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Lake Erie Islands
Conservancy
Presents



GREEN SCENE

Lake Erie Islands Conservancy Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2018

Cooper's Woods Update—Almost there!

In May of this year, a Letter of Intent was signed by a majority of the three DeRivera Park Trustees to sell Cooper's Woods to the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy.

On October 25, 2018, a conditional purchase agreement was signed between the DeRivera Park Trustees and the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy.

The total price for Cooper's Woods is \$2,025,000.00. This summer the LEIC applied for and had received a grant of \$1,042,500.00 from The Conservation Fund toward the purchase of Cooper's Woods.

On November 14, 2018 the Clean Ohio Fund Green Space Conservation awarded the LEIC their \$1,029,500 grant for the second half of the funds needed to purchase Cooper's Woods and pay for the necessary purchase expenses!

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Photo: One of the majestic trees of Cooper's Woods — For perspective, that's Lisa Brohl circled at the base!

Our Mission:

To encourage conservation and Protection of Natural and Agricultural Lands in the Lake Erie Islands for the Benefit of Future Generations.



FUTURE GENERATIONS

Speaking of Future Generations....
This is the drawing by a concerned Erin Urge that was on the front page of our 2017 Winter Newsletter.
What a difference a year makes!

We still have some conditions to meet for DeRivera Park and for the granting agencies before the sale is finalized. But we are so close and excited to report this good news!!!

We wish to thank the DeRivera Park Trustees for working with us to sell and preserve the woods. We are grateful to all the members of the Friends of Cooper's Woods, Lake Erie Islands Conservancy and the whole community who have been working for this for so long!

The Friends of Cooper's Woods is growing and continuing to actively support all the efforts of the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy to Save Cooper's Woods. We are hoping to have more good news on the progress to share with you soon!



LEIC Annual Meeting September By Lisa Brohl

The Lake Erie Islands Conservancy held their annual board meeting on Sunday, September 23, 2018 at the Heineman Winery. Thanks to Heineman's for hosting and providing the wine and to all who brought good food to share! We appreciate the Brohl grill crew of Russ and Jim and the burgers and brats donated by the Goat restaurant.

Board members Nancy Welter, John Ladd, Dustin Heineman, Paula Ziebarth, Bruce Miles, and Ken Farber were re-elected to two year terms. Kelly Faris reported on Cooper's Woods status. A gift was presented to conservation realtor Neal Hess for all of his help with our projects. New life members Joe and Judy Janicki were introduced. Al and Susan Otermat became new members at the meeting. We were glad to see board member Peggy Leopold back after her knee replacement surgery. Board member Linda Shull was thanked for her great job of recruiting new members! Everyone was thanked for their contributions and support! A beautiful fall day to celebrate a great year and wonderful, generous members!

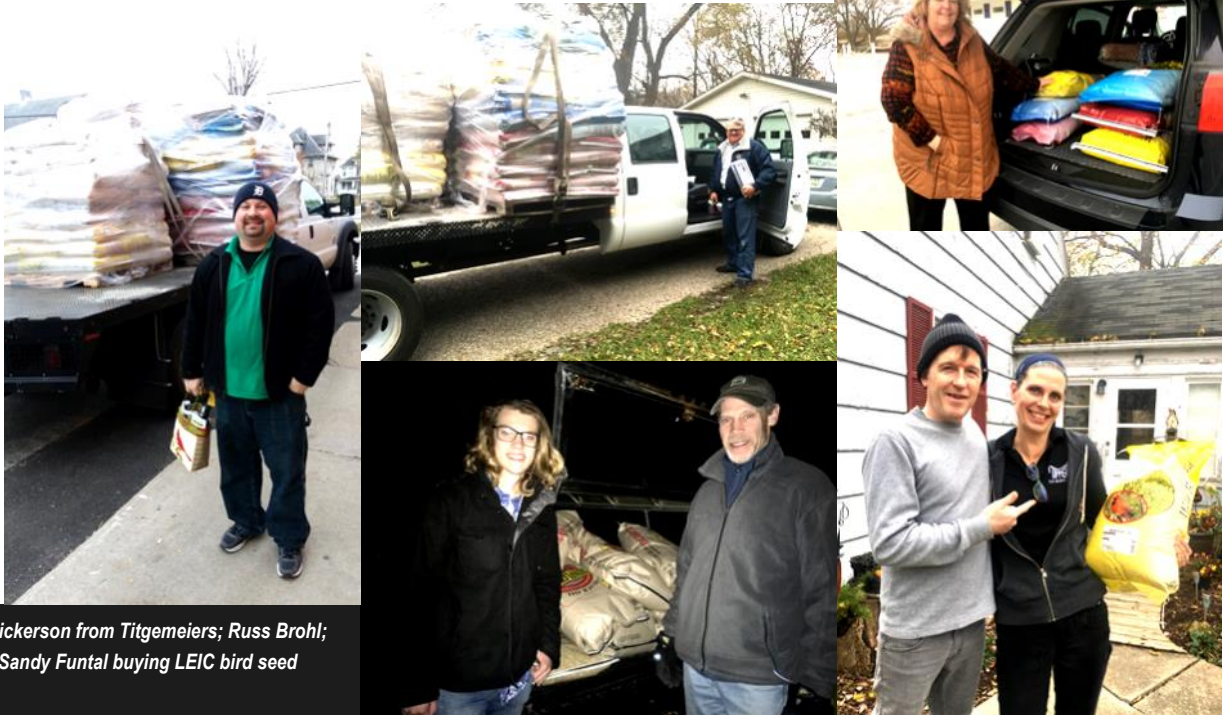
Members Present: Jim and Betsy Brohl, Lisa and Russ Brohl, John Dodge, Bridget Wise, Kelly and Marty Faris, Cliff, Mary Kodis, and Christie Ontko, Neal, Carla, Roman, and Gabby Hess, Elly Grmek, Vicki Roggenbeck, Ed and Paula Hubner, Emily and Macay Hunter, Judy and Joe Janicki, Tim, Jeanette and Geoffrey Luecke, Hannah Lenz, Peggy Leopold, Bruce Miles, Al and Susan Otermat, Linda Parker, Richard and Carol Roberts, Linda and Joe Shull.



