



WESTERN CUYAHOGA AUDUBON SOCIETY

www.wcasohio.org

CHAPTER MEMBER NEWS

FALL 2003

WCAS PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Tom Romito, President
romito@wcasohio.org

I am delighted to report to you, the members of the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society, for the first time as president of your chapter. My purpose in this report is to reacquaint you with what is going on in WCAS.

Following my election at the June picnic, I took as my first official action the planning of my first WCAS board meeting as president. The meeting occurred on July 21 at my home in Cleveland. Eleven people attended, including nine board members and two guests from Ohio Audubon. One initiative we discussed was the **PASSPORT** concept. Passports are 4X8 booklets that members who join as enhanced or charter members will receive to record their participation in WCAS activities and earn points toward recognition. You will learn more about this concept this fall.

We used the board meeting as a platform for developing our annual report, which we are required to do every August by National Audubon. We reviewed our vision, mission, and the past year's activities. Then we built a five-year plan for the chapter, which includes goals for membership, member involvement, conservation, education, programs, and fundraising. Finally, we focused on a one-year plan for the current year, which began on July 1.

National Audubon requires all chapters to live up to what are known as the essential elements of a chapter. One of these elements is **advocating the Audubon cause for some environmental issue in the community**. Your board members are working to pick an issue to support. In the past, we supported the green space initiative on the Cleveland waterfront. The Ohio Audubon representatives at our meeting suggested that we

support their Avian Inventory and Monitoring Program within the Rocky River Important Bird Area. You can expect to learn more about this issue in the near future.

As your president, **I have set some goals for my term** and have already launched some initiatives to reach them. First, I want to document every board meeting and every chapter meeting we hold. In June, you elected Kit Birch as recording secretary, and Kit has begun her term by taking and writing the minutes of our July 21 board meeting. These minutes will be posted on the chapter website.

I also want to find someone to become **membership chairperson**. There is much to learn and do in order to effectively recruit and retain members, and I need someone who will accept this challenge. Lastly, I would like someone to become a **liaison to state government** to keep up with legislative actions that bear on environment and report to us on a regular basis. This activist person can serve a vital link between the members and government.

Members, this newsletter is the last one issue you will receive unless you become a chapter member. Mailing a hard copy newsletter to all 1,000 WCAS members is expensive, and we can no longer afford to do this now that National Audubon has decided to reduce the safety net dues to all chapters in the Nation. Beginning February 2004, only chapter members will receive the newsletter. Become a chapter member and help WCAS continue to thrive in the community!

Mission Statement

The mission of WCAS is to educate the public about conservation of the natural world through member involvement in chapter activities and community outreach.

Visit us on the web
<http://www.wcasohio.org>

PROGRAMS

Date	Time	Speaker	Program
September 2, 2003	7:30 PM	Damon Greer, ODW	Black Bear in Ohio
October 7, 2003	7:30 PM	Bob Kehres, Ohio Prairie Nursery	Meadows of the Past ... and Present
November 4, 2003	7:30 PM	Tom Stanley, Cleveland Metroparks	Changes in the Land
December 2, 2003	6:30 PM 7:30 PM	John Winterich	POTLUCK Northern Ohio Nature
January 6, 2004	7:30 PM	Mark Purdy, Greater Akron Audubon	A Birder's Tour of Iceland
February 3, 2004	7:30 PM	Dave Swanson ODWF	Ranking the Rarity of the State's Forest Birds
March 2, 2004	7:30 PM	Adam S Grimm	An Eye for Wildlife
April 6, 2004	7:30 PM	Drs Heather McDowell & Jamie Lindstrom, Animal Clinic Northview	A Bird's-Eye View of Wildlife Rehabilitation
May 4, 2004	7:30 PM	Harvey Webster, Cleveland Museum of Natural History	Three Hundred Years of Ohio Wildlife
June 1, 2004	6:30 PM		Picnic, bird walk, & plant exchange

FIELD TRIPS

Date	Day of Week	Time	Place	Leader
September 13, 2003	Saturday	8:00 am	Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation	Dave LeGallee
October 12, 2003	Sunday	8:00 am	West Creek	Gabe Leidy
November 16, 2003	Sunday	8:30 am	Avon Lake	Bill Deininger
December 28, 2003	Sunday	Contact team leader	Christmas Bird Count	Many Leaders
January 10, 2004	Saturday	10:00 am	Cleveland Environmental Center	Nancy Howell
February 14, 2004	Saturday	8:30 am	Mill Creek	Tom Romito
March 20, 2004	Saturday	8:00 am	Columbia Reservation	Craig Caldwell
April 17, 2004	Saturday	7:30 am	CVNP, Ira Rd.	Mary Anne Romito
April 11, 18, 25 May 2, 9, 16 2004	Sunday	7:30 am	Spring Bird Walks	Many Leaders
June		7:00 am	Coliseum	TBA
July 10, 2004	Saturday	7:30 am	Bath Reserve	Tony Hess
August			Conneaut	TBA

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CHAPTER MEMBER APPLICATION

BENEFIT CATEGORIES

BASIC MEMBERSHIP

- Newsletter
- Nametag

- Single — \$20.00
- Family — \$40.00

ENHANCED MEMBERSHIP

- Same as basic membership
- Passport (TBA)

- Single — \$35.00
- Family — \$55.00

CHARTER MEMBERSHIP (available until 9/1/2003)

- Same benefits as basic and enhanced memberships
- Renewal Fee (\$20.00/yr Single; \$40.00 /yr family) for life of member as long as one stays current
- Only being offered from April 1 until Labor Day of 2003
- Charter members get name on website

- Single — \$50.00
- Family — \$70.00

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY/STATE/ZIP
TELEPHONE
EMAIL ADDRESS Chapter Membership Amount \$

SINGLES/COUPLE/ONE PARENT AND ONE CHILD: One or two people living at the same address

FAMILY: Three or more family members living at the same address

NEW NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP ONLY

Would you like to be a member of National Audubon, too?

National Membership Cost is \$20.00 for new membership; the current one-year renewal price is \$35.00. Receive Audubon Magazine four times a year. To receive benefit of WCAS Chapter Newsletter, you must join WCAS at either the Basic, Enhanced, or Charter membership levels (see Membership application above).

NEW NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Chapter Code: 7XCH S63

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY/STATE/ZIP Total Chapter Membership Amount \$
TELEPHONE Total National Membership Amount \$
EMAIL ADDRESS Total Amount Enlosed: \$

Mail to WCAS, 4310 Bush Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44109 — Remember to enclose your check for the Chapter Membership fee as well as the National Membership fee. **NOT VALID FOR NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

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CHAPTER MEMBERS

NEW CHAPTER MEMBERS

Mills	Fred
Mitchell	Alice
Peterson	Carol
Pfister	Ken & Jean
Romito	Tom & Mary Anne
Siegenthaler	Ralph & Debra
Simpson	Joan
Thomas	Martha
Walker	Samuel & Beverly
White	Mary Jane

BOLD denotes Charter Members

*THIS WILL BE YOUR FINAL
NEWSLETTER UNLESS YOU
HAVE JOINED THE CHAPTER
MEMBER PROGRAM, SEE THE
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
INSIDE FOR DETAILS...*



SUPPORT WCAS

Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society
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