



Audubon *Miami Valley*

March 2005, Volume 31, Issue 1

[A Newsletter from the Miami Valley Chapter of the National Audubon Society]

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I write, I shiver at the very thought of temperatures outside in the single digits. But wait! By the time you are reading these words, the freezing winds will be mere memories (I hope). Such is the time lag between my writing and your reading.

This newsletter should reach you easily in March, and we all know that March is "in like a lion and out like a lamb." More poetically, Shakespeare writes in *The Winter's Tale*:

**Daffodils,
That come before the swallow
dares, and take
The winds of March with
beauty.**

Dang, it's hard to remember that in January!

But in fact, March begins a great season to dust off the hiking boots, grab a jacket (and maybe a raincoat), and head for the great outdoors. For example, you can join AMV members heading for Muscatatuck NWR on March 12, Spring Valley in April, and both northwest Ohio and eastern Indiana in May. Check out the list of field trips elsewhere in this issue for more information.

Fun as these field trips are, you don't need AMV leaders to enjoy the wonders of nature. Consider the words of Ellis Peters, who wrote, "Every spring is the only spring — a perpetual astonishment." So true, and you can find that astonishment in a nearby park, just down the road, or even in your own back yard. Why not check out the Audubon At Home program for help in making your yard a little

Continued on page 8

CITIZEN SCIENCE

105th Christmas Bird Count Results

Last year marked the 105th anniversary of the original Audubon Christmas Bird Count which began on Christmas Day in 1900. It now incorporates more than 1600 bird counts and involves more than 50,000 participants throughout the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, the U.S. territories, Canada, Bermuda, parts of Mexico, the Caribbean, and the Pacific islands. The data collected for each count are sent to the National Audubon Society, which publishes the complete results each year in the Christmas Bird Count issue of the *Audubon Field Notes*.

This was the 74th Oxford count. The Oxford, Ohio, CBC had its unofficial beginning in 1931 when Dr. Robert Hefner made a Christmas Day census finding 50 birds of 11 species. In 1933, Dr. Hefner changed the count format to include the entire Christmas week. The Christmas week censuses were run until 1936 when the official CBC rules were adopted. With the 1938 count the Oxford CBC was officially recognized and its results published in *Bird-Lore*. Last year our dawn-to-dusk census of local bird species covered a circle 15 miles in diameter, centered near Oxford, Ohio and was conducted according to rules of the National Audubon Society.

Thirty-two birdwatchers were on hand for the Oxford Christmas Bird Count on Saturday, December 18th. Nice weather (21 to 37 degrees and clear and sunny) brought out both the birdwatchers and the



A Barred Owl and an American Goldfinch

PHOTOS BY R. HAYS CUMMINS

birds. Whereas in 2003 we had 26 people, last year we were still not as many as our all-time high of 51 people in 1996. In the latest count AMVers came up with a total of 66 species (67 if we count one lost domestic Muscovy Duck), yet short of the record 74 species seen in 1974. The number of birds tallied was 6,785 individuals, considerably above our 12-year average of 5909. Of special note among the sightings were 1,895 European Starlings (our most frequent species as usual). Two species new to our count were the Blue-winged Teal and the Northern Shoveler ducks. While these two species of ducks are not unusual around here, we have never before picked them up on our annual Christmas Bird Count. Our duck populations are yet steadily in decline since Acton Lake has been opened to duck hunting, especially during the time of our Christmas Bird

Continued on page 8

Looking Forward with Audubon

Audubon Miami Valley Events, Field Trips and Activities

2005 Lecture Schedule

March 7

Cindy Grau, Debbie Grant,
& Gail Reynolds
Rosie Bloom Recipients

A Hog Island Summer

(Note: Meet at the Manchester Inn, 1027 Manchester Ave., Middletown, OH) Cindy Grau, Debbie Grant, and Gail Reynolds, three area high school teachers, received Rosie Bloom scholarships this past summer. They spent a week at the Hog Island Audubon Camp in Maine studying ornithology and environmental science. Come and learn how this experience has enhanced their teaching and enriched their lives. Hog Island is where Roger Tory Peterson, Ken Kaufman, and Steve Kress, among others, revealed the wonderful world of birds to generations of teachers and students.

