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Nov 2015





Daviess County Audubon Society

www.daviessaudubon.net

Nov 3, 2015 Program:

Take note—this program is at the Owensboro Museum of Science and History

"FILM: COUNTING ON BIRDS"



THE FILM "COUNTING ON BIRDS." A DOCUMENTARY OF THE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT AND MIGRATION BIRDING.

Join host Willem Lange as he explores migratory birds native to New England. From the longest-running wildlife census in the world to the incredible migratory route of the Broad-Winged Hawk, this two-disc compilation features five wonderful programs bird enthusiasts will enjoy. - Episodes include: Counting on Birds, Bird Tales, Saving Songbirds, Journey of the Broad-Winged Hawk, and Plight of the Grassland Birds.

Take note:
November program
is being held at the
Owensboro Museum
of Science and History
not BU!

hmmmm, this looks like summer. This film might

Nov Newsletter Calendar:

Nov 3: • DCAS monthly program, "Counting on Birds" documentary film, presented at the Owensboro

Museum of Science and History, 7 pm...not the usual program spot at BU!

Nov ?: • DCAS board meeting, 9:30 a.m.--Judy's house.

Oct 31: • Field trip to Saurheber wildlife. Meet at the back parking lot of Moonlite BBQ 8 a.m.

A big thank you to the following The Mural is here donors to the mural project:

Sullivan, Mountjoy, Stainback, Miller PSC, and the city of Owensboro—especially the Mayor Ron Payne.

| Plus, restaurant The Bistro | donors: Bill's | Moonlite BBQ Sleep Inn | Fetta Hampton Inn

If you have a choice, please use the services of these local businesses.

Hitnes: info and pics—

WE DID IT...HITNES MURAL

IS A REALITY!

When Judy Adams and Brenda
Eaden saw the Facebook posting about a
muralist following in the footsteps of John
James Audubon, their immediate reaction was
"surely he's coming to Kentucky!". With the
DCAS board's support, David Stratton and
Judy began the task of accomplishing this
in less than 60 days. We began by walking



around and looking at walls, contacting the city to determine what approvals would be needed, and setting a date with The Image Hunter. It's a testament to the people of Owensboro and their government that the concept



was met with enthusiasm and minimal red tape.

When we determined that the wall we really preferred was owned by the law firm of Sullivan, Mountjoy, Stainback and Miller, we just "dropped by" in good old Kentucky fashion. Although we had to wait until the last minute for the partners' decision, final approval was given on the morning of September 26th. We had already committed to the project and reserved a hotel room for the team's arrival on October 1st! Hitnes, as the Image Hunter is known, had begun his project in Mill Brook, PA where Audubon began his life in America. He had been working his way along the East coast, painting murals of Audubon's birds along the way.

We followed his progress on Facebook and speculated about the image he would choose for our riverfront. He typically likes to explore the birds in an area for inspiration before beginning his mural. He had completed Wood Duck, Red-winged Blackbird, Roseate Spoonbill and Great Blue Heron murals, to name just



a few, before arriving in Owensboro.

Coincidentally, the great-great-granddaughter of J. James Audubon was scheduled to speak at U. of Southern Indiana on the night Hitnes and his cameraman were due to arrive. We made it to her lecture in the nick of time and they had the privilege of meeting each other afterwards.

We knew that he would want to visit the Audubon Museum at J.J. Audubon State Park, so we

arranged a private tour with birding on his first morning in Kentucky. Thanks to Mark Kellen, Park Mgr. and Tom Jake, Volunteer, Hitnes was able to see Audubon's brushes and original drawings. The birds, however, were not cooperating, despite everyone's best efforts. Work on the mural began in earnest on Saturday morning and by Sunday afternoon people were dropping by to watch the process and speculate on "our" bird's identity. Many of our DCAS members came by to lend support and by Monday afternoon it was a reality. Our Osprey, complete with a fish in his talons, was finished!

He presented the program for our October meeting and then left for Lexington the next morning. It was a joy to bring Hitnes and his cameraman, Giacomo Agnetti to Owensboro. We have many

people to thank for their help and support, including Fetta's and Famous Bistro for keeping them fed. There will be a documentary film made about this journey and we'll keep you posted. In the meantime, take a walk down to Riverfront Crossing and admire "our" Osprey!





DCAS BOARD MINUTES

DCAS BOARD MINUTES Oct 12, 2015

Present: Adrian Allen, Brenda and Tony Eaden, Mike Henshaw, Janet Howard, Mary Kissel, and David Stratton, president.

Financial report attached.

While the bills for the guest speaker, artist Hitnes, have not all been received, with the 600.00 from the city and donation of the lift, David thinks DCAS will not be out much cash for his visit. The board agreed the mural project a success.

Volunteer hours Mike, one, Janet, one. David and Judy's to be tallied later.

Participation: approximately 30 at Oct. meeting

David still working on descriptions and locations of bird banners to the City so they can be included on the map of the Green Belt Park trail.

Tentative Programs:

Nov. "Counting on birds" a video about Christmas bird count, at OMSH to show off Birding 101.

Dec. Preparation by Mike Brown perhaps just focusing on one group of birds such as hawks and or sparrows.

Jan. Recycling panel (not in place)

Feb. Alaska birding with our own Donna Mc Neely

March: Shrikes with Ann Kearny (unconfirmed)

April: Climate Change, weather. Perhaps ask an Evansville TV station for a speaker.

May: Pelly, manager of Shaker Town or the naturalist John Lefew

June: Picnic

Tentative Field trips:

Oct 31 : Sauerheber Sloughs

Nov: Barren River State Park for sand hill cranes, or Reelfoot, possible overnight trip, or Angel Mounds in Newburgh, IN

Other events of interest: Oct 25 2-4 "Owloween" at Joe Ford Nature Center.

Submitted by Janet B. Howard

FROM THE BACKYARD

Ok folks, the fall colors coming through West Virginia, Maryland, Eastern Kentucky, Eastern Tennessee, and oh, Virginia were just gorgeous last week. Incredible.

Now the upcoming winter colors of birds might not be so dazzling, but then again, our winter colors are not so hot either for those birds who do their christmas human count. Our tans have faded, our mating plumage has softened(ing) into a nice wintery gray.

The mural has added color to our fall festivities downtown Owensboro.

And the mural project has added color to our Audubon chapter this year for sure. phew!

The only odd thing of late is that my backyard feeders are not empty and without much bird action. The fall food must be better elsewhere until the bitter chills arrive. Dunno.

Be sure to ask Judy about her european trip and excitement therein. She has 1600 photos, so, bring some munchies for that vacation powerpoint.:)

Last but not least, I do want to thank the Daviess County Audubon chapter for their volunteers and untypical service to making programs, food, field trips, and general community of generosity, a reality for the chapter, the city, and community at large. Good for us. Good for you. Thank you.-ds

Remember:

-bring a friend to our monthly program.

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

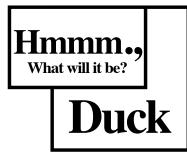
David Stratton davids@brescia.edu



A big thank you to the following donors to the mural project: Sullivan, Mountjoy, Stainback, Miller PSC;

and the city of Owensboro, especially the Mayor Ron Payne.





Ök Folks, Get out there and birdwatch.