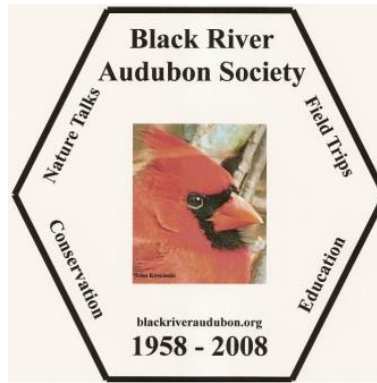


Black River Audubon Society

WINGTIPS



Editors: Jack Smith/Harry Spencer
Photographer: John Koscinski
Guest Photographer: Jonathan Lethbridge
Webmistress: Arlene Lengyel

Program

The Natural History of Ohio

Guy Denny

Retired Chief of ODNR, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves

7 p.m., Tuesday, September 2,

Visitor's Center, Carlisle Reservation

Guy L. Denny is an interpretive naturalist, writer and photographer with a wealth of knowledge about the natural history of Ohio. He retired in 1999 from his position as chief of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, after 33 years of service. As Chief of DNAP, he was responsible for administering the state's natural areas and scenic rivers programs. In April 2008 he stepped down as Executive Director of the Ohio Biological Survey.

Young Birder Hike

Saturday, September 13

Details in LCMP *Arrowhead*

Field Trip

Saturday, September 20, 9 a.m.

Sandy Ridge Reservation

Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 30, 6:30 p.m.

1505 N. Lakeview Blvd., Lorain, OH



Lorain County and the Magee Marsh Boardwalk 30th April – 5th May 2008

Jonathan Lethbridge

Editors' note: Jonathan Lethbridge, Vice President, Morgan Stanley, London, England, wrote a diary of his visit to America for his British birding colleagues, and he readily agreed to publication of it in WINGTIPS. The following is an abridged version. Context should clarify the meaning and usage of British words and phases unfamiliar to some American readers.

At the end of April 2008 I traveled solo to America to visit relatives. I had vaguely known that there were great migration routes in the US, just as in Europe, but at the time of booking my flights I had not done any real research. So imagine my delight when at Slimbridge WWT earlier in the year I picked up a book called "Fifty places to go Birding before you die", and found one of those locations to be the southern shore of Lake Erie between Toledo and Cleveland, during the first week in May. I could not believe that my Grandparents lived a mere 30 miles from this birding hotspot, and had done so for decades! I quickly started looking on the web for more information.

Whenever I go birding abroad, I try to get in contact with those who know the area and its birds best, and I have always found local birders to be incredibly friendly and generous with their time. Black River Audubon Society members were no different, and I was soon flooded with offers to take me out birding, essentially guided tours of the best spots. I was only too happy to accept. And as luck would have it, BRAS had scheduled a trip to Magee Marsh boardwalk on Saturday 3rd May. Funnily enough, the book at Slimbridge had mentioned this as being *the* spot on that shoreline. Would I like to join the trip? Would I ever!

Thursday 1st May

Birding was not the primary reason for my visit, and the Magee Marsh trip on Saturday was the only dedicated birding that I had planned, but not having seen many American birds, no matter



American Robin
Jonathan Lethbridge

where I was, it was going to be good. I arrived on Wednesday evening just past midnight, and the following morning I immediately started seeing new birds. I was staying with my Grandparents in the small college town of Oberlin, about 30 miles south-west of Cleveland. The view from the breakfast table, front garden and nearby field, continued to be productive all morning, producing mega after mega. Who needs the Scillies! I just pottered about, taking in my Grandparent's new house.

