



# THE KIRTLAND WARBLER

Quarterly Newsletter of the Kirtland Bird Club, Cleveland, Ohio  
www.KirtlandBirdClub.org and www.ClevelandBirdCalendar.com  
2014—2015 Membership Year, No. 4, Summer Issue

## Monthly Meetings

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

### Wednesday June 3, 2015

#### **A Flight for Life: Midwest Monarchs Presented by Cheryl Harner**

Ohio's most recognizable butterfly, the Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*) is in dramatic decline. The migration of the Midwestern Monarch is now considered an "Endangered Biological Phenomenon." In 1998 renowned lepidopterist Lincoln Brower first projected monarch populations would be decimated within this decade.



The Monarch's wintering sites in Mexico receive careful annual review and their population is measured by the size of the wintering butterflies' communal roosts. In 2014 the winter population was the lowest ever recorded. Many factors contribute to the demise of the Monarch population which migrates through the Midwestern United States.

The conservation effort for Monarchs is complicated by international borders and economic considerations. Scientists and citizens alike are exploring strategies to increase milkweed acreage, reduce the use of pesticides and herbicides and to encourage private property owners and state agencies to provide Monarch habitat. The extirpation of Ohio's reigning butterfly, the insect best suited for fostering scientific curiosity, would be a significant loss to our children's life experience. The Monarchs' impact is far greater than their four inch wingspan suggests.

**Cheryl Harner** is interested in all forms of flora and fauna and fascinated by the connections between botany and wildlife. She is an avid gardener and life-long wildflower and butterfly enthusiast. She currently serves two land trust boards and frequently speaks as an environmental educator and advocate for conservation and land preservation. Her extensive volunteer work includes long-time leadership in Ohio Ornithological Society, Greater Mohican Audubon Society and Richland County Master Gardeners. The Co-founder of Flora-Quest, a botanical eco-

tourism adventure, also writes a native plant, bird and butterfly blog for its website: Weedpicker's Journal ([www.cherylharnar.blogspot.com](http://www.cherylharnar.blogspot.com)).

### Announcing Our New Officers

At our May 2015 Meeting, we elected the following officers for the next two years:

**President:** Dave Dvorak  
**Vice President:** Dale Gaul  
**Recording Secretary:** Tom Romito  
**Treasurer:** Mary Anne Romito  
**Field Trip Coordinator:** Lukas Padegimas  
**Corresponding Secretary:** We need a volunteer ASAP

**CNLP Survey Coordinator:** Laura Gooch  
**Christmas Bird Count Coordinator:** Andy Jones  
**Tom LePage Scholarship Chairs:** Bob Finklestein and Andy Lihani  
**Program Committee Chair:** Karin Tanquist  
**Marketing Committee Chair:** Tom Romito  
**OAPI Grant Committee Chair:** Dwight Chasar  
**Webmaster:** Delores Cole  
**Social Media Coordinator:** Anna Julnes  
**Cleveland Bird Calendar Editor:** Fred Dinklebach

As outgoing president of the Kirtland Bird Club, I would like to thank all of the officers, committee members, and committee chairs for making the past two years a great success! I wish the future officers luck in the future! On Page 3 are some of the introductions of persons entering new positions for the next two years.

Lukas Padegimas

The Kirtland Bird Club also voted at the May Meeting to update membership dues for next year starting in September. The rates are as follows:

**Adult:** \$20  
**Couple:** \$30  
**Student:** \$10

# Lukas' Thoughts

Dear KBC Members,

It has been my great pleasure to serve you as President of the Kirtland Bird Club these past two years. I would like to look back to some of our collective accomplishments as a club in the past two years.



First, we survived as an organization despite a lack of officers and an uncertain future at the very start. I would like to thank the officers who remained from previous years, those individuals who took on officer responsibilities and stayed on until present day, and those people who participated in the various committees which we formed so as to improve the Kirtland Bird Club. Thank you, you made it happen! That being said, we need a new Corresponding Secretary starting in June. I hope another hero arises out of the midst ASAP to take on one of these jobs so as to continue our legacy.

We partnered together with two Audubon Societies as well as the Cleveland Museum of Natural History to sponsor three joint meetings, several field trips, and facilitated the start of the Cleveland Lake Front Nature Surveys. Not only did these surveys lead to "saving" Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve from extensive development this year, but we also united NE Ohio's conservation community so as to work together to advance various environmental causes. And we succeeded! Our April joint meeting was a great success and it is expected that we will have similar endeavors in the near future.

