

# Lights Out Indy: Continuing to Move Forward

By Austin Broadwater, Lights Out Indy Chair

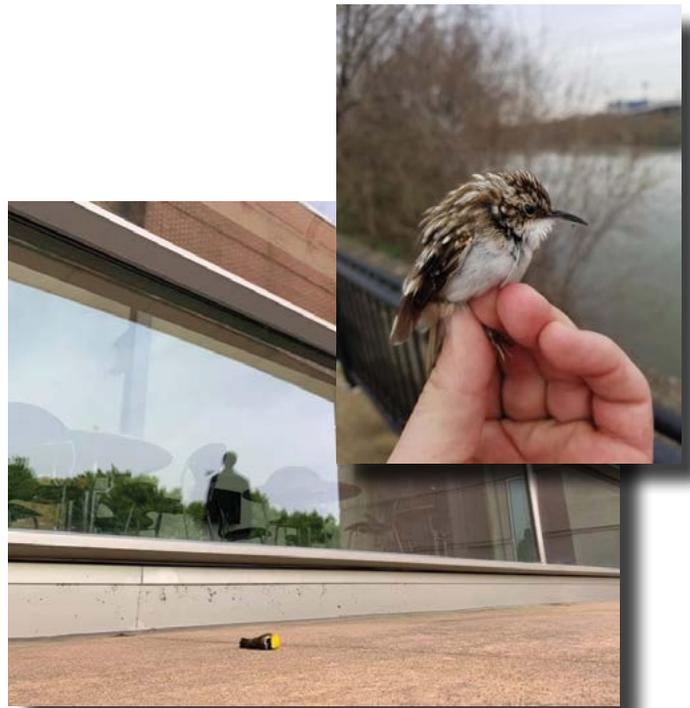
Fall migration is just around the corner. Over the next few months, countless birds will be making their nocturnal voyages across the country, continent, and even further, to their winter homes. With so many obstacles along the way, our duty as nature lovers is to make that path the least treacherous as possible. ABAS is doing its best to make that a reality.

The Lights Out Indy initiative is starting to gain more traction since it started doing bi-annual surveys. With our team of seven volunteers, we were able to collect 62 birds among 36 species in the metropolitan area during this past spring. This included such favorites as the Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Scarlet Tanagers, Indigo Buntings, a Baltimore Oriole, Yellow-billed Cuckoos, and various warblers, thrushes and sparrows. Even a Virginia Rail, Sora, Sharp-shinned Hawk, and several American Woodcocks were sampled. The concrete jungles scattered across the United States result in countless bird fatalities every year. Fortunately, eight of the recovered birds were alive when they were found. They were transported to rehab centers, and hopefully recovered from their collisions. The other specimens were transported to the Eagle Creek Park Ornithology Center for future education and research. Two collection routes were traveled 17 times from April 1 through May 31 with volunteers focusing their attention on the major glass-paneled buildings of downtown Indianapolis.

After the survey season, we have continued to work on spreading the word about the goals of our program to downtown building owners, so we can transform Indianapolis into a bird-safe city of which all of our members can be proud. The main goal is to have building lights turned off during the night during spring and fall migration. The lights of the city fool migrating birds into landing early and in the wrong habitat, and often results in window collisions.

One accomplishment has been the publishing of a Q & A session in the May edition of the Indianapolis Business Journal. This introduced Lights Out Indy to a much wider audience. We have also worked with the Indianapolis Zoo to create a decal for participating buildings and businesses to display.

With fall migration quickly approaching for songbirds, which are heavily impacted by glass collisions, there will undoubtedly be the need for more specimens to be collected. Until we get the lights turned out in downtown Indianapolis, similar species as previously mentioned are expected to collide with buildings again this fall. Bats may also be migrating through our city, so we will be taking note of them as well. At



*Top right: Brown Creeper found stunned after striking a window in downtown Indianapolis. Bottom left: Common Yellowthroat that fell victim to a window strike in downtown Indianapolis. Photos courtesy of Wes Homoya.*

least one other city's Lights Out Program has started incorporating the winged mammals, and we feel it's important to capture as much data about window strikes as we can.

