



Greater Mohican Audubon News

YOUR LINK TO TOMORROW'S ENVIRONMENT

www.audubon.cjb.net

MARCH 2006

GMAS CALENDAR

- **Sat. Mar. 11** 9AM-11AM. Beginner's Bird Walk at Secrest Arboretum, 1680 Madison Avenue, Wooster, Ohio. Meet at Visitor Pavilion.
- **Tues Mar. 21** 6:30PM. GMAS Board Meeting at the Ashland Public Library.
- **Sat. Mar 25.** Shreve Migration Sensation. For more information, call Jacki Chamberlain at the Wayne County Convention Bureau at 800-362-6474.
- **Sat. Mar. 25.** No bird walk today. See you at the Shreve Migration Sensation.
- **Tues. Mar 28** 6:30PM. Program by Casey Tucker from Audubon Ohio on "Ecology of Birds in Human Habitats" at Gorman Nature Center. For more information, call Louise Fleming at (419)289-2657.
- **Sat. Apr. 8** 9AM-11AM. Beginner's Bird Walk at Malabar Farm, located near Pleasant Hill Lake on Bromfield Road in Lucas. Meet at the Gift Shop at the Big House.
- **Tues. Apr. 11** 6:30PM. Bat Program by Don Plant at the Ashland Public Library.
- **Tues. Apr. 18** 6:30PM. GMAS Board Meeting at the Ashland Public Library.
- **Fri. Apr. 21-Sun. Apr. 23.** Mohican Wildlife Weekend. See article in this issue for more information.
- **Sat. Apr. 22.** No bird walk today. See you at the Mohican Wildlife Weekend.
- **Sat. May 6.** Field trip to Crane Creek. Meet at Montgomery School, I-71 and Rt. 250, Ashland at 8AM. Bring water and lunch. For more information, contact Louise Fleming at 419-289-2657.
- **Sat. May 13** 9AM-11AM. Beginner's Bird Walk at Secrest Arboretum (see Mar. 11 for address).
- **Tues. May 16** 6:30PM. GMAS Board Meeting at the Ashland Public Library.
- **Sat. May 20.** Annual GMAS Bird-a-thon. Help us break last year's record of 111 species. Meet at 8:30AM at the State Campground on St. Rt. 3 in Loudonville. For more information call Louise Fleming at 419-289-2657.

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GMAS MEMBERSHIP POLICY

You are invited to become a chapter supporter! Starting January 2006 Greater Mohican Audubon Society (GMAS) will offer only two memberships: GMAS Chapter Supporter (\$10 a year) and National Audubon Society (NAS) + GMAS supporter (\$30 for a year's introductory membership). Following the first year, you will renew your NAS membership through NAS and your GMAS Chapter Supporter membership through GMAS.

We encourage you to join both NAS and GMAS as a Chapter Supporter, to take advantage of all the educational opportunities offered by both. Additionally you can feel good about supporting conservation and nature education on the national level (NAS) and on the local level (GMAS).

Don't miss a single GMAS event!! All Chapter Supporters will receive the newsletter, either by mail or by email notification. Remember, if you wish to keep receiving this newsletter, you will need to become a Chapter Supporter. If you aren't already, please use the membership form in this newsletter.

Also, members and nonmembers: please check our website at <http://audubon.cjb.net> often to see the latest updates!!

--Louise Fleming, GMAS President

GMAS FALL HIKING SPREE

The 3rd Annual Fall Hiking Spree concluded on November 15, 2005. Hikes were offered in Ashland, Richland and Wayne Counties. This year a total of 20 individuals earned hiking sticks and shields for completing a minimum of 6 hikes. There was no fee for hiking, but a fee was charged for a shield and/or hiking stick.

Most of our parks and natural areas offer several hikes, and we alternate hikes each year. One exception is Johnson Woods in Wayne County. This single hike site is still a favorite with its pleasant boardwalk through giant, old growth hardwood trees. Next year we will add Crall Woods at Pine Hill Park in northern Ashland County. Our parks have their own, unique eco-systems and all are worth the time and effort to explore firsthand. While visiting a site, you could bring bird, animal, tree and/or plant field guides to delve deeper into the make-up of our parks.

If you have suggestions for additional hiking locations, please drop a note to GMAS, PO Box 907, Ashland, Ohio 44805. Thank you for participating in this years Hiking Spree and let's look forward to hitting the trails next year, September 15 to November 15, 2006.

