

Indiana Audubon Society

CARDINAL

NEWSLETTER • OCT-NOV 2020 • Vol.51 No.5



THE OWLS ARE COMING...

LOOK INSIDE FOR OWL BANDING , OWL TRIPS , AND MORE!

Production Team

Executive Director
Brad Bumgardner

Editor & Graphic Designer
Sam Warren

Editor
Mark Welter

Contributors
Annie Aguirre
Brad Bumgardner
Vern Gillum
Karen Henman
Wes Homoya
Sam Warren
Amy Wilms

Layout Designer
Annie Aguirre

The *Cardinal* Newsletter is a bi-monthly publication of the Indiana Audubon Society. Its purpose is to share stories and conversations so that members and the birding community beyond can stay meaningfully connected both to birds and to the people dedicated to their protection.



On the cover:
Northern Saw-whet Owl
by Ryan Sanderson

JOIN —OR— RENEW TODAY

INDIVIDUAL \$30
BASIC BENEFITS FOR 1 ADULT

FAMILY \$40
SIGN UP THE FAMILY FLOCK

CONTRIBUTING \$50
ENJOY BENEFACTOR BENEFITS

CARDINAL CLUB \$100
EXCLUSIVE PRIVILEGES & BEYOND

LIFE \$675
BECOME A LIFER WITH IAS

LIBRARY \$100
A PARTNERSHIP WITH PERKS

FLEDGLING \$5
AGES UP TO 11

STUDENT \$20
AGES 12-18

MEMBERSHIP PERKS	Individual	Family	Contributing	Cardinal Club	Life	Library	Fledgling	Student
Access to bi-monthly & quarterly newsletters	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mailed printed copies of bi-monthly & quarterly newsletters			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Complete access to Birds of North America Database	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Discounted Field Trips & Programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Special Access to Mary Gray Birding Sanctuary	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
15% discount on all IAS online store merchandise				✓	✓			
Register a friend to any IAS field trip at member rate				✓				

➤ Be a part of Indiana Audubon Society! Sign up at: Indianaaudubon.org/membership



UPCOMING TRIPS & EVENTS

The Indiana Audubon Field Trips Committee is continuing field trips, while adhering to the most up to date health and safety recommendations. To comply with CDC guidelines all field trips will follow the following restrictions:

- All IAS trip participants must pre-register in advance for upcoming field trips
- All IAS 2020 Field Trips are limited to 10 participants
- All participants must utilize facial covering and/or social distancing during any field trip
- All non-related participants should plan on traveling separately rather than carpool during multiple location trips

OCTOBER 10: Lye Creek Sparrows Field Trip [Lye Creek Burn, Crawfordsville]

OCTOBER 15-NOVEMBER 15: Dunes Saw-whet Owl Banding Demos [Indiana Dunes NP, Chesterton]

NOVEMBER 7: Late Fall on Lake Michigan Field Trip [Indiana Dunes NP, Chesterton]

NOVEMBER 7: Indiana Audubon Night of the Owls [Multiple Locations]

NOVEMBER 29: Goose Pond Late Fall Raptors Field Trip [Goose Pond FWA, Linton]

DECEMBER 14-JANUARY 5: Audubon Christmas Bird Counts [Multiple Locations]

Visit the Indiana Audubon Events Page at WWW.INDIANA AUDUBON.ORG/EVENTS to see the fall field trips and events now posted for registration. These trips will fill fast!



CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

This year marks the 121th annual Christmas Bird Count. The Christmas Bird Count (CBC) is a long-standing program of the National Audubon Society, with over 100 years of community science involvement. It is an early-winter bird census, where thousands of volunteers across the U.S., Canada, and many countries in the Western Hemisphere go out over a 24-hour period on one calendar day to count birds.

To participate, circles should be registered with the National Audubon as an official count circle, with dedicated compiler. While Indiana Audubon doesn't organize the count, we do try to provide Hoosier birders with the full list of active counts and where birders can participate during the entire Christmas Count season, December 14-January 5.

If you're conducting an official Christmas Bird Count this holiday season, be sure to send your count details to Brad Bumgardner, at bbumgardner@indianaaudubon.org for inclusion in our bird counts page.



2021 WINTER OWL TRIPS

Indiana Audubon Society will again be offering two amazing trips into the winter northwoods in search of wintering owls and other specialty birds of the northwoods. These trips fill fast each year, with waiting lists.