The fall survey season begins on August 15 and will last through November 15, and we need your help. None of this can happen if we don't have the support of our members and our community. Whether it be walking around downtown in the mornings to collect specimens and save stunned birds, reaching out to companies and building owners, educating the public, contacting your legislators, or even helping to find more volunteers, anyone can make a difference. If you are interested in helping or want more information about the Lights Out Indy program, please contact Austin Broadwater at [abroadwater1990@gmail.com](mailto:abroadwater1990@gmail.com).



# Upcoming Audubon Programs, Events, and Field Trips

All are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

## White River Vision Plan

Tuesday, September 10, 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Holliday Park Nature Center  
6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis, IN



The White River Vision Plan is a joint effort between the City of Indianapolis and Hamilton County to develop a comprehensive and coordinated regional, community-driven plan to enhance 58 miles of the White River in Marion and Hamilton

counties. The goal of the vision plan is to create an accessible, recreational, and cultural environment that encourages a unique sense of place for the community as a whole. Join Brad Beaubien, Long-Range Planning Administrator for the City of Indianapolis, as he shares details for this bold vision.

## Indiana Raptor Center

Tuesday, October 8, 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Holliday Park Nature Center  
6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis, IN



*Harris's Hawks, Beau and Phoenix, are resident falconry birds at the IRC*

Who doesn't love raptors? And, who doesn't love learning more about them? Join us as we host the Indiana Raptor Center alongside some of their Education Ambassadors — raptors! The presentation will introduce you to the world of raptors along with some of the current projects of the Center. ABAS Birdathon grants have supported the Center each year since 2015.

## Bird Photography Walk at Eagle Creek Park

Sunday, September 8, 8:00 am to 10:00 am

6515 Delong Road, Indianapolis, IN



*Red-eyed Vireo at Eagle Creek Park courtesy of Amy Hodson*

Join Amy Hodson on a walk at Eagle Creek Park to photograph birds. All levels of photography are welcome, especially beginners! Don't have camera gear quite yet, but still want to learn? This will be a great opportunity to learn about the basics of bird photography.

The group will meet at the Ornithology Center to practice shooting at the feeders. We will then head into the park to see what migrants and resident birds we can find!

Registration is required. Please RSVP for this event by emailing [info@amosbutleraudubon.org](mailto:info@amosbutleraudubon.org). Although there is no fee for this walk, park entrance fees apply.

## Fall Migrant Hike at Eagle Creek Park

Friday, September 13, 8:00 am to 10:00 am

7602 Walnut Point Road, Indianapolis, IN

Join Amy Hodson, ABAS Communication Chair, for a hike around Eagle Creek Park in search of fall migrants. We will focus on finding migrant warblers, vireos, and thrushes passing through during fall migration. This is a great time to come out and work on your fall plumage identification skills!

We will meet at 8:00 am at the marina parking lot. Participants can expect the trip to end around 10:00 am. This trip will entail walking on mostly paved surfaces, mowed grass areas, and well-maintained trails.

Registration is not required but appreciated, and the event is open to everyone. Register by emailing [info@amosbutleraudubon.org](mailto:info@amosbutleraudubon.org). Park admission may be required.



*Cape May Warbler at Eagle Creek Park courtesy of Amy Hodson*

## Volunteer Training Series: Bird Banding Demo

Wednesday, September 18, 9:30 am to 11:00 am  
Holliday Park Nature Center  
6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis, IN

ABAS is making it even easier to volunteer with our Volunteer Training Program! Each session will focus on a different topic designed to provide volunteers with hands-on opportunities to gain the knowledge and skills needed to help with chapter programs and events. No experience needed, open to individual's ages 16+.

These sessions are free and are open to the public. Register by emailing [Abarnes@HollidayPark.org](mailto:Abarnes@HollidayPark.org).

This session's topic is: Bird Banding Demonstration with Wild Birds Unlimited Chief Naturalist John Schaust.