Photo: (Top) Annual Meeting Group Photo (Bottom L to R) Marty and Kelly Faris; Christie Ontko and Linda Parker; Linda and Joe Shull (Special thanks to board member Linda Shull for recruiting new members to our Conservancy!!); Joe and Judy Janicki

Winter Bird Seed Sale Thanks By Lisa Brohl

We wish to thank Titgemeiers for working with us to supply the seed for our annual bird seed sale this year again!! Thanks also to Kelly and Marty Faris for taking the orders, Heineman Winery for supplying the delivery truck, Russ Brohl for bringing the seed home, Miller Boat Line for providing transport, and Joe and Mike Byrnes and Lisa and Russ Brohl delivering the bird seed to islanders' door step. We also wish to thank all of our customers for buying and feeding island birds for the winter!



Photos: (Clockwise L to R) Kip Nickerson from Titgemeiers; Russ Brohl; Jeanine Steinle; Brian Hovey and Sandy Funtal buying LEIC bird seed underneath Joe and Mike Byrnes

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Christmas Bazaar a Success! *By Susan Byrnes*

The rain and sleet didn't deter the turnout for the Annual Christmas Bazaar held Thursday, Nov. 15 at the Town Hall. A continual flow of shoppers packed the room visiting more than 20 tables of local arts and crafts including bird seed, knitted items, succulent plants, jewelry, homemade skincare products, local photography, watercolors, merchandise made from used sails, batik pot holders, decorative wood cutting boards, furniture made from Massie barn, soup, baked goods, jellies and peanut brittle to name just a few.

Thank you to the following vendors: Amy Huston, Sandi Glauser, Jackie Taylor, Kate Ptak, Peggy Leopold, John Lowery, Lisa Brohl and Susan Byrnes of LEINWC, Lisa and Russ Brohl, Tracy Burgess, Gene and Pam Zajac and Mike and Susan Byrnes of LEIC, Kendra Koehler and Dan Savage of LEIHS, Kelly Mohn and Woody Widmar of LEI Browns Backers, Russell Brohl, Christina & Rick Brown, Kelly Faris, Jessie Green, Jill Cooks, Brenda Nemec, Kate Ptak, Christie

Ontko, Kelly Dress and Mikayla Coe Saunders of Stone Lab, Ashley Rill and Audrey Socha, Heather Durdil, Caroline Jackson, Kate Byrnes and Jacob King of Class of 2022, Zoe Zura, Karin Kirsh, Cecilia Glauser, Hannah Lentz, Joseph Byrnes and Alex Knauer of Class of 2020. Also, thank you to the Village of Put-in-Bay for the use of the Town Hall.

Additional thanks to the Butterfly House Gift Shop, Reel Bar, Topsy Turvey and Tipper's for opening their doors for the event. And last but not least, THANK YOU to all the shoppers that came out to support our locals despite the lousy weather... it wouldn't have been a success without you!

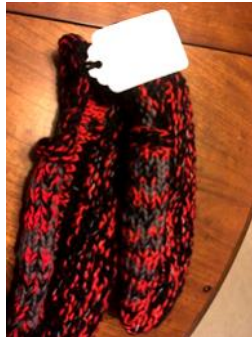
Photos: R1—New LEIC member Woody Widmar photo by Lisa Brohl; Tables by Gene with wood from Massie or Bruckner barn R2—Christina and Rick Brown selling homemade pickles and peanut brittle; Jacob King and Kate Byrnes; Beth Furner shopping at Stone Lab table with Kelly Dress and Mikayla Coe Saunders; A closeup of Gene's display showing a photo from one of the barns and wood he crafted the tables from R3—Jessie Green of Jessie's Jewelry; Kate Byrnes, Class of 2022, selling a raffle ticket to Carol Roberts of West Shore for a book of airline tickets. **NOTE: Raffle drawing is December 15, 2018!;** Christie Ontko of Freshwater Sensations; Jill Cooks and Carol Roberts

All Photos besides the one of our new member Woody were taken by Susan Byrnes. Thanks Susan!



Last Minute Christmas Gift Ideas!

The LEIC has knitted slippers made by Tracy Burgess (\$10), Middle Bass Island Music Fest T-shirts (\$20) as well as LEIC organic t-shirts (\$20) and hats (\$25) and Backyard Birdfeeder Books (\$10) for the last minute Christmas Shopper. Please call or email Lisa at 419-366-2087 or lakbrohl@gmail.com to get ahold of these items. A membership in LEIC is also a gift that keeps on giving!



