



Important Bird Area Survey in Second Year

By Diane Sigler, IBA Coordinator

The Rocky River IBA Bird Survey has begun with a kick-off event held at the Rocky River Nature Center on April 1 to present the 2007 studies. The 2007 breeding bird survey has been expanded to include more point count locations; a vegetation survey for all points; and a vernal pool survey to be completed this year, with associated salamander study set for 2008.

The focus of the kick-off event was to present each study and seek out volunteers to help with the components. We are looking for people to become Observers or Recorders for the bird survey; vegetation survey participants to address each point location; point finders for the bird survey and for the vernal pool survey; vernal pool participants to locate and track vernal pool conditions during the 2007 season; and supporting roles for each of the studies. Supporting roles include, but are not exclusive to: data entry; spreadsheet development; publication development; fund raising or grant writing; contact development (creating a network of environmental and conservation groups with interests noted) which is key when issues develop that require a quick response by WCAS; teaching opportunities;

and event participation, such as manning booths, leading tours, etc.

If you have an interest in any of the above, would like more information, or have an expertise that you feel can be tapped for any of the studies, please contact WCAS. It looks to be another exciting and successful year.

As I am a new name for many, I have been asked to give a brief summary of my experience. I have a Bachelor of Science in biology from Baldwin-Wallace College; a Masters Degree in Environmental Science from Miami University of Ohio; and a Juris Doctor degree from Cleveland Marshall College of Law.

I have enjoyed working for Ohio EPA in the area of industrial Wastewater; and for Sohio (later British Petroleum) both in Retail Marketing and in Research, as an environmental coordinator. I dealt with environmental permits, legislation, legal issues, spill response, hazardous waste management; training of personnel, safety and health issues and other concerns.

I have met a great many dedicated people in my association with WCAS and look forward to meeting many more.

Gund Foundation Grant

WCAS has received a grant of \$5,000 from the Gund Foundation for support of our Rocky River Important Bird Area program. We will use it mainly to help fund the salary of our IBA Coordinator, Diane Sigler. Cleveland Metroparks is also helping fund the coordinator's salary.