--Bill Fleming

NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

Nominations for GMAS Officers, Committee Chairs, and County Representatives are being taken until May 15, 2006. The office of Vice-President is currently vacant and the following offices will be available beginning June 1, 2006: President and Secretary. Also open are the following committee chairs: Audubon-at-Home, Publicity, Fall Hiking Spree, Fundraising, and Bird-a-thon. We also have openings for Ashland and Holmes County representatives. The GMAS Board meets the third Tuesday of each month at the Ashland Public Library. If you would like to volunteer for any of these positions, or if you would like to nominate someone, please contact Louise Fleming at GMAS, P.O. Box 907, Ashland, OH 44805 or by email to <lfleming@ashland.edu>.

ASHLAND CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT BREAKS SEVERAL RECORDS

Twenty-one birdwatchers from the Ashland area drove the roads and walked the fields on December 17th, and two watched their feeders. The twenty-one field participants walked a total of 23.5 miles in 35.5 hours, and drove a total of 299 miles in 28 hours, they were divided into nine parties to cover the entire bird count circle. The count circle is an area 15 miles in diameter; with the center being the "S" curve on Ohio 511 south of Ashland. The feeder watchers put in a total of 2.0 hours watching their feeders, with a total of 6 hours watching feeders.

Those participating included; Byron Burnett, Gary Cowell, Ron Dupre, Lisa Durham, Louise Fleming, Cheryl Harner, Denny Hiner, Ruth Ann Hiner, Edwin Hochstetler, Elmer Hochstetler, Levi Hochstetler, Samuel Hochstetler, Steven Hochstetler, Debbie Key, Josh Key, Robert Key, Marcia Kinnard, Linda Lang, Tim Leslie, Bruce Litten, Don Plant, Doug Strine, and Sally Strine.

This was the 67th count for Ashland; Burton Kahl first organized the Ashland-area count in 1939 and was the compiler until Don Plant took over in 1975, then Byron Burnett in 1983, and Tim Leslie in 2000.

We didn't add any new species to our Christmas Bird Count list this year, but we did have 14 new all time high counts. Field participants were out from 5:45 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., low temperature was 18.5 in the a.m. and the high temperature was 34.5. There were a total of 71 species reported on the count day, which smashed the record high count of 62 species, shared by Ashland's 56th and 59th counts. There was a total of 7780 individual birds reported, which broke the all time record of 6,594 on Ashland's 63rd count. The 14 new all time high counts were: 1068 Canada Geese, 4 Trumpeter Swans, 11 Cooper's Hawks, 6 Rough-legged Hawks, 489 Mourning Doves, 5 Barred Owls, 6 Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, 55 Carolina Chickadees, 2 American Pipits, 11 Fox Sparrows, 112 White-throated Sparrows, 41 White-crowned Sparrows, 477 Dark-eyed Juncos, and 286 American Goldfinches

You can view all bird counts on line through Bird Source, www.birdsource.org, where the 106th count results will be available. For more information about the Ashland CBC, contact Tim Leslie at 419-289-2626, or write to the Greater Mohican Audubon Society at P.O. Box 907, Ashland, Ohio 44805 or visit our website at <http://audubon.cjb.net>.
– Tim Leslie

OTHER AREA CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

In addition to the Ashland Christmas Bird Count (CBC) written about in the preceding article, there were four other CBCs conducted in the Greater Mohican area.

The Millersburg CBC was held on December 17 and coordinated by Dennis Kline. 81 counters broke the Ohio CBC all-time record high with an incredible 95 species. New high counts for the Millersburg CBC were 2326 Canada Geese, 45 Great Blue Herons, 23 Northern Harriers, 40 Cooper's Hawks, 49 Rough-legged Hawks, 17 Barn Owls, 12 Short-eared Owls, 82 Red-headed Woodpeckers, 88 Brown Creepers, 12 Winter Wrens, 83 Field Sparrows, 11 Savannah Sparrows, and 1866 Song Sparrows. Other good finds were a Snow Goose, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, 3 Virginia Rails, Eastern Phoebe, Chipping Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, and count-week birds—Great Egret and Palm Warbler.

Steve McKee coordinated the Mansfield CBC also held on December 17. 20 participants counted 68 species. Good finds were 2 Gray Catbirds and 23 American Pipits.

