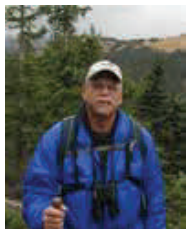




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**PRESIDENT'S
 CORNER**

By Wayne Buchholtz

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Another Audubon year is almost over. In case you do not know, an Audubon year goes from July to June. At least that is what Dubuque Audubon Society uses as their fiscal year. As the year ends so does the change of officers. This is my last year as President of the Dubuque Audubon Society. I have enjoyed the last few years as President and have seen some great things happen. We have continued to provide excellent programming and great field trips for anyone to enjoy throughout the year. We have started new field trips to encourage those that are just starting the hobby of birding and for those that have been doing it for years. The hope is that we will have a mix so the more experienced can help others learn. A perfect example last Saturday, we ventured to the Little Maquoketa River Delta (behind John Deere) to do some birding. Eight of us headed out despite the threat of rain - ended up to be an excellent day. We saw some 45 birds for all to see. Some of those attending were getting new sittings to add to

their life list. We will continue to provide more field trips to local areas and will last 1 – 1 ½ hours. We want you to enjoy them and not feel like you need to be out all day. There is another one planned at the Mines of Spain at the end of May.

As I said, my term is ending as President. A new slate of officers will be brought to the membership at the next regular meeting to vote. I am not going anywhere. I will remain on the board as an At-Large Board Member. We are also looking for new board members. At this time we will have two vacancies to fill. Each vacancy is an At-Large Member with no assigned duties, unless of course you want to dive right in. Give me a call to discuss, 582-7215. I hope you will consider joining. I like to see new members, with new and fresh ideas.

May is our last Program Night for the Audubon Year. We will have picnic field trips in June, July and August. July is tied in with our Annula North American Butterfly Count and will be held at the EB Lyons Interpretive Center. The other dates and locations will be announced in the summer news letter. Hope to see you there.

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Enjoy, birding this summer. There are many excellent places for you to find some neat species. If you have questions, do not hesitate to call me or any of the board members. Have a great summer. Remember to call me about being on the board.

Please give me a call with suggestions and comments. I want to hear from you, about what we are doing right and what you would like to see us add or do differently. I encourage you to go out often to explore a park, nature area, your backyard or other. You never know what you will see next. Nature can be quite entertaining.

Birding is Great Any Where and at Any Time – Get out there



Wayne Buchholtz / President

Duck Waddle

by Olivia Kruse

The morning was still black when we left the house. Driving towards the Banworth parking lot, I made sure to keep an eye out for any nocturnal species that were waiting to be found. The Duck Waddlers met around 6:00 am and headed off to Green Island where we hoped to find some open water with waterfowl floating about.



When we finally made it to Green Island, we were greeted by a Great Horned owl, sitting on a small tree, silhouetted by the morning sun. Unfortunately, the cold temperatures we have been having still have most of the water frozen, and after the Owl we had to move on south.

After picking out a pair of Peregrine Falcons in Sebula, our line of cars headed towards Lock and Dam #13. Coming in, we spotted clusters of Common Goldeneyes, accompanied by an enormous flock of Pelicans. And believe me when I say, I had trouble counting all of the Ring-billed Gulls. For brunch we stopped at the Sunrise Café where Maggie stuck to her birding guns and was the only one to have the early bird special.



Leaving the parking lot we decided to head back to Green Island where we found a treasure load of ducks and geese in one of the fields. The ducks included Green-winged Teal, Pintails, and for the geese, the Greater White-fronted ones were the favorite. One of the highlights with any migration is when you get to see a group of many species combined clustered together around one food source! And that is exactly what we found in a farmer's field between Belleview and Green Island. We found hundreds, or perhaps thousands, of ducks and geese feeding on the left over corn from last year's harvest.

By the time we got back to Dubuque our species count hit 49 for the day! As we got into our cars to head our separate ways, we reflected on what an exciting day we had accomplished!