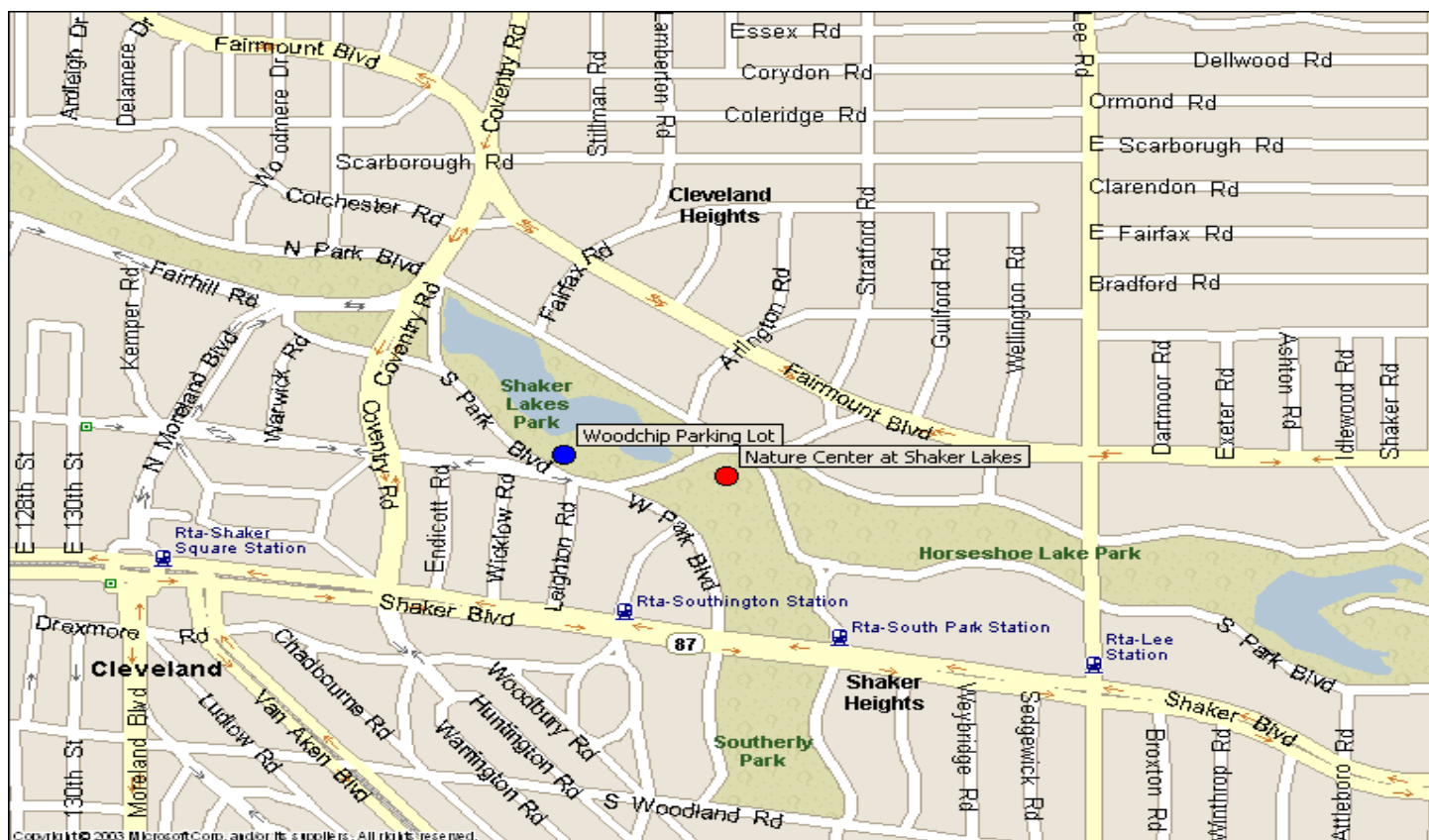
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Field Trips

Saturday, May 5, 2007...7:30 AM...Shaker Lakes

We will meet at the woodchip parking lot located at the corner of Larchmere and South Park (past the **Shaker Lakes Nature Center** on South Park Blvd.) to begin our walk. We will look for warblers with Dave LeGallee who will be our leader. For detailed directions, please see our website.



Contact Us

WESTERN CUYAHOGA AUDUBON SOCIETY

4310 Bush Ave.
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Fax: 216-741-1879
Email: info@wcasohio.org

Visit our website
www.wcasohio.org



WCAS Chapter Newsletter

Published 4 times per year in January, April, July, and October by the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society
www.wcasohio.org is the official Chapter Web Site.

WCAS Board Meetings held at 6:30 pm prior to each program at Rocky River Nature Center. General public and WCAS members welcome.

