The Birmingham Audubon Society will have its Annual Holiday Banquet at The Club Staterooms on December 6th at 6:30 p.m. Writer, lecturer, and educator Danny Heitman will provide the program. The public is invited. For reservations please use the form on page 10 or call Cissy Bennett at (205) 969-0249.


Danny will take us to a warmer place and time long ago, to Oakley House back in the summer of 1821 in West Feliciana Parish Louisiana. In “A Summer of Birds”, journalist and essayist Danny Heitman sorts through the facts and romance of Audubon’s summer at Oakley, a season that clearly shaped the destiny of the world’s most famous bird artist. Heitman draws from a rich variety of sources - including Audubon’s own extensive journals, more recent Audubon scholarship, and Robert Penn Warren’s poetry - to create a stimulating excursion across time, linking the historical man Audubon to the present-day civic and cultural icon. He considers the financial straits that led to Audubon’s employment at Oakley as a private tutor to fifteen year old Eliza Pirrie, Audubon’s family history, his flamboyance as a master of self - invention, his naturalist and artistic techniques and the possible reasons for his dismissal.


NPR commentator Bob Greene said that in "A Summer of Birds," "John James Audubon has found a friend in Mr. Heitman -- a friend who tells this story beautifully."

"A Summer of Birds" received rave reviews from across the country, and in 2009, Louisiana Public Broadcasting adapted the book as an Emmy-nominated documentary that aired on public television stations across the country.

Danny has spoken about Audubon in many places, and his insights on Audubon have been used by the National Endowment for the Humanities in developing teaching curriculums for elementary and high school children.

His book will be available for purchase at the banquet, or before from Alabama Booksmith. After the program, he will be available to sign your book.

THE CLUB is located at 1 Robert Smith Drive, off of Valley Avenue in Homewood. Drive to The Staterooms entrance.

Please see the invitation and reservation for the banquet in this issue of Flicker Flashes and mail it soon. Join us for an enlightening and festive evening.

Consult the BAS web site for more details.
3 September through 28 September 2011

Greg Harber had a nice surprise on his visit to Railroad Park 18 September, a Sora. It was in a small wetland in the N.E. corner of the park. Greg suggests that the park designer’s efforts should be recognized. Good idea.

Greg Jackson’s birding outing to Ruffner Mountain 19 September was rewarded with nice migrants that included: Yellow-billed Cuckoo; Eastern Wood Pewee (4); Vireos- White-eyed (3), Yellow-throated, Red-eyed (8), and Philadelphia (2). Warblers- Chestnut-sided (2), Magnolia (2), and American Redstart; and Summer (2) and Scarlet Tanagers (6).

A nice ending to the morning was a visit to the zoo by he and Debi to see the five (!) lion cubs (dubbed the “Royal Family”). According to Greg, it is worth the visit especially at opening time when they are quite active.

Other sightings were:

9/3 The Sargents are still reporting Hummingbirds galore, not just in their yard at Clay, but from all areas of the Eastern United States (BS, MS).

9/6 Good birding at Pell City (Bob Reid’s famous “mud hole”) and Harpersville (even though that has continued to deteriorate). A good number of sandpipers were at Pell City, with Black-bellied Plover at Pell City and an American Golden-Plover Harpersville. A Buff-breasted Sandpiper was at both of those locations. Logan Martin Dam had an Osprey, a feeding flock of Forster’s (8), and Black Terns (14). 75 N. Rough-winged Swallows were a new fall Mountain Region record. (GJ)

9/11 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher; Gray-cheeked and Swainson’s Thrushes; Warblers- Blue-winged (a stunning male), Magnolia, and Canada (ad. male, imm. female); Baltimore Oriole; Botanical Gardens (GJ,HH).

9/12 Black-throated Blue Warbler (ad male); Visiting the pond at the Alabama Wildlife Center (GH,LB).

9/15 California Gull (ad); Caspian and Forster’s Terns; Laughing Gull; Guntersville (MM).

9/28 Broad-winged Hawk (125-150); Near Clay (BS,MS).

9/28 House Wren; Warblers- Eleven including Golden-winged, Northern Parula, Black-throated Green, and Prairie; Rose-breasted Grosbeak; Indigo Bunting; Ruffner Mountain (GJ).

