



Daviess County  
Audubon Society

# The Goldfinch

[www.daviessaudubon.net](http://www.daviessaudubon.net)

**April 5, 2016 Program:**

A conversation of the future and energy—"The economics of renewable energy technologies and the impact to wild bird populations"

## THE ECONOMICS OF RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES AND THE IMPACT TO WILD BIRD POPULATIONS

**Presenter: —Terrance Naulty**

Owensboro Municipal Utility's General Manager, was appointed to oversee the utility on August 16, 2012. He is responsible for providing leadership to the utility in supplying reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible electric, water and telecommunications to the city of Owensboro Kentucky. Prior to his appointment as General Manager he was Director of Power Marketing at OMU.

Naulty has 30 years of experience in the electric power business and has held many leadership and senior commercial positions. Prior to OMU, he founded and was a partner at Liberty Green Renewables, a biomass to energy development company which was sold to an international infrastructure fund in 2010. His other positions included Managing Director at Fortis Energy Marketing and Trading, Vice President of Origination and Structuring at Cinergy (now Duke Energy), and Vice President of Origination at Reliant Energy. Early in his career, Mr. Naulty worked for Louisville Gas and Electric in plant engineering positions and as Director of Environmental Affairs. For eight years he was a practicing environmental engineer and Senior Project Manager with Radian Corporation (now URS).



Mr. Naulty has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Engineering from Purdue University and is a Professional Engineer. He attended Indiana University's Kelly School of Business. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Greater Owensboro Economic Development Corporation and is the past president and current treasurer of the Southern Indiana Kennel Club.

## April Newsletter Calendar:

- Apr 5:** DCAS monthly program, "*Conversation on Energy*" by Terrence Naulty OMU, the program starts at 7 p.m., Brescia University Campus Center Study Pavilion.
- April 6th** Owensboro Museum of Science and History- "Curious about woodpeckers?" (Spring Break!) - to learn who's who, what they eat, why they drum and more. Wednesday, at 11:00 A.M.
- Apr 9:** Trash for Cash fundraising project, meet at Audubon elementary school (60W) at 8:00 a.m.
- Apr 11:** DCAS board meeting, 9:30 a.m. Judy's house.
- Apr 22-3:** DCAS overnight weekend field trip to Shakertown Village.
- June:** Picnic item--Annual Elections!

# EVERYDAY (SHOULD BE) EARTH DAY

Earth Day 2016 is officially April 22<sup>nd</sup>, but we at DCAS think every day should be Earth Day. So... we've been working with the Sierra Club and the Owensboro Museum of Science and History to put on a series of environmentally educational events. Our April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting with OMU's Terry Naulty will kick off the conversation about the future of clean energy. Then we'll put our words into action with Cash for Trash on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be two opportunities to hear environmentalist Alan Drake...a lecture on climate change on Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> and a brown bag lunch at the Museum on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Museum is currently featuring "River Works Discovery" throughout the month.

DCAS will have a table on Sat. morning, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, as Watershed Watch and the OCHS Environmental Club will have presentations. If anyone is free to help with this, contact Judy at [jadams11\\_2008@yahoo.com](mailto:jadams11_2008@yahoo.com). The PBS documentary "Sand Wars" will be shown at 2:00 P.M.

Please put these events on your calendar and support the collaboration of like-minded groups!