The front lawn held a few **Chipping Sparrows**, and a **House Wren** was flitting about. The hedge had **Common Grackles**, a vocal **Northern Cardinal**, and **Mourning Doves** (no mad dash to North Uist for me!), whilst **Barn Swallows**, **American Crows** and **Turkey Vultures** flew overhead. Opposite the house, I found an **Eastern Bluebird** perched briefly on a post, a flyby **Northern Mockingbird**, **American Goldfinches**, **House Finches**, **House Sparrows**, **Brown-headed Cowbirds**, and a great many **Red-winged Blackbirds** in the boggy areas.

Via email, I had been in touch with Marty Ackermann and Harry Spencer, local BRAS members.

Oberlin is the town in America that I have visited the most often, and it has stuck. Eight thousand people live on mostly wide tree-lined streets. A main square with older stone buildings, white boarded houses set on big lots, with wrap-around porches. Boston Ferns hanging, swing seats, neat lawns, Stars and Stripes fluttering proudly (or alternatively, a Barack Obama placard). Big cars. Everyone knows and says hello to each other, the speed limit is 25 mph, and the change in pace is palpable. Oberlin is no doubt pretty unique in American terms. I'm probably just experiencing a localized exception rather than anything else, but it reinforces in my mind that Americans are nice people. Where was I?

Oh yes, birds. I called Marty, as per our email dialogue in the preceding weeks, and arranged to meet him at his house for a rapid pre-lunch stroll around the Arboretum. This is not an arboretum in the sense UK



Eastern Bluebird
Jonathan Lethbridge



visitors would understand, a formal collection of planted trees, but an area of reasonably open woodland abutting the golf course and cemetery, criss-crossed with paths, and a creek. It's lovely woodland habitat.

So, Marty and his friend Tammy often spent lunchtime in there at this time of year, seeing what migrants were coming through. They both had excellent ears, and were soon pointing out a succession of new birds to me. **Chimney Swift** overhead before we even reached the trees, and once in the woods, **Red-bellied Woodpecker** with its curious call, **White-breasted Nuthatch** also on call, **White-throated Sparrows**, a **Blue Jay**, **Ruby-crowned Kinglets**, another **House Wren** on a trunk. Birds were everywhere, but it was the warblers and vireos that Marty and Tammy were keen to see, after a long absence. Mostly on sound, and notwithstanding the fact

that the birders were a little rusty in early Spring, we found **Yellow-throated Vireo**, **Blue-headed Vireo**, and a plain bird with a wonderful song, the **Warbling Vireo**. **Yellow-rumped Warbler** was by far the most common in this woodland, but they also found me a **Black-throated Green Warbler**, **Palm Warblers**, a **Yellow Warbler** up near the pond, and finally a **Grey Catbird** mewing low down. The bird of the outing was a **Scarlet Tanager**, way up in the canopy, simply stunning.

Friday 2nd May

I had arranged to go with Marty and Harry to Caley Reservation, a few miles outside of Oberlin. The area is one of Lorain County's Metro Parks, but one of the less manicured ones.

One of the first birds we encountered was a very smart **Baltimore Oriole** way up in a tree. First picked up on sound, the bird was eventually located – it is amazing how a bright orange bird can remain unseen in a green tree – evolution defies logic and comes out on top. We identified a few **Grey Catbirds**, **Red-bellied Woodpeckers** and **White-breasted Nuthatches**.

We were soon looking at a very large **Trumpeter Swan**, along with some **American Coots**. **Tree Swallows** glided over the water here as well. We couldn't locate the other swan, so decided to try another pond, but as we turned one of my guides heard an **Eastern Towhee**. It took a while but eventually he was found singing away in the open, and gave good views to all.

The next pond was very productive. Just before we got there we found another **Baltimore Oriole**, a bird I could never tire of, and I also saw a **Cooper's Hawk** – not that I knew what it was, but in describing it to Harry and Marty, they determined it could only be that. As we reached the pond we were expecting a grebe, but the elusive waterfowl that we, at a distance could not make out, turned out to be a female **Hooded Merganser** – reasonably unexpected. We also got good views here of an obliging **Green Heron** who flew from the reeds and perched in a tree, as well as a **Great Blue Heron**. A flash out of my right eye screamed "Kingfisher" at me, and sure enough a **Belted Kingfisher** landed opposite us, along with yet more **Tree Swallows**. The Kingfisher's aquamarine sheen initially had me thinking about our own species of Kingfisher.