The first trip will visit the eastern UP of Michigan, where annual Snowy Owl numbers make seeing these amazing arctic birds a near certainty, with many years witnessing a dozen or more of these giant white owls. Other specialties often include Bald Eagles, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Bohemian Waxwings, Evening Grosbeaks, and Common Redpolls. This year's Winter UP trip is scheduled for February 5-7, 2021.

Our second trip is our extended weekend to Duluth at the famous Sax-Zim Bog. The bog is well known for its Great-gray and Northern Hawk Owls, as well as an assortment of winter finches and northwood specialties, such as Canada Jay, Pine Grosbeak, and Boreal Chickadee. This year's Winter Duluth trip is scheduled for February 12-15.

Book your winter trip now at INDIANAUDUBON.ORG/EVENTS
Space is limited and goes fast!

Mark your calendars for the fall Big Day event! All you have to do is go out and bird on October 17th - from wherever you are- and record it on your free eBird account! That's it!

Last October, Indiana ranked #22 in the nation, with 290 checklists and 156 species observed. For Big Day in May 2020, we pulled off an impressive 1745 checklists and 236 species, putting Indiana at #18.

For more information on how to participate and be entered to win prizes, visit INDIANAUDUBON.ORG

FALL BIG DAY OCTOBER 17, 2020

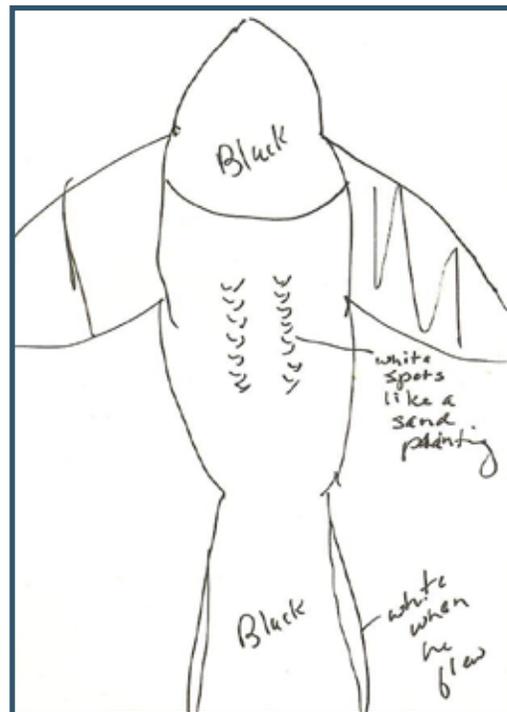
HELP US CRACK THE TOP 20
STATES FOR A #BIGIN20 YEAR!

BIRD ID QUIZ

Congrats to everyone that submitted a guess in our previous bird ID quiz. Special thanks to Heath Harlan for providing the photo of a BELL'S VIREO. Richard Garrett was successful in identifying it and was our July winner.

The Indiana Bird Records Committee receives documentation of rare birds in several forms. When photos are not available, some submitters provide field notes and drawings to document a rare bird sighting. Can you guess what rare bird is being documented in this 2006 sketch received?

Submit your guesses to Sam Warren at swarren@indianaudubon.org by November 15 for your chance to win an IAS prize!



#RecreateResponsibly at Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Check the status of MGBS and its programs before you go. If it is crowded, have a back up plan.

PLAN AHEAD

Prepare for bathroom or facility closures, pack a lunch, and bring essentials like hand sanitizer and face coverings with you.

LEAVE NO TRACE

Respect our precious lands and waters. Take all your garbage out.

PLAY IT SAFE

Slow down to choose lower risk activities to reduce your risk to injury. Search and rescue operations and health care resources are both strained.

EXPLORE LOCALLY

Limit long-distance travel and make use of local parks, trails, and public spaces. Be mindful of your impact on the communities you visit.

PRACTICE PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Keep your group size small. Be prepared to cover your nose and mouth with a mask and give others space. If you are sick, stay home.