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Fall Banding 2018

September 24 – October 3

East Point Preserve and Forested Wetland Preserve, Put-in-Bay Park District

The fall of 2018 was the tenth year of a fall bandout on Middle Bass Island in Lake Erie. As seems to be the tradition, winds were a problem. Most days winds were out of the south or south west and rain was a problem for only part of one day. In spite of that, we managed our highest number of individuals banded and diversity of birds. We banded 330 individuals of 45 species over a period of 9 days. In the fall of 2013 we banded 213 individuals of 37 species in only 4 days. We did also have our highest number of recaptured birds (41) this year. Most were recaptured birds were banded earlier in the week but several were from years past. Fall banding on the Lake Island Islands is a very hit or miss effort as we are very limited by weather. But our research is showing that these Lake Erie islands (Kelleys, Middle Bass, and South Bass) are clearly important as resting and refueling sites for migratory birds. This fall we added four new species to the Middle Bass Island list of fall banded birds.

Special thanks to all the volunteers who helped setup, monitor, scribe, and takedown. I would like to thank Paula Bartlett, Russ and Lisa Brohl, Nancy Welter, Shane Roberts, Ken & Ann Shelton, Jim & Betsy Brohl, Tina

Larson, Sue Ungvarsky, Chris Helman, Cody Burkey, Luke Spencer, Tyler Nace, Carol Caldwell, and Len Partin. We had 176 visitors to the station this fall and many were first timers. I would especially like to thank the Lake Island Islands Conservancy and the Lake Erie Islands Nature and Wildlife Center for their financial and in kind support. And Nancy Welter and Teddi Morris for great food, use of equipment/ tools, lodging, and hospitality.



Photo: Lisa Brohl is holding black and white warbler-1st bird banded on the MBI Forested Wetland Preserve; Extractor Nancy Welter; Ken Farber helping



Banded Birds

1 Ruby-throated Hummingbird	65 Red-winged Blackbird
2 Eastern Screech-Owl	6 Common Grackle
6 Downy Woodpecker	14 Ovenbird
2 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	2 Northern Waterthrush
1 Philadelphia Vireo	1 Black-and-white Warbler
1 Blue Jay	2 Tennessee Warbler
8 Black-capped Chickadee	7 Nashville Warbler
7 Red-breasted Nuthatch	2 Common Yellowthroat
1 White-breasted Nuthatch	1 Hooded Warbler
1 Brown Creeper	4 American Redstart
1 House Wren	2 Cape May Warbler
2 Winter Wren	9 Magnolia Warbler
5 Carolina Wren	3 Bay-breasted Warbler
2 Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1 Blackburnian Warbler
11 Gray-cheeked Thrush	1 Yellow Warbler
36 Swainson's Thrush	77 Blackpoll Warbler
2 Wood Thrush	3 Black-throated Blue Warbler
18 American Robin	3 Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle)
2 Gray Catbird	1 Black-throated Green Warbler
1 Brown Thrasher	1 Wilson's Warbler
1 Song Sparrow	1 Scarlet Tanager
1 Swamp Sparrow	5 Northern Cardinal
7 White-throated Sparrow	

45 species

330 individuals

Bold = new for the Middle Bass Island Fall banded list. No new species were added to the island's banded list.

There were 41 recaptures of 34 individuals during the week; 1 banded 2015, 2 banded 2016, 4 banded 2017 and the others earlier in 2018 (most were earlier during this session). There were three escaped birds (House Wren, Winter Wren, and Blackpoll Warbler) and one casualty, an Ovenbird, due to a predator during the week.

H. Thomas Bartlett, Research Associate
Cleveland Museum of Natural History
Department of Ornithology
1833 South Winfield Drive, Tiffin, Ohio 44883
Federal Permit #21624
hthomas.bartlett@gmail.com



Photo: Tom Bartlett with Carolina Wren; Ann Shelton helping with nets; Cameron Farber with female red-winged blackbird at banding station



....More Amazing Fall Bird Banding Photos



Photos: The adorable Alana Shaffer with Pandora sphinx moth caterpillar; Neighbors Ken and Kay Wragg; Luke Spencer and Cody Burkey transport birds on a busy day

Not In Our Backyards *By Lisa Brohl*

We work so hard to preserve a few natural areas to enjoy a walk or birding on the island-writing the grants, putting in the trail, picking up the litter. It would be great to just sit back and enjoy the wildflowers after! We are never finished there unfortunately. Now preserve managers must be ever vigilant that a new non-native plant species might invade and shade or crowd out the natives.

Now any open spot in the sun can become a great spot for a new plant invader. These plants once started in a small disturbed area-can spread and outcompete the natives. You will notice that often the first green you see in the spring in the woods is garlic mustard on the ground and the new green leaves on amur honeysuckle-the early bird gets the sun in this case.

These invading plant species are often nonnative – coming to a new home where there are no insects or mammals that eat the plant or fruit to help keep them in check. They usually are prolific producers of seed and propagate in more than one manner. Some like garlic mustard even send chemicals into the soil to inhibit the growth of other plants near them. Most are very adaptable generalist species that can live in a variety of environmental conditions. Of the approximately 3,000 plant species known to occur in the wild in Ohio, about 75% are native (present before the time of substantial European settlement - around 1750). Of the remaining 25% (more than 700 non-native plants), fewer than 100 are known to be problems in natural areas.

