



THE KIRTLAND WARBLER

Quarterly Newsletter of the Kirtland Bird Club, Cleveland, Ohio
www.KirtlandBirdClub.org and www.ClevelandBirdCalendar.com
2013—2014 Membership Year, No. 4, Summer Issue

Monthly Meetings

Guests are always welcome — Cleveland Museum of Natural History...Parking is free.
1st Wednesday of every month except July and August, 7:30 PM

Chasing Butterflies and Moths on Kelley’s Island, Ohio **Wednesday, 4 June 2014 7:30 p.m. Cleveland Museum of Natural History** *Barbara K. Coleman, Docent and Entomology Volunteer*

Join Barbara as she tells her story about participating in a fifteen year Citizen Science Project of surveying butterflies and moths on Kelly’s Island. During those years, she has compiled a list of over 300 moth species in a vineyard which has now reverted back to prairie.

An island is a distinctive collection of environments. The Cleveland Museum of Natural History has six different preserves on Kelley’s Island, Ohio - a western Lake Erie island. The preserve on Bookerman Road, in the middle of the island, is mostly old vineyard cleared to restore it to a prairie.

The Bookerman Road survey established a baseline for future study. Fifteen years of Citizen Science, surveying butterflies and moths on Kelley’s Island resulted in a list of over 300 moth species.

Barbara currently works as a Docent and Entomology volunteer at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Her specialty is focused towards “underwing moths” found on the Lake Erie Islands. Barbara received a BA in Zoology & Mathematics at the Ohio Wesleyan University and an MLS & BS in Education at Kent State University. She holds a Naturalist Certificate from the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and is a retired media specialist from Lakewood Schools.



Citizen Science Opportunity: **Adopting the Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve at Dike 14**

This summer, the Kirtland Bird Club will commence birding surveys at the Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve (formerly known as Dike 14). This citizen science project will occur year-round with a greater focus during migration season. It is expected to last for at least ten years.



Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve (CLNP) first opened to the public less than a couple of years ago, yet it has been a place to see amazing lakefront migration since the 1970s. Since then, CNLP has become an important migration stop-over for our passerines. It remains in the possession of the Cleveland Port Authority – an institution which has graciously made this area open to the public to enjoy.

However, at times, parks too are subject to development for various reasons – especially if the data proving their importance towards biodiversity remains non-existent. The Port Authority has granted us permission

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to install 16 T-posts in order to conduct point counts which will prove the importance of this significantly important birding area.

Mark Shieldcastle from the Black Swamp Bird Observatory (BSBO) and Laura Gooch of Cleveland are responsible for organizing the protocol for the point counts at CLNP. It will closely reflect upon the protocol used at Navarre Marsh, Shaker Lakes, and other important bird areas throughout Ohio. This will allow us to compare the results from these various locations with a greater accuracy. BSBO has agreed to crunch the numbers and analyze the data we gather. This will come at no cost to us. The data and its analyses will be shared with us, the Port Authority, and the greater public. In the future, we may perhaps publish this data for further dispersal as well. It is very exciting to have the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society and Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland partner with us. You do not have to be part of a birding organization in order to join and all are welcome.

The Survey will consist of 16 points along the trail which runs through CNLP. It will take a total of two hours to walk the whole trail and hit all points. Most groups will not hit all the points, and will use a far shorter amount of time to conduct their part of the survey.

Our first meeting to hear about the protocol and set up these posts will take place on Saturday May 31st 2014 at 9 am in front of the Management Center at CLNP. The address is *8701 Lakeshore Boulevard, Cleveland Ohio 44103*. There, Mark Shieldcastle will present the protocol. Then, President of the Kirtland Bird Club, Lukas Padegimas, will introduce Laura Gooch – The Project Coordinator of the Point Counts at CLNP. Finally, we will divide in groups and go on a short tour of the reserve and put the point markers in. The actual point counts are scheduled to start between mid-June and mid-July.

If you are interested, or know anyone who is interested, please contact KBC President, Lukas Padegimas, at lukas_padegimas@sbcglobal.net or Project Coordinator, Laura Gooch at lgooch@alum.mit.edu. You can also look for updates on the KBC website: www.kirtlandbirdclub.org or “like” the survey Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/CitizenScienceDike14>.

It is a wonderful opportunity to participate in a significantly worthwhile citizen science project, aid in the conservation effort, and have the perfect excuse to make frequent birding visits to this beautiful park.