INDIANA BIRDING HIGHLIGHT

TIPPECANOE RIVER STATE PARK

BY: VERN GILLUM

With well over 90% of Northwest Indiana developed into either urban areas or farmland, Tippecanoe River State Park serve as an oasis for birds and wildlife. It also offers a diversity



of ecological communities that may attract different species. The park has a centrally located small, shallow lake, which is good area to observe waterfowl, herons, and Yellow Warblers, Common Yellowthroats and other passerines that frequent water's edges. Much of the property is wooded, varying from dry sand hills to



low river bottoms. Sand Hill Nature Preserve, which includes a small oak savanna, is in the Northwest section of the property. Whippoorwills can sometimes be heard in the summer near the rent-a-camp cabins and Tepicon Recreation Building area. Observation decks located in the River Picnic Area are good locations to watch for ducks, geese, herons and other wetland species. The

Tippecanoe River borders the property for seven miles on the east side and a canoe or kayak trip when conditions are right is likely to result in good birding for waterfowl, herons and nesting passerine species. The summer-only nature center in the River Picnic Area provides information and feeders for watching birds as well. 🍁

TIMING

Typical Time to Bird Site: 1-4 hours

Best Time to Bird: Many species utilize Tippecanoe as a temporary stopping point during migration. The waterfowl area sees the biggest variety of species during the spring migration. Spring and fall are good times for neotropical migrants. The many pines planted can host winter finches, and

are home to nesting Brown Creepers, a rare breeding find for Indiana.

Hours: 7am-11pm daily

GETTING THERE

Address: 4200 North US Highway 35 Winamac, IN 46996

Directions: The park is easily accessed 3 miles north of the town of Winamac on Highway 35.

Parking: Available on the east side of

the waterfowl area/ lake, in the River Picnic Area, near the park's firetower, at the Tepicon Recreation Building and in several other locations at the property.

SITE LOGISTICS

Admission: \$5/person

Ownership: Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Parks

Restrictions: Please obey all rules and

regulations. A summary of property rules can be found at stateparks.IN.gov/6468.htm.

Accessibility: There are accessible restrooms located in some areas of the park and the River Picnic Area has a flat walkway with access to an overlook of the river.

Nearby Amenities: The property office has modern restrooms and vault toilets are located throughout the property. rent-a-camp

camper cabins, and a campground with both electric and primitive sites. Winamac and Knox towns nearby provide overnight lodging options.

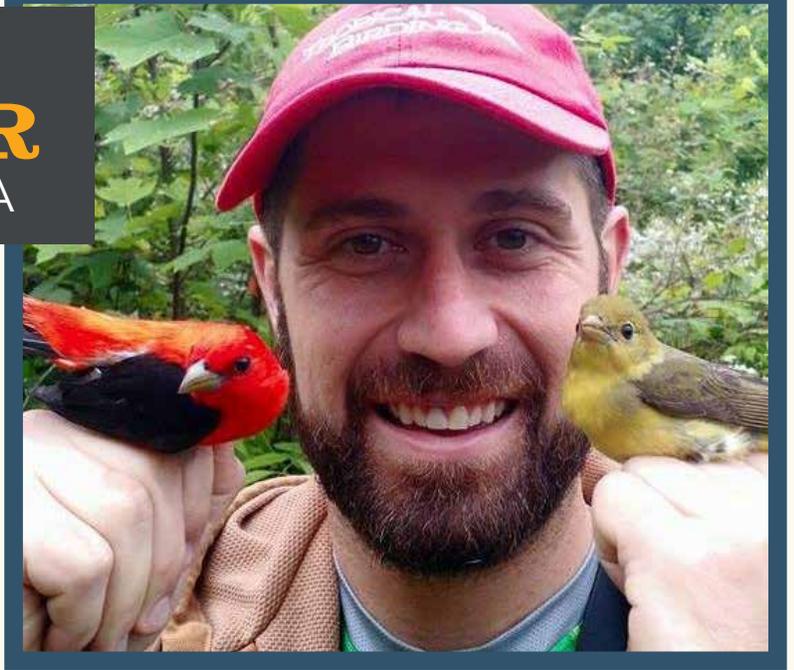
CONTACT INFO

Website: stateparks.IN.gov

Phone Number: (574) 946-3213

eBird Hotspot Link: ebird.org/hotspot/L3172456

meet a **MEMBER** WES HOMOYA



Q TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF. WHERE ARE YOU FROM? FAMILY?