Some plants are brought in by birds like amur honeysuckle or glossy buckthorn-they eat the fruits and distribute the seeds widely with their droppings. Other plants might be brought in on the hiking boots of a visitor such as the small seeds of the invasive garlic mustard This is the

reason that the National Park Service provided us with boot brushes at the beginning of a few of our hiking trails here on the island-to remove these seeds from shoes at the trail head.

A lot of the common invasive trees reproduce not only by seed but also reproduce vegetatively by stump sprouting when cut as well. If you want to rid your woods of amur honeysuckle, cut late in the season and immediately paint herbicide on the newly cut surface. This way the poison will be carried directly down into the roots to kill the plant-and not any neighboring trees instead.

One way that homeowners can help stop the spread of invasive plants is properly disposing of your yard waste. Lots of folks take their plant clippings and garden/yard debris and throw them in the nearby woods. This can be disastrous for an area if it contains snippets of plants like periwinkle, English ivy or wintercreeper. Although they make great lawns, they can also crowd out wildflowers as they make a thick carpet on the floor of a woodland. Please either properly compost or dispose of your lawn clippings and garden plant debris in a garbage container to avoid spreading any other invasive plants.

Watch what plants, trees and shrubs you choose for your yard. Native plants offer food and habitat for native wildlife including native moths and butterflies. Check out the Ohio Invasive Plant Council's website for a list of invasive plants to avoid Ohio (<https://www.oipc.info/invasive-plants-banned-on-ohio.html>) and more information. On this list are some that cause problems here on the island- common reed grass and reed canary grass plague our wetlands; amur honeysuckle fills our forest understory, and garlic mustard out-blooms everything!

MBI Forested Wetland Preserve *By Lisa Brohl*

John Glauser reports seeing many residents and visitors using the new trail at the Middle Bass Island Forested Wetland Preserve this fall. John lives across the street and keeps an eye on everything! Lee Hisey has agreed to be our new trail monitor for this trail, letting us know if there are downed trees, garbage etc. that we need to take care of.



Photo: Here is Mac Bilski enjoying a stop at the Middle Bass Island Forested Wetland Preserve this fall

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Icy Massie Cliffside Photos



Photos: Massie Cliffside Preserve with water spray frozen into beautiful icicles and a very cold looking dock. Photos by Sue Ameine and Paige Macellaio

LEIC and PIBTPD Wish List

Winter is coming and that always slows things down a bit, but that doesn't mean we won't need your help! Let us know if you can help us out with any of these items at leiconservancy@gmail.com or 419-366-2087. Or you may have skills you wish to contribute—please call!

- New members! Check us out at www.lakeerieislandsconservancy.org!
- Volunteers ALWAYS NEEDED to spread mulch on trails, remove downed trees and pick up litter-garlic mustard pulling in spring-Massie Cliffside Preserve, Scheeff East Point Preserve, Dodge Woods, Jane Coates Trail, Middle Bass Island East Point Preserve and Forested Wetland Preserve.
- Recycled Copying Paper, Ink for Printers (Brother LC 61, HP 970XL, HP 971XL-Must not be generic)
- Part-Time Employee or AmeriCorp intern funding
- Website and Social Media Assistance
- Adobe editing programs
- GIS Maps of our Preserves
- Assistance with trail layout, construction, parking, mulching and signage with extension of the trail at the Middle Bass Island Forested Wetland Area.
- Interpretive Signs for Middle Bass Island Forested Wetland Preserve and other new preserves (\$200 each-can add donors name) Bench (\$2,000-can add donors name)
- Larger Office Space, Assistance sorting, filing, organizing office.
- Bird Banding Supplies: Conduit, 12 - 3/4 inch X 10 foot, 24 - 1/2 inch X 10 foot, 5 - 3/8 inch rebar X 10 foot, 36 - 9 inch metal tent stakes, 1 - 5 pound hammer



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Island Green Week 2019 *By Lisa Brohl*

Island Green Week 2019 is set for August 3-14. It will be a little longer this year to include the 100th anniversary of the burning of the Hotel Victory. Renee Market will be the chair of the event this year and will be forming a committee soon to work on next year's fun. The Put-in-Bay Township Park District will be the lead entity with the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy, Lake Erie Islands Nature and Wildlife Center, the Ohio State

University Stone Laboratory and other partners assisting with the planning of this growing green week. Renee will be looking for volunteers-contact her at 419-708-5798 or at rbrasher3@gmail.com, if you would like to help out this year. Thanks to the Lake Erie Shores and Islands for the free ad for 2019!

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Black Swamp Conservancy Monitor Visit

Melanie Coulter of the Black Swamp Conservancy visited the Middle Bass Island East Point Preserve this fall to monitor the conservation easement they hold there. We enjoyed showing Melanie what we have been doing there as well as getting to see Tom Bartlett and his bird banding crew in action that day. The Lake Erie Islands Conservancy was a chapter of the Black Swamp Conservancy until we received our own nonprofit status in 2015. We are grateful for getting our start with them from 2000-2015.