Local Field Trips

June 14 Cuyahoga Valley Breeding Birds

Join Jen Brumfield on an eye-opening visit to some of the breeding bird hotspots in CVNP. We'll work our way from Oak Hill to Horseshoe Pond, the Ledges, and Jaite seeking specialties from Winter Wren, Hermit Thrush, Blue-winged and Cerulean Warblers, to Alder Flycatcher, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, White-eyed Vireo, and much more. This birding workshop will focus on bird song identification.

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at The Ledges in Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

**August Field Trip to be announced:
watch your emails!**



Thanks to members of the *Kirtland Warbler* Committee who reviewed and edited this issue:
Dwight and Ann Chasar
Dick Hoffman
Susan Jones

Lukas' Thoughts



Hello Everyone,

Hope that you had a chance to enjoy the wonders of spring migration in Northeast Ohio and elsewhere. After a delayed spring, everything is now in full bloom and alive with an energy that seemed vanquished by a series of polar vortexes back when I wrote my last column. Enjoy!

Here are some of the latest occurrences within the Kirtland Bird Club. Our first collaborative meeting with the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society and the Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland was a great success! Amongst several emails of "thank you" we received, my favorite is an email which credited us as to helping to "unite the disparate elements of our local conservation community give strength to our mutual goals of preserving and protecting birds." I want to thank everyone from all the conservation groups involved in making this happen! We will have another similar joint meeting in October with a focus on "Conservation during Fall Migration." In the future, we can also look forward to more collaborative field trips and similar large-scale events. The Kirtland Bird Club is always excited to work together with other conservation and ornithology groups throughout Ohio in helping study and protect the birds we love!

Of other news, the Project Snowstorm effort has not resulted in the placement of a radio transmitter on an owl from Ohio this year. This resulted due to a late start and a lack of time. However, next year, it will be a priority. Fingers are crossed! Until then, we voted at the April meeting to hold onto the KBC matching funds until next winter.

Our marketing committee has really taken off in expanding the scope and reach of our organization. Not only have we created a whole new set of colorful and enticing rack-cards, posters, and banners, but we have also resolved the email miscommunication issue that arose when members changed their emails and forgot to inform us that they wanted information sent to their new email. Speaking of that, do you continue to receive our KBC emails on all the interesting programs, trips, and other exciting events occurring in Northeast Ohio? If not, please email the marketing committee chair, Tom Romito at tomromito@ameritech.net to change your preferred email address. That way, you will continue to receive exciting information about our upcoming events even if your email address has changed! We want to continue to revitalize ourselves and increase our membership – in turn, we had set up a table at the Shreve event and will have one next year at the Biggest Week in American Birding. I would like to express thanks to all the volunteers who ran the table! Thank you!

I would also like to thank all the speakers who gave enticing programs for our club this past year! If you have an interesting presentation which you would like to give to the Kirtland Bird Club membership this coming year, please let me know. My email address is noted below. I am sure we would love to hear your presentation and I'd be happy to schedule your program.

Finally, this summer, the Kirtland Bird Club will start conducting surveys at the Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve together with members from the WCAS and ASGC. Laura Gooch has graciously accepted the offer to be the Survey project coordinator. Please consider participating in this exciting citizen science project. Not only will you have an excuse to go out and bird in this wondrous place, but you will also contribute scientific data that will allow for the continued protection of this vital bird migration area. It's not too late to join! If interested please contact me via email at the address noted below. Come to the orientation meeting on Saturday May 31st at 9:00 a.m. at 8701 Lakeshore Boulevard, Cleveland OH, 44103 (CLNP Management Center).

Thank you,
And have a wonderful bird-filled summer!
Sincerely,

Lukas Padegimas
President of the Kirtland Bird Club
Lukas_padegimas@sbcglobal.net
(440)-533-5519

Lukas_padegimas@sbcglobal.net

The Kirtland Warbler, the newsletter of the Kirtland Bird Club (KBC), Cleveland Ohio, is published quarterly. It contains KBC meeting 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 new Editor, Sarah Winnicki or to info@kirtlandbirdclub.org.

Field Trip Reports

February 15, 2014

Leader: Gabe Leidy 15-20 participants

Reported by Gabe Leidy

Pictures by Lukas Padegimas



February's field trip began at Avon Lake Power Plant, which was surprisingly devoid of gull activity. Two Glaucous Gulls (2nd, ad) were the only uncommon species, and the overall number of gulls was way down. However, 40+ White-winged Scoters were probably the most any of us had ever seen in the state.