April 11

David Russell
Founder and Director,
Avian Research and Education Institute
Spring Time in Southwest Ohio

Dave teaches ornithology at Miami University and this past year established the Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) bird banding station and sites at Hueston Woods State Park. Dave will get us ready for spring migration and the avalanche of birds that will soon descend upon us by sharing insights into how to find and identify some of our returning bird species. Dave has been known to test his audience to see just what they know and what they have learned, so be prepared!

May 9

Larry Frimerman
Executive Director,
Three Valley Conservation Trust
Join us as we learn how the face of land preservation is changed and enhanced in southwestern Ohio. The Three Valley Conservation Trust, established in 1993,

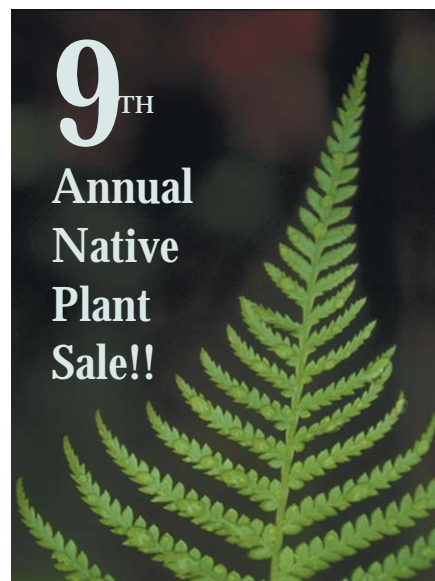
works to conserve the natural environment and cultural heritage in the Four Mile, Seven Mile, Indian Creek and Twin Creek valleys. With more than 4000 acres in conservation easements the Trust is a leading force in the preservation of habitat important to birds and other wildlife.

Lecture Information

The public (including non-AMV members) is welcome at all events of Audubon Miami Valley.

Questions or comments can be directed to Hardy Eshbaugh, Program Chair (eshbauwh@one.net or 513.523.9305).

All lectures are scheduled at 7:30 p.m. at the Lebanon Citizen's National Bank, 30 Park Place West (located in Uptown Oxford on the Square) unless otherwise noted.



9TH
Annual
Native
Plant
Sale!!

2005 Field Trip Schedule

March 12

Muscatatuck NWR

Contact: Chuck Holliday
Ducks, ducks and more ducks as they head north! Located less than 100 miles from us near Seymour, Indiana, Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge offers more than 7,000 acres of fields, lakes, ponds, and marshes to attract great numbers of migrating ducks. Special entrance into the back stretches and prohibited areas is a great possibility. Meet at the Lowes parking lot on Colerain Avenue (Rt. 27) at 7:00 a.m.

April 9, 10

Prairie Ridge State Natural Area Newton, Illinois

Contact: David R. Osborne
It's your chance to see the Greater Prairie Chicken and other endangered prairie species. Cost: \$75.00/person; includes transportation, lodging, snacks, donation to Audubon Miami Valley. Limit 12. For reservations contact David R. Osborne (513) 523-6404.

April 23

Spring Valley

Contact: Chuck Holliday
Let's get our necks ready to look up so we can spend plenty of time checking out the early migrants. This state wildlife area, located near Waynesville, Ohio, offers an excellent variety of habitats, a great boardwalk into the marsh, and easy walking trails. Prothonotary Warblers, Virginia Rails and Red-headed Woodpeckers all nest here. Meet at the east end parking lot of the Middletown Mall at 7:00 a.m. to carpool.

May 7

Warbler Walk

Contact: Larry Sherman
Did you know that we live right in the thick of the warbler migration belt? Join us for our annual Warbler Walk at Kathy Hunter and Ron Huffmeier's farm in nearby Indiana to search for these neotropical jewels of spring. Meet at 7:30 a.m. (Ohio time) at the parking lot of the Oxford Wal-Mart, located on Locust Street.

