

# LEBANON LARK NEWSLETTER

## July- August & ~September 2026

### UPCOMING AVIAN

**OUTINGS**- see  
[Lebanonbirding.org](http://Lebanonbirding.org) at  
for updates and location  
addresses!

### Wednesday July 15

#### Field Trial WMA-

Inclement weather  
either 7/15 or 7/16  
Leader Melissa T and  
others

### Wednesday July 22<sup>nd</sup>

#### Murfreesboro TN

6 pm.  
Leader Melissa T

### Tuesday- July 28<sup>th</sup>

#### "Feathered" Friends

Evening Meeting 6:30  
pm Nature Center of L

### Monday, August 10

#### Cedars of Lebanon SP

6:30 pm Evening Birding

If heat index is high, states  
otherwise, let's beat the heat  
with Ice Cream at DQ in  
Murfreesboro 2910  
S Rutherford Blvd

### In September-maybe

9<sup>th</sup>??- see next page

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-**Assume** most walking  
avain events last ~2 hours.  
Some may even go over.  
Unless noted, you may  
leave at *anytime* if your  
schedule needs to!

### BirdsBirdsBirdBirdsBirdsBirdsBirdBirdsBirdsBirdsBirdsBirdBirdsBirdBird

Exciting News: We, **Lebanon TOS**- have a small space to meet- C of L Nature Center!! After losing Cabin #13, others generously have offered space, like Jimmy Floyd Rec Center, for which we are *very grateful*. We still may utilize their space or even another option, still, on occasion, but we did not want to wear out our welcome! Last- Cedars of Lebanon- This park is just a *draw* for others. It's filled with nature- including BIRDS! Please read Business Notes/Agenda sent via email this upcoming week for more information so we can expedite business. At this writing, I am trying to schedule first weeks of 6 to 8 months a year. We will discuss everything at our **FIRST MEETING!**

\*Not 1<sup>st</sup> week

**July 28<sup>th</sup> \*- 6:30 pm Cedars of Lebanon Nature Center- Business and Shorebirds pt 1 (AOS)**

**September- TBA date and place- Lebanon TOS Jeff Walck will speak on his Ecuador Trip!!**

Note: Some of our Lebanon Members lead walks for **Boro Birders!** *This is awesome!* Please check their FB page and other social media for their birding events and updates!

### WEATHER ALERTS:

*Please please:* Until we manage some additional social media, please check website if inclement or questionable weather is forecasted! Members and bird friends attending need to check one of two ways...

- 1) Website [lebanonbirding.org](http://lebanonbirding.org)
- 2) Leader, or if leader contact number not available, check with Lebanon TOS officers P Melissa Turrentine or VP Susan Lanier.
- 3) Soon I hope to add additional media to help.

**Future Additional Feathered Friends TOS Evening Meeting Dates** (if approved, etc:)

**November 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday- Shauna Bridgers- Bird of Prey Program**

January 5<sup>th</sup> 2027 Member Share Time

March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2027

May 6<sup>th</sup> 2027

July 8<sup>th</sup> 2027

September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2027

**LEBANON TOS CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT (CBC) for 2026 :**

**Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup>!**

**2027 : Sat, December 18<sup>th</sup>!!**

MORE IMPORTANT DATES!

**September Feather Friends TOS Meeting:** Jeff Walck presentation TBA date and place

**Saturday September 5<sup>th</sup>** NATIONAL HUMMINGBIRD DAY! Enjoy your hummers! Leave feeders out 2 weeks at least after last sighting!! Plant Hummer Native Plants!

**September 9<sup>th</sup>** pm (???) Tentative "Swiftie Adventure" to T'homa! Chimney Swift Tower Watch- Be a "Swiftie" of the best kind- feathered! Check for Details- After School begins and I can get permission, Come my way! May even meet for a quick bite prior?!

**September 19<sup>th</sup>** Cedars of Lebanon State Park Autumn Migration Time!! 7:30 am  
Meet in front of the Nature Center

**September 24<sup>th</sup>** 6:00 pm Sadie Ford Farm- Celebrate Bluebird of Happiness Day! Meet in C of L Park office lot and we will carpool/drive over by 5:50 pm



**Brown Thrasher**



Melissa Turrentine Killdeer Cell

**SUMMER BIRDING- News you can use...and then some!!**



**Carole Swann**- Summer Drive Middle TN



**Robin Nation**- Murfree Springs Wetlands

**Did you know...Common Grackles** have a head that is flat and a bill longer than most blackbirds? It has a slight downcurved bill, too. They appear black from a distance. Look at these *beautiful* colors in the above birds!! Definitely not black only!! Young birds have a dark eye, fyi!

*Cornell All about Birds*



**Common Nighthawk** **Carole Swann** - probably on a nest!

This is at Vesta Glade -Carole Swann Another "flatheaded" bird! The Genus *Chordeiles* for ancient Greek (*khoreia*) means *a dance with music*, and *deile, evening* !The species "minor" is Latin for smaller. -Wikipedia. Go to a ballgame- witness their "loop dance" evening flight and maybe hear the air rushing through their wings- a "boom sound!"

