

THE BECKHAM OBSERVER

OCTOBER 2010

Beckham Bird Club, Inc.

Monthly Newsletter

Louisville, KY

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Beckham Bird Club will be on Tuesday, October 12 at 7:00 p.m. at the Clifton Center, 2117 Payne Street, in the Community Room.

Thailand has long been known as a great destination for first-time birders in Asia and it unfailingly lives up to high expectations. First time visitors and experienced Asian birders alike enjoy Thailand for its great national parks and superb birding opportunities, along with fine cuisine, friendly people and fascinating culture and history. Wanda & Ren Bilkey along with fellow BBC member Dona Coates enjoyed a Thailand Birding Adventure in November 2009. The Bilkeys will give a slide show and presentation on their birding adventures in Thailand.

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

Please note –

- ✓ Check the monthly **Observer** for changes or corrections to the field trip schedule.
- ✓ Keep talking to a **minimum and speak in hush tones**. Birds react to motion so minimize your movements.

Saturday, October 9 8:00 a.m. – CDT - ?? Moderate to Difficult	SLOUGHS WMA, HENDERSON CO., KY —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.	David Roemer (270) 781-6190
Sunday, October 10 8:30 a.m. – Noon	TOM SAWYER PARK Meet at the second parking lot on Freys Hill Rd near archery field	Carl Bochmann 618-0574
Wednesday, October 13 8:30 a.m. - Noon	IROQUOIS PARK - Meet at the Amphitheater Park & Tarc lot	Barbara Woerner 485-9017
Saturday, October 16 8:00 a.m. – Noon	JEFFERSON MEMORIAL STATE FOREST - For Fall migrants. Meet at Welcome Center, 11311 Mitchell Hill Rd.	Michael Autin 773-0598
Sunday, October 17 8:30 a.m. – Noon	CEDAR GROVE COMMERCIAL PARK - 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
Saturday, October 23 9 a.m. – Noon	GARVIN-BROWN PRESERVE - Meet at the parking lot of Hayes-Kennedy Park off Upper River Road.	Pat & Jane Bell 326-9610
Sunday, October 24 9:00 a.m. – Noon	JOE CREASON PARK / BEARGRASS NATURE PRESERVE – For fall residents. Meet at Metro Parks Admin Bldg. off Trevilian Way	Win Ahrens 228-5800

Saturday, October 30 9:00 a.m. – Noon	BERNHEIM FOREST – Meet in the Bernheim Forest Garden Pavilion (arboretum) parking lot.	Bill Friel 502-348-8159
Sunday, October 31 9 a.m. – Noon	CAVE HILL CEMETERY - Meet inside the front gate on Baxter Avenue.	Bob Johnson 896-9638
Thursday, November 4 10 a.m. - ??	SPENCER COUNTY – BIRD, GATHER & EAT – Gather persimmons, pears and walnuts after birding. Light lunch will be served. Reservations requested. Directions will be given at the time of making reservations.	Dona Coates (502) 538 -4631 donacoates@aol.com
Saturday November 6 8:30-Noon	FALL OF OHIO- Meet at observation deck and bird to Duffy's Landing, for waterfowl and resident species.	Michael Autin 773-0598

RARE BIRD ALERT

During Breakfast with the Birds the participants were informed of a Say's Phoebe on Brainard Palmer-Ball's farm in eastern Jefferson County. This bird has been seen in Kentucky before but it is the first time for Jefferson County. It is considered an accidental vagrant. It was only seen on September 11.

PAST FIELD TRIPS

Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, August 28

Eight participants enjoyed a nice day of birding at the Minor Clark Fish Hatchery. The group had nice looks at nine species of shorebirds including a single Baird's and Stilt Sandpiper. Raptors were also well represented with Osprey and an adult Bald Eagle. In all, the group tallied 54 species.

Riverwalk in Shawnee Park, September 4

A cold front finally arrived bringing a cool, bright day. Birds seemed to be everywhere as the group of 16 observers gathered in the parking lot, including Redstarts, Golden-winged, Tennessee, Chestnut-sided, and Magnolia Warblers. Birding slowed to almost a trickle at times, but the group kept adding new species to the list. In all, the group tallied 49 species.

Falls of the Ohio SP, September 8

It was great weather for birding and 7 members and one guest from South Carolina managed to locate 61 species. Shorebirds were low in numbers (one Least, one Pectoral, and one Spotted). The best birding was along the woodland trail with 10 species of warblers including a male Black-throated Blue. Other birds of interest were Swainson's Thrush, an early Ruby-crowned Kinglet, and a singing Yellow-throated Vireo.

EP "Tom" Sawyer State Park, September 12

A group of 5 BBC members had beautiful weather for the field trip to Tom Sawyer State Park. The participants located 35 species, including 8 species of warblers. Highlights included Wilson's Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Cedar Waxwing, Hairy Woodpecker, and Belted Kingfisher.

Mammoth Cave National Park, September 19

Birds began to appear even before the group of nine observers left the parking lot – Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Eastern Wood-Pewee, and several species of warblers. Throughout the day birds continued to appear as the leaders coaxed them in to view. Four species of vireos and twelve species of warblers were located. Thrushes were found throughout the park – Gray-cheeked, Swainson's, and several beautiful Wood Thrushes. Both Summer and Scarlet Tanagers were seen. Our final list topped out at 57 species.

SILENT AUCTION IN NOVEMBER

In November we will have a silent auction for books donated to Beckham Bird Club by Keith Hawkins. Three of the books are part of the Dr. Roger Barbour series that he did on the fauna and flora of Kentucky. If you are missing one of his books, this would be a good opportunity to complete the set. All money from the sale will go toward the 2011 Beckham Bird Club birdathon.

The books are –

Amphibians & Reptiles of Kentucky – Roger W. Barbour

Trees and Shrubs of Kentucky – Mary E. Wharton & Roger W. Barbour (signed by both authors)

Mammals of Kentucky – Roger W. Barbour & Wayne H. Davis

Edible Wild Plants – Oliver Perry Medsger

Poisonous Plants of the United States – Walter Conrad Muenscher

ODDS AND ENDS

- Our guest speaker for the November meeting will be Tom Fitzgerald from the Kentucky Resources Council. Tom, who is a lawyer, will give us his perspective on environmental issues that are affecting our country and state.
- Don't forget to check out the club's website at beckhambirdclub.org. There is a colored picture of the Say's Phoebe that appeared on September 11 in Jefferson County.
- Check out Pete Dunne's newest book, *Bayshore Summer: Finding Eden in a Most Unlikely Place*. It is a tale of the human and natural worlds along the Jersey coast.
- It is not too early to make plans for birding at Magee Marsh (a.k.a. Crane Creek) in early May. It is a very popular place along Lake Erie near Oregon, Ohio. Last year there was a birding festival that had many field trips, demonstrations, programs, etc. during a two week period. Google – Biggest Week in American Birding. Many Beckham members go there every May and they will be glad to give you more details.
- Bring a friend to the meeting or give a gift membership to the club.
- It will be time to renew your BBC membership for 2011 next month.

SAY'S PHOEBE

SEPTEMBER 11, 2010

Picture taken by Brainard Palmer-Ball