May 10-12

Crane Creek Birding Safari

Contact: Bill Heck
Join us on our annual trip to one of the best birding spots in the entire U.S. This 3-day trip covers lots of territory between here and Lake Erie. It's probably one of the best value birding trips in the country! Food (with the exception of dinner), lodging, and transportation, along with expert guides, will cost less than \$200/person. Participation however is limited to the first 20 registrants. Reserve your space soon by contacting Bill Heck at 513-523-7715 or heckwc@muohio.edu.

Field Trip Information

1. The public (including non-AMV members) is welcome at all events of Audubon Miami Valley. All field trips are free unless noted.
2. Notice for any trip that must be cancelled for any reason will be made on the AMV web site as soon as it is known. If it is raining or snowing the morning of a field trip, call the field trip coordinator (Chuck Holliday, 513-863-6223) to confirm that the trip will be held, or to receive alternate instructions.
3. Responsibility release: All persons knowingly participate in listed events at their own risk.
4. For more information on any listed trip, to suggest a location for a field trip, to locate a specific bird for your life list, or to volunteer to lead a field trip, please contact Chuck Holliday at 513-863-6223 or Chuck76029@aol.com.
5. Join our AMV Members listserv. Receive field trip notices, schedules of upcoming monthly programs, and Citizen Science activities. To join, visit: <http://listserv.muohio.edu/archives/amvmembers.html>. It's free and open to everyone, even non-members!
6. For membership information, please visit our website: www.orgs.muohio.edu/AudubonMiamiValley

June 11

Clear Creek Metropark

Contact: Dave Dister
We will be looking for nesting Blue-winged Warblers at this Franklin County MetroPark in Hocking Hills. Meet at the east end parking lot of the Middletown Mall at 7:00 a.m. to carpool.

June 14-16

Kirtland's Warbler Trip

Contact: Jim Reid
Travel to Mio, Michigan to see one of the rarest warblers in North America. Expense cost sharing should be around \$250/person, and will include \$10 donations to Miami University's Natural Areas and Audubon Miami Valley. Trip limited to 8 participants, so pre-register now! Reserve your space by contacting Chuck Holliday at 513-863-6223 or Chuck76029@aol.com.



Logo
Contest
Winner
Chosen

Jeanette Jaskula, AMV Communications Chair, announces: If you haven't already noticed, Audubon Miami Valley has a new logo! Check out the banner on Page 1 and you will find a beautiful Meadowlark, the new symbol for conservation and environmental awareness for AMV. Caitlin Stone, a junior zoology major at Miami University in Oxford, was the winner of our logo contest a few months ago.

Caitlin is interested in environmental education and hopes to become involved in scientific illustration or wildlife art. Many thanks to Caitlin for her wonderful work and many thanks to all our logo contest participants!

Environmental Opportunities for All Kids

Earth Club is off to a great start in 2005 with about 60 members. We have one all 5th grade session at Kramer School and two sessions at Marshall School that include 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. Once again we have more students interested than time and volunteers permit. Thanks to the Talawanda teachers, Beth Reagh, Joanne Williamson, Maria Lindley, and Gail Reynolds who make these after school meetings possible! Our invaluable other volunteers include Kay Griffith, Debra Bowles, and several Miami University students. Of course we appreciate the parents who fit one more car trip into their busy schedules so that their children can stay after school for the meetings.

So far this fall we have scoured the nature areas for Scavenger Bingo clues, investigated bats, adopted trees to plant, searched for tracks and other animal signs, and tried not to get lost on compass courses. Many members are second-year veter-

ans and are all very ENTHUSIASTIC. We meet once a month during the school year; make models out of our snacks before we eat — I was particularly impressed by the edible ecosystems — and prod our brains with Mystery of the Day challenges. Our future plans include channeling some of this energy into projects to help our environment, including building bluebird and owl boxes.

Earth Club's motto is "Start Where You Are," and with the generous help of Audubon Miami Valley, the Oxford Community Foundation, and many other local businesses and individuals, we started last year to see if students at this age level had any interest in after school environmental science projects with like-minded peers. And we learned, WOW, there sure are. Earth Club's goal is to give kids of all abilities opportunities to become more aware, more knowledgeable, and more

motivated to solve and prevent environmental problems. If the theory is correct, then in another ten years we'll have more adults more aware, knowledgeable and motivated to protect the Earth!

