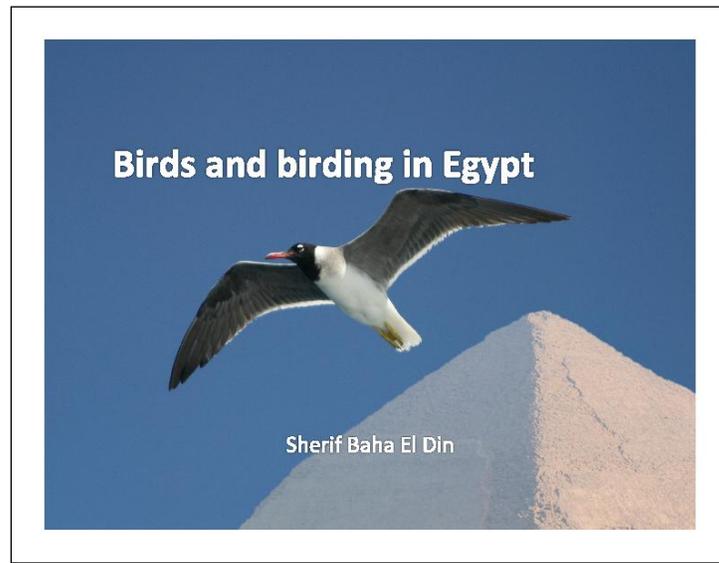




# THE BECKHAM OBSERVER

BECKHAMBIRDCLUB.ORG  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

OCTOBER 2018



The October meeting program will be given by Dr. Sherif Baha El Din. His presentation will give an overview of the birds in Egypt, from history and culture in ancient Egypt, to the birds and their habitats in contemporary Egypt, bird migration, and challenges they face today. The meeting is at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 9 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2822 Frankfort Ave, 38.254256, -85.689458. Bring a young birder!

Dr. Sherif Baha El Din is one of Middle East's most prominent naturalists and accomplished natural history artist. His involvement in developing Egypt's protected areas have made him a key figure in environmental circles in the region. Apart from being an environmental consultant, he is also the President of Nature Conservation Egypt (NCE) and was The Bird Life International Affiliate for Egypt for more than 25 years.

Sherif has a long interest in ornithology and the birds of Egypt specifically. He co-authored two books on the birds of Egypt, including *The Birds of Egypt*. His interests include other groups including reptiles and amphibians and he wrote a guide on the reptiles and amphibians of Egypt in 2006, in the process describing seven new species of reptiles and amphibians.

Sherif has been a resident of the Louisville area for the past five years, but misses the hot desert while he is here!!!



## *Upcoming Field Trips*

The field trip schedule for the months of October through December is included in this newsletter. As a reminder as we approach the winter months be sure to **check birdKY for any cancellations** due to rain, snow, etc. It may be dry where you live but pouring down rain at the field trip location. It is wise to check birdKY for all trips.



### **OCTOBER BIG DAY – OCTOBER 6**

**Are you ready to count birds for the October Big Day? It is easy - just get an ebird app on your phone and start counting. Let's turn in a big count for Jefferson County. Get a birding friend and go to your favorite spots and count the birds. Hope everyone will participate and make it a fun day of birding!**

#### PAST FIELD TRIPS

**Shippingport Island, August 25** – Eleven members started out on a partly cloudy morning. Temperature was in the 70's, but very humid! The morning started with 3 juvenile Red-shouldered Hawks greeting us in the parking lot with a brief flyover. There were 2 Ospreys present, one at the nest site and the other on a nearby tower. Both seemed to be enjoying a breakfast of fish. We checked the river without much success, finding a group of Canada Geese and a few Barn Swallows flying out over the water. Back up at the parking lot area, we had a family of Kestrels catching insects. Otherwise, the usual suspects were counted, but a big highlight was a pair of Blue Grosbeaks! Another highlight was seeing 4 Wild Turkeys! The group tallied 26 species.

**Falls of the Ohio, August 26** - Ten members and three guests birded the Falls of the Ohio in spite of very little shorebird habitat or shorebirds. The group did observe six Cattle Egrets down the road at Ashland Park which was the most uncommon bird of the morning. A highlight was four Broad-winged Hawks one of which was pretty close and allowed nice views. Also observed was a Cooper's Hawk harassing a Black Vulture several times just in front of us from the observation deck!

