



Newsletter for the Indiana Audubon Society

CARDINAL

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Upcoming Events

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

For information go to IndianaAudubon.org



photo by Kyle Arvin



Indiana Audubon Fall Festival

Brown County State Park

Join us for a weekend of fun at the Fall Festival from October 5-7 in beautiful Brown County State Park where we will be surrounded by the fall colors that Brown County is famous for. There will be a full schedule of activities that include field trips, bird banding, and presentations that will be capped off at an evening keynote by Greg Miller of The Big Year fame. Register before September 5th to get the early bird discounts. We hope to see everyone in Brown County!

■ October 5-7, 2012

Friday, October 5, 2012

8:00-9:00pm Nesting Raptors of Indiana

Presenter: Indiana Raptor Center

Information regarding the natural history of raptors that nest in Indiana, along with facts about their important economic influence on our food supply will be presented, and handouts on topics such as how to build raptor nest boxes, field markings for flying raptors, and first line rescue procedures for finders of injured animals will be provided. The program includes the presentation of several species of live birds that could be anything from a screech owl to a bald eagle! Photos and flash are permitted in an up-close controlled encounter.

Saturday, October 6, 2012

7:30-Noon Birding Lake Lemon and Beyond

Leaders: Jim and Susan Hengeveld

Join local birders Jim and Susan for a tour of Lake Lemon, Yellowwood State Forest, and beyond. The trip will focus on the late migrants that can be found around Brown and Monroe Counties as well as waterfowl and shorebirds.

7:30-Noon Birding Around Lake Monroe I

Leaders: Brad Bumgardner and Lee Sterrenburg

Brad and Lee will lead one of two birding

expeditions around the Lake Monroe area.

This trip will lead participants through a variety of habitats around the lake. Like the other trips, we will focus on late migrant warblers, waterfowl and shorebirds. Potential stops include Cutright, Fairfax, Paynetown, and Pine Grove State Recreation Areas, Stillwater Marsh, and Friendship Road.

7:30-Noon Birding Around Lake Monroe II

Leaders: Ethan Kistler and Rob Ripma

Ethan and Rob will lead the second of the two trips to Lake Monroe. This trip will lead participants through a variety of habitats around the lake. Like the other trips, we will focus on late migrant warblers, waterfowl and shorebirds. Potential stops include Cutright, Fairfax, Paynetown, and Pine Grove State Recreation Areas, Stillwater Marsh, and Friendship Road.

9:00-11:00 Songbird Banding Demonstration

Leader: John Schaust

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.

10:00-Noon Young Birder Club - Document Nature Your Way!

Hey Young Birders, bring your parents, friends, binoculars and artistic abilities to the lobby and let's go exploring. We'll start with a hike and then come back to some colored pencils, crayons, and notepads and create a notebook of your findings. Draw some pictures, tell a story, or both - it's up to you! This will be a great opportunity to express what you love most about nature. On Saturday night, as part of the IYBC 100 Guide Giveaway a minimum of one winner will be selected to receive an awesome new field guide. Your choice; Butterflies, Insects, Mammals, or Birds.

12:30-1:30pm: IAS Board Meeting

2:00-3:00pm Isolation of Young Birders: Why Adults Should and Need to Support Young Birders

Presenter: Landon Neumann

Come hear Indiana Young Birders Club youth advisory panel member Landon Neumann talk about his adventures as a young birder in rural Cass County. Landon will also talk why it is important that adults support and promote young birder programs.

3:00-4:00pm The Birds of Puerto Rico

Presenter: Chuck Mills

Puerto Rico is vibrant island located only about 2000 miles southwest of Indiana. It has been a part of the United States for over 100 years. It

contains 17 endemic bird species along with about 25 endemic West Indies bird species. To add to the tropical flavor there are around 15 easily observed introduced species many of which are parrots. The Indiana Audubon Society is planning a trip there this winter. Join Chuck for an early look at both the habitat and the birds of Puerto Rico. Chuck spends about three months there each year and is active in the Puerto Rican Ornithological society.

4:00-5:00pm Nomadic Birder: Backbacking Across Africa

Presenter: Ethan Kistler

Ethan Kistler will be presenting on his four-month odyssey across Africa. Relying on hitchhiking and human kindness he made his way across nine African countries, absorbing local culture, unique birds and fantastic wildlife.

6:00-9:00pm Dinner, Membership Meeting and Keynote Presentation

Keynote Presenter: Greg Miller

In 2001, birders around the country celebrated the fact that birds & birding made it to Hollywood's Big Screen when the book, *The Big Year: A Tale of Man, Nature and Fowl Obsession*, by Mark Obmascik became a full-length feature film! Directed by David Frankel, the movie stars Steve Martin, Jack Black and Owen Wilson. Ohio native Greg Miller was portrayed in the book and played by Jack Black in the movie. Greg will be here with us to share his experiences on the movie set, what it was like to watch the movie for the first time in the theater, and life after being portrayed in a Hollywood movie.

9:30pm Movie: *The Big Year*

Join us for a screening of the the very movie



that has made Greg Miller famous!

Sunday, October 7, 2012

7:30-10:30am Birding Lake Lemon and Beyond

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11:00am-Noon Population Decline of the American Kestrel: IAS is proud participate in the Peregrine Fund's "American Kestrel Partnership"

Leader: Jeff Canada

Launched in response to kestrel population declines across much of North America, The Peregrine Fund's American Kestrel Partnership is a network of citizen and professional scientists working to collaboratively advance kestrel demographics and conservation.

***** There will be a live Kestrel at the program

■ **Nominate an IAS Member Today!**

Indiana Audubon Society members are encouraged to nominate a member you know for one of two annual awards the society bestows each year. The Earl Brooks Award is given to an individual "for advancement of conservation of natural resources in Indiana." The award recipient does not have to be an Indiana Audubon Society member. The James H Mason Service Award is presented to a member of the Indiana Audubon Society who has dedicated themselves through service to the society. It serves as an inspiration and focus for others to work with such individuals. More information on each award can be found at: <http://www.indianaaudubon.org/AboutIAS/AwardsOverview/tabid/75/Default.aspx>. Deadline for 2011 nominations is September 1, 2012. Awards will be presented at the Fall Birding Festival at Brown County State Park.

■ **Grants/Scholarship Fall Deadline Approaching**

The Indiana Audubon Society is pleased to announce the fall funding for the Mumford and Keller Grants/Scholarship Program in 2012. This program is for individuals and organizations that are seeking funding for activities related to Indiana's natural resources, particularly those related to Indiana's avifauna. This year's funding has been set aside for applicants in many categories, including, but not limited to: research, bird preservation, workshop attendance, and youth birding activities.

Applications for fall funding are due by September 1, 2012, and are announced at the Fall Birding Festival at Brown County State Park. Applications and more information are on the Indiana Audubon Society website (www.indianaaudubon.org). For questions about possible funding projects, email IAS President, Brad Bumgardner, at bumgbj01@hotmail.com.



Tour Puerto Rico!

© GAF



DAY 1—ARRIVAL DAY

Arrivals by mid afternoon at Luis Munoz Marín International Airport (SJU)

DAY 2—NORTH-CENTRAL

Great diversity of habitats: lagoons, coastal forests, karst forests, rain forests, cliffs, ponds, coast, marsh and grassland. Between 8-10 endemics.

Endemic species possible this day are:

Adelaide's Warbler, Puerto Rican Vireo, Puerto Rican Tody, Puerto Rican Woodpecker, Puerto Rican Flycatcher, Puerto Rican Lizard-Cuckoo, Puerto Rican Spindalis, Puerto Rican Bullfinch, Puerto Rican Screech-Owl, Puerto Rican Oriole, Puerto Rican Emerald, Green Mango, Puerto Rican Parrot. Antillean Mango, Grasshopper Sparrow, Antillean Euphonia, Bridled Tern, Loggerhead Kingbird, Orange Bishop, Roseate Tern, Masked Duck, Ruddy Duck, Least Grebe, Pied-billed Grebe, White-cheeked Pintail, White-crowned Pigeon, Caribbean Coot, American Coot, Yellow-breasted Cuckoo, Key West Quail-Dove, Ruddy Quail-Dove and migratory birds (Shorebirds, Warblers).

DAY 3—MARICAO, SOUTHWEST

Endemic species possible this day are:

Elfin-woods Warbler, Puerto Rican Tanager, Puerto Rican Emerald, Puerto Rican Vireo, Puerto Rican Tody, Puerto Rican Woodpecker, Puerto Rican Flycatcher, Puerto Rican Lizard-Cuckoo, Puerto Rican Spindalis, Puerto Rican Bullfinch, Puerto Rican Oriole,

Green Mango and Puerto Rican Nightjar (at night) and Yellow-shouldered Blackbird.

Target birds for the day include:

Caribbean Elaenia, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Puerto Rican Pewee and Clapper Rail.

DAY 4—CARTAGENA LAGOON, PLAIN PIGEON SPOT

Depends on the needs we can go to some spot after Cartagena Lagoon.

Target birds for the day include:

West Indian Whistling-Duck and Plain Pigeon.

DAY 5—EL YUNQUE, OLD SAN JUAN

Located on the Caribbean Island of Puerto Rico in the Greater Antilles group, the El Yunque National Forest is the sole tropical rain forest in the U.S. National Forest System. The forest's relatively small 28,000 acre size belies its importance. It differs significantly from all the other U.S. National Forests because of its year-round tropical climate and immense biodiversity.

On evening you'll be transported to the 16th century with a guided tour in the living museum of the Old San Juan, the oldest city in US.

Farewell dinner.

DAY 6—DEPARTURE DAY

Transportation to the airport for flights.

Hola! My name is Gabriel Lugo.



I'll be your guide and companion in search for our beautiful birds. I hope to serve you and fulfill your wish list.

I'm an independent custom birding tour guide whose only goal is to give you the best of Puerto Rico.

Fully aware, expert: ready to serve you.

I'll be happy to make your birding trip, one you can not forget.

You'll be taken through the most beautiful natural reserves and best spots I know.

Always respecting basic ethical guidelines for bird watching and avoiding the least possible human impact.

The tour starts and ends in San Juan Puerto Rico

Trip Includes: Guide / All meals / Accommodation / Checklist / Entrance Fees / Travel within Puerto Rico

NOT Included: Participant airfare and luggage costs, trip insurance, alcoholic beverages, gratuities, phone calls, laundry, or other items of a personal nature.

The trip will be organized by Wildside Nature Tours.

The tour dates are **February 28th to March 5th, 2013**

Price is \$1525 with a single supplement of \$375.

Deposit of \$300. Checks are to be made out to IAS.

Final payment must be made 90 days before the trip.

A minimum of 8 are required with a maximum of 14 to make the trip work.

Contact: Chuck Mills ccmills@wowway.com

Alan Bruner abbird@att.net

Brad Bumgardner bumgbj01@hotmail.com



Photos from Spring Audubon at Mary Gray



■ Prairie Chicken Field Trip Recap

The Indiana Audubon Society reserved the Prairie Chicken blinds at Prairie Ridge State Natural Area at Newton Illinois on Friday April 6 and Saturday April 14. Participants were able to enjoy the antics of eight male Greater Prairie Chickens which had little to get excited about. Only three hens showed up on April 6 and none on April 14. There were two reasons for this: the population is down as there were only 20 booming males this spring compared to 40 last year, and the advanced warm weather resulted in early mating with the hens already attending nests.

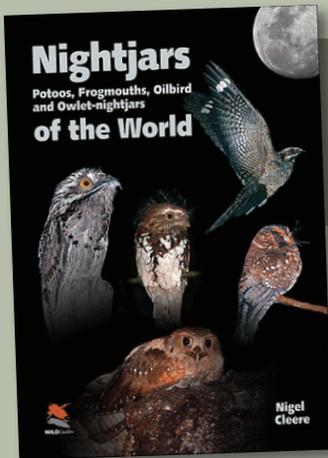
Yours truly was unable to attend but David and Sally Crouch gave the following report for Friday April 6:

"Sally and I had a wonderful outing at Prairie Ridge Illinois today. Our Indiana Audubon group had terrific views of eleven Greater Prairie-Chickens including 3 females and 8 booming males. The boys did not over perform as there were no copulations witnessed but lots of interaction and wonderful viewing of life birds for us. Hopefully, the Illinois folks can see their way to continuing the blinds as there are few other alternatives for birds enthusiasts to see this colorful species on the lek. We have been privileged to see cousin species (Spruce, Ruffed, Sharp-tailed and Sage Grouse as well as Gray Partridge and others in the west but the lek experience is excellent. We also had a Loggerhead Shrike and 26

Pectoral Sandpipers the evening before as we were scouting our dark of the morning route. Thanks to the Indiana Audubon and your personal guidance with this outing."

The Saturday trip was almost canceled due to an approaching strong storm. "Déjà vu" – participants were run out of the blinds by severe storms in 2011. Fortunately the skies cleared and the show was on. Tim Street gives his account of the morning on his blog – <http://www.timstreetphoto.com/blog/prairie-chickens/> .

Alan W. Bruner
IAS Field Trip Chair



Nightjars, Potoos, Frogmouths, Oilbird, and Owllet-nightjars of the World

Nigel Cleere

This is the ultimate identification guide to the nightjars, potoos, frogmouths, Oilbird, and owllet-nightjars of the world. Covering all 135 known species of these elusive and cryptically plumaged birds, this illustrated guide features more than 580 superb color photographs depicting every species and many subspecies, including

numerous images never before published. Photos of museum specimens are provided for birds for which no images in the wild exist, including species not seen since their original discovery. Detailed species accounts describe key identification features, confusion species, vocalizations, distribution, habitat and altitudinal range, breeding season and sites, egg type and clutch size, downy chick, status, and Red List category. This easy-to-use photographic guide also includes a color distribution map for every species as well as sections on plumage, taxonomy, and more.

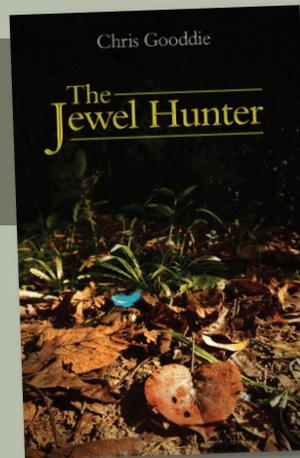
The ultimate identification guide to these elusive birds

- Covers all 135 known species
- Features more than 580 color photos
- Provides detailed species accounts and a color distribution map for every species
- Includes sections on plumage, taxonomy, and more

Nigel Cleere is an ornithologist and expert on nightjars and related species. He has traveled the world to observe and conduct research on these secretive birds. He is the author of *Nightjars: A Guide to the Nightjars, Nighthawks, and Their Relatives*.

Great descriptions and photos. A wonderful look at the variety of these very unique birds.

Scott Arvin



The Jewel Hunter

Chris Goodie

A tale of one man's obsession with rainforest jewels, this is the story of an impossible dream: a quest to see every one of the world's most elusive avian gems—a group of birds known as pittas—in a single year.

Insightful, compelling, and laugh-out-loud funny, this is more than a book about birds.

It's a true story detailing the lengths to which a man will go to escape his midlife crisis. A travelogue with a difference, it follows a journey from the suburban straitjacket of High Wycombe to the steamy, leech-infested rainforests of remotest Asia, Africa, and Australia.

Dangerous situations, personal traumas, and logistical nightmares threaten *The Jewel Hunter's* progress. Will venomous snakes or razor-clawed bears intervene? Or will running out of fuel mid-Pacific ultimately sink the mission? The race is on. . . .

If you've ever yearned to escape your day job, wondered what makes men tick, or simply puzzled over how to make a truly world-class cup of tea, this is a book for you.

Chris Goodie set fire to a carefully constructed career ladder and warmed his hands over the flames. Then he went traveling all over Asia and beyond in pursuit of the world's most beautiful birds, the pittas.

An interesting read. The author rambles in parts but it's good overall.

Scott Arvin

■ 2012 IYBC Field Trips

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



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



Showy Lady Slipper from spring.
photos by Scott Arvin

Return Service Requested

www.indianadudbon.org

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