## ***EARTH DAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS***

**Tuesday, April 5 7:00 P.M.:** DCAS meeting with OMU Gen. Mgr. Terry Naulty

**Saturday, April 9 8:00 A.M. :** Trash for Cash at Audubon Elementary (must be pre-registered)

**Thursday, April 14, 7:00 P.M.:** Sierra Club Meeting at KWC, Eddie Atherton, Owensboro City Arborist

**Thursday, April 21, 7:00 P.M.:** Alan Drake lecture on climate Change at Rogers Hall, KWC

**Friday, April 22 , 11:00 A.M.:** Tree planting at The Grove, KWC

**Ongoing: "River Works Discovery" at OMSH**

**Ongoing: Tree sapling giveaway at OMSH**

**12:00 Noon: Brown Bag Lunch & Alan Drake presentation "Practical Ways to Save Energy"**

**3:00 P.M. : Tree Planting at Owensboro Catholic High School**

**Saturday, April 23, 10:00 A. M. All at OMSH..."River Works Discovery" and Tree Sapling Giveaway**

**10:30 A.M-Noon.:** Watershed Watch Demonstration of water testing

**10:30 A.M.-Noon: Daviess County Audubon , Birding 101**

**2:30 P.M.:** PBS Documentary "Sand Wars"

**Saturday, April 23, 1:00 P.M.:** Demonstration in support of a healthy planet Earth, Tapscott Corner

**Tuesday, April 26, 7:00 P.M.:** Solar Forum at KWC

**"Hello,"**



**Birding. opp—**

# **KY AUDUBON COUNCIL MOVES TO SUPPORT MOTUS IN KY**

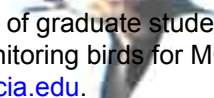


KAC's spring retreat at Rough River State Park resulted in a plan to support adding Kentucky to the network tracking bird migration across the U.S. and Canada. The Motus Wildlife Tracking System is a program of Bird Studies Canada, in partnership with collaborating researchers and organizations. This system tracks all migratory bird species, helping us learn more about their specific routes, breeding and wintering habitats. It involves a combination of miniaturized radio transmitters ("nano-tags") and an expansive network of receivers and is the first of its kind in the world.

KAC is committed to bringing the first receiver to the KY region. At present, the closest receivers are in Northeastern Illinois and Northwestern Ohio. The vast Midwest is a blank space. Each species' tag will emit a specific "beep", allowing that species to be identified and tracked throughout its migration. In addition, other flying species such as bats and other flying animals can also be tracked and studied.

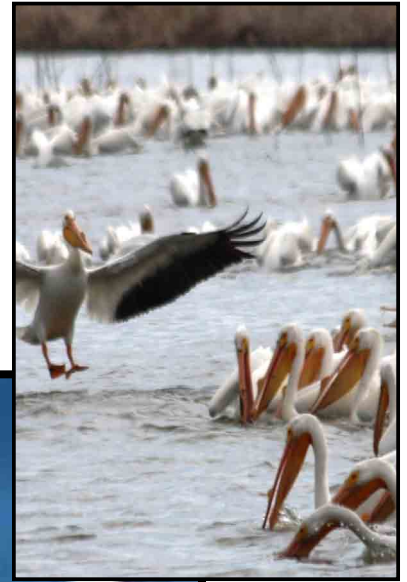
KAC's plan is to earmark funds for purchase and installation of the first receiving tower, collaborating with universities, government agencies and other organizations. After consultation with Bird Studies Canada, we will reach out to KY Fish and Wildlife and universities interested in avian biology to identify the best location for the first tower. The idea of focusing on an IBA (Important Bird Area) drew support from the Council.

This is a major step for the KAC as it builds on the NAS Collaborative funding efforts of the past. Those funds were used for the DCAS Birding 101 kiosk at the Owensboro Museum of Science and History, for a Monarch Watch Station in Frankfort and for binoculars for community outreach in Hopkinsville.

If you are aware of graduate students who may be interested in tagging and monitoring birds for MOTUS, contact David Stratton at [davids@brescia.edu](mailto:davids@brescia.edu).



# “Hello,”



## Birders of All Skill Levels Needed

Our laboratory at Vanderbilt University is looking for birders of all levels of experience to participate in a project examining how perception and memory for birds differs between beginners and experts. We really do mean all levels of experience, from the true beginner to the expert with decades of study, and everything in-between.

These experiments are online on the web. They measure your ability to remember and identify birds and sometimes other animals or objects. Many experiments are fairly short. They can be done on any computer, wherever and whenever you decide to do them.

One of our current experiments is a bird identification test. ***Go online and test your birding skills.***

This is the web site for our experiments:  
<http://expertise.psy.vanderbilt.edu>

Once you register your own login id and password on the site, and complete a short survey of your birding expertise, you will be able to participate in any experiments that are available. We expect to add new experiments over time. Some future experiments may include modest compensation.

If you have questions, please contact Professor Thomas Palmeri ([thomas.j.palmeri@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:thomas.j.palmeri@vanderbilt.edu)) at Vanderbilt University.

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## Goose Pond Tally

Bald Eagle  
 Northern Harrier  
 Rough-legged Hawk  
 Great Blue Heron  
 White Pelican  
 Turkey Vulture  
 Red-tailed Hawk  
 American Kestrel  
 Eastern Meadowlark  
 Mourning Dove  
 American Robin  
 Crow  
 Turkey  
 Song Sparrow  
 Turkey  
 American Goldfinch  
 Killdeer  
 Red-winged Blackbird  
 Common Grackle



Hahus Photos— white Pelican and some Woodcock nest pics-- Goose Pond and Ben Hawes  
 Rudy Mines



## Ohio Valley Birding Festival Schedule of Events 2016

**\*\*Note:** For the hikes requiring pre-registration, the registration and payment must be received by the posted due date. Please send payment including your phone number, street address and email address to "Evansville Audubon Society," c/o LD Harry, 4600 Surrey Way, Evansville, IN, 47725." Please make checks payable to Evansville Audubon Society.