## Beers with Birders!

Thursday, September 26, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Urban Vines Winery & Brewery  
303 East 161st Street, Westfield, IN



Join ABAS for an evening at Urban Vines Winery & Brewery. We will meet from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm to collectively share our birding experiences and adventures at this informal gathering. This event is open to the public. Please email [info@amosbutleraudubon.org](mailto:info@amosbutleraudubon.org) if you plan to join us so we can be aware of how many will be attending.

## Newfields Bird Hike

Saturday, September 21, 8:00 am to 10:00 am  
1550 West 38th Street, Indianapolis, IN



*Palm Warbler courtesy of Amy Hodson*

ABAS is excited to partner with The Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park at Newfields for bird hikes on this beautiful property along the White River and Central Canal. The hikes will be led by ABAS President Rob Ripma.

Meet at Lake Terrace in the Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park: 100 Acres. There is free parking at the loop just ¼ mile west of the 38th Street entrance to Newfields. The loop parking is closer to the hike start and the address given for this event is approximate. You'll need to be heading west on 38th Street to enter the loop parking area. Take the White River Pkwy East exit. Once in the parking area, walk north through the entrance down a very short trail to Lake Terrace. Alternatively, you can park in the main Newfield parking lots and walk down to the starting point.

The hike is free and open to the public. Registration is requested by emailing us at [info@amosbutleraudubon.org](mailto:info@amosbutleraudubon.org).

Join us as we explore the migratory species of this wonderful property.

### About Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park: 100 Acres

On, no surprise, one hundred acres along the west side of Newfields, just east of White River, you'll find Fairbanks Park. Explore woodlands, wetlands, meadows, and the shoreline of a 35-acre lake. It's one of the largest museum art parks in the country, and unlike most, continues to commission temporary, site-responsive artworks.

As a former farm and later gravel quarry, Fairbanks Park has a history of disturbance that has resulted in a mix of early successional woodlands, some mature woodlands, wetlands, and a lake. This habitat diversity has created a property with the ability to host niche species of several different habitat types. Newfields strives to maintain that habitat diversity by invasive species removal and planting of Indiana native plant species in all areas of the Park.

Recent additions include a nesting platform built to attract birds of prey, a wild grass labyrinth, and a variety of bird feeding and viewing stations.

## City BBQ ABAS Fundraiser!

### All Indianapolis locations September 25

Who doesn't love City Barbeque AND supporting their local Audubon Chapter?

ABAS will receive 25% of all sales on Wednesday, September 25 at noted five participating City Barbeque Restaurants all around the city. The flyer image included in this newsletter can be used for lunch, dinner, take out, and on-line orders. For ABAS to receive credit, you MUST bring in this flyer with our name and date.

Thank you in advance for supporting Amos Butler Audubon Society!

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Amos Butler Audubon Society 9/25/19



Above: Elm Street Green courtesy of Whitney Yoerger. Left: Field Trip co-leader Whitney Yoerger

## Zionsville Birding Trifecta and Social

Saturday, October 5, 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Meet at Elm Street Green Parking Lot  
165 North Elm Street, Zionsville, IN

Join Zionsville birders Jonathan and Whitney Yoerger for a birding trifecta to search for fall migrants, followed by an optional happy hour at Cobblestone Grill on Main Street. During the trifecta, you'll get an overview of three town parks offering small-scale scrub, riparian, and grassland habitats. Bring your own binoculars and meet at 3 p.m. in the Elm Street Green parking lot at 165 North Elm Street. Please note this is a 2.5-mile, afternoon birding walk. Questions? Contact whitney.yoerger@gmail.com.

