



# The Goldfinch

Daviess County Audubon Society

www.davinessaudubon.net

## Mar 7, 2017 Program Note:

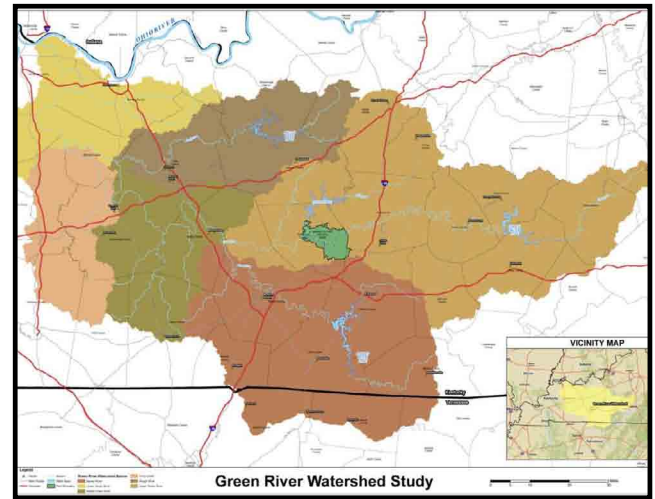
— All programs are now at the Owensboro Museum of Science and History

“Ky, Birds, and The Nature Conservancy”

“Green River Basin and...”

Rachel Martin, from the Nature Conservancy is presenting our March program speaking on the General Green River Project—to promote Soil Health and Sustainable Ag practices amongst the farmers of the Lower Green River (see page 2 inset images). She also will talk briefly about her role as Soil Health/Working Lands promoter and about bird projects in the Kentucky region.

On the [NC website](#), she is quoted: “A PLACE I LOVE” — Rachel loves the Mammoth Cave area and Cumberland Falls. Pennyriple Park also holds some special memories. However, her favorite place in Kentucky is probably a clearing in the woods near where she grew up. “For a ½-mile, the gravel road to our house boasted a canopy of the trees on either side that made it feel like going through a green tunnel,” says Rachel. “The scent of the woods always revealed the season—dank, rich earth overlaid by fresh spring rain, dry leaves crackling and then frost-lace and snow weighing branches down—in the back woods, we played in a creek and stood underneath a small waterfall. It was a great way to spend my childhood.”



Ky Nature Conservancy page: <http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/kentucky/index.htm>

Rachel Martin quote page: <http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/kentucky/facesofconservation/rachel-martin-kentucky-natural-resource-planner.xml>

## March Newsletter Calendar:

- Mar 4:** • Fieldtrip work activity of installing posts and Bluebird houses on the Rudy Mines trails. We need volunteers to help dig, install posts, +morale, —meeting at Rudy Mines parking lot at 10 a.m.
- Mar 7:** DCAS monthly program: “Ky, Birds, and The Nature Conservancy” presented by Rachel Martin of the Nature Conservancy.-- 7 p.m.; “meet the presenter”, at Moonlite BBQ, 5:30 pm— **take note:** the program is at the Owensboro Museum of Science and History.
- Mar 18 (25):** Trash for Cash fieldtrip fundraising activity. Meeting place and time TBA at program. Rain backup date is Mar 25 the following saturday.
- Mar 20:** Board meeting 9:30 at Judy’s house.

<http://gbbc.birdcount.org/> —CLICK HERE.

## GLOBAL CHALLENGES

CONSERVING  
CRITICAL  
LANDS

SECURING  
FRESH  
WATER

RESTORING OUR  
OCEANS

REDUCING IMPACTS OF  
CLIMATE  
CHANGE

## GLOBAL PRIORITIES

PLACE  
PROTECT & RESTORE  
NATURAL SYSTEMS

POLICY &  
PRACTICE  
USE NATURE  
SUSTAINABLY

PEOPLE  
BROADEN THE  
CONSTITUENCY  
FOR CONSERVATION

PERFORMANCE  
STRENGTHEN OUR  
ORGANIZATIONAL  
EFFECTIVENESS

## Biodiversity

•Mussels – 71 species - 21 imperiled, 7 endangered (federal)

•Fishes - 151 species – 7 endemic, 12 globally rare

•Karst Systems - Mammoth Cave Complex 130+ species use caves, 3 endangered



## Endemics & T/E's



Bottlebrush crayfish, endemic, *Barbicambarus carnotus*



Splendid Darter, endemic, *Etheostoma barrense*



Kentucky Cave Shrimp, endemic, E, *Palaemonias ganteri*



Gray Bat, E, *Myotis grisescens*



Ring Pink, E, *Obovaria retusa*

The Ohio Valley Birding Festival website has been updated for our 2017 events:

<http://www.ohiovalleybirdingfestival.org/>

**Biggest Week in American Birding —**

## **BIGGEST WEEK IN AMERICAN BIRDING 2017**

The annual celebration of the warbler migration stopover at the edge of Lake Erie is scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> this year. Those who have participated in past years say it's not to be missed! Check it out at [biggestweekinamericanbirding.com](http://biggestweekinamericanbirding.com). Rooms at the Maumee Bay Lodge are already sold out, but 2 bedroom cabins are still available. So...if you're interested, get together with fellow birders and make your plans. DCAS members who've been in past years include Brenda and Tony Eaden, Pam and Jim Kimsee, Mary Kissel, Janet Howard, Theresa and Steve Graham. Get in touch with them for a taste of the Biggest Week.



