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PRESIDENTS CORNER:

By Wayne Buchholtz



"I only went out for a walk and finally concluded to stay out till sundown, for going out, I found, was really going in." ~John Muir, 1913, in L.M. Wolfe, ed., John Muir, John of the Mountains: The Unpublished Journals of John Muir, 1938

Winter has been coming and going during the past few months - 69 degrees one day, 10 degrees the next. Snow and cold are not always welcomed by all. As I sit writing this article, I watch a robin out in the snow. I wonder what it is thinking, probably much like most of us. Is winter ever going to be over? Wildlife make the best of the winter months. For some it is mere survival, for others it is yet another day, another month - a day to enjoy life and the great outdoors. Winter can be an exciting time to be outdoors. Wildlife can be observed a lot easier with the vegetation off the trees and shrubbery. Deer and turkey can be seen on the next hillside. A Red-tailed Hawk or Bald Eagle can be viewed flying over the canopy of a forest. Chickadees or Brown Creepers can be witnessed at the forest edge.

I completed two Backyard Bird Counts the past week, one at home and the other at the center. Even though I see the birds every day, I am still surprised at what can be seen, but also at how many birds there are. At work there is every woodpecker possible this time of year, even the pileated shows up near the forest edge. Not wanting to come into the feeders, it does make an appearance and one that I look forward to each time I see it. Take time to look beyond the feeders or your back yard. Or leave the comfort of your house and view nature while being a part of it instead of through the window. There is always something to see and every day is different. As John Muir stated the outdoors seems more indoors. Take time to go outside and just look, experience winter by going outdoors. It will not be long and spring will be here. Owls will be preparing their nests come March. Male Bluebirds will be showing up before you know it to claim ownership to nest structures and hummingbirds will be sipping from columbine. I leave you with a few more quotes to get you thinking and hopefully inspiration to go for a hike or just stop and listen to nature if only for a moment.

"I love to think of nature as an unlimited broadcasting station, through which God speaks to us every hour, if we will only tune in".

~George Washington Carver



President's Corner

Continued from Page 1

"Each moment of the year has its own beauty".

Ralph Waldo Emerson

"To sit in the shade on a fine day and look upon the verdant green hills is the most perfect refreshment".

Jane Austin

"Some of nature's most exquisite handiwork is on a miniature scale, as anyone knows who has applied a magnifying glass to a snowflake".

Rachel Carson

The Dubuque Audubon Society's regular Board Meeting is at 5:30 with a program is at 7:00 at the EB Lyons Center. Please see further information about the next program in the news letter. See you March 14th.

Birding is great any where and anytime!

Wayne Buchholtz / President

**ANNUAL APPEAL:
ANOTHER SUCCESS!**

By Joe Tollari

Thank you to those who responded to our annual fundraising letter. Sixty-three members contributed \$3,610. We received contributions from Iowa, Illinois, and Wisconsin demonstrating the Tri-State nature of our organization. Your continued support will help us fund programming and local projects for the upcoming year.

The Bald Eagle Watch is always a major priority. Last year, we made a contribution to the Hurstville Interpretive Center to help build a Chimney Swift tower. We have also contributed to the Osprey Reintroduction program at Mud Lake Park. If you know of a deserving project let us know at audubondubuque@gmail.com.

Below is an alphabetical list of our donors:

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**e-NEWSLETTER
AVAILABLE**

By Joe Tollari

In an effort to control costs and save resources, Dubuque Audubon Society is offering an electronic version of this newsletter. You can receive the newsletter as an e-mail attachment or as a prompt to go to the Dubuque Audubon website to view the newsletter. E-mail your request to audubondubuque@gmail.com. This is a great way to celebrate Earth Day 2013.



DUBUQUE AUDUBON SOCIETY **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

MARCH 2013

<p>March 9th Saturday</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>March 10th Sunday</p>	<p>BIRD BANDING</p>	<p>1:00 pm at EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Heights, Dubuque, IA. Join Dave Shealer as he nets, weighs, measures, determines the age and sex of birds before he bands them. Everyone will have a chance to participate during the day's events. This is truly a family experience.</p>
<p>March 14th Thursday</p>	<p>DUB. AUDUBON PROGRAM: LAND PROTECTION & RESTORATION</p>	<p>EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Heights, Dubuque, IA 5:30 pm – Dubuque Audubon Society Board Meeting 7:00 pm – Program: Program: Brian Fankhauser from Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation will speak on land protection and land management.</p>
<p>March 16th Saturday</p>	<p>TRI-STATE LIVING GREEN FARM & HOME SHOW</p>	<p>9:00 am – 3:30 pm at Dubuque County Fairground, 14569 Old Highway Road. The focus is on sustainable systems for farm and home as well as recycling alternatives. Sustainable exhibitors will feature organic lawn and garden products, organic food retailers, and biological soil fertility products.</p>
<p>April 2nd Tuesday</p>	<p>SWAN CYGNET RELEASE</p>	<p>6:30 pm at Green Island Wildlife Area - Fish Lake Rd. Parking Lot. Join the Jackson County Conservation biologists as they release three trumpeter swan cygnets that were raised at the Hurstville Interpretive Center.</p>
<p>April 3rd Wednesday</p>	<p>WOODCOCK WALK</p>	<p>7:00 pm at Whitewater Canyon, near Filmore Golf Course. This program focuses on the mating ritual of the American Woodcock. Meet at the Whitewater Canyon parking lot and learn about the bird's adaptations, migration, feeding preferences and listen and look for its spectacular mating dance!</p>
<p>May 11th Saturday</p>	<p>SPRING SPECIES COUNT</p>	<p>All Day. Mark your calendar for this fun bird watching event.</p>



DUCK WADDLE 2013

Please join us for our annual "Duck Waddle" on Saturday March 9. We travel to Green Island Refuge to observe waterfowl, cranes and eagles.