**Anchorage Trail, September 1** - It was cloudy early in the morning making it difficult to see the birds for the 16 observers that birded the Anchorage Trail. However, conditions improved as the morning progressed. After nearly four hours of birding the group tallied 45 species that included 6 species of warblers – Chestnut-sided, Magnolia, Redstart, Yellow-throated, Tennessee and Blackburnian. Other highlights were 5 Turkeys, 8 Nighthawks, Great Egret, Green Heron, Great-crested Flycatcher, Pewees, hummingbirds, a calling Barred Owl, Brown thrashers and Chipping Sparrows.

**Breakfast with the Birds, September 8** - Seventeen members and guests enjoyed a great breakfast with lots of good and plentiful food. Thanks to the Louisville Nature Center for providing a room to have our breakfast. After the breakfast the group birded the area trying to see as many birds they could under the trying conditions of dark clouds. The group tallied 21 species. Highlights included a Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 5 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, a Baltimore Oriole and 2 Magnolia Warblers. Thanks to all who came to our annual Breakfast with the Birds.

**Anchorage Trail, September 15** - On a sunny and quite warm day, seven members saw 50 species. Highlights included 10 species of warblers, with good looks for all at most individuals. Highlights included Bay-breasted Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Nashville Warbler, good numbers of Black-throated Greens, American Redstarts, nice number of Swainson's Thrushes and the mimid trifecta – Catbird, Brown Thrasher and Mockingbird.

**Hayes Kennedy/Garvin Brown, September 16** - Eight members set out on a warm muggy morning at Hays Kennedy Park. We saw several regulars in a weed patch, including House Wren, Common Yellowthroat and an Empid that didn't give us a good look! Unfortunately, with all of the recent rain, there wasn't much shore, so no shorebirds. The group did run into a small patch of migrants at Garvin Brown! We had several American Redstarts, a Magnolia Warbler, Bay-Breasted and a Yellow-throated Warbler. The trip concluded with a flyover of 2 Broad-winged Hawks at Hays Kennedy! A nice surprise!



*Our Deepest  
Sympathy*

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of our long time member, Hal Cole. Hal passed away on September 11. He joined us on many field trips and was a supporter of our birdathon. Rest in peace.



**FALL AND WINTER BIRDING**

Go out and enjoy fall birding!

Ron Pittaway has come out with his winter 2018-2019 finch forecast; Check it out.  
<http://jeaniron.ca/2018/wff18.htm>

#### September 2018 BBC Conservation News websites

[https://www.audubon.org/news/10-national-parks-are-surprisingly-great-birding?ms=digital-eng-email-ea-x-20180816\\_getoutside\\_engagement\\_medium&utm\\_source=ea&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=20180816\\_getoutside\\_engagement&utm\\_content=medium](https://www.audubon.org/news/10-national-parks-are-surprisingly-great-birding?ms=digital-eng-email-ea-x-20180816_getoutside_engagement_medium&utm_source=ea&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20180816_getoutside_engagement&utm_content=medium)

<https://www.savingcranes.org/whooping-crane-shootings-what-we-know-and-why-it-matters/?bblinkid=109450832&bbemailid=9283335&bbejrid=708428275>

<https://www.audubon.org/news/this-caterpillar-mimics-bird-alarm-calls-scare-away-predators>

[https://www.audubon.org/news/birmingham-audubon-saves-terns-after-beachgoers-destroy-hundreds-eggs?ms=digital-eng-email-ea-newsletter-20180824\\_wingspan\\_medium&utm\\_source=ea&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=20180824\\_wingspan&utm\\_content=medium](https://www.audubon.org/news/birmingham-audubon-saves-terns-after-beachgoers-destroy-hundreds-eggs?ms=digital-eng-email-ea-newsletter-20180824_wingspan_medium&utm_source=ea&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20180824_wingspan&utm_content=medium)

<http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2018/04/european-union-expands-ban-three-neonicotinoid-pesticides>