



# Audubon Leaves

*A Publication of the South Bend - Elkhart Audubon Society*

Summer 2023

Volume 75, Number 5

**Serving St. Joseph and Elkhart Counties Since 1944**

## INDEPENDENCE DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

[Doug and Heidi Gray](#), Sanctuary Co-Chairs

It's time to celebrate Independence Day! To start the day off, how about a great breakfast of pancakes? From 7:30 to 10:00 a.m. at our Wildlife Sanctuary, 59395 Clover Rd., Mishawaka, Indiana, we'll be serving plain, blueberry, and pecan pancakes with butter and syrup. Hot coffee and milk will help wash down those pancakes. Pancakes are free, but donations are welcome. Please bring your own table service. After all those pancakes, you may want to stretch your legs with a walk along the trails. Volunteers are needed. (And volunteers get breakfast first!) Please contact Heidi at (574) 339-2675 if you can help.

## SANCTUARY CHAIR PERSON(S) NEEDED

[Doug and Heidi Gray](#), Sanctuary Co-Chairs

We have decided to step down as Sanctuary Co-Chairs this year. The SBEAS Board of Directors is looking for a person or a couple of people to step in to take on this position. Requirements are: overseeing work days, maintaining the grounds with volunteer help (which includes mowing with the Ford tractor), maintaining tools and buildings, removing invasive plant species with volunteer help, keeping trees from growing under the powerlines, and overseeing or delegating pancake breakfast preparations. Please contact Doug or Heidi at [sanctuary@sbeaudubon.org](mailto:sanctuary@sbeaudubon.org) with any questions.

## MEET THE NATURALIST SUMMER OUTINGS

[Carol Goodall](#), Field Trip Chair

Take a mid-week nature break! Join me on June 14<sup>th</sup>, July 12<sup>th</sup>, and August 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. for a relaxing walk around our Wildlife Sanctuary. We may find some birds, we may see some flowers and plants, we may find an insect or two. Our main goal is always spending a little time soaking up nature. Our Wildlife Sanctuary is located at 59395 Clover Rd., Mishawaka, Indiana.

## JUNE CAMPING TRIP REMINDER

If you will be joining Carol Goodall on the June camping trip to Hartwick Pines State Park in Michigan on June 9-11, 2023, please make sure that she has your contact information and camping site number. Carol can be reached at [fieldtrips@sbeaudubon.org](mailto:fieldtrips@sbeaudubon.org).

## SANCTUARY REPORT

[Doug and Heidi Gray](#), Sanctuary Co-Chairs

Early spring rains definitely brought the May flowers. What a beautiful time of year! The arrival of migrating birds brought wonderful sights and sounds also. As we look towards summer at the Sanctuary, we'll enjoy the shade of towering trees, the flowers in the fields that attract many insects, and the coolness of the pond area with the sound of frogs plopping into the water. The metal sign that Doug had made has been attached to the shed that Vic Riemenschneider built to house the outdoor grills (see the last page of this issue). Doug has been out to mow the sanctuary parking lot and trails. Our next work day will be July 1<sup>st</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to noon. We'll prepare the Sanctuary for the pancake breakfast that will take place on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Tasks to be worked on are cleaning the tables and benches in the summer quarters, mowing and trimming trails, checking supplies for the pancake breakfast, and any invasive plant removal if time allows. Please dress for the weather. Gloves and tools are available. Refreshments will be supplied.

### JUNE CALENDAR

- 9-11 Camping Trip at Hartwick Pines
- 14 Meet the Naturalist at the Sanctuary, 6 PM
- 17 Field Trip to Mud Lake Bog, 8:30 AM

### JULY CALENDAR

- 1 Sanctuary Work Day, 8 AM
- 4 Independence Day Pancake Breakfast at the Sanctuary, 7:30 AM
- 8 Field Trip to Beverly Crone Restoration Area, 7 AM
- 12 Meet the Naturalist at the Sanctuary, 6 PM



### AUGUST CALENDAR

- 9 September *Audubon Leaves* Articles Due
- 16 Meet the Naturalist at the Sanctuary, 6 PM
- 26 Field Trip to Lake Michigan Shoreline, 7:30 AM

Check [www.sbeaudubon.org](http://www.sbeaudubon.org) and our Facebook page for field trip announcements, updates, and cancellations.

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## **JUNE FIELD TRIP**

***Carol Goodall, Field Trip Chair***

This month we will be headed to Michigan on June 17<sup>th</sup> to Mud Lake Bog. This will be more of a botany trip, but we may see a few birds. Our main goal on this trip is to see carnivorous plants. Mud Lake Bog is the best place in our area to see these plants because the boardwalk sits right on top of the bog. We will see pitcher plants and both sundew species (round-leaved and spatulate-leaved).