Roger Troutman coordinated the Wooster CBC, held this year on Christmas Eve. 30 counters found 81 species—a tie for the all-time high Wooster CBC. 2 new birds for the count were Northern Goshawk and Common Yellowthroat. New high counts were 3529 Canada Geese, 8 Northern Shovelers, 13 Cooper's Hawks, 69 Red-tailed Hawks, 2 Virginia Rails, 4 Long-eared Owls, 33 Brown Creepers, 29 Carolina Wrens, 12 Northern Mockingbirds, 21 Eastern Towhees, 115 White-throated Sparrows, 146 White-crowned Sparrows, 862 Common Grackles, and 50 Brown-headed Cowbirds. Other good finds were a Northern Bobwhite and Barn Owl.

Roger also coordinated the Mohican CBC, held this year on New Year's Eve. 39 participants counted 68 species.

New highs for this CBC were 1087 Canada Geese, 301 Wild Turkeys, 9 Bald Eagles, 26 Rough-legged Hawks, 2 Long-eared Owls, 42 Northern Flickers, 7 Hermit Thrushes, and 108 White-throated Sparrows. Other good finds were a Northern Shrike and a count-week Pine Warbler.

– Su Snyder

2ND BREEDING BIRD ATLAS

It has been over 20 years since the completion of the first breeding bird atlas in Ohio and we are pleased to announce the start of the Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas II in spring 2006. Like Ohio's first atlas, this new project will offer volunteers an exciting way to learn about the breeding birds of Ohio while generating an immense amount of information necessary for the effective conservation of birds in the state. By engaging Ohio's citizens in this cooperative effort, the Atlas will foster learning and interaction among bird enthusiasts of all experience levels and will heighten public awareness of birds in Ohio. You can read more information about this exciting new project at <http://www.ohio-birds.org/obba2/>.

Tim Leslie has accepted the job of Regional Coordinator for region 48/49 for the upcoming Atlas and Su Snyder has accepted the job of Regional Coordinator for region 50/51. If you look at your DeLORME OHIO ATLAS & GAZETTEER, that would be pages 48 & 49 or 50 & 51. Each region is made up of 28 blocks. If you are interested in surveying one or more blocks, or would like more information, please contact the Regional Coordinators below.

Tim Leslie, Regional Coordinator
Atlas Region 48/49
419-289-2626
leslie26_2000@yahoo.com

Su Snyder, Regional Coordinator
Atlas Region 50/51
330-264-1966
bird348@aol.com

CHRISTMAS IN PARADISE – 2005

Yep, we were off to Florida! My daughter and son-in-law live in Florida, and last year we didn't share Christmas with them. This year we decided to do something about it. Four of us—my husband, two other daughters, and I—hit the road. We stopped in Gainesville with friends where I made use of a walking trail behind their house. I was serenaded by a Carolina Wren. On the way south there were plenty of herons and egrets, Turkey Vultures (yes, I found where they go when they leave Ohio), Black Vultures, Sandhill Cranes, Wood Storks, and various other flyovers that I couldn't identify at 70 mph. I enjoyed the cattle ranches in northern Florida.

We arrived at Sanibel Island on Christmas Eve, in time to hit the beach and then spent almost all of Christmas Day there too. Birding was the way I like it—you could just sit there, and the birds would come to you. Four species of shorebird hung out on the beach all day every day: Willet, Sanderling, Black-bellied Plover, and Ruddy Turnstone. I was proud of myself, identifying shorebirds—in winter plumage no less!! We also had lots of Brown Pelicans, Ring-billed Gulls, Double-crested Cormorants, White Ibises, and an occasional Osprey. Royal Terns flew over occasionally. At one point we walked down the beach and sat near four terns. They kept an eye on us, but were otherwise undisturbed. A few minutes later a flock of about a dozen Black Skimmers cruised the water and then landed next to the terns. All 16 birds sat, facing the same way, and they were no more than six feet from us. Wow!

I don't know much about sea animals but there were quite an array of shells and sponges. We found many of the shells occupied by live animals (which is, of course, why the shorebirds and gulls were there). So my daughter and I wandered the beach throwing back live ones. We even found a live crab that had washed ashore. It looked a bit perplexed at its new surroundings. So we threw it back too. I took watercolors and paper, and four of us tried our hand at beach art, including sand and shells. Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Boat-tailed Grackles, both American and Fish Crow, and a Pileated Woodpecker were some of the inland birds.

