



THE BLUEBIRD

Evansville Audubon Society Newsletter



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Page 2
Minutes

Page 3
Field Trip
Slate of Officers
Upcoming Programs
Picnic
eScrip

The gay bunting erects his white crest, and gives utterance to the joy he feels in the presence of his brooding mate; the willow grouse on the rock crows his challenge aloud; each floweret, chilled by the night air, expands its pure petals; the gentle breeze shakes from the blades of grass the heavy dewdrops

John James Audubon



A Letter From the President of the Evansville Audubon Society

It has been my pleasure to serve as the president of the Evansville Audubon Society for the last three years. My term is over and the society membership will soon be electing a new leadership team. As many of you know the mission of the Evansville Audubon Society is to promote the awareness of and appreciation for birds and their habitats through education and conservation. With the support of our officers, directors, committee chairs, and volunteers, I believe we have worked hard toward achieving our mission.

The key phrase in the mission statement, 'through education and conservation', is what drives so much of our activity. When I first joined the board as a director, I looked around the table during a business meeting and was struck by the number of current and retired teachers in the group. It should be of no surprise then that we provide education grants to teachers in area schools that foster an appreciation of nature by their students, or encourage the use of the environmental education curriculum Audubon Adventures in the classroom, or support the inspirational nature programs presented by our own Audubon ambassador. We are most proud of our Jr. Birder program, initiated several years ago, because the youth involved in this program have truly grown in their understanding and appreciation of birds and nature.

Likewise, we have provided conservation grants to groups that share our conservation mission and we have initiated our own conservation projects with the assistance of collaborative grants from the National Audubon Society. You likely have heard about building chimney swift towers or nest boxes for the American kestrel and barn owls, all of which provide essential new habitat for these birds. Our grants have also allowed recipients to provide garden habitat for monarch butterflies at the Patoka Refuge or restored prairies for numerous birds and other wildlife at the Bluegrass FWA.

These are just a few examples of the education and conservation activities that members of the Evansville Audubon Society have been involved with over the last several years. I am sure that the new president, officers, and directors that will be voted on in June will continue to pursue our mission in the future with your continued support.

Thanks,

Donald L. Batema

EAS Minutes

April 18, 2017

Evansville Audubon Society Minutes for April 18, 2017

Call to Order: President D Batema called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm. A quorum was present.

Minutes: A brief discussion was held on the March 21, 2017 minutes and a couple of corrections were required. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the corrected minutes.

Treasurer's Report: From Niles Rosenquist as follows:

Audubon Treasure's Report	March 2017	April 2017
Bulk Mail	75.78	75.78
Savings	5.09	5.09
Certificate	4875.30	4877.88
Checking	4862.92	3896.52
Checking w/o reserves*	1946.90	1707.11
*Reserve Accounts		
Total	2916.02	2189.41
Education and Conservation	1626.26	876.26
E Scrip	308.95	332.34
OVBF	980.81	980.81

Treasurer's Comments:

"Checking" is from check register, and so includes transactions not in bank statement yet.

There is no change this month in annual donations (25 donors \$1410).

Payments made this month: WWNP annual payment (\$250); Check for domain name to Domain Rights of America (\$45); check to Susan Fowler from Ed/Con funds (\$750).

It was also noted that other approved Ed/Con expenditures have not yet been requested from Patchwork Central and Tekoppel Elementary School.

Committee Reports:

Field Trips: Bob Meier, absent with excuse, reported to president that several field trips were planned in association with the OVBF. See schedule at their website. Also, a field trip is planned at the Bluegrass FWA on May 12 at 6:30 pm. Details posted on EAS website.

Programs: Tonight's program by D Batema is "The Singing Life of a Bell's Vireo". Next month is Paul Bouseman and his presentation is "Attracting Beneficial Insects to Your Landscape to Reduce the Use of Pesticides".

Conservation: The Verniers met with Larry Ordner from Rep. Buschon's office in Princeton to discuss several conservation related issues, and finished the day with a visit to the new pier at

Snakey Point at the Patoka Refuge. Additionally, the Verniers, met with Jerry Parkinson, the Regional Director for SW Indiana along with members of the Refuge staff and Nancy Gelhausen, and a rep for Senator Donnelly. After a meeting at the refuge headquarters, Mr. Parkinson was taken on a tour of the refuge.

Education: Andrew Nunn, absent with excuse, reported no new education proposals. It was noted that Andrew (or president Batema) should send an email to grant recipients who have not requested their funds from the Treasurer to do so formally.

OVBF: All activities for the OVBF are scheduled and the dates for the festival are April 21-23 and May 5-7. See their website for details.

Old Business:

The nominating committee is working on a slate of officers. Positions that need to be filled are: President, Vice-President, at least one Director, and a coordinator for the Jr. Birders (to replace Carol). The slate will be presented to the Newsletter editor for submission into the May/June newsletter so general membership can review.