DUBUQUE AUDUBON SOCIETY CALENDAR OF EVENTS



<p>May 8th Thursday</p>	<p>DUBUQUE AUDUBON PROGRAM: BIRD CONSERVATION- RED-SHOULDERED HAWKS, CERULEAN WARBLERS AND MORE</p>	<p>EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Heights, Dubuque, IA.</p> <p>5:30 pm – Dubuque Audubon Society Board Meeting</p> <p>7:00 pm – Program: Jon Stravers will present a program entitled Bird Conservation – Red Shouldered Hawks, Cerulean Warblers and More. Jon is the Coordinator for Driftless Area Bird Conservation.</p>
<p>May 10th Saturday</p>	<p>SPRING SPECIES COUNT</p>	<p>8:00 am. Meet at the North Entrance to Eagle Point Park. This event is great for beginning bird watchers. Experienced bird watchers will help with locating and identifying resident and migrating birds. Bring binoculars and dress for the weather. <i>Directions: Navigate to the corner of Rhomberg Ave and Shiras Ave in the Point area of Dubuque. There are directional signs leading you to the park. Drive past the main entrance to the park. Take the next right which leads to the Eagle Point Dr. and the back entrance to the park. We will meet in the parking lot.</i></p> <p>5:00 pm. Meet at the Swiss Valley Nature Center to tabulate the results and share experiences. Audubon will provide the brats and hot dogs. Bring your own table service, beverage, and a dish to pass.</p>
<p>May 31st Saturday</p>	<p>FIELD TRIP TO MINES OF SPAIN</p>	<p>9:00 am. Meet at the Canoe Launch parking lot at Mines of Spain Area. We will hike the nearby trails along Catfish Creek. The area provides habitat for many bird species. The American Redstart is a common inhabitant of the area. We will see what we see. There should be a good variety of birds.</p>
<p>June 12th Thursday</p>	<p>DUBUQUE AUDUBON POTLUCK</p>	<div data-bbox="686 1732 933 1974" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>5:30 pm at EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Heights, Dubuque, IA Bring your own beverage, table service, and a dish to share. Come early to walk the near by trails or sit in the bird observation room.</p>



May's Program:

Bird Conservation- Red Shouldered Hawks, Cerulean Warblers and More”

by Jon Stravers

Coordinator for Driftless Area Bird Conservation

The Dubuque Audubon Society is hosting a program titled : Bird Conservation- Red Shouldered Hawks, Cerulean Warblers and More.” The program will be presented by Jon Stravers who currently serves as the coordinator for the Driftless Area Bird Conservation. For the past 34 years he has specialized in monitoring and inventory projects on Red-shouldered Hawks, Bald Eagles and other birds along the Mississippi River. The program for Dubuque Audubon Society will include information on 34 years of Red-shouldered Hawk monitoring along the Mississippi River, as well as a summary of five years of work on Cerulean Warblers in northeast Iowa.

Jon is currently involved in Cerulean Warbler surveys in the Driftless Area which are sponsored by Iowa DNR Yellow River State Forest, the McGregor District of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Natural Resources Division, the Iowa Ornithologists Union, and various Audubon Chapters in the region. This work has highlighted some significant concentrations of Cerulean Warblers (which is considered a species of conservation concern) in specific locations in the Bird Conservation Area of northeast Iowa, and this work has resulted in the study area being designated as “Globally Significant” by the National Audubon Society and Bird Life International.

Jon was originally a student of Gladys Black “The Bird Lady of Iowa” and Dean Roosa, the former State Ecologist for the Iowa DNR. He has co-authored three books – Sylvan Runkel, Citizen of the Natural World, and Gladys Black, the Legacy of Iowa’s Bird Lady with Larry Stone, and the RapTors of Iowa with James Landenburger, Dean Roosa, Bruce Ehresman and Rich Patterson, published by the University of Iowa Press.

SUMMER PROGRAMS...



May 17, Saturday, @ 8:00 – noon – International Migratory Bird Day. Environment for the Americas (EFTA) provides information and education materials about birds, bird conservation, and bird education from Canada to South America. Our programs inspire people of all

ages to get outdoors, learn about birds, and take part in their conservation. Bird educators, bird festival organizers, and birders find opportunities to connect ideas, create bird festivals, and offer education close to home or across borders. Known for our signature program, International Migratory Bird Day, we also have programs that connect people year-round. Learn more about [migratory bird day](#)

International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD), the signature program of EFTA, is the only international education program that highlights and celebrates the migration of nearly 350 species of migratory birds between nesting habitats in North America and non-breeding grounds in Latin America, Mexico, and the Caribbean. Each year IMBD explores a different aspect of migratory birds and their conservation.

Meet at the Canoe Launch Parking area. Band birds with Dan Wenny from Loras College, free. Assist in netting songbirds, banding, weighing, measuring etc. Learn about neo-tropical birds. You may see Orioles, Warblers, Grosbeaks, and more.

