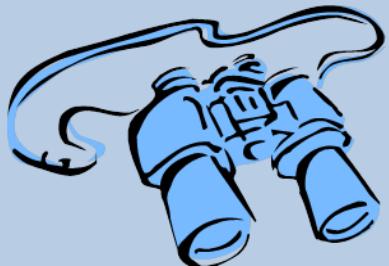


THE BECKHAM



OBSERVER

BECKHAMBIRDCLUB.ORG
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

JUNE 2016



The Annual Beckham Bird Club
Picnic will be at Pope Lick Park
on Sunday, June 5 at 4:00 p.m.

Join us at the Community Center for a fun afternoon of food, birding and friend ship. Bring a dish to share, insect repellent and, of course, your binoculars. Cost is \$3.00 per person (includes chicken, drinks, etc.) or \$1.00 (no chicken, but covers cost of drinks, etc.) Please include the reservation form with your check. Thank you!

PICNIC RESERVATIONS – DEADLINE June 3

NAME _____ PHONE _____

I will bring salad/vegetable desert other(_____)

Number attending at \$3.00

Number attending at \$1.00 Total \$

Make check payable to **Beckham Bird Club**. Mail to Pat Bell, 1876 Dove Creek Blvd, Louisville, KY 40242-3492

THERE IS NO MEETING THIS MONTH. SEE YOU AT THE PICNIC.

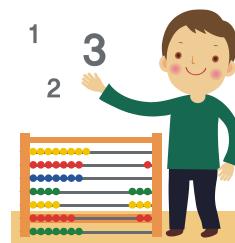


UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, May 28 8:30 a.m. – Noon	CAVE HILL CEMETERY — Meet inside the front gate on Baxter Avenue.	Rob Lane 205-276-9580
Sunday, May 29 8:30 a.m. - Noon	ANCHORAGE TRAIL - Meet at the trailhead in Anchorage at the intersection of Evergreen Rd and Station Rd.	Carol Besse 502-387-5971
Saturday, June 11 8:30a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	BECKLEY CREEK GRAND ALEE -. Meet at the large parking lot south of the soccer fields and the wetlands. Bring lunch if you would like to picnic after the walk.	Pat & Jane Bell 502-326-9610



2016 BBC BIRDATHON



The birds have been counted so check your email or US mail to get an account from the person(s) you sponsored. Your donations are very important to the different groups we have pledged money to. Please consider giving a donation – **NO AMOUNT IS TOO SMALL**. Make your check payable to **Beckham Bird Club**. If you have not been contacted send your contribution to the post office box address: Beckham Bird Club, P.O. Box 5301, Louisville, KY 40255-0301. Otherwise send it to the person you sponsored. Thanks so much!!!

MEMBERSHIP RECORDS



Help keep our membership records up to date. If you have moved, changed email addresses or phone numbers let us know. Send any changes to beckhambirdclub@gmail.com



Thank you goes to our outgoing president Rob Lane, Kathy Dennis our past president, our hospitality chairs Jean Jones and Jane Fender for their service to Beckham Bird Club this past year. We appreciate all the many people who contribute time and talent to Beckham Bird Club.

PAST FIELD TRIPS

Turkey Run, April 24

Six members enjoyed a beautiful day walking the Louisville Loop from the silo to the Sky Dome area. Three made the full round trip. All got great looks at a pair of Summer Tanagers and male Scarlet Tanager, all in beautiful spring plumage. Also everyone had good views of singing White-eyed Vireos and Yellow-throated Vireo. Not much variety of warblers, but Prairie Warblers were prolific in cedars and nearby area, with many males singing at once. Estimated at least 25 present, but that's likely a low count. Best bird of the day was a Sora at Bullfrog Pond. It remained visible for a good five minutes as it foraged at the base of a clump of willows about 15 feet from the path.

Turkey Run Park, May 1

A total of five birders participated in this trip to Turkey Run Park, one of the parks that comprise the Parklands of Floyds Fork, a system of parks that helps to preserve much of the remaining undeveloped land in the Louisville Metro. We spent the morning walking a section of the trail between the Silo Overlook and Sky Dome areas. The day began with cloudy skies and temps in the upper 60's but it was sunny and rather warm by the conclusion of the walk around noon. It was a great morning of birding for both migrants and residents with a total of 61 species identified. Highlights included several Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Scarlet Tanager and Baltimore Oriole, lots of singing Wood Thrush, White-eyed, Yellow-throated, and Red-eyed Vireos, Least Flycatcher and 12 warbler species including Blackburnian, Bay-breasted, several singing Kentucky Warblers and at least 3 Yellow-breasted Chats.

Anchorage Trail, May 7

Our Beckham Bird Club field trip started off with a great sighting. Just as the 19 observers started the trail a most accommodating Black-billed Cuckoo was seen by all. Blue-winged Teal were on the lake and two Green Herons and a Spotted Sandpiper were along the shore. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Swainson's and Wood Thrushes, and many Orchard and Baltimore Orioles were highlights of the trip. Thirteen species of Warblers were among the 68 species listed by the group. A great morning to be birding.

Pope Lick, May 8

After sitting out a few early showers, six members had a terrific morning at Pope Lick Park. Among the many highlights were an overflight of three Common Loons, a nestling Barred Owl at a hole in a large sycamore, a pair of Great Crested Flycatchers at their nest hole in a different sycamore, courting Prothonotary Warblers, and good looks at both grosbeaks, both tanagers and both orioles. Also observers had the mimid trifecta. Only disappointment was a paucity of migrating warblers, which held the group to a mere 73 species.

Bernheim Forest, May 12

Six members enjoyed a near ideal day for birding, locating 55 species. Both Baltimore and Orchard Orioles, Scarlet Tanager, 4 different swallows and the bird-of-the-day – two Semipalmated Plovers. Nice views of Great Crested Flycatchers and Kingbirds were also enjoyed. The rain started as we drove out of the park - luck of the Irish.

Morgan Conservation Park, May 15

This year's field trip to Morgan Conservation Park will have to go down as a bit of letdown compared to years past. Not because the birders didn't show up in force, but because the birds didn't show up in force. Many usual suspects were missing, both Orioles, both Grosbeaks, Bobwhite, Yellow-billed cuckoo, Summer Tanager, Carolina Wren, White-breasted Nuthatch, Acadian Flycatcher, many species of warblers including Louisiana Waterthrush. Henslow's Sparrow, and even Chuck-will's-widow were all missing from our list. It was an unusually cool weekend for mid-May and I believe that may have been a major factor in the lack of diversity. It was eerily quiet at times. We also were unsuccessful at calling in any nightjars at dusk. It may be that the Chuck-will's-widows were the ones coming in past years and they were absent tonight. It was still a nice day and the majority of the 50 species of birds we did find were not shy. We had nice looks at Kentucky and Prairie Warblers, several Scarlet Tanagers and Yellow-breasted Chats, a Great Crested Flycatcher, and Indigo Buntings. We also had a couple of surprises: a Cliff Swallow and a Belted Kingfisher.