our feral pigeons for granted and maybe even consider them a nuisance? *A Pocket Guide to Pigeon Watching: Getting to Know the World's Most Understood Bird* by Rosemary Mosco will change your mind about this remarkable bird.

This 2021 small 5" x 7" paperback draws us into the world of pigeons using sidebars, illustrations and a folksy approach. From wild species to the history of pigeon breeding the author introduces us to our feral pigeons. She goes into considerable detail of "Pigeonatomy", plumages, and lifestyle. With a catchy sense of humor she describes how dedicated, smart and adaptable this species is. Pigeon behavior, similar to that of many bird species, is so easy to watch because they are everywhere...often literally at our feet. You won't be able to pass by a pigeon again without looking more closely. She even has a few suggestions on how to keep them off your patio and how to handle an injured bird.

This paperback is available through the CLEVNET library system or as a Hoopla Ebook or through SearchOhio. ISBN 978-1-5235-1134-1

With Laura Erickson's permission, here are the links to Laura's 5-part series of conversations with Rosemary Mosco. Start with Part 1.

[A Conversation with Rosemary Mosco, Part 5](#)

[A Conversation with Rosemary Mosco, Part 4](#)

[A Conversation with Rosemary Mosco, Part 3](#)

[A Conversation with Rosemary Mosco, Part 2](#)

[A Conversation with Rosemary Mosco, Part 1](#)

KIRTLAND BIRD CLUB MEMBERSHIP



I would like to support the activities of Kirtland Bird Club with my membership:

- \$ _____ Single membership (\$20)
- \$ _____ Couples membership (\$30)
- \$ _____ Student membership (\$10)

I would also like to make a tax-deductible contribution to support:

- \$ _____ Unrestricted Donation
- \$ _____ The speaker program - sponsor a speaker (\$100)
- \$ _____ Loaner Binocular Fund – we accept cash and gently used binoculars
- \$ _____ KBC Scholarship Fund – to help young birders attend young birder camps
- \$ _____ Ohio Avian Scholarship Initiative – supporting bird research (up to \$1000 per grant)
- \$ _____ Total

In addition:

Please consider using your employer’s matching gift program to donate to KBC.
Please consider including Kirtland Bird Club in your estate plans.

Our membership year is September 1st to August 31st. Any membership payments received after March 1 will be include membership through August 31st of the following year

Check here if you would also like to help us with any of our programs or activities – we’ll be in touch!

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Home phone: _____ Mobile Phone: _____
 Email: _____

For couple’s membership:

Additional name: _____
 Additional mobile phone: _____
 Additional email: _____

Mail check to:
KBC Membership
c/o Mary Anne Romito
4310 Bush Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44109

To pay via Paypal or credit card:
<https://www.kirtlandbirdclub.org/become-a-member.html>

Thank you, once again, for your support of the Kirtland Bird Club!



Kirtland Bird Club

4310 Bush Ave
Cleveland, Ohio 44109

Publisher of:

The Cleveland Bird Calendar
Birds of the Cleveland Region
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On the web at: www.KirtlandBirdClub.org
www.clevelandbirdcalendar.com

Email address: info@KirtlandBirdClub.org

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Paula Lozano— Field Trip Coordinator

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