



# Newsletter for the Indiana Audubon Society **CARDINAL**

April 2012 | USPS 129-810 Vol. 42, No. 2 | ISSN 0162-8186



photo by Delano Z. Arvin, M.D.

## Upcoming Events

**Spring Birding Festival**  
5/4-6/2012 1:30 AM

**Kirtland's Warbler Foray**  
6/8-11/2012

**North Dakota Trip**  
6/9/2012 7:00 AM

**Fall Birding Festival in  
Brown County State Park**  
10/5-7/2012

For information about  
Christmas counts and more,  
go to [IndianaAudubon.org](http://IndianaAudubon.org)

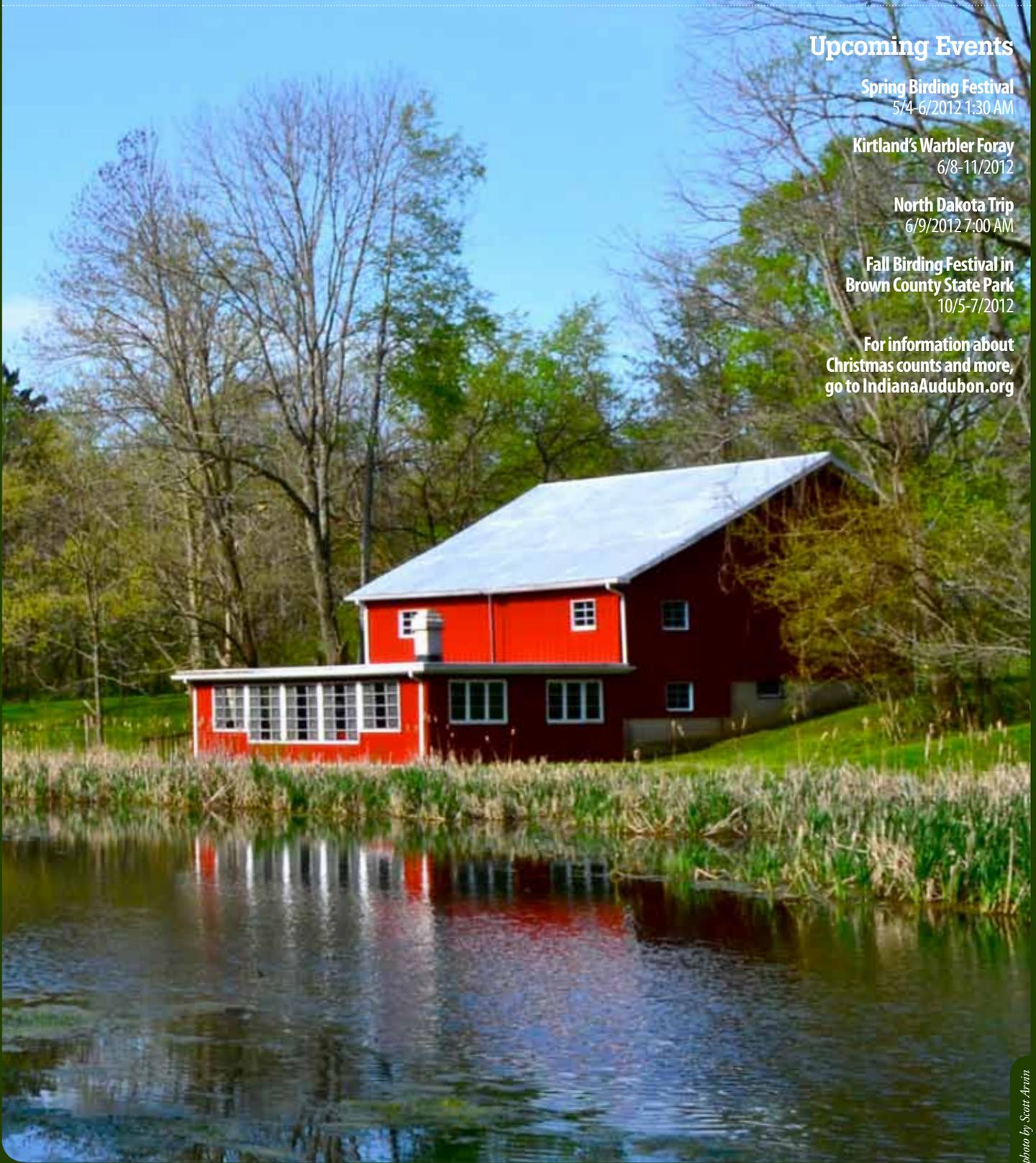


photo by Scott Arvin



# IAS Spring Meeting May 4-6, 2012

## Friday, May 4, 2012

### 8:00-9:00pm **The Galapagos of the Southern Ocean, A Shaggy Bird Story**

**Presenter: Betsy Wilson**

Join as you visit seven island chains located on the convergence of the Antarctic and Pacific Oceans between New Zealand and Antarctica to view pelagic birds. Some are very rare and breed only on these islands.

### 9:00pm **Movie: The Big Year**

## Saturday, May 5, 2012

### 6:30-8:30am **Breakfast**

Breakfast will once again be served by the Sanctuary Committee! Join the Sanctuary Committee for a great breakfast in Markle Barn. Carl Wilms is leading up this great fundraiser for the Sanctuary! (Word has it that Tim Shuppert, Bill Hummel, and Carl Wilms are cooking for us!)

### 7:00-Noon: **Birding the Whitewater Valley (Brookville, IN)**

**Leaders: Hardy Eshbaugh and Brad Bumgardner**

Join Hardy and Brad for a birding adventure on Brookville Lake and Whitewater State Park! This extended trip will allow participants time to enjoy the area.

### 9:00-11:30 **Songbird Banding Demonstration**

**Leader: Tim and Sophia Tolford**

You will have the opportunity to see songbirds up-close and personal through bird banding, a tool avian researchers use to study birds to ensure their preservation. Learn about this valuable research first-hand! Cameras welcome.

### **All Day Young Birder Activities**

The Indiana Young Birders Club will have some fun activities inside Brooks Hall for everyone to enjoy.

### **All Day The Big Sit**

Bird watching at the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary is such an enjoyable event, but sometimes it's nice to catch up with long lost friends that we haven't seen lately. Hence, the Big Sit! The goal will be to list what birds are seen from the front porch, bird blind, around Brooks Hall, and at the Sanctuary while folks catch up for the year.

### 12:00-1:00pm: **Lunch**

Back by popular demand, the Sanctuary Committee will be serving up a great outdoor meal at Markle Barn. The meal is free, but PLEASE be sure to pre-register (we don't want to run out of food). For participants enjoying the morning travel to Brookville, food will be available when you return!

### 2:00-3:00pm **Using Composition Techniques to Turn a Snapshot Into A Photograph**

**Leader: Allen King**

Bring your camera, tripod (if you have one), and instruction book. We will have a brief indoor session on composition and then move outside to make some images that practice the techniques. After learning about what it takes to be a good photographer, participants will be let loose to take photos at Mary Gray. Around 5pm, participants will turn in their 10 best photos to Amy Wilms (Amy will help everyone with the technology, too)! They will be shown in a video after the last program of the night. In addition, photos will be used on the Indiana Audubon Society website to promote the outdoors (full credit will be given to photographers).

### 3:00-3:30pm **Diversity in Birding**

**Presenter: Doug Gray**

With the changing demographics in the United States, Doug will be discussing why it is not only important that the faces of the people who bird change with those demographics...it's imperative. He will also be discussing things that may be "Barriers to Birding" to people of color.

### 3:30-4:00pm **Maine Through the Eyes of a Young Birder**

**Presenter: Scarlett Lynmarie Arvin**

Scarlett will lead a presentation about Maine wildlife from Acadia to Baxter State Park and the ocean.

### 4:15pm **IAS Board Meeting**

### 6pm **Dinner at Markle Barn**

### 7:30pm **Membership Meeting and Awards**

### 8:00-9:00pm **Hooked on Hummingbirds**

**Presenter: Sharon Sorenson**

Extensively illustrated with more than 100 photos, "Hooked on Hummingbirds" addresses hummingbird characteristics, their diet and metabolism, migration, and breeding and nesting. We'll also take a quick look at safely hosting them and a peek at banding results. Handout includes gardening suggestions and feeder/feeding recommendations.

### 9:15pm **Photos of the Day!**

Be sure to hang around for a few minutes and enjoy a video slide show made from photos taken throughout the day!

## Sunday, May 6, 2012

### 6:30am **Breakfast at Markle Barn**

Join the Sanctuary Committee for a great breakfast in Markle Barn. Carl Wilms is leading up this great fundraiser for the Sanctuary! (Word has it that Carl Wilms, Bill Hummel, and Tim Shuppert are cooking for us!)

### **Sunrise Birding with Brad**

**Leader: Brad Bumgardner, IAS President**

There's nothing like spring migration at the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary! Join long time birder, Brad Bumgardner as he walks through the prairies, woods, past the ponds, and pastures looking for the spring migrants that are passing through along with the resident birds of Mary Gray. Over 100 species were listed at the 2011 Festival!

### **After Breakfast The Big Sit at Brooks Hall**

**Leader: Amy Wilms**

Bird watching at the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary is such an enjoyable event, but sometimes it's nice to catch up with long lost friends that we haven't seen lately. Hence, the Big Sit! The goal will be to list what birds are seen from the front porch, bird blind, and around Brooks Hall while folks catch up for the year. (Please feel free to come and go as you like!)

### 9:00am **Bird Banding Demonstration**

**Leader: Tim and Sophia Tolford**

You will have the opportunity to see songbirds up-close and personal through bird banding, a tool avian researchers use to study birds to ensure their preservation. Learn about this valuable research first-hand! Cameras welcome.

## 10am Paleo-Plants of Mary Gray

### Leader: Jack Berninger

Paleo-Plants of Mary Gray - Ancient plants found at the Preserve that represent the evolutionary development of Earth's flora. Algae, mosses, lichens, ferns, equisetum, lycopodium, gymnosperms and angiosperms will be presented along with recent research and discoveries concerning some of these organisms. FIELD TRIP to follow program 11am - 12:30 pm to discover these plants.

## 12pm Lunch

Before you leave, be sure to join us for a light lunch at Markle Barn!

## Young Birder Festival Activities

The Indiana Young Birders Club will have some fun activities inside Brooks Hall for everyone to enjoy.

**IYBC Young Birder Quiz** - Come to Brooke's Hall anytime on Saturday and see how many birds you can identify correctly using your skills and the field guides provided. After you take the quiz, enter for a chance to win a Kaufman Field Guide to Birds of North America!!

**The Great Blue Jay Peanut Race** - Whose peanut will the Blue Jay take first? Come to Brookes Hall at 9a on Saturday morning to enter your peanut for a chance. The 1st place winner will receive a brand new field guide!

**Weekend Field Notebook Contest** - Create your own weekend field notebook of Spring

Festival memories and then enter your notebook on Sunday morning for a chance to win a very special field guide! Notebooks and materials will be available to young birders for pickup on Friday or Saturday.

**Bluebird Box Pizazz** - Come to Brookes Hall at anytime between 9a - 5p and paint the front door of a Bluebird house to be used on one of the boxes at Mary Gray or to take home and display in your home.

**Wii Flying** - Have you ever wanted to try and fly like a bird? We'll try!

**Rio!** - Join us at Brookes Hall to watch this awesome movie about the adventures of an endangered species. We'll have the popcorn and soda ready! Time to be announced.

## About the Presenters

### Scarlett Lynmarie Arvin

Scarlett is an active member of the Young Birders Club and currently serves as a Youth Advisor and Field Trip Leader. She has been attending IAS events for years and enjoys camping at the Sanctuary with her family. She regularly attends IAS Board Meetings and will one day be a leader in the nature field! Scarlett has a wonderful way of looking at the world and is always wearing a smile. In addition, she enjoys traveling and drawing (ask her to draw a bird for you while you're at the festival...you won't regret it!)

### Jack Berninger

Retired Biology Teacher but still involved in many educational lectures and field trips both in Mid-west and Florida. Currently doing field research on rare ferns found in Fakahatchee State Park in Florida. Member and program presenter for many scientific organizations.

### Brad Bumgardner

Brad Bumgardner serves as the Indiana Audubon President and is an interpretive naturalist for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, having worked a combined 10 years at Pokagon and Indiana Dunes State Park. Brad graduated from Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources, with specializations in Environmental Education and Ornithology.

### Hardy Eshbaugh

W. Hardy Eshbaugh (botany emeritus) is recipient of the 2007 Distinguished Economic Botanist Award, the highest honor given to professionals by the Society for Economic Botany (SEB).

In addition to his work on the origin and evolution of peppers (*Capsicum* spp.), Hardy has distinguished himself as a tireless advocate for biodiversity conservation, and he has greatly contributed to the next generation of botanists through his inspirational teaching of undergraduate and graduate students at Miami University," said Mary Eubanks, an SEB council member.

Eshbaugh has also contributed as a leader in professional service to the field of botany, holding the office of president of numerous organizations including the SEB, the Botanical Society of America, the American Society of Plant Taxonomists, the American Institute of Biological Sciences and the Audubon Society. He has served on the National Audubon Society Board and he played a key role in shaping the future of botany as worldwide chair of the Systematics Agenda 2000 - Charting the Biosphere Initiative.

### Doug Gray

Doug Gray was introduced to birding by his grandfather while growing up on the family farm in Clarksville, Tennessee. He currently resides in Franklin, Indiana and is a Senior Engineering Specialist in Parenteral Engineering at Eli Lilly & Company...but he readily admits he'd rather be birding. Doug is a former Director with the Amos W. Butler Audubon Society and is currently the contributing writer of "Bird of the Month" for the Indiana Audubon Society. Doug has led bird hikes throughout Indiana. For the last few years he's been a trip leader at the Rio Grande Birding Festival in Harlingen, Texas. This he year will be a leader at the Biggest Week in American Birding in Ohio. Doug was a panelist and speaker at last year's inaugural national conference called "Changing the Face of American Birding" held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Doug is known for introducing people of color to the world of birding, however, Doug considers his favorite bird hikes to be those with children as he loves engaging with the next generation of birdwatchers.

### Allen King

Allen has been doing photography since he was in the 8th grade. He has attended several workshops offered by Elderhostel and has won prizes at the state fair and in a nationwide competition. Allen is a past Board Member of IAS and is a current member of the Sanctuary Committee.

### Sharon Sorenson

Lifelong backyard birder and, more recently, international traveler/birder, Sharon Sorenson has written "For the Birds," an Evansville Courier and Press bi-weekly column, for more than ten years and authored

and illustrated "Feathers," a bi-monthly column for the online Posey Magazine since its inception in 2010. She and her husband, Charles, have conducted 160-plus seminars for an estimated 1,000 attendees, taught Introduction to Birding, an annual seven-session class to nearly 400 students, and co-founded the Evansville Birding Club boasting over 100 members. Author of more than 20 non-fiction texts, Sharon is currently under contract for a backyard birding book scheduled for release by Stackpole Books in August 2013.

### Tim Tolford

Tim Tolford is a federally licensed Master songbird and hummingbird bander. Tolford has been involved with bird banding research for 24 years and has over 11,000 banded birds to his credit. Through the Hummer/Bird Banding Research Collaborative (HBRC), funds have been awarded for bird bander training and education and ongoing research including Saw-whet Owl studies, neotropical migratory birds, breeding birds study, Bluebirds and Hummingbirds. Tim is the only bander in Indiana with a Hummingbird endorsement which allows him to band and study hummingbirds. Visit the WWW.HBRCNET.ORG website for more information and opportunities to become involved today!

### Chad Williams

Chad Williams is a Board Member of IAS. He founded the Indiana Young Birders Club (IYBC) and currently chairs the committee. Chad loves everything about the outdoors and shares his enthusiasm with everyone he meets. In addition, Chad runs a blog about his passion for birding called Birding! A Growing Obsession ([indianabirder.blogspot.com](http://indianabirder.blogspot.com)).

### Betsy Wilson

Betsy has been an active bird watcher for just about 25 years. She has a special interest in pelagic birds and has ventured near and far to see them. Betsy has served as an IAS Board Member and has worked with her husband George on the bird blind at the Sanctuary. She also enjoys (and knows a lot about) wildflowers. A walk with Betsy and George at the Sanctuary is a MUST when you are here!

# A LOOK BACK INTO IAS HISTORY

FORT WAYNE NEWS, FORT WAYNE, 21 MAY 1908, PAGE 2

## FLUTTERING OF WINGS

**BIRDS THEMSELVES EXCITED OVER AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING**  
FIRST SESSION TONIGHT IN HIGH SCHOOL ASSEMBLY ROOM WILL BE OPEN TO PUBLIC

The opening session of the Indiana State Audubon society meeting will be held this evening in the assembly room of the high school and as this meeting will be public a large attendance is expected. The program for this meeting is as follows.

For the city....Hon. Robert S. Taylor

For the Schools....Prof. J.N. Study

For the Allen County Society....C.A. Stockbridge

Music...Girls Orchestra, State School

President's Address....Amos W. Butler, Indianapolis "Our Birds in their Winter Homes." This address will be illustrated by stereopticon with slides from pictures taken by Mr. Butler in Florida last winter.

Mrs. Jean Stratton Porter, one of the most noted people in attendance at the meeting, will speak twice tomorrow. In the morning at 9 o'clock she will talk in the high school on "The Camera vs the Brush in Bird Reproduction." Friday evening at 8 o'clock in the high school auditorium she will speak again, her subject being "The Experiences of a Bird Woman." Especial interest attaches to Mrs. Porter's talks.

Besides the talks in the high school tomorrow morning the following persons will make addresses: Amos W. Butler, Indianapolis; Mrs. Julia

B.Conklin, Westfield; Mrs. August Detzer, Fort Wayne; Miss Florence A. Howe, Indianapolis; Judge McBride, Indianapolis; Cyrus D. Mead, Fort Wayne; Mrs. Dr. E.E. Morgan, Fort Wayne; Mrs. George M. Naylor, Fort Wayne; Charles E. Newlin, Irvington; AA. Ringwalt, Fort Wayne; Fred Sillery, Indianapolis; Charles A. Stockbridge, Fort Wayne; Mrs. Charles J. Smith, Fort Wayne; Miss Flora E. Wilbur, Fort Wayne; William Watson Woollen, Indianapolis.

The program for the morning meeting which will be held in the courthouse assembly room at 10:30 o'clock is as follows:

Bird Song in American Poetry.....Mrs. Julia B. Conklin, Westfield

What Birds Have Done for Deficient Children....Cyrus D. Mead

History of the Allen county Audubon Society....A.A. Ringwalt, Fort Wayne

Economic Value of Birds....W.W. Woollen, Indianapolis

Bird Anatomy....C.A. Stockbridge, Fort Wayne

At the afternoon meeting at 3:30 Dr. D.W. Dennis, of Earlham college, will deliver an address on "How to Attract Birds to Home of School Grounds."

### Some Notes on the "Fluttering Wings" article by Terri Gorney

In March 2012, while researching Gene Stratton Porter, I tried variations in the spelling of her name when doing a search on [www.fold3.com](http://www.fold3.com). I found the following article in the Indiana newspaper section of the website by using her first name spelled as Jean. The transcription is word-for-word as it appeared in the Fort Wayne News in 1908. I think it is an Indiana Audubon meeting that most of us wish we could have attended. Scott Arvin shared with me "The History of Indiana Audubon Society 1898-1998" by Charles E. Keller. For more information about some of the people mentioned in the article, please refer to this reference. From 1903-1911, Florence Howe was the secretary for IAS and there are no known minutes from the state meetings, so I am pleased to be able to share this newspaper article with the membership.

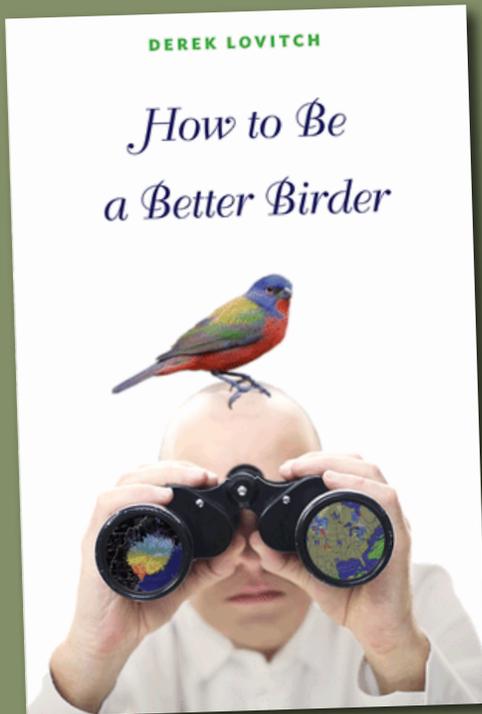
Currently, I am on the Friends of the Limberlost board in Geneva, the Stockbridge Audubon Society board in Fort Wayne and the Society of Indiana Pioneers board of governors in Indianapolis. I have uncovered several connections between these three groups.

#### Some historical notes:

The Indiana Audubon Society, Central District was renamed the Amos W. Butler Audubon Society in 1938. It is the largest Audubon chapter in Indiana and is based in Indianapolis. Don Gorney is the current president of this organization and provided this information. Amos Butler was a charter member of the Society of Indiana Pioneers in 1916 and its second president.

The Fort Wayne Audubon Society later became the Stockbridge Audubon Society in honor of Charles Stockbridge.

Gene Stratton Porter's homes in Geneva and Rome City are now both state historic sites. She was better known for her novels such as "The Girl of the Limberlost" and "Freckles," but she also wrote non fiction books, especially on birds. Gene was also an early wildlife photographer and artist. At the 50th anniversary IAS meeting in 1948, Frank Wallace spoke on Gene Stratton Porter.



**How to Be a Better Birder, by Derek Lovitch**

This unique illustrated handbook provides all the essential tools you need to become a better birder. Here Derek Lovitch offers a more effective way to go about identification—he calls it the “Whole Bird and More” approach—that will enable you to identify more birds, more quickly, more of the time. He demonstrates how to use geography and an understanding of habitats, ecology, and even the weather to enrich your birding experience and help you find something out of the ordinary. Lovitch shows how to track nocturnal migrants using radar, collect data for bird conservation, discover exciting rarities, develop patch lists—and much more.

This is the ideal resource for intermediate and advanced birders. Whether you want to build a bigger list or simply learn more about birds, *How to Be a Better Birder* will take your birding skills to the next level.

- Explains the “Whole Bird and More” approach to bird identification
- Demonstrates how to use geography, habitats, ecology, and the weather to be a better birder
- Shows how to bird at night using radar, collect conservation data, develop patch lists—and more
- Offers essential tools for intermediate and advanced birders

**Derek Lovitch** has worked on avian research and education projects throughout the United States, has written numerous articles for birding publications, and was a columnist for *Birding* magazine. He now owns and runs Freeport Wild Bird Supply in Maine.



