



THE KIRTLAND WARBLER

Quarterly Newsletter of the Kirtland Bird Club of Northeast Ohio
www.KirtlandBirdClub.org

2022–2023 Membership Year, No. 2, Winter Issue

Monthly Meetings

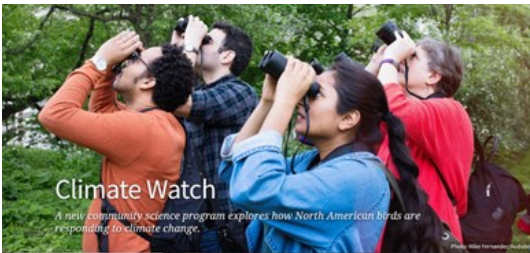
Kirtland Bird Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month, September through June at 7:00 p.m. Each meeting includes announcements, some club business, and a speaker program. Meetings are free and all are welcome!

Monthly meetings of the Kirtland Bird Club of Northeast Ohio are in-person or on Zoom. Check our web site or Facebook page for details.

Wednesday, January 4, 2023, at 7:00 PM - on Zoom

Climate Watch - a citizen science program of the National Audubon Society

Speaker: Mary Anne Romito, Climate Watch Coordinator for Northeast Ohio



Audubon's 2019 climate change report, *Survival By Degrees*, says that up to two-thirds of North American birds are at risk for extinction due to rising temperatures. The National Audubon Society is working to document the effects of climate change in the hopes that this will lead to environmental policy that will help save birds from this terrible fate.

Mary Anne Romito will share data collected through the program over the past 6 years and share how Northeast Ohioan birders, in groups of 1,2 or 3, can collect data during a single 4 hour period in January and again in May. We will be contributing to the vast database Audubon is building. We'll be looking for five fun target species. In the presentation you will learn more about each species and why it is important. This program is for people of all levels of birding ability!



Monthly meetings (continuation)

Wednesday, February 1, 2023, at 7:00 PM - on Zoom

Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands

Speaker: Anna Kozlenko



Ecuador, a country in South America, is bordered by Colombia on the north, Peru on the east and south, and the Pacific Ocean on the west. The Galapagos Islands, a part of Ecuador, are located about a thousand kilometers (621 miles) off Ecuador's west coast.

Charles Darwin's observations of Galápagos species in 1835 was the inspiration for his theory of evolution. The isolated terrain of the Galapagos Islands shelters a diversity of plant and animal species, many found nowhere else. Ecuador, including the Galápagos Islands, has 1617 confirmed species. Eight of these are

endemic to the mainland and 31 are endemic to the Galápagos Islands, with 4 species introduced by humans. Seventy-seven species are rare or vagrants, and one has been extirpated.

In November of this year Anna Kozlenko spent 9 days in Ecuador, two on the mainland and 7 in the Galápagos Islands on a trip organized by Mercedes Rivadeneira, owner of Puenbo Birding Garden and Safaris Company. Anna's presentation will include her photographs and videos.



Anna Kozlenko received a PhD in Zoology from the Russian Academy of Science and studied bird populations in Central Siberia before moving to the United States in the 1990s. Over the 28 years she's been in the US Anna worked mostly as a software quality analyst. During her career and in retirement, Anna has volunteered extensively for the Cleveland Metroparks, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Friends of Euclid Creek, Friends of Lower Lake, and Bellefaire JCB's mentoring program for children in foster care. Anna lives in South Euclid and is a Board member of the Kirtland Bird Club of Northeast Ohio.



Blue-footed Booby. Photo by Anna Kozlenko

Upcoming Field Trips

Saturday, January 7, 2023, 9:00 AM - Backroads of Geauga County

Meet at: Soltis Road, Parkman, OH

Leader: Matt Valencic

Reservations: YES. RSVP to info@kirtlandbirdclub.org to be notified in case of a cancellation.

We'll bird the backroads of Geauga County, starting at Soltis Road near Parkman. From there we'll move to Patch Road. There will be a lunch stop in Middlefield, as well as a spot in town to look for birds in a storm water retention pond. Finally, we'll bird Hayes Road, ending the field trip by 2:00 pm.

