



THE BLUEBIRD

Evansville Audubon Society Newsletter

www.evvaudubon.org

Volume 53, Number 6, January-February 2023 Wesselman Woods Nature Preserve 551 N Boeke Rd. Evansville, IN 47711

Support Evansville Audubon in This Giving Season!

Dear Evansville Audubon Society Supporters and Friends,

Last year we were able to support a variety of education and conservation grant requests. We truly appreciate the generosity of supporters and friends like you! Thank you!! It's only through your ongoing support that we will continue our mission to promote the awareness, appreciation and preservation of birds and other wildlife and their habitats through education and conservation. This year we have set a goal of \$7,500 to be able to fund all of our programs.

The following recipients of our grants were able to provide outreach to those who might otherwise never experience the wonder and appreciation of nature:

- Patchwork Central - Summer camps
- Ohio Valley Birding Festival - Bird banding event
- Sycamore Land Trust - Eagle Slough "Sponsor a Preserve" program
- Michelle Adam-Smith, teacher - Tekoppel School 2nd grade classroom birding project
- Susan Fowler, Evansville Audubon ambassador - She has given 37 programs reaching 919 folks of all ages this past year including 1st thru 5th graders, high school environmental science class, girl scouts, and Earth Day at Howell Wetlands.

Please help us to continue this kind of outreach by supporting us again! Make your check out to Evansville Audubon Society and mail to: Evansville Audubon Society, 551 North Boeke Rd., Evansville, IN 47711. Remember, your contributions are fully tax deductible as Evansville Audubon Society is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization. Also, many employers will match donations to local nonprofits, so be sure to check with your employer!

Brian Taylor, President

And **THANK YOU!** to those who have already given...

Mike Lodato
Greg Gordon
Charles Carper
Steve Heeger
Phil & Pat Copp
Hetty Sloots
Bob & Laura Martin
JCs Wildlife

Susan Everett
Todd Reller
Chris Sartore
Andrew Thieneman
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Kate Lynch
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Richard & Sue Vernier
Dr. & Mrs. Chester Rycroft
Pam Kimsey
Jeff Helfrich
Charles Mills

Nancy Gehlhausen
James Elsner
Lois Rini
Steve & Kathy Briscoe
LD & Cristie Harry
Angela Short
Carol Pettys
Jim and Mary Jo
Campbell

PROGRAMS

Programs are now held on the third Tuesday of **every other month** at Wesselman Woods Nature Center at 6 PM (central time) and are free and open to the public. NOTE: Any last minute changes will be posted on our Facebook page and Website and via email.

Jan. 17, 2023 -- "A Vision for Restoring the Great Lakes" will be presented by Daniel Suarez, Audubon Great Lakes. **ZOOM only meeting.**

March 21, 2023 -- "Mesker Park Zoo: Helping to Bring the Eastern Hellbender Back From the Brink of Extinction in Indiana" presented by Leigh Ramon, Animal Curator, Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden.

In Memory

Sadly, we received word that Maryann Watson passed away December 1, 2022. She was a good friend and supporter of Evansville Audubon and, until recently, served on the board. In lieu of flowers, the family requested that memorial contributions be made to the Evansville Audubon Society or the Tri-state Herpetological Society.

Evansville Audubon Society Education & Conservation Grants Are Available

Evansville Audubon Society is now accepting applications for their education and conservation grants! We are offering small grants (generally \$250 to \$500) for individual or group projects that are either educational in nature or support a conservation need and include an emphasis on the environment.

Applications should include:

- * A brief description of the project
- * Items/activities to be accomplished by the project
- * Budget amount to meet the goal
- * Timeline for completion of the project

If you have an education or conservation project in mind for which a small grant would be beneficial; or you know of an organization or individual in need of a grant, simply send the information to our education and conservation grants chair, Jim Lodato, jclodato@yahoo.com. All grant requests are considered on a first-come, first-serve basis until all funds available are expended.

Projects that we've funded in the past include: Talon Trust; Howell Wetlands prairie restoration; Tekoppel 2nd grade classroom bird watching project; "Sponsor a Preserve" project at Eagle Slough; Ohio Valley Birding Festival and education outreach to schools, scouts, community groups, and more.

Choose Evansville Audubon Society on AmazonSmile!