## Fall Sparrow Field Trip at Lebanon Business Park

Saturday, October 12, 7:30 am to 12:00 pm

6030 West 86th Street, Indianapolis, IN

Join Scott Enochs as he leads you on a field trip to a local hotspot in search of resident and migratory sparrows. Our target sparrows will be Song, Field, Swamp, Lincoln's, Vesper, White-throated, White-crowned, Nelson's and LeConte's. The event will take place on Saturday, October 12. Due to parking limitations, group size will be limited to 12 participants. We will meet in the southwest corner of the Traders Point Dick's Sporting Goods, located at 6030 West 86th Street and carpool to the fullest extent, as parking is limited at our destination. We will be walking through tall weeds and grass, and through muddy areas, so please dress accordingly. Waders are highly recommended. Terrain will be uneven as well as there are no trails. We will spend approximately 2 hours in the field, longer if desired. This is a free event, but registration is required by contacting Scott at (317) 850-4801. If you have any questions, please contact Scott at the number listed above.



Nelson's Sparrow courtesy of Jeff Timmons

## Owls of Indiana for Kids

Wednesday,  
October 16

11:00 am to 12:00 pm

2000 East 151st Street,  
Carmel, IN



Eastern Screech-owl at Eagle Creek park courtesy of Aaron Cook

Mark Booth with Take Flight Wildlife Education will be visiting the Cool Creek Nature Center and bringing a few owls that are found in Indiana. He'll share some of the amazing adaptations that these birds have! This Hamilton County Parks program is for school-aged children. It is free and no registration is required.

## 2019 Birdathon Benefits Birds

By Donna McCarty

A combination of new and loyal, long-time donors continued the success of this 32-year-old event. Thirteen teams, including three new ones, competed for fundraising champs and species-count honors. The Noddy Little Gulls took top honors as Fundraising Champs followed closely by the Bud & Carl's Legacy Team. The Wild Birds Unlimited Team significantly stepped up its game this year placing third. Their efforts and donations raised a total of \$25,256, bringing our grand total since 1987 to \$747,386. One of the rookie teams, the Dunes Day Birders, was the Species Count Champs with a tally of 135.

The Birdathon funded nine grants covering a variety of projects that fulfill the ABAS mission — To Promote the Enjoyment and Stewardship of the Birds of Indiana. Our almost two-decade-long partnership with the American Bird Conservancy is still going strong. This year our grant promotes habitat restoration in an important bird flyway in Guatemala while supporting local farmers' ability to generate income from bird-friendly crops. The state-endangered Cerulean Warbler will benefit from the data generated by two Ball State University research projects. Opportunities to engage public awareness of the importance of birds include: additions to the exceptional taxidermy exhibit at the Eagle Creek Park Ornithology Center; the development of an Indiana Birding Trail; a week-long summer camp for children focused on birds; and a new bird viewing area at Ft. Harrison State Park. Grants also supported the work of the Indiana raptor rehabilitators and hands-on habitat restoration at the Marian University Nina Mason Pulliam EcoLab.



2019 Birdathon fundraising champs, the Noddy Little Gulls. From left to right: Laurie Voss, Lou Anne Barriger, Wendy Kindig, and Cindy Meyer.



ABAS board member  
Austin Broadwater with a  
Worm-eating Warbler

## Meet the Board: Austin Broadwater

By Austin Broadwater, Lights Out Indy Chair

Austin has been the Lights Out Indy Chair for ABAS for the last three years and will continue to make progress on this initiative. Currently, he works as an environmental scientist for an Indianapolis based engineering and environmental consulting firm, KCI Technologies, Inc. This career keeps Austin outdoors during the spring and summer while monitoring vegetation, delineating wetlands, and surveying streams. A future dream is to incorporate his love for birds into his work. Austin is a proud graduate of Wabash College and a member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity.

Austin is an avid birder and volunteers as a bird-bander at Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary. Austin enjoys hiking and basically anything outdoors. You can also find him attending alternative rock concerts, watching sports, especially the Colts, trying new foods and craft beers, traveling, and spending time with friends and family.

## Local Bird Hikes

### Starkey Park Fall Walk

667 Sugarbush Drive, Zionsville, IN  
Saturday, 8:30 am to 10:30 am, September 28

Explore Starkey Park in search of fall migrants with Zionsville birders Jonathan and Whitney Yoerger. All skill levels are welcome. Bring your own binoculars and meet at 8:30 a.m. in the parking lot located at 667 Sugarbush Drive. Questions? Contact whitney.yoerger@gmail.com.

