



THE BECKHAM OBSERVER

BECKHAMBIRDCLUB.ORG
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

JANUARY 2025



BECKHAM BIRD CLUB

Join us at this month's meeting for cake as we celebrate the **90th anniversary** of the founding of the Beckham Bird Club on January 11, 1935.

JANUARY PROGRAM



As lead attorney on air and energy matters for Kentucky Resources Council, Byron Gary will be speaking on KRC's efforts in these arenas. Working both on behalf of KRC along and in concert with organizations including the Sierra Club, Earthjustice, National Parks Conservation Association, Environmental Integrity Project, and REACT Byron will talk about KRC's work including ensuring compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and reducing Regional Haze in our National Parks, as well as continuing to advocate for a clean energy future.



Our meeting is on Tuesday, January 14 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.

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

The field trip schedule for January, February and March is included in this newsletter for those receiving it by mail. For those receiving by email there will be a link and it is also available on the BBC web site.

**PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2025 IF YOU
HAVE NOT DONE SO.**

PAST FIELD TRIP

Reformatory Lake, December 8- Seven birders (including trip leader) braved a cold, blustery wind to observe waterfowl and other species on or near the lake. The cold wind seemed to greatly minimize song bird activity as they stayed in thick cover. Birds of prey were also scarce. However, 36 species were observed with a single Tundra Swan and 14 Cackling Geese being the highlights of the trip.

BBC Conservation Report Websites December 2024

[Golden Eagle Migration Update 2024 | Bernheim Forest and Arboretum](#)

[Cedar Waxwing Overview, All About Birds, Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#)

[Red-cockaded Woodpecker Downlisted | Birding Wire](#)

<https://www.galapagos.org/newsroom/expedition-to-help-nesting-waved-albatross-a-success/>

<https://www.galapagos.org/newsroom/a-fragile-landscape-for-galapagos-penguins/>

[Cornell Lab Bird Cams | Cornell Lab Bird Cams](#)

[Great Horned Owls Grow Up In Front Of Your Eyes](#)

LOUISVILLE CBC – DECEMBER 15

A preliminary count of the Louisville Christmas Bird Count was 90 species seen on Sunday, December 15. Two uncommon birds were seen on that day – Lesser Black-backed Gull and a White-eyed Vireo. A more detailed account of the day will be forth coming latter. Thanks to all the participants both those in the field and feeder watchers who took part in the count. It is most appreciated. Also thanks to Win Ahrens and Debbie Hamilton for hosting the compilation potluck supper that evening. It was lots of fun.

BIRDING RESOLUTIONS FOR 2025

- 1. Go to a BBC monthly meeting on a regular basis.**
- 2. Attend the March Dinner meeting.**
- 3. Go on a field trip.**
- 4. Get your family or friends interested in birding.**
- 5. Try to find a new bird each month.**
- 6. Try to go out once a week to bird.**
- 7. Sign up for birdKY.**
- 8. Use ebird to tally your bird sightings. Try not to use X's instead make an estimate of the birds you see.**
- 9. Get the Merlin app.**
- 10. But most important enjoy your time outdoors and discover what nature has for you to see.**

BIRDS OF 2024

Looking back at 2024 several outstanding birds were seen in the Jefferson County area. The first record of a Clapper Rail in Jefferson County (only the second for the state) was recorded at Hays Kennedy Park. One birder saw a Eurasian Tree Sparrow which is a rare bird for our county. A Painted Bunting was another great bird find for 2024 as were Whooping Cranes, Long-eared Owl, Sabine Gulls, Neotropical Cormorant, and Short-eared Owl. A complete list of the birds that were seen in Jefferson County and Kentucky in 2024 can be seen on eBird.

Last year as the editor was summarizing the birds for 2023 at the end birders were encouraged to go out and find a Townsend Solitaire since it had never been seen in Kentucky. Well one birder did see one in Franklin County. So this is a reminder that we need to keep looking for those rare birds out there and we need you to find it. So **GOOD LUCK IN 2025** as you search for the next rare bird in Kentucky.