

Still in transition to new computer and system - trying to get used to it. Bear with me. Alan

Audubon *News and Views*

Newsletter of the Canton Audubon Society

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society Established 1962

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The Canton Audubon Society is a non-profit organization, whose mission is to meet our members' varied interests in the field of nature. For some the focus is on birds and animals, for others it's on plants, and still others it's on waterways and diversities of the land. For all it is an interest to enjoy, to conserve, restore, share with others, and to educate both adults and students.

As a member of the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, you are also a member of the CANTON AUDUBON SOCIETY, and are invited to attend our monthly meetings held at 7:00 p.m., the third Wednesday each month (September thru June) at the STARK COUNTY PARK DISTRICT'S EXPLORATION GATEWAY, 5712 - 12th St., NW, Canton. You will receive **AUDUBON NEWS & VIEWS** September/October issue with our calendar of activities *for the entire year.* ^{SEP} Visit our website www.cantonaudubon.org or phone 330-209-1261 for further information about our activities.

CALENDAR

April

Wed. 18 Pre-Meeting Bird Walk, and Regular Meeting

5:30 p.m. Pre-meeting Bird Walk - Meet at the south-facing balcony of the Exploration Gateway building.

7:00 p.m. "How and Why We Protect Birds", presented by Chuck Jakubchak. 2018 marks the 100 year anniversary of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Chuck Jakubchak will take a look back at our relationship with birds and why we protect them. His presentation will discuss how we help birds and also how birds help us. A portion of the program will focus on the people that were leaders in the bird protection movement and Chuck guarantees that the program will be both entertaining and educational!

Chuck is retired, a Volunteer Certified Naturalist, and has been a birder for over 20 years. He has conducted nature-related programs throughout the state and has been published in *Bird Watcher's Digest*. He has presented programs to CAS for at least 8 years. Ask Chuck what it is like to be an Owl - he has been one.

Refreshments tonight are courtesy of Linda & Del Nida

Sun. 22 EARTH DAY CAS – Sponsored Bird and Nature Walks

7:00 a.m. CAS Bird Walk, Jackson Bog State Nature Preserve. Alan Dolan, **leader**. Meet in the parking lot behind the barn on Fulton Rd., just west of Jackson High School. The walk will be from 7-9:15 a.m.

5:30 p.m. CAS Nature Walk, Jackson Bog State Nature Preserve. Alan Dolan, & Mike Witt, **leaders**. Meet in the parking lot behind the barn on Fulton Rd., just west of Jackson High School. Mike is the author of the 2005 book **JACKSON BOG**, written to commemorate the 25th anniversary of this state nature preserve's existence.

Sat./Sun 28-29 The City Nature Challenge – Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center

1772 Daniel Ave., Alliance (Rt. 183, 6 miles south of US [Rte 62/OH Rte 183 in Alliance](#), or if you are taking OH Rte 153 east from Louisville, Daniel Ave. is 1 mile south of the OH Rte 153/183 intersection. **See City Nature Challenge below.**

May

Fri. – Mon. 4 – 14 Biggest Week In American Birding, Northwest Ohio – the Warbler

Capital of the World. www.biggestweekinamericanbirding.com.

Sat. 12 International Migratory Bird Day

Wed. 16 Pre-Meeting Bird Walk, and Regular Meeting

[5:30 p.m. Pre-meeting Bird Walk - Meet at the south-facing balcony of the Exploration Gateway building.](#)

7:00 p.m. “**Estimating the Impact of House Sparrow on Eastern Bluebird Reproduction Success Across an Urban Gradient**”, presented by **Stacy Pavlik**. Stacy will discuss this study, which was the subject of her thesis, and how it determined good habitat for eastern bluebird reproductive success related to house sparrow population and different building structures.

Stacy teaches Biology and Zoology at Austintown Fitch High School. Education was her third degree, also having a Bachelor’s in Forensic Science and a Master’s in Biology. She did her thesis work at Youngstown State. She is recently married (September) to her best friend. They have a 3-year old son, Vincent, and she loves to hunt, fish, camp, teach, and enjoy nature!

Refreshments tonight are courtesy of Vivian & Bill Wood.

