

September 2012



Daviess County
Audubon Society

The Goldfinch

www.daviessaudubon.net

THE GROWTH

September's Program: The Raptor Center

OF THE WESTERN KENTUCKY RAPTOR CENTER

The growth of the Western Kentucky Raptor Center will be spotlighted as a new year begins for the Daviess County Audubon Society.

Dr. Nathan Kunze, Audubon Animal Hospital and WKRC, will provide an update about the center's facility and discuss some of its latest success stories in giving injured birds a chance to live. Thanks to the work of dedicated volunteers and efforts of local Boy Scouts, several mews have been built at Yellow Creek Park. One flight cage is large enough to rehabilitate a bald eagle. The center's growth coincides nicely with the blossoming population of eagles along the Ohio River.

The DCAS will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 4, at First Christian Church, Seventh Street and J.R. Miller Blvd.

Kunze also will lead a tour of these facilities at a field trip in September to Yellow Creek Park. It is tentatively scheduled for 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 22.

The presentations also are designed to trigger discussion on how the chapter can help the center with supplies.

Dine with Dr. Kunze before the meeting at 5:45 p.m. at Moonlite Bar-B-Q Inn.

FALL BIRDING CLASSES BEGINNING

As requests for volunteers come across the net, DCAS's new Educational Coordinator is hard at work. Thelma Newman brings her considerable organizational skills to address the challenge of an ever-changing schedule at the Western Kentucky Botanical Garden. As of this writing, our educational team will be teaching fourth graders on September 26 and October 4 with more dates to come. The program provides a variety of scientific experiences both at the Owensboro Museum and the WKBG. Our contribution involves observation skills,

the use of binoculars, basic bird identification and the opportunity to put these new skills to work in the natural world. We've added some new folks to our team of "regulars" and look forward to an exciting fall season at the garden. If you're interested in being a part of the educational team, contact Thelma at obor69@bellsouth.net.

September's Calendar:

Sept 4—DCAS meeting: 7 p.m., Raptors

Sept 22— Field trip to Western Kentucky Raptor Center.

Sept 24—DCAS board meeting 9:30 a.m., at Judy's.



OUTREACH AT MULTI-CULTURAL FESTIVAL A SUCCESS!

Thanks to everyone who helped with our booth at the Multi-cultural Festival. Mary Kissel's new game involving unusual bird names from around the world really helped to engage the kids. The fanny pack membership incentive yielded three new members for DCAS...yea! Our team consisted of new member Nancy Castlen, as well as Merry Miller, Mary Kissel, Mike Henshaw, Charles Morris, Bob and Judy Adams and Tony and Brenda Eaden. Thank you all for helping us to get the word out about DCAS. If you stopped by, you had a chance to admire Charles' poster of the whooping cranes at Goose Pond. *Thank you, Charles!*





DAVISS COUNTY PARKS POSTING FIELD GUIDES FOR KENTUCKY BIRDS

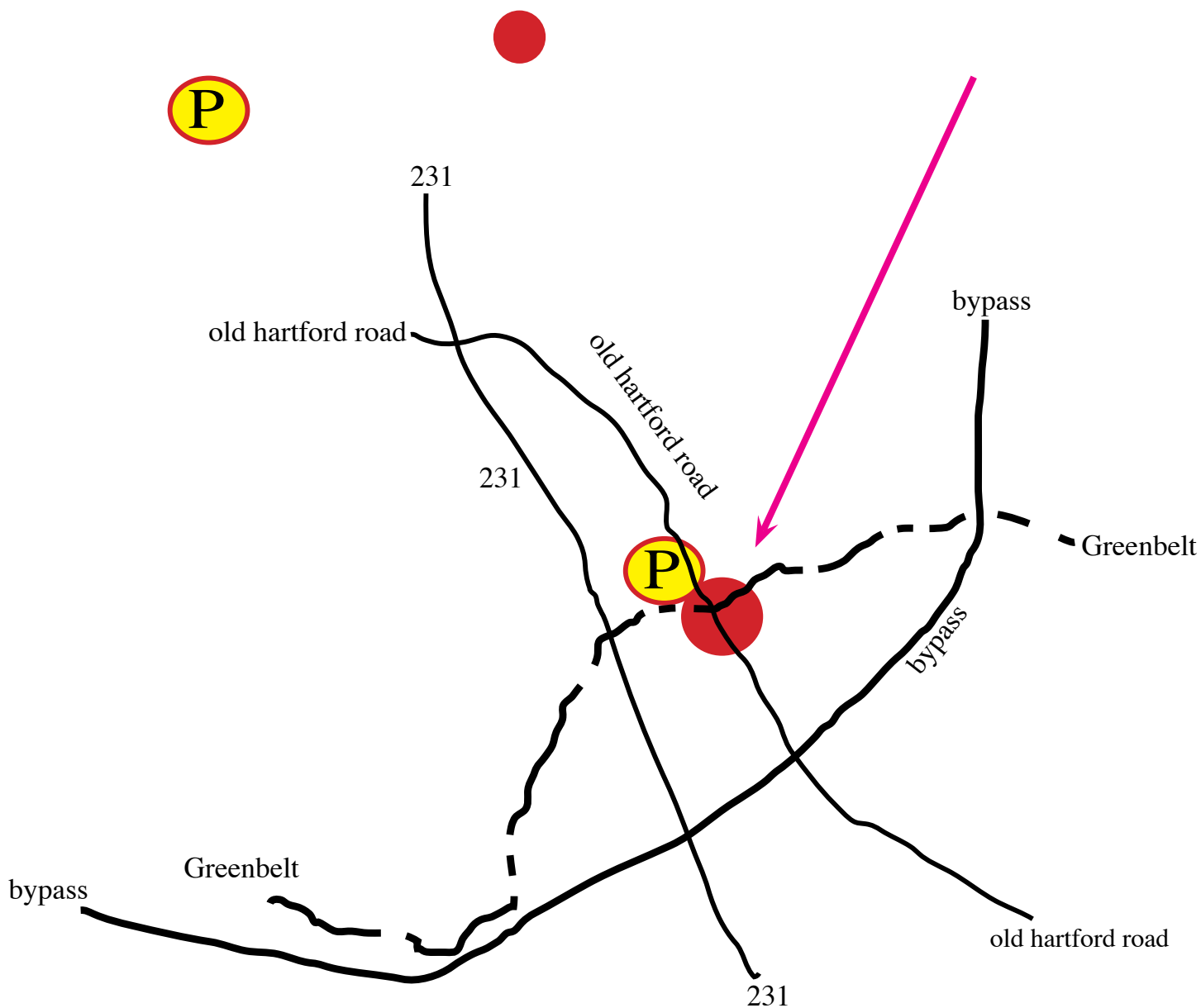
Thanks to our Community Liaison, Carolyn Williams, Daviess County Parks are currently posting field guides to Kentucky Birds. With the DCAS Board's support, Carolyn approached the Parks Board with the idea. Director Ross Leigh was so enthusiastic that he offered to pay for guides for up to ten locations! Now soccer players, picnickers, and those enjoying the parks and the county sections of the Greenbelt, will have a convenient reference for learning about the birds they see.

