

September 2013



The Goldfinch

Daviess County
Audubon Society

www.daviessaudubon.net

September's Program: Sept 3rd Wildlife Related Diseases

WILDLIFE BORNE DISEASE...SCARY STUFF

Lyme Disease, Tularemia, Leptospirosis, Histoplasmosis, Encephalictis...the list goes on. Our September 3rd meeting will feature Wildlife Disease Biologist Elizabeth Danks. As we go about exploring the natural world around us, we sometimes become a bit complacent about the dangers buzzing around our heads or hidden in a burrow. With this year's mild summer comes a fertile environment for disease bearing carriers (biters) in our neighborhoods and woodsy surroundings.

Danks will share some insight into the need for precautions and (if necessary) treatment. She has a Master's in Environmental and Forest Biology as well as a B.S. in Biology and a Bachelor's in Architecture (hmm...we'll have to ask about that). Please join us in welcoming Elizabeth Danks of the KY Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources to DCAS.



It's August, so you konw what that means--GO VOLS (or voles)!

Here is a link for interest in milkweed propogation benefitting our butterfly population. They need our help!

[-www.livemonarch.com](http://www.livemonarch.com)

Here is a link for operation migration:

<http://operationmigration.org/InTheField/>

September Calendar:

Sept 3rd, 2013..... 5:30 Supper with the speaker, Moonlite BBQ, 7:00 DCAS

Sept 14th 2013..... Eagle Slough field trip, 8 a.m. moonlite...

Sept 16th 2013..... Board meeting at Judy's house. 9 a.m.

This off course rail caused quite a stir. Go to the link below for the story, right out of the movie script of "The Big Year."



<http://news.yahoo.com/tropic-bird-goes-astray-sparks-nm-birding-frenzy-073710442.html>

Travelling Farther Afield

If you're interested in a bit more exotic birding, we have some ideas for you! Here are some events coming up this fall.

YELLOW RAILS AND RICE:

October 23-29th Jennings, Louisiana
www.snowyegretenterprises.com At this writing, three DCAS members are planning to attend. Contact Bob Broddle, Jan Howard or Pat Augenstein if you're interested.



ALABAMA COASTAL

BIRDFEST: October 3-5th
Mobile/Fairhope, Alabama www.alabamacoastalbirdfest.com



MIDWEST BIRDING

SYPOSIUM: September 19-22nd Lakeside, Ohio www.birdwatchersdigest.com/mwb2013

This is in the same location as the Biggest Week in American Birding that some of our folks attended last May. A chance for a look at Fall migrants.



ALSO, We're exploring another trip to either ***COSTA RICA or PANAMA*** in early January 2014. The trip would be completed before classes begin at Brescia and KWC, if that's a concern. If you'd like to be on the email list for additional information, contact Judy at jadams11_2008@yahoo.com.



Save the Dates

DAVIESS COUNTY AUDUBON SOCIETY 2013-2014 CALENDAR

All Meetings are at 7:00 P.M. on the First Tuesday at Brescia U. Campus Center

(Unless there's a change)

SEPT 3: WILDLIFE RELATED DISEASE (ticks, mosquitos, mammals, etc.)

SEPT 14: FIELD TRIP...EAGLE SLOUGH

OCT 8: J.J. AUDUBON STATE PARK EXPANSION

OCT FIELD TRIP...AUDUBON WETLAND

NOV. 5: WHOOPING CRANES

NOV. FIELD TRIP...GOOSE POND

DEC. 3: CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT PREP

DEC. FIELD TRIP...CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

JAN. 7: WATERFOWL: DUCKS AND SHOREBIRDS

JAN. FIELD TRIP...THE SLOUGHS IN HENDERSON

FEB. 4: BACKYARD HABITAT

FEB. FIELD TRIP...LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES

MARCH 4: NATURE CONSERVANCY OF KENTUCKY

MARCH FIELD TRIP...MARION, KY

APRIL 1: SPRING WARBLERS

APRIL FIELD TRIPS...

OHIO VALLEY BIRDING FESTIVAL and LAKE CUMBERLAND OVERNIGHTER

MAY 6: BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY JURIED SHOW

MAY FIELD TRIP...MACEO MARTINS AND BLUEBIRDS

JUNE 3: CHAPTER PICNIC (location to be determined)

It's Summer...Where Did the Birds Go?

