



THE NUTHATCH

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Cuba: Caribbean Endemics

Tuesday, November 10, 2015

7:30 p.m.

Sue Wright

As new U.S. travel rules to Cuba take effect, more American birders will seek out this gem in the Caribbean. Tonight, OAS member Sue Wright will share with us her recent trip to this island nation and show us the unique forms of wildlife found there including many endemic species of birds.



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CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Saturday, December 19, 2015

All Day

Jeff Stacey - Coordinator

It's time for the 116th National Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC). Join us as "citizen science" steps to the forefront and we gather for birding, friendship and good old winter birding. We'll meet after for the Tally Rally at WINT Nature Center at Independence Oaks. Contact Jeff Stacey for details.



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Education

Education is something that means different things to different people. To some, it is the formal learning from school with classes and all that homework and tests. It's not a desirable thing for many but wonderful for others. For others, the formal schooling is great and we look forward to it. The other extreme in education is learning by trial and error and experience. Not always the best way to learn but certainly one that leaves an impression on the "educated"!! In the middle are all kinds of learning.

I like to believe that the education that you get from Oakland Audubon is somewhere in the middle. It's certainly not formal, although we do have you sit classroom style and listen to speakers each month tell you about something or the other. In the field, I like to believe that these are not negative lessons where you misidentify a bird or plant with others. I like to believe that we entice you to learn a little bit more with interesting talks, investigative programs, helpful and encouraging field trips. I hope that the website and newsletter introduce you to new topics, new ideas, new locations to bird, new people to interact with and many other positives.

I also like to believe that you are being educated. If I'm wrong, please let me know. Our mission is to help you understand the world around us and how we fit into it without disrupting it completely. I know that's a tall task, as I look around at the world we live in and see what we are doing to it. But if we slowly educate people and get them involved, we might be able to slow down or possibly reverse these trends.

As with any form of education, in the end, you are the ones that dictate what you want to learn and how. Your attendance at our program meetings and field trips is your vote for an activity as something you think is worth learning about. When attendance starts to wane, then we need to rethink what we are doing. So far, I believe that we are on the right path. If you have topics or places or things you'd like to see us do, please let us know. Even as educators, we need to think of you as customers and interact with you in a way that motivates you to participate. That said, we also need to make sure that we slip in some education that you really didn't think you needed or wanted. Sorry but we are sneaky that way.

So, as the future unwinds, I want you to know that we are thinking about these things and want our organization to be responsive to you and to educate you, all in the name of fun and adventure. We are doing a survey of the membership on how we are doing in this regard and I hope that all of you respond so we can chart a future path that really excites you. Because, in the end, you are what all this is about. Join us and let's have some fun together.

Don Burlett

Page one banner credits: Common Loon by Allen Chartier, Redhead, Tundra Swan and White-winged Scoter by Joan Tisdale

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

(Details of these outings are on the Field Trips page of our website at www.oaklandaudubon.org)

Date	Event	Trip Leader(s)
November 14-15 Weekend Trip	Muskegon Weekend Trip; contact leader for details	Don Burlett
Saturday, November 21 8:00 a.m.—12:00 noon	Belle Isle Meet at the Nature Center on east end	Don Burlett
December 5-6 Weekend Trip	Niagara Falls Weekend Trip; contact leader for details	Don Burlett
December 19 7:30 a.m. 'til 4:00 p.m. (earlier if owling)	Annual Christmas Bird Count Contact Jeff for details	Jeff Stacey



AMAZING SONGBIRD MIGRATIONS

Blackpoll Warblers that breed on the east coast of North America migrate in the fall to northern South America, a distance of about 1,500 miles. To get to their destination, do they travel over land or sea or both? For a long time scientists thought that the trip might be non-stop over the sea, but there was no way to know. Now there is.

Thanks to a cooperative effort by U.S. and Canadian researchers, we know that the scientists were right; the birds fly nonstop over the Atlantic Ocean.

