



THE BECKHAM OBSERVER

BECKHAMBIRDCLUB.ORG
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

OCTOBER 2017

Birding in Not-Nigeria



What do you do when a business trip leaves you with a free day in an exotic location? You find and hire a guide and go birding, of course! BBC member Andrew Melnykovych found himself in that situation twice in 2015 - first in Dubai and later in Ghana. (He was supposed to have been in Nigeria both times, but that's part of the story.) Andrew will talk about how to find a guide and describe his one-day birding blitzes in two vastly different places.



Our meeting will be on **Tuesday, October 10 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Clifton Center on Payne Street.

Upcoming Field Trips



There is a change to the September 30 field trip. Due to an event at Beckley Creek the trip has been changed to Turkey Run. See below for details.

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.

Saturday, Sept. 30; 8:30 a.m. – noon; moderate

NOTE - LOCATION CHANGED - NEW LOCATION: TURKEY RUN PARK – Brown-Forman Silo area. Residents and fall 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; continue through the park to the Brown-Forman Silo parking lot. **GPS: 38.115846, -85.533371** Andrew Melnykovych 502-608-4655

PAST FIELD TRIPS

Melco Basin, August 12

Eight members met at the gate to Melco on a warm sunny morning. However, an unfortunate series of events precluded us from carrying out the field trip to Melco and the Zib Lane Wetlands. We were accidentally locked out of Melco by MSD and we found Zib Lane blocked with heavy equipment and saw new “no trespassing” signs at the entrance gate. We tried to make the best of it and decided to head to the Falls of the Ohio. We tallied 19 species at the Falls, and had good looks at a Bald Eagle and two Osprey. We also managed to find a few Killdeer, a Spotted Sandpiper, and a lonely Herring Gull.

Otter Creek, August 26

The 7 members who made the short drive got off to a great start on a picture-perfect morning at Otter Creek Park. We were welcomed by open gates, sunshine, cooler temperatures, and a good showing of warblers, which included Kentucky, Black & White, Tennessee, Yellow-throated, Northern Parula, and many beautiful Hooded Warblers. Other highlights included Red Headed, Pileated, and Hairy Woodpeckers, Cedar Waxwings, Summer Tanagers, an Orchard Oriole, White-Eyed Vireos, Great Crested Flycatchers, many Ruby Throated Hummingbirds, a Wild Turkey, and Yellow-Billed Cuckoos. We tallied 44 species in all and had a splendid time.

O’Bannon State Park, August 27

Three members spent a cool August morning on several trails around O’Bannon State Park. Eighteen species were located including Pine, Hooded and Black-and-White Warblers.

Anchorage Trail, September 2

A nice cool morning greeted the twenty-three members and guests who joined together to walk the Anchorage Trail. Many migrants were found along with the residents that make the trail their home. Highlights included a Green Heron, a Great Egret, a most cooperative Great Horned Owl, Common Nighthawks flying overhead, nine species of warblers, and a pretty Scarlet Tanager.

Black Acre State Nature Preserve, September 4

Nine members and 2 guests were in attendance on a sunny Labor Day Morning. Highlights included a Broad-winged Hawk perched low in semi-open forest, several Ruby Throated Hummingbirds, a Wild Turkey, a beautiful Yellow-Throated Vireo, several Baltimore Orioles, American Redstarts, as well as Tennessee, Nashville, Chestnut-Sided, Yellow-throated, and Prairie Warblers. We finished with a tally of 45 species. Thanks to everyone in attendance for a fun morning of birding.

Nettelroth Bird Sanctuary, September 9

The Beckham Bird Club field trip to Cherokee Park was attended by 12 members. Our first stop was across the road from the Nettelroth Bird Sanctuary. Birds were flitting in the trees on both sides of the creek. Eastern Wood Peewees, Philadelphia Vireo, Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, eight species of warblers including a male Golden-winged, and Summer Tanagers were definite highlights of the trip. Continuing through the park the group added more warblers to the list. It was a beautiful morning to be birding and the group tallied 32 species.

Mammoth Cave, September 10

What a fun day! Five members of the Beckham Bird Club came together to search high and low for migrants passing through the park on their way south. The participants would find 14 species of warblers, 3 species of vireos, both Summer and Scarlet Tanagers, Redheaded Woodpeckers and many other birds. Forty-eight species were tallied at the end of the trip.

Beckley Creek, September 16

Eight members and a guest recorded 40 species while exploring the central section of Beckley Creek Park on a pleasant morning. Highlights included five species of warblers, a plethora of peewees, a lingering pair of Summer Tanagers and a family of Eastern Bluebirds that included five youngsters.

Anchorage Trail, September 17

Anchorage Trail yielded the best finds of the day including an Olive-sided Flycatcher, good looks at a Philadelphia Vireo and a Veery that was perched on a fence. Warblers were surprisingly scarce with a lone Nashville and a handful of Redstarts and Magnolia Warblers being all that were found. (Perhaps they left to go to the KOS meeting??) The group of six birders found 42 species at the Anchorage Trail. Two birders found four additional species at Caperton Swamp.

ENJOY FALL BIRDING!

