



**Tennessee
Ornithological Society
Memphis Chapter**

<http://birdmemphis.org>

November 2025

October Program

October's program, "Birding is for Everybody" was brought to us by Birdability Captain, Liz Reed, who explained to the members of MTOS just what Birdability was, and how they themselves could get involved.



Birdability aims to improve physical accessibility, as well as providing a welcoming and inclusive environment for birders from a plethora of backgrounds, body types, and experiences. Over the course of her talk, she went over the benefits of Birdability's work, and the widespread positive impact it's had on birding. Liz also called for help from those of us here in Memphis to assist in mapping out accessible trails here in the Bluff City and its surrounding areas, which you can do at:

<https://www.birdability.org/contribute-to-the-birdability-map>

MTOS HOLIDAY SALE and SILENT AUCTION

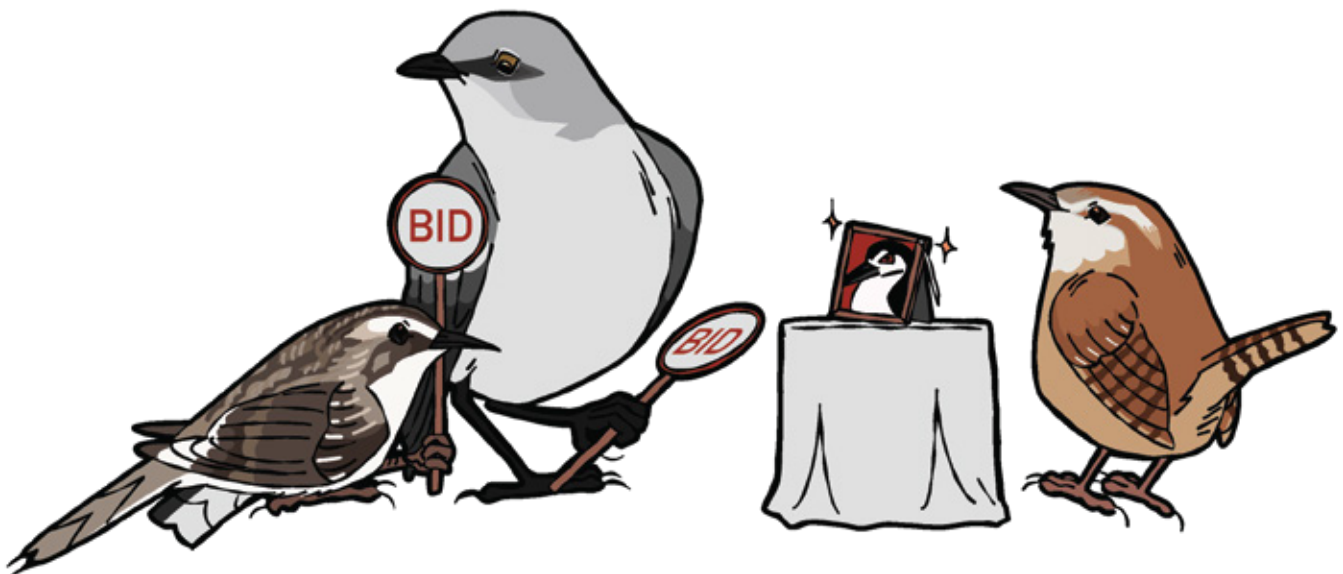
November 19 Chapter Meeting
Browsing starts at 6:45



Come check out items donated by MTOS members for use and enjoyment by others. Bird books, nature books, artwork, housewares, games, and more will be on hand. Many items are priced at less than \$5.00, with no auction bid required. Your participation benefits MTOS-funded activities. After the meeting ends, **15 minutes** will be allotted for shopping, selecting your favorite no-bid items for purchase, and entering bids on **bid sheets**. Sales will then follow.

Checks made out to MTOS and cash are accepted.

Contact Barbara Pyles with questions at brbpyles@gmail.com



SUBMISSIONS WELCOME

Looking for submissions of any of the following:

- Birding Events
- Stories about birds, birders, or birding
- Birding tips
- Articles or other interesting things in the bird world
- Photos, poetry, art, quotes

Send your submissions to:
mtosnewsletter@gmail.com

◆ [2025 Taxonomy Update](#)

Christmas Bird Count 2025 is almost here!

