

# THE BECKHAM OBSERVER

NOVEMBER 2011

Beckham Bird Club, Inc.

Monthly newsletter

Louisville, KY

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## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Beckham Bird Club will be on Tuesday, November 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the Clifton Center, 2117 Payne Street, in the Community Room. **Don Pelly**, the property manager of Shaker Village, will present a program on how **Shaker Village** has become a model for grassland habitat management in Kentucky, emphasizing development, implementation, and monitoring. The program will concentrate on Shaker Village's monitoring program of breeding and migratory songbirds with an emphasis on Northern Bobwhite Quail. Join us to learn more about Shaker Village as it has become a good place to go birding and have lunch.

## 2012 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Enclosed is a dues envelope to renew your membership for 2012. Your membership runs from January to December so unless you are a new member and joined in October your membership needs to be renewed. **Please pay your dues promptly** either by mail or at the meeting. Use the dues envelope or membership form found at [beckhambirdclub.org](http://beckhambirdclub.org). Please fill out the information carefully so that it is legible especially your email address. **Please consider joining as a contributing member.**

## UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, October 29 8:00 a.m. – CDT - ?? Moderate to Difficult	<b>SLOUGHS WMA, HENDERSON CO.,KY</b> —For waterfowl & migrants. Bring lunch, shoes for wading, & extra clothes. Meet at the observation platform on Highway 268. For directions check DeLorme Atlas pg 44 quadrant A 2&3.	Brainard Palmer-Ball 502-330-3998
Saturday, October 29 9:00 a.m. – Noon	<b>CAVE HILL CEMETERY</b> - Meet inside the front gate on Baxter Avenue.	Bob Johnson 896-9638
Sunday, October 30 8:30 a.m. – Noon	<b>CEDAR GROVE COMMERCIAL PARK</b> - Directions: Go south on I-65 and take exit 116; turn left onto Cedar Grove Rd; turn right onto Buffalo Run Rd. at Shell Station, park on side of road	Ryan Ankeny 727-7233
Wednesday, November 2 9:00 a.m. – Noon	<b>FREEMAN LAKE</b> – For Waterfowl and Fall residents. From Louisville go south on I-65 to Exit 94 then turn right on St. 62 (also Mulberry St) about 1 mile (get in right lane) to light at Ring Rd (St 3005) turn right and go 5 miles. Small parking lot on LEFT at the lake. Meet at this parking lot, lake is in clear view. Bring scopes	Bill Friel 502-348-8159
Sunday, November 6 9:00 a.m. – Noon	<b>JOE CREASON PARK / BEARGRASS NATURE PRESERVE</b> – For fall residents. Meet at Metro Parks Admin Bldg. off Trevilian Way	Win Ahrens 228-5800

Saturday, November 12 9:00 a.m. – Noon	<b>FALLS OF THE OHIO</b> – Meet at the Interpretive Center for shorebirds, waterfowl and other residents	Rob Lane 205-276-9580
Sunday, November 13 9:00 a.m. – Noon	<b>CREASEY MAHAN NATURE PRESERVE</b> – For Winter residents. Meet at parking lot – Take Hwy 42 to Rt 1793, about 1/2 mile to sign on right	Paul McAllister 290-4732
Saturday, November 19 9:00 a.m. – Noon	<b>BERNHEIM FOREST</b> – Meet in the Bernheim Forest Garden Pavilion (arboretum) parking lot.	Bill Friel 502-348-8159
Sunday, November 20 8:30 a.m. to ??	<b>MUSCATATUCK NWR / HARDY LAKE</b> - For waterfowl and resident species. Meet at the visitor center at 8:30 a.m. Bring lunch.	Pat & Jane Bell 326-9610
Sunday, November 27 9:00 a.m. - Noon	<b>CAVE HILL CEMETERY</b> —For resident species. Meet inside the front gate on Baxter Avenue.	Bob Johnson 896-9638
Saturday, December 3 8:30 a.m.- Noon	<b>RIVER RD-</b> For Waterfowl and winter residents. Meet in the lower parking lot of Ramada Inn at I-71 and Zorn Ave.	Bob Johnson 896-9638
Sunday December 4 9:00 a.m. - Noon	<b>FREEMAN LAKE</b> – For Waterfowl and Fall residents. From Louisville go south on I-65 to Exit 94 then turn right on St. 62 (also Mulberry St) about 1 mile (get in right lane) to light at Ring Rd (St 3005) turn right and go 5 miles. Small parking lot on LEFT at the lake. Meet at this parking lot, lake is in clear view. Bring scopes	Bill Friel 502-348-8159

## **PAST FIELD TRIPS**

O'Bannon Woods, September 14 - Nine birders, 7 members and 2 guests, birded O'Bannon Woods State Park in Corydon on an overcast morning. The group located 15 species of warblers with American Redstarts and Black-throated Greens being the most numerous. The new one mil Tulip Valley Resource Trail around the Nature Center provided nice views of migrating songbirds, including three Yellow-billed Cuckoos in one tree. Three Caspian Terns were observed flying along the Ohio. In all, the group located 58 species.