*photos by Delano Z. Arvin, M.D.*

Bring your young birders to one of these incredible trips. It will be a great experience that they will remember for years to come.

**2012 Indiana Young Birder Field Trips**



5/4-6/2012	Indiana Audubon Society Spring Festival	Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary, Connersville, IN
5/19/2012 8:00 AM-12:00 PM	Birding for Migrants!	Eagle Creek Park, Indianapolis, IN
5/26/2012 10:00 AM-4:00 PM	It's All About the Birds!	Salamonie Reservoir, Andrews, IN
6/30/2012 9:00 AM-3:00 PM	Turkey Vultures and Bio Blitz with Scarlett Arvin!	Dr. Delano Arvin, M.D., Property, Lafayette IN
9/2/2012 10:00 AM-3:00 PM	It's All About the Birds!	Interpretive Center, Dunes State Park, Chesterton, IN
9/8/2012 7:30 AM-12:00 PM	Lakefront Birding with Landon Neumann!	Lake Michigan Lakefront, Details TBA
10/5-7/2012	Indiana Audubon Society Fall Festival	Brown County State Park, Nashville, IN

For more information go to [www.indianayoungbirders.org](http://www.indianayoungbirders.org)



## Spring Festival Registration

Please consider filling out your registration form and paying with PayPal by going to: [www.indianaudubon.org](http://www.indianaudubon.org) and clicking on the Spring Festival link under activities. Otherwise, please fill out this form and follow the instructions below.

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Who else are you registering? Please provide first and last names (print please)**

Guest 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest 3: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest 4: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration (Before April 30)**

How many adult IAS Members will be attending? # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15 each \_\_\_\_\_

How many children will be attending? (No Charge for youth 15 and under) # \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration (after April 30)**

How many adult IAS Members will be attending? # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$25 each \_\_\_\_\_

How many children (15 and under) will be attending? (No Charge) # \_\_\_\_\_

**Non Members** (Registration includes an Individual Membership or Student Membership if 16 and over)

How many adult IAS Non-Members will be attending? # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$55 each \_\_\_\_\_

How many youth Non-Members will be attending? (16 and over) # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20 each \_\_\_\_\_

How many children Non-Members will be attending? (15 and under free) # \_\_\_\_\_

**Meals**

Saturday Breakfast (\$5 each adults - \$2 each children 15 and under) # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$5/\$2 each \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Lunch (no charge) # \_\_\_\_\_ X No charge \$0.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Dinner (\$8 each adults - \$3 each children 15 and under) # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$8/\$3 each \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday Breakfast (\$5 each adults - \$2 each children 15 and under) # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$5/\$2 each \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday Lunch (\$5 each adults - \$2 each children 15 and under) # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$5/\$2 each \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

\* I would like a vegetarian meal # \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Instructions:** Payment may be made by mailing a check or registering online. Registrations must be received by Amy Wilms before **May 1, 2012**. If you know you are coming and prefer to pay at the Festival, send an email to Amy Wilms ([wilmsab@muohio.edu](mailto:wilmsab@muohio.edu)). Be sure to let her know how many you are registering and the number of meals you will purchase.

Checks

**Please make your check out to Indiana Audubon Society and mail to:**

Indiana Audubon Society, C/O Amy Wilms  
3499 S Bird Sanctuary Rd  
Connersville, IN 47331

My check is enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Flowers, morels, and new nests are some of the scenes of spring. If you're lucky enough to get out and wander in the woods then you may have come across some of these below.

*photos by Scott Arvin*



*Return Service Requested*

[www.indianadubon.org](http://www.indianadubon.org)

**The Cardinal**  
3499 S. Bird Sanctuary Rd.  
Connersville, IN 47331

