



Fai Chan 2015

# the Call Note

CAPITAL AREA AUDUBON  
SEPTEMBER 2017

## Join Us

### AT OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING!

**Thursday, September 7th**, Central Michigan University Professor of English, **Daniel Patterson**, will share some of his vast knowledge of "The Missouri River Journals of John James Audubon" and provide some examples of Audubon's hidden conservation ethic found throughout the journal.

Patterson is the first scholar to locate and assemble three important fragments of the 1843 Missouri River journals, and in his book 'The Missouri River Journals of John James Audubon' he offers a stunning transcription and critical edition of Audubon's last journey through the American West.

The meeting will begin with refreshments at 7:00p.m. The program will begin at 7:30p.m. Our meetings are free and open to the public.

## Thank You!

A huge thank you to **Lee & Roger Laylin** for supplying the ice cream for our June Social!

Big thanks to Fai Chan for allowing the CAAS to use his beautiful images on our header, website and Facebook page. To submit an image for publication, please email Kristy Taylor at [caasCallNote@gmail.com](mailto:caasCallNote@gmail.com)

*Dedicated to creating a greater awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the interrelatedness of all Michigan's wild places and wildlife and the need for stewardship.*

## Welcome Back

Welcome back to another great year of programs and field trips! September is the time for fall warblers, or as Roger Tory Peterson called them, confusing fall warblers. Join us each Saturday this month at Fenner Nature Center to search for fall migrants (see below for more details). Led by Bob Kingsbury, these bird walks are sure to lower the confusion factor and up the enjoyment factor!

We have several new faces on the board this year, and I would like to take a moment to thank Don Dickmann, Parks Marion, and Alexia Witcombe for stepping up as new board members and Sue Davis for joining the board to fill out the last year of Doug McWhirter's term.

I would also like to extend my appreciation to our continuing board members, Mike Caterino, Eileen Houston, Ed Merz, and Connie Page, as well as Jim Hewitt, our club historian, and Roger Wolf, who manages our web page. A special note of thanks goes to Kristy Taylor, who, in addition to maintaining our FaceBook page, has taken on the job of newsletter editor.

And as a friendly reminder, September is also the time for renewing your CAAS membership. Thank you in advance for your continued support. We are looking forward to another fantastic year!

Good birding,  
Barb Hosler

## Fall Migration Opportunities

This fall take the opportunity to fine tune your fall bird id skills with a couple of different area offerings.

**Fall Bird Walks** begin September 2 and will be offered Each Saturday at 9:00 am. Meet in the parking lot of Fenner Nature Center. Walks will be led by Bob Kingsbury.

**Burke Lake Banding Station** in Bath is open to visitors, as of August 15. Local and fall migrating songbirds will be captured and banded at the station until October 15. Before heading out, please

check their website [www.burkelakebanding.com](http://www.burkelakebanding.com) for the days/hours of operation (mornings are generally best), directions, parking, how to dress, and what to expect. It is family friendly and they would love to see you!



# UPCOMING CAAS EVENTS

## Fall Migration Bird Walks

Saturday September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30  
Walks will be led by Bob Kingsbury and start at 9:00a.m. at the Fenner Nature Center Parking Lot.

## CAAS Monthly Meetings

Talks are held the first Thursday of each month at Fenner Nature Center. Refreshments at 7:00 p.m. Meetings begin at 7:30p.m. with announcements and bird sightings followed by the program.

## September 7 – The Missouri River Journals of John James Audubon and His Hidden Conservation Ethic

Learn more about the conservation ethic of John James Audubon.  
**Presenter: Daniel Patterson, CMU**

## October 5 – Birding Adventures in Mozambique

The diversity and beauty of a birding adventure in Mozambique.  
**Presenter: Callie Gesmundo**

## November 2 – Wind Energy, Bats and Birds

Have you wondered about the true effects of wind energy developments on our bird and bat populations? Learn more at our November meeting!

**Presenter: Scott Hicks, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

## December 7 – Kirtland's Warbler Update

The recovery of the Kirtland's Warbler has met and exceeded the conservation goals. What is next for the rarest warbler in the world?

**Presenter: Dave Ewert, TNC**

## Christmas Bird Count

Get out and enjoy some winter birding by participating in National Audubon's annual Christmas bird count! Groups will survey areas in Greater Lansing and report findings at a dinner following the count.

