



THE BLUEBIRD

Evansville Audubon Society Newsletter

www.evvaudubon.org

Volume 53, Number 8, April-May 2023 Wesselman Woods Nature Preserve 551 N Boeke Rd. Evansville, IN 47711

Volunteer Opportunities to Meet Every Interest Level!

Evansville Audubon has a small but dedicated crew of volunteers who do everything from serving as an officer or director, leading field trips and scheduling programs, editing and mailing newsletters, conducting Christmas Bird Counts, maintaining the membership list, Website, and Facebook page, manning the EAS table at various events, processing education and conservation grant requests, leading Jr. Birders, and coordinating our premier event—the Ohio Valley Birding Festival. There are more jobs to be done but you get the idea; this dedicated group could use some help. Please consider helping out in one of the following areas:

Officers and Directors to take office June 20, 2023...The nominations committee needs to fill the President's position (present officer term limited) and Directors (up to four). The President does the general oversight of the work of EAS, and presides at all meetings. The Directors conduct the business of Evansville Audubon and approve expenditures. Directors are expected to attend at least 50% of the board meetings, which presently meet 6 times a year (Sept-June) for an hour the third Tuesday every other month at 7 PM (excepting July and August).

Replacement of retiring Jr. Birders Leader...For the coming 2023-24 season beginning in September we need a new leader for our Jr. Birders. The group meets 4-6 times a year for a hike at a local birding hotspot. Please consider helping to introduce young people to the joys of birding.

Filling Committee Chair Positions for Education Grants and Programs...The *Grants* chair processes the requests for small grants for individual or group projects that are educational in nature and include an emphasis on the environment, and presents them to the Board for approval. The *Programs* chair contacts and schedules speakers prior to our board meetings each season.

Volunteer support for all of our Committees...Our hard working chairs for *Events, Ohio Valley Birding Festival, Bird Counts, and other* committees would appreciate extra help.

Come join the fun and help fulfill our mission to promote the awareness of and appreciation for birds and other wildlife and their habitats through education and conservation. It's easy to volunteer, just contact us at info@evvaudubon.org and we will put you to work in whatever area is of interest to you.

Remember, you are what hope looks like to a bird.

PROGRAMS

Programs are on the third Tuesday of the month at Wesselman Woods Nature Center at 6 PM (central time) and are free and open to the public. **NOTE: We will be on summer break in July and August, returning in September.** Any last minute changes will be posted on our Facebook page, Website, and via email.

May 16, 2023 -- "Gardening With Native Plants for Birds (and butterflies) in Small Spaces" presented by Sharon Sorenson, conservationist and author. Sharon will share her experiences in native gardening in a pots-and-patio situation--its successes, failures, and plans for alternatives.

June 20, 2023 -- Join Us for Our Annual Meeting Potluck followed by a Program Presentation by Danni Schaust. Danni has recently launched Green Drinks 812, a local informal group of folks interested in discussing and making a difference on climate change, conservation, and other environmental issues. **The potluck begins at 6 PM.** Please bring a covered dish to share, your favorite beverage, and your own table service (disposable table service and lemonade will also be available). Program and brief annual meeting at 7 PM.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nomination Committee presents the following slate of candidates for the annual June election of Officers and Directors. The Committee still needs to fill the important position of President (present officer is term limited). The President does the general oversight of the work of EAS, and presides at all meetings. If you are interested in putting your name forward, contact Brian Taylor, brian.taylor@par.consulting or Sue Vernier, rsavcaver2@gmail.com (or send a message to info@evvaudubon.org). Please consider joining a great group of volunteers and help fulfill our mission to promote the awareness of and appreciation for birds and other wildlife and their habitats through education and conservation.

Officers

President - VACANCY
Vice-President - Richard Vernier
Treasurer - Sue Vernier
Secretary - Niles Rosenquist

Directors Term Ending 2026

Jeremy Ross
Brian Taylor
Eric Howard
Ellen Raibley

FIELD TRIP

May 6- Harmonie SP"warbler madness"

Meet at the pool parking lot at 6:15am, this event will once again be led by local linguistics professor, Dr. John Meridig. You don't wanna miss this one.

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 March 2023

meeting in person

Program: at 6:00 PM – “Mesker Park Zoo: Helping to Bring the Eastern Hellbender Back From the Brink of Extinction in Indiana” Leigh Ramon, Animal Curator, Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden.

Business Meeting convened at 7:07, quorum present

Minutes: approved as distributed by email

Treasurer's report:

Previous Month's (January) Checking Account Balance: \$8677.14

Income: appeal letter donation \$20, donor advised fund \$116.80, interest 0.07, total income \$136.87

Expenses: Stamps \$12.00, OVBF printing \$40.00, Newsletter printing \$39.00, Susan Fowler \$750.00 Patchwork Central \$600.00 Total Expenses \$ 1441.00

Current Checking Account Balance: \$7373.01

Checking Without Reserves: \$1582.17

Reserve Accounts : Education & Conservation \$1000.84, Jr. Birders \$280.00, Lewi Memorial \$4510.00, Total 5790.84

Other Accounts: Bulk Mail \$138.97, Savings \$5.09, Certificate of Deposit \$4,215.67, Total \$4,359.73

Two months expenses and income combined here, previous month balance is from January report, current balances from February report.

USPS has a new electronic system for submitting bulk mail, Pam Kimsey has mastered it, mostly

Expended Education and Conservation Money

General \$200

Tekoppel School \$400

Susan Fowler \$750

Patchwork \$600

OVBF \$40

Wesselman Woods \$300

total \$ 2290

All commitments are caught up, paid

Field Trips:

Land Between the Lakes, Feb 4, 9 people, 55 species

Migration walks will begin Friday at 5:00 PM, start March 24, then every other week

Last field trip will be May 6, Harmonie State Park

Junior Birders: no activity scheduled for this month

Programs

May 16, 2023 -- “Native Plants for Birds in Small Areas”, Sharon Sorenson

There will be a program at USI on Friday, March 24 on “J.J. Audubon, Art for Science Sake”.

Conservation:

Niles gave an update on efforts to protect Wesselman Park. A city ordinance has been prepared that would essentially block the pickleball development, city council committee meeting to discuss on April 4, vote on at City Council meeting April 10.

Education & Conservation Grants:

No new grant requests received.

Events: Amanda Joest is chair of the Events committee. Next event is Party for the Planet at Mesker Park Zoo, April 22. Volunteers needed to help.

Old Business A donation has been received to cover the \$150 for lumber expenses to build bluebird box kits that will be used at the Ohio Valley Birding Festival. Previously there had been approval to pay from Audubon funds.

New Business

We still need nominations for offices, board members:

President is term limited, need nominee. Other officers can continue to serve.

Brian Taylor and Eric Howard will be nominated as new Board members, with others current members agreeing to serve another term, we still need one more Board nominee.

Items from the floor

Evansville Living Article on local birding (Bob Meier, Evan Speck and Sue Vernier were interviewed) has been published. Also the OVBF was mentioned.

Bird observations.

OVBF schedule is in the newsletter.

Meeting adjourned at about 7:32

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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Visit our website at: www.evvaudubon.org

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.

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

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

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Address _____

City _____ State _____

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