### Cool Creek Park Fall Bird Hikes

2000 East 151st Street, Carmel, IN  
Most Saturdays in September, 8:00 am to 9:30 am  
September 7, 14, 21, 28

The hikes are led by a well-known birder, Keith Starling. Meet in the parking lot at the bottom of the road by Cool Creek, past the Nature Center.

### Eagle Creek Park

6515 Delong Road, Indianapolis, IN  
Every Sunday, 9:00 am to 11:00 am  
September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; October 6, 13, 20, 27  
Meet in front of the Ornithology Center.

### Holliday Park

6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis, IN  
Third Tuesday of each month  
Start times vary during the year  
September 17, 8:00 am to 9:30 am  
October 15, 8:30 am to 10:00 am  
Meet in front of the Holliday Park Nature Center.

### Fort Harrison State Park

6000 North Post Road, Indianapolis, IN  
Sundays in September & October, 8:00 am to 10:00 am  
September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; October 6, 13, 20, 27  
Meet Don Gorney at the northeast corner of the Delaware Lake parking lot.

### Nina Mason Pulliam EcoLab

3200 Cold Spring Road, Indianapolis, IN  
Tuesdays in September & October, 8:00 am to 10:00 am  
September 4, 11, 18, 25; October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30  
Meet at the St. Francis statue just west of the Allison Mansion on the Marian campus

### Southeastway Park

5624 South Carroll Road, New Palestine, IN  
Tuesdays in September & October, 9:00 am to 11:30 am  
September 3, 10, 17, 24; October 1, 8, 22, 29  
Meet at the Nature Center at Southeastway Park. For more information email Theresa at tconwilson@gmail.com.

### Greenfield Birders Hikes

Second and fourth Saturdays of most months  
All hikes 8:00 am to 10:00 am  
See locations and dates below  
Stay up-to-date via facebook.com/groups/Greenfield Birders. For more information, contact Adam Wilson at NikonBirdHunter@gmail.com.

### Brandywine Park

900 East Davis Road, Greenfield, IN  
September 14, October 26

### Beckenholdt Family Park

2770 North Franklin Street, Greenfield, IN  
September 28

### Thornwood Nature Preserve

1597 South Morristown Pike, Greenfield, IN  
October 12

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Bookmark [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile. Let your shopping be not just for your family and friends, but also for the birds of Central Indiana, like the Cerulean Warbler.

# Migration and Citizen Science

By Jessica Helmbold, Education Chair

Emily Dickinson once said, “Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul”. Every spring and fall, bird lovers await the return of migratory birds with hopeful souls. Due to the progress of technology, we now have more resources available to track bird migration. Many of those resources can be accessed by the public and provide opportunities to contribute to the data collection process. Now, we can do more than hope. We can participate!

Those of you who are new to birding might ask, why do birds migrate in the first place? Migration is a strategy to take advantage of seasonally abundant food supplies. Once the seasons change, birds often travel to parts of the world where food is still abundant. Not all birds migrate, though. Some birds like cardinals and chickadees can adapt their diets to whatever is available, be it seeds or nuts, dried berries or bugs. For those birds that do migrate, there can be many challenges along the way. Some challenges are natural and others are man-made.

Adverse weather conditions can affect a host of things from food supply, habitat availability, or the ability to travel. Predation is also another naturally-caused barrier to successful migration. Some man-made barriers include habitat destruction, power-lines, glass windows, light pollution, and pesticides. Because there are so many hazards, it is important to learn about birds’ natural migration patterns and the disruptions to them. The data we collect while observing birds can provide valuable information. For example, how many of a specific species are migrating, where are the birds migrating to/from, where they stop on the way, and what routes they take during migration. Knowing the routes and destinations help to create species’ range maps, as well as determine the US Flyways map.

