

Audubon *News and Views*



Volume 57

Newsletter of the Canton Audubon Society
A Chapter of the National Audubon Society
Established 1962



Issue No. 4

January / February 2018

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 its 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 PARKS EXPLORATION GATEWAY, 5712 - 12th St., NW, Canton. You will receive *AUDUBON NEWS & VIEWS* September/October issue with our calendar of activities for the entire meeting year.

Visit our website: www.cantonaudubon.org, or phone 330-832-2491 for further information about activities.

Calendar

January

- Tue. 1 Early **Tri-Reservoir Christmas Bird Count.** No information available. Try contacting Laura Dornan, at 330-875-3421, ldornan68@att.net to see if she can help you with further information.
- Sat. 5 9:30 a.m. **CAS Board Meeting**, North Branch Library, room #1
- Wed. 16 7:00 p.m. **CAS Regular Meeting "Veery Song Research"** presented by Courtney Brennan, Collections Manager, Dept. of Ornithology, Cleve. Museum of Natural History.
See [January Meeting Preview](#), page 2.

February

- Wed. 20 7:00 p.m. **CAS Regular Meeting "Member's Night"** presented by CAS members.
See [February Meeting Preview](#), page 2.

Great Backyard Bird Count

Fri.-Mon. 15-18th **2019 Great Backyard Bird Count** Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center (Friday, Sunday, Monday).

Every February, count for as little as 15 minutes in your own backyard to help expand our understanding of birds.

The Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) is a free, fun, and easy event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations. Participants are asked to count birds for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as they wish) on one or more days of the four-day event and report their sightings online at birdcount.org. Anyone can take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count, from beginning bird watchers to experts, and you can participate from your backyard, or anywhere in the world.

Each checklist submitted during the GBBC helps researchers at the **Cornell Lab of Ornithology** and the **National Audubon Society** learn more about how birds are doing, and how to protect them and the environment we share.

This count is so fun because anyone can take part—we all learn and watch birds together—whether you are an expert, novice, or feeder watcher. I like to invite new birders to join me and share the experience. Get involved, invite your friends, and see how your favorite spot stacks up." - Gary Langham, Audubon's Chief Scientist. For more on the results of the latest GBBC, take a look at the **GBBC Summary**.

Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center, Alliance, will be a participation hot-spot if you would rather count at their facility rather than your own back yard. Check in with Adam Zorn, Program Manager at H-B. The Center's physical address is 16146 Daniel St., NE, Minerva. It is a University of Mt Union facility, and is south of Alliance on OH Rte. 163. Their phone number is 330-829-8988, email address is: naturecenter@mountunion.edu. Join the nature center staff and volunteers. The GBBC count will not take place at H-B on Saturday because there will be an Ohio Volunteer Certified Naturalist training taking place on in the observation room.

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January 16 Meeting Preview

“Veery Song Research”

Presented by Courtney Brennan

The Veery is a Neotropical migrant thrush whose breeding range spreads across southern Canada and the northeastern United States, and their breeding range narrows as it continues south through the higher elevations in the Appalachian Mountains. Despite their wide distribution, this species is poorly understood in many regards- including a clear and basic description of song structure and an investigation into geographic song variation. This lecture presents an updated description of Veery song and singing patterns and on how elements of Veery songs vary geographically across the Appalachian Mountains.

Courtney Brennan is the Ornithology Collections Manager of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. The actual title of her program is *Song Structure and Variation in the Veery (Catharus fuscescens) in the Appalachian Mountains*.

Courtney is a Cleveland native and graduated from Cleveland State University with a Master's degree in Environmental Science with research focused on birdsong variation. Her work at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History began as avian specimen preparator before being promoted to Collections Manager for the Ornithology Department. As Collections Manager Courtney assists in the curation, care, and maintenance of the museum's 32,000 avian study skins, 4,000 eggs and nests, and its 2,000 osteological specimens. She also coordinates weekly volunteer specimen preparation sessions, which adds approximately 500 new specimens to the Ornithology collection annually.

Refreshments for tonight, courtesy of Linda & Scott Watkins.

February 20 Meeting Preview

“Member's Night”

Presented by YOU, The Members

Canton Audubon Society gives each member the opportunity to present a mini-program to members attending our annual Member's Night. Have you seen an interesting bird, traveled to an interesting place, or conducted research – on your own, or with others?