The next day everyone, except my husband and I, left for my daughter's home in Coral Springs. We toured the Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge. There we added lots of cool birds to our list: Pied-billed Grebe, Little Blue Heron (both immature white ones and adult blue ones), Roseate Spoonbill, White Ibis, Great Blue Heron, Snowy Egret, Reddish Egret, Cattle Egret, Great Egret, Tri-colored Heron, Belted Kingfisher, Blue-winged Teal, Willet, Osprey, Double-crested Cormorant, Northern Pintail, American White Pelican, Anhinga, Red-shouldered Hawk (pale Florida race), Yellow-crowned Night Heron (both adult and immature), and Green Heron.

We took the southern route east, through Big Cypress National Preserve and the Everglades. About every half mile sat a kingfisher, and everywhere were herons and cormorants. A canal runs along Highway 41 so there were plenty of fish for all. Much of this area is an Indian reservation, and it was interesting to go by some of their villages.

The next day we went north of Coral Springs to Loxahatchee NWR. In spite of hurricane damage, they have a nice visitor's center and dikes for walking and birdwatching. On our way out of the building an otter was playing and feeding. Along the dikes we saw Red-shouldered Hawks, lots of Common Moorhens, Little Blue Herons (white and blue). An alligator (a real one—about 8-10 feet long) sunned itself. We sighted three Limpkins (a life bird for me) and a couple Glossy Ibises. At a bird blind we saw a Yellow-rumped Warbler in winter plumage and a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. There were also an Eastern Phoebe, Northern Mockingbird, Blue Jays, Northern Cardinal, Tree Swallows, Turkey Vultures, several species of butterflies, and turtles. Later, at my daughter's apartment, we saw a Palm Warbler!

Our impressions of Florida: waterways and ponds are everywhere. Birds, opportunists that they are, can be found in many of them. Thus one sees a diversity of herons and egrets everywhere. One day we drove past a landfill during business hours. It must be for Turkey Vultures like beaches are to humans—a magnet (yum!). There were hundreds of vultures and gulls.

On our way home we drove I-95 through Florida, Georgia, South Carolina. These are beautiful states, but everywhere are signs of creeping sprawl—new developments have sprung out of thousands of acres of drained everglades and palm forests. Acres and acres of palm and pine forests are being leveled daily and laid bare for more strip malls and expensive homes. This was a sobering note on which to end our vacation. Yet, it reminded me of our responsibility as citizens and nature lovers to stay politically alert and to advocate for nature. In my opinion, it's time to draw the line on sprawl and say “no more.” If we won't, who will?

– Louise Conn Fleming

GMAS Calendar (*continued from page 1*)

- **Sat. May 27** 9AM-11AM. Beginner's Bird Walk at Byers Woods, located 4 miles south of Ashland, just east of State Route 60 on CR 1754. Meet in the parking lot.
- **Wed. Jun. 7-Wed. Jun. 21.** Annual Summer Bird Count. Call Tim Leslie at 419-289-2626 for more information.
- **Sat. Jun. 10** 9AM-11AM. Beginner's Bird Walk at Malabar Farm (see Apr. 8 for address).
- **Tues. Jun. 20** 6:30PM. GMAS Board Meeting at the Ashland Public Library.
- **Sat. Jun. 24** 9AM-11AM. Beginner's Bird Walk at Byers Woods (see May 27 for address).
- **Sat. Jul. 8** 9AM-11AM. Beginner's Bird Walk at Secrest Arboretum (see Mar. 11 for address).
- **Tues. Jul. 18** 6:30PM. GMAS Board Meeting at the Ashland Public Library.
- **Sat. Jul. 22** 9AM-11AM. Beginner's Bird Walk at Byers Woods (see May 27 for address).

MOHICAN WILDLIFE WEEKEND APRIL 21-23, 2006

The fifth annual Mohican Wildlife Weekend (MWW), a celebration of wildlife habitat, heritage, and natural history, kicks off on Friday, April 21 at 7PM at Gorman Nature Center with keynote speaker Steve McKee telling us about "Mohican---A Backyard Journey North and South". Steve McKee, Director of the Richland County Park District, is very familiar with Mohican's wealth of diverse fauna and flora, having conducted on-going plant and avian surveys in the area. Situated in the crossroads of the North and South, Mohican hosts many unusual plants and animals right in our own backyard.

Greater Mohican Audubon Society will be taking an active part in the upcoming MWW. Several activities have been planned and everyone is invited to participate. Please call or e-mail Cheryl Harner at harner1@bright.net if you would be able volunteer with a scope at either lake.