On to Lorain, where no Snowy Owl was present, but the icescape was breathtaking. One of the few birds in sight was a young Bald Eagle hunting far out on the ice shelf.

After a disappointing day on the lakefront, our luck really turned around when we headed to check out interior Lorain County. After a fruitless stop at the regional airport (where the pull-offs were snowed-in), we followed Jeff and Marian Kraus along some back roads they had been exploring as of late. Here's where our day got very interesting:

Butternut Ridge Road, just east of Oberlin Road — we stumbled upon a good-sized flock of gulls resting in a field behind the Oberlin landfill. I've been obsessed with the movement of gulls to and from the lake and this landfill for several years, but until this point did not realize that back portions of the dump could be seen directly from Butternut Ridge Road. The small sample size of the gull flock that we came across can only attest to the magnitude of what is present within the landfill on any given winter day. There were no more than 1500 gulls total in the field, but we could see there were many more at the landfill in the distance. Here's what we observed in the field:



Thayer's Gull 3 - 1st (2), 2nd
Iceland Gull 7 - 1st (5), 2nd, ad
Glaucous Gull 6 - 1st (3), 2nd (2), ad
Great Black-backed Gull 10

We wrapped up at Carlisle Reservation, where a Red-shouldered Hawk in hot pursuit of a Sharp-shinned Hawk with prey was a highlight.



Field Trip Reports, continued.

The Peregrine Falcons of Terminal Tower and the Greenbrier Suite

April 23, 2014

Article and Photos by Lukas Padegimas

Drew Rolik led a tour of the Greenbrier Suite for fifteen Kirtland Bird Club participants at the Terminal Tower. The Greenbrier Suite originally served as a reception area and guest house for the visiting guests of the Van Sweringen brothers — the railroad magnates who initially designed the Shaker Heights suburb and financed the construction of the Terminal Tower in 1926. Only a year after the construction of the Tower was completed, the Great Depression struck. The brothers passed away shortly after, and the suite was used by various companies before entering the holding of the Forest City Group.



While the Greenbrier suite is not open to the public, we managed to arrange a tour which took us through various Tudor rooms of dark stained wood cases, priceless hand-painted oriental motifs, and other interiors more seemingly in place inside a 1920s Shaker Heights mansion than the 12th floor of the Terminal Tower.

Of course, we saw the Peregrine Falcon nest on the same floor. This time, we only saw the female falcon sitting over several (3 or 4) eggs and hunkering down to keep them warm as the wind blew outside. After numerous pictures in the great hall, we moved to the 32nd floor and received striking views of the Cuyahoga River before ending up at the Observation Tower on the 42nd floor (a space which is accessible to the public). By this time, the sky over Cleveland cleared and revealed miles of the clear blue waters of Lake Erie, the gigantic skyscrapers of the financial district, the lively West 6th Street, and the expanse of suburbs beyond. Just as we turned around, the male Peregrine Falcon swooped only a few feet from the window in an aerial display before perching on the First National Bank building beyond. Large freighters entered the Cuyahoga and a few cars moved below us. A wonderful day to see a Peregrine nest and a panoramic perspective of downtown from above!



KBC LePage Scholarship Grant for 2014

The co-chairs of the KBC LePage Scholarship Fund Committee are pleased to announce to KBC members that Kayla Parry of Hamler, Ohio, has been awarded a grant from the fund. The grant is to help defray costs for the American Birding Association's (ABA) Camp Colorado. Kayla was also awarded a grant in 2012 to attend the Audubon Society Camp on Hog Island, Maine which was, by her own account, a great experience.

Kayla developed her interest in birds in her pre-teen years and joined the Ohio Young Birders Club (OYBC) when she was 12, the earliest age at which one can become a member. She also joined and is a member of the Black Swamp Bird Observatory (BSBO), ABA and the Marion Express 4-H Club. Kayla has been described as a go-to-person to help with bird questions for her friends and others.

At her middle school in the Patrick Henry School District, Kayla was a member of the Green Machine, a student-led organization to increase awareness of environmental concerns and to encourage recycling. The group collected used paper from the middle school and took it to a recycling center. Because of her interest in birds, Kayla also proposed putting up bird feeders around the school. The club adviser approved the idea, and subsequently, the group made feeders from pine cones which they coated with a mixture of shortening, peanut butter and bird seed. The project was a success.