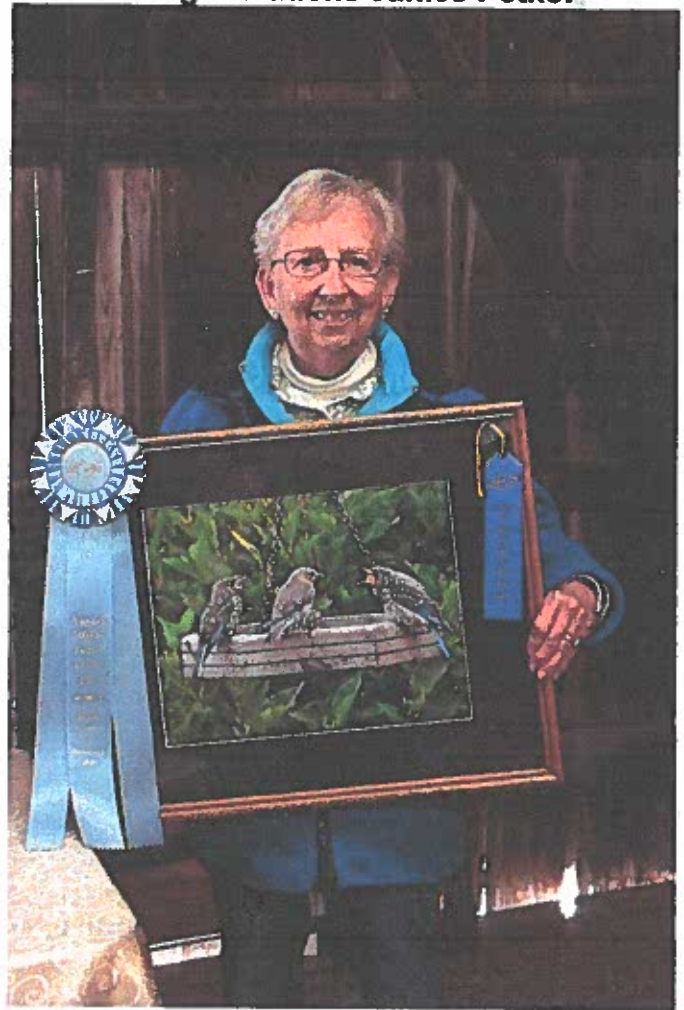
If you can answer ‘yes’, then we would like to know about it. It is your chance to shine, to give a short presentation. Bring what you need to inform and entertain those present at the meeting. If you have a laptop, you can connect to the park's on-site digital projector.

If you have questions, contact either Scott Watkins (ssawatkin@kent.edu) or 330-209-1261) or Alan Dolan (leelandolan@yahoo.com) or 330-832-2491)

Refreshments: **NO ONE HAS VOLUNTEERED FOR TONIGHT'S REFRESHMENTS – ANY VOLUNTEERS?**



Congratulations Janice Petko!



Canton Audubon member Janice Petko won the popular choice award at the Algonquin Mill Art and Photo Show at the festival as well as first place in the category for the picture.

The festival is held each October in Carrollton – Carroll County – in the Atwood Lake region of Ohio.

The mill area also happens to be the area which Janice frequents because she maintains a blurbitf box trail at the mill.

Contratulations Janice!!! We will be looking forward to seeing some of your photographic work at CAS' member's night at our February 20 meeting.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

by Laura Dorman

Another of our scholarship recipients has responded to my inquiry about what they are doing now and where life has taken them. **Courtney Armsey** received the Arnold Fritz Memorial Scholarship in 2013. She was a student at Malone University and she majored in oology and wildlife biology.

In her scholarship application, Courtney stated that she would like to work at a zoo in conservation and education, working with endangered species and educating people about how our actions impact the environment. But, as she began looking into careers in the animal conservation

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field, she realized how limited her choices were. Still passionate about making a difference and protecting the environment, she looked for a different path to this goal. She returned to Malone to receive a Masters Degree in Education for School Counseling. Now she is working to change the future by working at Jackson High School where she works with the Outdoor Club. Last year they worked with Stark Parks to clean up the Towpath.

In her letter, Courtney stated "...I am doing well and happy to be where I am. I thank you for caring so deeply about me and my future and helping me along the way. I will make sure to reach out to you and the Audubon Society if there ever becomes an opportunity to work together – and I hope you do the same." If there ever is any question about the importance of offering this scholarship, I believe Courtney's letter clearly shows the effect it can have in the lives of these young people. Not necessarily financially – that is minimal. But to know that so many people support them, care about them, and are interested in them. To know that doing their best to make a difference is important. I hope we will continue to hear from Cortney but we will always be proud of her.