Well first off, I just wanna say “Howdy!” to all the readers out there- if I haven’t birded with you yet, I hope to get the opportunity someday. As for my background, I was born and raised in Indiana, and as such am a firm believer in practicing Hoosier hospitality- living graciously with each other on this planet we all call home. This ethic was instilled in me by my parents: Barb, a nature-loving nurse who taught me compassion for little things like salamanders, and Michael, a botanist and author who exemplifies not only why it’s important to know the names of the flora and fauna around you, but why we must share this knowledge with others. Eventually this desire to learn led to studying ecology and ornithology at Purdue University under Dr. Barny Dunning. Various employments since have allowed me to live, work, and bird in places as varied as Australia, Maui, Brazil, the Galapagos, Hungary, SE Asia, and Ecuador. Currently, I make my living in the eastern plains of Colorado and the Great Midwestern Corn Desert doing migratory bird and raptor surveys in areas where green energy companies are seeking to install wind turbines. In my free time, I spend my days foraging wild ingredients for my kitchen table and for my brother’s libations at Ash & Elm Cider, going to concerts, and being an ambassador for birds and conservation in any way I can, whether via the Lights Out Indy project for the local Audubon chapter, competing on my Birdathon and Florathon teams each May, or getting folks pumped up about birds n booze at my quarterly event series Feathers & Fermentation.

Q DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE BIRD OR GROUP OF BIRDS?

As any longtime birder can attest, you have to have an answer ready for this question, because it invariably is one of the first questions that muggles, I mean, non-birders will ask you when they found out WHAT YOU ARE. So, even though I have hundreds of favorites, my canned response is (in so many words) “my favorite local bird is the Barn Owl, for its elegance and for its cooperative relationship with traditional farmlands. My favorite bird in the world is the Southern Cassowary, a bizarre, Australasian relative of the Ostrich that holds the title of World’s Most Dangerous Bird, known to have killed dozens of people by either evisceration or blunt force trauma. It also makes giant neon green eggs (seriously, google it).

Q ADVICE TO NEW BIRDERS GETTING INTO THE HOBBY?

Cherish the feeling of each new lifer and then find a way to get that same rush from each new birding experience you have, whether that be finding your first Great Horned Owl nest, successfully enticing warblers to visit the new water feature you installed, or the vicarious thrill of getting another new birder their very own lifers. More than anything, GET INVOLVED. Trust me, you are needed by your local, regional, national, and global bird and conservation orgs and you definitely do have a role to play. Whether or not you think you have the skills or personality for it- you do. Oh, and don’t give a second thought to more experienced birders if they make you feel “less than” for not knowing something. It’s about the birds, not our egos.

Q ANY CURRENT BIRD ISSUES OR THREATS YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT?

Sadly, there are plenty of options to choose from, aren’t there? Pioneering conservationist Aldo Leopold once wrote “One of the penalties of an ecological education is that one lives alone in a world of wounds.” Sometimes we birders and lovers of nature can feel overwhelmed by the loss of habitat, deregulation of environmental protections, and billions of birds perishing at the hand of cats’ paws and buildings’ windows. Yet, we must never give up hope. We must be lionhearted Loraxes, speaking for the birds. Leopold also wrote this, after all- “We shall never achieve harmony with the land, anymore than we shall achieve absolute justice or liberty for people. In these higher aspirations the important thing is not to achieve but to strive.” So strive we must. There are so many threats, and no single person can hope to work on them all. Choose 1 or 2 projects and devote consistent effort to them. Find a local natural area and make sure it’s protected, remove invasive species from it, lead bird walks there, etc. Donate or raise funds for Audubon, American Bird Conservancy, your local land trusts, and the DNR Nongame Wildlife Fund. If you live in the greater Indianapolis area, volunteer with me and the Lights Out Indy crew and help us get the building owners and managers to make our city safer for birds.



BIRDING IN THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

By Sam Warren

It's safe to say that 2020 hasn't turned out how anyone expected. In light of COVID-19, people are staying home more often and going out less often. When the lockdowns and quarantines were enacted in March and April, most people were forced to drastically change their routine and many public establishments were closed for in-person visits. Luckily, many outdoor spaces stayed open and provided a much needed escape for people's stir-craziness.

With the influx of people staying home more often and visiting natural areas more frequently, it seems that there has been an increase in birdwatchers. Check the birding Facebook groups last spring and you'll quickly notice the many comments about people putting out more feeders, noticing more or different species in their area, and exploring new outdoor areas. So, we were curious- did COVID cause more people to take an interest in birds and birding? We polled our newest Indiana Audubon Society members who joined during the pandemic to get some insight!