Contributors: Lynn Brown
Greg Harber
Howard Horne
Greg and Debi Jackson
Matt Morrow
Bob and Martha Sargent

Please submit sightings for January FF at least five days before the December 1st deadline to:
Ann Miller, 520 Yorkshire Drive, Birmingham, Al. 35209
November Monthly Meeting
“Shades Creek”
Presented by: Henry Hughes
Thursday, November 17, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
Birmingham Zoo Auditorium

Our program on Shades Creek will include the history of the watershed and how Friends of Shades Creek was formed. We will also hear about some of the programs and issues that Friends of Shades Creek has worked on and how the organization continues to strive to have a positive impact on the creek and the communities through which it flows. The Friends of Shades Creek sponsors annual clean-ups of the creek, monitors possible point source pollution and has been a leader in the removal of the railroad box cars that were placed across the creek to form a roadbed when mining operations were occurring in the area. On March 3, 2012, the Birmingham Audubon Society will have a half-day birding field trip and cleanup at the Audubon/Sessions Nature Sanctuary that borders on Shades Creek near the Irondale Furnace.

Henry Hughes has worked in Alabama for 25 years in forestry and horticultural research, teaching, and consulting before joining the Birmingham Botanical Gardens as Director of Education in 2008. He is a member of numerous environmental groups, is executive director of Friends of Shades Creek and is president of the board of the Alabama Rivers Alliance. He is a graduate of the University of the South (Sewanee,) the University of Kentucky and Texas A&M University. He has a particular interest in the sustainability of urban forests and their role in protecting watersheds.

Michelle Blackwood is President and co-founder of Friends of Shades Creek, a water conservation group with a mission of protecting and preserving Shades Creek. Friends of Shades Creek began in August 1998 and has been holding monthly meetings, creek cleanups, canoe trips and a yearly festival since the beginning of the group. Friends of Shades Creek has a 10 member board of directors and continues to operate with an all volunteer staff. She is a board member of the Cahaba River Society and a graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Michelle’s day job is at America’s First Federal Credit Union where she has worked in the marketing department for the past 13 years doing graphic design and other marketing tasks. She grew up on a farm 60 miles west of Wichita, Kansas. She and her husband, Ken have two grown children, Jessi a biologist who lives in Leadville, Colorado and Matt, a mechanical engineer who lives in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

Audubon Teaches Nature
Discovering Alabama ~ Your Ticket to Nature’s Finest Show
Presented by: Doug Phillips
Sunday, November 20, 2011, 2:00 p.m.
Oak Mountain Interpretive Center Auditorium

Doug Phillips is the creator, executive producer and host of the Emmy award-winning Alabama Public Television series, “Discovering Alabama.” For 25 years, it has brought the natural wonders of the state to APT viewers. Join us as Dr. Phillips shares with us his unique experiences of the natural beauty and ecological riches that make Alabama exceptional.

Be sure to come early and enjoy some refreshments and conversation in the Observation Room at the Alabama Wildlife Center, then, when it is time for the program, we will proceed to the Interpretive Center for the presentation.

Next seminar in the series:
An Introduction to Birds of Prey
Sunday, January 15th, 1:00 & 3:00 p.m. ~ Southeastern Raptor Center, Auburn University
November Field Trips

Cahaba Treatment Plant - Half-day Field Trip
November 5, 2011 - 7:15 a.m.

In April, BAS was host to Marshall Iliff, of Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's eBird Project. In addition to encouraging birders to post their sightings to the eBird database, he paid a visit to a relatively unknown local hotspot - Jefferson County's Cahaba Treatment Plant. Located on the banks of the Cahaba River, the property contains several ponds, wooded areas, access to the river and an amazing number of birds, both residents and migrants - waterfowl, sparrows and other woodland species. On Saturday, November 5th, we will follow in Marshall's footsteps.

Travel Plans: Meet at the Hoover McDonald's on US-31 south (across from the Galleria) at 7:15 a.m. Access to the plant is by permission and will necessitate completion of sign in sheets. We are coordinating with the staff to ensure a quick entry. After completing this paperwork, we will depart at 7:30 a.m. for the short drive to the plant, which is close to Aldridge Gardens. Please consolidate rides as much as possible. At the end of the morning, those who wish may gather for a bite to eat and share experiences (the area has more than several eateries; we will choose one at the end of our birding).

Trip leader: Maureen Shaffer - 205-822-8728 (H) or 205-222-2662 (M).

Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge
November 19, 2011 - 7:00 a.m.