CAS BUSINESS SUPPORTERS

THE LADY BUG GARDEN CENTER & GIFT SHOP

Donna Mafako Landscape Services

8361 Portage St, NW Massillon
330-832-7080

Lawn care, Hardscapes, Snow Removal

Spring/Fall Cleanup, Tree & Shrub Services

M - F 8-6 Sat 9-5 Sun. 10-3

HARTVILLE ELEVATOR

111 Prospect Ave, N Hartsville

330-877-9320

M - F 8-5 Sat. 8 - Noon Sun. Closed

HUSTON-ORINBAUGH NATURE CENTER

University of Mount Union

16146 Daniel St, NE Minerva

330-823-7487

M - F 9-4 Sat. 1-5 Sun. 1-5
Mon. - Closed

STARK COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

Administration:

5300 Tyner St, NW Canton 44708

330-477-3552

The Exploration Gateway (EG):

5712 - 12th St, NW Canton 44708

330-409-8096

StarkParks.com

Canton Audubon Society's Arnold W. Fritz Memorial Scholarship For Environmental Stewardship \$1,000

Since the deadline for scholarship applications of March 1, 2019 is drawing near, here is some of the pertinent information about requirement to apply. We do send the scholarship information to local colleges, but publicizing it in our newsletter AN&V is another way to get the information out.

The stated purpose of the scholarship is:

To encourage college students, through financial support, to study environmental science, conservation, natural history and nature-related subjects, including environmental law.

Eligibility:

- * Junior, Senior or Graduate student at time of award. (May be a Sophomore at time of application)
- * Majoring in any environmental science discipline or in law or business with full intent on pursuing a career in the environmental field.
- * Reside in OR attend school in any of the following Ohio counties:
Ashland, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Guemsey, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Know, Mahoning, Medina, Muskingum, Portage, Stark, Summit, Tuscarawas, Wayne.
- * For further information and application forms go to:
www.cantonaudubon.org

Application deadline is March 1, 2019

Since the scholarship's inception in 2010, CAS has awarded 8 - \$ 1,000 scholarships, listed below, along with their college and course of study.

- 2010 - Stephànie Jarvis, Geology
College of Wooster
- 2011 - Kaitlyn Lowry, Environmental Studies
Hiram College
- 2012 - Anna Mudd, Geology
College of Wooster
- 2013 - Courtney Armsey, Zoology & Wildlife Biology
Malone University
- 2014 - Shelby Kaplin, Environmental Studies
Dennison University
- 2015 - No application was received. However, a \$250 Scholarship was awarded to Carrie Elvie, a Naturalist at The Wilderness Center, for her to attend a week-long class at Audubon's Hog Island Camp in Maine..
- 2016 - No application was received.
- 2017 - Calie Granger, Masters, Plant Health Mgmt.
The Ohio State University - OARDC
Elaine Souder, Doctorate of Law -
Environmental Policy & Analysis, and
Environmental Law.
- 2018 - James Fuller, PhD in Evolution, Ecology and
Organismal Biology - The Ohio State Univ.

CAS Chimney Swift Tower Project

by Connie Rubin & Scott Watkins,
and Alan Dolan

In early spring of 2016, Canton Audubon Society conservation committee members got together to discuss projects that will create opportunities for outreach and education. Of the projects discussed, building a chimney swift tower was the one decided upon. The tower would serve as an overnight roosting location for hundreds of chimney swifts, and an annual nesting location for one lucky chimney swift couple. As many of the members had not been involved in such a project before much was to be learned.

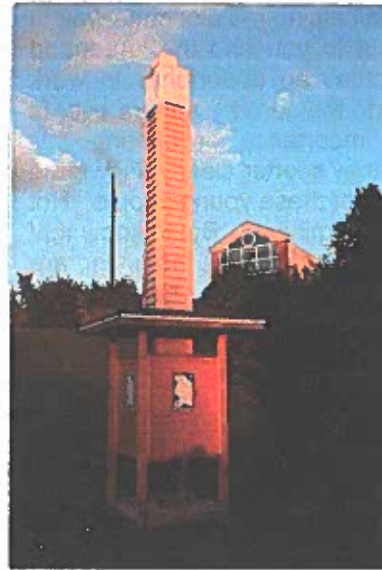
First the idea had to be researched, a location decided upon, and a builder must be found. The last of these definitely became the most time consuming. A meeting was arranged with Stark Parks Natural Resource Department to discuss placing the chimney swift tower at a location on the grounds by the Sippo Lake Exploration Gateway. This location benefited both parties, by being a Stark Parks property and the designated location for Canton Audubon Society meetings. A Power Point presentation was created for the meeting to explain the conservation status of chimney swifts and the present need for the chimney swift tower and possible designs. The timing showed to be a great match for Stark Parks, as the Natural Resource Department had been discussing the possibility of such a project.