Fri. 18 Endangered Species Day

A program of the Endangered Species Coalition, Endangered Species Day started in 2006 by the U.S. Congress. It marked the celebrations of our nation’s wildlife and wild places. This important call to action is an opportunity for people of all ages to learn about the importance of protecting endangered species and the everyday actions that can be taken to help protect them.

If you are looking to deepen your understanding on the status of America’s wildlife, read National Wildlife Federation’s recently released report, *Reversing America’s Wildlife Crisis: Securing the Future of Our Fish and Wildlife.*

June

Thur. 21 5:30 p.m. - Stark County Park District “**4th Annual Wild Night For**

Wildlife” Fundraiser. The theme is **Summer Solstice Soiree.**

5:30 p.m. Hors de Vors, cocktail hour, socializing - Exploration Gateway

Park Wildlife Ambassadors will be present.

6:30 p.m. – Dinner downstairs on the patio and in room A & B.

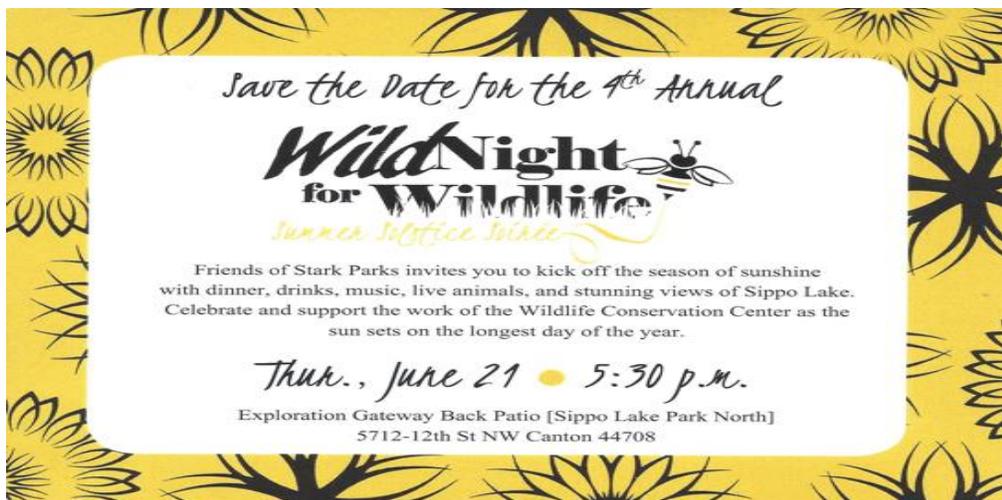
The board of Canton Audubon has issued a challenge to its members. The CAS will match, dollar for dollar, all CAS member contributions to the Friends of Stark Parks, totaling up to \$1,000 for the Wild Night fundraiser. There will be donation envelopes at the April 18 meeting, for from Linda Chen & Alan Dolan other times.

The money raised from the fundraiser will benefit the continued care of wildlife at the Joseph J. and Helen M. Sommer Wildlife Conservation Center. Support is needed to continue to provide quality wildlife care, education, and outdoor experience. The Center currently serves nearly 2,000 injured, orphaned, and ill native animals each year.

If you would like to attend the fundraiser on June 21, the cost per person is \$75. Online payment options at StarkParks.com/Friends/Events, or mail checks and make payable to: Friends of Stark Parks @ 5300 Tyner St., NW, Canton, OH 44708. Sponsorship endowment information and answers to questions is available by contacting friends@starkparks.com, or 330-477-3553.

BIG NEWS

2018 Honoree: The Canton Audubon Society



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Honorary Chairs
Mr. & Mrs.
Alan & Lee Dolan

Honorary Chairs: Lee & Alan Dolan

The City Nature Challenge BioBlitz The Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center Alliance

CAS has agreed to assist HB's bio-blitz with as much participation as possible. There are a few capacities in which CAS members can be of particular assistance.

People who have an interest in a specific field, such as butterflies, wild flowers, trees, bugs, pond critters, lichens, fungi, or just everything in general are needed to lead specific hikes looking for these organisms. Thanks to the iNaturalist program, they do not have to actually be very knowledgeable about these subjects, just willing to help keep a group moving along the trails (a knowledge of the trail system at HB is helpful) and looking for and photographing the organisms. People who are not familiar with iNaturalist can get some instruction from Adam Zorn at H-B.