One way wildlife biologists collect migration data is with radio telemetry. By putting radio collars and other transmitters on birds, they can then follow their movements using radio signals. But how can an average person help to collect migration data? Even though bird-banding is primarily done by wildlife biologists, you don’t have to be one to contribute to science. If you find a banded bird and can make out the details of the band, the information can be reported to the USGS. This most often happens when a photograph is captured of a banded-bird. Once you report the band, it takes several weeks to get a certificate from the USGS. The certificate will tell you when the bird is believed to have been born, where it was originally banded, and by whom.

An important way to participate is through citizen science bird counts during migration. There are several major bird counts that happen throughout the year. International Migratory Bird Day celebrations often include a count of migrating birds in May. The Big Sit, hosted by Birdwatcher’s Digest, captures fall migrants. Winter events include Audubon Society’s Christmas Bird Counts and Cornell Lab of Ornithology’s Great Backyard Bird Counts. All of these events have websites where the data you collected can be entered, and they are all fairly intuitive.

Another way to collect migration data is through nature observation apps. Examples include: eBird, iNaturalist and Project Noah. iNaturalist and Project Noah are great for photographed sightings. eBird doesn’t require that you have photos, and can be helpful in documenting sightings from your backyard, as well as rare birds. These nature observation apps are also a great way to document personal sightings.

These apps can be a great way to connect with other birders and nature lovers. eBird makes it easy to share lists from bird trips with other users, so each user doesn’t have to enter the list themselves. You can also create county, state, and country lifelists. It is also



*Ruby-throated Hummingbird during banding with Amy Wilms. Photo courtesy of Amy Hodson*

possible to view who’s on top of the leaderboard for the number of species observed in your state, region or country. iNaturalist also ranks users for number of species observed in their state, country or the world.

Of all of the migrations that take place, one of the most impressive is of a beloved summer resident in Indiana. Each spring the Ruby-throated Hummingbird travels up to 13,000 miles during migration. It is found as far north as the taiga forests of Canada, as far south as Mexico, and can travel 500 miles across the Gulf of Mexico without stopping. These little birds need to consume a maximum amount of energy to flap their wings at 10 to 15 times per second and sustain 1,260 heart beats per minute. If not for the migration data collected by biologists and citizens, we would not understand how amazing these tiny jeweled birds truly are.

Another amazing migrant is the Arctic Tern. These birds can migrate 14,000 miles round trip and have been reported in Indiana. They have rich polar feeding grounds, where they also nest and feed their young. When food becomes scarce they migrate to other feeding areas riding spiraling air currents. By not always flying into the wind they can save lots of energy. This helps these arctic birds have a large range, and sightings reported via eBird and iNaturalist users can add information this bird’s range map. Just think about it. If everyone collected a little bit of data, it would be a huge help to the wildlife biologists. Many of us would jump at the chance to see an Arctic Tern that has been reported on eBird at Eagle Creek Reservoir. This is the power of crowdsourcing.

A bird that calls for great excitement among Indiana birders is the Snowy Owl. Snowy Owls usually show up around the shores of Lake Michigan in the winter, but some have traveled as far as southern Indiana. These birds can migrate south out of the tundra and taiga regions to find food in the winter. Some years, they may come as far south as Indiana, which is known as irruptive migration. This type of migration is not seasonally or geographically predictable. This information call all be found while looking at eBird data, and through posts on social media. Another great place to report migrant sightings, is on Facebook groups, such as Birding in Indiana.

All of the data collected by citizen scientists that is shared on eBird, iNaturalist, and social media sites like Facebook, can help us understand threats to migration. We begin to see how everything in the world is connected. Migratory routes are the invisible lines that show us how people, places, and wildlife depend on each other.