Miniaturized tracking devices called geolocators, placed on several of these birds, have solved the mystery. And these devices certainly had to be tiny because the birds typically weigh less than 1/2 ounce.

As great a distance as the Blackpoll travels, the Northern Wheatear is considered to hold the record for a songbird traveling over water (2,200 miles over the Atlantic). For such small creatures to travel nonstop over such long distances is truly amazing.

Modern tracking methods can produce discoveries about many other species and help in their conservation, especially when these efforts feature international collaboration, not only in North America but elsewhere in the world.

(Information for this item is from the June 2015 issue of *World Birdwatch*, published by BirdLife International; the June 2015 issue of *Bird Calls*, published by the American Bird Conservancy; and *Living Bird*, published by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.)

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Indian Springs Metropark - July 11, 2015 – Butterflies and Dragonflies

A group of ten folks spent a warm and sunny morning and early afternoon searching the ponds and fields for butterflies and dragonflies. We saw a total of 15 species of butterflies and 17 species of damselflies and dragonflies. Common Wood Nymph and Clouded Sulphur butterflies were abundant and many Eastern Tailed Blue and Great Spangled Fritillaries were seen as well. Everyone enjoyed finding dragonflies on the ponds and in the fields and watching several species mate and the female deposit her eggs in the pond. Calico Pennants and Widow Skimmers were abundant and a Frosted Whiteface was a “life” dragonfly for many attendees. Trip leaders: Doris Applebaum and Joan Tisdale.

*Blue-ringed
Dancer damselfly
by Joan Tisdale*



Point Mouillee State Game Area – August 22, 2015

A trip to Point Mouillee in August rarely disappoints the attendees. This year was no exception. Blessed by cool to moderate temperatures and a breeze to boot, the birds were there for the observing. The usual collection of birds were to be found – Least Sandpipers, Killdeer, Great Blue Herons and so forth. However, we had a fine group of special birds. An early find was a Marbled Godwit that flew from an early spot and was later found in Cell #3. When we arrived for that bird, we also found American Avocet roaming the sediment. There were Semi-palmated Sandpipers, Stilt Sandpipers and Short-billed Dowitchers also in this area. We also found a number of Snowy Egrets, frantically feeding in the waters of the area. Later, a Cattle Egret, still in breeding plumage was found and then a lingering Willet. These along with all the American White Pelicans and herons and gulls and terns made for quite a nice day. We ended with 7 species of herons and egrets and lots of other species. The total for the day was 58 species, which is very good for one habitat.

Of course, the four cars we took in were packed with interested birders. But we were constantly being followed by three members on bike (including trip organizer Dave Frye), showing off their endurance and skills. Great thanks to Jim Fowler for leading yet another successful foray into “The Moo”. Trip Leaders: Jim Fowler and Dave Frye.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS *(continued)*

Waterloo State Game Area – August 30, 2015

A group of 8 were confronted with solid overcast skies and in the poor light had to shift into "Silhouette Birding" mode. The morning was a bit sleepy, as the birds seemed to take the opportunity to catch a few extra ZZZZs. The day was dominated by flycatchers with Acadian Flycatchers and Eastern Wood Pewees holding court. It was one of those days that you dream about – more like a nightmare – where you go out and the birds didn't get the appointment. Well, there's always next week or next year. Trip Leader: Dave Frye