Mark your calendars for the 97th Memphis CBC
on **Sunday, December 14** this year.

Want to participate? Wonderful!

Below are some counts to consider. Please contact the
leader of the group you would like to join.
Hope to see you there!

Shelby Farms — George Payne, leader
gpayne@fisherarnold.com

North Memphis/Frayser — Ryan Pudwell
rpudwell@gmail.com

Overton Park — Margaret Jefferson
mjefferson100@hotmail.com | 901-210-4808





Field Trip Notes

from Ryan Pudwell

I wanted to take a moment and thank everyone who attended the Field Trip to Overton Park on Saturday October 11. The field trip was a joint venture with MTOS and Overton Park Conservancy. There were 22 people in attendance including quite a few that are not MTOS members some of whom expressed interest in learning more about MTOS and may join us at a future meeting. Our Field Trips as well as the upcoming Christmas Bird Counts can be a great way to get new people plugged in with our local birding community.

Our last Field Trip before the Christmas Bird Counts will be on November 15th to visit a few locations north of Downtown Memphis starting at the Bearwater Greenline. After the greenline we will be stopping at the Maynard Styles Waste Treatment Facility and have options for a couple more locations after that including the Historic Porter-Leath Campus and possibly Levee Rd. We hope you will consider joining us if you are available to do so and as always let me know if you have any questions regarding upcoming field trips.

rpudwell@immanuelmemphis.org 901-356-7995

~~Fall Birding & Natural History Tour~~

~~Delta Wind Birds~~

~~(Humphreys Co. MS)~~

~~Saturday 10/4/2025~~

~~8:30am-3pm~~



deltawindbirds.org

~~Songbird Strolls (for new birders)~~

~~at Overton Park~~

~~October 10th and 25th at 8am~~

~~World Migratory Bird Day Walk~~

~~at Overton Park~~

~~October 11th at 7:30am~~

~~Arkansas State Bird Observatory~~

~~(Jonesboro, AR)~~

~~October 18th at 7:00am~~

MTOS FIELD TRIPS

October and November 2025

Wolf River State Forest

(Fayette Co. TN)

November 1st at 8:00am

Songbird Strolls (for new birders)

