



Southern Illinois Audubon Society

NEWSLETTER

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P.O. Box 222
Carbondale, IL 62903-0222

Established in 1970

Reintroducing the Brown-headed Nuthatch to the Missouri Ozarks

Join SIAS for our virtual annual meeting on **Friday, Jan. 28th at 6 P.M.** It will be both our first annual meeting since 2019 and our first program presentation via Zoom! Sarah Kendrick, the Missouri Dept. of Conservation State Ornithologist, will discuss bird conservation research and the work being done to reintroduce brown-headed nuthatches to the Missouri pine woodlands. Sarah's talk will include pre-recorded talks: first by Frank Thompson of the U.S. Forest Service about pine woodland restoration's benefits to breeding songbirds, whip-poor-wills and chuck-will's-widows; then by Sarah on the partnerships, background, and planning of the brown-headed nuthatch reintroduction effort and post-release monitoring.

Sarah Kendrick is a Missouri native and the State Ornithologist with the Missouri Department of Conservation. Sarah coordinates with state conservation partners to write and update the Missouri Bird Conservation Plan, which acts as a reference to public and private land managers to promote bird habitat management for our most-threatened species. Sarah also coordinates bird monitoring on the state's priority lands, coordinated the reintroduction of the previously-extirpated Brown-headed Nuthatch to the state, acts as the public and agency contact on bird topics and issues, serves on national and international committees to address threats to migratory birds, and works to inspire action in Missouri's citizenry to learn more about how they can help declining bird populations.

Instructions for signing into the SIAS Zoom presentation:

Time: Jan 28, 2022 06:00 PM Central Time

Join Meeting via Shortened link (type in): [shorturl.at/txABQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84532983866?pwd=bOxBU1JmNmNlOSEhLMXR2TDVkdQdsQT09) or <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84532983866?pwd=bOxBU1JmNmNlOSEhLMXR2TDVkdQdsQT09>

Meeting ID: 845 3298 3866 Passcode: 960726

For dial in, audio only, dial: 1 312 626 6799

Dial-ins, be prepared to provide Meeting ID & Passcode (above).

If it's your first time using Zoom, check out the instructional video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vFhAEoCF7jg> (short link for typing in): [shorturl.at/nrwQW](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vFhAEoCF7jg)

Otherwise, the first thing to do is to download Zoom onto your computer, tablet or smartphone, even if it's days before the meeting. It should only take a couple of minutes, but it's good to do it well in advance, in case you encounter any problems. Go to Zoom's download page < <https://zoom.us/download> > and download the "Zoom Client for Meetings". If you scroll further down the page you can also download the apps for either your tablet or smartphone. You can also find them in your smartphone or tablet's app store for free by searching "Zoom" within the store.

Alternatively, you can just click the SIAS meeting link listed above (also sent to most of you via email) and you'll be prompted to download the application. Then to join a meeting, simply click on the "Join Zoom" meeting link and follow the prompts. We suggest that you sign in a few minutes early to address any problems that might arise. For most of you, this will take you to the meeting access point – a square box in the middle of your screen. Inside the blue box it will say "Zoom Meeting." To launch into the meeting, click on "OPEN LINK" at bottom of square. To see yourself on screen, click on the blue box "Join With Video" below your image. To the next screen, Click on blue box "Join With Computer Audio". At top right of screen click on Enter Full Screen.

The Brown-headed Nuthatch is a small songbird that measures 4-inches in length. The species is a non-migratory, year-round resident. They require healthy, stable pine-woodland habitat. They're relatively weak fliers, so their dispersal a few hundred miles north from their current breeding populations in Arkansas without connecting shortleaf pine habitat is unlikely.

