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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Craig Kruse

Spring migration is under way! By now we should be seeing ducks and geese working their way north to their nesting grounds. March 21st is the date of this year's Duck Waddle. If you haven't been to a Waddle yet, they're a blast! We usually meet at Banworth and Udelhoven at 6:00 that morning and travel together down to Green Island. Once there we spend the morning watching water fowl and every other bird we can find. You don't have to have any birding experience to have fun. As a matter of fact, this is a great way to start if you've never been birding. There will be plenty of people around to help you with your first identifications. When the birding is done, we all meet in Bellevue for breakfast at the Riverview Restaurant. The food is great, and as Olivia says, "They have pancakes as big as your face." It's always a good day.

Saturday night, we'll spend the night at the Springhill Suites in Elmhurst. The cost of a room is roughly \$125.00. We'll spend Sunday morning at Jackson Park looking for the Monk Parakeet and as many other birds as we can find. We'll make it back to Dubuque Sunday evening. I figure the trip will roughly cost \$200 per person if you split the hotel cost with someone. If you want to ask any questions or sign up, you can reach me at (563) 564-8503. If you're interested in driving, then let me know.



April 11th & 12th are the dates of Dubuque Audubon's trip to Chicago to look for the **Monk Parakeet**.

Chicago has a wild population living in various parts of the city, and we are going to try to find them. When we arrive in Chicago on Saturday, we are planning on spending some time at The Field Museum and birding along the lake. The cost of the museum is \$25-\$45 depending on what you want to do. On

As you can see, we have some fun still lined up for the next few months - that's not even mentioning the Spring Bird Count in May. Spring migration is always an exciting time. There is always something going on, and more often than not, there is something special to see. So, get your binoculars ready and keep your bird guide close. I'll be seeing you in the field.





ADVENTURES IN COSTA RICA

By: Roseann Wiederholt

We toured the Doka Coffee Estate on the hills of Poas Volcano. The beautiful gardens of the coffee estate attract many birds and butterflies. Our tour guide showed us how the seeds were planted and how the coffee beans were picked, washed, sorted, fermented, dried, packed into bags, and stored. The beans are harvested from November through February. Most of the bean pickers come from Nicaragua. At the end of the tour, we sampled different coffee flavors and chocolate covered coffee beans.

The next part of our tour took us to the Selva Verde Lodge. We hiked in the rainforest and visited the La Selva Biological Station. A great variety of trees, palms, ferns, and many of our familiar houseplants like philodendron, begonias, peace lilies, and shefflera grow in the tropical forests. We saw howler monkeys, sloths, iguanas, a parade of leaf cutter ants, and many colorful birds including **Toucans**, Motmots, Trogons, and Oropendolas. During a night hike through the forest, we saw a spider, toad, and frog eyes looking back at us. We also saw a tiny red and blue poison dart frog, a centipede, and a well camouflaged katydid.

The next day we toured the Dole Banana Plantation.

Our guide described the history of bananas and railroads in the country. We walked into the banana



CHESTNUT - MANDIBLED TOUCAN R.Wiederholt

plantation and saw the propping system that ties the plants together for support and the cable system that is used to move bananas to the factory. Our guide showed us how the large banana bunch is bagged

with plastic and how it is cut off the plant, moved to the factory, washed, separated into smaller bunches, and packed for shipment.



FASCIATED TIGER - HERON R.Wiederholt

Our home for the following two days was the beautiful Arenal Observatory Lodge. Unfortunately, it rained for most of the time that we were there, and the top of the inactive volcano was hidden in the clouds. The lodge had a wonderful feeding station so we could observe Montezuma Oropendolas, a pair of Great Curassows, Brown Jays, Clay-Colored Robins, and a variety of colorful Tanagers. We also saw spider monkeys swinging through the trees. Some members of our group hiked to the lava flow area of the volcano. The next morning we hiked to a beautiful waterfall.



MAGNIFICENT HUMMINGBIRD R.Wiederholt

On our way to Carara National Park, we walked across a bridge where many crocodiles were sunning themselves on the sand. We also saw a variety of shorebirds there.



WHITE-THROATED MOUNTAIN-GEM R.Wiederholt

A pair of Scarlet Macaws flying overhead welcomed us as we got off the bus at Hotel Carara on the Pacific Ocean. We saw Brown Pelicans feasting on the fish that the local fishermen discarded. We also saw Kingfishers, Herons, Gulls, and Terns.

We took a boat tour on the Tarcoles River and saw crocodiles, tiger crabs, and a multitude of birds including Osprey, White Ibis, Egrets, Herons, Kingfishers, and Roseate Spoonbills.

During a hike in Carara National Park, we saw several iguanas, a family of white-faced capuchin monkeys, two agoutis, and a Scarlet Macaw who was eating fruit in the top of a tree.

Next we traveled southward on winding roads into the spectacular Talamanca Mountains to Savage Mountain Lodge. The lodge had beautiful flower gardens that attracted many Tanagers, Warblers, Hummingbirds, Finches, and Flycatchers. Our favorite bird at Savage was the Resplendent Quetzal. It is endemic to Costa Rica because the wild avocado grows there and provides food for the Quetzals.

After enjoying the warm climate of Costa Rica, we returned home to a winter wonderland with ten inches of newly fallen snow in Iowa and Wisconsin.

**LIVE FEED OF
PAIR OF EAGLES IN THEIR NEST**



PHOTO TAKEN MARCH 3rd - 2 P.M.

The Raptor Resource Project continues to stream live feed of an Eagle pair's nest again this year.