Experienced birders will have spotting scopes along so that we can get a good look at the up to 20 species of waterfowl returning north at this time of year.

We leave at 6:00 am from the parking lot of Banwarth-Udelhoven furniture store at Hwy 52/61/151, or you can meet us at 7:00 am at Green Island at the main parking lot adjacent to the road going through the refuge.

We will eat breakfast at the Riverview Cafe in Bellevue after we are done birding. Dress warmly, bring your binoculars, and celebrate one of the first signs of spring.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

April:

Adam Hoffman will speak on water quality issues of Catfish Creek and the Mississippi River.

May:

Ed Maslowsky will discuss climate change.



June:

Annual Potluck



IOWA'S PRAIRIE HERITAGE ON DISPLAY



Americans and millions of people around the world will sit down to a meal sometime today courtesy of the prairies that once covered much of Iowa. The Friends of the Mines of Spain invites visitors to experience the story of our prairie heritage through the exhibit "Tallgrass Prairie – Past, Present and Future"; on display from March 4 thru April 25, 2013. The traveling exhibit will be at the E. B. Lyons Interpretive Center located at 8991 Bellevue Hts. south of Dubuque. The "Tallgrass Prairie" exhibit was produced by the Iowa Association of Naturalists with funds from the Resource Enhancement and Protection – Conservation Education Program (REAP – CEP), Living Roadway Trust Fund, Pheasants Forever, Iowa Trust for Local Conservation, the Tallgrass Prairie Center – UNI, and Truax Company. Hands-on displays and interactive components will engage visitors in learning about the prairie landscape and native plant species. Area residents are also invited to become personally involved in the preservation and restoration of the prairie ecosystem through volunteer activities at the Mines of Spain.

THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT 2013

By Olivia & Craig Kruse

Eagle Point Park is pretty empty in February. Gone are all of the crowds, cars and even the picnic tables are put away for the winter. That's one of the things that make it the perfect place to count birds for the Great Backyard Bird Count. We started out at about 8:00 am in the back entrance parking lot and took our time walking the entire park looking for birds.

The Great Backyard Bird Count was a worldwide event this year. Over 120,000 checklists have been submitted online so far, and 25.6 million birds have been reported in 103 countries. People have until March 1, 2013 to send in the last of their checklists, so a final total hasn't been recorded yet. Results from the Count can be explored at <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/>.

According to the backyard bird count newsletter, the top 5 most reported species were the Northern Cardinal, the Dark-eyed Junco, Mourning Doves, the Downy Woodpecker, and the House Finch.



Northern Cardinal
At Eagle Point Park we saw all of those species, with the exception



Dark-eyed Junco

of the House Finch. Other exiting species we saw included Wild Turkeys, the Carolina and Winter Wren, lots & lots of Red Bellied Woodpeckers,



Red Bellied Woodpecker



and my favorite the Black Capped Chickadee.



Black Capped Chickadee

The best thing about the backyard bird count is that you can count whenever you want and for as little as 15 minutes. Then again, you can count all day if you wanted to. The next backyard bird

count is February 14-17, 2014. So make sure you have your hiking boots ready or the window of your house with the best view picked out. Either way you're sure to see something fun.

SRI LANKA BIRDING TRIP

If you are interested in going, contact Joe Tollari (563-583-2077 or jtollari@mchsi.com) or Lalith Jayawickrama (563-495-0591 or lalithj@dbq.edu). Check the website (audubondubuque.org) or details.

OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

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

President::	Wayne Buchholtz	563-582-7215
Vice President:	Joe Tollari	563-583-2077
Secretary:	Jenny Ammon	
Treasurer:	Maggie O'Connell	563-923-4308

At-Large Board Members:

Jenny Ammon	Nita Wiederaenders
Lalith Jayawickrama	Charlie Winterwood
Craig Kruse	Michele Zuercher
Terri Stanton	

Field Trips:	Terri Stanton	
Membership:	Joe Tollari	563-583-2077
Newsletter:		
Conservation:	Charlie Winterwood	563-588-2783
Programs:	Michele Zuercher	

Iowa Audubon		
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Web Master	Jan Friedman	janfrdmn@yahoo.com
Website:	www.audubondubuque.org	

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

The GBBC is a joint project of:

The Cornell Lab
of Ornithology

Audubon

Canadian partner:

BIRO STUDIES
ÉTUDES D'OISEAUX CANADA



Carolina Wren



House Finch



Morning Doves

Dubuque Audubon Society

PO Box 3174

Dubuque IA 52004-3174

Non-Profit Organization

US Postage Paid

Dubuque, IA 52001

Permit # 459

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

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 _____ E-mail _____

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CODE: C3ZH500Z

Dubuque Audubon Society

PO Box 3174

Mail check payable to Dubuque Audubon Society. Mail to:

Dubuque, IA 52004-3174