On the way back from this pond to the car I caught sight of a large bird flying past, very flappy flight action, white in the wing with distinct fingers. The only likely candidate was

Pileated Woodpecker.

Saturday 3rd May

The Big Day had arrived! Marty picked me up at around 6:30am, and we headed off towards Toledo, there to meet the wider BRAS group at Magee Marsh boardwalk. The site is just east of Toledo, and is well sign-posted from the main highway. Unfortunately the weather looked really grim, though in the context of searching for traveling migrants, this is not necessarily a bad thing. What makes Magee special is that it is an area of thick cover right on the lake shore that birds dive into to feed up in before making the crossing into Canada and beyond, a real spring migrant trap. Point Pelee in Canada is the same type of spot, where migrants crash, exhausted, after the crossing. Both are excellent for the great songbird migration. We saw a few birds en route, such as **Great Egret**, **Turkey Vulture**, **Ring-billed Gulls** and **American Kestrel**, but this was a mere appetizer.

We arrived bang on 8, and I started seeing birds straight away.

I had hardly finished getting introduced to the group members when I spotted a **Bald Eagle** cruising the lake shore right over our heads, and then whilst the group were catching up, not having seen each other for some time, I got onto a **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**, which sadly not every one else saw, and it turned out to be the only one all day.

This many eyes makes for great birding, and pretty soon I had seen the ubiquitous **Yellow-rumped Warbler**, **Magnolia Warbler**, **Rose-breasted Grosbeak**, **American Redstart**, **Yellow Warbler**, and a very bold **Veery** right next to the path. I also saw one side of a **Wood Thrush**, for about 2 seconds. The temptation to linger at this first spot was soon overcome by shouts of “Waterthrush” from a little further down the path. We trooped off and were soon



American Redstart
Jonathan Lethbridge



Common Grackle
Jonathan Lethbridge

looking at a **Northern Waterthrush** hopping around in the boggy undergrowth.

The habitat around the boardwalk is basically wet, marshy undergrowth, really Woodcocky, if you know what I mean. There is a profusion of branches, creepers, fallen logs and trunks, and obtaining clear views of birds is actually quite difficult, particularly if they are mobile. Waterthrushes are pretty skulking, but we did get some good views, more than enough to separate it from **Louisiana**

Waterthrush.

Many times over the day we would stop to chat with people and ask what they had seen, to hear that they had seen xyz warbler (which we had not seen) exactly where we had just been. So perhaps if you stayed in one place you would do very well. For someone as excited as I, however, the suspense of what might lie around each bend was too strong to resist, and we walked the entire length, some portions multiple times.

Also on view were plenty of **Grey Catbirds**, **Ruby-crowned Kinglets**, and **Red-winged Blackbirds**. The next highlight for me was a **Black-and-white Warbler**. This was a species I had been really hoping to see after hours of studying my guidebook. Initially I only got a flash of it, but it could only be one thing, and soon enough it showed really well, and true to form, it exhibited its typical treecreeper behaviour style, very unlike a warbler.

Next up was **Yellow-breasted Chat**, a giant amongst warblers. I somehow picked it up. I guess I was on super-alert mode due to the excitement of seeing so many amazing birds – the American Wood Warblers in summer plumage cannot fail to get one excited. I managed to describe the location to a few other people.

The following will be familiar to many birders: “There, on that branch!” “*Which branch?*” “That one at the back, coming out from the tree near the other branch!” “*You mean near the green leaves?*” “No, by the brown trunk....” and so on. Eventually we got there, but there is not a lot to facilitate accurate descriptions at Magee, it’s a big tangle of wood, and the birds move quickly, feeding, so prepare to be frustrated.