For hikes where transportation is provided, no private vehicles will be allowed to caravan. Please choose appropriate footwear as many hike areas present marshy conditions.

### Friday, April 15

#### *Patoka River NWR Birding Hike*

7:00 AM CDT

Meet at Boyd Woods, Oakland City, IN.

**Fee:** Free. No pre-registration required.

**Duration:** Approximately 2 to 3 hours. **Sturdy shoes recommended for primitive portion of trail.**

**Directions:** East on SR 64 out of Oakland City 1 mile from SR 357 (Main) to CR 1275E (look for Refuge sign). Turn left and follow signs to Snakey Point Marsh and continue on to parking lot on left at Boyd Woods (Maxey Marsh on right).

Join us for a birding walk through Boyd Woods in search of warblers and other migratory songbirds, continuing the hike past Snakey Point Marsh for possible views of waterfowl and marsh birds, and ending at a little visited portion of Columbia Mine Preserve to look for grassland sparrows.

### Saturday, April 16

#### *Birding the Audubon Wetlands*

8:00 AM CDT

Audubon Museum, John James Audubon State Park.

**Fee:** Free. Pre-registration required\*

**Contact** Jackie Crowley at (270) 826-2247 or [jjc.rec@ky.gov](mailto:jjc.rec@ky.gov). Max 12-15

**Duration:** approximately 2 hours

Program departs from Audubon Museum. Participants should be experienced bird watchers. Walking component is weather dependent. A new property purchase significantly increased the size of Audubon State Park. Help us identify this bottomland forest property's bird guests. This property has a heron rookery and an active bald eagle nest. Registration ends on April 8.

#### *Audubon's Bird Migration Walks*

8:30 AM CDT

Audubon Museum, John James Audubon State Park.

**Fee:** Free. No pre-registration required

**Duration:** approximately 1.5 hours

John James Audubon State Park's Beech-Maple forest is an urban oasis for woodland and shore birds. In addition to the seven woodpecker species, several neotropical migrants make the park their home. Species spotted on these hikes include: Eastern Bluebird, Yellow-throated Warbler, Baltimore Oriole, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Scarlet and Summer Tanagers, Indigo Bunting, Prothonotary Warbler, and White-eyed and Red-eyed Vireos. New birders welcome.

#### *Owl Pellet Dissection*

10:30 AM CDT

Audubon Museum, John James Audubon State Park

**Fee:** Free. No pre-registration required

**Duration:** approximately 1 hour

Owls hunt for many different types of prey. Discover what critters these nocturnal hunters seek out by dissecting a sterilized owl pellet.

#### *Hands-on Bird Banding Workshop*

11:30 AM CDT

Audubon Museum, John James Audubon State Park

**Fee:** Free. No pre-registration required

**Duration:** approximately 1.5 hours

Come and help us with an ongoing conservation project as we catch, identify, band, and release birds from the John James Audubon State Park. Bird banding helps us understand bird migration and movements, behavior, social structure, lifespan and survival rates, and population growth. This is a great opportunity for spotting early migratory birds and connecting with nature, so bring a camera!

#### *Miracle of Migration: An Avian Phenomenon presented by Sharon Sorenson*

1:00 PM CDT

John James Audubon State Park Museum

**Fee:** Free. No pre-registration required

**Duration:** approximately 1 hour

Some birds weighing no more than a nickel fly thousands of miles from the tropics to nest in the Tri-State. Why would they do that? How do they find their way? How many weeks does the flight take? How do they survive along the way? Learn the answers and more when Sharon Sorenson, newspaper columnist and author of *Birds in the Yard* Month by Month, shares these birds' amazing stories.

#### *Explore Raptors*

3:00 PM CDT

Audubon Museum, John James Audubon State Park

**Fee:** Free. No pre-registration required

**Duration:** approximately 1 hour

Using live birds, participants will learn the characteristics of birds of prey, their role in the ecosystem, and how interactions with humans have impacted these majestic creatures.

### Sunday, April 17

#### *Eagle Slough Natural Area Birding Hike*

7:00 AM CDT

Meet at the entrance to Eagle Slough located on Waterworks Road, just north of Ellis Park.