Kayla has a number of bird-related essays and projects to her credit. She participated in the Young Birder of the Year contest and the Junior Duck Stamp contest. For school assignments, she wrote several essays centered around birds, and she conducted projects with birds as the theme for Science Fair and the Marion Express 4-H Club. At the 2010 Ohio State Fair, Kayla's 4-H project won the "Clock Award" for "Outstanding Ohio Bird Project".

In addition to her work described in the immediately preceding paragraph, Kayla has been an enthusiastic participant in OYBC activities. Kayla goes on club field trips, where she is helpful, attends meetings and the OYBC annual conference. The club newsletter has published several of the articles Kayla has written about her various activities.

One additional note, the guidelines for the LePage Scholarship Fund require that a grant recipient submit a brief report about the activity for which the grant was awarded. Such a report would generally describe the activity and how the experience benefited the grant recipient. For her 2012 participation in the Audubon Hog Island Camp in Maine, Kayla presented an oral report at a KBC meeting. The report consisted of a PowerPoint presentation and posters showing camp scenes. The report was the right length and both well-done and interesting. Not to be overlooked, Kayla's mother, Nancy, drove from Hamler to Cleveland and back so Kayla could present her report.

In our view, Kayla is an outstanding recipient, and joins the chain of our truly great grant recipients from previous years. Two former recipients are pursuing PhD's in areas of ornithology. Others are involved in field work, and hopefully all will extend the boundaries of our present knowledge about birds outward.

Andy Lihani
Bob Finkelstein
Co-Chairs, Tom LePage Scholarship Fund

Remember KBC in Your Giving Plans!

Americans are bombarded everyday by charities asking for money. The Kirtland Bird Club is no different. We're asking you to include KBC in your will or retirement plans.

You're probably asking yourself right now, "What's in it for me?" Simply this: By including KBC in your will or other estate plan, you can help ensure that future generations will enjoy birds as you do now.

If you have not yet written a will, we urge you to do so. A properly-prepared will is the only way to be sure that your wishes will be carried out after your lifetime. It is important that you have your will prepared by an attorney who understands your needs and is familiar with the laws of Ohio. If you have already written your will, you may add a bequest to KBC by asking your attorney to prepare an amendment or codicil. Your attorney may find the following paragraph helpful in preparing your will:

"I bequeath to the Kirtland Bird Club, a non-profit organization with its principal offices located at 4310 Bush Ave., Cleveland, OH 44109 and tax ID number of 34-1748091, the sum of \$ _____ for its general unrestricted purposes in the study of ornithology."

You can save taxes by naming KBC as the beneficiary of your estate, trust, or other financial plan. Assets remaining in your plan at your death will otherwise be subject to estate and income taxes in the hands of your heirs. A good way to maximize benefits is to bequeath cash, securities, and real property to your family and leave your financial plan assets to KBC. To name KBC as a beneficiary of the assets in your retirement plan, you should request a beneficiary designation form from the plan sponsor.

Please contact your tax advisor for further information.

KBC Recent Financial History

In the last KBC newsletter, we learned that KBC has \$28,000 "in the bank." From where did that money come? Surely our annual dues are not producing that amount.

In 2002, the KBC was the grateful recipient of a large gift from the estates of William and Nancy Klamm and Martha Minns (over \$15,000).

In 2004, the KBC launched a fund-raiser and, thanks to generous donations from KBC members Sheldon and Marilyn MacLeod, raised an additional \$25,000. These monies were used to fund the writing and publishing of *Birds of Cleveland Region* and *A Field Book of Birds of the Cleveland Region*.

And what a valuable asset those books are! How often have each of us reached for *A Field Book of Birds of the Cleveland Region* to confirm a sighting or double check the anticipated arrival date of a favorite bird?

The KBC continues to receive donations. Donations can be designated for our scholarship and grant programs (the Tom LePage Scholarship and Ohio Aviary Project Initiative grant) or the publication of the *Cleveland Bird Calendar*. Donations can also be given to fund the general operations of the KBC.

Karin Tanquist
Past President



Kirtland Bird Club

4310 Bush Ave
Cleveland, Ohio 44109

Publisher of:

The Cleveland Bird Calendar
Birds of the Cleveland Region and the Field Book
The Kirtland Warbler

On the web at: www.KirtlandBirdClub.org
www.clevelandbirdcalendar.com

Email address: info@KirtlandBirdClub.org

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KIRTLAND BIRD CLUB, a Northeast Ohio Birding Club