We hope to expand Earth Club to other schools in the coming school year. If you are interested in volunteering or want to start a club at your school, contact the Environmental Mobile Unit at 513.523.9849 or email Sharon Edwards at sledward@brecnet.com. If you don't have time but can make a monetary contribution, that helps too! Contributions earmarked "Earth Club" are tax-deductible and can be made payable to Audubon Miami Valley, P.O. Box 556, Oxford, Ohio 45056. 🐦

— Sharon Edwards
Environmental Mobile Unit

Citizen Science for All Seasons

In 1996, National Audubon launched its vision of tracking bird populations by involving the efforts of volunteers from around the country and Citizen Science came into being. Scientists now rely on thousands of 'citizen'-scientists to follow effects of bird habitat destruction, pollution, biological invasion and collision tolls. With Citizen Science volunteers all over the world using state-of-the-art technology, accurate data can almost instantaneously reach traditional scientists and appropriate action can be more quickly implemented. Each year the data collected becomes more meaningful in predicting trends, identifying fluctuations, and assessing results of disasters. Bird populations are dynamic and constantly in flux, and are good indicators of environmental health.

Citizen Science offers easy and fun ways for people who love birds to help track the health of our planet. The oldest organized Citizen Science event is the Audubon Christmas Bird Count, first held



Juvenile citizen scientists building nest boxes.

For a list of monthly meetings and Citizen Science activities, check out our website!

in 1900. Today, National Audubon partners with other major environmental institutions to create Citizen Science birding events for every season and every reason. People even slightly interested in birds are encouraged to join. For local Audubon Miami Valley Citizen Science events go to the websites listed for much more information and many more Citizen Science opportunities. To get involved locally contact: Debra Bowles at 513.523.3740 or email her at InkyBowles@ArtAllOver.com

March

The Birdhouse Network

Collect breeding data on cavity-nesting birds in nest boxes and at the end of season send your data to scientists. URL: www.Birdsource.org

April

Birds in Forested Landscapes

Visit the same site twice to study habitat requirements of specific BFL birds. URL: www.Birdsource.org

Indian Creek Palette: Where Kids Experience Conservation Ethics



PHOTOS BY DEBRA BOWLES

A young field worker establishes the habit of recording data properly.

I've always had the good fortune of living on a farm and places where birds are abundant. As an adult, I search for ways to share those happy experiences that shaped my childhood love of birds and awareness of their habitats. I continue to share with my children and grandchildren and am now thinking of sharing the ethics of conservation with a wider community of kids.

Living near Indian Creek in Oxford Township, Butler County, Ohio, I have a five-acre, fenced hay field that provides undisturbed habitat around the perimeters for a multitude of flora and fauna. This acreage with a field gate affords a very large and safe area for kids to learn and interact with Nature.

With a background in fine arts, a love of birds, and encouragement from Audubon Miami Valley, I have envisioned Indian Creek Palette relating to the colors of the birds that reside at or visit my five acres. The intent and hope of Indian Creek Palette is to:

1. Foster within young people an appreciation for, and a sense of commitment to, immediate avian conservation

through seasonal hands-on fieldwork involving bird identification, habitat enhancement, journaling, and the arts.

2. Convey the importance of bigger-picture avian conservation problem-solving via computer information retrieval, exposure to existing data bases, and collected-data entry which will contribute to the Citizen Science research pool.
3. Affect the future of birds all over the world by supporting young people's developing avian-conservation vigor.