President

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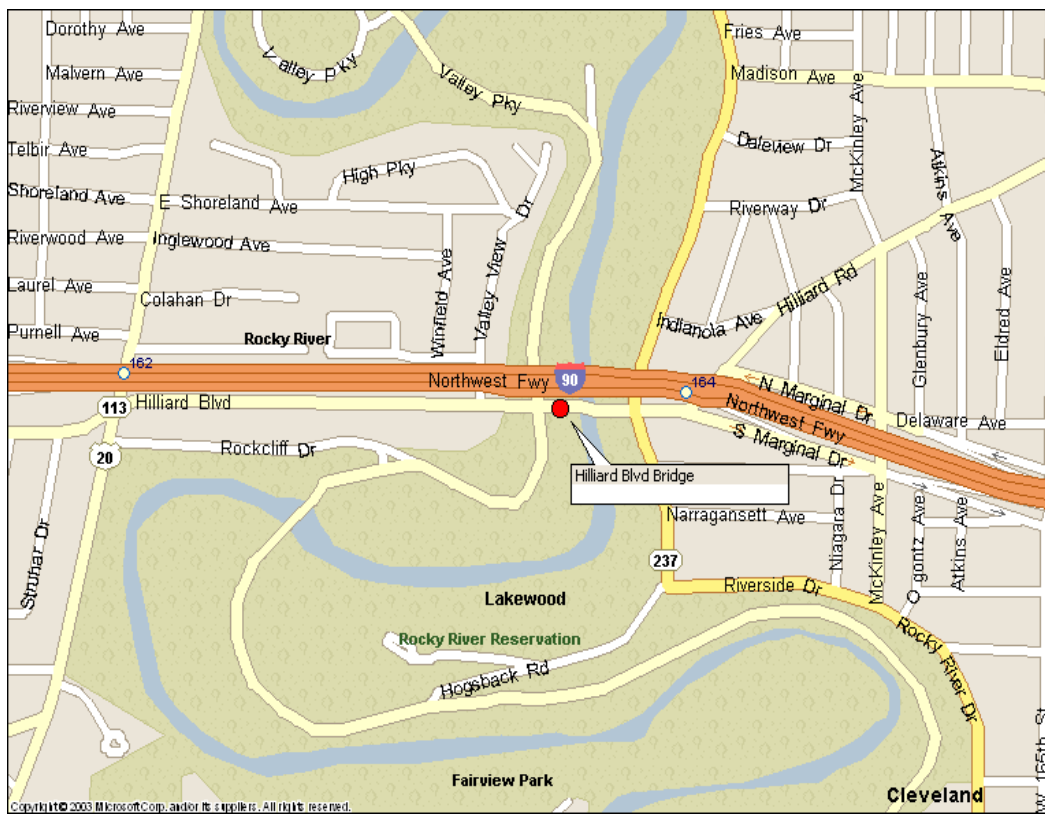
Penny O' Connor

Kathleen Tiburzi

Field Trips

Sunday, June 24, 2007...7:30 AM...Hilliard Blvd. Bridge

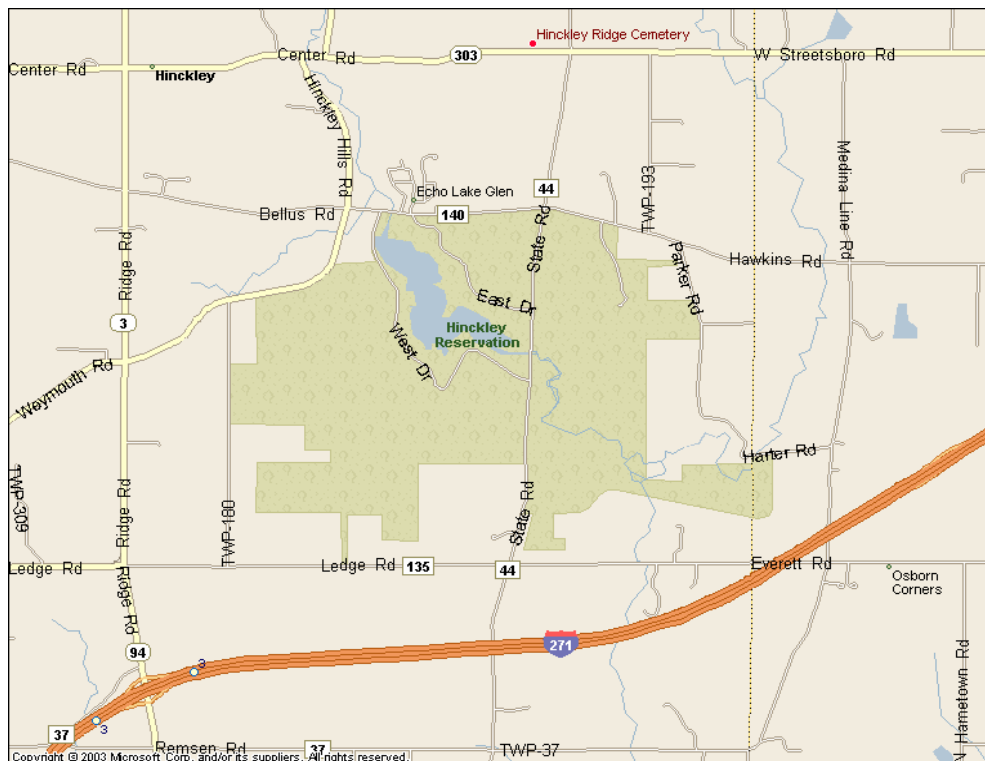
We'll meet below the Hilliard / I-90 bridges, between Detroit Road and Lorain Avenue in the Rocky River Metropark. Chris and Chad Saladin will lead us on this great field trip to see Peregrine Falcons.