- Sat. April 22 8AM-11:30AM Viewing Scopes at Pleasant Hill Marina Audubon members will be available to identify the waterfowl on Pleasant Hill Reservoir. Expect to see migrating waterfowl and raptors.
- Sat. April 22 8AM, 9AM, 10AM, 11AM Hourly trips from Ohio Bird Sanctuary to visit scopes on the Clearfork reservoir. Meet Audubon guides at OBS parking lot. Expect to see migrating waterfowl and some raptors.
- Sat. April 22 1:30PM-3:30 Audubon Beginner's Bird Walk at Malabar Su Snyder will be leading this trip which will meet at the Gift Shop of the Big House. Spring warblers should be a delightful part of this walk.
- Sun. April 23 8:00- 11:30AM Viewing Scopes at Pleasant Hill Marina Audubon members will be available to identify the waterfowl on Pleasant Hill Reservoir. Expect to see migrating waterfowl and raptors.
- Sun. April 23 8AM, 9AM, 10AM, 11AM Hourly trips from Ohio Bird Sanctuary to visit scopes on the Clearfork reservoir. Meet at Audubon guides at OBS parking lot. Expect to see migrating waterfowl and some raptors.
- Sun. April 23 1:30-3:30 PM Audubon Beginner's Bird Walk at Ohio Bird Sanctuary Tim Leslie will lead this walk. Meet Audubon members in the parking lot. Spring warblers should be a highlight on this walk.
- Sun. April 23 2PM Gorman Nature Center Homegrown Butterflies a Power point presentation given by Cheryl Harner featuring colorful photos of native plants and the butterfly larva they host.

For more information on locations, speakers, and programs please log onto <www.mohicanwildlifeweekend.com>.

– Cheryl Harner

SHREVE MIGRATION SENSATION

The ODNR Division of Wildlife, Friends of the Killbuck Marsh, Inc., and Shreve Business & Community Association present the sixth annual Shreve Migration Sensation on Saturday, March 25, 2006. Registration will open at 7:00AM at Shreve Elementary School, 98 N. Market Street (St. Rt. 226), Shreve, Ohio, with FREE MAPS to the Help Stations (located in the marsh and at three other sites, all near Shreve) and free doughnuts and coffee in the cafeteria until 9:00AM.

Volunteers with spotting scopes will be stationed at each site from 8AM-noon. There will be a vendor hall and workshops. Scheduled speakers include:

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------|
| • 8:30AM-9:30AM | Richard Lehtinen | "Frogs" |
| • 9:30AM - 10:30AM | Tim Matson | "Salamanders" |
| • 10:30AM - 11:30AM | Dean Sheldon | "Bluebirds" |
| • 12:30PM - 1:30PM | Jim McCormac | "Woodpeckers" |
| • 1:30PM - 2:30PM | Tom Henry | "Barn Owls" |
| • 2:30PM - 3:30PM | Larry Rosche | "Dragonflies" |

Throughout the day, the Shreve Library and Akron Zoo will have children's programs at Shreve Elementary School. Lynda Price of The Wilderness Center will have a program for children at The Wilderness Center's booth in the vendor hall. Find out about marsh animals and the habits that make them so amazing!

Ever wonder what lurks in the marsh's murky depths? Stop by the Help Station on Cemetery Road from 8:00 to noon, where Wilderness Center naturalist Carrie Elvey will help you dip-net for aquatic invertebrates and learn about the most numerous creatures in the marsh. Great for kids of all ages!

Cost is \$10 per person—\$15 per family. For more information, please call Jacki Chamberlain at the Wayne County Convention Bureau at 1-800-362-6474.



Barn Owl in Holmes County. Photo by Bob Roach.

CRESTLINE SOUTH ELEMENTARY STUDENTS LUNCH WITH THE BIRDS

What could go together better than "Pink Cow" and Purple finches? Small groups of elementary students were treated to lunch with the birds and a chance to participate in the "Great Backyard Bird Count" an event hosted by Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology and Audubon, where birders report their counts of bird populations found at feeders in backyards across the nation.

This educational program has been made possible through the generosity of First United Methodist Church of Crestline, Ohio Division of Wildlife and the support of Greater Mohican Audubon Society members. Students have been enjoying the avian visitors to the large bird feeder on the east side of the School building. The Methodist Church purchased feeder, birdseed and Birds of Ohio field guides in order to encourage an appreciation and stewardship for nature and wildlife. The Division of Wildlife donated many educational materials including the Birds of Ohio Lists each participating student will receive for tracking their "life list."