The first program, Indian Creek Blues, is all set to be implemented. We will establish, monitor, and maintain a 5-acre Bluebird Trail and thereby explore:

- Bluebird identification, history and Citizen Science conservation
- Nest-box design and placement, mounting styles
- Predator-guard research, construction and application
- Monitoring methods, journaling and computer data entry
- Trail maintenance
- Banding fledglings

Indian Creek Blues:

Establishment, monitoring and maintenance of a 5-acre Bluebird trail

Indian Creek Purples:

Purple Martin research with gourd growing, curing, decorating and housing

Indian Creek Browns:

Listen-for and call owls, box building and placement, overnight campouts

Indian Creek Greens:

Remove and replace invasive plants with native plants for ground-bird cover and food

Indian Creek Yellows:

Warbler habitat and observation, milk-carton nesting boxes, migration studies

Indian Creek Rubies:

Ruby-throated Hummingbirds and native-plant gardening

Indian Creek Rainbow:

Five-acre fencerow avian-ecosystem mapping project

- The Bluebird palette: *fine art* and mealworms

Getting the word out is the biggest challenge to moving forward with any new program. Audubon Miami Valley in conjunction with the local Environmental Mobile Unit is currently sponsoring after-school Earth Clubs so we're piggy-backing an Earth Bird Club onto the Middle School and growing those kids up for Indian Creek Palette! Check back next year for a report on Indian Creek Blues. 🐦

— Debra Bowles
Citizen Science for AMV

Hueston Woods Bird Banding Yields Important Data



Acton Lake at Hueston Woods State Park

Parks such as Hueston Woods State Park (HWSP) are rapidly being surrounded by human expansion and are simultaneously being discovered as great recreational locations. As visitors increase, there is considerable pressure to add more and better recreational opportunities such as hiking trails, mountain bike and horse trails, paintball arenas, basketball courts, Frisbee-golf courses, more camping and picnicking areas etc., at the expense of wildlife habitat. Decisions on the development of additional facilities are largely based on economics and convenience rather than the development's potential effects on birds, mammals and other wildlife. As we continue to convert natural areas to "park-like" recreational sites, we further disconnect the visitor from a natural environment. The knowledge of our natural heritage becomes things learned from a sound bite on TV, rather than experienced by our own senses. The Avian Research and Education Institute (AREI), Audubon Miami Valley, Hueston Woods State Park, and Miami University have combined their efforts to focus on this important problem.

Straddling the Butler-Preble County line in southwestern Ohio, HWSP is one of 63 sites in Ohio designated as an Important Bird Area by National



A female Black and White Warbler banded while passing through Hueston Woods State Park in late August, 2004.

Audubon. It encompasses nearly 3,500 acres, a 625-acre lake and a year-round Nature Center, which includes a Raptor Rehabilitation Center with live animal displays.

In the Spring of 2004, AREI established a biological station at the state park. This non-profit institute's mission is to enhance avian populations through research, education and advocacy. To this end, AREI is committed to establishing biological stations that provide bird banding opportunities and environmental education to the public. Bird banding is a critical part of any conservation and education effort that makes sound management decisions, and it can also reconnect today's youth with

their natural surroundings. Our banding program is a combination of two separate and distinct projects: 1) Monitoring Avian Populations and Survivorship (MAPS) and 2) Migratory Banding.

MAPS is a nation-wide project that not only contributes to local management needs, but is an important part of a global initiative in bird conservation. The MAPS program focuses on 100 "target" species and is organized to fulfill three tiers of goals and objectives: monitoring, research, and management. The specific monitoring goals of MAPS are to provide: estimates of adult population size, adult survival rates, proportions of residents, and recruitment into the adult population from mark-recapture data on adult birds; and indices of post-fledging productivity from data on the numbers and proportions of young and adult birds captured. The specific management goals of MAPS are to: 1) determine the proximate demographic cause(s) of population change; 2) suggest management actions and conservation strategies to reverse population declines and maintain stable or increasing populations; 3) and evaluate the effectiveness of the management actions and conservation strategies actually implemented.

Millions of birds pass through the Midwest in North-South migration every Spring and Fall. Migrating birds pass through HWSP, sometimes staying for a few days (depending on weather and wind direction) to forage and stock up their fat stores before continuing their journey. The Migratory Bird Banding Project is important in determining both species diversity and migratory pathways of birds passing through HWSP. To date, over 220 species of birds have been recorded passing through HWSP on their trek to either their summer breeding or over-wintering grounds. By banding and recapturing banded birds, it is possible to identify those birds using HWSP either as their final breeding habitat destination or simply as a stop-over on their journey. In addition to recapturing data, several other methods including genetic and stable isotope analysis are used to determine the origins of the

birds passing through this important migratory channel. As we better understand avian migratory movements, we are better able to adopt strategies that maximize migratory success and initiate working relationships with individuals and organizations that are equally interested in "our" birds at different stages of the birds' migratory routes.

Bird migration is a fascinating and exciting journey to monitor. This enthusiasm can be harnessed and shown firsthand to kids of every age group. The use of the migratory banding station as an educational tool—to introduce nature and the environment through a bird's eye, allows us to reconnect with our natural heritage. Small, brightly colored birds form immediate bonds that open minds and allow us to introduce and discuss important environmental concepts and problems. Understanding bird migration patterns, and what birds need to survive, allow for open discussions on habitat, pollution, geography, physiology, and conservation — concepts that are usually only words in a classroom.



One of over 220 Gray Catbirds banded at Hueston Woods State Park from April through September of 2004.

HWSP is an ideal location for a biological station; in addition to being home to 20 percent of Ohio's remaining old-growth beech/ maple forest, it is only six miles from Oxford, Ohio and the Talawanda school district. In a half-day period students can be bused to the park for banding demonstrations and observations, followed by hands-on classroom activities at the HWSP's Raptor Rehabilitation Facility and Nature Center. Naturalists from the park use live animals from the Nature Center in a large multipurpose room at the park office. To maximize the impact of the time spent at HWBS, the curriculum is tailored to both age level and state standards. This resource is invaluable to our local school systems.

AREI banded its first bird (a Fox Sparrow) on April 7, 2004. By the last week of September 2004, 882 individuals from 70 different species were banded: among them were 24 species of warblers, including species we rarely see during our regular birding trips at Hueston Woods, including Mourning, Hooded, Black-throated Blue, Wilson's and Canada.

Secretive Fall migrants such as Ovenbirds, Swainson's Thrushes, and Northern Waterthrushes, birds seldom seen while bird watching, were regularly banded. Sixteen Ovenbirds were banded in just five days in September 2004. While finding unusual or rare species is always exciting, banding at HWSP has given us a completely different perspective on the common species found in our area. The Gray Catbird, very common in any edge area throughout Ohio, has been banded in astonishing numbers this year. We anticipated through earlier counts that the initial local population was in the neighborhood of 7 to 10 pairs at our site. The total area encompassed by the migratory banding station below the dam at HWSP is no more than 10 acres. In the



This Northern Cardinal has been recaptured 6 times since April and has no fear of banders. He tries to get the first bite in before the bander touches him!

six-month period from April through September 2004, we banded 226 Gray Catbirds in a smaller than 10-acre tract of land!

Catbirds get little public attention as they are not flashy and are rarely found in the open, yet they illustrate the quantity of birds that use our natural areas without us being aware of it. As habitat is degraded or lost, birds are forced to seek new areas to rest, nest or refuel. Ducks, geese and large concentrations of cranes can loudly proclaim the need to preserve wetlands; however, the smaller, less conspicuous species, such as catbirds, can be unintentionally impacted by the elimination or alteration of even 10 acres of habitat, because we are unaware of the actual numbers of birds that use it.

Through the efforts of AREI, HWSP, Miami University, and Audubon Miami Valley we hope to use this unique and exciting "classroom-without-walls" to introduce kids of all ages to the natural world around them. An appreciation of how the environment works and how even small decisions can have a dramatic impact on bird populations and the ecosystems around us is critical if we are to maintain wildlife habitats, not just open green spaces, in the future. 🌿

– David E. Russell
Research Director and Co-founder
Avian Research and Education Institute

Bird Count *continued from page 1*

Count. Other species observed in our count included:

