

The Secret Lives of Monarch Butterflies

A bit of spring returns early to East Central Indiana at our next program meeting, when Loretta Heiniger brings us a program on Monarch butterflies.

Loretta's property in Anderson serves as an official Monarch Butterfly Waystation, where she has spent years cultivating abundant habitat for Monarchs and carefully protecting them during their metamorphosis from eggs to emergent butterflies. Thousands of Monarchs have thrived under her care that otherwise might not have survived.

Join us on **January 8** to learn about the secret lives of these delicate creatures, as well as the threat to their survival that they now face in Monarch wintering grounds in Mexico.

Refreshments and fellowship begin at 7:00 p.m. at Minnetrista. Loretta's program will get underway by 7:30. As always, non-Audubon members are welcomed.

Suet and seed still available

Suet cakes are still available for purchase at monthly meetings, and high-quality birdseed can be pre-ordered and picked up at meetings by calling Seedy Sally's at 765-778-7347.

Seed descriptions, prices, and order forms are available on our website, at www.cooperaudubon.org. Just click on "Buy Birdseed." Your birdseed purchase supports our Ecology Camp Scholarship Fund, which allows us to send an area youth to Audubon camp in the summer!

Positions Open!

If you are looking for a way to become involved in our chapter, consider the position of Membership Chair or Field Trip Chair! Both are excellent and fun ways to give back to the chapter and meet new people. Contact Bonnie Nicholson or Bill Grummer for more details.

Nominations are now being sought for individuals and organizations that have made noteworthy contributions to the environment in our region, perhaps even the state for the Robert H. and Esther (Munro) Cooper Conservation Award, Phyllis Yuhas Wildlife Habitat Preservation Award, Richard Green Public Service Award, Clyde W. Hibbs Conservation Education Award, and the Youth Conservation Award. For further details, see inside.



Inside...

- Get ready for the Great Backyard Bird Count, February 16-19
- Learn about upcoming nominations
- Exercise your mind with a crossword puzzle

Send us your nominations!

- Robert H. and Esther (Munro) Cooper Conservation Award: the chapter's highest honor, for overall contributions to, conservation of, and appreciation for, the natural environment
- Phyllis Yuhas Wildlife Habitat Preservation Award: for development or preservation of habitat that contains significant wildlife and/or native plant life populations
- Richard Greene Public Service Award: for active involvement in serving the public's environmental interests and concerns
- Clyde W. Hibbs Conservation Education Award: for excellence in educating the area's children, youth, and /or adults on conservation issues and practices
- Youth Conservation Award: for excellence in conservation practices by a youth under the age of 18

To make the event a success, we need your help. If you know of an individual or organization that deserves recognition for its service to the natural environment, please send your nomination, along with a description of the nominee and his or her accomplishments, to Bonnie Nicholson, at one of these addresses: nickrb69@yahoo.com OR 9898 College Corner Rd., Greens Fork, IN 47345.

Be sure to include your own name, phone number, and email address or street address.

Award nominees need not reside in our chapter's seven-county region and they need no affiliation with the Audubon Society. Nominations must be received by **March 5**. The winners will be announced at our spring award banquet, scheduled for Monday, April 9. Be sure to mark your calendars!

Great Backyard Bird Count

What mid-winter activity is fun, easy, free, and helps bird conservation? What can parents and teachers do with children that connects them to a whole new world of natural wonders?

This February, the tenth annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC), sponsored by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, will give everyone a chance to discover the birds in their neighborhood and "Count for the Record."

During **February 16–19, 2007**, people of all ages, from beginners to experts, are invited to join this event which spans all of the United States and Canada. Participants can take part wherever they are – at home, in schoolyards, at local parks or wildlife refuges. Observers simply count the highest number of each species they see during an outing or a sitting, and enter their tally on the Great Backyard Bird Count web site at

www.birdsource.org/gbbc. Together, these counts offer a real-time snapshot of the numbers and kinds of birds that people are finding, from Boreal Chickadees in Alaska to Anhingas in Florida.



