



The Newsletter of the Louisville Audubon Society

The Audubon Flyer

Winter 2012

Upcoming Events

Tues., Feb 14, 2012

Beckham Bird Club Mtg.
Featuring program on *Birding
in Kenya*

Clifton Center, 7:00 p.m.
(see p. 2)

February 17-20, 2012

Great Backyard Bird Count
(see p. 2)

Sat., Feb. 18., 2012

*Great Backyard Bird Count
Bird Identification Walk*

Creasey Mahan
Nature Preserve
10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
(see p. 2)

Sat., March 3, 2012

Birding field trip with
Beckham Bird Club

Farnsley-Moremen
Levee Walk
9:00 a.m.
(see p. 2)

Tues., March 13, 2012

Beckham Bird Club
Annual Dinner Meeting
featuring Richard Crossley
(see p. 3)

LOUISVILLE AUDUBON SOCIETY FORGES NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH BECKHAM BIRD CLUB

For several years, the Louisville Audubon Society has been looking for new ways to provide its membership with a sufficient level of activities. Thanks to our friends at the Beckham Bird Club, beginning in 2012 the Louisville Audubon Society will initiate an agreement with the BBC to share a designated number of quarterly field trips and programs.

Beckham has a long history of providing a wealth of opportunities for learning more about our region's birdlife, and LAS is very appreciative of the Club's willingness to broaden those opportunities to the LAS membership. In return, LAS will help sponsor some of BBC's annual events, including the upcoming Annual March Dinner Meeting, at which internationally known bird photographer and author, Richard Crossley, will speak (see details on page 3). LAS will also assist in coming up with other program speakers, leading field trips, and soliciting pledges for the club's annual May Birdathon.

LOUISVILLE AUDUBON SOCIETY SUPPORTS LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL ENTITIES

At the January board meeting of the Louisville Audubon Society, the members voted to support two local environmental entities with funding for 2012. As a result, both the Kentucky Resources Council and the Clyde E. Buckley Wildlife Sanctuary will be the recipients of \$500 donations from LAS.

The Kentucky Resources Council (<http://www.kyrc.org/>) has a long history of making real impacts on the environmental health of the state and its citizens, thanks largely to the efforts of its Executive Director, Tom Fitzgerald, during the annual legislative sessions in Frankfort.

The Clyde E. Buckley Wildlife Sanctuary & Audubon Center (<http://www.buckleyhills.org/about.html>) is the only National Audubon Society education center located in the state of Kentucky. It consists of 374 acres of land located along the Kentucky River south of Frankfort in Woodford County. The Sanctuary was established in 1967 and has offered environmental education programs, primarily targeting schoolchildren, for more than four decades.

Visit the Louisville Audubon Society at our new website ...

<http://louisvilleaudubon.org/>

FEBRUARY BECKHAM BIRD CLUB MEETING

The February meeting of the Beckham Bird Club will be on Tuesday, February 14 at 7:00 p.m. at the Clifton Center, 2117 Payne Street in the Community Room. Stratton Hatfield, an American who was born and raised in Sub-Saharan Africa, began birding when he was seven years old in Zimbabwe. Since then he has birded extensively in many parts of Africa, most recently in Kenya where his family now lives. He is currently studying conservation biology and economics at the Univ. of Kentucky.

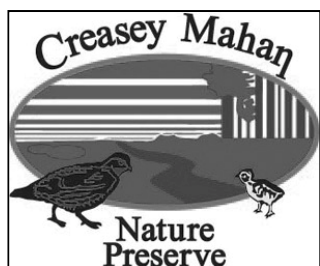
Stratton is going to provide an introduction to birding in Kenya by looking at many of the major habitats and birding hotspots in the country; he will focus on endemic and localized species. At the end of the program he will discuss some of the opportunities for birding in Kenya.

We hope everyone can join us for what should be an extremely interesting and informative program. The Clifton Center is located just s. of Frankfort Avenue at Clifton Avenue.

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT & BIRD IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM FEBRUARY 18th (10a – 1p) at CREASEY MAHAN NATURE PRESERVE

The 15th annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) will be held February 17-20, 2012. This annual four-day event engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of where birds are across the U.S. and Canada. Please visit the official website for the GBBC at www.birdcount.org for more information.

You can join others in counting birds, learn the basics of birding, and take an easy hike! The Louisville Audubon Society is sponsoring an event at Creasey Mahan Nature Preserve in Goshen on Saturday, Feb. 18th, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. At 10:30



a.m., the program leader, Ryan Ankeny, will offer *BIRDING 101!* He'll show slides of commonly seen birds, and then lead a bird count and walk along the Louisville Audubon Society's Bluebird Trail.