The Decorah, Iowa, Eagle pair have laid three eggs (as of Feb. 25th). They may hatch late March/early April. To check their progress, go to...

www.ustream.tv/decoraheagles



**SATURDAY
MARCH 28th**



**FRIDAY
MARCH 27th**

**Woodcock
Watch**



**SATURDAY
MARCH 21st**



DUBUQUE AUDUBON SOCIETY CALENDAR OF EVENTS



<p>SUNDAY March 8th</p>	<p>BIRD BANDING</p>	<p>1:00 pm at EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Hts, Dubuque, IA. David Shealer from Loras College will identify, weigh, measure, sex and determine the health of area birds. Participants may assist in the capture of song birds and get a chance to maybe hold a bird. This is a great chance for all ages to learn to identify and get familiar with the birds at your feeders.</p>
<p>THURSDAY March 12th</p>	<p>DUBUQUE AUDUBON PROGRAM: LEAD POISONING & BALD EAGLES</p>	<p>EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Hts, Dubuque, IA 5:30 pm – Dubuque Audubon Society Board Meeting 7:00 pm – Ed Britton, Manager of the Savanna District of the Upper Mississippi River Refuge. Lead poisoning is the new threat to the Bald Eagle population.</p>
<p>SATURDAY March 21st</p>	<p>DUCK WADDLE</p>	<p>6:00 am – meet at Banworth and Udelhoven Furniture parking lot, junction of US 61/151 and US 52. We will leave promptly at 6:00 am and drive to Green Island Wildlife Area to observe the spring migration of waterfowl. Dress warmly. After our adventure we will have breakfast at the Riverview Café in Bellevue, IA, to compile our list and share stories of bird adventures.</p>
<p>FRIDAY March 27th</p>	<p>WOODCOCK WATCH</p>	<p>7:00 pm, Meet at the parking lot at Whitewater Canyon. This is a favorite and a must attend! The American Woodcock is a fantastic bird that has an even more fantastic mating ritual. Come and learn about this bird. Dress for the weather.</p>
<p>SATURDAY March 28th</p>	<p>OWL PROWL</p>	<p>6:00 pm at EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Hts, Dubuque, IA. Jared McGovern from the Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium will speak about owls – how they hear, see and fly silently. Get excited about the wonders and spookiness of being in the dark. Program will start indoors and will venture outside to call in owls. Learn the unique and eerie calls of the Barred Owl, Screech Owl, and Great Horned Owl.</p>
<p>THURSDAY April 9th</p>	<p>DUBUQUE AUDUBON PROGRAM</p>	<p>EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Hts, Dubuque, IA 5:30 pm – Dubuque Audubon Society Board Meeting 7:00 pm –</p>



Audubon Gift Catalog

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Your adoption supports urgent work to save birds and habitats - and you get an adorable plush!

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Your bird adoption helps Audubon protect birds and their habitats.

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- Lifelike plush Bird that plays a recording of its song when squeezed
- Personalized Adoption certificate and letter from Audubon CEO, David Yarnold
- Full year of the award-winning *Audubon* magazine



Here are some of the Birds up for adoption:

OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

If you have any questions or comments, please contact us!

President: Craig Kruse	563-582-0328
V-Pres.: Nick Courtney	
Secretary: Nick Courtney	
Treasurer: Maggie O'Connell	563-923-4308
At-Large Board Members:	
Jenny Ammon	Ruth Scharnau
Lalith Jayawickrama	Gretel Winterwood
Terri Stanton	Michele Zuercher
Field Trips: Terri Stanton	
Membership: Joe Tollari	563-583-2077
Newsletter: Michele Zuercher	
Conservation: Charlie Winterwood	563-588-2783
Programs: Lalith Jayawickrama	
Iowa Audubon Liaison: Joe Tollari	563-583-2077
Web Master: Jan Friedman:	janfrdmn@gmail.com
Website:	www.audubondubuque.org



Northern Cardinal

Adopt this bird for someone special. We'll send them a lifelike plush, a certificate of adoption and a full year of the award-winning *Audubon* magazine.



American Goldfinch

Adopt this bird for someone special. We'll send them a lifelike plush, a certificate of adoption and a full year of the award-winning *Audubon* magazine.



Snowy Owl

Adopt this bird for someone special. We'll send them a lifelike plush, a certificate of adoption and a full year of the award-winning *Audubon* magazine.



Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Adopt this bird for someone special. We'll send them a lifelike plush, a certificate of adoption and a full year of the award-winning *Audubon* magazine.

Dubuque Audubon Society
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The mission of Dubuque Audubon Society is to provide educational opportunities to the people of the tri-state area and to preserve the natural habitat of birds and other wildlife.

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DUBUQUE AUDUBON SOCIETY NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

If you are a member of National Audubon Society, you are automatically a member of the local Audubon Society and do not need to sign-up separately.

Do NOT use this form to renew a membership in National Audubon Society. Use the form mailed to you by the National Audubon. There are two categories of memberships in the Dubuque Audubon Society

CATEGORY A: This category includes membership in National Audubon Society and the local chapter. You will receive 6 issues of Audubon Magazine and 9 issues of the local chapter newsletter, Pileated Drummings.
_____ National Audubon Society Free Membership **INTRODUCTORY ONLY – FIRST TIME MEMBERS ONLY**

CATEGORY B: This category of membership is local chapter only. You will receive 9 issues of the local chapter newsletter, Pileated Drummings. All funds will remain with the local chapter. Membership year is from July to June.
_____ Local Chapter Dues **\$10.00**

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

STREET _____ **Dubuque Audubon Society**

E-mail _____ **PO Box 3174**

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ **Dubuque, IA 52004-3174**

CODE: C4ZH500Z

Mail check payable to Dubuque Audubon Society. Mail to: