



Cooper's Talk

Newsletter of the Robert Cooper Audubon Society, serving east central Indiana

Volume 41, No. 3
May / June 2017

Join us and share your bird photography, stories, and art!

Wednesday, May 17, 7:00 p.m.

Our May program will be an open meeting where members can share their bird photography, art, and stories. Those who wish to participate can bring their photos on a USB flash drive or coordinate with Crystal Nichols by contacting her at ccnichols@bsu.edu.

The chapter meeting will be held at the **Kennedy Branch** of the Muncie Public Library. Chapter business and refreshments will begin at 7:00 with the program beginning at 7:15.



Photographs courtesy of Clay Delancey. Female Cerulean Warbler watercolor by Stephanie Carrera Lozano.

Upcoming Trips & Events

McVey Memorial Forest *Saturday, May 27, 8:00 a.m.*

Join us to explore this 250 acre nature preserve. The site includes 3 miles of trails through early successional, mature upland forest, and many spectacular views of the Mississinewa River and an overlook at Bush Creek. Meet at the **North parking lot** off of CR 750 N. Those who wish to carpool from the Ball State University Cooper Science parking lot can meet at 7:10. The nature preserve is approximately 35 minutes from Muncie.

Mounds State Park Bird Hike

Sunday, May 28 & June 25, 9:00 a.m.

The Mounds Bird Hikes will continue in May and June! Meet at the **visitor center** at 9 a.m. We will provide binoculars and a scope. The hike ends with cookies and a review of which species we recorded. Birders of all skill levels are invited and children are encouraged to join!

Volunteers Needed for Local BioBlitz

June 10 & 11

RCAS is partnering with Red-tail Land Conservancy and the Indiana Academy of Science to conduct species surveys at the RLC properties, White River Woods and McVey Memorial Forest. We need your help to survey birds! Contact Don Ruch at druch@bsu.edu if you are interested in volunteering and Micayla Jones for more information!

Hoosier Environmental Council, White River Clean-up

Saturday, June 17, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

RCAS is partnering with the Hoosier Environmental Council and Muncie-Delaware Clean and Beautiful to clean up the White River in Muncie! RCAS will be working along the river from McColluch Trailhead to Hughes Nature Preserve. Please dress appropriately for the weather and the possibility to enter the river. Bringing water and a snack is encouraged. Meet at the **McColluch Trailhead** in Muncie at E McColluch Blvd. Please contact Kim McKenzie at kimkenzie34@gmail.com if you have any questions or if you plan to volunteer.

Free and Dividend Approach to Reducing Carbon Dioxide Emissions

Wednesday, June 21, 7:00 p.m.

Join us to hear John Vann from the Citizens' Climate Lobby speak. The Citizens' Climate Lobby is a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on national policies to address climate change.

Elections will also be held at this meeting. RCAS is accepting nominations for President, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and two Directors. Those interested in running, please contact Sarah McKillip.

The chapter meeting will be held at the **Kennedy Branch** of the Muncie Public Library. Chapter business, elections, and refreshments will begin at 7:00 with the program beginning at 7:15.

Do you know a young scientist? The new book series *Conservation Tales* may be the perfect gift for them! The series is by Ball State professor, Tim McConnell, with Barb Giorgio-Booher as the art director. The first book in the series features the Cerulean Warbler. An endangered species that Dr. Kamal Islam has researched for many years. His graduate students are even featured in the book! You can purchase the book and see future volumes of the series at www.conservationtales.com

Kamyron's Kids Corner

I am 13 years old and in the 7th grade. I have LOVED bird watching since I was seven years old. I started memorizing as much as I could from my mom's National Geographic Birds of North America field guide.

Northern Cardinal

The Northern Cardinal is the state bird of Indiana, Ohio and Illinois. The Cardinal happens to be the mascot of Ball State University. The Northern Cardinal has a widespread distribution in Indiana. Cardinals can be spotted in groups but during mating periods in pairs. Male Cardinals are a bright red except its facial region, which is black. Female Cardinals are duller than their male counterparts, but with a red tuft. The Cardinal is best seen in the daytime on feeders, trees and the ground.

Pied Kingfisher

The Pied Kingfisher can be observed in its natural habitats within Asia and Africa. The Pied Kingfisher uses its flight skill to hunt soaring over water looking for fish. The pied kingfisher is black and white with a sharply pointed bill used for fishing. The Pied Kingfisher is a small bird approximately 24 to 26 cm with a wingspan of 45 to 47cm. This bird is very elusive, so I suggest you bring binoculars (and your passport) if traveling to this bird's natural habitat.

Tips for kid birders:

When birding I suggest you have the following items: regional bird guide, binoculars, water and comfortable shoes if walking. The standard birding binocular magnification is 10X. However, any binocular magnification will work for recreational purposes. When birding you should be silent, observant and listen intently. The silence will keep you from scaring birds away. Being a good observer will help spot a bird. Listening will help you hear birdcalls that can help locate a bird or identify the species from its vocalization.





Robert Cooper
Audubon Society

P.O. Box 1635
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Dates for Your Calendar

May 17: Photography, Stories, & Art Program
 May 27: McVey Memorial Forest Field Trip
 May 28: Mounds Bird Hike
 June 10-11: Bio Blitz
 June 17: White River Clean-up
 June 21: Speaker: John Vann
 June 25: Mounds Bird Hike

Chapter Website: www.cooperaudubon.org
 Find us on Facebook!
 Email: admin@cooperaudubon.org

Program meetings are held every month except
 July, August, and September at
Muncie Public Library, Kennedy Branch
 1700 W McGalliard Rd, Muncie, IN
 7:00 pm: chapter business & refreshments
 7:15 pm: scheduled program

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 Delaware, Grant, Henry, Jay, Madison, and
 Randolph Counties.

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