Floyds Fork, September 17 - Nine members and one guest enjoyed birding Floyds Fork and locating 56 species, including 15 species of warblers with the highlight being one Connecticut Warbler. Other warblers of interest were Golden-winged, Canada, Blue-winged, and Blackburnian. Other notable birds seen were Yellow-bellied and Olive-sided Flycatchers and Philadelphia Vireo.

Hayes Kennedy/Garvin Brown, September 24 - The morning was overcast with periods of off and on again light rain and only two BBC members attended this outing. The most interesting birds were one male and three female Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, a female Scarlet Tanager, and 7 species of warblers. The Indigo Buntings displayed only a few blue feathers on otherwise brown bodies. In all, 47 species were seen.

Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest, September 30 – Five members of the Beckham Bird Club birded Bernheim Forest on a cool fall morning. Highlights included about 150 Cedar Waxwings, Philadelphia Vireo, several species of warblers, and a Scarlet Tanager. In all, the group tallied 36 species.

Iroquois Park, October 1 - The group of 5 birders was encouraged with their early birding seeing several species of warblers and vireos. However, things slowed considerably though the group managed to total 48 species. Highlights included migrating Broad-winged Hawks, a late Tree Swallow, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Scarlet Tanagers, and seven species of warblers.

Putney Pond, October 8 - It was a relatively slow birding day but 13 members and 4 guests enjoyed a sunny fall day at Putney Pond. Most of the migrants were found in a mix flock in one area. Highlights included 4 species of warblers, a Philadelphia Vireo, a White-throated Sparrow, a Golden-crowned Kinglet, and several Wood Ducks. Thirty-eight species were located by the group.

## **BBC GOES TO THE MOVIES**

On Tuesday evening, October 18, twenty-eight members and guest went to see the movie, *The Big Year*, the story of three birders trying to find the most bird species in a year. Before the movie we gathered at McAlister's Deli for dinner before proceeding to the show. It was an entertaining movie, showing all the antics and fun of the three birders traveling across the North American continent looking for birds. Total number of birds seen was 755 by the winner. Everyone enjoyed the evening.

## **KENTUCKY CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

Kentucky Conservation Committee will hold its annual Meeting, on November 5th, 2011, 10 am to 3:30 pm at U of L Belknap Campus, Speed School, Henry Vogt Building. KCC's annual meeting offers an opportunity to stay up-to-date on conservation issues in Kentucky and confer with other knowledgeable Kentuckians.

Key topics this year are:

Kentucky's Land Stewardship Campaign

Kentucky Sustainable Energy Alliance

New initiatives to protect Kentucky's Biodiversity

Legislative Panel to discuss Environmental Priorities

KCC's annual award

Art Williams, KCC's executive director, will talk on "A collaborative approach to effective lobbying – A call to action."

Registration is \$40 and includes lunch of local foods and one year KCC membership.

The mission of the Kentucky Conservation Committee is to be the trusted voice of the public in Kentucky's capitol, effectively lobbying for protection, restoration and sustainable use of natural resources. For more info go to [www.KyConservation.org](http://www.KyConservation.org). The KCC is a recipient of birdathon money.



*Happy Thanksgiving!*

## **BECKHAM BIRD CLUB EMBRACES CORNELL UNIVERSITY'S eBIRD!**

President Paul McAllister recently asked the question, "What are we doing with all the records amassed over the many years of BBC's field trips?" It was decided that the club make an effort to enter as much of the existing data as possible into eBird. Currently, most of the records from past field trips are being housed at the Filson Club in Louisville and not doing much good for either party. When the data is entered into eBird, it will serve several purposes.

1. Science will be able to garner information of possible changes over many years of concentrated birding in the Kentuckiana area.
2. Rather than setting in a dusty storage area of the Filson Club, members will have access to it in eBird. It might be fun to look back to see whether things have changed or not.
3. Once entered, the data can never be lost or destroyed
4. It becomes a part of a worldwide effort by citizens to contribute their birding observations to science, otherwise known as "Citizens Science".

We currently have all of 2010 and 2011 entered into eBird. Paul is busy entering additional years of field trips and I'm sure is looking for volunteers to help.

While we encourage anyone to visit the BBC eBird site, we only ask that you DO NOT enter any of your own data into this site. To enter any data of your own, you must visit eBird at [eBird.org](http://eBird.org), and choose a username and password to set up your own account. The username and password provided below is only good to visit the BBC's eBird site. Please, make no effort to add or delete any information. If corrupted, the data will no longer be accurate. Access to BBC's eBird account is as follows; Username: beckham club Password: beckham.