May 31 , Saturday, 8:00 am - ? Catfish Creek Cleanup with the Sierra Club of Dubuque. Meet at Canoe Launch. Help pick up litter on Catfish Creek and along the shore line.



May 31 , Saturday, @ 9:00 am – 10:30 am , **Dubuque Audubon Field Trip**, Hike to see birds. No experience needed. Experts will be showing how to go birding and help identify . Meet at Canoe Launch.

June 7- Saturday, @ 9:00 am – 10:30 am - **National Trails Day**– Catfish Creek Foot Trail – be a part of a National Event. Hike a National Recreation Trail at the Mines of Spain.

June 7 , Saturday, @ 1:00 **Canoeing**, Meet at the Canoe Launch Parking Area, Canoe on Catfish Creek, Learn how to canoe, first come first serve, no reservation taken, free.

June 8 – Sunday, @ 1:00 **McBride Raptor Center** , at the EB Lyons Interpretive Center, program with live birds of prey. Learn about owls, hawks and other raptors found in Iowa and the Midwest.

June 15, Sunday, @ 1:00, **Canoeing**. Meet at the Canoe Launch Parking Area and canoe on Catfish Creek. Learn how to canoe, first come first serve, no reservation taken, free.

June 29, Sunday, @ 1:00, **Canoeing**, Meet at the Canoe Launch Parking Area, Canoe on Catfish Creek, Learn how to canoe, first come first serve, no reservation taken, free.

June 25-27, Wednesday to Friday , @ 8:00 am – noon – **Day Camp**, at the **EB Lyons Interpretive Center**, **Registration Required**, no fee, ages – Kindergarten to 6th grade (entering), Learn about nature at the Mines of Spain. Hands on learning about nature, environment, history. Great experience for any child. Limited to 25.

July 12, Saturday, @ 1:00 **Pella Wildlife Company** with live Bobcat and Lynx, **at EB Lyons Interpretive Center**, Learn about the bobcat and the lynx and the

mountain lion. Learn the differences between the three. Learn their habitats restrictions, their diet and more.

July 13, Sunday, @ 1:00 **North American Butterfly Count** , Start at EB Lyons Interpretive Center, head out to other areas and count butterflies for research and science, no experience needed. Count all the butterflies you see and become part of science. All information is provided to the North American Butterfly Association and used to track populations and migrations of butterflies. We will net some to show you the characteristics of several butterflies. Wear long pants and closed shoes as counting is completed out in the prairies. Nets and ID books will be provided.

July 15-17, Tuesday to Thursday, 8:00, am – noon – **Day Camp**, at the **EB Lyons Interpretive Center**, **Registration Required**, no fee, ages – Kindergarten to 6th grade (entering), Learn about nature at the Mines of Spain. Hands on learning will take you to Granger Creek, a prairie, or forest. Great experience for any child. Limited to 25.

July 19, Saturday, @ 1:00, **Canoeing**, Meet at the Canoe Launch Parking Area, Canoe on Catfish Creek, Learn how to canoe, first come first serve, no reservation taken, free.

August 3 , Sunday, @ 1:00, **Canoeing**, Meet at the Canoe Launch Parking Area, Canoe on Catfish Creek, Learn how to canoe, first come first serve, no reservation taken, free.

August 10 , Sunday, @ 1:00 **Smokey Bear 70th Birthday Party at EB Lyons Interpretive Center**, a party for everyone. Children and adults welcome. Games, cake, refreshments will make up the day. Smokey will be here in person to greet you. Activities and hikes will help you explore nature and learn about the environment and about fire. No gifts please. 😊



Birding Tips for Families

FROM: <http://education.audubon.org/birding-tips-families>



Birdwatching is a favorite hobby for millions of Americans. For many, birding is serious business, with participants becoming experts in locating and identifying even the rarest of birds. But birding can be simple, too, and you don't need to know how to identify a single species to help your kids get started.

Getting Started

Pick a time of day for your walk when birds are most plentiful -- usually early morning or late afternoon works best. Start nearby. Walk through your yard or neighborhood or a local park. As your kids become more invested in birding, you can explore wilder places. Take kids to a pond, lake, or wildlife refuge where they can easily see large water birds such as ducks, geese, or herons -- or to a nature center with a bird feeding station where they can closely observe birds coming to a feeder.

Some of the very best habitat for birding consists of open water wetlands, where you can see water birds easily and note their field marks and behaviors. There will usually be a number of small birds like marsh wrens and song sparrows at wetlands as well, which can offer a greater challenge to a slightly more advanced birder. And you may get to see an osprey or bald eagle!