"I got into birding out of nowhere while working in my home office, "bedroom," watching a small white-breasted nuthatch hop around my deck...that led to [all the supplies] and sitting on my porch this morning watching the birds as opposed to television."
- Jesse Butz, IAS Facebook Forum member

The Indiana Audubon Society has gained more than 100 new members since the COVID pandemic began. Of the members that took our survey, only one said that they began taking an interest in birds during COVID. The rest of them said they were birdwatching before the pandemic. However, **over half said that their time spent birdwatching and/or interest in birds has increased since the quarantines.** Another 40% said their interest stayed about the same and a small percentage stated that their interest or time birding decreased during quarantine, mainly due to the lack of field trips and other organized opportunities available.

COVID has changed many things this year, birding included. Some folks have had to get creative in how they engage with others while birding. Indiana Audubon launched Coffee & COrVIDs in April to allow members to connect and chat with fellow birders from afar. Josh Hill, on the Facebook group, Indiana Audubon Forum, said he adapted their boys scouts merit badge University to a virtual format to teach bird classes. He then had 15 scouts join him for the in-person field study portion. Jared Leaman, also on the IAS forum, said he and his wife got back into birding and did a county big year- they are up to 226 species!

Many people commented on their **increased time at home** to observe feeders in their yard. Others said that the **elimination of their work commute** gave them more time to bird everyday. Throw this together with an **increased interest in hiking and being outdoors** (since it was one of the only activities to do during quarantine), it's easy to see how more people have become interested in birds during the COVID pandemic. Many people also mentioned that, due to the shutdowns, they had **more time to learn about and study birds.**

Look for a future
blog post on
indianaudubon.org
to hear more about
how COVID has
affected birding for
IAS members!

"Being home during quarantine, I started noticing the birds in my yard. I bought a feeder and went to the local Wild Birds Unlimited to purchase seed. I learned SO much about the local wild bird population, ways to feed them based on what they like and how to attract new birds. I spent so much time there that they hired me to work there!"

- Sara Warns,
new IAS member

"Since we have been quarantined I have been able to spend more time watching and listening to the birds that frequent my feeders. It has been a comforting and peaceful activity and takes my mind off of these troubling times dealing with COVID"

- Lenny Baierwalter, new IAS member



WHOO'S MIGRATING THROUGH INDIANA?

ANNUAL SAW-WHET OWL BANDING SET TO BEGIN FOR ANOTHER SEASON

BRAD BUMGARDNER, IAS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Everyone loves owls but Northern Saw-whet Owls hold a special place in our hearts. The tiny owl that bursts with attitude is always on the top of the list whenever folks get to talking about the must-see birds. However, finding one can be near impossible! Their incredibly secretive nature, coupled with their ability to camouflage themselves within dense pine branches, makes seeing one in the daytime exceedingly difficult. Even the most experienced bird nerds struggle to see them during migration.

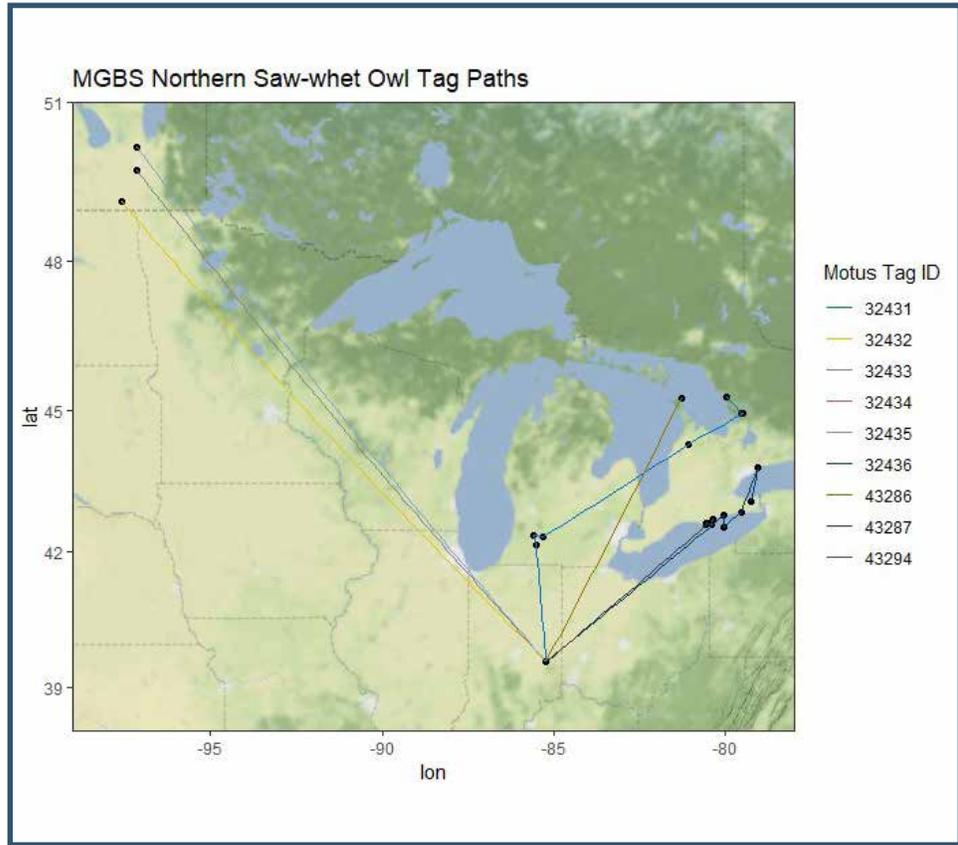
For over 10 years, Indiana Audubon has continued to grow and expand our network of owl banding stations to further learn about the amazing migration of this unique owl. From early October (now!) through early December, staff and volunteers will devote hundreds of hours sitting in the cool fall air to get a peek at a migrating owl, all for the chance to bling them with a little bracelet that will begin it's story of a promise. A promise to return in migration. That return may be through the Dunes or Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary, or a completely new route back to the northwoods.