Good News! Evansville Audubon Society is now able to receive donations through the AmazonSmile program. AmazonSmile is a program where Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organizations selected by their customers. When you shop at AmazonSmile (<http://smile.amazon.com>) you can select to support Evansville Audubon Society. There is no cost to AmazonSmile customers to participate and no fees are deducted. Just use the following link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/35-1718451>.

Thank you for your support! Sue Vernier, Treasurer

Going Green? Online Newsletter!

Help Evansville Audubon save postage and paper (trees) and send an email request to Steve Heeger at sdheeger@sbcglobal.net and ask to begin receiving your newsletter electronically. If you have already been using this option and have recently changed your email address, please send your new address to Steve.

Evansville Audubon Society Minutes November 15, 2022

meeting by Zoom and in person

Program: at 6:00 PM – The “Nature Conservancy’s Work in the Lower Wabash Watershed” presented by Carrie Parmenter, Lower Wabash Project Director, and Carolyn Small, Associate Director of Development, for TNC. TNC staff shared TNC’s conservation vision for the state of Indiana, with a presentation focused on how they are using their goals to work with local landowners and the agriculture community to restore wetlands, reduce erosion and nutrient loss, create habitat and ultimately improve the quality of water flowing downstream.

Business Meeting convened at 6:50, quorum present

Minutes: approved as distributed by email

Treasurer’s report:

Previous Month’s Checking Account Balance: \$1,328.47

Income: Memorial Donations – Lewis \$3,245.00, Interest \$0.02. Total Income \$3,245.02

Expenses: Bulk Mail deposit \$100.00, Stamps for Treasury \$14.40, Total Expenses \$114.40

Current Checking Account Balance: \$4,459.09

Checking Without Reserves: \$4,138.25

Reserve Accounts : Education & Conservation \$40.84, Jr. Birders \$280.00 Total 320.84

Other Accounts: Bulk Mail \$184.10, Savings \$5.09. Certificate of Deposit \$4,184.96 Total \$4,374.15

Received \$3510 memorial donations for R. Jack Lewis, Jr. The family will get in touch in January to discuss using funds for a memorial project.

Donation letter is printed and should be mailed shortly. Once donations start coming in, a \$400 check will be mailed to fulfill previous commitment to Tekoppel School.

Field Trips:

Goose Pond trip in October, 10 people, 45 species including whooping cranes

Next field trips in February, April, migration walks start in March

Christmas Bird Counts Evansville Dec. 18 (leader, Jacob Scheller), Warrick Dec 20 (Jacob Scheller) and Posey Jan 1 (Jarad Emmack)

Indiana Audubon is looking for partners with local organizations to co-host field trips at locations Audubon visited in its early years as part of its 125 th anniversary. Audubon SP was a site in the 1940’s. Looking for an Audubon member to co-host. Stipend available. No specific dates in mind. From Bob Bumgardner, Executive Director, Indiana Audubon.

Junior Birders: Jim Lodato is making plans

Programs

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Conservation:

Niles gave an update on efforts to protect Wesselman P ark, A group is advocating for relocating the planned pickleball courts from the grassy area within the park to the Roberts Park area or to dispersed the courts to parks around the city.

Education & Conservation Grants: We still have a commitment to Tekoppel School for \$ 400 (\$400 already paid) to be paid when funds are available from the new appeal. Received a grant request from Patchwork Central for \$600 to support Susan Fowler presentations to their summer children’s program, approved.

Events: Amanda Joest has volunteered to chair a new Events committee. Amanda is requesting help with events and with suggestions for events to participate in.

Old Business none

New Business Chapter Annual Report was submitted 11/1/22 to National Audubon. Baseline payment should be received late November.

Items from the floor none

Meeting adjourned at about 7:35

Submitted by Niles Rosenquist, Secretary

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

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President: Brian Taylor, (812)480-0588, brian.taylor@haubstadt.com
Newsletter Editor: Amanda Joest, (812)567-0477, amanda@jcswildlife.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** may renew directly with National Audubon Society at www.audubon.org

Chapter Code C9ZH030Z

\$20 minimum membership includes one year of the award winning Audubon magazine

My check enclosed made payable to:
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
Mail to: Sue Vernier, EAS Treasurer
580 N 350 E
Princeton, IN 47670

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

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

Name _____

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