at Overton Park

November 14th and 22th at 8am

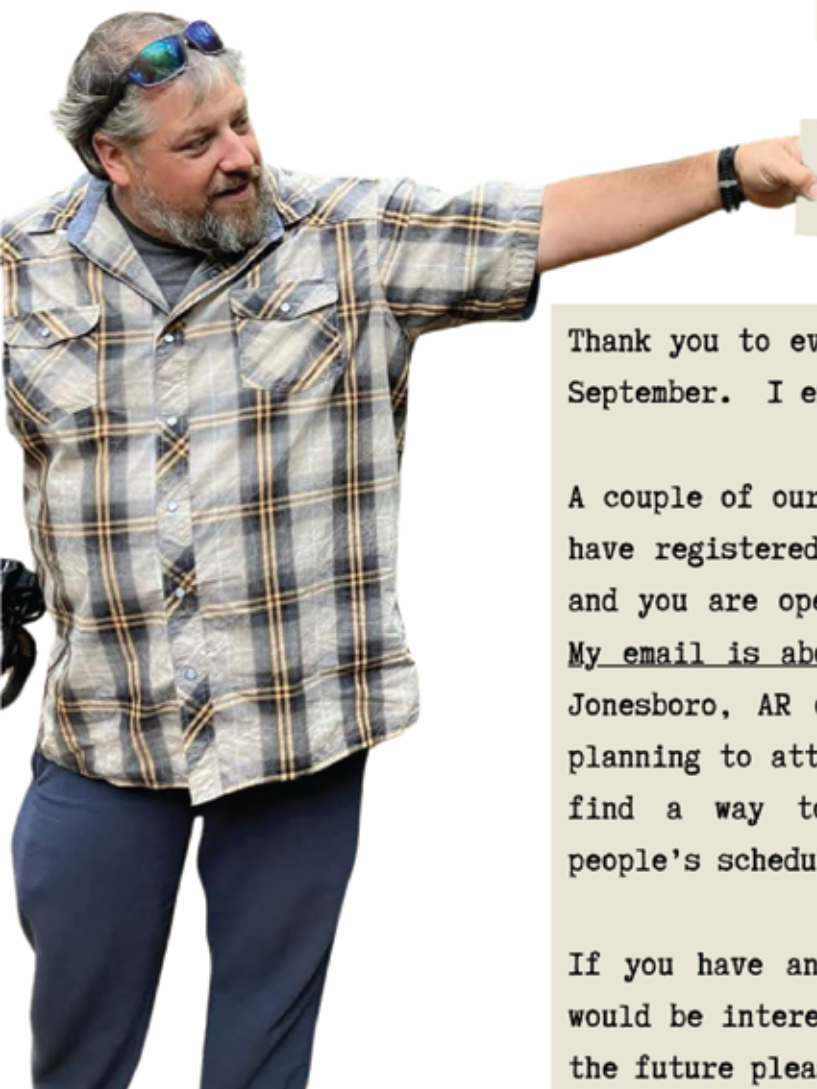
North of Downtown Memphis

(Bearwater Greenline, Maynard Stiles, and other sites)

November 15th

Questions? contact Ryan Pudwell

rpudwell@immanuelmemphis.org



FIELD TRIP NOTES

Thank you to everyone who attended one of the field trips in September. I enjoyed meeting some new folks while birding.

A couple of our October field trips are out of town. If you have registered for the Delta Wind Birds trip on October 4th and you are open to possibly carpooling please let me know. My email is above. The same applies for the field trip to Jonesboro, AR on the 18th. Let me know which one you are planning to attend. I can't promise anything, but if we can find a way to travel more efficiently that works with people's schedules we'll call it a win.

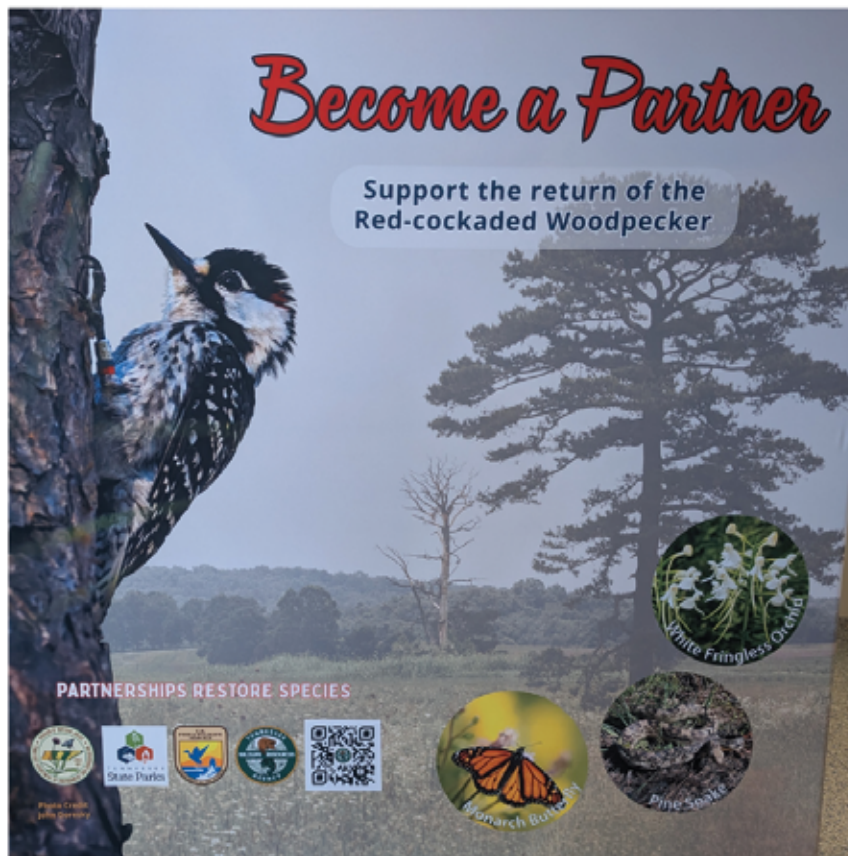
If you have any questions about our field trips or if you would be interested in leading a field trip at some point in the future please let me know.