By Jessie Barry, Cornell Lab of Ornithology



In the dog days of summer, birds seem to disappear—the dawn chorus wanes and an odd silence takes hold in the woodlands. A lot of birders hang up their binoculars until fall migration. But there's no reason to stop birding. The birds are still there, they're just keeping a low profile, because they're replacing their feathers.

After breeding, the molting season kicks in. Molt is the systematic replacement of feathers. All birds do it—from hummingbirds to penguins. Birds have to molt in order to survive, because feathers wear out from physical abrasion and bleaching from the sun. Once a year (in the late summer for temperate species) birds grow an entirely new set of feathers through a complete molt.

As birds grow new flight feathers, they are particularly vulnerable. During wing molt, several of their feathers will be less than full length, producing gaps in their wings, so they are not as maneuverable or powerful in flight. To minimize attracting the attention of predators, many birds—such as sparrows, warblers, and thrushes—tend to vocalize infrequently and hide in vegetation.

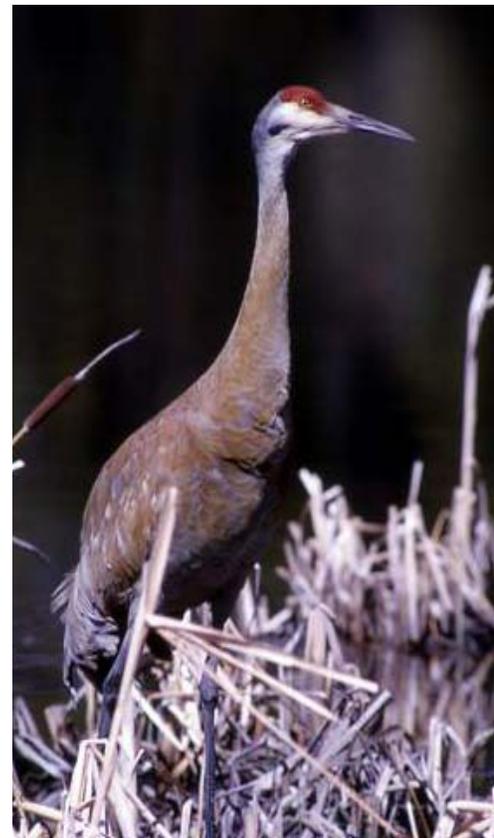
Molting strategies. Groups of birds employ different strategies to fit molt into their annual schedule. Most eastern songbirds, including Chestnut-sided Warbler, Baltimore Oriole, and Indigo Bunting, begin replacing their flight and body feathers shortly after their young fledge. They tend to undergo this complete molt on or near their breeding ground, migrating south after they have a new set of feathers.

Some songbirds in the West, however, begin their migration south a bit before molting. Western summers can be extremely dry and desolate. So many species—including Western Kingbird and Lazuli Bunting—head off on a partial migration to the Mexican Monsoon region (southeast Arizona, New Mexico, and northwest Mexico) to molt. The monsoon rains bring an abundance of insects on which to feed. After molting their flight feathers, they continue their migration farther south to their wintering grounds.

Birding during molt. Spotting molt in action in just a matter of taking a minute to look carefully at the feathers. Molting warblers and thrushes in woodlands tend to be tricky to see, but grackles and other blackbirds in the open country are often easy to spot. Birds in heavy molt tend to be scruffy overall—look for contrast between new and old feathers, and gaps in their wings where old feathers have been dropped and new ones have just started growing.

With an appreciation of molting, you'll see that a motely looking bird in late summer is really another incredible stage of a bird's life cycle. And you'll appreciate how birds prepare for the long journeys of their fall migration.

*Reprinted with permission from Cornell's Living Bird News/ Summer 2013



MIGRATION GAME A BIG DRAW

Pick a card and take your chances on your migration south. You may hit a cell phone tower or get caught in a hurricane off the Louisiana coast...or maybe you'll be lucky and find a bird-friendly yard or a good tailwind! Mary Kissel's Bird Migration card game engaged lots of kids and families at our booth at the Owensboro Multicultural Festival.

