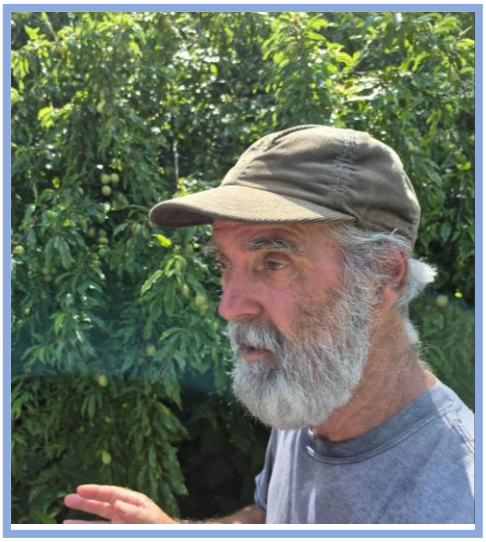
# THE BECKHAM OBSERVER

BECKHAMBIRDCLUB·ORG

P·O· BOX 5301 LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40255-0301 AUGUST 2026


## NATURAL HISTORY OF FAIRDALE



What is the Natural History of Fairdale--which emerged from the notorious "Wet Woods" of southern Jefferson County? How has this local ecology affected the human history and economy of this region since Virginian settlement? Where are best remnants of the original landscape, together with native flora and fauna? Can the community aim to conserve or restore such sites in an organized fashion? Can we assemble material for an interesting educational booklet (or website) that could be used to guide field trips and management? This presentation will address these questions, illustrated with old maps and current photographs. We hope to discuss mutual interests with the community, and to suggest ways forward. Much relevant information is available but there does not yet appear to be a definite plan for harmonious balance of development and conservation.

Our program will be given by Dr. Julian Campbell who has a degree from the University of Cambridge (in England), a masters from the University College of North Wales, and a doctorate from the University of Kentucky.

**Our meeting is on Tuesday, August 11 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2822 Frankfort Ave, Louisville, KY 40206, 38.254256, -85.689458. St. Mark's is at the corner of Frankfort Avenue and Kennedy Ave. Please enter by way of the back door near the parking lot.**

**THE FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE IS INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER OR ON THE BBC WEBSITE**

You should check Beckham Bird Club web site, Discord and birdKY for **every field trip** to make sure there is not a change or cancellation.

Some important reminders –

1. Read the guidelines before coming on a field trip.
2. .Be sure to stow your valuables in the trunk before you arrive or carry them with you. Do not leave them in the front of the car.
3. Just remember mosquitos, chiggers, ticks and biting flies are waiting for you. Don't forget to bring insect repellent.
4. Have a bottle of water and maybe a snack.
5. Bring your sunscreen lotion.
6. Guests are welcome on a field trip but afterwards please join us as a member.

## "Breakfast with the Birds"

What a great way to start the morning with breakfast with fellow birders and a bird walk to find returning migrants! Hope you can join us at Hays Kennedy Park on Saturday, September 12 at 8:00 a.m. Please R.S.V.P. by text or email to Kimberly Springmier at 502-609-4058 or kspringmier@att.net by Thursday, September 10. You can also sign up at the August meeting. The club is providing a continental breakfast of juice, fruit and assorted pastries. P**lease bring your own drink.** Hope to see you there.

Beckham Bird Club wishes to extend its sympathy to the family of Susan Wilburn. Susan died on May 5 at the age of 99. She was a long-time member who participated in the meetings and field trips.

Beckham Bird Club extends its sympathy to Jennifer Huber on the death of her husband Eddie Huber. Eddie died on July 5. Before his illness Eddie had been an active member of the club including leading field trips.

# BBC Conservation Report Websites July 2026

Protecting One of the Largest Intact Watersheds on Earth | Audubon

Why Do Birds Fly in a V Formation? Breaking Down a Brilliant Migration Hack | Audubon

https://abcbirds.org/news/landowners-forest-restoration/?utm_campaign=em_nl_enews_0626&utm_source=enews&utm_medium=email&omhide=true&ms=em_nl_enews_0626&contactdata=rj+EEOjRxoH5nD37tIhi6K%2f3%2fu+KO+hLXpKg0Eua93+wQvVqN32L6fhoJaFsZ4v%2fSatOjU2OeKSDEkylomX4VQ%3d%3d&emci=745e7ccc-1464-f111-8fcb-000d3a14b640&emdi=33438dc4-f264-f111-8fcb-000d3a14b640&ceid=218197

https://abcbirds.org/news/landowners-forest-restoration/?utm_campaign=em_nl_enews_0626&utm_source=enews&utm_medium=email&omhide=true&ms=em_nl_enews_0626&contactdata=rj+EEOjRxoH5nD37tIhi6K%2f3%2fu+KO+hLXpKg0Eua93+wQvVqN32L6fhoJaFsZ4v%2fSatOjU2OeKSDEkylomX4VQ%3d%3d&emci=745e7ccc-1464-f111-8fcb-000d3a14b640&emdi=33438dc4-f264-f111-8fcb-000d3a14b640&ceid=218197