*Female Scarlet Tanager by
Joan Tisdale*



Hudson Mills Metropark (Joint with Washtenaw Audubon) - September 5, 2015

A total of 38 Oakland and Washtenaw birders converged at Hudson Mills Metropark this morning in search of fall migrants. We found warblers but struggled to find vireos, flycatchers, cuckoos, etc. Initially birds were high in the trees, eventually falling closer to earth. Juliet was the lone birder seeing a Scarlet tanager, Don Burlett spotted a Ruby-crowned kinglet in the flock that yielded the Prothonotary warbler. Thanks to Ben Lucking for meeting up with our large group, showing us his photos of the Prothonotary, and helping to relocate it. Let's hope these orange-yellow gems return next spring to nest on the Hudson Mills' Huron River border. Among the warblers seen were Black-and-white, Prothonotary, Tennessee, Nashville, American Redstart, Magnolia, Bay-breasted, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, Blackpoll, Palm, Black-throated, Green and Wilson's Warbler. At 10:30, the wind picked up, clouds threatened, and the birds seemed to disappear from sight. A few of us lingered in the rain, hoping to catch more mixed flocks that never materialized. Birds seen and/or heard by one or more birders this morning totaled 45 species during the outing. Trip Leader: Karen Markey



Female American Redstart by Jeff Stacey

WE'RE STILL SAVING STAMPS!

For more than 25 years, OAS has been sending canceled stamps to Audubon of Florida. They in turn sell stamps by the pound to a stamp dealer and use the proceeds to help offset the cost of maintaining their raptor rehabilitation facility.

Any foreign stamps are welcomed in this project, as well as any U.S. commemorative stamps. Commemoratives are available for only a relatively short period and so are considered valuable to stamp collectors. They often honor a person (recent examples are Maya Angelou, Elvis Presley, Ingrid Bergman, and Paul Newman).

Commemoratives also include such stamps as the recent beautiful set of 10 songbirds, the four-stamp set of “summer harvest” fruits and vegetables, stamps commemorating each year of the Civil War (stamps for the years 1861 through 1865 have been issued), a stamp honoring the 225th anniversary of the U. S. Coast Guard, and a set of three stamps honoring Congressional Medal of Honor winners from the Vietnam War. These are only a few of the recent possibilities—and any commemorative stamps from years gone by are very welcome also.

The stamps known as definitives are not included in this project. These are small, usually square, stamps that often show a U.S. flag, though they may show something like the 20-cent George Washington portrait, the 3-cent silver coffeepot, 4-cent Chippendale chair, 10-cent American clock, and others. Definitives are available for extended periods of time and there are so many in circulation that they are not valuable to stamp collectors.

Christmas stamps are not usually useful, but we send those showing paintings of religious subjects, since there are collectors of art on stamps who might be interested. We put them in a separate packet within the package of stamps so they can be easily disposed of in case they are not acceptable.

OAS is always looking for stamps to send to Florida. If you would like to be part of this project, take your stamps to any OAS event. You don't even have to cut the stamp from the envelope. Bring in the entire envelope if you wish, but if you do cut the stamps off, try to leave at least ¼ inch on each side. Do not remove the stamp entirely from its backing on the envelope.

You can give the stamps to Doris Applebaum, or to any other OAS officer, who will get your stamps to her. She sends packets of stamps periodically to Audubon of Florida. If you are not sure whether a stamp is useful for this project, bring it in anyway. Doris looks over every stamp to make sure it is proper before sending it on its way.

This is a very easy and inexpensive way to help a worthwhile project connected with birds. So—save those stamps!



MIDWEST BIRDING SYMPOSIUM

The Midwest Birding Symposium (MBS) returned to Michigan once again after more than 25 years. This year, the event was held in Bay City, Michigan with the support of Michigan Audubon, *Birder Watcher's Digest* and many other great groups. It was a great event and was attended by over 400 participants from a number of states and countries.

The event began on Thursday with some outings and other events. It continued on Friday with more field trips and Friday was capped by a presentation by Kevin Karlson (pictured with our own Bob Bochenek at the right) entitled "Birding by Impression". The talk centered on the concept offered in Kevin's book of the same title. It was interesting to hear about using the overall impression (size, shape, movement, etc.) along with field marks to help identify birds. It was an enjoyable presentation and Kevin accompanied it with many of his wonderful photos. Also on Friday was a presentation on "Birding with John J. Audubon" (shown below).