Saturday, July 14, 2007...8:00 AM...Whipps Ledges

Gabe Leidy will lead this field trip to look for forest birds at **Whipps Ledges in Hinckley Reservation**. We may see Magnolia Warbler, Scarlet Tanager and others. Please meet in the parking lot.

Directions: From I-71 take Rt. 303 east to State Road. Turn right on State Road (south). Go past Bellus Rd. Whipps Ledges is on the left (east) side.



Programs

All WCAS programs are free and open to the public. Our monthly programs are held the first Tuesday of each month, September through May, at Rocky River Nature Center, 24000 Valley Parkway, North Olmsted, Ohio. For a map and directions see www.wcasohio.org.

Tuesday, May 1, 2007...7:30 PM

Kim Hinkle loves squirrels ... with flying squirrels being one of her favorites (shhh, don't let the red, gray or fox squirrels know that).

Her program, "**The Night of the Gliders**", will touch on the squirrels in our area, then focus on flying squirrels, their natural history and what makes them special. A special furry guest will also join Kim!

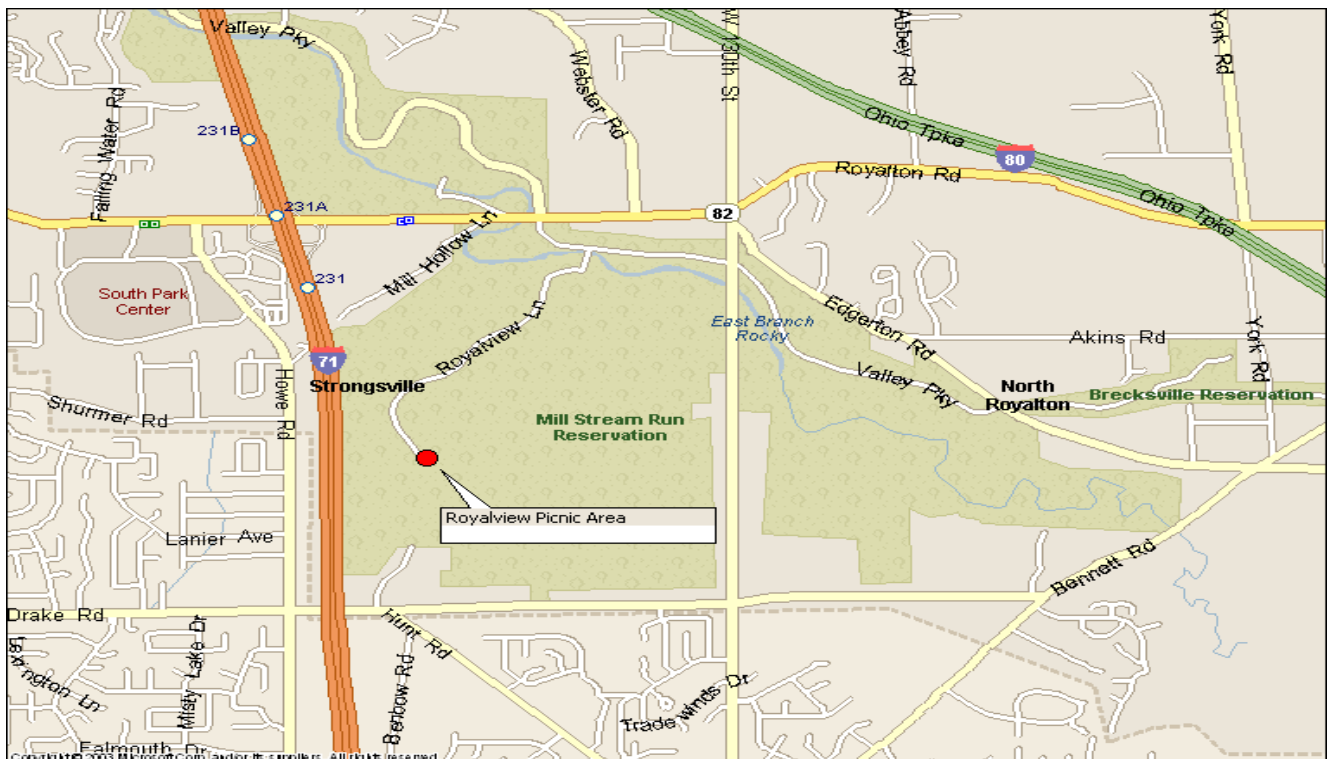


***Please note: We will have a bird walk at 5:30 PM just before the regular meeting to kick-off our May Birdathon. Meet at the Rocky River Nature Center and bring your binoculars.**

Tuesday, June 5, 2007...6:00 PM...Picnic

Join us for our summer picnic and plant exchange at **Royalview Picnic Area, Mill Stream Run Reservation** in Strongsville. WCAS will provide the charcoal fire and you provide your own food. Be sure to bring along your extra or orphan plants from your spring planting to share with others, as

there is always a good variety and you never know what you may find here! We will also have a bird walk after dinner, so wear comfortable shoes. Birdathon prizes will also be awarded at this event!



Conservation News and Events

International Migratory Bird Day...Saturday, May 12, 2007

BIRDS IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

In 2007, the IMBD theme includes everyone in its exploration of how changes in climate are affecting birds worldwide.