The last of the fall migrants will have moved south by the time you read this newsletter, and a whole host of winter visitors will have taken their place in your yards and feeders. Kinglets and sap suckers have already arrived, as of early October. Winter is right around the corner, and that can only mean one thing. It’s time for the annual BAS trip to Wheeler NWR, near Decatur in North Alabama. Plan to join us on Saturday, November 19 to view thousands of Snow and Canada Geese, ducks, ducks and more ducks, perhaps a few Sandhill Cranes and whatever else decides to surprise us!

Travel Plans: Our gathering place is the parking lot at the Fieldstown Road Shopping Center in Gardendale, just off I-65N at exit #271 (Fieldstown Road). Turn right on to Fieldstown Road, another right onto Odum Road, and an immediate left into the shopping center. We will leave at 7:00 a.m. and caravan up I-65N toward Decatur to the Priceville exit (#334), a drive of approximately 60 miles, and reconvene at the Hardees’s at 8:30 a.m.

After a rest break, we will announce further details. Dwight Cooley, refuge manager, will be lead us through various sections of the refuge, such as White Springs dike, Arrowhead Landing at Limestone Bay, Beaverdam Peninsula with its viewing platform, and the Buckeye Unit of the Refuge. One major bonus is that we will be able to travel to areas of the refuge that are behind gates that are normally locked and inaccessible to cars.

This will be an all-day trip, so bring a picnic lunch, drinks and snacks. Remember, weather this time of year can be changeable, so dressing in layers is advised. Have a full tank of gas. Bring your binoculars and spotting scopes. For those who wish, supper may be shared at a local restaurant at day’s end.

For questions and details, please call our field trip leader: Greg Harber, 251-2133.

BAS Field Trip Cancellation Policy
If there is a possibility of dangerous road conditions due to inclement weather please contact the trip leader at the phone number provided.
December Field Trips

Bankhead National Forest, Brushy Creek Lake Environs, Kinlock Rock Shelter
December 3, 2011 - 7:00 a.m.

The Bankhead National Forest is one of Alabama’s most underappreciated natural areas. Within its boundaries lies a remote and wild landscape. This trip will include birding in a variety of habitats from roadside pastures, deep woods, regenerating forestland and clear streams and lakes along with a visit to the spectacular Kinlock Rock Shelter. The shelter is one of the largest of its kind with a sandstone overhang 250 feet wide and 100 feet high and 150 feet deep.

In addition to the birding, activities will include optional off trail hiking to some truly spectacular waterfalls in the forest. Among the birds we can expect to find are resident woodpeckers, Blue Jays, American Crows, etc. Winter visitors will be in residence by then too; expect goldfinches, a variety of sparrow species, and perhaps Hermit Thrush or Purple Finch. The trail to the bottom of the Kinlock Rock Shelter can be tricky and rigorous. Bathroom facilities are somewhat limited but we will be making a lunch stop at the Brushy Creek Lake Recreation area where primitive facilities are available. Bring a sack lunch, snacks, and drinks. Dress appropriately for the weather and terrain. Bring your binoculars and a full tank of gas.

Travel Plans: We will leave promptly at 7:00 a.m. from the parking lot of the Fieldstown Road shopping center in Gardendale, just off of I-65 north at exit #271 (Fieldstown Road). Turn right on Fieldstown Road, another right onto Odum Road, (this is the first light after you turn onto Fieldstown Road), and an immediate left into the shopping center parking lot. We will depart at 7:00 a.m. and head north on I-65 toward Cullman. We will make a brief stop for breakfast in Hayden (exit 284), for homemade biscuits. Before reaching Cullman, we will take exit #308, US-278, and head west toward Addison. If you wish, you can meet us at the Chevron station, located on the west side of I-65 at the exit. If you choose to do this, please let the trip leader know in advance. We should arrive there around 8:00 a.m.

Trip Leader: Hans Paul 205-807-7357 cell or email cooterp14@gmail.com. The day of the trip, once in the Bankhead area, cell coverage is inconsistent.

Work Day at Watercress Darter National Wildlife Refuge
December 10, 2011 - 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Birmingham Audubon Society is sponsoring a workday at the Watercress Darter National Wildlife Refuge on Saturday, December 10, from 9 – 11 a.m. We'll be picking up trash along the road, in the parking lot and along the trails that lead back to the pond, and raking leaves off of the boardwalk as well as a bit of kudzu and privet removal. Please bring work gloves, leaf rakes and loppers with which to cut vines and bushes.

