

Bird Information, Research and Data Quarterly Report

July, August, September 2018

Warner Park Nature Center, Friends of Warner Parks, and Metro Parks and Recreation



Volunteer John Kell introduces a bird and bird research to kids on a field trip. 1342 visitors attended bird programs and projects.



Hummingbirds are the star attraction in August and September. 750 people attended Celebrate Hummingbird Day and the 2nd Annual Hummingbird Happy Hour (top) was a sold out event.



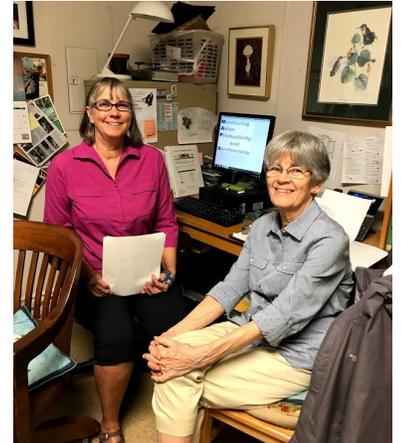
Indigo Buntings commonly breed in the Park and then migrate south to Central America for the winter. The bright blue males are easy to spot!



Eight species of warblers were banded during the MAPS Project this summer—the 28th year of this breeding bird study in Warner Park. A Prairie Warbler on the left and Louisiana Waterthrush on the right.



Some of the dedicated Banding Team members - left to right are Sandy Bivens, Matt Jenkins, Diana McLusky, Amy Potter, Kathy Shaw, Susan Bradfield, Laura Cook, and John Kell. Thanks to all the BIRD Volunteers!



Laura Cook received her federal banding permit in August. Congratulation Laura! (left, with a Wood Thrush) Volunteers Kathy and Diana are smiling because they have just finished entering all the summer banding data.

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BIRD Program Accomplishments

- Volunteers contributed **730 hours and 199 visits**
- Bird Research Projects and Programs connected with over **1342 visitors**
- Planned fall banding projects and fall programs, BIRD Celebration Day and Year of BIRD events
- Reviewed and updated Federal and State permits and met with sub-permittees under the Nature Center permit
- Laura Cook compiled and submitted winter and spring banding records to Inland Bird Banding Association Journal
- Planned for possible projects involving library renovations and a new programming shelter near the library
- Supervised and assisted summer BIRD Intern, Sarah McCune, with Dr. John Lewis, Lipscomb University Biology Department. 3rd year for this intern program. Also worked with her on a fall class project
- Partnered with TWRA and received support for new banding equipment including poles, pliers and measuring devices
- Kathy Shaw and Diana McLusky submitted all MAPS data to the Institute of Bird Populations via MAPSPROG
- Laura Cook and John Kell received banding permits with the Nature Center from USGS Bird Banding Lab on 21 Aug!
- Continued training new BIRD staff; meetings, files, projects & programs, data management, Bandit, administration
- Sandy Biven attended ANCA Summit with focus on bird centers, programs, and exhibits in McAllen, Texas
- Attended and assisted with BIRD Committee and Hummingbird Happy Hour planning meetings
- Very successful Hummingbird Happy Hour Event on 7 September led by co-chairs Beth Preston and Linda Breggin with support from sponsors, volunteers, committee and staff. Sold out attendance of 200, wonderful bird photographs, active hummingbirds, fabulous jazz and raising \$14,500 for the BIRD Program
- Hosted by the Tennessee River Gorge Trust in Chattanooga, Sandy Bivens, Laura Cook and John Kell attended a fantastic Advanced Bird Banding course taught by the Institute for Bird Populations in September
- Sandy Bivens worked 230, volunteered 149 hours; Laura Cook worked 209, volunteered 71 hours

BIRD Projects and Programs

- **Bluebird Project, ongoing since 1936:** Diana McLusky, Coordinator. First egg laid on 23 March and during the 6-month season banded 161 nestlings & 9 adults. Captured 8 previously banded adults. Thanks to the dedicated Bluebird Team: John Kell, Sue Shallow, Kim Bailey, Sandy Bivens, Diana McLusky and the Laura Cook family.
- **MAPS Breeding Bird Banding Study:** 28th season for this continent-wide research project with 10 sessions held from 1 May—31 July with 112 birds captured (82 new, 28 recaptures, 2 unbanded). 8 species of warblers, and a diverse list of other species and interesting recaptures including Kentucky Warblers and Red-eyed Vireos. 594 visitors, including individuals, families, field trips, camps, schools, universities and Camp Warner Park. Thanks to the dedicated team of 17 volunteers: Kathy Shaw, John Kell, Susan Bradfield, Diana McLusky, Ethel Kawamura, Amy Potter, Patty Ghertner, Matt Jenkins, Marion Praitt, Sarah McCune, Emily Moorman, Kim Bailey, Rachel Anderson, and Melissa Donahue,
- **15 Educational Programs:** 15 bird programs with 1173 participants—2018 is Year of the Bird, celebrating 100 year anniversary of Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Nature Club theme is birds. Hummingbird Celebration Day had 780 visitors.
- **Hummingbird Migration Project:** Heather Gallagher, Coordinator. 16 banding sessions held Aug-Sept with 121 birds banded and 16 recaptured. Thanks to the team of 23 volunteers that made this long-term project possible and an educational experience for 981 visitors. Hummer projects at Bells Bend (Kathy Shaw Coordinator), Beaman and Shelby Bottoms (Sandy Bivens Coordinator) banded an additional 131 birds and 12 recaptures.
- **Long-term Fall Banding Project:** 4 of 10 fall sessions in September. 52 birds captured (46 new, 5 recaptures, 1 unbanded) Three thrush species in one net in first session and 9 Swainson's Thrush banded in 4th session.
- **NTOS Bird Count:** Rachel Anderson participated in the official spring count on 29 September at Warner Park.
- **eBird Project:** Cheryl Brummel, Laura Cook, Sandy Bivens, John Kell & other staff & volunteers entered current & historical Warner Park data. All banding data and some photos are entered on the Warner Park Banding Station hotspot.
- **iNaturalist:** Coordinator, Patty Ghertner. Entered bird photos and observations to this citizen-science project.
- **Barn Swallow Survey:** BIRD Intern Sarah McCune from Lipscomb University completed her research, [Assessing the Ecological Services provided by North American Barn Swallows](#), concluding nestlings from a single barn swallow nest consume over 136,000 insects. For the 15 nests at the WPNC Learning Center, this equates to over 1-million insects! Sarah will present her research at the National Association of Biology Teachers conference in San Diego in November.
- **Evaluating 10-years of Warner Park's Northern Cardinal Recaptures:** For the 1st time, recapture data was entered electronically into the Bird Banding Laboratory's data sheet. Four students (Sarah McCune, Stephanie Green, Sierra Gonzalez, and Callie Rogers) from Lipscomb University's Field Zoology class entered & will analyze this data.