



THE BECKHAM OBSERVER

BECKHAMBIRDCLUB.ORG
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

OCTOBER 2019

A BRAZIL ADVENTURE October 8 at 7:00 p.m.

David Lang presents a photo diary of a three week adventure in Brazil. The first five days were spent at the southern edge of Amazonia at Cristalino Lodge which is at the northern edge of the State of Mato Grosso. Next, the group headed down to the Pantanal, the world's largest wetland, on the southern edge of the state of Mato Grosso for nine days. The last stop was eight days in the state of Amazonas at a pousada on the River of Doubt. David tallied 428 total species with 136 lifers.

Our meeting is 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.



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 or snowing at the field trip location. It is wise to **check birdKY for all trips**.

2019 BIRDATHON

Our 2019 Birdathon has raised \$19,815.17. We were just shy \$184.83 of reaching our goal of \$20000. Thanks to all the effort of Judith McCandless, Bonnie Avery and Jane and Pat Bell who raise this money and especially thanks all who donated to the 2019 BBC Birdathon. The BBC Board will divide the money among the organizations that requested a grant. Check the November newsletter for details.



FALL GLOBAL BIG DAY – OCTOBER

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Are you ready to count birds for the Global 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. If you participated in the Spring Global Big Day please consider covering the same area. 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

Beckley Creek, August 31 - Eleven members enjoyed a warm morning. Bird activity slowed as the temperature climbed. Highlights included three migrating Common Nighthawks directly overhead flying south with purpose, and nice looks at Red-headed Woodpeckers. Many Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were around, but no warblers other than Common Yellowthroat. Fair numbers of flycatchers, including a pair of Eastern Wood Pewees feeding a youngster, were seen. About 15 Killdeer were searching for insects on the soccer fields. Notable misses were Northern Flicker and White-breasted Nuthatch.

Pope Lick, September 7 - A dozen members tallied 45 species and two other taxa (those darn empids and fall warblers!) on a cool and cloudy morning. Highlights included three Yellow-billed Cuckoos, including one that perched in plain sight for at least 5 minutes, 4 vireo species, many Eastern Woodpeewees and American Redstarts, and large flocks of blackbirds, dominated by Common Grackles. Most of the small birds were in very busy flocks, making this trip long stretches of quiet punctuated by moments of panic.

Mammoth Cave, September 8 - What a beautiful day for a field trip to Mammoth Cave National Park! Nine observers came together to search for resident birds and migrants who were passing through the park. At the start of the day birds seemed to be everywhere. It wasn't long however before the group was struggling to find birds that seemed to be taking their afternoon naps. Eleven species of warblers were found including beautiful male Hooded Warblers, a Golden-winged Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warblers and Black-and-white Warblers. Yellow-throated Vireos and both Tanagers were found in large number. A Broad-winged Hawk flew overhead as we were eating our lunch. Our total number of species for the day was 48. It was a fun day to be at our spectacular national park.

Harrods Creek, September 22 - Bright blue skies and mild temperatures made for an ideal day for the Beckham Bird Club field trip to the Harrods Creek Park. Twelve observers joined together to walk the path stopping often to look at the many birds that are found there. Both Turkey and Black Vultures

filled the sky and Redheaded Woodpeckers were located on many nearby dead snags. Nine species of warblers were discovered with excellent views of two Canada Warblers in the same tree. Other highlights include a Yellow-billed Cuckoo, three Hummingbirds, a beautiful Wood Thrush and Summer Tanagers. Yes, it was a great day to be birding and the group tallied forty species.

BBC Conservation Report Websites September 2019

Tower lighting and bird collisions <https://abcbirds.org/article/2700-towers-update-lighting-systems-saving-migratory-birds-and-expenses/?omhide=true&eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=f66efe74-977f-4396-8d2f-80805a33e448>

Save a Third for Birds <https://abcbirds.org/blog/saving-a-third-for-seabirds/?omhide=true&eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=f66efe74-977f-4396-8d2f-80805a33e448> <https://www.msc.org/>

Whooping cranes <https://www.savingcranes.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/2019-AUG-Bugle.pdf>

Female songbirds <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/the-forgotten-female-how-a-generation-of-women-scientists-changed-our-view-of-evolution/>

ABC Conservation Updates <https://abcbirds.org/blog/birds-in-brief-summer-19/?omhide=true&eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=8a37d8ff-3118-486e-a598-819942395d22>

Bernheim Forest and the Motus Wildlife Tracking System

Bernheim Forest has launched a new conservation effort to track birds and aid research. This tracking system is the first in Kentucky and will help to understand how birds use the habitat and identify bird species around the forest. Any bird tagged with a transmitter that passes by Bernheim will be identified and info will be sent back to the appropriate researcher that tagged the bird. This wildlife tracking system is the one being used to track the Golden Eagles that winter at Bernheim. You can follow along by going to Bernheim.org and updates will be provided about the many species that migrate through Bernheim on their way south.