-Ryan Pudwell

Red-Cockaded Woodpecker to be reintroduced in TN

“The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA), in partnership with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has announced a plan to reintroduce the Red-cockaded Woodpecker (RCW), a species extirpated from Tennessee in 1994.” (quoted from TWRA website)

The announcement was made at the inaugural Tennessee Biodiversity Summit held in Murfreesboro, TN on October 22 and included a message from Governor Bill Lee. The reintroduction is planned to take place in 2028 on a 1200 acre tract at Savage Gulf State Natural Area that was initially set aside to protect the white fringeless orchid. The scope of the project was expanded to include red-cockaded woodpeckers when they realized the site contained mature short-leaf pine habitat that could support the species.



[Click this link](#)
[or scan the QR code](#)
[to learn more](#)



Got a Winter Hummingbird?



HAVE YOU HAD A HUMMINGBIRD AT YOUR FEEDER
BETWEEN **NOVEMBER 1ST AND MARCH 15TH?**

OR

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT LEAVING OUT A
HUMMINGBIRD FEEDER ALL YEAR LONG?

HELP **SOUTHEASTERN AVIAN RESEARCH** CONTINUE OUR
ONGOING '**WINTER HUMMINGBIRD**' PROJECT!



Scan the QR code to find out more about winter hummingbirds and how you might become one of the lucky few who host one of these rare visitors.



Photos by:

John Matthew Erickson



California Towhee



Dark-eyed Junco



Seaside Sparrow



Song Sparrow



Volcano Junco



White-eared Ground Sparrow



LeConte's Sparrow



Clay-colored Sparrow



Henslow's Sparrow



Brewer's Sparrow



Grasshopper Sparrow



Field Sparrow

Photos by:

Sophie Dismukes

TOS Membership Information

Members may join online at www.birdmemphis.org or by mail.

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	\$15
Other Student	\$10
Lifetime	\$450 one time + \$18 yearly

Dues payable by PayPal at www.birdmemphis.org or by check, made out to MTOS.

Please send dues to: Barbara Pyles
8488 East Askersund Cove
Cordova, TN 38018
(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 Caroline Schratz caroline.schratz@gmail.com. If you have no internet access, a printed version can be mailed.

Chapter Newsletter Submissions

Email submissions to Sophie Dismukes
mtosnewsletter@gmail.com

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.
dickpreston48@gmail.com

Tennessee Warbler Deadlines

- *March 15 for the April Newsletter
- *July 15 for the August Newsletter
- *November 15 for the December Newsletter

Forward contributions to:
Theresa Graham, Editor
E-mail: 2graham@bellsouth.net

Chapter Meeting

November 19, 2025, 7:00pm

St. George's Episcopal Church
2435 South Germantown Rd. Germantown, TN
Phone: (901)-754-7282

Program

Jason Hoeksema, Dept of Biology, University of Mississippi
*Pop-up Wetlands, Window Collisions, and
Bird Conservation in the Mid-South*

Hospitality

Refreshments will be provided by Judy Dorsey &
Margaret Jefferson

Thank you to all who contributed to this month's newsletter!
For our next issue, we would like to feature some photos of:



Please send your submissions to mtosnewsletter@gmail.com

New Members

Jessica Becker, jessicahbecker@gmail.com
Marcia O'Brien, mkchmura@gmail.com

Treasurer's Report

As of October 22, 2025 the balance in the Treasury is \$14,603.36. No new business was conducted at the October chapter meeting.

MTOS Dues Policy Note

A new member who joins MTOS between September 1 and December 31 of a given year is credited with dues payment for the next full year.
Example: If a person joins MTOS on November 5, 2025, the due payment applies for the remainder of 2025 AND also covers the 2026 year.

Seeking Volunteer Talent

The chapter has a volunteer opening. Do you know how to produce nametags on a computer?

Could you make **2** to **8** nametags, once a month?

Contact Membership Chair Barbara Pyles at brbpyles@gmail.com for further details.

Meeting attendance is not required.