

## **IBA COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS MEETING OF OCTOBER 25**

1. The chairs of the three committees of the Rocky River IBA Adoption Project met on October 25 at 7:00 p.m. at the Book and Bean Coffee House in Berea. Attendees included Tom Romito, IBA Coordinator Committee Chair; Nancy Howell, IBA Dedication Committee Chair; Kit Birch, IBA Study Committee Chair; and Mary Anne Romito, Committee Liaison.
2. Tom stated that the purpose of the meeting was for the three committee heads to report on their committees' progress since their meetings that occurred since the August 20 workshop that launched the IBA adoption project.
3. Kit reported that her Study Group is excited about the project because it is relevant to bird and habitat conservation. She said Dan Petit needs hard, objective data from our point counts to achieve this. Toward this end, Kit wants to hold another meeting with Dan to set up practice sessions for our volunteers to learn how to monitor their points and record data correctly. There can be a number of workshops, and she will suggest that the first one be for the Study Group only so that they can better explain the program to new recruits. Kit also will have her group divide up the roster of WCAS Chapter Supporters and call or email them to try and recruit as many point counters as possible. She will get in touch with Dan as soon as possible to find out when he can attend the meeting, and then notify the rest of the group.
4. Nancy reported that she has scheduled a planning meeting with Jane Christysen, the Metroparks marketing person, on November 14 at the Cleveland Metroparks Administration Building. Nancy said the purpose of the meeting will be to discuss Jane's proposal to roll the IBA dedication into the Rocky River Nature Festival in 2007. For the last two years, the festival has been held in late April at the Rocky River Nature Center. Nancy also said she would like to post IBA signs at strategic locations throughout the IBA. Audubon Ohio provides IBA signs. Nancy will explore the acquisition, cost, and usage of the signs with Audubon Ohio and Cleveland Metroparks.
5. Tom said his committee met twice since the August 20 workshop, and he reviewed the committee's work. The committee identified reasons why the IBA project needs a coordinator, as well as duties and ideal traits of such a person. Tom summarized how the committee plans to publicize the position, select and interview candidates for the position, and acquire funding for the position. Next steps include posting information about the project and the coordinator position on the Ohio Birds E-Mail Listserve, writing an independent contractor agreement for the position, writing a grant proposal to the Gund Foundation to fund the position in the out years (2007 and beyond), establishing a hiring committee, and hiring a coordinator.
6. We agreed that we want to begin point counting in April of 2006. We will try to accomplish all of the tasks that we discussed at this meeting within the next six months.
7. Tom adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.