Responses to climate change vary widely, but may include a shift in range, the timing of migration and egg-laying, and feeding success. As in previous years, IMBD 2007 makes it possible to celebrate birds while providing info and education on what affects them. The materials and events offer simple and practical actions that each person may embrace to help protect the very environment on which birds and people depend.

www.birdday.org.

migratorybirdday@aol.com



The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is a sponsor of this Partners in Flight Outreach Program

Organization/event: Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Open House

Date: May 11, 2007 to May 13, 2007

Description:

Open House and New Education Center Opening on May 12th. Visitor Center grand opening, exhibits, come meet and talk with volunteers and staff!

Address:

14000 West State Route 2, Oak Harbor, OH 43449 **Phone:** 419-898-0014

Date: May 12, 2007

Description: Ohio Department of Natural Resources-Division of Wildlife presents a fun-filled day of events related to songbird migration! Song bird banding, optics tent, live raptor show, food tent, book signings, wagon rides, wood carvers, free samples, drawings, and spectacular bird watching opportunities! Come celebrate the spectacle of the spring migration at one of the top ten bird watching sites in the country!

Address:

13229 W. State Route 2, Oak Harbor, OH 43449 **Phone:** 419-898-0960

Cinco de Mayo Migration at Dike 14 Nature Preserve...Saturday, May 5

You are invited to have fun and learn about the Dike 14 Nature Preserve, located at Cleveland Lakefront State Park at the North Marginal and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. The 88-acre wildlife haven on the shores of Lake Erie in the heart of Cleveland is now home to native Ohio

plants, trees and animals. Hour-long hikes and bird walks begin on the half hour starting at 7:30 a.m. Free interpretive boat tours around Dike 14 will run from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.