As Marty said even before we got there, the consolidated day-list that gets reported will sound very impressive, but no single person will see everything, and that proved to be exactly right.



Ovenbird
Jonathan Lethbridge

We also managed to see some **Ovenbirds**, **Swainson's Thrush**, **Hermit Thrush**, a superb and very close **Black-Throated Blue Warbler**, **Black-throated Green Warbler**, and an **Eastern Towhee** at around this mark.

I think that at about this point it started to rain, and many people headed back to their cars, including Harry who went back to Oberlin for lunch. Marty (mainly for the benefit of the birding tourist I suspect) and I stuck it out for a while, but after half-an-hour admitted defeat (as did my supposedly waterproof jacket) and temporarily retreated to the car, there to be treated to Ackermann Brownies, very good.

Back on the boardwalk we tried to add to our list. Almost everyone we spoke to had seen some warblers that we had not. We soon added a **Northern Parula**, right at the start of the boardwalk, and then a **Chestnut-sided Warbler**, as well as a **Common Yellowthroat**. This time we walked all the way around the boardwalk, picking up a few other new birds along the way. We saw **Blue-headed Vireo** very well, and then a new bird posed the assembled crowd with a



Swainson's Thrush
Jonathan Lethbridge

few questions. It was eventually called as a **White-eyed Vireo**, but a number of people remained unconvinced, it looked more like a juvenile, which would not be possible in early May. We also added more **Great Egrets**, distant **Common Terns**, and flyover **Double-crested Cormorants**.

When we checked out the lake shore we got a group of **Ruddy Ducks**, a **Scaup**, and some **Tree Swallows** and **Barn Swallows**, as well as **Killdeer**. On the way back to the car we finally got a glimpse of a very secretive **Hooded Warbler**, another species we had heard many people talk about, but had thus far failed to see. What a great looking bird! You needed to contort your body to an exact spot about 30 cm off the ground which then gave you a clear view

through 40 ft of tangled undergrowth, and then hope that the bird passed through that viewpoint, which thankfully it did.

We would head back towards Oberlin and try and take in a different type of habitat near Sandusky.

One thing is for sure, I will be back, perhaps a little later to capture a new group of species that were still on their way in early May. Marty had plans to do exactly that the following week, but by that time I would be back in my office in London. On the way out we saw another **Trumpeter Swan**, and several **Great Blue Herons**.

We stopped at the eastern end of Sandusky Bay, at a place called Pipe Creek, very near to the amusement parks at Cedar Point. Here you have the attraction of the reasonably sheltered confines of Sandusky Bay itself, as well as number of shallowish pools. We managed to flush a **Sora**, and saw **Mute Swan**, **Bufflehead**, **Ring-necked Duck**, and a lot of **Killdeer** and **Spotted Sandpipers**, the latter a bird I very nearly saw (i.e. dipped) in Scotland earlier this year. There were also a couple of **Green-winged Teals**, a bird which I had seen at Slimbridge that same day I picked up the book I mentioned. On the way back to the car I think I saw a **Cliff Swallow**.

Sunday 4th May

I didn't do much birding today really, but I managed a short walk at Carlisle Reservation, another Metro Park a couple of miles east of Oberlin. It's a much more visitor-aware place than Caley, with a large visitor centre and a Raptor display area. In the wooded area I picked up a couple of new species for the trip – a very vocal **Carolina Wren**, and a **Downy Woodpecker**. Carrying on to the ponds produced loads of **Red-winged Blackbirds** and **Tree Swallows**. The fields there were so flooded they had small fish flapping about in them. Walking a path south of these ponds produced **Black-capped Chickadees** in the trees, many **Yellowthroats**, and best of all, a skulking **Mourning Warbler** that I got really quite good views of, before it vanished into a tangle of brambles, not to reappear. I got great views of **Song Sparrows** feeding on the path, and numerous other species really close.