*Continued on page 7*

## How can you help birds during their migratory journey?

- You can help by signing up for an eBird, iNaturalist, or Project Noah account. Log your sightings and contribute to the data collection.
- You can also help to provide habitat by including brush piles as cover for birds and and plant native vegetation in your yard. Did you know that cherry trees, the genus Prunus, can support up to 456 species of insects? Oaks, the genus Quercus, can support an impressive count of 557 species of insects. These trees can provide a valuable food source for migrating warblers. To learn more about this topic, read “Bringing Nature Home” by Doug Tallamy of the University of Delaware.
- You can break up large panes of glass with decals, so birds are less likely to fly into them. You can reduce the amount of outdoor light you leave on at night, creating light pollution, that can disorient migrating birds. There are many more things you can do.

These are just a few ideas of how you can impact the world of bird migration. We are connected to everything in nature and every little thing we do, can have a helpful effect on birds. If everyone did something small, it would have a huge impact. How will you help migrating birds today?

## Donations

*In memory of Edward “Pete” Drum  
by Frank Shaw*

*GE matching funds thanks to  
Louise Haskett in memory of her father,  
William Steinmetz*

*All who contribute through Amazon Smile  
by naming Amos Butler Audubon Society as  
their charity*

## Birds Aren’t Just for Birders Anymore – Welcome to Wingspan

*By Adam Wilson*

Candyland. Shoots-and-ladders. Monopoly. I grew up playing these classic board games with family, but to be honest, I hadn’t thought about playing board games for the last decade. I have played a few popular, recent card-based games like Exploding Kittens and Cards Against Humanity. I don’t dislike board games. It was more of an out-of-sight, out-of-mind kind of thing. I had birds to chase, things to do and was oblivious to the world of most tangible games. Then I heard about a bird-based board game that came out in March of 2019 – Wingspan. My interest was piqued.

Wingspan is a visually pleasing, engine-building, point-driven board game for 1 to 5 players, ages 10+. Released by Stonemaier Games and designed by Elizabeth Hargrave, Wingspan is a treat for the eyes as well as your intellect. While unpacking the game you will find 200+ beautifully designed playing cards, wooden dice with a bird feeder dice tower, five individual player boards, and more.

If you haven’t played an “engine-building” style board game before, this is a genre in which players will build a system of generating resources. Over the course of the game, the more efficient your “engine,” the better you will fare in the game’s end result.

170 species, three habitats, eggs, and multiple food types are all represented, along with subtly placed, yet impactful facts such as nest type and brood size. All of these items must work together to complete different objectives throughout the four rounds of game play. The replay value of this game is off-the-charts already, but that didn’t satisfy the game makers. They already are planning expansion packs for each continent.

It’s obvious that birders would love this game. However, you won’t be hindered in this slightest due to a lack of bird knowledge. Actually, while playing Wingspan with birders and non-birders, I have observed that a birders’ affection for certain birds can be detrimental.



*Adam and Sara Wilson with game illustrator,  
Natalia Rojas*

One of my favorite features of this game is that you can play it as a one-player game. Technically it’s two player, but you are playing for yourself and the Automa, or virtual player. There are additional cards utilized in this mode and a new set of rules that apply only to the Automa. This allows you to enjoy the game even if you don’t have time to coordinate with friends or family. Once used to the Automa rules, I can play a game from set-up to tear-down in under one hour.

This game has been difficult to find over the first half of 2019 but is starting to show up more often at local retailers. Wingspan recently won Germany’s Kennerspiel des Jahres or “Expert Game of the Year”, which could make it a difficult find again in the near future. Whether you find a copy of Wingspan soon, or get it later, you will not be disappointed.



*Wingspan game play photo*

## Amos Butler Audubon Society Chapter Supporter Membership

### Membership benefits:

- 100% of your dues support local Audubon educational programs and urban conservation projects
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## Amos Butler Audubon Society

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### Additional Committee Chairs:

Donna McCarty, *Birdathon Chair*



*Our mission: To promote the enjoyment and  
stewardship of the birds of Central Indiana*

**Amos Butler Audubon Society**

P.O. Box 80024

Indianapolis, IN 46280

Visit our website:

[www.amosbutleraudubon.org](http://www.amosbutleraudubon.org)

Sign up for the online LifeLines at  
[info@amosbutleraudubon.org](mailto:info@amosbutleraudubon.org)