The Brown-headed Nuthatch was extirpated, made locally extinct, in Missouri likely in the early 1900s following removal of shortleaf pine woodlands across the Missouri Ozarks. Millions of acres of pine woodland existed in the state prior to widespread logging that denuded the Ozarks in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The regenerated forest seen today is dominated by oaks and hickories that replaced pines after their removal. Following extensive restoration of pine woodlands in the Mark Twain National Forest, the necessary habitat now exists for Brown-headed Nuthatches in Missouri.



Sarah Kendrick
"Birds are awesome"



Brown-headed Nuthatch
Photo by Noppadol Paothong

SIAS Virtual Annual Meeting, con't.

The SIAS Board decided it was time we acquire a Zoom account. While we're rather late to the game, we're excited that it will now allow us to host monthly virtual programs. And it will provide an opportunity for loyal members from out of the area or out of state to attend programs! The Board is ever so grateful to our enduring, generous members. As this will be our first attempt, please be patient, some of us are still learning. Luckily for us, our program speaker Sarah is very adept and versed in Zoomology.

Even though we will be meeting virtually, the board again postponed the annual election of officers. All current officers agreed to continue serving for at least one more year in the hopes that by then, or hopefully before, we will be able to meet in person and hold a formal election.

The annual meeting is also the time when yearly dues are up for renewal. To renew your dues, please send a check SIAS at our post office box: Southern Illinois Audubon Society, P. O. Box 222 Carbondale, IL 62901-0222. This action will continue to maintain the integrity of our group over this time. Thank you!

-Rhonda R.

Treasurer's Report for 2021 *By Laraine Wright*

I feel great pride in our membership for sustaining our 51-year-old society for yet another year when we must endure the separations of the Covid pandemic. We remain strong in financial health, for which we should all be grateful. This means we can eventually emerge to a fresh start of regular programs and outings.

We have cash assets of \$6,335.23 as of December 31, 2021, held at the SIU Credit Union, of which \$665.60 is restricted for our Birding Blitz fund-raiser. We hope that can begin again in 2023.

Our income for 2021 was \$1,500 in membership dues, \$1,541 in unrestricted donations, \$250 in restricted donations, and \$100 for donations in memory of Tracy Evans and Chris Schwegman. The generosity of our members is so very appreciated. Our thanks go to these 41 friends who gave extra money on top of their dues:

Lorie Allen, Clark Ashby, Phyllis Beck, Tom Bik and Laurel Toussaint, Valerie Blakely, Lilly Crane, Elizabeth Crelling, Vickie Devenport, Mary Dresser, Linda Dutcher, Carolyn Ferdinand, Mary Luh Fraunfelter, Nancy Garwood and Richard Thomas, Liz Gersbecker, Amber Hanson, Esther and Denny Hays, Amber Hewette, Nelda Hinckley, David Hoover, Judith Joy, Karen Kaufman and Jeff Finger, Judith Kessler, Jeff Kessner, Greg Kupiec, Cindy and Richard LaSalle, Nikki Martin, Brenda Mayberry, Mary McCarthy, Barbara McCasson, Mike McNerney, Joe Merkelbach, North American Bluebird Society, Loretta Satterwaite and Robert Stamps, Lyle White, and Laraine Wright.

We recorded \$1,756.29 in expenses, most notably for our newsletter (\$371.03), our Post Office box (\$146), and our annual picnic (\$116.26). We also made donations to Free Again (\$500), the IOS Big Sit (\$350), and the Carbondale Public Library (\$20 for magazine sponsorship).

If you have any questions about our finances or suggestions for donating to other groups, please call me at 618.457.8769.

Suet, Not for Just Wire Cages

Suet is a great, calorie-rich food source in cold wintery months. But offering it in those hanging wire cages prevents many deserving birds from reaching it. Placing crumbled up suet on a designated feeding tray, mixed in with seed, or somewhere else visible and accessible will give other small songbirds the opportunity to reap the benefits of this high energy food.

To Join SIAS or Renew Your Membership, please fill in this form and return it with payment. Thank You!