Thanks to all our able volunteers, Karroll Hausknecht, Mike Henshaw, Janet Howard, David Stratton, Bob Adams, Mary Kissel, Brenda Eaden, Charles Morris, Pat Augenstein, Judy Adams and Donna Hanley. What a great group we have! And welcome to all those who are reading this for the first time because they signed-up to be on our Goldfinch email list. We hope you'll join in on some of the activities we've planned for this year!



Where's the food and games?



Wild Birds Unlimited Evansville

FALL MIGRATION IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!! JOIN US FOR OUR FALL MIGRATION HIKES!

We will begin our fall migration bird hikes on Saturday, August 31st. Hikes will be held at several locations in the tri-state so keep informed by calling the store or look on our website for an up-to-date schedule.

SCHEDULE OF TIM'S BIRD WALKS IN AUGUST & SEPTEMBER:

Saturday, August 31st:

EAGLE SLOUGH NATURAL AREA - 8:00am, main parking lot

Saturday, September 7th: NO HIKES, Tim's birding in Maine! Yippee!!!! Here Puffin, Puffin, Puffin!

Saturday, September 14th:

HOWELL WETLANDS - 8:00am, meet in main parking lot.

Saturday, September 21st:

EAGLE SLOUGH NATURE AREA - 7:30am, meet at the Eagle Slough Observation Deck.

This is the peak of fall warbler migration and they really flock to this part of the park. We will simply stand/sit and watch the action as the warblers feed on insects around the water.

Sunday, September 22nd :

EAGLE SLOUGH NATURE AREA - 5:30pm, meet at the Eagle Slough parking lot. This is the peak of fall warbler migration and they really flock to this the park. We will simply stand/sit and watch the action as the warblers feed on insects around the water.

Saturday, September 28th: -

HOWELL WETLANDS - 8:00am, meet at the Howell Wetlands parking lot.

Please post: benefit for Sycamore Land Trust

Sycamore Land Trust presents:

DON HENRY

*Grammy Award-winning
songwriter from
Nashville, TN*



SAT
28
SEP
8 PM CDT
Doors open at 7

\$30/person, \$50/couple
Comes with a free one-year membership to Sycamore Land Trust!
Cash bar
Nature photography by Steve Gifford available, with a portion of the proceeds benefitting Sycamore.

The Pub, Evansville



Don Henry in Concert for Sycamore Land Trust

Seating is limited - reserve your spot today! Purchase seats online (www.sycamorelandtrust.org/events) or mail this form with check or cash to Sycamore Land Trust, P.O. Box 7801, Bloomington, IN 47407. Questions? Email info@sycamorelandtrust.org or call (812) 336-5382.

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

I would like to purchase (\$30/person, \$50/couple):

- 1 seat (\$30)
- 2 seats (\$50)
- 3 seats (\$80)
- 4 seats (\$100)
- More (____ seats for \$____)

My cash or check to Sycamore Land Trust is enclosed.

Please charge my credit card:

Visa MC AmEx Discover

Card number: _____

Expires: ____/____ Security code: _____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

Please note: There are no printed tickets for this event. You'll check in by name at the door. Doors open at 7:00 pm.

FROM THE BACKYARD

Ok my August is filled with a variety of fall business, that is, busy-ness busy-ness.

We had a table at the upcoming multicultural day event and also a growing plan "Big Sit" at Kingfisher Lake coming up in October, so look for that date in next month's goldfinch.

What wonderful weather we are still having this summer into the fall. The heat is coming back soon. Happy birding.

David Stratton
davids@brescia.edu

Important Dates unrelated to Audubon:

Sept 7- EastBridge art fair, 2nd street Owensboro at SutioSlant galleries. approximate 50 artists presenting. David Stratton's artwork will be in the interior gallery.

September 21-Owensboro's Crazy Horse Mustang Club's annual car show. Champion Ford. 8-5 pm

The ice cream cone was invented in September in 1903.

September 16 is collect rocks day.

1783 the Treaty of Paris was signed September 3rd.

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY
DIVISION OF FINE ARTS

PRESENTS

DAVID STRATTON
TEXTURESCAPES, GESTURESCAPES



TWO TREES. MIXED MEDIA ON PAPER (36" X 48").

ANNA EATON STOUT GALLERY
CAMPUS CENTER, 2ND FLOOR

AUGUST 12 - 30, 2013

ARTIST RECEPTION: THURSDAY, AUGUST 22
6 - 7 P.M.