President Batema also requested names of any individuals who may be willing to run the three Evansville area routes for the breeding bird survey held each May. Amy Kearns from IDNR had made a request of EAS for any volunteers.

New Business:

The Evansville March for Science is scheduled for April 22, 2017 at 2 pm beginning with some speeches at the Four Freedoms Monument and then the march to the Civic Center. Details can be found on the Evansville March for Science Facebook page.

Steve Heeger proposed that EAS again have a dinner as part of the June meeting. After some discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and passed by the board that we schedule a dinner (in place of a formal business meeting) at 5:30 pm on June 20th before Susan Fowler's program at 7 pm. Attendees should bring your own plastic ware, drink and a dish to share. Details on location will be announced.

The due date for the May/June newsletter is April 28, 2017. Get your submissions to Judi at jrusse@usa.com ASAP.

Items from the floor:

Steve Heeger briefly discussed his experience with Wildflower Pilgrimage at the Smokey Mountains earlier this spring. He has a collection of pictures and has offered to share them in an upcoming program.

Meeting adjourned at about 6:45 pm so president could set up this evening's program.

Respectfully submitted

Don Batema, secretary pro tem

Interested in endangered species??

The Indiana Endangered Species list can be reached via the DNR Wildlife Diversity Section page:

<http://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/2356.htm>

Future Field trips

May 12 - Bluegrass FWA evening hike

Looking for Owls, nightjars, etc.

Meet at 6:30 Bluegrass parking lot off Boonville/ New Harmony Road

June 3 - Harmonie State Park

Looking for Warblers, Flycatchers and other wildlife.

Meet at old west side Walmart parking lot at 6:30am to carpool to park

April field trips

Audubon Wetlands hike had temps that were cooler. Nice turn out of early migrants. We had 6 ppl show up for EAS St. Paul's hike Highlights were.. Flyover Fish Crow, Palm Warbler and FOY Swainson's Thrush.



Picnic

Before our June meeting, we will have an indoor picnic 5:30pm in the WWNP classroom. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please bring your own table service, drink of choice, and a dish to share!



Upcoming Programs

Programs are at WWNP, at:700pm

May 16, 2017, "Attracting beneficial insects to your landscape to reduce the use of pesticides", Paul Bouseman

June 20, 2017, *Indiana's Bicentennial: "Under the Arms of an Elm"* Susan Fowler



The nominations committee consisting of Don Batema, Steve Heeger and Mary Ann Watson present the following slate of officers and directors to be voted on at the annual meeting, June 20, 2017:

President - Currently vacant
Vice President - Don Batema
Treasurer - Niles Rosenquist
Secretary - Maryann Watson

Directors Ending 2020:
Carolyn Bennett
Pam Kimsey
Bob Meier

Jr. Birder Hike

Four Jr. Birders hiked Audubon State Park on Sunday, April 23. This gathering was part of the Ohio Valley Birding Festival. Even though it was very windy, 22 species were seen or heard. Of note were 3 Yellow-rumped Warblers and 5 Chimney Swifts.

Chris noted "I was extremely happy to see many new faces and those who came early to see the birds up close for the bird banding."

Jr. Birders welcomed two new members, Miles and Tora.

Comments from the kids:

"I really enjoyed the hike especially looking for and hearing birds I never knew lived here, and I would like to go on another! It was very hot though." Tora

"I had lots of fun! Even though we didn't see a lot of birds, we saw some interesting ones. My favorite bird that we saw was the Coopers Hawk." Ellie

Submitted by Carol Pettys



A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by his fathers, but borrowed from his children.

John James Audubon

Evansville Audubon Society
Evansville, IN
Permit No. 1666
Wesselman Woods Nature Preserve
551 North Boeke Road
Evansville, IN 47711

Non Profit Org.
US Postage
Paid
Evansville, IN
Permit No. 1666

President: Don Batema, (812) 464-2847, dbatema@evansville.edu

Newsletter Editor: Judi Russell, (812) 626-0865, jrussell@usa.com
Visit our website at: www.evvaudubon.org

Moving? Send change of address to:
Steve Heeger
15340 Cemetery Road
Evansville, IN 47725

The mission of the Evansville Audubon Society is to promote the awareness of and appreciation for birds and other wildlife and their habitats through education and conservation.

Not an Evansville Audubon Society member? Join now and become a member of the National Audubon Society as well. **Current members** should renew with National Audubon Society. **Chapter Code C9ZH030Z**

\$20: 1 year introductory rate

\$15: 1 year Student/ Senior (62 and over) rate

\$30: 2 year Special Rate

Mail to: Niles Rosenquist, EAS Treasurer, 732 S. Willow Rd., Evansville, IN 47714

Name _____

My check enclosed

Checks payable to: NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

Address _____

City _____ State _____

If this is for a gift, please include name and address of person giving gift:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____