At every banding station special data is collected from each owl. This includes its weight, molt pattern, wing length, bill length, and more. All the data collected helps project volunteers age and sex each individual owl with accuracy. It also goes into the Bird Banding Laboratory database for future sightings, based on the nine-digit number on the aluminum band that the owl is now wearing in the process.

From past years we have learned that Northern Saw-whet Owls have a breeding boom and bust cycle. Generally, about every four years there is spike in their food supply, mainly being small deer and white-footed mice, which leads to a successful breeding year. This can lead to every nest raising 5-7 baby saw-whet owlets. When this happens, large influxes of owls can arrive in Indiana the subsequent fall. Often followed by a poor migration a few years later as the rodent populations reset themselves. No doubt as they have stripped their feeding supply down, usually seeds and other berries in the northwoods.

While as of this writing it is too early to say how this year's season is expected to go. We do know that early summer banding results to our north at such places like Whitefish Point Bird Observatory have us optimistic it is going to be a good banding season. Just this summer, Whitefish Point banded over 600 owls, a new record for the site.

Indiana Audubon has been able to expand our research to include the Motus network. Motus tags use a radio receiver and special banding tag to "ping" birds that fly within a designated Motus tower, usually 15 miles. As more towers are erected, we learn more about the flight direction and speed of migrating owls, without the need to recapture the bird. Already, Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary is finding it's Motus tagged owls arriving at other Motus stations and providing more insight into both the habitat and site use at Mary Gray and migration patterns of Indiana banded Saw-whet Owls.



The current pandemic is making banding more difficult this year. Training opportunities have been curtailed to keep social distancing. Additionally, CDC recommendations on group sizes are limiting the groups that can watch owl banding at our various stations. The Indiana Audubon Night of the Owls is a chance to see the banding process up close in an outdoors setting. This year's event is November 7 and can be found on

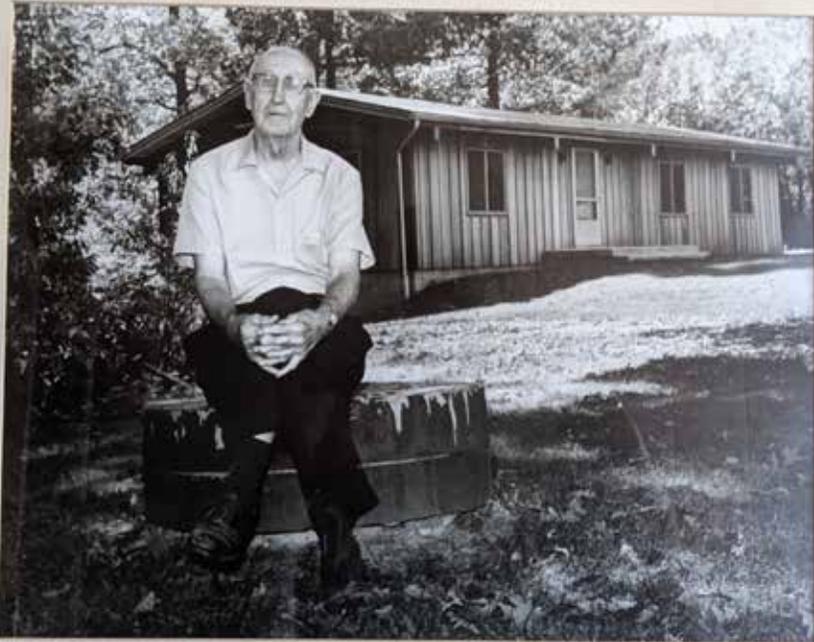
the Indiana Audubon Events Page. Additional dates for banding demonstrations are also available at the Indiana Dunes banding station, taking place outside the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.