Do you have an event to share?  
Email us at - [caasCallNote@gmail.com](mailto:caasCallNote@gmail.com)  
or share it on our facebook page - [facebook.com/capitalareaaudubon](https://www.facebook.com/capitalareaaudubon)

# MSU MUSEUM - CONSERVATION EXHIBIT

The MSU Museum is hosting a new exhibit called "Michigan Bird Conservation Stories: Pigeons Past to Plovers Present" at the MSU Heritage Gallery until June 30, 2018.

This exhibit explores Michigan's bird conservation stories from losses of the past to modern successes including Trumpeter Swans, Sandhill Cranes, and Piping Plovers. See how we learn from past mistakes to ensure the future of many bird species in Michigan.

"This exhibit provides a great opportunity to get people to think about our impact on the environment," explains Dr. Pamela C. Rasmussen, MSU Museum assistant curator of ornithology and assistant professor in the MSU Department of Integrative Biology. "We tend to take the natural world for granted, but we really can't. Hopefully this exhibit will help create awareness that translates into positive action." Rasmussen co-curated the exhibit along with

science education and outreach coordinator, Kara Haas from the W.K. Kellogg Biological Station. The conservation success story of the Trumpeter Swan is highlighted in the exhibit. In the early 1900s Trumpeter Swans were hunted almost to extinction as feathers and skins were highly sought after by Europeans. In the 1990s the Trumpeter Swan Restoration Project began to reintroduce the swans to Michigan. In 1992 the first wild Trumpeter Swan egg hatched in Michigan in over 100 years. The species is now well-established in the state.

In addition to compelling conservation stories the exhibit features numerous specimens from the MSU Museum collections. The exhibit opening coincides with the American Ornithological Society meetings being held at MSU from July 31 to August 5, 2017. Visit [www.museum.msu.edu](http://www.museum.msu.edu) for more information.

*Article provided by the MSU Museum Website*



# CALL NOTE

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20th of the month.

## 2017-2018 CAAS Officers

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Secretary	Alexia Witcombe
Treasurer	Michael Caterino

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Publicity & Hospitality	Eileen Houston
Field Trip Coordinator	Parks Marion
Program Coordinator	Don Dickmann
Historian	Jim Hewitt

## 2017-18 CAAS Board of Directors

Michael Caterino	517-339-3409
Sue Davis	517-351-7598
Don Dickmann	
Barb Hosler	517-281-6595
Eileen Houston	517-323-4606
Ed Merz	517-230-7527
Parks Marion	
Connie Page	517-323-4606
Alexia Witcombe	434-227-3031

[capitalareaaudubon.org](http://capitalareaaudubon.org)  
[facebook.com/capitalareaaudubon](https://facebook.com/capitalareaaudubon)

# EXCITING SIGHTINGS

In July and August a few exciting sightings were reported in the area.

- A Northern Bobwhite was reported to Ebird on July 25th by Patrick Doran. It was seen off an urban bike path from Marsh Rd. to Park Lake Rd. in Haslett. A Northern Bobwhite was also spotted at the Van Atta Natural Area on August 12th.

- Four Common Gallinule juveniles were spotted on the same bike path on July 26th by Pam Rasmussen.

- A Winter Wren was found at Lake Lansing Park North by Jim Keller on July 26th.

- A Black-throated Green Warbler was spotted by a group at Fenner Nature Center on August 2nd.

- On August 3rd a Yellow-throated Warbler was found at Scott Woods Park at the small bridge about 150 meters from the parking lot.

- A Cattle Egret was reported at MSU near the cattle fields on Forest and College Rd. on August 7th.

*These sightings were reported on Ebird.com or with the Ebird App.*

*Do you have an exciting sighting to share?  
Email us at - [caasCallNote@gmail.com](mailto:caasCallNote@gmail.com)  
or share it on our facebook page -  
[facebook.com/capitalareaaudubon](https://facebook.com/capitalareaaudubon)*

# EAST LANSING CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

The Capital Area Audubon Society will sponsor its 71st consecutive Christmas Bird Count. This is one of the oldest Christmas Counts in Michigan. We need all the eyes that we can get out into the field. A few hours in the morning is all that is necessary (although you can go longer if you wish.)

Participation is open to people of all skill levels. Anyone who wants to help is welcome. You do not have to be a member of Capital Area Audubon. The count circle is divided into 11 different areas, each with its own leader.

The Christmas Bird Count (CBC) is a long-standing program of the

National Audubon Society, with over 100 years of citizen 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.

This year we are looking for birders of all experience levels to participate and a willing host for the dinner and count compiling.

