

THE BECKHAM OBSERVER

BECKHAMBIRDCLUB.ORG
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

JANUARY 2023

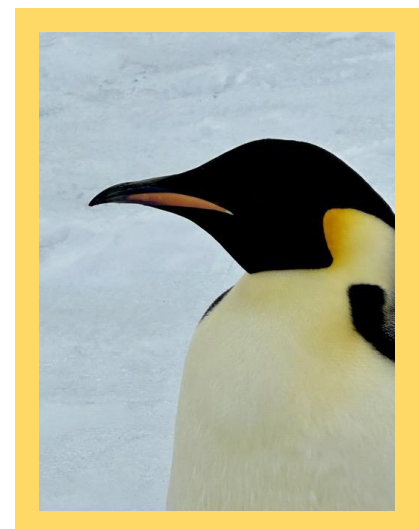


BECKHAM BIRD CLUB

Join us at this month's meeting for cake as we celebrate the 88th anniversary of the founding of the Beckham Bird Club.

January meeting: Prospect of Penguins

The first meeting of 2023 will feature BBC member, world traveler and penguin aficionado Win Ahrens, who will recount his recent trip to Antarctica in search of his penultimate penguin species as well as a brief visit to Brazil. FUN FACT: Penguins were Roger Tory Peterson's favorite group of birds. He adopted King Penguin as his birding nickname. FUN FACT #2: There are no more than 99 e-Birders who have seen every penguin species. Will Win become one of them? Come and find out.



Our meeting is on Tuesday, January 10 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.

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2023.

PAST FIELD TRIPS

Long Run – December 3 BBC field trip. Temperatures in the mid-fifties with cloudy skies at the start with skies clearing and temperatures in the mid-fifties by the end of the outing. Steady wind the entire time.

Thirteen birders met at Long Run Park for a morning of birding. We were hoping for some waterfowl on the lake, but not much to be found other than Mallards, Canada Geese and 2 Pied-billed Grebes. We turned our attention to the woods' edges and meadows in the park. The sparrows were very active with Song and Swamp leading the count.

Hays Kennedy Park/Garvin Brown -December 10 Seven birders explored Hays Kennedy Park and Garvin Brown Nature Preserve on a cloudy morning with temps in the upper 40s and saw 38 species over 2 and a half hours. Highlights of the day included two small flocks of Horned Larks, a flock of Red-Breasted Mergansers, four flyover Common Loons, and one strange Snow Goose x Canada Goose Hybrid. A quick stop by the Louisville Water Company ponds before noon added a Brown Creeper and Eastern Phoebe to the day's list.

BBC Conservation Report Websites December 2022

[Conserva Aves](#) | [Audubon Americas](#) | [Audubon](#)

[Can the Clark's Nutcracker Help Its BFF, the Whitebark Pine, Recover from Disaster?](#) | [All About Birds](#) | [All About Birds](#)

[Pheasant-Pigeon Reported After 140 Years](#) | [Birding Wire](#)

[Newly Protected Land in Guatemala Will Serve As a Winter Haven for the Wood Thrush - American Bird Conservancy \(abcbirds.org\)](#)

[American Bird Conservancy: Bird Conservation Results Across the Americas \(abcbirds.org\)https://biologicaldiversity.org/w/news/press-releases/lawsuit-filed-protect-endangered-wildlife-dangerous-new-fungicide-2020-10-23/](#)

<https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/issue-with-tissue-2022-scorecard.pdf>

[Rare White Bald Eagle Sighted | Birding Wire](#)

<https://bernheim.org/athena-approaches-bernheim-as-she-enters-indiana/>

[Top Audubon Stories 2022: Policy and Advocacy | Audubon](#)

ANOTHER STATE RECORD

Just as we thought it couldn't get any better for state bird records a new state bird appeared in December – a **Limpkin**. While many surrounding states were reporting them this year Kentucky was left out until December 4 when a birder received a picture of one at a private lake in Todd county. It was not until December 11 that birders had more details and a bird alert went out and everyone rushed to Todd county to see the next rare bird in Kentucky. Unfortunately the Limpkin only stayed around for two days.



Thanks to David Bailey for the picture of the Limpkin.

Keep birding for there are still many birds to be found. Both Mute and Trumpeter were seen at Reformatory Lake in Oldham County. Common Merganser and many other waterfowl have been seen at the Louisville Water Company Ponds on Mayfair. Common Goldeneyes and a Black Scoter were seen at Ashland Park in Clarksville. Besides waterfowl birders are seeing American Tree Sparrow, Fox Sparrows, Orange-crowned Warbler and a very late Indigo Bunting.

So make a New Year 's Resolution to go birding at least once a week as you might find the next rarity.

SUPPORT THE 2023 BIRDATHON



It is not too late to purchase an BBC ornament. You might be thinking that I have put my tree away but there are other places to put this ornament and support the 2023 Birdathon. This laser-carved ornament - suitable for hanging on trees, rearview mirrors, front doors or anywhere else you want to display the BBC logo - can be yours for a minimum donation of \$10. It is lightweight wood and 4 inches in diameter, with a hanging ribbon attached. An initial run of 50 is being produced. They will be available at the January monthly meeting (cash or check made out to Beckham Bird Club accepted) and subsequent meetings while supplies last. If you want to make sure you get an ornament and wish to reserve one (or more), please email BBC President Andrew Melnykovich at estiles74@gmail.com. Production

can be cranked up in fairly short order if needed. Thank you in advance for your generosity. (If you want to know more about Birdathon and the organizations it supports, you can find information here: <http://www.beckhambirdclub.org/birdathon.html>)

Happy New Year and Good Birding in 2023.