Saturday began with field trips in the morning to various local spots and then a series of very helpful presentations in the afternoon. Among these were a gull identification talk by Amar Ayyash, "Birding by Ear" by Kyle Carlsen and "Birding by Impression" by Kevin Karlson and others. These were very high-level and informative lectures and were really worth attending.

Saturday night was capped by the raffle, dinner and the featured speaker Doug Talamy. Doug's talk was entitled "*Bringing Nature Home*", the same as his book. The subject



was the loss of habitat and the introduction of invasive plant species. He discussed the co-evolution of insects and plants and showed how the invasive plants produce no insects for birds to utilize for food. It was an

enlightening talk and is one that everyone should hear. Get the book and read it. (This is something we should consider bringing to our area.)

It was a very nice weekend and the MBS will be returning to the same area in 2017. So plan on attending and learning more about one of your favorite hobbies.

(photos by Bob Bochenek)

OAS BOARD MEMBERS

Elected Officers

President	Don Burlett	(248) 236-9486	baikaltea13@netzero.net
Secretary	Doris Applebaum	(248) 542-2506	ibis4247@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Elaine Ferguson	(248) 470-2212	elaine127.ef@gmail.com
Membership Officer	Dave Frye	(248) 627-5650	kestrel11dcf@gmail.com
Field Trip Officer	Jeff Stacey	(248)798-0508	jdstacey@ameritech.net
Program Officer	OPEN		

Appointed Officers

Program Co-Chair	Doris Applebaum	(248) 542-2506	ibis4247@sbcglobal.net
Program Co-Chair	Margaret Moran	(248) 646-7387	marmo48009@sbcglobal.net
Young Birders Club Rep.	OPEN		
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Nuthatch Editor	OPEN		
Seven Ponds Rep.	Don Burlett	(248) 236-9486	baikaltea13@netzero.net

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS

Date	Time	Program	Location
Tues., Nov. 10	7:30 p.m.	Cuba: Caribbean Endemics	First United Methodist Church (see below)
Saturday, Dec. 19	All day	Christmas Bird Count	Tally Rally Independence Oaks

Monthly membership meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month (except December, June, July and August) at 7:30 p.m., at the First United Methodist Church, 1589 West Maple Road, Birmingham, Children's Center (Room 132). The facility is located on the south side of Maple Road between Southfield and Cranbrook Roads. There is plenty of lighted, free parking and barrier-free access. Our meetings are free and open to the public. For meeting cancellation information, check our website, call a board member or call the church at (248) 646-1200.

Do you see evidence for a shift in ranges for local species? What are the environmental causes?

Data collection for Michigan's Second Breeding Bird Atlas was conducted from 2002-2008, and was published on-line in 2011 (Chartier et al. 2011), and in print form in 2013. The purpose was to re-survey the breeding birds of the state and compare the results to the first Atlas, conducted from 1983-1988 (Brewer et al. 1991). It is not possible, in this short column, to enumerate all the changes that were documented, and the causes for these changes are variable and complex, so readers are encouraged to view the full "Results and Highlights" chapter on-line*, or to purchase a copy of the print version from the Kalamazoo Nature Center (<http://www.mibirdatlas.org/MichiganBreedingBirdAtlasII.aspx>). Four species were detected as breeding in the second Atlas but not the first: Black-necked Stilt, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Blue Grosbeak, and Eurasian Tree Sparrow.

Trumpeter Swans were introduced into Michigan from 1986-1991, but breeding was not confirmed in the first Atlas, but was confirmed in the second, and the species continues to slowly expand its breeding range, with the core still being Seney NWR in the Upper Peninsula. Red-necked Grebe was confirmed breeding in the state in 1975, but not during the first Atlas. In 2005, breeding was again confirmed, this time at a single locality in Delta County, where it has bred most years since then. Also in Delta County, American White Pelicans were confirmed as breeding in 1999 on an offshore island, where they continue breeding to the present day. Although breeding of Great Gray Owl was suspected in the Upper Peninsula in the first Atlas, it was not confirmed breeding in the state until 2004, and has been found irregularly since.