I strongly suggest wearing long sleeves and long pants because poison sumac may overhang the boardwalk in some places, but we will keep a careful eye out for it. Bring water, sunscreen, and insect repellent.

We may go to lunch afterwards. There is a nice brewery in Bridgman. We can decide this on the day of the field trip.

Meet at Mud Lake Bog, located at 905 E. Elm Valley Road in Buchanan, Michigan, at 8:30 a.m. This nature preserve is only about a 30- to 45-minute drive from South Bend.

<https://goo.gl/maps/BozPGkFt9eUKEjnj5>

You need not be a member to attend our field trips. For questions, contact Carol Goodall at [fieldtrips@sbeaudubon.org](mailto:fieldtrips@sbeaudubon.org).

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## **AUGUST FIELD TRIP**

***Carol Goodall, Field Trip Chair***

On August 26<sup>th</sup>, we will head to the Lake Michigan lakefront in search of shorebirds. We will begin our morning at Washington Park Beach in Michigan City, Indiana and will explore the pier at the Michigan City Lighthouse. If we don't find any shorebirds there, we have several more options around the lakefront we might explore. We will discuss things as we go. This will be a longer day. It should be a wonderful time to be at the lake and fall migration will have begun.

Meet at 7:30 a.m. eastern time at the far northwest corner of the parking lot in Washington Park Beach. This is the area of the parking lot closest to the lighthouse. The entrance to the park is at City Hall and 100 E. in Michigan City, Indiana.

<https://goo.gl/maps/Wb5i7p16rKopKPGP6>

There shouldn't be a gate fee if we get there this early but still be prepared to pay a gate fee. We may also visit other locations which may require a gate fee.

Bring sunscreen, water, and binoculars if you have them. I will have a spotting scope and extra binoculars for us to use. You may also want to bring some snacks. We might find a place to get a bite to eat for lunch. We will decide this on the day of the field trip. Or you may prefer to pack a lunch.

You need not be a member to attend our field trips. Any questions, feel free to contact me, Carol Goodall, at [fieldtrips@sbeaudubon.org](mailto:fieldtrips@sbeaudubon.org).

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## **JULY FIELD TRIP**

***Carol Goodall, Field Trip Chair***

July 8<sup>th</sup>, we'll be taking a field trip to Beverly Crone Restoration Area in search of grassland birds. Our target birds on this trip will be Eastern Meadowlark, Henslow's Sparrow, Sedge Wren, Bobolink, and Dickcissel. We will need to get an early start to beat the heat of the day as there is no shade at the property. Trails are gravel and slightly hilly.

Beverly Crone Restoration Area is located at 21448 Jackson Road in South Bend. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the parking area on the corner of Jackson and Locust.

<https://goo.gl/maps/tgG9cx8WpyUzkqgqz5>

Wear comfortable walking shoes. Bring water, sunscreen, insect repellent, and binoculars. There are no restrooms at Beverly Crone Restoration Area. You need not be a member to attend our field trips. Any questions, feel free to contact me, Carol Goodall, at [fieldtrips@sbeaudubon.org](mailto:fieldtrips@sbeaudubon.org).

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## **RED BARN SALE RECAP**

***Doug and Heidi Gray, Barn Sale Co-Chairs***

Our 2023 Red Barn Rummage Sale was held on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The three days prior to the sale many volunteers helped with setting up tables, accepting donations, and pricing the donated items. Many people donated items those three days and the tables were filled. 570 people attended on the day of the sale. Extra volunteers came on the day of the sale to help in various ways including cashiers, talliers, those straightening up tables, bake sale helpers, greeters, and those boxing up leftovers. Our sales were over \$4800. We want to thank all the volunteers, donors, and park staff for another successful event.

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## **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

***Jude Keltner, Membership Chair***

We welcome the following new and returning members:

Andrea & Dennis Badke, Anna C Bates, Clay Berkley, Kim Bretz, Jennifer Cloud, Marvin R Donnell, Ian Gaskill, Timothy Hittle, Judy Hurley, Abigail Kelly, Carrie Kokoska, Diana Korpala, Danielle McCausland, Sheila Meinert, Vicki Mihalek, Lisa Miller, Paula A Monhaut, Ruth M. Moser, Carol Moutray, Catharine Musho, Sarah Roberts, Ann Rosen, Marjorie Sindy, Douglas Smoker, Aruna Thinakal, Chad Weaver, Ruth Weber, Lon Wright, and Edith Yoder.

We look forward to seeing you at an activity soon. See the calendar in this newsletter and also check our Facebook page for updates.

Should you have any questions about your membership, please email us at [membership@sbeaudubon.org](mailto:membership@sbeaudubon.org). If you would like to renew your South Bend-Elkhart Audubon membership online, you can do so at [www.sbeaudubon.org](http://www.sbeaudubon.org).