A quick check of Oberlin Reservoir on the way back into town turned up around fifty **Ruddy Duck**, a couple of **Bufflehead**, and a **Red-breasted Merganser**. An **Eastern Bluebird** was in fields near the bridge over the highway.

Monday 5th May

This was my last full day in Ohio before I headed home. I found time to go to Sandy Ridge Reservation, about 25 minutes northeast of Oberlin. It's a wetland area with mature woods as well. I drove both Marty and Harry over there and we started seeing birds from the car park –

Canada Geese overhead, and plenty of **Red-winged Blackbirds** – I never tire of these birds, with their brilliant yellow and red wing patches, and engaging calls. This metro park was a lot busier, and for the only time since Magee, we actually saw other birders, something of a rarity (unless of course they were all at Magee).

The walk to the ponds starts at the car park and wends its way through the forest. We were aware of birds from the outset, warbler-neck started to kick in after ten minutes. We saw **Yellow-rumped Warbler**, **Palm Warbler** and **Black-throated Green Warbler** on this walk, as well as **White-breasted Nuthatch**, **Red-bellied Woodpecker**, and another **Baltimore Oriole**. Towards the end of the wooded area we found some **Tufted Titmice**, the first of the trip for me.

The path opened up into a wide area with water on each side of the path, with an amazing number of dead trees submerged, fully upright. This was woodpecker central, and was teeming with **Northern Flicker**, **Red-bellied Woodpecker**, and a single **Red-headed Woodpecker**, a new species for me in America. **Chimney Swifts** and **Tree Swallows** were everywhere, but we could not find any Purple Martins, sadly. The main reason for the visit was the possibility of waterfowl, and after a short stroll, during which we sighted a **Green Heron**, we came to a viewing platform on the right-hand side. From here we found some **Spotted Sandpipers**, and a group of feeding **Lesser Yellowlegs**. It wasn't long before we found some **Blue-winged Teals**, **Green-winged Teals** and **American Wigeons**. I had been keen to see many of these ducks up close, as they can turn up as migrants here, and this would give me a better chance of recognizing them, should they ever turn up on one of my patches. We also found **Gadwall**, **Mallard** and **American Coot**, none in great numbers though. There were plenty of **Great Blue Heron** and **Great Egrets** here as well, all lined up in a row.

As we progressed around the perimeter of the lakes, we began to see smaller birds. Marty got a good view of an **Orchard Oriole** that I just managed to see fly away – enough to get an impression of size, shape and colour, and we got good views of some **Swamp Sparrows** in a marshy field.

The experienced birders' ears kicked in, and they heard a number of species that remained hidden, such as **Red-eyed Vireo**. A sudden burst to our right didn't give us much time to form an opinion, but the small size, dangly legs and colouration all shouted **Virginia Rail** to us – the habitat was spot on. After consultation with our various field guides, that is what it went down as.

As we approached the start of the forest track, having completed our loop of the lakes, we had a magical fifteen minutes where Marty found an **Eastern Kingbird** and tremendous views of a **Warbling Vireo**. I found a pair of **Wood Ducks** (hurrah! – this had been a main trip target). A **Great-crested Flycatcher** landed just above our heads. A super bird, we were very fortunate.

That afternoon I went for a short walk with Grandma to Carlisle again, as the weather continued to be nice, and she would not normally be able to get over there. Once again she proved an able bird spotter, and we saw a good selection of woodland species. We found a **White-breasted Nuthatch** nest-hole close to the path. Other highlights were some very vocal **Song Sparrows**, and a very close **Baltimore Oriole**.

Final Thoughts

That was basically it for birding for the holiday. After Sandy Ridge, I added only two more new birds for the trip, a **Red-tailed Hawk** from the back garden in Oberlin, and two fine **Bobolinks** at Carlisle on my drive back to Cleveland Airport – I got the gen from Harry, and they were right where he said they would be.