Other species have had range expansions or contractions. Perhaps the most dramatic expansion was the Carolina Wren, which was detected in 754% more townships in the second Atlas than in the first. Most of this was birds still breeding in the southern three tiers of counties, as in the first Atlas, but with many more townships occupied. Since the second Atlas data collection period ended in 2008, Carolina Wrens have been detected in summer occasionally as far north as the Traverse City and Alpena areas, and in other seasons (mainly fall and winter) even in the Upper Peninsula. Other species showing significant increases and/or expansions included: White-winged Crossbill (297%), Merlin (232%), Sandhill Crane (169%), House Finch (155%), Wild Turkey (117%), and Pine Warbler (108%). Red-bellied Woodpecker and Northern Cardinal continued to expand into the Upper Peninsula, and Barred Owl, Common Raven, and Pileated Woodpecker reclaimed some of their Lower Peninsula breeding range that they lost when Michigan was extensively logged in the 1800s. Chuck-will's-widow, Worm-eating Warbler, Summer Tanager, and Blue Grosbeak seem to have become annual breeders in parts of the southwestern Lower Peninsula in the past few years, and Lark Sparrow has been confirmed breeding in Calhoun and Monroe counties recently.

Among the top 40 species showing the greatest declines were: Purple Martin (-57%, most drastic in the UP), American Black Duck (-54%), Blue-winged Teal (-54%), Red-headed Woodpecker (-53%), Common Nighthawk (-53%), Northern Bobwhite (-50%), Whip-poor-will (-48%), Upland Sandpiper (-43%), and Evening Grosbeak (-41%). Habitats occupied by these 40 declining species were grassland, shrubland, and wetland. In addition, aerial foragers (including some flycatchers, swallows, nightjars, and swifts) all showed varying degrees of decline.

* Edits were made to this chapter in both the on-line and print versions after I made my final edits, a few of which I do not agree with.

References:

Chartier, A.T., J.J. Baldy, and J. Brenneman (eds). 2011. *Michigan Breeding Bird Atlas II*. Kalamazoo Nature Center, Kalamazoo, MI. Accessed on-line at: <<http://www.mibirdatlas.org/MichiganBreedingBirdAtlasII.aspx>>

If you have a question you would like Allen to answer in a future Nature Notes column, please send it to Don Burlett.

HIGHLIGHTS OF RECENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

The Field Trip Committee is getting ready to plan trips for the first 6 months of 2016, and planning for the Christmas Bird Count is heating up.

Consideration is being given to creating an OAS hat.

Since we no longer have a regular newsletter editor, Don Burlett is preparing the November-December issue, and Mike Dougherty has agreed to prepare the January-February 2016 issue.

Social Media Administrator Janet Hug reported that our Facebook page has gone over the 500 “likes” mark; the current total is 512.

There is a new addition to the OAS website’s photo galleries: Reptiles & Amphibians of the Great Lakes Region.

A membership survey, the first in many years, has been prepared by Joan Tisdale and sent to all members. We hope that many of our members will respond.

In accord with the OAS bylaws, certain officer positions will be up for election at the October membership meeting. Membership Officer Dave Frye, Secretary Doris Applebaum, and Treasurer Elaine Ferguson have agreed to run again.

Our finances are currently healthy enough for us to consider donations to selected local non-profit organizations involved in wildlife or conservation work. The board authorized a donation of \$500 to the Rouge River Bird Observatory this year. In 2016, consideration will be given to similar donations.

Doris Applebaum
Secretary

2015 NUTHATCH OPEN

The Fourth Annual Nuthatch Open was held on September 19th. This event involves teams of birders competing to see the most species in the timeframe of midnight to 3 PM. The rules limit the birding to Oakland County and each team member must see or hear a species for it to be counted by that team. There are two divisions: the Open Division, where any team composition can be used, and the Youth Division where at least 50% of the team composition must be under the age of 18 years.