## PHOTO QUIZ!

There were two correct responses to the May photo quiz. The winner was Gordon Shaum, who correctly identified the bird in the May *Audubon Leaves* as a Black-throated Blue Warbler. Gordon was awarded a \$20 gift card to the South Bend Farmer's Market. Congratulations, Gordon! Read about the Black-throated Blue Warbler in the article to the right.



© lwolfartist

The Summer *Audubon Leaves* Photo Quiz is shown above. All correct answers will be entered in a drawing, and the winner will receive a \$20 gift card. Send responses along with your mailing address to [Leaves@sbeaudubon.org](mailto:Leaves@sbeaudubon.org) with PHOTO QUIZ in the subject line. You can also send a response in the mail to:

Lindsay and Scott Namestnik  
26568 SR 4  
North Liberty, Indiana 46554

Good luck!

## BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER (*SETOPHAGA CAERULESCENS*)

[Lindsay Grossmann](#)

The well-named Black-throated Blue Warbler is in effect a warbler that has a blue upper third of its body and a black face and throat. They are rounded out with a very white belly/underside with few other marks aside from a white square or "check" in their wing. Well, at least the male is well-named. The female looks so different that in fact it was once thought to be another species! She is olive-gray all over with a lighter eye-line. But she does retail that white "check" that is unique to this species. In that way, she is one of the easiest to identify female warblers that come through our area.

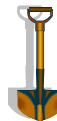
This species winters in the Caribbean and nests just to the north of us in Northern Michigan and then east over to southeastern Canada and the New England states. If you vacation in the Appalachian Mountains this summer, you might also see them nesting there. In northern Indiana, we see them only during migration, both spring and fall. They are uncommon in that the males don't lose their breeding colors as many warblers do in fall. They tend to prefer lower to mid-vegetation, where they glean insects off of trees and shrubs. Males proclaim their slothfulness by singing "I am so lazzzy!" any chance they can.

Source:

Cornell University, All About Birds, accessed online 17 May 2023.  
<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black-throated-Blue-Warbler/>.

### REMINDER:

### SANCTUARY WORK DAY



**SATURDAY,  
JULY 1, 2023,  
8:00 A.M.**



## NEW OR RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP FORM: NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY OR CHAPTER ONLY

(For a renewal, only include your address if it has changed)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
FULL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I want to join or renew my membership in National Audubon Society. I will receive the AUDUBON magazine plus membership in the South Bend-Elkhart Audubon Society. Make check payable to National Audubon Society for \$20.00.

\_\_\_\_ I want to join or renew my membership in the South Bend-Elkhart Audubon Society only. Make check payable to South Bend-Elkhart Audubon Society for \$20.00 (all the money goes to our local Society). I will not receive the AUDUBON magazine.

All memberships will receive the South Bend-Elkhart Audubon Society newsletter, *Audubon Leaves*. Please send the South Bend-Elkhart Audubon Society newsletter by:

\_\_\_\_ mail \_\_\_\_ email email address \_\_\_\_\_

Can we contact you via email when necessary (such as to notify you of meeting cancellations)? \_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_ no

MAIL THIS FORM AND CHECK TO: SBEAS MEMBERSHIP CHAIR, PO BOX 581, MISHAWAKA, IN 46546.

*Audubon Leaves*

South Bend - Elkhart Audubon Society  
Membership Chair - Jude Keltner  
PO Box 581  
Mishawaka, Indiana 46546

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President: Heidi Gray  
(574) 339-2675

Vice President: Bruce Cates  
(574) 335-9373

Editor: Lindsay and Scott Namestnik  
(574) 656-3511

Membership: Jude Keltner  
(574) 276-6348

**The South Bend-Elkhart Audubon Society publishes the *Audubon Leaves* nine times a year: February, March, April, May, Summer, September, October, November, and December-January. Comments and members' articles are welcome; deadline for the September issue is **August 9<sup>th</sup>**. Send comments or articles to:**

Lindsay and Scott Namestnik  
26568 State Road 4  
North Liberty, Indiana 46554;

or email to: [Leaves@sbeaudubon.org](mailto:Leaves@sbeaudubon.org).

**GO PAPERLESS!**

E-subscribe to the *Audubon Leaves*  
at [Leaves@sbeaudubon.org](mailto:Leaves@sbeaudubon.org).  
Include your present mailing address,  
and put "Leaves" in the subject line.  
We'll do the rest!



The metal sign on the shed that Vic Riemenschneider built at the South Bend-Elkhart Audubon Society Wildlife Sanctuary.

Photo courtesy of Heidi Gray.

The South Bend-Elkhart Audubon Society is on the web at [www.sbeaudubon.org](http://www.sbeaudubon.org)



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FOR THE PLANET