Also bring your binoculars to look at the belted kingfisher and many of the other species that make the forest surrounding this refuge their home.

The sanctuary is located in Bessemer. If coming from the south side of Birmingham, get on I-459 and travel west to the Eastern Valley Road Exit (Exit 1). Turn right and stay on Eastern Valley Road north for approximately 6 miles. Parking is available on the left (west) side of the road immediately after the West Jefferson County Historical Society's MacAdory House and before the stoplight.

Call if you need any additional information.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Many Thanks,
Dick Mills
205-972-9733 (Office)
205-873-0174 (Cell)
Can you believe this year’s BAS Christmas Bird Count will our 76th? All BAS members and friends are invited to participate in this historic count, to be held Friday, December 23, 2011. The Birmingham Audubon Society CBC was begun in 1946 and thanks to the continued support of our dedicated members and friends this wonderful Christmas tradition continues to this day. Consider making the Christmas Bird Count a part of your holiday tradition and join the fun on count day.

Accompanying this article you will find a copy of the map detailing the count circle and the various territories within the circle. I invite all of our members to consider participating in the count by choosing an area (you do not have to live within the territory or the count circle) and contacting the corresponding party leader to make arrangements to join the group. If you are not able or do not wish to participate, but have some unusual winter birds visiting your feeders that we should record for the count, please call us in advance. We especially would love to hear from you if you have some owls in your neighborhood or wintering hummingbirds!

Get your holidays off to a merry start by joining in this historic count. David George will handle compiling duties and Maureen Shaffer will host our compilation at her home, located at 2313 Chestnut Road in Vestavia Hills near the Country Club. Call Maureen if you need directions: 205-822-8728. The compilation will begin at 5:00 p.m. Maureen will provide a light meal for participants so no need to eat before arriving.

Greg Harber
~ for the Bird Counts Committee

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<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>John Imhof</td>
<td>995-0688</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Greg Harber</td>
<td>251-2133</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mary L. Miller</td>
<td>879-5984</td>
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<td>4/7</td>
<td>Stan/Dana Hamilton</td>
<td>951-5630</td>
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<td>970-0844</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/9</td>
<td>Ty Keith</td>
<td>602-8037</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Maureen Shaffer</td>
<td>822-8728</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Andrew Haffenden</td>
<td>663-6018</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>David George</td>
<td>477-5074</td>
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Archive Committee

At the July Planning Meeting, Hans Paul, President, established an ad hoc committee to discuss ways and means of preserving BAS’ history. Members of the Archive Committee are as follows: Maureen Shaffer, Co-Chairman, Kay Kinnear Co-Chairman, Elberta Reid, Hans Paul, Anne G. Miller, Louise Tommie, Kathy Wallace. The committee was charged with the task of deciding what would constitute archival materials (newsletter, minutes of Board and committee proceedings, any official documents or awards, pictorial history (prints, slides, negatives, digital images (CDs etc.), institute the gathering and collecting of the scattered materials, how and where to securely and correctly store the material, how it may be accessed, establish a policy of acceptable donations, and gather material (interviews, etc.) for a history of BAS. Talks with the Archivist of the Birmingham Public Library will be undertaken to obtain advice regarding categories of archives and proper storage. As we progress with our work, we will provide regular updates on our progress.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Shaffer, Co-Chairman
The Mallard Look-A-Like
By Shirley Farrell

At Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge, you may have a chance to see a duck that has been disappearing. No, they’re not fading away, but Mallard Ducks are breeding with the American Black Duck, *Anas rubripes*, creating hybrid ducks. The Black duck looks similar to the female Mallard. American Black Ducks breed in the Northeastern part of the US and Canada, but winter in the eastern part of the US, including Alabama. This dabbling duck is 21 inches long with a 37 inch wingspan. The body is a very dark brown, not black as the name implies, with a light brown neck and head. The legs and feet are red with an olive green to yellow bill for males and an olive green to yellow bill for females. The speculum on the wing is violet. Mallards have blue speculums with black and then white borders. The speculum is a patch of colorful feathers found on the secondary feathers on the wings. Except for the bill color, male and female Black Ducks look similar. Hybrid Mallard and Black ducks may have some green on their heads.

This large duck eats aquatic insects and plants, seeds, roots, stems, crayfish, and some fish. Nests are built of grass and plants on the ground. The female will line the nest with downy feathers and lay about 5-12 greenish eggs. Only the female duck incubates the eggs, which takes about 30 days. Not long after hatching the ducklings follow the momma duck to the water. Ducklings stay with the parents about eight weeks before leaving home to live on their own.