Internally, the newly created Marketing Committee within the Kirtland Bird Club has not only updated our literature and media, but has increased the visibility of the Kirtland Bird Club within the conservation community. Thank you Marketing Committee for bringing us into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Finally the Kirtland Bird Club has continued our mission to promote the serious study of ornithology. Besides commencing our CLNP surveys, we raised money to offer prestigious scholarships for Young Birders to attend birding camps all over the nation, sponsored naturalist programs by the Natural History museum for kids in the inner city area, and also raised money to sponsor a Project Snow Storm radio transmitter for Buckeye the Snowy Owl. Speaking of Buckeye, Buckeye is currently in Northern Michigan.

On behalf of all our current KBC officers and committee members, I urge all of our successors to continue the Kirtland Bird Club's legacy in Northeast Ohio by volunteering and leading our club in the future. Once again, I have had the most wonderful two years serving you as President of the KBC. And now, it is time for someone new to add their legacy and new ideas to the Kirtland Bird Club.

Sincerely yours,

Lukas Padegimas  
Outgoing President  
(440)-533-5519  
Lu-



of the KBC

[kas\\_padegimas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kas_padegimas@sbcglobal.net)



## Upcoming Field Trips

### Prothonotary Warblers at Sandy Ridge

Sandy Ridge Reservation

**Saturday June 6, 2015** at 9 am

Description: We will meet at the parking lot next to the nature center. We will then walk to the marsh and search for nesting Prothonotary Warblers as well as some of our later migrants and early nesters.



Location: 6195 Otten Rd,  
North Ridgeville, OH  
44039

### Shorebird Time!

Conneaut Sandspit

**Sunday August 30, 2015** at 8:30am

Description: The Sandspit at Conneaut often attracts an array of exciting shorebirds including Sanderlings, Red Knots, Willets, Semi-palmated Sandpipers, Pectoral Sandpipers, Dunlin, and occasionally something even rarer. Location: 480 Lake Rd, Conneaut, OH 44030 is the address of the park overlooking the public beach. From the park, you can drive west and take a left along a road which will go down towards the marsh, then take another left, and then drive towards the beach. Take a right and follow the sandy road to the end of the sand spit.



## Introducing the New President Dave Dvorak

I am a naturalist, writer and photographer. My first love has always been nature, beginning when I was old enough to walk. As a child I spent most of my time exploring the natural world and when older, began working to preserve it. While I was still a young child I wrote letters to the government urging the President and Congress not to dam the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon. Much more recent conservation work has been to save endangered ecosystems like the tall grass prairie and Florida everglades. I retired in June 2012, after thirty four years as a naturalist with the Cleveland Metroparks. Prior to that I directed an outdoor education program and was a science teacher for the East Cleveland Schools. As a naturalist I have led tours for the Cleveland Metroparks Institute of the Great Outdoors and for the Clipper Cruise Line. I've traveled from the Arctic to the Caribbean and have numerous slide shows that I present to the public. In recent years I've added historical shows on Henry David Thoreau, Aldo Leopold, the Santa Fe and Oregon Trails, and I'm currently working on a Lewis and Clark program.



I am also President of the Ohio Prairie Association (OPA). You can visit the website at [www.ohioprairie.org](http://www.ohioprairie.org). OPA's mission is to protect native prairies and wherever possible restore and reconstruct Ohio prairies on lands that were probably prairie. Ohio was at one time the home of the Greater Prairie Chicken, but it was extirpated from the state because of loss of habitat and over hunting. Some birds like the Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark are discovering Ohio prairie again.

As KBC President I would like to continue to find, with the help of club members, interesting speakers on various topics concerning birds. Also I would like to work with local Audubon Societies on field trips and larger scale programming. Your ideas are welcome.

Dave

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dave's photographs have appeared in and on the cover of many publications including magazines, books, posters, etc. Selected periodical credits include Sierra, Birder's World, Bird Watchers Digest, Audubon, Stackpole Books, Lerner Publications, Far Country Press/Montana Magazine, Fine Gardening, and the New York Times. Dave has written and illustrated a children's book for the Macmillan Company, A SEA OF GRASS: THE TALLGRASS PRAIRIE. Dave has had articles published in many periodicals including Bird Watchers Digest, Birds and Blooms, Birder's World, WildBird, Emerald Necklace Newsletter, and Kansas Magazine. His research articles on tallgrass prairies have appeared in scientific journals.