Canton Audubon VP Scott Watkins wrote up a project proposal and presented it to Stark Parks to secure its approval for the program, the location and future maintenance. After receiving Stark Parks approval, a location on the ground needed to be decided upon. After some research on best locations, a meeting was arranged with Judy Semroc of Cleveland Museum of Natural History as she has a great deal of experience with chimney swifts and chimney swift tower projects. Judy was scheduled as the program presenter for the CAS' Annual Holiday dinner December 2017. The tower would need to be located in a location both suitable for Stark Parks and in a location in which Chimney swifts would hopefully notice the tower and choose it as a roosting/nesting location. Judy and current president of CAS Linda Chen walked the ground and decided on several locations that would be suitable. The locations were given to Stark Parks and the location of the tower was set.

Now that the location was set, the next step was to secure funding for the project and find a builder. Thanks to the generosity of Canton Audubon Society members the fund raising came very easy with little effort. In a very short period over \$1000 dollars was raised for the project. Linda Chen then applied for a matching grant for conservation projects from National Audubon Society, under their Chapter Collaborative Grants program. A generous grant of \$800 matching funds, meaning the grant was worth \$800 as long as the Canton Audubon Society would put up a matching total of \$800.

Now to finding a builder, this proved to be the hardest step to the project. Many Boy Scout troops, schools, and known conservation groups were contacted. Newspaper ads were

run, information sheets written and handed out to local organizations. Linda and other members spent many hours searching, finally one day a local Boy Scout was found who was looking for a Eagle Scout project to coordinate. A meeting was arranged with the Boy Scout and his father and the scout would need to present the project to the local troop leaders for approval. Approvals were given and the project was on its way. From this point the Boy Scout needed to find and purchase the needed supplies for the given tower design and choose a date of assembly. Some of the tower construction could happen during the winter of 2017 with the final construction beginning in the spring of 2018.



The Boy Scout, 13 year old Eagle Scout candidate James Kerstetter and his troop, including his family was secured. Several CAS members, headed by CAS president Linda Chen indefatigable advocate for the project. Other committee members included Chris Lamb, Connie Rubin, and Denny Lesko, who gave advice on the tower signage and points for the pollinator garden. Canton Audubon Society members participated in

raising the structure over several weekends.

Thanks are also due to Stark Park's staff Talula Koch, Aimee Englehart, and Director Bob Fonte, Perry Distributors, Inc. and Henderson Roofing and Construction donated building supplies, and Mohler Lumber Company gave the club a gift card to defray miscellaneous costs.

The tower project was completed in July 2018. Many thanks should be given to all the organizations and individuals.

Since funds raised allowed for additional expenditures, purchase of books about chimney swifts for the Sippo Branch Library, and a pollinator garden to be installed around the tower in spring, 2019.

A sign is being created, and will be located at the base of the Tower, by Susan & Dick Akers of Sign Pro of Canton.

Canton Audubon is always look for worth while and relevant conservation projects. Submit your ideas to any CAS officer or director for the board's consideration.

Let's Leave Every Place Better Than We Found it !

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Canton Audubon Society

Lifetime "BALD EAGLE" Memberships

# 1,2	5/13/13	Laura & Tim Dornan
# 3,4	5/28/13	Lee & Alan Dolan
# 5,6	1/15/14	Susan & Jim Massie
# 7	4/2/14	Alice Rini
# 8,9	4/25/14	Diane & Tom Hert
# 10	6/19/14	Barbara Bauer
# 11,12	7/8/14	Sharla & Bob Rohrbaugh
# 13	7/25/14	Kate Webb
# 14,15	7/5/15	Anonymous
# 16	7/22/15	Joe Sommer
# 17	5/18/16	Janice Petko
# 18,19	5/19/16	Linda & Charles Chen
# 20	5/17/17	Marlene Bolea
# 21,22	11/30/17	Beth & Chuck Hewett
# 23	11/3/18	Donna Edwards

Canton Audubon Society just received its 23rd Bald Eagle lifetime membership. If you are considering, or would like to consider such a membership, here are the particulars.

The cost for a single or family membership is a one-time cost of \$ 300 (which is the equivalent of 20 years of Cardinal Chapter Supporter memberships. It is a chapter supporter membership in that the entire amount stays locally, going directly to the Canton Audubon Society. It is not a National Audubon Society membership. See the membership application for other CAS "Chapter Supporter" membership levels, as well at National Audubon membership.

You can join both as a chapter supporter CAS member, AND, a National Audubon Society member by using the application on either page 6 or 8 of each issue.