**PHOTOS** are submitted by  
our Lebanon TOS  **Members**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**More Avian Outings may be added**- keep up with [lebanonbirding.org](http://lebanonbirding.org). If additional events occur, here or other (tba) will show up!!

Some events may have dates to change or cancel; especially weekday ones as we all have life to just happen! We try our best to either reschedule or notify ahead of time!! Weather is probably our biggest "iffy" as of now!

We try to maintain 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays except in July and August!



**Great Blue Heron** **Robin Nation** We were in just absolute awe watching this large bass (?) being consumed by the Great Blue Heron, as if it were no big issue getting it



### **Great Blue Heron**

**Robin Nation** Thanks to an specially shaped neck vertebrae, Great Blue Herons can quickly strike prey at a distance. Great Blue Herons can hunt day and night thanks because they have high percentage of rod-type photoreceptors in their eyes that improve their night vision. This may explain why these are often under streetlights or late feeding on shore in the night! All About Birds Murfree Springs



### **Yellow-crowned Night Heron**

**Robin Nation** These were quite cooperative while at Murfree Springs. I have included a wide variety on next page to prove it! Diet preference includes, crab, crayfish and other crustaceans. Active day and night. Best places to see in Tennessee: Reelfoot Lake, Discovery Center in Murfreesboro !

Avibirds.com TWRA

[The hidden story behind a yellow-crowned night heron nest | Watch](#)



**Yellow-crowned Night Heron**

**Robin Nation**

Murfree Springs



**Barred Owl** Bedford Co.

**Susan Lanier**

Historians believe that Harriet Tubman, an avid naturalist, used the Barred Owl's call as a signal for people seeking to use the Underground Railroad. Depending on the call she used, freedom-seekers would know whether it was okay to come out of hiding.

Expansion of range is now an issue for it's in Spotted Owl territory!



**Red-bellied Woodpecker** **Melissa Turrentine (cell)**

We actually see the red on its belly here although it does appear rather thin here! Lays eggs in a cavity nestled onto wood chips from excavation. At your feeders, these usually can handle most birds except Blue Jays! The Red-bellied WP prefers lower elevations to nest. Interestingly, these will maintain their same territories throughout the year!

All about Birds and TWRA



**Eastern Kingbird** **Melissa Turrentine (cell)** The Eastern Kingbird is usually present in Tennessee from early April to late August. It is really neat if learning birds because NO OTHER resembles it if you have a look at it all...No other North American flycatcher is entirely dark gray above and white below, or has a white terminal band on the tail. Once, a kingbird was observed to knock a Blue Jay out of a tree and cause it to hide under a bush to escape the attack! Obsolete name is Bee Martin but your president once had friend (Charles Berry) call these "Bee Bettys" so it stuck as a fond name! -TWRA

Please add the following LBC BIRD OUTING UPDATES:

**August 18<sup>th</sup>- 6:00 pm Murfree Springs Evening Walk.** Please note I am coming from an 3:30 appt from Nashville- *I should be fine. If I am not there, please begin at 6:05 without me. It'll mean bad traffic and I am coming.* Stay within site of parking lot until 6:10 for other late arrivals.  
Leader: Melissa T and others

**August 23<sup>rd</sup> Sun 6 pm Old Hickory Lake Snow Bunting Peninsula** We are in between migration and summer...let's go look for hopeful terns! I have not visited this spot often in my birding...SO I am a newby!  
Expect no facilities. Car only is my plan. Bring a scope to share if you have them!  
Leader: Melissa Turrentine and others

**September 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 8 am to 10 am** Sellars Farm Archaeological Area  
Leader: Jeff Steele

**September 16<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Cedar Creek Greenway (North)** 8am to 10 am Meet in Charlie Daniels Parking Lot farthest back at multi-use field

36.223687 -86.50709

9/26/26 Saturday 8:00 am to 11:00 am

Note this section is different than that of Cedar Creek Greenway (South) walks that we did earlier this year. ADA friendly with restrooms at the park. This walk is an Out and Back we will be walking approximately 4.4 miles. It is an easy ADA paved trail. No restrooms here but there is a Fuel Mart nearby which can provide additional parking if the trailhead parking lot is full.

The following are VERY TENTATIVE- DEPENDS ON SEVERAL IMPORTANT FACTORS (these are "maybes" only: Also, trying to work in a Central Valley Trip as well)

*September 17 Bledsoe Creek ST P Evening Walk 6 – 7:30 pm Meet at Office Parking Lot 400 Ziegler Fort Rd Gallatin TN 36.37838 -86.36069*

*September 27<sup>th</sup> Sellars State Archaeological Farm Evening Walk 445 Poplar Hill Rd Lebanon TN 37090 36.170028 and -86.240658*

*October 6 5:30 pm Murfree Springs Wetlands Evening Walk 460 SE Broad St Murfreesboro TN 37130 35.839640 and -86.387497*

*October 15 Sellars State Archaeological Farm Evening Walk 445 Poplar Hill Rd Lebanon TN 37090 36.170028 and -86.240658*