Target birds: Ring-necked Pheasant, American Kestrel, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Bald Eagle, Red-tailed Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Horned Lark, Common Redpoll, Lapland Longspur, Snow Bunting, Eastern Meadowlark and birds at feeders



Photo by Paula Lozano

Saturday, February 11, 2023, 9:00 AM - Rocky River Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks



Photo by Paula Lozano

Leaders: Bill Deininger & Dave Graskemper

Location: Rocky River Nature Center, North Olmsted, OH

Reservations: YES, RSVP to info@kirtlandbirdclub.org to be notified in case of a cancellation.

We'll join the second Saturday of the month bird walk at Rocky River Nature Center. It is always a good place to look for birds in its various habitats.

Link to Rocky River Reservation's Nature Trails: [HERE](#)

Link to eBird Bar

Chart: [HERE](#)

Upcoming Field Trips (continuation)



Photo by Anna Kozlenko

Sunday, March 26, 2023, 8:30 AM - Sandy Ridge Reservation, Lorain Metroparks

Location: Sandy Ridge Reservation, 6195 Otten Road, North Ridgeville, OH

Meet at: Johnson Wetland Center

Leader: Tyler McClain

Reservations: YES. RSVP to info@kirtlandbirdclub.org to be notified in case of a cancellation.

In March Sandy Ridge Reservation provides habitat for many returning migrants, including wading birds and waterfowl. We'll look for Bald Eagles and Sandhill Cranes, too. Spotting scopes are useful but not necessary. There are restrooms at the Johnson Wetland Center.

Click [HERE](#) to read about Sandy Ridge Reservation.

Click [HERE](#) for an eBird Bar Chart for Sandy Ridge.

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, Anna Kozlenko to annajulnes@yahoo.com

President's Letter

By *Patricia Kellner*



'Tis the season for finding birds that only visit us in the winter. Join us on our upcoming [field trips](#), and you may get a chance to see spectacular species like Snowy Owl, Rough-legged Hawk, and Short-eared Owl. Snowy Owls are frequently found at Burke Lakefront Airport, but a spotting scope is often required for good looks. If you see someone with a spotting scope by the fence along the North Marginal Road by Burke, that person is probably looking for owls and may be willing to give you a chance to look through their scope.

Our annual Cleveland Christmas Bird Count, one of many Christmas Bird Counts all over the world, took place on December 17, 2022. This year's results will be added to the Kirtland Bird Club's Christmas Bird Count records that go back 83 years! Two of the highlights were a Merlin

and a Long-tailed Duck, but I know other unusual species were seen. I'm looking forward to hearing organizer/compiler Laura Gooch give her full report to the club in early 2023.

Bird counting events like the Christmas Bird Count document trends in bird populations and contribute valuable information to organizations working tirelessly to protect birds, their habitats, and our planet. Along with that participants have fun! If you missed your chance to count birds during a Christmas Bird Count, there's another opportunity for counting on Saturday, January 21, 2023 during National Audubon Society's Climate Watch.

National Audubon's [Climate Watch](#) program is the subject of Kirtland Bird Club member Mary Anne Romito's presentation at our January 4th Kirtland Bird Club meeting. Mary Anne, who is also the northeast Ohio coordinator for Climate Watch, will share how the anticipated impact of climate change, including a rise in temperature of as little as 1.5 degrees Celsius (the goal of the Paris Climate Agreement), will significantly alter the ranges of beloved species that we have come to expect in our area.

During our local Climate Watch count, small groups of bird counters will focus on documenting five species: Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, American Goldfinch, Eastern Towhee and Eastern Bluebird, species whose ranges likely will be affected by climate change. Each group will search in a specific territory, assigned after consultation between the group leader and Mary Anne, and count at twelve individual locations within the territory. (Folks will have a chance to warm up in cars when traveling between locations!) Advance planning will help make the count more fruitful. If you would like to participate in this event, whether as a leader or group member, please email info@kirtlandbirdclub.org and Mary Anne will be in touch!

When you're not out birding, you might want to listen to a great NPR "Science Friday" segment on [The Joy and Sadness of Counting Birds](#). Also, a good read you might consider is a New York Times article [The Surprising Health Benefits of Birdwatching](#). Birder Holly Merker, who is mentioned in the article, started [The Mindful Birding Network](#), an organization dedicated to "cultivating the health benefits and joy of Mindful Birding. Three members of the Kirtland Bird Club are members of the network and more are welcome. Check out the network and bios of some of the members to see the variety of ways people approach birding!