Photo: Staghorn Sumac Trees still beautiful at Scheeff EastPoint Preserve



Big Trees on the Island

Here is Lisa Brohl with a bur oak that had a circumference of 10'6" located at the Middle Bass Island Forested Preserve-Burgundy bay Tract. Lisa found the tree while wandering the woods during bird banding this fall. These hardy oak trees are frequently found in wet or shoreline areas on the islands. They have an acorn with a very hairy cap on it giving it the name bur oak. The young trees can have corky growths on their branches. Oak trees often hold their brown leaves all winter making them easy to notice.

Send photos of other large trees found on the islands! Winter is a great time to go for a walk in the woods and see what you can find!
Love the Stone Lab sweatshirt Lisa!

Giving Tuesday Thanks!

We wish to thank the following for their donations to our Conservancy on Giving Tuesday-Leah Bilski, Kalen Cap, Mary Furner, Laureen Mooney, Rich and Carol Roberts, and Terri Bisesi in memory of J. Robert (Bob) Miller. We made \$500 for the Conservancy that day and will be eligible for a chance in a drawing for \$5,000 from the Toledo Community Foundation as a result.

#GIVINGTUESDAY™NWO



Become an LEIC Member for just \$25 for an entire year!

Please see page 15 for details.

1,000th Bird Banded on South Bass Island in 2018



Photos: Clockwise— Lisa Brohl, Tom Bartlett, Teddi Morris, Paula Bartlett, Nancy Welter with the 1000th Bird banded on South Bass Island this year, a Black-capped Chickadee; A pretty House finch; LEIC Board member Marsha Collett with the now famous Chickadee; Photo captioned "Women Power" showing LEIC Chair Lisa Brohl motoring Teddy Morris and Nancy Welter back to Middle Bass Island after helping band the 1000th bird on South Bass Island! (Pic taken by the wonderful Paula Bartlett); Male Northern Cardinal; Red-Breasted and White-breasted Nuthatch; And last but not least, of course Mr. Blue Jay had to make an appearance. Great job all!

Tom and Paula Bartlett came to South Bass to band owls and feeder birds late this fall. They banded an eastern screech owl at the Lake Erie Island Nature and Wildlife Center on November 27. Those attending the Giving Tuesday party got to see the bird up close!



On Thursday, November 29, they banded the 1,000th bird for the year on South Bass Island—a Black-capped Chickadee—at the Brohl feeders at Mitchell Rd. Other birds banded included Downy and Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Red and White-breasted Nuthatch, House Finch, Northern Cardinal, Blue Jay, Dark-eyed Junco, American Goldfinch.

This is the first time the Bartlett's have banded 1,000 on South Bass in one year! Since we began in 2003 we have banded almost 7000 individual birds of 97 species on South Bass Island alone. They also banded over 1,000 birds on Middle Bass in 2018!

In banding efforts on South Bass since 2003, 6,868 birds have been banded, 3,323 on Middle Bass Island since 2009, and 642 on North



Bass Island since 2010. This includes banding by Dr. James Marshall while at Stone Laboratory each summer on all three islands in addition to those banded by the Bartletts.

This brings us to a Bass Islands total of 10,191 banded in the last sixteen years with a total of 114 species. More to come as reports from this past year are finished.

Thanks Tom and Paula for all your dedication to island bird conservation!! Their data is invaluable as we write grants to protect more island habitat!

We are also grateful to the many that have come out to watch and to help band over the years. We couldn't do it without you!

Evan Hart's Eagle Scout Project By Lisa Brohl

Evan Hart has built and installed prothonotary warbler nesting boxes for the Put-in-Bay Township Park District's Petersen Woods Preserve and our Middle Bass Island Forested Wetland Preserve as an Eagle Scout project. Thanks to Krissy and Maddie Hart and to Bruce Miles on the tractor for help in installing the boxes! Hope we get some warblers to check out the boxes this spring. Thanks Evan!!



Photos: Bruce Miles with Evan Hart installing the boxes; Krissy and Maddie Hart assist; Evan's new project installed; A Prothonotary Warbler Box

The Put-in-Bay StoryWalk® Trail

The Erie Islands Branch of the Ida Rupp Library held a Hallowread program in October for children at the Dodge Woods StoryWalk Trail. Pictured here are Jennifer Blumensadt, Sue Amrine, Karen Wilhelm, Kathy Holscott, Lilian Thompson, and Sue Duff getting ready for the kids!

The Lake Erie Islands Conservancy will be purchasing this book to use on the StoryWalk trail in spring. Paula Ziebarth will add bird nesting boxes to the trail near the pages.



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Lake Erie Wing Watch Fun *By Bruce and Kim Miles*

LEIC Board Member Paula Ziebarth gave talk on Swifts and Swallows at the biannual Lake Erie Wing Watch held on Saturday, September 22, 2018 at Osborn MetroPark in Sandusky, Ohio. Lisa Brohl manned two

tables-one for the LEIC and one for the LEINWC. Jackie Taylor tagged butterflies at the Put-in-Bay Lighthouse for Wing Watch participants on Sunday, September 23.



Photos (Clockwise): Pat Krebs and Sandy Wright visit LEIC and LEINWC tables; Time and Optics Display at LEWW; Paula Ziebarth at Wing Watch



Photo: Eastern Screech Owl by Brian Hovey and Sandy Funtal in their downtown Put-in-Bay backyard. Amazing Shot!