Quackers!
Unscramble each of the clue words.

Take the letters that appear in boxes and unscramble them for the final message.

We are looking for artists and writers: Send us your pictures, journal pages, stories and poems about birds, nature, wildlife, etc. If selected, your original work will be published in the *Flicker Flashes*.

Do you have any suggestions as to what you would like to read about in Kid's Corner? Send your ideas to:

Birmingham Audubon Society
c/o Mcwane Science Center
Attn: Kids Corner
200 19th Street North
Birmingham, AL 35203-3117
Turkey, Eagles, and Loons - Oh MY!
By Helena Uber-Wamble

It is the season where everyone thinks of turkeys in their household. You know the turkey that is plump, golden brown, over roasted and that will adorn our table for the Thanksgiving feast. However there is a lot of fascinating facts about the turkeys and they are a terrific bird. A group of turkeys can be referred to as a “crop,” “dole,” “gang,” “posse” and “raffle.” Where they get these names, I’ll never know, but it is interesting enough that there are so many terms to classify this group of birds. The male is showy; everyone knows if you draw a bird with a big fan like tail here in the United States, it represents the turkey. They are fun to watch too. Males are called Toms, as we all know, and females are hens, while the young are called poults. Secretive, cautious and awkward in flight, these birds still fascinate us. This bird truly is a part of our American heritage as it dates back to the stories of the pilgrims and their first meal.

As a birder, November and December are focused toward the eagles that have gathered here from the north at Lake Guntersville for the winter. The Bald Eagles gather in the back waters around Guntersville Lake and can be seen both at dawn and dusk when they are moving to and from their roosting spots. A group of eagles has many names too, like “aerie,” “convocation,” “jubilee,” “soar” and “tower.” They hunt most of the day and if you are lucky enough you can watch them leave or return to their roost while listening to the park naturalist fill you in on facts about the population and why this is such a favorite spot for the eagles to inhabit on their migration path. These Eagle Weekends are listed on the park website and are a favorite of mine to attend.

But Lake Guntersville is also a great place to go to see other birds from the north that visit here in the winter, and of these, the Common Loon is one of my favorites. The lake waters are full of many large groups of fowl, including the American Coot, Ruddy Duck, Northern Pintail, Bufflehead and Horned Grebe, to name a few.

The Common Loon, though, has my heart. On summer nights their soft wailing songs are kind of eerie, and their breeding plumage is a striking black-and-white pattern that makes them look sophisticated. Yet, when they come here, they have on their drab winter coats. These are incredible birds indeed. They can make underwater fishing dives up to 200 feet; I can’t hold my breath to reach 12 feet without having to come back up. Their blood red eyes focus well in the air and in the water and they have heavy bones to help them dive. A group of loons can be referred to as an “asylum,” “cry,” “loomery,” “raft” and a “water dance” of loons. It is the state bird of Minnesota—the land of 10,000 lakes. Knowing all this is pretty impressive, but what is also impressive is that they molt all their flight feathers off during the winter months and can’t fly. They settle down on the lake, hunt and eat and continue to molt until they have all their flight feathers in breeding plumage back. Then they fatten up for the journey north, which usually happens in mid-late March, so depending on when you go look at the loons you may see them in various stages of their molting and various color patterns.

Study up on your waterfowl and join us for a trip this winter to see the eagles or to learn about the waterfowl that are there. No matter when you go - from November to March, you will not be disappointed. I hope to meet you at the lake - it is a treasure we should be proud of and full of treasures for us to enjoy!

The Birmingham Audubon Society gratefully acknowledges the following gifts and memorial donations:

Donation in memory of Helen Huddle Kittinger from Gene & Pat Addor
Donations in memory of Wilma Lindberg from Elberta G. Reid and Mr. & Mrs. Ranny Kittinger
Gifts from Mrs. Allen D. Rushton and Sara Bright
Audubon Adventures sponsorship from Gussie Arnett
Count day was a sunny crisp fall day, with cloudless skies and a slight breeze. Temperatures ranged from 50-81 degrees. 19 observers in 10 parties spent 89.2 hours in the field with an additional 6.75 hours devoted to owlimg; covered 732.8 miles by car and 17.5 miles on foot, tallying 118 species on count day, with 3 count week species. Special thanks to Hans Paul and Lori Oswald, our compilation hosts, and to all who spent time afield. Sharon Hudgins, Compiler.