Birds counted at the feeder include Northern Cardinal, Blue Jay, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, American Tree Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, House Finch, American Goldfinch and House sparrow.

The students have been increasing their skills in scientific observation. They have also been reading the life histories of the species seen at the feeder as well as other fascinating birds, such as the Bald Eagle and Cooper's hawk. These "citizen scientists" bird feeder data will be reported to Cornell and become part of the long term studies of the trends of feeder birds.



MEMBERSHIP GREATER MOHICAN AUDUBON SOCIETY

The GMAS membership offers local newsletter and events and helps us to fund our programs. Each new Chapter Supporter will receive a free nametag to wear to chapter functions.

Chapter Supporter

plus National Audubon Society

\$30 - 1 yr. Introductory rate

Chapter Supporter

\$10 - Annual Fee

Chapter Supporter

plus Donation

\$30 - Donation

- get 1-year chapter supporter membership

(Receive a free GMAS T-shirt Indicate Size: M L XL)

Make checks payable to Greater Mohican Audubon Society.

Check one: I prefer to be notified about the newsletter by email.

I prefer to receive the newsletter by mail.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, & ZIP _____

Phone No. _____

Email Address _____

I DO I DO NOT want to receive mailings from National Audubon Society.

Mail membership form to: GMAS, P. O. BOX 907, Ashland, OH 44805

TRIP TO THE WILDS AND BLUE ROCK STATE PARK

Fourteen members of the Greater Mohican and Western Cuyahoga Audubon Societies – Tim Leslie, Gary Cowell, Cheryl Harner, Hugh Rose, Judy Kolo-Rose, Bill Deininger, Dave Graskemper, Claudia Anders, Jan Holkenborg, Nancy & Don Howell, Dave Lewis, Laurie Boylan, and I met at The Wilds parking lot at 10:30AM on Saturday, January 21, 2006.

We spent most of the remainder of the morning at the Jeffrey Point bird platform to look for a couple of rumored Golden Eagles. No eagles, though we did try to turn a far-off Great Blue Heron into one. We spotted Northern Harriers and both light and dark phase Rough-legged Hawks. On the pond we saw a family group of five Trumpeter Swans with American Black Ducks and Mallards. It was actually pretty warm for January, but very windy.

At our next stop, we found a few Horned Larks, which were life birds for a couple in the group. At another pond, we found 2 male Green-winged Teal — a rare January find. We then stopped to eat our lunch in the local church and cemetery.

After lunch we said good-bye to Dave L. & Laurie and the rest of us tried Jeffrey Point again for the Golden Eagles. Again no eagles, but two of the group saw a probable Merlin. We also scoped out some of the animals grazing at The Wilds, including Bison and Wild Asses.

Then, on a whim, we decided to take a side trip to nearby Blue Rock State Park. We drove along a 7-mile scenic, hilly, narrow, dirt road until we got to the park and walked around a little. Among the birds we found here were Pileated Woodpecker, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Belted Kingfisher, and Gary Cowell got a Barred Owl to answer his call. It had actually warmed up near 50 and the sun was shining — and turned into a pleasant day.

Back at The Wilds we found 12 Ring-necked Ducks and a way off probable Bald Eagle. Then we drove to a spot that Hugh recommended for Short-eared Owls. Here, we got some great looks at 2 male Harriers “Gray Ghosts”. No owls appeared, but we found the bird-of-the-day, a beautiful Northern Shrike — a rare Ohio bird. We stayed until after dark and said our good-byes around 6:00. And on the drive home we saw a falling star — a great day!!

– Su Snyder



Hugh Rose, Judy Kolo-Rose, Gary Cowell, and Tim Leslie look for raptors and owls at The Wilds on 1/21/06.

Photo by Cheryl Harner

419-892-1114

Gary Cowell – Richland County Representative

bird348@aol.com

Representative and Newsletter Editor

Su Snyder – Wayne County

419-289-1062

Dick Stoffer – Treasurer

419-289-0463

Same Weyrick – Secretary

419-289-2657

Louise Fleming – President

OFFICERS

Greater Mohican Audubon Society (GMAS) is dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of birds and other wildlife through environmental education and the conservation and restoration of habitat.

MISSION

P.O. BOX 907 • ASHLAND, OH 44805

**Greater Mohican
Audubon Society**