This year there were four Open Division Teams and one Youth Division team. After a rainy morning and variable weather conditions (clouds, sun, wind), two teams emerged as winners. For the Youth Division, the “Leddy’s Limpkins”, consisting of Joanne Leddy and her son Brendan, emerged as winners with 56 species on the day. This was the second win for this team. The Open Division winners were a repeat from last year. “Birders without Borders”, consisting of Erik Weyhrauch, Paul Pratt and Tom Hince, prevailed with a new event record of 94 species.

Among the many birds seen on this day were a fine collection of American Avocets at Kensington Metropark’s Martindale Beach. These are shown in the photo below provided by Janet Hug.

The hospitality at this event is always first class with Chef Arthur Marotti cooking the burgers and dogs and Alice Marotti providing salads, cake, brownies and all that good stuff.



Everyone had a fine time and you really can't understand the fun of this event unless you participate. We hope to see some new teams next year from a few other organizations. See you next year!!



WINTER FINCH FORECAST – WINTER 2015-16

RON PITTAWAY, Ontario Field Ornithologists

(excerpted from website listed below)

GENERAL FORECAST: This winter, spruce seed specialists such as White-winged Crossbills and Pine Siskins should be concentrated in eastern and western North America where cone crops are heaviest. Northwestern Quebec and Ontario have the least spruce cone abundance with only poor to good crops. Conifer crops including on ornamentals are heavier in southern Ontario and could attract finches. Common Redpolls may move into southern Ontario because birch seed crops are low to average in northern Canada. A small flight of Evening Grosbeaks is expected in the East because of increasing numbers due to expanding spruce budworm outbreaks in Quebec. Pine Grosbeaks also should move south in small numbers because the mountain-ash berry crop is below average in northern Ontario. Expect a scattering of Red Crossbills across the East this winter. See individual forecasts for the details.

INDIVIDUAL FORECASTS: Forecasts apply mainly to Ontario and adjacent provinces and states. Three irruptive non-finch passerines whose movements are often linked to finches are also discussed. Follow finch wanderings this fall and winter on eBird.

PINE GROSBEAK: This largest of the finches should move south in small numbers to Algonquin Park and probably farther south. A small flight is indicated because the native mountain-ash berry crop is below average across the boreal forest in Ontario and the crop may become depleted forcing grosbeaks southward.

PURPLE FINCH: Many (not all) should migrate south out of Ontario this fall because cone and deciduous tree seed crops are generally low in northern Ontario. Purples prefer sunflower seeds at feeders.

RED CROSSBILL: Expect a scattering of Red Crossbills in the East this winter.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL: This crossbill moves back and forth like a pendulum across the boreal forest looking for bumper spruce cone crops and irrupts south only in years of widespread cone crop failures. They will be scarce in most of Ontario because cone crops are low. They should occur this winter in Atlantic Canada including Newfoundland, which has a heavy spruce cone crop.

COMMON REDPOLL: Similar to last winter, expect a southward movement because birch seed crops are low to average across the boreal forest. Birch crops are much better in southern Ontario south of Algonquin Park so watch for redpolls in birches, in European Black Alders, and in weedy fields. At feeders redpolls prefer nyger seeds served in silo feeders.

HOARY REDPOLL: Hoaries occur mixed in with flocks of Common Redpolls.

PINE SISKIN: Expect very few siskins in Ontario this winter because White Spruce crops are generally low. Siskins likely will be concentrated in western Canada which has heavy spruce cone crops.



Photo by Jeff Stacey

WINTER FINCH FORECAST – WINTER 2015-16 (continued)

EVENING GROSBEAK: Breeding numbers have been building in Quebec linked to a greater food supply from increasing outbreaks of spruce budworms, so a small southward flight is likely. Evening Grosbeaks prefer black oil sunflower seeds.