Another BIG need is for people to photograph the birds that Al Eibel will be banding. He is planning on being there all day both days (probably 8:00 to about 4:00) and he needs a photographer. I would like for us to be able to schedule people in 2-hour shifts. This will be a pretty easy job. Just sit there, take pictures with either a camera or smart-phone and then either put them on iNaturalist or download them to Adam for him to enter.

We will have a sign up sheet at the March & April meetings for these opportunities. I hope we can get LOTS of participation from CAS members. There are so many fun ways to help & it will not have to be in either of these 2 ways. Just going there on those days and walking the trails alone while documenting the things you find will be a big part of the Bio-Blitz.

From Adam Zorn at Huston-Brumbaugh.

The Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center is participating in the City Nature Challenge 2018 as part of the Cleveland region team organized by the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. The entire Cleveland-Akron-Canton area is able to participate including the following counties: Cuyahoga, Lake, Geauga, Medina, Lorain, Portage, Summit, Stark, Carroll, Ashtabula, Tuscarawas, Erie and Huron. The City Nature Challenge 2018 takes place April 27-30, 2018 and the Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center is organizing a bioblitz on the weekend of April 28 & 29 in support of this event. Over 60 cities worldwide will be competing to see who can make the most observations of nature, find the most species, and engage the most people in the worldwide 2018 City Nature Challenge.

Participating in the City Nature Challenge and/or the Nature Center's bioblitz is pretty easy.

Find Wildlife - It can be any plant, animal, fungi, slime mold, or any other evidence of life (scat, fur, tracks, shells, carcasses)

you find. Take a Picture of What you Find - Be sure to note the location of the critter or plant.

Share Your Observations - By uploading your findings to the projects on iNaturalist.

The Cleveland team has a project site to collect observations ([https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/city-nature-challenge-2018-](https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/city-nature-challenge-2018-cleveland)

cleveland).

The Nature Center has a project to collect observations (<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/huston-brumbaugh-nature-center-biodiversity-project>).

Now that you have the gist of what the City Nature Challenge is, I'd like you to consider participating and encouraging your friends and family to do the same! Of course the Nature Center stands to benefit from having a number of people walking around with cell phones photographing and uploading data to its biodiversity project, but there are some benefits to participants too!

For many people, this might be the first time participating in a bioblitz. Bioblitzes are fun, and participants are certainly going to see things they've never seen before.

Citizen science is an emerging discipline within the larger science community, and this is a great introduction to how crowd-sourced data collection can be utilized to gather quantities of data no single scientist or group of researchers could ever collect on their own.

Because iNaturalist uses a community of professional scientists, natural resource professionals, professional naturalists, and amateur naturalists to validate observations, it's a great way for newcomers to join in without fear of adding incorrect data. The iNaturalist app has some amazing Artificial Intelligence skills for identifying photographic observations, and the iNaturalist community can correct any mistaken identifications through community review. It's a great way to learn!

The Nature Center's bioblitz will have a variety of guided activities such as bird banding, bird walks, and wildflower walks in addition to on-site instruction for those looking to self-guide their exploration. If you want to lead a guided activity, please let me know! If participation in the Nature Center's bioblitz on April 28 & 29 doesn't fit in to your personal schedule, consider carving out some time on Friday, April 27 or Mon, April 30 to contribute sightings from the Nature Center or anywhere else in the counties listed above. Observations submitted from the Nature Center can be added to both projects mentioned above. Observations from elsewhere can be added to the Cleveland City Nature Challenge project referenced above. In any case, I think participation would be a rewarding experience.

The free iNaturalist app has use beyond the 4-day event. Sightings can be uploaded anytime from anywhere, even if it's used merely for curiosity (What's that insect? I don't know. Let's take a picture and put it on iNaturalist to find out).

Thank you for your time and consideration. If there are any questions, please contact the Nature Center at naturecenter@mountunion.edu, or Adam Zorn, zornas@mountunion.edu.