I'd like to reiterate my thanks to the Black River Audubon Society for making me so



Marty Ackermann trying to find me a new bird.
Jonathan Lethbridge

welcome, and in particular to Marty Ackermann and Harry Spencer (and their wives!), for all the time they devoted to showing me the birds and the wonderful spots so close to Oberlin. And also to Marly Merrill who lent me a great video on the Warblers of North America which I watched the night before I went to Magee. It was there waiting for me when I walked in at midnight that first evening. If any of them come to England, I'd happily take them round my local patches.

Throughout my trip, I used the excellent Sibley's Birds of the Eastern United States, one volume of a two-book set of a just-about-pocket-sized version of his monumental larger work covering the entire country. To my mind it's the equivalent of the Collins Guide here. The illustrations are excellent, if not as good as the Collins. We really are spoilt.

For the trip I recorded 107 species of birds.



Magee Marsh Boardwalk
Left to right: Jonathan
Lethbridge, Elliot Miller,
Nancy Shipman, Dick Lee,
and Marty Ackermann.
Photo by Harry Spencer

A Birder's Diary

By Carol Leininger



For many years I spent my Christmas holidays with my parents in eastern Pennsylvania. One year, a few days after the holiday, while I was sitting in the living room reading, I heard a bird sing. It sounded as if it were right in the room with me.

I looked around the room and out the front window.

Nothing.

My father ran into the room with a big grin on his face, looked at me, went to the fireplace, and whistled.

The bird returned the call.

My father whistled a different tune, and the bird returned that song, also.

I grabbed the binocs off the dining room table (where they should always be) and ran out the front door.

Sure enough, on top of the chimney sat a Northern Mockingbird!

A Northern Mockingbird is slightly bigger than a robin, has a silvery-gray head and back, a lighter gray breast, and big white wing-patches. These birds imitate other birds (vocal mimicry), hence their common name.

I was surprised to see a mockingbird in winter. The birds are found in Pennsylvania and southern Ohio year-round, but in Lorain County only in spring and summer.

Range maps in field guides can be quite interesting and helpful for identification.

I am fascinated that some birds seem to be expanding their range while others keep within distinct borders.

I think mockingbirds just dislike northern Ohio winters.

Can't say I blame them!



Northern Mockingbird
John Koscinski

Fiscal Report 2007-2008

By Jack Smith

Black River Audubon Society Fiscal Year 2007-2008

Gain or Loss as of June 30, 2008 (Dollars)

Revenues

Dues Sharing with National Audubon	1,168
Resale Items	675
Donations and Bequests	14,386
Dividends	9,225.84
Local Membership Dues	285
Program Fees	25
Realized Gains	
Camp Scholarship Trust	1,267.35
Conservation Trust	810.26
Audubon Adventures Trust	864.68
Gunther Pfeifer Memorial Trust	5,646.69
Total Revenues	34,353.82
Unrealized Losses	42,139.79

Expenses

WINGTIPS	5,605.65
Postage	1,072.48
Audubon Adventures Kits	2,151
Camp Scholarships	3,275
Conservation	1,484.97
Christmas Bird Count	120.00
Office Supplies and Miscellaneous	13.50
Insurance	1,737
LCMP/BRAS Lecture Speakers	500.00
Donations	75.00
Resale Items Costs	589.00
Programs	150.00
Field Trip Expenses	50.00
Total Expenses	16,823.60

Fiscal Year Loss:

Revenues and Expenses 24,609.57

Assets	1-Jul-07	30-Jun-08
Checking Account	10,509.39	9,450.63
Camp Scholarship Trust	31,788.33	26,842.57
Conservation Trust	20,323.27	17,161.30
Audubon Adventures Trust	21,688.34	18,313.97
Gunther Pfeifer Memorial Trust	131,666.21	119,597.50
Total All Trusts	215,975.54	191,365.97

