



Program for the October Meeting: “World Bird Sanctuary,” presented by Lindsey Day.

The following information was gleaned from the following website: www.worldbirdsantuary.org.

The World Bird Sanctuary is located at: 125 Bald Eagle Ridge Road, Valley Park, MO, 63088

“The World Bird Sanctuary is a 501c(3) nonprofit organization that provides refuge to over 270 residents and rehabilitation and emergency care for up to 400 patients every year. We receive no state, federal or county funding and rely on donations from the public, corporate and foundation supporters to achieve our mission.”

Our Mission:

“World Bird Sanctuary preserves, protects and inspires to safeguard bird species as part of the global community for future generations.”

Our Vision

“To create a world where diverse bird species are secure and thriving in a variety of stable ecological communities.”

To find Valley Park, MO. From Memphis, take I-55 north to St. Louis, then left on I-270 to I-44 then left (west) on I-44 to exit #272. Exit north to Valley Park on state route 141. (smart phone GPS may not have the new road changes from the exit to the sanctuary). Open from 8AM - 5PM.



Lindsey reported on efforts in Rehabilitation, Propagation, Research, and Education. Among the raptors rehabilitated is a Krider's Red-tailed Hawk. Birds propagated for release include Barn Owls and Peregrine Falcons. Over 1,000 banded Barn Owls have been released across Missouri, making it the only state in the Barn Owl's range where decreasing numbers are not a concern. Research includes banding of wild birds as well as tracking propagated species. Some non-native birds are also propagated for educational purposes, and Lindsey displayed an alert and more-or-less cooperative European Tawny Owl. Education includes showing live birds at zoos, and Lindsey has been presenting 3 shows a day at the Memphis Zoo, featuring many native and exotic birds.

Field Trip Reports:

Wolf River Restoration Trail, Collierville - September 29, 2017: The hike was lead by **Rob Harbin**. By the time the hike started I think they already had about 20 species on the list and these were followed by 37 more as the morning progressed. I think that besides the high counts of Brown Thrashers (12), and Gray Catbirds (21), the warblers were the main attraction. The warblers seen included the following: Black-throated Green (5), Magnolia (18), Chestnut-sided (5), Northern Parula (6), American Redstart (3), Hooded (1), Common Yellowthroat (3), Nashville (2), Black-and-White (1), Blue-winged (2), Golden-winged (2). The overcast day started at a cool 60 degrees and warmed to 68 by 10:30AM. The eleven observers spent some time fanning away at mosquitoes, but a little bug spray kept most of them at bay. 57 total species. (C. Brown)

Shelby Farms Greenline - October 4, 2017: **Dick Preston** and **Van Harris** teamed up to lead the party of seven on this Wednesday hike on the Greenline. The temperature was 65-75 degrees with clear skies. Early sightings of Gray Catbirds and Summer Tanagers caused hopes to elevate for a very birdy day, but that was not the case. We did have some interesting birds in the 39 species that were recorded. One of the two Red-shouldered Hawks spotted was extremely vocal. Wild Turkeys (6) were seen in the field, Gray Catbirds (11), Brown Thrashers (9), one of which was devouring a small garter snake, were seen along with the following warblers; Common Yellowthroat (1), American Redstart (5), Northern Parula (2), and Magnolia (6).

Wapanocca National Wildlife Refuge - October 8, 2017: The hike (drive) was led by **Van Harris**. The threat from hurricane, now tropical storm, Nate, kept some folks from attending but 12 observers did the usual loop and scored 45 species with low numbers. A few ducks had arrived; Gadwall (93), Wood Duck (44), and Mallard (24), along with American Coot (38), Pied-bill Grebe (2), and Double-crested Cormorant (3). There were still a few migrants in evidence such as Gray Catbird (14), Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Summer Tanager and some warblers: American Redstart, Magnolia, and Yellow-rumped. The rain stayed away for the most part except for a persistent misting for a while. Temperature in the 70s with gray skies.

New Business: Motions were made and seconded to award an honorarium of \$450 to St. George's Episcopal Church in recognition of their hospitality, and support of \$750 for the Mid-South Raptor Center, in recognition of the inspiring service performed by the Center to raptor rehabilitation and public education. Consistent with MTOS bylaws, votes on these motions will be held at the November meeting. Van Harris reported that he was organizing a 2018 Alaska trip, which might include the far-north outpost of Barrow. Contact Van for details of the dates and itinerary.

Unusual Sightings:

20 Wood Ducks along Riverport Rd. Oct. 1,2017 - C. Brown. (this is unusual only to me)

Betty and David Blaylock and Georges McNeil attended a birding event put on by **Delta Wind Birds** on Saturday, September 29th near Isola, MS. The interesting part is that they saw 100+ American Avocets at one spot and during the day observed hundreds of Great Egrets. Some of Georges's photos appear on page 6. Georges reported that flooding due to recent hurricanes limited the shallow waters suitable for shorebird flocks.

Virginia Reynolds recently observed an Osprey at Shelby Farms Park and in early October, a Willet at the T.E. Maxson Waste Treatment Facility.