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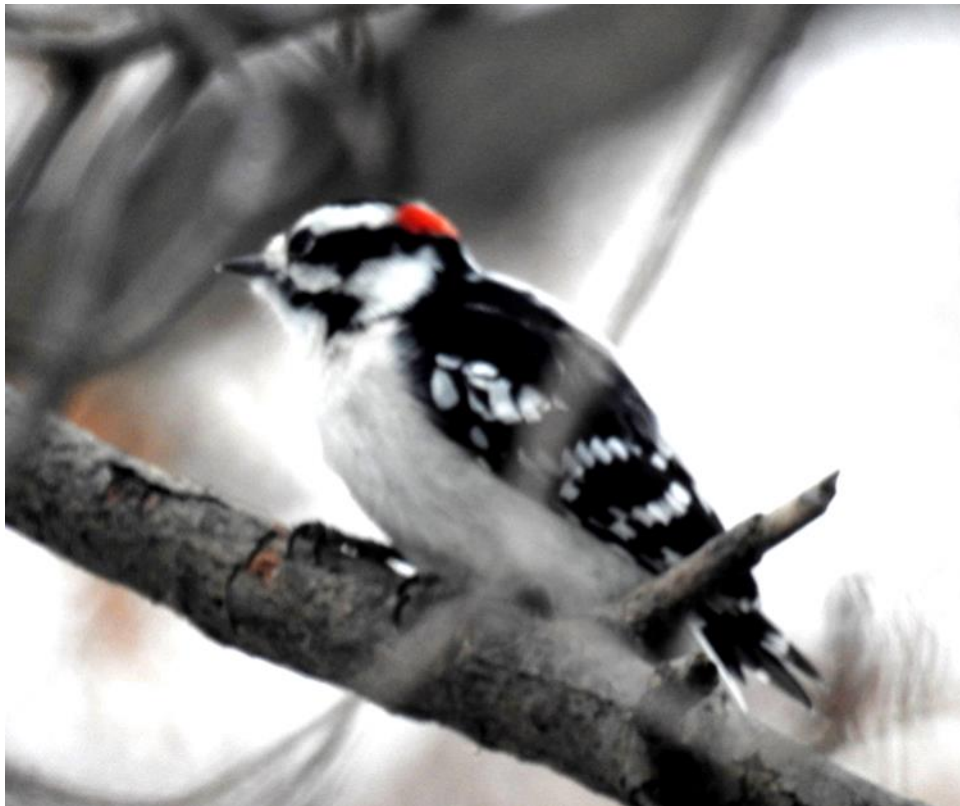


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Rat – a- Tat – Tat ! What IS That? By LEIC Board Member Paula Ziebarth



*Photo: Downy woodpecker; Downy woodpecker feeding on suet; Downy woodpecker feeding on poison ivy berries
Photos by Elizabeth Heineman*

Our home in Powell, Ohio is located in an area that is populated by many woodpeckers. Unfortunately, we have cedar siding on the house and these birds have renovated the west and northwest corner of our house every year as they excavate holes to nest (late winter/early spring) and to roost (fall). I have left stands of dead ash trees and nest boxes for them to use, but they insist on assaulting the siding... **every year...**

Woodpeckers eat a lot of insects and often frequent suet feeders. They are native birds and it is illegal to harm them in any way. The species of woodpeckers that have assaulted my house over the years include: Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, and Red-Bellied Woodpecker.

If you have wood siding or trim on your house and live near a wooded area, you are very likely to have a problem with woodpeckers. Woodpeckers may peck on your house for several reasons:

Drumming: The noise produced by the pecking, often called drumming, signals their territory to other birds. It tells a female of their species to come nest with me. It warns males of their species to stay away.

Insects: Small pecks in the siding, often in a line formation, indicate the bird has discovered insects in the wood. Holes are small and irregular. When a woodpecker is feeding, it actually makes little noise. Woodpeckers are able to hear insects moving in the wood and will hunt them. If you observe a woodpecker hunting insects on your house, they have just provided a valuable service, alerting you to a problem that may need addressing.

Nest and Roost Holes: Large solitary holes are much more common. These range from about 1.25 inches in diameter for the Downy Woodpecker to about 2.5 inches for a Northern Flicker. These are excavated for nest holes (early spring) or roosting holes in autumn. These birds need a nest cavity in spring and a shelter in winter months to protect themselves from cold temperatures. They tend to excavate a new hole each year.

Drumming can be VERY loud. Northern Flickers are an especially loud visitor to my house each spring. They often drum on the metal flashing on my roof. That will get you up and hopping early in the morning I can tell you! The sound is akin to rapid machine gunfire and you can feel the vibration. Any kind of siding, roof flashing, or even downspouts can be used for drumming. Luckily, this usually causes little damage and the bird stops the behavior once nesting season is in full swing.

Nest and roost holes are a bigger problem. One suggestion to help the birds is to provide nest boxes for them to roost in and/or leave dead trees in the landscape so they can make their holes in these. Nest boxes that provide homes for Tree Swallows or Eastern Bluebirds in spring and summer months can serve double duty to provide roost cavities for Downy Woodpeckers in winter months. At my home on South Bass Island, I leave most of the Tree Swallow nest boxes in the yard during the winter for native birds to roost (sleep) in. One evening last February around dusk, I checked these boxes to discover 4 of the 8 boxes occupied by roosting Downy Woodpeckers. The woodpeckers abandon the boxes once the weather warms up and then the Tree Swallows raise their young in them. I often need to install a piece of wood with new entrance hole because the woodpeckers usually peck away some of the wood around entrance holes while they are in there. The Lake Erie Islands Nature and Wildlife Center has nest boxes for sale for those interested in providing homes for native cavity nesters.