For more information contact Chris Trepal at: 216-281-6468 x227

Audubon Advisory Reports

Global Warming Legislation Gets Going in Congress:

Senate Bill 309 "The Global Warming Pollution Reduction Act of 2007" has been introduced and would set an aggressive timeline to cut emissions to the level scientists say is needed, address emissions from power plants and cars, and encourage energy efficiency and the development of renewable energy sources.

The House has a "Safe Climate Act" which aims to reduce global warming pollution by between

60% and 80% by 2050. Let your congressmen know where you stand on these and other conservation issues. Federal legislators found at:

www.senate.gov www.house.gov

In an overwhelming vote of 303 to 108, the House of Rep. passed a critical resolution authorizing \$14 billion in funding to clean up The Great Lakes. Audubon and its state offices, chapters and activists worked to help ensure passage of this important legislation.

IBA Survey Expands!

By Tom Romito, President, WCAS

Will our children, the next generation of conservationists, have a watershed to enjoy for wildlife habitat and their own recreation? We hope they will! That vision will take concerted effort by our own generation. That's why WCAS is conducting the second annual Important Bird Area survey in the Rocky River watershed. Last year's survey was a big success, and this year's survey promises to be bigger and better.

Last year, we focused on birds in forests, and we will this year also. We're adding more components, however. First, we are expanding the survey from 60 points to 80 points. Second, in addition to surveying birds, we will survey the vegetation at those points and provide training for volunteers who want to do this. Third, we plan to identify vernal pools so that next year we can get busy surveying salamanders in those pools. These added components will enable WCAS to give Cleveland Metroparks more data to show developers and public officials why maintaining the integrity of the watershed is so important.

What we learned last year is that many birds favor big, square-shaped tracts of forests, such as Hinckley Reservation, over elongated tracts of forests, such as Rocky River and Mill Stream Run Reservations. This is an important finding! It means we need to make this fact a part of the story we tell public officials during



our community outreach activities later this year. It will have an impact on the decisions they make that effect the watershed.

If all this is important to you, please get involved in the Rocky River Important Bird Area project!

Welcome New Members

Bruce Abbott
Pattie Coley
Laura Gobbi
Maureen Goodyear
Charlotte Imperature
Lisa Lewis
Marty and Wendy Neutzel
Gay Purpera
Charlene Willoughby
Pam and Larry Kallhof

Richard Dunn
Ginny Gielow
David Wright



Rules for WCAS Month-Long

BIRDATHON:

Enjoy birding all through May in the Rocky River
Important Bird Area

1. Gather sponsors
2. Use our checklist to report bird species you see
3. Collect pledge money to support research in the RRIBA
4. Win prizes
5. Send in following form to receive Birdathon materials.

Need more info? Contact Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society, at 4310 Bush Ave, Cleveland, OH
Or e-mail to info@wcasohio.org or (216) 741-2352 44109

I want to be part of the WCAS RRIBA Birdathon, May 2007

Name:

Address:

Phone:

E-Mail:

() My employer matches donations

Name of employer:

() I will sponsor a team or offer a prize

Mail this form to: WCAS Birdathon c/o Penny O'Connor
4534 Grayton Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44135-2324

Or e-mail it to: pjo@earthlink.net



Chapter Supporter Application

Why wait! Join WCAS as a chapter supporter.

Chapter Membership year: September 1 through August 31

Chapter Dues give you our newsletter, a nametag and a window cling.

Check one:

1 or 2 people

Family

Dues

\$20

\$35

Additional Donation (**Check one**)

\$5

\$10

\$20

Other

\$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

TELEPHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS

Make your check payable to WCAS. Mail to Nancy Howell, treasurer,
19340 Fowles Rd., Middleburg Hts. Ohio, 44130



WESTERN CUYAHOGA AUDUBON SOCIETY

FUNdraiser!!!
Month-Long
BIRDATHON
May 2007

Proceeds support bird surveys
in the Rocky River Important Bird Area
Don't miss this!

See P. 7 inside for application form and more information

Remember that shade-grown coffee is now being sold at our monthly meetings.
Good for bird habitat, good tasting and good for WCAS fundraising!



Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society
4310 Bush Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44109