13 Great Blue Herons	7 American Coots	147 American Crows	9 Eastern Towhees
18 Black Vultures	5 Killdeer	15 Horned Larks	13 American Tree Sparrows
16 Turkey Vultures	1 Bonaparte's Gull	227 Carolina Chickadees	1 Field Sparrow
255 Canada Geese	167 Ring-billed Gulls	82 Tufted Titmice	2 Fox Sparrows
18 Tundra Swans	7 Rock Pigeons	54 White-breasted Nuthatches	32 Song Sparrows
4 American Black Ducks	344 Mourning Doves	2 Brown Creepers	206 White-throated Sparrows
743 Mallards	1 Great Horned Owl	39 Carolina Wrens	3 White-crowned Sparrows
11 Blue-winged Teal	1 Barred Owl	1 Winter Wren	193 Dark-eyed Juncos
5 Buffleheads	10 Belted Kingfishers	15 Golden-crowned Kinglets	211 Northern Cardinals (our State Bird)
3 Northern Harriers	1 Red-headed Woodpecker	32 Eastern Bluebirds	11 Eastern Meadowlarks
4 Sharp-shinned Hawks	88 Red-bellied Woodpeckers	4 Hermit Thrushes	1 Brown-headed Cowbird
3 Cooper's Hawks	2 Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers	862 American Robins	9 Purple Finches
26 Red-tailed Hawks	76 Downy Woodpeckers	13 Northern Mockingbirds	87 House Finches
11 American Kestrels	10 Hairy Woodpeckers	1 Brown Thrasher	301 American Goldfinches
6 Northern Bobwhites	40 Northern Flickers	1895 European Starlings	343 House Sparrows
	24 Pileated Woodpeckers	2 Cedar Waxwings	- Larry Sherman, Coordinator
	38 Blue Jays	1 Yellow-rumped Warbler	

President *continued from page 1*

slice of nature?

Of course, you also need a little intellectual stimulation this spring. We have just the thing: AMV's meetings and programs. I really need to mention a very special program on March 7: *Tales of a Hog Island Summer*. It's special first because we meet in Middletown at the Manchester Inn — we're hoping that you folks over on the eastern side of Butler County will be out in force. And the evening truly features your support dollars at work, with a presentation by three area teachers who received our Rosie Bloom scholarships last summer. Come meet Cindy, Debbie, and Gail and hear how the teachers went back to school.

Finally, spring is the time to meet great people, enjoy yourself, and gain that wonderful feeling of giving something back to your community. How? Be an Audubon volunteer. Join a committee, help with a program, take on an assignment — do whatever you can to preserve our natural heritage for your children and their children.

And don't forget the words of that true poet, the comedian Robin Williams, who said it best: "Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!'" 🐦

- Bill Heck

Audubon Miami Valley Board Information

Officers

		Phone	Email
President	Bill Heck	523-7715	heckwc@muohio.edu
Treasurer	John Blocher	524-7490	jonblocher@aol.com
Vice President	Liz Woedl	523-1782	lwoedl@earthlink.net
Secretary	Tim Tolford	200-5130	tktolford@juno.com

Members at Large:

Barbara Eshbaugh	523-8305	barbara_eshbaugh@hotmail.com
Chuck Holliday	863-6223	chuck76029@aol.com
Gail Reynolds	524-6217	reynoldsg@talawanda.org

Standing Committees:

Citizen Science	Debra Bowles	523-3740	inkybowles@artallover.com
Communication	Jeanette Jaskula	523-3865	jmjaskula@yahoo.com
Conservation	Ann Geddes	756-9063	adgeddes@brecnet.com
Education	Chris Parker	422-8642	crsprkr04@cinci.rr.com.
Membership	Liz Woedl	523-1782	lwoedl@earthlink.net
Field Trips	Chuck Holliday	863-6223	chuck76029@aol.com
Web	Larry Sherman	523-2458	shermalw@muohio.edu
Newsletter	Kevin Sequeira		amveditorial@hotmail.com
Programs	Hardy Eshbaugh	523-8305	eshbauwh@one.net
Special Projects	Marlene Hoffman	523-3074	mfhoffman1@netscape.com

P.O. Box 556 Oxford, OH 45056

AMV is an incorporated, nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization in Butler & Preble Counties of Ohio

Note: Last issue's cover article on the field ornithology camp at Hog Island did not accurately characterize Gail Reynolds' week-long experience there. Gail did not refer to her pleasurable experience at Hog Island as "boot camp" as was printed. The error is regretted.