Be sure to dress your kids in comfortable clothes. Bring along snacks and sunscreen. Bring binoculars if you want, or pairs of empty toilet paper rolls to make pretend binoculars. They won't make the birds look bigger, but they will help kids focus in. If you want to get binoculars for your kids to use, they should be small enough that they are easy to hold, with a wide field of view and an easy way to focus them.

For older kids, consider bringing along field guides to help them identify the species they are spotting. A great guide to backyard birds -- with a foldout ID chart -- is Audubon Pocket Backyard Birdwatch, which can be ordered at us.dk.com.

You might want to consider getting a spotting scope, which allows an adult to focus in on a bird and easily show it to kids.

On the Walk

Explain to the kids that they'll see the most birds if they keep quiet. Have them move slowly and try to blend in with the surroundings. You might choose to have them sit for a while, too. Learning to be still in order to tune into the natural world is one of the greatest lessons kids can learn.

Encourage your kids to observe the different kinds of birds they see. What color is the bird? How big? Does it have long legs or short legs? What kinds of noises does it make? Also encourage your kids to note aspects of the birds' behaviors. Are they singing? Perching? Walking? Swimming? Making nests?

If you like, keep notes about the birds you see. Encourage your kids to sketch some of them. Celebrate every observation and discovery. It doesn't matter how many birds you see. Sometimes watching one bird for a long time yields the greatest rewards.

After the Walk

Encourage your kids to look for the birds they saw in a field guide. If they want, they can go back and label their sketches.



If your kids become hooked on birding, encourage them to begin keeping a Life List of all the birds they've ever seen. You can find a list of North American birds on the website of the Baltimore Bird Club at:

<http://BaltimoreBirdClub.org/nabirds.html>.

Have your kids help pick the next place you'll go for a bird walk. Be sure to compare the kinds of birds you find in different places. Ask your kids to think about why some birds are found in certain places and not others. (Proximity to water, preference for fields or forests, adapted to cities or suburbs, etc.)

For more information on birding, check out Audubon's resources on birding basics:

<http://www.audubon.org/bird/athome/birdwatching/index.shtml>

E-Newsletter Available



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

In Memoriam

On April 1, 2014, Nita Wiederaenders passed away after a brief illness. For over 40 years, Nita was a force in the Dubuque Audubon Society. She was a good birder and an excellent birding instructor teaching many of us the fine art of bird watching. She was especially adept at identifying birds by their song. She, Adele Feller and Joan Higley represented Dubuque Audubon in organizing the first Bald Eagle Watch event twenty-six years ago and served on the organizing committee until this past year. Nita was an environmentalist from before the first Earth Day. She was a member of the Dubuque Environmental Task Force and worked with the Dubuque Metro Area Solid Waste Agency (DMASWA). Her specialty was recycling. She helped to organize paper drives and glass collections as fund raisers for Dubuque Audubon Society. She collaborated with other organizations on city-wide recycling collections at Econo-Foods and pushed for curb-side collections in Dubuque. She helped organize household, hazardous waste collections for DMASWA. In all of these events, her specialty was setting up work schedules. It was hard to say "no" when Nita asked. Nita also served on the Dubuque County Conservation Board and was an avid quilter. Yet she always had time for her husband, Robert, her children, grandchildren, and friends. She will be missed.

OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

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

President::	Wayne Buchholtz	563-582-7215
Vice President:	Craig Kruse	563-583-2077
Secretary:	Nick Courtney	
Treasurer:	Maggie O'Connell	563-923-4308

At-Large Board Members:


Jenny Ammon	Michele Zuercher
Lalith Jayawickrama	Charlie Winterwood
Terri Stanton	

Field Trips:	Terri Stanton	
Membership:	Joe Tollari	563-583-2077
Newsletter:	Michele Zuercher	
Conservation:	Charlie Winterwood	563-588-2783
Programs:	Lalith Jayawickrama	
Iowa Audubon		
Liason	Joe Tollari	563-583-2077
Web Master	Jan Friedman	janfrdmn@gmail.com
Website:	www.audubondubuque.org	

Dubuque Audubon Society

PO Box 3174
Dubuque IA 52004-3174

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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

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

STREET _____ E-mail _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CODE: C1ZH500Z

Mail check payable to Dubuque Audubon Society. Mail to:

**Dubuque Audubon Society
PO Box 3174
Dubuque, IA 52004-3174**