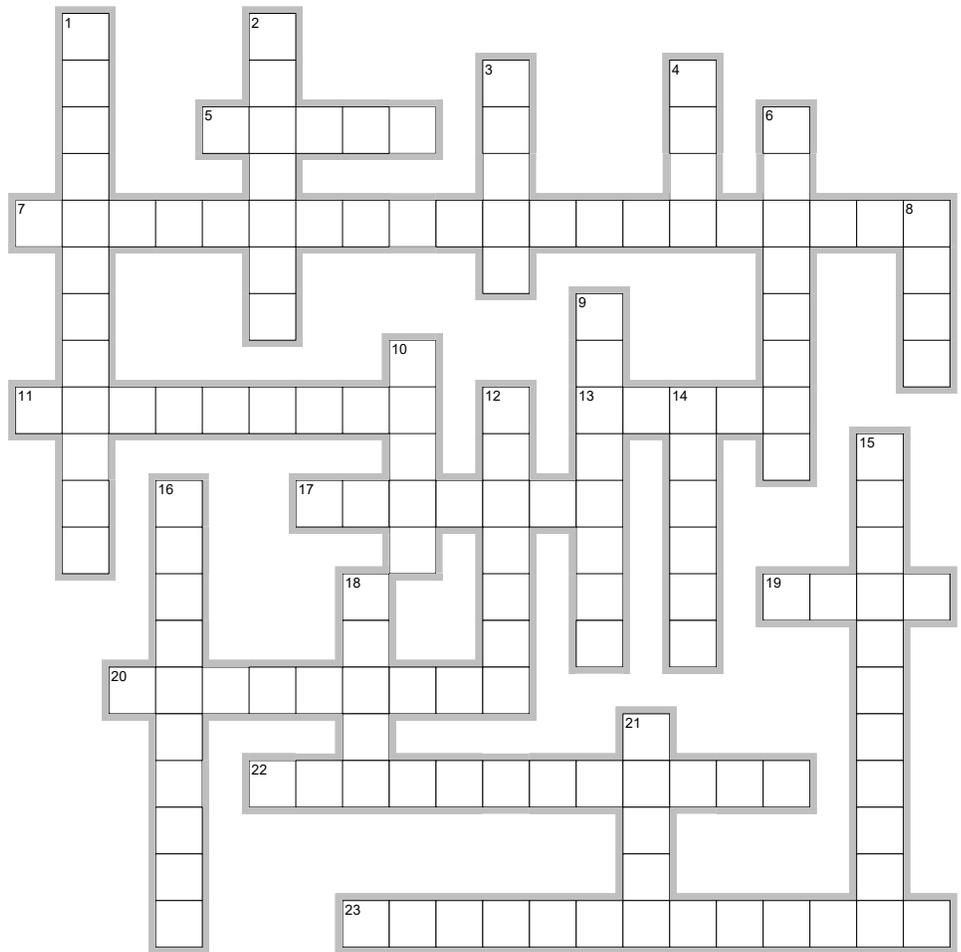
January Crossword

Across

5. "I'm not hairy in the least!" this diminutive woodpecker might declare
7. Its more common cousin has a white breast
11. Squirrels say "Ptooeey!" when they find this white seed in your feeders
13. Look closely; this "first sign of spring" is actually with us all winter long
17. Small raptor that hovers
19. Buy birdseed from us; send a kid to ecology ____!
20. This American golden boy has lost his luster for the winter
22. "Baby, it's cold outside," but this owl doesn't care; it's time for love!
23. Our chapter's logo bird

Down

1. Recent patient at Wildlife Resqu Haus; head has "golden spears"
2. The ____ hawk may snack at your feeders, but not on seed!
3. Pendleton's "birdseed central": ____ Sally's
4. Favorite food of woodpeckers
6. This European invader is a pest, but winter's white speckles are stunning!
8. Contrary to its name, the Red-bellied Woodpecker's ____ is what's noticeably red
9. "Fee-bee, fee-bay" means you have a ____ Chickadee
10. Give your birds a place for winter roosting: create a ____ pile in your backyard!
12. Red or gray, I don't really ____; I whinny.
14. ____ Owls are the stars of the "Birds of Madison County"
15. In late March you might see a loon at this ECI state park
16. This plant is a pest to you, but some birds are "itching" to eat its berries in the winter
18. Spot the northern harrier by its ____ rump.
21. Color of the inconspicuous bird that "creeps" around trees, bottom to top



Created with EclipseCrossword — www.eclipsecrossword.com

Keep Your Holidays Green

Make your holiday a green one by making sure to recycle, reuse, reduce and to remember Mother Nature throughout the holidays. Here are a few simple suggestions to keep waste down:

- Place gifts in reusable bags or baskets, and don't wrap presents for Fido.
- Children's artwork makes heartfelt cards and wrapping paper, especially for relatives.
- Snip the front of old cards into colorful gift tags.
- Drop off extra packing material and Styrofoam peanuts at mailing centers or moving companies for reuse.
- Consider buying a live tree (with a root ball) that's native to your region, and then plant it outside after the holidays are over.

Did You Know?

If every family reused just 2 feet of ribbon, the amount saved would total 38,000 miles?

That's enough to tie a bow around the entire planet.

Robert Cooper Audubon Society



Robert Cooper Audubon Society
Beth Simmons, Editor
1405 N. Duane Road
Muncie, IN 47304

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Dated Material — Please Deliver Promptly

The *Chat* is published 10 times a year by the Robert Cooper Audubon Society, a chapter of the National Audubon Society, serving Blackford, Delaware, Grant, Henry, Jay, Madison, and Randolph counties.

Dates for Your Calendar

Jan. 8 7:00 p.m.: The Secret Life of Monarchs presented at Minnetrista, beginning with refreshments. Program will begin at 7:30

Jan. 12: Articles due for February *Chat*. Send to Beth Simmons at basimmons2@bsu.edu.

Chapter Website: www.cooperaudubon.org

Email: audubon@bsu.edu

Meetings

Program meetings are held on the **second Monday** of each month (except July & August) at Minnetrista Cultural Center
1200 N. Minnetrista Parkway
Muncie, IN

7:00 p.m.: Coffee & gathering

7:15 p.m.: Chapter business

7:30 p.m.: Scheduled program



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Field trip:

Hospitality: Cynda Turner 289-9390

Membership:

Newsletter ed.: Beth Simmons 812-343-8927

Chapter hist.: Phyllis Yuhas 284-0107

Program: Kamal Islam 284-9872

Publicity: Alyssum Foltz 765-631-1898

Conservation: John Creek 348-4019