Photo by Neil Paprocki

President's Letter (continuation)

In case you missed it, the video recording of Kyler Sonney's wonderful December presentation to Kirtland Bird Club on the Birds of Glacier National Park is available online. Click [HERE](#) to view it. You can also find the link on our website in the "KBC Archives" section by clicking on "Past Speaker Meetings".

Still looking for holiday gifts? Consider a gift certificate for native plants from Cleveland's own native plant nursery [Meadow City Nursery](#). Meadow City's plants are hardy, easy to grow when you choose the right spot, and help support our local bird populations. In addition many native plant species make beautiful additions to our home landscapes!

Last, if you haven't done so already, consider a gift to your favorite birding organization. There are many doing great work in northeast Ohio and beyond!

With the holidays upon us, I hope yours are happy and full of birds!

Patty Kellner
President, Kirtland Bird Club of Northeast Ohio



Short-eared Owl. Photo by Jerry Talkington

Field Trip Report

By Paula Lozano

November Field Trip



Photo by Paula Lozano

On Saturday November 19, 2022, a hardy group of twelve folks bundled up to bird along the lake-front on the West Side. When the field trip started, the temperature was 24, with a steady SW wind at 17 mph, and it wasn't much warmer or less windy at the end of the morning. Our first stops were in Rocky River at Rocky River Park and Bradstreet's Landing, followed by Cahoon Park West and the Huntington Reservation in Bay Village. The wind was always a factor, but we were thankful that it was out of the SW and not the North.



Red-breasted mergansers. Photo by Anna Kozlenko

Red-breasted Mergansers were everywhere, and we estimated at least 2000 at each stop. Common Loons and Horned Grebes were tallied at all locations. Other waterfowl tallied included Canada Goose, American Black Duck, Mallard, Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Hooded Merganser and Ruddy Duck. Single Killdeer, Bald Eagle and American

Coot, 8 Bonaparte's Gulls, and pair of Barred Owls were welcome addition to the final total of 25 species.

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25



Photo by Anna Kozlenko



Buffleheads. Photo by Anna Kozlenko

Pipits, Pipits and more Pipits!

By Russell Hack

Pipits are birds in the family MOTACILLIDAE and genus ANTHUS. They inhabit every continent on earth. If you don't believe me, look up ANTHUS ANTARCTICUS. Pipits are passerines that frequently forage on the ground eating insects. I have seen them perch, however, in small trees, on fence posts and on boulders.



American Pipit. Photo by Jim Heflich

They are not the most colorful of birds, yet beautiful in their own way. Red-throated Pipits and Olive-backed Pipits are perhaps the most colorful of the genus. Most pipits are brown or gray with streaked or spotted breasts and light-colored abdomens. Whether you are participating in a bird walk

or a trip to an overseas destination, pipits are frequently overlooked. You don't usually see them in flocks.

They can be challenging to locate. I suggest you look for them on barren land, in old corn fields and in grassy areas. Only three pipits are found in North America; American Pipit, which some call Buff-bellied Pipit, Sprague's Pipit and Red-throated Pipit in Alaska. I have been fortunate enough and lucky enough to have seen thirteen different pipits. I saw an unusual pipit in Scotland. The Rock Pipit eats invertebrates and lives along rocky coasts, where you might find Northern Fulmars and Atlantic Puffins nesting.

Next year, I have a chance to see Berthelot's Pipit. I won't tell you where I might see it. You will have to google it. If you have never seen a pipit, make it a target bird in 2023. Besides considering appropriate habitat, you will have better luck, if you can distinguish them from thrushes, larks and sparrows. Happy Birding!!

KIRTLAND BIRD CLUB of NORTHEAST OHIO MEMBERSHIP



I would like to support the activities of Kirtland Bird Club of Northeast Ohio 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 of Northeast Ohio in your estate plans.

Our membership year is September 1st to August 31st. Any membership payments received after March 1 will 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

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

c/o Mary Anne Romito
4310 Bush Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44109

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



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4310 Bush Ave
Cleveland, Ohio 44109

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

Email address: info@KirtlandBirdClub.org

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