Individual Member \$15
Family \$25
Student Voting Member \$ 5
Donation _____
Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Your Name _____
Street Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone Number _____
Email _____

Mail to: Southern Illinois Audubon Society
Attn: Membership
P.O. Box 222, Carbondale, IL 62903-0222

I/We would like to receive our newsletter via email: YES / NO
If you receive your newsletter electronically,
contact Laraine W. or Rhonda R. to check your dues status.

As long as it's not too
much of a burden, we'd
be grateful if you
renewed your dues.



Frog and Toad Survey Volunteers Needed

Frog and Toad Survey Volunteer Orientation at the Cache River Wetlands Center, Saturday, Feb. 5, from 1-3 P.M.

Citizen science volunteers are needed to conduct listening surveys of the frogs and toads of the Cache River watershed for the Illinois Natural History Survey. Materials and instructions will be provided for the surveys. Survey need to be conducted four times on dates of your choice between the months of February and June. Please register in advance so take home materials can be prepared for you to pick up at the orientation. For more information about this program or to register call Molie Oliver at 618.657.2064.

Free Nature Movie: Spiders

Come for a free showing of a Nature Documentary about Spiders on Thursday, Feb. 10th. Enter the world of the spider, an expert weaver and a skilled hunter with other surprising abilities. There are two showtimes available, 2-3 P.M. or 6-P.M. For more information about programs or to register, phone 618.657.2064.

Monthly Birding with SIASers and Friends

Outing at Bogar(d)t Point, 9:00-11:00 AM, Feb. 12th
(and the 2nd Saturday each month)

Directions (from Carbondale, IL Rt. 13): Take IL-13 E from Carbondale to S Division St in Carterville (the 4-way intersection), turn right/south onto Division. Take Division to Old Rt. 13 then turn left/east. Take Old Rt. 13 to N Wolf Creek Rd. Turn left/south onto N Wolf Creek Rd. Follow it south before the causeway. Turn left/west into parking lot. Then follow the sidewalk south to Bogart Point.

NOTE— Day use passes are required on Crab Orchard Refuge and can be acquired at the Headquarters Bldg. Purchasing a Federal Duck Stamp for \$25 provides the bearer with a year pass to the Refuge. For seniors over 62, a lifetime recreation pass can be purchased for \$80. All Fish and Wildlife Service locations, as well as the Forest Service, National Park Service, US Army Corps of Engineers, and Bureau of Land Management honor the Senior Pass at sites where Entrance or Standard Amenity Fee(s) (Day use fees) are charged. This pass can be purchased online at <https://store.usgs.gov/senior-pass>



SIU Carbondale will again celebrate Charles Darwin, the man who tried to answer some of the most fundamental questions human beings have: How did we get here, along with all this other life? Each year since 2006 SIU has tried to put on a celebration of the work of Charles Darwin, a celebration of science and reason, commemorating his life and world.

Darwin Day is an annual celebration commemorating the life and work of Charles Darwin. Each year around the world groups and organizations hold Darwin Day events on or around February 12th. For more information on SIU Darwin Week, including Research Symposium speakers, check our webpage: <http://darwinweek.siu.edu/> For more on International Darwin Day, visit: <http://darwinday.org/>

Darwin Week
Endless Forms Most
Beautiful Art Display
runs all the month of
February in Art Alley
at the SIU Student
Center. Art reception
to take place in Art
Alley on February 9,
in conjunction with
the research
symposium at the
Student Center
Auditorium.



SIAS Board of Directors

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- >A photon checks into a hotel and is asked if he needs any help with his luggage.
He replies, "No , I'm traveling light."
- >Biology is the only science in which multiplication is the same as division.
- >I'm reading a book on antigravity. I'm finding it hard to put down.
- >Why can you never trust atoms? *They make up everything!*

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Affiliate of the Illinois Audubon Society,
the Illinois Environmental Council,
& the North American Bluebird Society



Brown-headed Nuthatch
Illustration by David Sibley