Judy Dorsey reported finding a Virginia Rail disabled after a window-strike at a store in Bartlett, TN, an unlikely location for this secretive marsh bird. She took the bird for rehabilitation, and the veterinarian reported that the bird had recovered and was released.

The rare bird committee of two (Virginia Reynolds and Martha Waldron) is updating the “Wanted Bird” list. This list comprises those species that are not necessarily rare but members would like the opportunity to see or to photograph. The rare bird alert and the “Wanted Bird” list are dependent upon the membership to call Virginia or Martha to report a sighting.

A list of rare birds can be found in the *Seasonal Occurrences of Shelby County*. This list can be downloaded to your computer or phone. Another use of the checklist is to find the expected date of arrival or departure for some species. This is important data and should be reported to Dick Preston to be published in The Migrant. Please take time to look it over and use it while in the field.

The birds that are on the “Wanted Bird” list are: **American Bittern, Upland Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, American Woodcock, Barn Owl, Eastern Screech Owl, Barred Owl, Short-eared Owl, ALL the woodpeckers’ nest holes + seeing a Pileated Woodpecker, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, and Painted Bunting.**

Oftentimes many of these birds are seen or heard on our scheduled hikes. Please check the hike schedule. With more “eyes” in the field the better the chance of finding these birds or a rare bird.

FYI:

MTOS Members score big in the Colored Pencil Society exhibit at St. George’s.



Sheila Bentley and Andrea Blevins won awards for their entries to the exhibit.

<<< Sheila’s entry was the Red-breasted Nuthatch, a bird not seen here as frequently as its white-breasted cousin.

These and other works of art were on display at St. George’s Episcopal Church in October.



Andrea’s entry was the familiar Mississippi Kite we all see in the skies of the Mid-South during the summer.

(photos by Thomas Blevins)

TOS Membership Information

Benefits include monthly programs, field trips, quarterly journals, and state and chapter newsletters.

Categories and dues are:

Individual	\$36
Family	\$40
Sustaining	\$55
College Student	\$23
Other Student	\$ 5
Lifetime	\$450 one time +\$18 yearly

Please send dues to:

Barbara Pyles

518 Forest Hill-Irene Rd. South

Cordova, TN 38018-4832

(901)570-1009 E-mail

brbpyles@gmail.com

Newsletter Delivery Options

To reduce printing and mailing costs, a digital version, which is usually expanded with photos and occasional articles, is provided. Notify Margaret Jefferson at mjefferson100@hotmail.com. If you have no internet access, a printed version can be mailed.

Chapter Newsletter Submissions

E-mail or call Chad Brown

cwb496@bellsouth.net or (901) 754-3385

Deadline for submissions to the

Newsletter is the 22nd of the month.

Field Cards

Please mail or e-mail your field cards and notable sightings to Dick Preston.

E-mail: dickpreston@rittermail.com

Tennessee Warbler Deadlines

*February 28 for the April Newsletter

*June 30 for the August Newsletter

*October 31 for the December Newsletter

Forward contributions to:

Theresa Graham, Editor

P.O. Box 366 Oakland, TN 38060

(901) 465-4263 or e-mail:

2graham@bellsouth.net

Chapter Meeting

November 15, 2017 at 7:00 PM

**St. George's Episcopal Church, 2425 South Germantown Rd.
Germantown, TN Phone 901-754-7282**

Program at 7:00 PM

"eBird for Dummies" presented by Dick Preston of MTOS.

Hospitality

Refreshments will be provided by **David Hill & Dick Preston.**

Field Trip Information

Daylight Savings Time Ends November 5th.

November 12 (Sun) 2017 - Shelby Farms and Agricenter:

Leader is Martha Waldron. Contact at Martha.waldron@gmail.com or (901) 747-3004. Meet at the amphitheater parking lot at 7:30AM.

November 26, 2017 - T.O. Fuller State Park: Leader is Virginia Reynolds. Contact at vabreynolds@gmail.com or (901) 767-3547. Meet at the Visitors Center on West Mitchell Rd. at 7:30AM.

New Members

Special Events

(Plan Ahead) **Wings of Winter Birding Festival:**

January 19-21, 2018 - Paris Landing State Park.

Check info at <http://paristnchamber.com/wingsofwinter/>

Wayne Kirk brought his camera along on the Wolf River Restoration Trail Hike on the 29th of September. Here are some of his contributions.

The juvenile Broad-winged Hawk below confused us until Rob looked at a close-up photo after the trip. Next door is the Black-throated Green, this phase easily identified because it has no black throat and it is not green, :-). The next row starts on left with the Blue-winged Warbler followed by the Chestnut-sided.



Below is a photo of one of the many Gray Catbirds we saw, followed by a Philadelphia Vireo and a Hooded Warbler.



The photos below were taken at Green Cay Nature Center, a wetland in Boynton Beach, FL, by **Randy Brown** of Coral Springs, FL. Great Egret, female Blue-winged Teal, Black-and-white Warbler, and American Redstart.



and
American
Redstart.



Photos below by **Georges McNeil**. Taken at Four Winds Refuge near Isola, MS.



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Ameri-
can
Avocet



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Lesser
Yellow-
legs



<<<
Blue-
winged
Teal



>>>
Pied-
billed
Grebe