Canada Goose 372  Red-bellied Woodpecker 68  Golden-winged Warbler 2
Wood Duck 30  Downy Woodpecker 55  Tennessee Warbler 40
Mallard 150  Hairy Woodpecker 1  Northern Parula 5
Blue-winged Teal 19  Northern Flicker 2  Yellow Warbler 5
Northern Bobwhite 1  Pileated Woodpecker 19  Chestnut-sided Warbler 6
Wild Turkey 11  Eastern Wood-Pewee 37  Magnolia Warbler 22
Common Loon 1  Yellow-bellied Flycatcher 1  Black-throated Green Warbler 1
Pied-billed Grebe 26  Acadian Flycatcher 1  Blackburnian Warbler CW
Double-crested Cormorant 83  Empidonax Species 6  Yellow-throated Warbler 5
Great Blue Heron 66  Eastern Phoebe 88  Pine Warbler 29
Great Egret 167  Loggerhead Shrike 4  Prairie Warbler 1
Cattle Egret 8  White-eyed Vireo 36  Palm Warbler 7
Green Heron 3  Yellow-throated Vireo 11  Bay-breasted Warbler 1
Black-crowned Night Heron 8  Philadelphia Vireo 5  Black-and-white Warbler 8
Yellow-crowned Night Heron 2  Red-eyed Vireo 31  American Redstart 29
Black Vulture 20  Blue Jay 230  Ovenbird 1
Turkey Vulture 45  American Crow 447  Common Yellowthroat 17
Osprey 1  Fish Crow 17  Hooded Warbler 6
Bald Eagle 2  Tree Swallow 102  Canada Warbler 2
Sharp-shinned Hawk 1  Northern Rough-winged Swallow 2  Eastern Towhee 38
Cooper’s Hawk 4  Barn Swallow 3  Chipping Sparrow 42
Red-shouldered Hawk 24  Carolina Chickadee 174  Field Sparrow 24
Broad-winged Hawk 1  Tufted Titmouse 178  White-throated Sparrow 1
Red-tailed Hawk 22  White-breasted Nuthatch 48  Summer Tanager 21
American Kestrel 3  Brown-headed Nuthatch 37  Scarlet Tanager 6
Sora 2  Carolina Wren 103  Northern Cardinal 189
American Coot 1  House Wren 1  Rose-breasted Grosbeak 8
Killdeer 66  Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 3  Blue Grosbeak 17
Lesser Yellowlegs 1  Ruby-crowned Kinglet 3  Indigo Bunting 84
Spotted Sandpiper CW  Veery 1  Red-winged Blackbird 50
Least Sandpiper 5  Eastern Bluebird 154  Eastern Meadowlark 16
Rock Pigeon 146  Gray-cheeked Thrush 2  Common Grackle 209
Eurasian Collared-Dove 6  Swainson’s Thrush 17  Brown-headed Cowbird 27
Mourning Dove 198  Hermit Thrush 0  Baltimore Oriole 1
Yellow-billed Cuckoo 2  Wood Thrush 2  House Finch 30
Great Horned Owl 3  American Robin 63  American Goldfinch 12
Barred Owl 5  Gray Catbird 25  House Sparrow 35
Common Nighthawk 56  Northern Mockingbird 144  Total 5,366
Chimney Swift 199  Brown Thrasher 46
Ruby-throated Hummingbird 31  European Starling 348
Belted Kingfisher 26  Cedar Waxwing CW
Red-headed Woodpecker 36  Blue-winged Warbler 1

Observers by party, leaders in boldface: Louise Ayer Tommie, Greg Harber, Jessica Germany, Edith Hunt, Hans Paul, Pelham Rowan, Ty Keith, Rick Kittinger, John Imhof, Donna Shook, Harriett Wright, Sharon Hudgins, David George, Greg Jackson, Jim Sherrill, Cheryl Horncastle, Sallie Brice, Maureen Shaffer, Donn Muraska, Anne G. Miller.
Birmingham Audubon Society cordially invites you to attend its
65th Annual Christmas Dinner
Tuesday, the Sixth of December,
Two Thousand and Eleven
at Six-thirty in the Evening
The Club
1 Robert S. Smith Drive, Birmingham, AL 35209

A Summer of Birds: John James Audubon at Oakley House
Presented by: Danny Heitman