## **2017 GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT A SUCCESS—**

At last count, Daviess County birders have submitted 19 checklists totaling 66 species over the Feb. 17-20, 2017 Count. The birder with the highest number of individual species was Steve Hahus with 58 (no real surprise here). Eight birders ventured to the J James Audubon State Park wetlands for a field trip and bird count on Saturday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>. They were treated to a sighting of TWO Bald Eagle pair among the 21 species sighted. The most accessible



spot for casual viewing of a pair was the pull off at the old Heron rookery site off US41 south of the Ohio River Bridge. The DCAS Board counted birds at the Virginia Miles Nature Center (behind OCTC) before their meeting on Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> and were treated to hundreds of Robins in the woods, including one mottled with multiple white feathers. In addition, there were a multitude of sparrows (Swamp, Song, Field, Fox, White-throated, and American Tree) and 23 Wild Turkeys. Well worth the effort. That same afternoon (and the last day of the GBBC) Judy Adams and eighteen 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders at Girls Inc.

enthusiastically counted birds in the backyard habitat at Rolling Heights, earning an official “Great Horned Owl Award” from the GBBC folks. If you counted birds that week-end and forget to submit your checklists, it’s not too late. Just go to [birdcount.org](http://birdcount.org) and click on “submit data”.

—submitted and written by Judy Adams



Judy Adams, wintering backyard bird.

1. Mallard 14
2. Rusty Blackbird 21
3. Pileated Woodpecker 1
4. Kingfisher 2
5. Carolina Wren 2
6. Red bellied Woodpecker 4
7. Northern Cardinal 5
8. Yellow Bellied Sapsucker 4
9. Bald Eagle 4
10. American Crow 3
11. White Breasted Nuthatch 2
12. Red-winged Blackbird 6
13. Canada Geese 13
14. Downy Woodpecker 1
15. Carolina Chickadee 10
16. Golden-crowned Kinglet 1
17. Tuted Titmouse 1
18. Kildeer 2
19. Song Sparrow 2
20. Mourning Dove 3
21. Black Vulture 2

## Joe Ford nature Center Great Backyard Birdcount outing



Nineteen species of birds were spotted at the Joe Ford Nature Center on the opening day of the Great Backyard Bird Count. That number reflects birds spotted during the family count and earlier that morning. That total ties last year's record species count, despite warm weather that has suppressed feeder activity all winter in western Kentucky.

Highlights included the first GBBC red-breasted nuthatch in several years and the sighting of a red-tailed hawk building a nest along the tree row in the field adjacent to the JFNC property.

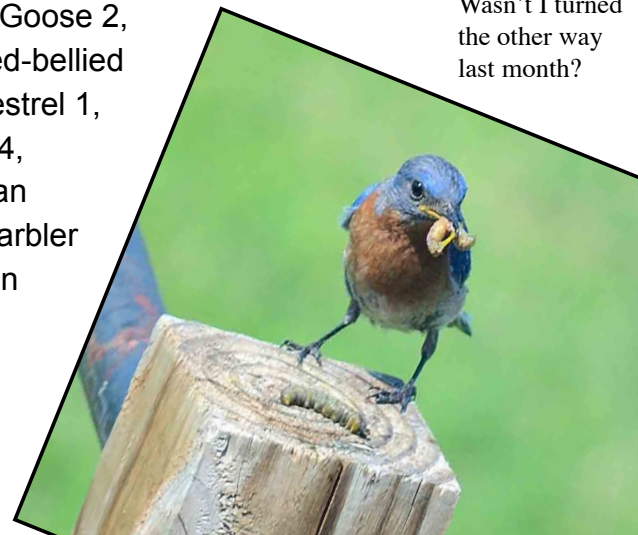
However, part of the GBBC mission is "fledging" the next generation of birders. Daviess County Audubon members Judy Adams, Jan Howard, Carolyn Williams and Mary Kissel and JFNC volunteer Rose Ann Radzelovage shared birding wisdom with the young participants.

Afterward, the students participated in a coloring contest.

Birds spotted on Friday, Feb. 17, included: Canada Goose 2, Cooper's Hawk 1, Red-tailed Hawk 1, Killdeer 1, Red-bellied Woodpecker 2, Downy Woodpecker 2, American Kestrel 1, Blue Jay 1, Carolina Chickadee 4, Tufted Titmouse 4, Red-breasted Nuthatch 1, Carolina Wren 1, American Robin 2, Northern Mockingbird 1, Yellow-rumped Warbler 2, Dark-eyed Junco 3, Northern Cardinal 4, Common Grackle 93 and American Goldfinch 4

—submitted and written by Mary Kissel

Wasn't I turned  
the other way  
last month?





— what is this bird?

Again, Where is winter?

Where is winter?



— what is this bird?

# FROM THE BACKYARD

Two Ky outdoor things to look at and experience links:

- take a friend birding.
- take a friend along to one of our field trips.
- DS

David Stratton  
davids@brescia.edu

<http://blackacreconservancy.org/>

<https://bluegrassconservancy.org/>

The Global Big Day is May 14th.  
Here's the link. <http://ebird.org/globalbigday/>

Remember, our monthly programs are now at the Owensboro Museum of Science and History.

- 7 pm.
- Refreshments will be provided.
- mild chaos is typical, so come and enjoy.

snw, huh?

snw?

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