If you have questions, contact one of the officers/directors, or email the chapter at cantonaudubonsociety@gmail.com, or go to our website www.cantonaudubon.org.

Recycling Back In The Cards

St. Jude's Ranch for Children is currently updating their recycled card program to make it easier for you to support St. Jude's Ranch for Children in their effort to provide teens with life and work skills. The NEW and improved program will be unveiled soon.

In the meantime please SEND, card fronts only, of your recycled cards (**except for Hallmark, American Greetings or Disney**) to:

**St. Jude's Ranch for Children
100 St. Jude's St.,
Boulder City, NV 89005**

Since the holidays are fast-approaching and greeting cards will be arriving soon, thought

we should get this outlet for recycling card fronts to you as quickly as possible. The rest of the card can be sent to your nearest recycling center. Both of these outlets will reduce landfill materials. **THANK YOU!**

Stark Soil & Water - Cooperator of the Year



THE WILDERNESS CENTER

Representing The Wilderness Center, Gary Popotnik, accepted Stark Soil & Water's **Cooperator of the Year** award on behalf of TWC, a 650-acre nature preserve in Wilmot, founded by the Canton Audubon Society in 1964.

The award is given to an individual, organization, or farm family that demonstrates a consistent commitment to protecting & conserving soil, water, other natural resources in Stark County.

The organization was honored for imagining and completing four extensive restoration projects on its preserve. Lead by Wilderness Center's Gary Popotnik, and Adam Beichler, staff, contractors, and volunteers expanded and enhanced a portion of the Sugar Creek, planted over 4,000 trees in an old farm field, removed thousands of invasive species and wild grape vines on 150 acres, and planted 12 species of wildflowers in a field to support pollinators.

U.S. Climate Warning and Deafness

The President of the U.S. may not "believe" in climate change or understand the science behind it, but he cannot control its political, economic and scientific consequences. And, those consequences are bleak.

He has mused, "Whatever happened to Global Warming?" when the Thanksgiving cold spell hit. What he doesn't understand is that climate is not the same as daily weather!

The 1,000 page National Climate assessment report, recently released, is the work of more than 300 authors. The work breaks down climate change impacts across the country. National Audubon Society board member, Terry Root, of Stanford University (CA) is one of the authors.

In short, the effect of warming "threaten the health and well-being of the American people" and "disrupt many areas of life, exacerbating existing challenges and revealing new risks."

But, the warning fell flat for Trump. "I don't believe it," he said when asked about the findings.

Meanwhile, the human race will continue to feel the effects of a hotter planet. The World Meteorological Organization warned of at least a 75% chance that El Nino, a natural ocean-warming phenomenon that scientists say is worsened by climate change, will strike again in 2019.

Canton Audubon Society
 P.O. 9586
 Canton, OH 44711-9586

100% RECYCLED PAPER

- PRESIDENT** - Linda Chen
V.P. - Scott Watkins
SECRETARY - Denise Lesko
TREASURER - Laura Brown
DIRECTORS - Kristen Beck
 - Laura Dornan
 - Laura Dornan
 - Chuck Hewett
 - Jacki Hupp
 - Chris Lamb
 - James Massie
 - Connie Rubin
 - Alan Dolan
 - Alan Dolan
 - Alan Dolan
 - Linda Chen, Alan Dolan,
 Mary Schilstra
 - Lee Dolan
 - Laura Dornan
MEMBERSHIP - Laura Dornan
PROGRAMS/FIELD TRIPS - Scott Watkins, Linda Chen,
 Laura Dornan
PUBLICITY - Connie Rubin
 - Scott Watkins
SOCIAL MEDIA - Scott Watkins
RECYCLING - Diane & Tom Hert
SCHOLARSHIP - Laura Dornan
 - Scott Watkins, Linda Chen
WEB SITE
 www.cantonaudubon.org - Like us on Facebook
 EMAIL: cantonaudubonsociety@gmail.com

CANTON AUDUBON SOCIETY
 Chapter Supporter Membership Application
 Does not include National Audubon Society Membership

_____ **Song Sparrow** (Student) \$ 10
 _____ **Cardinal** (Basic individual / family) \$ 20
 _____ **Bluebird** (Business supporter, 2 years) \$ 50
 _____ **Screech Owl** (Sustaining) \$ 75
 _____ **Bald Eagle** (Life) \$ 300
 _____ **Other** (Name your amount) \$ _____

Introductory National Audubon Society /
 Canton Audubon Society membership \$ 20

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____
 STATE _____ ZIPCODE _____
 EMAIL _____

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 Canton Audubon Society
 P.O. Box 9586
 Canton, OH 44711-9586