**Please contact Tom Wheeler at 517- 628-3843 if you are interested in volunteering.**

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Christmas Bird Count - Volunteer to lead an area, host the compiling meal following the count or volunteer to help count birds in the count circle!

Michigan Audubon is looking for volunteers to help at their office, at the Capital Area Bird Sanctuary and for many of their events. Please check their website at [www.michiganaudubon.org/get-involved/volunteer/](http://www.michiganaudubon.org/get-involved/volunteer/) for more information.

Fenner Nature Center is also encouraging nature lovers to help with Fenner events, the Visitor Center and Stewardship opportunities. Visit [mynaturecenter.org/volunteer/](http://mynaturecenter.org/volunteer/) to learn more.

# September is Time to Renew

The beginning of our 2017- 18 membership year, is the time to renew your membership to CAAS.

Please remember that your CAAS membership is independent of National Audubon and Michigan Audubon, so if you are also members of National and the Michigan chapter (and we hope you are), dues to our own local chapter are separate.

We don't want to lose a single one of you! Please renew today. Thank you for your continued support.



## MEMBERSHIP

Members of CAAS enjoy 10 monthly programs per year on a variety of natural history topics, guided field trips, a monthly newsletter, and the satisfaction of supporting initiatives to interest young people in birds and nature.

### Membership Categories

Individual	\$15.00
Family	\$20.00
Contributing	\$30.00
Sustaining	\$50.00
Donor	\$100.00

For a membership form, please visit our website at [capitalareaaudubon.org](http://capitalareaaudubon.org) Make your check payable to CAAS and mail to:

Capital Area Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 22065, Lansing, MI 48909  
(or bring to a meeting)

## VOULNTEER BIRDING GUIDE TRAINING

Interested in leading or assisting with guided birding walks but not sure where to start? Join Michigan Audubon's upcoming workshop, Tuesday, September 12, on leading birding walks. A walk itself, guide Caleb Putnam will offer core skills needed to become a successful, engaging volunteer birding guide, plus a few tips and tricks!

Michigan Audubon is asking that participants are willing to donate at least some time in the future to Michigan Audubon's events. Information about the workshop and how to register can be found on the Michigan Audubon website, our Facebook page, or directly at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/michigan-audubon-workshop-series-2017-volunteer-birding-guide-training-registration-36896466324>

## CAAS FIELD TRIPS

Meet fellow members and explore our great state at one of the Capital Area Audubon Field Trips.

Next month we will provide more information about this year's field trip offerings. If you have an idea for a specific outing, please contact Parks Marion our Field Trip Coordinator.



## MICHIGAN FALL EVENTS

### September 12 -

#### Backyard Bird Habitat Workshop

Michigan Audubon's Rachelle Roake will provide tips for top performing native gardens, bird feeders and nest boxes. Free

#### Michigan Audubon

2310 Science Parkway, Suite 200,  
Meridian Charter Township, MI  
September 12, 12:00-1:00p.m.

### September 16-17 -

#### Hawkfest

Hawkfest is a two-day event for the whole family focusing on birds of prey (eagles, hawks, falcons and owls) and the annual fall hawk migration over Lake Erie Metropark. The festival offers a weekend of games, crafts, guest speakers, live birds of prey and fun!

For more information visit [www.metroparks.com/event/hawkfest-2/](http://www.metroparks.com/event/hawkfest-2/)

#### Lake Erie Metro Parks

32481 W. Jefferson, Brownstown, MI  
7:00a.m.-5:00p.m.

### October 14-15 -

#### Howell Nature Center Photography Workshops

Learn inside tips from professional photographer Steve Gettle on all aspects of the best ways to photograph birds of prey at the Howell Nature Center. For more information, including registration and pricing, visit <http://howellnaturecenter.org/special-events/photography-workshops/> or call 517-546-0249

### October 14-15 -

#### Cranefest

#### Baker Sanctuary - Kiwanis Youth Conservation Area

22300 15 Mile Rd., Bellevue, MI

Enjoy the spectacle of thousands of cranes flying into Baker Sanctuary, a brief pit stop on their way to warmer wintering grounds. Visitors are encouraged to bring binoculars, video cameras, spotting scopes and cameras to record the event. Bring a lawn chair or blanket as limited seating is available.

In addition to the cranes and fall colors, the Festival features art work, guided nature walks, crafts, a large selection of nature and wildlife books, picnic areas, food concessions and much more. Live hawks, flacons and owls will also be on display.

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