**Fee:** Free. No pre-registration required

**Duration:** approximately 2 hours

Eagle Slough is one of the most recent local areas to be returned to its natural state.

Join us for a birding walk through this 127-acre urban wetland area. Expect to see warblers and other migratory songbirds. Species observed on this hike may include: Wood Duck, Winter Wren, warblers, vireos, thrushes, tanagers and late shorebirds.

#### *Junior Birders Hike @ Wesselman Woods Nature Preserve*

3:00 PM CDT

Wesselman Woods Nature Center

**Fee:** Free. No preregistration required

**Duration:** 1-2 hours

Join the Jr. Birders for a bird hike through Wesselman Woods. The hike will be led by several Evansville Audubon Society members with the Jr. Birders assisting. Appropriate for children ages 8-18 accompanied by an adult. Binoculars will be provided.

"Bird—not a bird?"  
OVBF Stuff.





## Ohio Valley Birding Festival Schedule of Events 2016

continued.....

### Friday, May 6

#### *Birding the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge*

5:30 AM CDT

Wesselman Woods Nature Preserve

Fee: \$20 includes transportation only. Pre-registration required\*-

contact LD Harry @ 812-867-0144 and leave a message including your phone #.

Duration: approximately 7 hours. Expected return 1:00 PM CDT

Meet at Wesselman Woods Nature Preserve and join Wildlife Refuge Specialist Heath Hamilton as he leads an outing to Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge. The trip will hit the birding hot spots while traveling through one of the best remaining bottomland hardwood forests left in the Midwest. Participants should expect to see songbirds, shorebirds, and wetland-dependent marshbirds. Registration ends April 29. Please wear appropriate footwear for marshy conditions. Maximum 12-15. No food or drink will be provided but coolers will be available.

### Saturday, May 7

#### *Big Day of Birding*

4:00 AM CDT

Wesselman Woods Nature Preserve

Fee: \$25 includes transportation only. Pre-registration required\*-

contact LD Harry @ 812-867-0144 and leave a message including your phone #.

Duration: 12 to 14 hours. Expected return 7:00 PM CDT

Join us and participate in our Big Day of Birding event. We will scout the tri-state for most species seen in one day. Please wear appropriate footwear for marshy conditions. Registration ends on April 29. No food or drink will be provided but coolers will be available.

### Sunday, May 8

#### *Squaw Creek Mine/Bluegrass Birding Hike and other Warrick County stops*

7:00 AM CDT

Wesselman Woods Nature Preserve

Fee: \$20 includes transportation only. Pre-registration required\*-

contact LD Harry @ 812-867-0144 and leave a message including your phone #.

Duration: approximately 7 hours. Expected return 2:00 PM CDT

Meet at Wesselman Woods Nature Preserve and join local birder Jim Campbell as he guides an outing geared toward novice birders who want to learn more about birds and places to see them. Stops will include grasslands where Blue Grosbeaks, Bell's Vireo and Dickcissels could be seen, upland woods for spring warblers and woodpeckers and open areas with lakes where hawks, possibly some late waterfowl and a Bald Eagle may reside. Registration ends on April 29. Maximum 12-15. No food or drink will be provided but coolers will be available.

# FROM THE BACKYARD

This might come as a shock but Mike Brown and I went on a birding expedition mid March into Louisiana in a group looking for Ivory Billed Woodpeckers, and came back with a surprise. Look for the article in the newspaper.

On our way back to the hotel from our last field trip with the group, in our backpack was a small baby jack-alope.

Now, this was odd, in lots of reasons, in color, and just being weird. Slightly green but also blue under its feet. This coloration was only known to be of a certain genus located and usually only in South Africa.

The fur was bristly in texture, and the head was an odd shape, in that it was both a normal shape but also oblong ellipse in shape.

Also, it had a odd odor, that of, well, pine. but an odd pine smell. That of, say, lemons. It is how we found it in our backpack, in noticing the smell first.

The local geologist from our group was interested in a few of the details where and when we might have stumbled enough into something to have this come to rest in our backpack. So were we.

And if you are still reading, remember today is April 1, 2016.

Go bird count folks. or, just look.

Remember:

—bring a friend to our monthly program.

—take a friend birding.  
—take a friend along to one of  
our field trips.  
- DS

David Stratton  
davids@brescia.edu



Hmmm.,

Pelican?

--

...

Ok Folks, Get out there and birdwatch.

huh?