Well done, Carolyn!

DCAS NATIVE GRASSES PROJECT

SAVE THE DATE...AND CROSS YOUR FINGERS!

Saturday, October 6 at 9:00 A.M. (if another roadblock doesn't pop up) we will be planting our Native Grasses test plot on the Greenbelt off Old Hartford Rd. just south of Byers Ave. The city prepped the plot early this summer, but not before the awful heat and drought had taken their toll. The City of Owensboro is ready to spray herbicide and disc the area again. Margaret Shea of Dropseed Nursery (with the patience of Job) is prepared to, once again, have plant plugs ready for pick up. So...save the date and let David know (or sign up at our Sept. 4th meeting) if you plan to be part of the planting crew. And cross your fingers!



FROM THE BACKYARD

What a summer...heat, drought, wilting corn...don't know about you, but I'm ready for fall! The hummers are finally at my feeders and the DCAS board has been busy planning the year's activities. We had a fantastic turnout at our first summer program planning meeting at the end of July...twenty-four people showed up to feast on Moon-lite BBQ and share ideas for the coming year. Thank you all...and welcome to our many new members. Our outreach efforts yielded 3 new members each at our Go Green at the Market and Multicultural Festival booths. Thanks to Mary Kissell, Laverne Busch, Donna Hanley, Nancy Castlen, Merry Miller, Mike Henshaw, Charles Morris, Tony and Brenda Eaden for reaching out to the crowds. By the time you read this, we will have had a successful workday at Camp Pennyroyal. The camp is a finalist for an Impact 100 grant to fund the "It's Your Planet...Love It!" programming. DCAS has long been a supporter of the camp, including the building and maintenance of the Powell Bird Blind. We will be conducting a Birding 101 training for scout leaders on Sept. 15th, so let Jan Howard know if you'd like to help. Programs and field trips for the year are beginning to shape up. As you read on the front page, we've scheduled a field trip to the Western Kentucky Raptor Center as a follow-up to our September program. We'll try to make this connection between programs and field trips whenever possible. Other programs we're working on are: Evansville Audubon Society's chimney swift project, hummingbird banding, water issues (it's been 40 years since the passage of the Clean Water Act), the quail project at Peabody WMA, and a new Christmas Bird Count Prep. We're always open to your ideas and suggestions. Speaking of field trips, we're in the process of exploring a second international birding trip. This time we're considering Panama in January...stay tuned! For those wanting to stay a bit closer to home, mark your calendars for May 3-12, 2013. Those are the dates for the Biggest Week in American Birding on the edge of Lake Erie. Hopefully, we can get together a group to go this year. The annual Monarch Butterfly tagging will take place on Saturday and Sunday Sept 22-23 at J. James Audubon State Park in Henderson. Contact Julie McDonald at 270-826-2247 for more information.

There's a lot going on...be a part of it!

Judy Adams, President

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Ideas meeting at Moonlite Barbeque. Photo by Winny Lin.