You can deter woodpeckers from making holes in your home. The most effective deterrents are strands of shiny double sided mylar tape nailed or stapled above the areas they show interest in. Bird repellent tape is available online and in some garden stores. I have also had success hanging aluminum pie tins from the eaves. The Birds Away Attack Spider works well also, but you may go through a few batteries. This sound activated plastic spider drops down when bird pecks near it and then climbs back up, resetting itself. Plastic owls or snakes are not effective. Even with deterrents, the only foolproof solution I have

(Continued on page 12)

EnviroScience By Lisa Brohl

On October 18, Lisa Brohl attended the Stormwater and Wetland Permitting Seminar Workshop that EnviroScience held in Stow Ohio for government and non profit groups that engage in environmental restoration efforts. It was a great opportunity to see their office and labs and equipment available as well as learn about the latest in wetland regulations for future Lake Erie Islands Conservancy and Put-in-Bay Township Park District projects.

Photos: Jeff Niehaus and Brandon Morgan of EnviroScience on their last trip of the year to work on the invasive common reed grass at the Petersen Woods Preserve and spraying English Ivy at the Middle Bass Island East Point Preserve; EnviroScience employee Elise Bartelme who assisted with the removal of buckthorn and amur honeysuckle from our Dieperink, Schneider, and Burgundy Bay Tracts of the Middle Bass Island Forested Wetland Preserves this summer; Lisa Brohl with the Argo used by EnviroScience on wetland invasive plant removal projects.



Middle Bass Music Festival 2019

The Lake Erie Islands Conservancy will again be the recipients of funds from the Middle Bass Island Music Festival 2019! The Middle Bass Dock Company has agreed to sponsor the event again and our partners the Middle Bass Island State Park have July 13, 2019 on their calendars!

Nancy Welter has agreed to be the manager of the event again this year with Bruce Miles working on the bands and set up for musicians. Lee Hisey is assisting with promotional efforts.

We are looking for assistance with this event for next summer. We had a great group of volunteers last year but are looking for a few special folks to be the Volunteer Coordinators next summer-that will recruit and schedule for different jobs and times for a smooth running event. We will need someone to head up volunteers for the following: Wine and Beer Tents, Entrance Gate, and Ticket Sales.

We also will be looking for homeowners on Middle Bass that might be willing to put up band members and others essential to the festival.

Please contact Nancy at nkw2329@yahoo.com or 419-341-5806, if you can help us out or have ideas for next season. We had our first festival planning meeting held on November 2 and are excited about the event next summer! We hope you will be there to volunteer or just come enjoy the music—spread the word!

(RAT-A-TAT-TAT Continued from page 11)

found is to have your house sided in material other than wood. Every spring and fall, my husband and I block holes as soon as possible to keep other unwanted wildlife (European Starlings, House Sparrows, squirrels and others) from gaining access. When our budget permits, we hope to replace the cedar with fiber cement siding.

Life is a little messy! Please enjoy and accommodate the native birds and other wildlife that share your yard whenever you can. Safely deter them in areas where you need to take a stand.



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A Special THANKS...



Melody Many and Marty Faris fold newsletter this fall along with Kelly Faris and Lisa Brohl.



Mark Nemec at feeder banding station with Tom Bartlett.



Volunteer Tyler Nace helping with Bird Banding.



Thanks to Del Taylor at the Middle Bass East Point Preserve for doing our late season mowing for us. Looks great!



Thanks to trail monitor Joe Byrnes for clearing the trail of the downed cottonwood on the Scheeff East Point Preserve Trail.



Sister Volunteer team Sue Ungvarsky and Tina Larson at Middle Bass Island Forested Wetland preserve.



Melody Many assists Lisa Brohl with checking the brochure boxes at our island preserves.

Thanks to Dustin Heineman and Heineman Winery for the donation of water bottles and garbage bags for all of our cleanup efforts this year and next.



Melody Many and Eastern Screech Owl with bander Tom Bartlett.



Neighbor Tom Dwight mowing the front of the MBI Forested Wetland Preserve .



Volunteers Ken Shelton and Jane and Bill Iboldt helping with Bird Banding.



LEIC Board member Ken Farber removes five invasive Bradford or callery pear from the Scheeff East Point Preserve this fall as well as removed a downed ash tree from the trail there.

New and Renewing Members

Friends

Paula and Tom Bartlett
David and Louise Butz
Heather and Gregory
Fraunhoffer
Gloria Kindt
Tim and Jeanette Luecke
Mike McCabe
Fran Poe
Ruth Scarpelli
Sue Seaburg
Muriel Sneller
Jeanine Steinle
Pam Stephens
William A. Sulesky
Randi and Jack Wertenbach
Jeremy Wheeler
Woody Widmar

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Phoebe Borman
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Leah Bilski
Art and Suzie Otermat

Put-in-Bay Gazette
Bob Russell
Bob and Dianne Smith

Patron

Stanley and Constance
Wulkowicz

General Fund Donations

Paula and Tom Bartlett
Michael Durinsky III
Paul Ladd
Bob Reuter
Scott Sneller

Facebook Birthday

Fundraiser

Kalen Cap-donations from Lisa
Brohl, Joe Rutter

Giving Tuesday Donations

Leah Bilski
Kalen Cap
Mary Furner
Laureen Mooney
Rich and Carol Roberts
Terri Bisesi in memory of J.
Robert (Bob) Miller