THREE IRRUPTIVE PASSERINES: Movements of these three passerines are often linked to the boreal finches.

BLUE JAY: The flight of jays is fairly strong this year along the north shorelines of Lakes Ontario and Erie.

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH: This nuthatch is not moving south in numbers this year indicating that White-winged Crossbills and Pine Siskins also won't irrupt southward.

BOHEMIAN WAXWING: Expect a moderate southward and eastward flight this winter because mountain-ash berry crops are average in the boreal forest. If they venture south, Bohemians will also find large crops (some bumper) on European Mountain-ash and ornamental crabapples in many areas.

<http://jeaniron.ca/2015/forecast15.htm>



Photo by Joan Tisdale



Photo by Jeff Stacey

**OFFICER/CHAIR POSITIONS
AVAILABLE**

If you are motivated to contribute to the Oakland Audubon Society, there are a few positions open as these folks are moving on for different reasons. Here is a listing of open positions and a brief description of the roles. Please contact Don Burlett if you have interest. We want motivated people who want to make a difference in our organization.

Program Officer – This job involves scouting out speakers for programs and working with a small committee to assure that our monthly program schedule is flush with good programs. Our current schedule is complete for the next several months so the pressure is low when this position is filled.

Newsletter Editor – This position calls for a computer-literate person to work with Microsoft Publisher to assemble the 5 newsletters issued each year. The role involves working with the board and others to keep the information flowing. We produce both a color electronic version and a printed black-and-white version, which is printed commercially and mailed out. Communication skills are important for getting this job done.

Co-Coordinator of the Young Birders Club – This position involves working with another coordinator to assemble programs that will attract young birders to participate in nature/birding activities. Some publicity and communication skills will be useful. This will be coordinated with the President. An imagination and understanding of young people is essential for this role.

Please contact President Don Burlett to express interest in any of these positions. The Program Officer spot needs to be an Oakland Audubon member while the other two spots are suggested to be members. You can always join when you take a spot also.

MEMBERSHIP MESSAGE

Our membership drive for 2016 has begun!
Please use the form on page 13 to pay your dues.

**WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST
OAKLAND AUDUBON MEMBERS!**

*Jennifer Faber
Phyllis Light
Mike Mencotti and family*

Thanks to everyone who helps sustain OAS with your membership contributions. We would be nowhere without you!



Fox Sparrow by Joan Tisdale

BIRD ID QUIZ

Who am I?



(A) _____



(B) _____



(C) _____

Last month's bird quiz answers:

A - Lapland longspur

B - Green-tailed Towhee

C - Lincoln's Sparrow

Photo credits: A and B by Joan Tisdale; C by Robert Epstein



OAKLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Mobile: (____) _____

Email address: _____

Please indicate with an (X) in the box any personal information above you do not want listed in the OAS membership directory.

Check also if you are a member of:

____ National Audubon Society

____ Michigan Audubon Society

OAS needs and welcomes volunteers — please participate if you can!

Check if you have the skills to help:

____ Become a board member

____ Lead a field trip or present a program

____ Fill an open position (Position: _____)

Please check appropriate line:

____ Member renewal

____ New member

____ Change of address

OAS Membership Fees

- Individual \$15
- Family \$20
- Contributing \$25
- Supporting \$50
- Benefactor \$100

Our Mission

- To provide, on a local level, access to the natural world through educational programs such as meetings and field trips.
- To advocate the preservation of wildlife habitats and endeavor to create interest in native birds, other animals and plants in Michigan.

Please make checks payable to:
OAKLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Mail to:
OAS MEMBERSHIP
2780 SCENIC MEADOWS DRIVE
ORTONVILLE, MICHIGAN 48462

*Oakland Audubon Society is a 501(c)(3) organization.
Your donation is 100% tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*