Reservations cannot be accepted after November 30, 2011

Name _______________________________________________________________________
Address _____________________________________________________________________

Please make _____ reservations for the following people (at $40.00 per person):
___________________________________________________________________________

Enclosed is a check in the amount of $ __________

I prefer to sit with: ____________________________________________________________________________

Menu, please indicate your choice(s):

____ Red Wine Braised Boneless Short Ribs, truffle mashed potatoes, winter vegetables
____ Eggplant Roulade with asparagus on sautéed spinach and whipped cauliflower (vegetarian)

Make check payable to: Birmingham Audubon Society

Return check & form to: Mrs. Mary Brewer, 3145 Warrington Road, Birmingham, AL 35223
Phone: (205) 967-0752
~ Membership Application ~
Birmingham Audubon Society/National Audubon Society*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birmingham Audubon Society</th>
<th>National Audubon Society</th>
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<tr>
<td>New Members and Renewals $20.00</td>
<td>New Members* $20.00</td>
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<td>Seniors (62 or better) $15.00</td>
<td>Seniors (62 or better) $15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full-time Students $15.00</td>
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Make check payable to: Birmingham Audubon Society
Send application and check to:
Birmingham Audubon Society
c/o McWane Science Center
200 19th Street North
Birmingham, AL 35203-3117

Make check payable to: National Audubon Society
Send application and check to:
National Audubon Society
c/o McWane Science Center
200 19th Street North
Birmingham, AL 35203-3117

Name: ________________________________________________________________
Address: ______________________________________________________________
City, State and Zip code: _________________________________________________
Phone: (      ) ______________________  Email: ______________________________

☐ I want to opt-out of receiving a printed copy of Flicker Flashes (please provide us with your email address)

My check for $___________ is enclosed.

Phone: (205) 714-8227
Birmingham Audubon Society C1ZA0000Z
Birmingham Audubon Society is tax exempt under 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code

* There are two ways to become a member of Birmingham Audubon Society:

1. Join Birmingham Audubon Society without National Audubon Society affiliation. This chapter only membership provides you access to all chapter activities and benefits. All dues stay in Birmingham to support local activities. You will not receive the National Audubon magazine.

   — OR —

2. Join National Audubon Society. Birmingham Audubon Society serves as a local chapter of the National Audubon Society. Joining National Audubon Society also provides you a membership to Birmingham Audubon Society and access to all chapter activities and benefits. You will receive the National Audubon magazine. Your dues support the work of National Audubon Society and a small percentage of your first year dues are returned to the Birmingham Audubon Society for local efforts.

BAS Membership/Flicker Flashes/E-Mail Questionnaire

1. Would you like to opt-out of receiving printed copies of Flicker Flashes? ______ Yes ______ No (If yes, please consider allowing us to put you on our email list. Your email address will NOT be shared with anyone!)

2. Would you like to be included on our email list? ______ Yes ______ No (If yes, please provide your email address on the form above)

Responses can be submitted as follows:
Via mail (preferred) – enter your personal information above (on the membership application), check your preferences to the two questions above and mail this entire page to the BAS office at the address listed above.
Via email – email the information requested above to: Audubon@mcwane.org
Via phone – call the BAS office (714-8227) and provide the information requested above.

Your input is valued and we want to encourage you to return this survey so that we can better serve you as a BAS member!
Please check your mailing label for your membership expiration date.

Birmingham Audubon Society
A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

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c/o McWane Science Center
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Birmingham, AL 35203-3117

Email: Audubon@McWane.org
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Education Director: (205) 714-8228
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November 2011

5  BAS 1/2 day Field Trip, Cahaba Treatment Plant
17  Board Meeting, Birmingham Zoo Auditorium (BZA), 5:45 p.m.
    General Meeting, BZA, 7:00 p.m.
    Henry Hughes, “Shades Creek”
19  BAS Field Trip, Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge
20  Audubon Teaches Nature,
    The Wildlife Center, 2:00 p.m.
    Doug Phillips, “Discovering Alabama ~ Your Ticket to Nature’s Finest Show”

December 2011

1  Flicker Flashes articles due, January 2011 issue
3  BAS Field Trip, Bankhead National Forest
6  Christmas Banquet - The Club
10  Watercress Darter NWR Workday
17  Christmas Bird Count - Wheeler NWR
23  Christmas Bird Count - Birmingham (76th)
26  Christmas Bird Count - Guntersville
31? Christmas Bird Count - Gulf Shores