Rodenticides' Collateral Damage

Bird Conservation - Spring 2026 by American Bird Conservancy - Issuu

New Songbird Species Discovered in Bolivia | Sci.News

## MIGRATION IS STARTING

Migration is starting with the first reports of shorebirds at the Falls of the Ohio. A Hudsonian Godwit was seen recently followed by an American Golden Plover that Jamie Baker got a picture of for the newsletter. Yellowlegs, sandpipers, plovers, a Caspian tern, and dowitchers have been reported. Other migrants are on the way – a very early (first for July) Northern Waterthrush was seen. By the middle of August warblers will start appearing followed by vireos, thrushes, kinglets, etc.

Our field trips will be starting to help you see the birds as they migrate through our area. But don't wait for field trips, try to go out everyday even if it is just in your backyard. You will be surprised how many birds you will see.

Birdcast.info will also help you with migration by letting you know what days /nights will have good migration for your area. Birdcast.info will be online between August 1 and November 15.

# ACTIVITIES CALENDAR: AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2026

| DATE, TIME, RATING | ACTIVITY | LEADER |
|---|---|---|
| Tuesday, August 11 | **MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING - 7:00 p.m. - St. Mark's Episcopal Church - 2822 Frankfort Ave – corner of Frankfort and Kennedy** | |
| Sunday, August 30<br>8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.<br>easy/moderate | **TURKEY RUN PARK** – Entrance area-Boulder Pond area. Residents and early migrants. Directions: From I-265 exit (19) Billtown Road, go south and turn left at the T; go 1.5 miles and turn right into Turkey Run Park entrance area parking lot. **GPS: 38.131054, -85.518638**<br>**(https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L3324624)**<br>**(https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L26519455)** | Meg and Steve Brown<br>502-435-4864<br>502-435-3967 |
| Tuesday, Sept. 8 | **MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING - 7:00 p.m. - St. Mark's Episcopal Church - 2822 Frankfort Ave – corner of Frankfort and Kennedy** | |
| Thursday, Sept. 10<br>8:30-noon<br>moderate | **FOX HOLLOW FARM:** Resident, summer and possible early migrants on the farm. Meet in main parking lot. **NOTE: route has some off-road trails and a hill to ascend-descend.**<br>**GPS: 38.371241, -85.523302** | Kevin Flowers<br>502-648-6826 |
| Saturday, Sept. 12<br>8:00 a.m – noon<br>easy | **BREAKFAST WITH THE BIRDS – HAYS-KENNEDY PARK/GARVIN BROWN NATURE PRESERVE – breakfast at 8:00 followed by field trip at 8:30 please see details in newsletter**<br>**(https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L673935)**<br>**(https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L607668)** | Meg and Steve Brown<br>502-435-4864<br>502-435-3967 |
| Sunday, Sept. 13<br>8 a.m. CDT - ????<br>easy | **MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK –** For residents, early fall migrants. Meet at Little Hope Cemetery inside the park. PLEASE DO NOT BIRD THE CEMETERY BEFORE THE TRIP BEGINS. Bring lunch**.** GPS: 37.154126, -86.053762 (https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L1337848) | Meg and Steve Brown<br>502-435-4864<br>502-435-3967 |
| Friday - Sunday<br>Sept. 18-20 | **KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING** (JOINT MEETING WITH TENNESSEE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY) – Lake Barkley and KenLake State Resort Parks. | **Details at birdky.org** |
| Thursday, Sept. 24<br>8:00 a.m. – noon<br>moderate | **BECKLEY CREEK PARK – GRAND ALLEE SECTION –** For lingering summer birds, early migrants and residents. Meet at the "Port-a-Potty" parking lot at the south end of the Humana Grand Allee just before the large bridge over the creek. **GPS: 38.209077, -85.474110**<br>**(https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L2876955)** | Andrew Melnykovych<br>**502-608-4655** |
| Saturday, Sept. 27<br>8:00 a.m. - noon | **HAYS-KENNEDY PARK/GARVIN BROWN PRESERVE –** Lingering summer birds, migrants and residents. Meet in the parking lot of Hays Kennedy Park off Upper River Road. **GPS: 38.352711, -85.630354**<br>**(https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L673935)**<br>**(https://birdinghotspots.org/hotspot/L607668)** | Kevin Flowers<br>502-648-6826 |