

Title: Summer Birds of NE Ohio

Speaker: Matthew Valencic

Bio:

Matt's 'trigger bird' into birding was the Blackburnian Warbler. While a student at the Cranberry Lake Biological Station in the Adirondacks, he joined other students and a teaching assistant for a 6 am bird walk. He saw a lot of new birds that morning, but the bright orange throat of his first Blackburnian Warbler hooked him.

He has continued watching birds but not in a serious way until about 10 years ago when he bought new binoculars, a spotting scope and a camera. He wanted "a decent picture" of every bird on his life list and so began the accumulation of LOTS of pictures. When he retired in 2015, he met the Audubon folks in Cleveland and found an outlet for those bird pictures. He began creating educational bird presentations like the one we will see today.

Abstract:

Did you know that more than 50 species of birds travel hundreds, even thousands, of miles each spring just to raise a family in NE Ohio? One species, the Bobolink, flies 4,500 miles one-way from Paraguay/Uruguay to the hay fields of Geauga and Portage Counties. This one-hour presentation showcases 50 species of "Summer Visitors" through 180 photographs of adult birds, babies, nests and habitats. You will hear songs and calls, some sweet and musical like the Yellow Warbler and others harsh like the Green Heron, and learn many interesting anecdotes about individual species.