Life Members

John Baker
Jon D. Brausch
Russ & Lisa Brohl
Valerie Chornyak
Alan & Stacey Clink
Frederick Fether
Christian L. Geiss
Richard Gump
Scott Jackson
Judy and Joseph Janicki
John & Paula Ladd
Georgia MacVean
Julene Market
Elaine and Howard Martens

Mary Ann McCann
Valerie Mettler
Greg Millat
Mark Nemec
Roger & Mary Parker
Hank & Gayle Polcyn
Carol Richardson
Richard and Carol Roberts
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**THANK
YOU!**

Things to do so those winter blues don't get to you...

Audubon Christmas Bird Count 2018

For 119 years, wildlife enthusiasts have been counting birds at Christmas time. This citizen science effort has given us data on changing bird populations-and is great fun! Birders everywhere will be out looking and counting during this count week time. If you want to be part of this historical event, here is how locally.

The **Annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count** will be held in the Lake Erie Islands Count Circle on Sunday, **December 16, 2018**. Participants will be needed on Kelleys, Pelee, and the Bass Islands that day. On South Bass, we need volunteers to listen for owls in the early morning, travel the island bird watching during the day, and to watch their feeders at home. We are also looking



Photo: Tufted Titmouse at South Bass Island feeder; a Downy Woodpecker stopped by for a nibble too!
Photo by Barb Chrysler

for birders or feeder watchers to help with Middle Bass and North Bass.

If you are interested in watching your feeders or traveling South Bass for all or part of the day, call Lisa Brohl at (419) 366-2087 or e-mail at leiconservancy@gmail.com. Those on South Bass can meet at the Brohl residence (441 Mitchell Rd.) at 7:00 AM for coffee. We will get together for pizza and to share results after the count. Please contact Nancy Welter to participate on Middle Bass at 419-341-5806 or nkw2329@yahoo.com.

John Pogacnik, the official Count Circle Compiler, will be coordinating the efforts on Kelleys Island. Please correspond with him at jpogacnik@hotmail.com or Tom Bartlett at hthomas.bartlett@gmail.com if you wish to help at Kelleys.

Participation in the Christmas Bird Count is free and a lot of fun! Join us this year!

LEIC Membership Form

*Membership Notices are sent out annually-
this is for new memberships-share with your friends*

___\$25 Friend ___\$50 Supporter ___\$100 Contributor

___\$100 Friend/AD ___\$250 Steward ___\$500 Patron



___\$1000 Life

Name _____

Spouse/Companion _____

Island Address PO Box _____ Put-In-Bay, Ohio 43456

E-mail _____

Permanent Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Cell # _____

Island # _____

In addition to my membership, I would like to donate to:

Land Protection Fund

I would like to contribute \$ _____ to the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy, to be used only for expenses related to the purchase of land.

I understand that I will receive a *Certificate of Donation* for income tax purposes.

Stewardship Fund

I would like to donate \$ _____ to the Stewardship Fund to help maintain those properties owned by the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy.

Please make checks payable to (LEIC) Lake Erie Islands Conservancy

Please Send to: PO Box 461, Put-in-Bay, Ohio 43456

All donations are tax deductible.

Thank You!

OSU Buckeye Island Hop *By Lisa Brohl*



Photo: Lisa Brohl, Kim Schraitle, Elizabeth Landrigan, Dave Ganzfried, Marissa Ganzfried, and Leanna Gonzalez after a hard days work; Leanna Gonzalez seems very happy about raking that mulch!; Marissa Ganzfried and Elizabeth Landrigan still smiling but ready to call it a day!

Thanks to the OSU Stone Lab Buckeye Hop for mulching the Dodge Woods Trail for us on October 20 just in time for the Erie Islands Branch of the Ida Rupp Library to visit on October 24 for a Hallowread program.

Kim Schraitle, David and Marissa Ganzfried, Elizabeth Landrigan, and Leanna Gonzalez all spent their afternoon shoveling and raking the mulch on the trails.

We really appreciate the help!



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Newsletter Editors

Lisa Brohl

Michelle Pennington

Lots of events coming up this Fall and Winter—keep checking our website and Facebook pages for more info!



July 13, 2019 for Middle Bass Music Festival 2019

August 3-14, 2019 for Island Green Week



A HUGE Thanks to Bostwick-Braun for printing assistance!!



You're Invited!

LEIC Christmas Potluck

We are excited to announce that we will be holding our annual LEIC Christmas party back at the South Bass Island Lighthouse on Monday, December 10 at 6:00 pm. Thanks for our partners at The Ohio State University Stone Laboratory for this opportunity. A ham, hot cider, and coffee will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. As we are a Conservancy, we ask that you bring your own plate and table service for the festive evening. We will have a social hour first with a sparkling grape juice toast. Please bring any other nonalcoholic beverage you would like for the evening. Please RSVP to Lisa Brohl by email at leiconservancy@gmail.com or phone or text at 419-366-2087.

It is a great time for the community to see the Lighthouse and hear about our Conservancy as well as Stone Lab's wonderful programs.