



Upcoming Programs and Events

GAAS September Program Meeting (Live)

Becca Zak

Fall into Native Landscaping

Tuesday, September 27, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Mingo Lodge in Sand Run Metro Park

1501 Sand Run Parkway, Akron, OH 44313



Planning our home landscapes with nature in mind is imperative to solving the biodiversity crisis we find ourselves in. Becca purchased her Stow property in 2016 not for the 560 square foot house, but for the sterile quarter acre that it was built on. What was once 100% manicured Kentucky bluegrass and an old silver maple tree is now an area of ecological importance. A designated Monarch Waystation and certified Audubon Bird-Friendly Habitat, Becca's yard is an ever-evolving piece of art she hopes will inspire current and future land owners to ditch convention and take a walk on the wild side.

Please note: The September and October programs will both be returning to **Mingo Lodge**. Beginning in November, our programs will be virtual for the winter months, through February 2023. Our meeting location will then be moving to Goodyear Heights Metro Park – West Room, beginning in March.



Judy Semroc

Planting for Pollinators

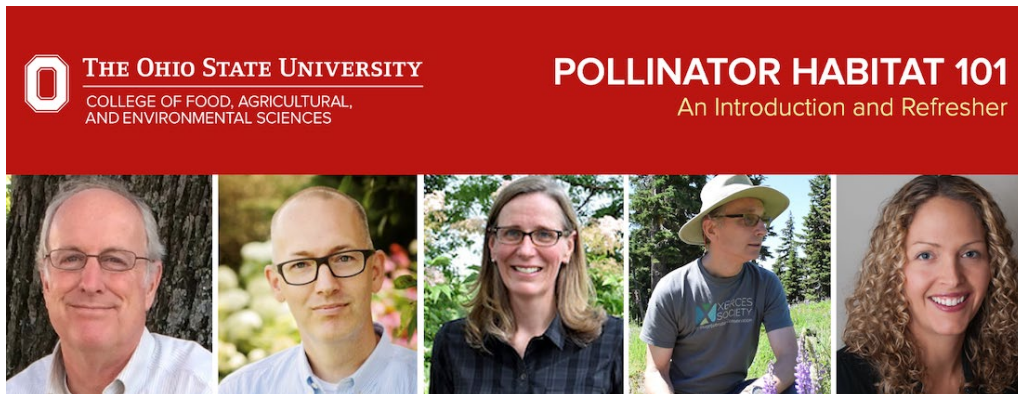
Wednesday, September 28, 2022 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Stow – Munroe Falls Public Library

3512 Darrow Rd., Stow, OH 44224

Judy Semroc is President of the Northeastern Ohio Chapter of the American Butterfly Association and she'll discuss planting options for attracting and aiding migratory species and late season pollinators. It is especially important for our insect species to get enough food in order to make it through the winter, so what we plant and cultivate can help them reach this goal. Natural history and plant attributes will be presented. Goldenrods, asters and other late summer/fall species will be featured, as well as helpful identification information. To register, call (330) 688-3295 ext. 4 or visit [Planting for Pollinators - Stow-Munroe Falls Library Events - Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library \(smfpl.org\)](https://www.smfpl.org/events/2022/09/28-planting-for-pollinators). This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library and will be held in the Stow-Munroe Falls Room.

Is There Pollinator Habitat in Your Future?



Denise Ellsworth (Program Director, Pollinator Education, OSU Department of Entomology) has done it again – only this time, she has coordinated a Fall series of free, weekly webinars. Beginning Friday, October 14th through November 11th, all sessions are at 10:00 a.m. and will last for approximately 60 minutes plus questions. Register once to attend any or all sessions using the same link you'll receive after registering. A full schedule is shown on the registration page: [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#). All webinars will be recorded and posted on the Bee Lab website. This program is funded in part by a USDA/NIFA Integrated Pest Management Pollinator Health grant.

Bird Walks

Greater Akron Audubon Bird Walk: Fall Migrants

Saturday, October 1, 2022 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Cascade Valley Summit Metro Park – Valley View Area

1212 Cuyahoga St., Akron, OH 44313

Birders have already reported 148 species of birds in this new Metropark opened to the public one year ago. The park features a large grassland, wetlands, forest and the Cuyahoga River. The trails are mostly flat and easy to walk and length will be a little over one mile. Another walk is scheduled for Saturday, October 15th (same place, same time).

For any questions about the walk, contact Ned DeLamatre at ndelamatre@gmail.com

News You Can Use

Congratulations to Kathy L. Mock!

The Ohio Ornithological Society (OOS) recently issued its online edition of *The Ohio Cardinal, Spring 2022*, the quarterly journal of ornithological records and observations in the state. We're proud to report that longtime Summit County birder and Greater Akron Audubon Society board member Kathy L. Mock has an article, *First Documented Merlin Nesting Attempt in Summit County*, that appears on page 175 of this latest issue; the write-up details her observations of Merlins at Akron's Greenlawn Memorial Park Cemetery since February 2017. Noting an increase in numbers of roosting Merlins during successive winters, Kathy began to explore the possibility (upon suggestion by Douglas Vogus) that the birds could be nesting there or nearby. In April 2022, she observed territorial defense, nest selection, and courtship and breeding behaviors in what is believed to be the first documented nesting attempt in Summit County and probably the first in Ohio north of Knox, with the exception of Lake. Kathy's curiosity, coupled with skilled photo-documentation and countless hours of scientific observations and miles driven resulted in her first submission to the publication. Besides the photos in her article, four additional photos taken by Kathy were selected to appear in the Spring 2022 edition. The article is currently available only to members of OOS but will become available for the public at a future date when archived issues are posted online: [The Ohio Cardinal | Ohio Ornithological Society \(ohiobirds.org\)](https://www.ohiobirds.org/). Kathy is also a member of OOS and Black Swamp Bird Observatory (BSBO), a Summit Metro Parks volunteer, a former 10-year staff member in the Education Department at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and she has been a bird guide for BSBO Jet Express and Biggest Week in American Birding (BWIAB) outings. She also keeps the Instagram account for Greater Akron Audubon ([@akronaudubon](https://www.instagram.com/akronaudubon/)) and will be presenting our November program, *The Magic of Merlins*, virtually, on November 22, 2022.

Results from GAAS Summer Census Are In



Savannah Sparrow at PPG's Lime Lake #6 by Doug Vogus

Douglas and Michelle Vogus noted in their 26-page review of the 2022 GAAS Summer Breeding Bird Census that 95 volunteers came out to count birds for almost 649 hours, collectively, during the 10-day period between June 10 and June 19 in which there were no major storms or stalled stormfronts. During that time, 142 species and an all-time high of 52,093 birds were tallied in 29 of the 30 sector coverage areas in Summit County. New census highs were recorded for 31 species and many other counts came close or tied all-time high counts. See all the results, including all the volunteers, photos, and Doug's extensive review notes on the Greater Akron Audubon Society website: [Summer Census - Greater Akron Audubon Society](#). Thank you to everyone who braved the heat and humidity to make this year another successful year for the census. And a huge thank you to coordinators Doug and Michelle Vogus for their tireless efforts to collect data and analyze results in order to continue this 43-year tradition (with good humor intact) in Summit County.

An Ohio Connection to a Long-running Facebook Group



Jackie Bain (left) and Julie Davis on a pelagic birding trip. Photo: Courtesy of Julie Davis

You may recognize Julie Davis, Past President of Ohio Ornithological Society as a co-founder of the 10-year-old Facebook Group, [Sh*t Birders See \(other than birds\) | Facebook](#). The group celebrates the surprising and weird sightings that can mark a birding trip. The story of how the group came to be and how it has evolved was featured in a recent National Audubon article: [A Long-Running Ode to the All the *�% Birders See | Audubon](#). Today, almost 7,000 members of the public group post photos and accounts of the weird, funny, surprising, and breathtaking sights they and other birders see every time they go out birding. Julie notes the power of birdwatching as a gateway to closely

observing and appreciating the broader world. “[Birding] gives you the chance to get out there and open your eyes,” says Davis, who now lives in South Carolina. “And yes, you’re looking for this one thing, but then if you’re observant—and birding teaches you to be observant— that’s kind of how it mushrooms into something bigger.”

Fall World Migratory Bird Day is October 8th: *Dim the Lights for Birds at Night*



Environment for the Americas (EFTA) is the organization behind World Migratory Bird Day, celebrated on the second Saturdays of May and October; the group issues a call to action for international migratory bird conservation. This year’s theme focuses on the impacts of light pollution on our shared birds and uses events to raise awareness of the threat of light pollution and the importance of dark skies to bird migration, according to Susan Bonfield, Director of EFTA. Many bird conservation organizations collaborate to spread the message to “dim the lights for birds at night” and highlight the steps that individuals, communities, and governments can take to reduce the impact of light pollution.

Andrew Farnsworth, Senior Research Associate, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, urges everyone to “reconsider how our current lighting practices at home and workplace affect birds and other wildlife and to change those practices that run contrary to good stewardship of the planet and its inhabitants.” Consider that at least 100 million birds die every year from colliding with buildings in the United States alone. What can we do to help? Here are five simple actions: [World Migratory Bird Day | Simple Actions to Help Birds at Night](#). Take a quiz about North American birds and their migration: [North American Birds and Their Migration \(google.com\)](#)



An Update on Renaming Audubon

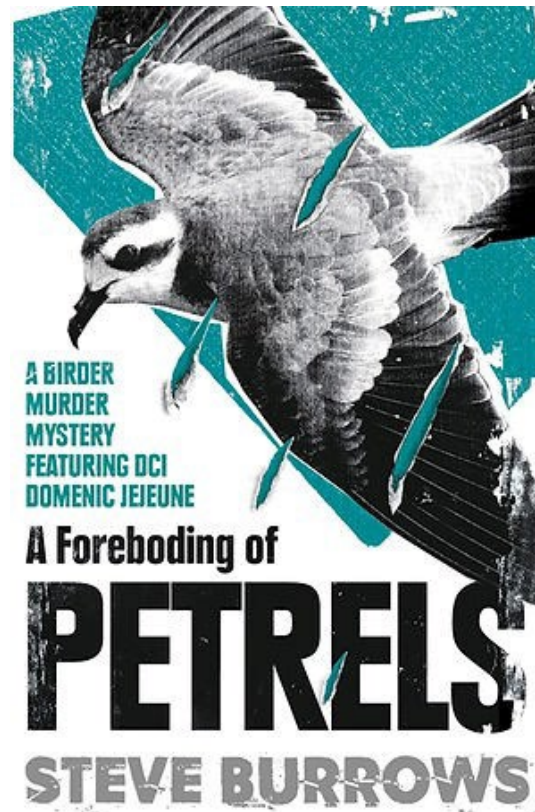
National Audubon Society's mission is to root itself in equity, diversity, inclusion, and belonging (EDIB). Currently, a Board Task Force is in the process of examining the name and legacy of John James Audubon while keeping in mind what the organization would like to become in the future. While no decision has yet been made, we have received word about the process and where things stand and what to expect. The Board Task Force, formed earlier this year, is responsible for making a recommendation about whether or not to change National Audubon Society's name to the entire National Audubon Society Board. In order to make that recommendation, the Task Force is executing a scope of work that will provide four key inputs: historical research (explores John James Audubon's biography; the organization's origin story; the legacies of both the individual and the organization; and the frameworks that institutions can leverage to engage with these histories), engagement data (an engagement firm will design and execute a process to listen to where people are, gather feedback, understand the impact of any potential decisions, and provide data and analysis; key audiences will include staff, donors, members and volunteers), and legal and financial analyses. After considering these inputs, the Board Task Force will present their recommendation to the full Board at the February 2023 Board meeting. At that time, the Board will embark on a decision-making process regarding the Audubon name. Recognizing that this decision will affect every single chapter, the Task Force is committed to taking the time to gather input and analysis from all parts of the Audubon network between now and December 2022. Updates will be shared as progress is made.

Audubon's Bird Migration Explorer Launches

To celebrate the joy of birds and the wonder of migration, Audubon's Migratory Bird Initiative has been working with partners and researchers around the world to present the Bird Migration Explorer, a first-of-its-kind digital platform that visualizes the journeys, connections and challenges that bird migration offers us. The Migration Explorer was released Thursday, September 15, 2022 and combines bird distribution and migration

maps (from hemispheric to local levels) with conservation data for 458 species of migratory birds. Use the free guide to view the heroic annual journeys and the various challenges each species faces along the way. View an introductory video: [Bird Migration Explorer: Explained - YouTube](#); then, go to the URL to explore and try this powerful tool for yourself: [Bird Migration Explorer \(audubon.org\)](#).

Another Birder Murder Mystery from Steve Burrows



A Foreboding of Petrels is the latest Murder Mystery from Canadian author Steve Burrows. You may have seen the story that *Audubon Magazine* did on this Birder Murder Mystery writer back in 2017 ([Steve Burrows Mystery Novels — Bird Books | Audubon](#)). Mr. Burrows' seventh book in the series was released September 13th and as a thank you to Audubon members, he's running a contest to tie in with the new book. If interested, see details on his website: [Contests & Promotions | SteveBurrows.org](#).

GAAS Fundraiser: Wild Bird Seed Sale November 5, 2022

The order forms for the Wild Bird Seed Sale were recently mailed to all National Audubon members who live within the bounds of our chapter's territory and to those who may have ordered seed in prior years. The opposite side of the card shows our upcoming speaker programs for the 2022 – 2023 year. If you did not receive the orange postcard, you can find the Order Form on our website here: [Greater Akron Audubon Society annual wild bird seed sale](#). The deadline for orders is October 28th and pick-up is from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 5th at Copley Feed, 1468 S. Cleveland-Massillon Rd.



Tufted Titmouse. Photo: Michele Black/Great Backyard Bird Count

Save the Date: Christmas Bird Count to be held Sunday, December 18, 2022

More details to come soon. Make plans to participate in the field or at your home feeder if you live within the bounds of the circle.

As always, please visit our website regularly: <https://www.akronaudubon.org> If you've missed or deleted these **For the Birds** emails, they are also posted in the **Archives** under the **News** tab on the Home Page. For more northeast Ohio bird-related programs, events (including some bird walks), please visit the Northeast Ohio Regional Bird Calendar, hosted by Kirtland Bird Club of Northeast Ohio: [CALENDAR \(kirtlandbirdclub.org\)](https://www.kirtlandbirdclub.org)
Note: A chronologic listing of past GAAS program pages with speaker bios and topics can

be found by going to the GAAS Website (<https://www.akronaudubon.org>) Under the **Participate** tab, find **Meetings** and click on **Meeting Archives** (<https://www.akronaudubon.org/meeting-archives.html>). If a meeting was recorded and is available for watching, there will be a <Recording> button that can be selected to link to the recording on YouTube.

Please direct questions or comments [to info@akronaudubon.org](mailto:info@akronaudubon.org)

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