He'll guide participants through native grasslands, along the edges of white pine and deciduous forested areas, and near the Frog Pond. Bring your binoculars and scope if you have one! Crafts for kids will be

available. It's free (\$5 donations encouraged). Visit www.KYNaturePreserve.com for more details about this fun day!

"Taking part in the Great Backyard Bird Count is a great way to get outside with family and friends, have fun, and help birds—all at the same time. Anyone who can identify even a few species can provide important information that enables scientists to learn more about how the environment is changing and how that affects our conservation priorities."

— Judy Braus, National Audubon Society Vice-President of Education & Centers

Anyone can take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count, from novice bird watchers to experts. Participants count birds for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as they wish) on one or more days of the event and report their sightings online at the GBBC web site: www.birdcount.org.

Statistics from 2011

Total Checklists Submitted: 92,218

Total Species Observed: 594

Total Individual Birds Counted: 11,471,949

BIRDING FIELD TRIP TO FARNSLEY-MOREMEN LEVEE, MARCH 3rd

Louisville Audubon will join members of the Beckham Bird Club on a field trip to the Farnsley-Moremen Levee Walk on Saturday morning, March 3, 2012. Participants will be in search of winter birds and early spring migrants.

Anyone interested in attending should meet at the Farnsley-Moremen parking lot at 9:00 a.m. The field trip is scheduled to last until noon, and the leader is Bob Johnson. Please call Bob (896-9638) if you have any questions about the field trip.

BECKHAM BIRD CLUB TO HOST RICHARD CROSSLEY AT ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

The Annual Dinner Meeting of the Beckham Bird Club will be held on Tuesday, March 13 at The University Club on the University of Louisville campus. A social hour with a cash bar will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by a buffet at 7:00 p.m. The price of the dinner is \$30.00. The Louisville Audubon Society is assisting in sponsoring this year’s speaker, internationally acclaimed bird photographer and author, Richard Crossley. The deadline for making a reservation is March 8. Refunds are not guaranteed after March 8. Only reservations with payment will be accepted.

About the speaker ... Richard Crossley is an internationally acclaimed bird photographer and author who has been birding since the age of seven. He was born in Yorkshire, England, and has traveled the world to follow his passion. He settled in one of North America’s birding meccas, Cape May, New Jersey, in 1991. Mr. Crossley is a birder who lives by the motto, “a picture is worth a thousand words.” His revolutionary new book, *The*

Crossley ID Guide, was created using a method he calls “reality birding.” It shows birds closer to the way we actually see them – small, fast-moving, often at a distance, behind leaves or flying away from you. Each page of the book offers a full color plate with multiple photographs of a species in various plumages and poses, in flight, on the ground, in the water or in a tree, indicating how and where the bird is likely to be seen. He is the co-author of *The Shorebird Guide* and has several other projects in the works, all with the goal of popularizing both birding and a love of the outdoors, particularly among young people.

Richard’s program for Beckham is titled **Past, Present and Future**. He will share tales of lessons learned while growing up in the wild British birding scene and from his travels around the world to living in Cape May. With humor and depth he will highlight the thoughts behind his revolutionary *Crossley ID Guide* series. As he recounts his past, he hopes to change how you look at the future.

MARCH 13 DINNER MEETING RESERVATION FORM FOR LAS MEMBERS

Name _____ Phone _____

Number of people attending @\$30.00 ea. _____ Total enclosed _____

Print names of all included in this reservation _____

Print names of people with whom you wish to be seated. (Table of 8) _____

____ Please check here if you have special dietary needs and indicate what those needs are.

Deadline: March 8. Make check payable to Beckham Bird Club and mail to Jane Bell,
1876 Dove Creek Blvd, Louisville, KY 40242-3492.

The Louisville Audubon Society

Local Chapter
of the
National Audubon Society

Mission Statement

To conserve and restore natural ecosystems,
focusing on birds and other wildlife
for the benefit of humanity and the earth's
biological diversity

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Vice-President/Treasurer

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David Holt

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Tavia Cathcart
Diane Shott
Bertha Timmel

DON'T FORGET TO FEED THE BIRDS!!!

Don't forget to feed the birds this winter! And what is the best seed to use? Louisville Audubon seed mixes available at all area Feeders Supply stores, of course!

Louisville Audubon has an agreement with Feeders Supply that allows for a donation of a portion of each bag of seed sold to go back to LAS. For the calendar year 2011, we received nearly \$2000 from the sale of Louisville Audubon seed mixes! Many thanks to Feeders Supply for continuing this beneficial agreement. Louisville Audubon seed mixes are available at all Greater Louisville Feeders Supply stores.

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