## Introducing the New Vice President Dale Gaul



Hi,

My name is Dale Gaul and I'll be the Kirtland Bird Club's new Vice-President during Dave Dvorak's term as President. I have a B.S. degree in Chemistry from John Carroll University and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, TX. I took an Ornithology class during my senior year at John Carroll and I've been birding since I was about ten years of age. My favorite birds are the Yellow Warbler and the Green Jay.

Sincerely,  
Dale

*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 President **Dave Dvorak** or to [info@kirtlandbirdclub.org](mailto:info@kirtlandbirdclub.org).

# Introducing the New Field Trip Coordinator Lukas Padegimas

Hello,

I'm sure most of you have met me as I have just finished my final term as President of the Kirtland Bird Club. I love birding and have a passion for conservation.

Although I will begin my second year of law school next year, my heart has always lain where adventure beacons. Upon finishing high school four years ago, I found ample opportunity to explore a few little parts of the world. Instead of attending my high school graduation, I joined a FWS field camp in the Alaskan Arctic to study nesting shorebirds. Upon returning from there, became the first member in my family to cross the equator in a long time (I'm sure there had to be someone back in the family tree who crossed it on their way up North, right?) when I interned with Wildside Tours as a co-leader in Ecuador. Since then, I returned to Ecuador again to see the remarkable frogs of Las Gralarias in the cloud forest, swim in a piranha infested Cayobeno River deep in the jungle, and learn about Ecuadorian culture in the highlands. Made a side trip to Peru to hike the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu, went to an Island with penguins, and hiked in a desert there. I wrote a manuscript on those adventures and misadventures, and hope to have it self-published this summer! So if you are interested in purchasing one, please let me know!

The last few years, I have also traveled throughout Europe, but remained mostly within the confines of the continent's great cities. But here and there, I have always found a few days to wander (and occasionally get lost) into the foothills of the Alps, an island in the middle of the North Sea, or some other enchanting place filled with wildlife.

That all being said, I am always ready to go on a new adventure! And I am happy to hear of any ideas which you may offer for both short distance trips, long distance van trips, or the thought of an international trip together as a group from the Kirtland Bird Club. Just let me know! And I will see if we can make it happen! And finally, if you are interested in leading a local trip somewhere, please let me know of your availability. We are always searching for a volunteer to lead something. I'm sure the next few years will be spectacular!

Sincerely yours,

Lukas Padegimas



*The Cleveland  
Bird Calendar*

**Spring REPORTS  
Due By June 10**

**[www.ebird.org](http://www.ebird.org)**

**or email to:**

**[seasonalreports@kirtlandbirdclub.org](mailto:seasonalreports@kirtlandbirdclub.org)**

OR

Mail to: Fred Dinkelbach, Editor  
6320 Greenwood Pkwy, Apt 406  
Sagamore Hills, Ohio 44067



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

## **Tom LePage Scholarship Winners**

Matt Kappler and Ethan Rising both received \$325 each to help subsidize the cost of attending ABA's Camp Colorado this July. Congratulations guys! And thank you once again to the KBC members who contributed to the fund so as to make more dreams come true for our deserving young birders!

## Field Trip Reports

Field Trip Report - April 25, 2015



On a cloudy morning with NNE winds, seven hardy folks met Lukas Padegimas for the April 25<sup>th</sup> KBC field trip at Cleveland Lakefront Preserve. We tallied forty-eight species in two and a half hours as the group worked its way clockwise on the Perimeter Loop Trail.

We spotted six Common Loons and seven Horned Grebes in the marina basin and beyond the breakwater in Lake Erie. An estimated raft of four to five hundred Ruddy Ducks were tucked into the near shore area on the leeward side of the preserve. There were four woodpecker species: a male Red-bellied, three female Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, four Downys and two Northern Flickers. Tree and Barn Swallows coursed overhead. A single Black-throated Green Warbler was a welcome sight, as well as were two male Yellow-rumped Warblers. Group members spotted triads of Brown Thrasher, Eastern Towhee, Swamp and White-throated Sparrows, as well as nineteen Song Sparrows. American Goldfinches added dashes of color to the sightings.

that popped up on the northern bulkhead of the preserve. It stayed long enough for everyone to get good looks but not long enough to be photographed.

Paula Lozano

Photographer: Lori Brumbaugh



**Corresponding Secretary Wanted!**

**If Interested In this position: please call Lukas Padegimas at 440-533-5519**



**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](http://www.KirtlandBirdClub.org)

[www.clevelandbirdcalendar.com](http://www.clevelandbirdcalendar.com)

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Mary Anne Romito — Treasurer

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