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**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

By Craig Kruse

Yesterday, Olivia and I went for a short walk at Eagle Point Park. The weather has definitely turned cooler, but we were warm in our fall jackets, and we wandered through the pine trees by the goldfish pond. We were looking for a Red-breasted Nuthatch that was seen in the area a few days prior. For some reason, that species gives us trouble every year. We didn't find it yesterday but we had a good time anyway. For a while, we sat on a bench near the pond and watched as the **Yellow-rumped Warblers** chased



Yellow-rumped Warbler

each other through the trees and bathed themselves in the water at the edge of the pond. A male **Golden-crowned Kinglet** landed in the tree nearby and we got the best look at it as it jumped around on the branches. The birds didn't even seem to care that we were there.



Golden-crowned Kinglet

birds are through but a lot of the larger ones are still taking their time heading south. They just don't seem to be in a rush this time of year. We also get to see a lot of our winter friends that are coming south to make a home for the winter. The weather is usually perfect for me, not too hot-not too cold. Not that I mind wearing a jacket, it gives me more pockets to store my gear. The cooler late October weather also gives me an opportunity to spend some comfortable time in my yard getting it ready for winter. Not only mowing the lawn and other chores, but I need to switch over my birdfeeders to cater a little more to our winter guests and to clean out all the bird houses I have scattered throughout my yard. This latter one is an important thing to do every year. Not only will the houses be ready for next year's occupant, you are also helping keep pests out the houses that may cause problems for our feathered friends in the spring.

November can still be an exciting time for bird watchers. The arrival of Juncos, Rough-winged Hawks and other winter residents can keep us pretty busy. Our **November meeting will be on the 12<sup>th</sup>** and **Pat Schlarbaum** will be joining us as our **guest speaker**. It's going to be a busy month, but until the 12<sup>th</sup> I'll see you in the field.





## NOVEMBER PROGRAM

The Dubuque Audubon Society is hosting a program on [Peregrine Falcons](#), [Osprey](#) and other Nongame Animals. The program will be presented by Pat Schlarbaum. Pat has been involved with nongame animals for over thirty years. Pat Schlarbaum began working for the Iowa DNR Wildlife Diversity Program in 1985. He has assisted with a number of wildlife species that include [American Kestrels](#), [Barn Owls](#), [Peregrine Falcons](#), [River Otters](#), [Bald Eagles](#), [Ospreys](#), [Greater Prairie Chickens](#) and their respective habitats. The falcon program included Bob Anderson's [Raptor Resource Project](#) work returning falcons to their native cliffs along the Mississippi River in NE Iowa. He is a recipient of the 2013 Olav Smedal Conservation award.

Pat was instrumental in the releases of Peregrine Falcons and Osprey in the tri-state area. He will provide updates on these two bird species and how they are doing on the Mississippi River and throughout their range. Pat has worked with numerous other nongame animal projects throughout Iowa and will give updates on how these animals are doing and give up dates to what is next.

## THE DECORAH EAGLES UPDATE

By Joe Tollari

At first I was excited when I received an e-mail message that the Decorah eagles have gone live. I expected an update on the last group of eagles. However, I was saddened to learn that Bob Anderson, Director of the Raptor Resource Project (RRP), died at the end of July. While Bob was proud of his work with the Decorah eagles, his first love and interest was in the Peregrine Falcon Recovery Program. The [Raptor Resource website](#) has a moving tribute to the man and a video outlining his work with Peregrine Falcons. He will be missed. **John Howe** is the new Director of the Raptor Resource Project.

This summer saw the demise of the second nest (N2) built by the eagles. The tree was destroyed in an early morning storm on July 18, 2015. The Raptor Resource Project team set about meeting the crisis in two ways. First, they set about finding a new nest to monitor. They found a large nest on private property north of Decorah. They are looking at adding cameras to this nest for the upcoming season. Second, they decided to do some research in nest building. Both Red-tailed Hawks and Great-horned Owls have taken over human-made "starter nests", completed the nest, and successfully raised young. In a nearby tree, the team built N2B (N2Bob). Will the eagles accept the starter nest or set about making their own new nest? Tune in to the [web site](#) for updates.

### OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

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

President: Craig Kruse 563-582-7215

V-Pres.: Nick Courtney

Secretary: Nick Courtney

Treasurer: Maggie O'Connell 563-923-4308

At-Large Board Members:

Jenny Ammon Lalith Jayawickrama Gretel Winterwood

Terri Stanton Michele Zuercher

Field Trips: Terri Stanton

Membership: Joe Tollari 563-583-2077

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**In an effort to control costs and save resources, Dubuque Audubon Society is offering an electronic version of this newsletter to our members. You can receive the Newsletter as an e-mail attachment or as a prompt to go to the Dubuque Audubon Web-Site to view the Newsletter. E-Mail your request to be added to this program to:**

[audubondubuque@gmail.com](mailto:audubondubuque@gmail.com)



# **D**UBUQUE AUDUBON SOCIETY **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**




<p><b>THURSDAY</b> November 12th</p>	<p>Dubuque Audubon Program: Peregrine Falcons and Osprey and other Non-game Animals</p>	<p>EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Hts, Dubuque, IA 5:30 pm – Dubuque Audubon Society Board Meeting 7:00 pm – Pat Schlarbaum, Iowa DNR, will speak on the return of the Peregrine Falcon and Osprey to the Dubuque area.</p>
<p><b>SATURDAY</b> November 21st</p>	<p>Turkey Tails</p>	<p>10:00 – 11:00 am Swiss Valley Nature Center, 13606 Swiss Valley Rd., Peosta. This family program will focus on turkey facts and turkey adaptations. Young children will love this hands-on program.</p>
<p><b>SATURDAY</b> November 21st</p>	<p>Lost Mound Birding Tour</p>	<p>2:00 pm – 5:00 pm. 3159 Crim Dr, Savanna, IL, Join experienced birders as we travel through largest sand prairie in Illinois. You will learn about some of the history of the former Savanna Army Depot, current habitat management as a refuge and get a chance to see various species of birds. The van will leave from the Lost Mound Office promptly at 2:00 pm and will return at 5:00 pm. Tours are free, but seating is limited. Contact the refuge office at 815-273-2732 to register.</p>
<p><b>SATURDAY</b> November 21st</p>	<p>Owl Prowl</p>	<p>6:30 pm – 8:30 pm. Thomson Causeway, Thomson, IL. Join us as we travel in to the night to listen for the hoots, wails and shrieks of owls. Bob Walton will converse with the owls, and a chance to draw them closer. Owl Prowlers will meet at the Thomson Causeway Amphitheater. Please come prepared for the weather. In case of rain, please listen to WCCI for any cancellations.</p>
<p><b>THURSDAY</b> December 10th</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 - Program</p>

**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.

**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

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