Due to COVID there is a real need for donations to help with the supplies, nets, and other items needed to ensure a safe banding season. Reduced visitors also translate to reduced donations during the banding season. You can donate to the owl banding program this fall by texting OWLS to 44-321. Every contribution helps! Right now, all owl banding net donations are also benefiting from an additional 10% discount being extended currently from Avinet, our research supply company.

Whether you're lucky to find an owl on your own in the wild, or up-close and personal at a banding station, the Saw-whet Owl possesses a real magic that makes every experience with them truly a great experience. 🍁

To learn more about the Saw-whet Owl research in Indiana and see some owldorable photos, visit: indianaudubon.org/birding-research/northern-saw-whet-owl-research





DR. EARL BROOKS

THE LEGACY OF

EARL BROOKS

AND

JAMES H. MASON

By Karen Henman

Your Indiana Audubon Society Board is looking forward to celebrating 125 years since the first meeting of the Indiana Audubon Society (IAS) in April of 1898. Since its inception there have been many notable individuals who stood out for their tireless commitment to the organization, support of birds, environmental conservation, and the preservation of natural resources and habitats. In the past IAS has put much thought into providing awards to many of these individuals. The first of these awards was the Earl Brooks Conservation Award, established in 1969 and the second was the James Mason Service Award, established in 1989. As time has passed, many new members have joined the society, so it seemed prudent to review the individuals for whom these awards were named.

The IAS Earl Brooks Conservation Awards are presented to individuals who have made important contributions toward the advancement of conservation within the state of Indiana. Award winners do not have to be a member of IAS but must be or at one time must have been a resident of Indiana. This award was named after Dr. Earl Brooks (1883 – 1968) who was a lifetime resident of Hamilton County and a dentist for 43 years, retiring in 1950. He was honored by IAS with the award given in his name for his long-time commitment to the organization and his commitment to conservation within the state. He was president of the IAS Board from 1928 to 1936, the first editor in 1937 and remained as editor for 17 years. He was the executive director of the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary (MGBS) from 1946 to 1959. Dr. Brooks gave numerous programs during the society's meetings including "The Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary Future Possibilities" in 1957. In 1959 Brooks Hall was named in his honor for his tireless work at Mary Gray and for his leadership and guidance in the

hall's construction and for revitalizing IAS. In addition to his contributions to IAS and MGBS, he was also notable for many other contributions to bird conservation. In 1945 he published the book *Common Birds of Indiana*, wrote numerous articles for publications, founded the Blatchley Nature Club, and called for the first meeting of the Amos Butler Audubon Society which was held on March 18, 1938. Dr. Earl Brooks was a guiding force within IAS and MGBS over many years and made significant contributions to the conservation movement throughout the state of Indiana.

The IAS James H. Mason Service Awards are given to those who have made significant contributions through service to the Indiana Audubon and furthered the causes supported by the Indiana Audubon Society. Therefore, this award only goes to dedicated members of IAS. Dr. James H. Mason was professor of English at Indiana State University in Terre Haute. He and his wife Amy worked tirelessly in conservation efforts throughout the state of Indiana. He was the IAS President in 1975 and 1979. In addition, he served as the Vice President for 3 years. Many other years James was the Conservation Chair and served on the IAS Board in that capacity. One particular year of note was 1970 when he sent 11 telegrams to government officials concerning environmental issues. Anti-dove hunting was an especially big issue on the IAS agenda. The use of lead shot within gun shells was noted as a substance that could be ingested by birds and cause lead poisoning. This lead poisoning becomes amplified within the food chain. In 1971 the major issue was the use of pesticides and their effects on bird populations. James was instrumental in the continuation of selling Christmas trees and wreaths at MGBS as a fund-raising effort which had been started by Edna Banta.



He also gave numerous presentations during annual meetings of the society. In addition to all his efforts with the IAS and MGBS, James was one of the founding members of the Wabash Valley Audubon Society (WVAS) in Terre Haute and served as their first president. He had again become their president in 1989 but was unable to finish out his term due to his unexpected death. James and Amy Mason received the Earl Brooks Conservation Award in 1981 for James tireless work as the Conservation Chair and for all their efforts to support bird population in Indiana that including letter writing and lobbying in Indianapolis. In addition, they received the "Gold Cup Award" from the Hoosier Chapter of the Sierra Club in 1987. In 1989 James was the first to receive the James H Mason Service Award posthumous due to his death on July 21st, 1989. This award was created due to all his efforts as the IAS Conservation Chair along with his service to IAS and MGBS in so many ways and over several decades.



The above photo was taken Sunday afternoon just before the start of the final session of the 80th Annual Spring Convention of the Indiana Audubon Society, held this weekend in Brook's Hall at the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary. Shown left to right are Robert G. Miller, treasurer; Marie Steffen of Milford, secretary; Mrs. Amy Mason, West Terre Haute, co-winner of the highly coveted American Motors Corp. Award for outstanding service in the field of conservation; Charles A. Moulin of Indianapolis, president; Dr. James Mason of West Terre Haute, the other co-winner of

the American Motors Award, shown with the bronze sculptured medallion; Earl Gottschalk, IAS director and chairman of the challenge committee; and Dr. Charles D. Wise, professor of biology at Ball State University and immediate past president of IAS and chief speaker at the Sunday afternoon session of the convention. Virginia T. Gray of Connersville, state historian for the IAS for the past several years, was not present for the picture. (Crane Photo)

These two individuals, Earl Brooks and James Mason, were an inspiration to all the Indiana Audubon Society members who were able to know them. They have left a legacy within the society and to Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary. As each of us goes through our daily lives, may we take a moment to contemplate those who have gone before us, their efforts on behalf of making Indiana a better and more welcoming place for all of us to enjoy birds, their habitats, and each other. We owe a bit of gratitude to both Earl Brooks and James Mason, along with all the people they have inspired, who will inspire others to sustain the IAS legacy for future generations.



Check out Earl Brooks Hall at the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary!

Apply for the Earl Brooks Award and James Mason Service Award by September 1st each year at indianaudubon.org

References

Brooks, E. (1945). Common Birds of Indiana. The Blatchley Nature Study Club, Inc. <https://www.amosbutleraudubon.org/portfolio-items/common-birds-of-indiana-by-earl-brooks/>

Indiana Audubon Society. (2020) About Us. Retrieved August 8, 2020, from <https://indianaudubon.org/about-us/>

Keller, C. E. (1997). History of the Indiana Audubon Society: Indiana Audubon Society celebrates 100 years 1898-1998. Indiana Audubon Society.

Star State Reporter (1968, January 28). Dr. Earl Brooks dies; Dentist for 43 year. The Indianapolis Star. Retrieved from <https://www.newspapers.com/clip/40012291/obituary-for-earl-brooks-aged-84/>



ADVERTISE WITH INDIANA AUDUBON

Target a specific demographic across the state of Indiana while contributing to a conservation based non-profit!

For more information about The Cardinal and advertising rates, please visit indianaudubon.org/the-cardinal

CLASSIC STAINED GLASS AND GIFT GALLERY INC.



Stained glass creations are a timeless treasure that will last a lifetime. We invite you to experience the joy and artistry of stained glass by visiting our store today.

250 E. Hoosier St.
North Vernon, IN. 47265
(812) 346-4527 or 1 888-484-5277
www.classicstainedglassshop.com

Find us on Facebook:
[@classicstainedglassandgiftgalleryinc](https://www.facebook.com/classicstainedglassandgiftgalleryinc)

Our family owned business is dedicated to sharing the beauty and craftsmanship of stained glass creations.

We can make your favorite bird in a suncatcher or custom design and create a beautiful stained glass window, transom, or cabinet insert.

We also carry all of the tools, glass, and supplies for the glass crafter.



Order Ahead on *my* WBU store

We Do the Shopping

FREE

Store Pickup!

-or-

FREE Shipping on orders of \$75 or more*

*Ask Sales Associate for Details

mywbu.com/schererville

