



THE BECKHAM OBSERVER

BECKHAMBIRDCLUB.ORG

OCTOBER 2023

P.O. BOX 5301 LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40255-0301

OCTOBER PROGRAM



In 2007, Christine Hayden decided her new hobby would be wildlife photography, specifically bears. After a trip to Yellowstone, she then found camera equipment was going to get dusty in Kentucky, if bears were the focus. So birds! Although not intending to end up a birder, this has happened. She now spends most every moment thinking about birds, looking for birds, counting birds, and photographing birds.

Please join us for a tour around the US, as Christine travels from the north in Minnesota winter, south to Arizona, east to the Florida coast and west to California, all in a whirlwind year of chasing birds, both familiar and new.

Our meeting is on Tuesday, October 10 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2822 Frankfort Ave, Louisville, KY 40206, 38.254256, -85.689458. St. Mark's is at the corner of Frankfort Avenue and Kennedy Ave. Please enter by way of the back door near the parking lot.

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

The field trip schedule for October through December is included in this newsletter for those receiving it by mail. For those receiving the newsletter by email there will be a link and it is also available on the BBC web site. October will probably be your last chance to see our departing neotropical birds but it is also the month to see our returning winter residents. So don't miss out! Come join us on our field trips. **Please read the guidelines for field trips. They are important.**



PAST FIELD TRIPS



BREAKFAST WITH THE BIRDS – SEPTEMBER 9

BBC field trip, Breakfast with the Birds. Twenty-nine birders met at Hays Kennedy Park for a light breakfast and a birding field trip afterwards. Skies were cloudy with a light breeze and temperatures in the 70s.

Highlights included a Sora, two Semipalmated Plovers, Solitary and Pectoral Sandpipers,

along with a Blue-winged and a Green-winged Teal.

BBC field trip, Breakfast with the Birds. After breakfast and birding at Hays Kennedy, the group continued into Garvin Brown. There we were treated to a pair of juvenile Cooper's Hawks, a chipping Blue Grosbeak and a somewhat secretive Magnolia Warbler.

MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK - SEPTEMBER 10, 2023 Beautiful weather and lots of migrating warblers made for a super fun day for the thirteen observers who traveled to the national park. Forty-eight species were recorded at the end of the day with a total of 14 species of warblers. Highlights included Wild Turkeys, Nighthawks, Swainson's Thrushes, Cedar Waxwings, both Golden-winged and Blue-winged warblers and a beautiful Canada Warbler. Join us on the next BBC field trip. You'll be glad you did! Thanks to Mary Cromer for the picture.



POPE LICK PARK- SEPTEMBER 24 BBC field trip. Eleven birders met on the first fall morning of the year and the birds did not disappoint! We tallied 8 warblers, saw numerous Cedar Waxwings in the treetops and a beautiful Barred Owl, along with a Yellow-billed Cuckoo sitting low on an open branch. These were some of the highlights among the 57 species seen on the BBC field trip.

BBC Conservation Report Websites September 2023

[New Oystercatcher Nesting Site in Florida | Birding Wire](#)

[Painted Bunting Backyard Research | Birding Wire](#)

[Use BirdCast to Monitor Fall Migration | Birding Wire](#)

[Impressive Early Raptor Migrations | Birding Wire](#)

[Protecting Wattled Crane Nests in South Africa - International Crane Foundation \(savingcranes.org\)](#)

<https://www.nature.org/en-us/magazine/magazine-articles/winds-of-change/>

[Our Favorite Fascinating Bird Behaviors from the 2022 Audubon Photo Awards | Audubon](#)

OCTOBER BIG DAY

Wherever you are on 14 October, take a few minutes to join in this global celebration. Participate from anywhere—even from home! By taking part in October Big Day you're also celebrating [Global Bird Weekend](#) and [World Migratory Bird Day](#). Be a part of the global team and help set a new record for October birding. See the September newsletter for more details.





SEPTEMBER BIRDING

What a fabulous month to be out birding as we had a great migration of warblers, vireos, Broad-winged Hawks, flycatchers, etc. but of course the most important bird to visit our state was the American Flamingo, thanks to hurricane Idalia. A flamingo was spotted at Cave Run State Park by campers but before any birders could arrive it flew off. But it was not long after that a report came in that there was one in Gallatin County just past Warsaw. So birders flocked to the overlook on highway 42 and spotted it just up the river. It then moved into a little cove of the river up the highway from the overlook. So birders jumped into their car and drove up the highway to get a better look and did they ever. Here was the flamingo strolling down the street to give everyone fantastic looks before it flew back to the river where it has remained. It was still there as of September 25. Check birdky or ebird for updates.

There were many other birds to be seen throughout the month. Two hundred Broad-winged Hawks were seen at Turkey Run Park as they kettled and flew off south to continue their journey. Many warblers, vireos, thrushes, flycatchers were present in the Parklands, Caperton Swamp and even in your backyard. Wonderful collection of shorebirds were at the Fall of the Ohio. You still have a few days in October to catch some of the stragglers so join one of the field trips or go out on your own. Don't forget to use birdcast.info to find out when it is a good birding day and ebird to see what has arrived. Our winter residents are not far behind. So get out and bird, you won't regret it.