Fiscal Year Loss: Assets

24,609.57



Jack Smith
Photo by Elyria Chronicle

Many Bluebirds Chicks Banded

By Harry Spencer

During the past nesting season Keith Tarvin, Oberlin College ornithologist and Associate Professor of Biology, has banded about seventy Eastern Bluebird chicks at boxes monitored by members of Black River Audubon Society at sites around Lorain County. The boxes are located at Carlisle Reservation (Equestrian Center, Meadow Loop, Visitor Center, and Duck Pond), Findley State Park (Dam and Campgrounds), Black River Reservation (High Meadows), Kendal at Oberlin, Westwood Cemetery in Oberlin, and on Webster Road in Wellington TWP.

At the Westwood Cemetery in Oberlin on August 11, I helped Keith band the final two bluebird chicks of the season. Keith explained to me that observation of leg bands provided important information about avian migration habits. Each band is numbered and recorded.

I hope that anyone observing a banded bluebird in Lorain County will communicate that information to the Black River Audubon Society at the address or phone number listed on the back covers of *WINGTIPS*. If someone observes a banded bluebird in Lorain County this winter, for example, that bird probably was banded by Keith, and we would know that the bird has not strayed far from its banding location.



Cheryl Pruitt and Keith Tarvin
Photo by Mark Pruitt

Bluebird chick on scale
Photo by Mark Pruitt



From Audubon Ohio

Meet, Learn, Have Fun Audubon Ohio State Assembly, October 18-19

Audubon Ohio invites you to its third biennial State Assembly on October 18 and 19 in Bellville, Ohio. This year's Assembly will feature nationally prominent speakers, engaging workshops, enjoyable outings, and the opportunity to mingle with fellow birders and activists of all ages in the Mohican Hills during the peak of fall color.

The Assembly will run from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m. on Saturday, October 18, with optional outings offered on Sunday morning, October 19. Keynote addresses will be presented by Dr. Lonnie Thompson, noted climate researcher and winner of the 2007 National Medal of Science, and Ted Eubanks, nationally-recognized expert on how to turn enthusiasm for birds and wildlife into conservation action.

The Assembly will feature three tracks of concurrent 90-minute workshops, with three workshops in each track. One track will focus on protection of Important Bird Areas; one on hands-on restoration; and one on engaging young people to be conservation leaders.

On Sunday morning we will offer optional outings to nearby birding hotspots, including the Ohio Bird Sanctuary just 20 minutes away near Mansfield.

The Assembly will be held at the Quality Inn and Suites, offering special room rates for the Assembly, and conveniently located at the Bellville Exit (Exit 165) on I-71. Lunch and dinner will be held across the street at the Dutch Heritage Restaurant. Rooms are also available nearby at the Comfort Inn, which features an indoor water park for families with younger children.

More information about the Assembly and how to register for it will be available through the Audubon Ohio website, www.audubonohio.org. Registration materials are available at 614-224-3303, or by e-mail request at Ohio@Audubon.org.

Black River Audubon Society 50th Anniversary Celebration

Thursday, October 16, 2008, 6 p.m.

Rose Café, Lakeview Park

1800 West Erie Avenue

Lorain, OH

Guest Speaker: **Kenn Kaufman**



Kenn Kaufman is an author, artist, teacher, and lifelong naturalist. He is a field editor for Audubon magazine, and writes regular columns for every major birding magazine. Most of his energy currently goes into book projects, including his own field guide series, Kaufman Field Guides, published by Houghton Mifflin Company of Boston. Kenn's other books include *Lives of North American Birds* and *Kingbird Highway*. A new memoir, *Flights Against the Sunset*, was published in spring 2008.

In addition to many accolades, Kenn was the 2008 recipient of the

American Birding Association's, Roger Tory Peterson Award for lifetime achievement.
Kenn and his wife Kim live in Oak Harbor, Ohio.