

**Dubuque Audubon Society**  
 PO Box 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.

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**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

By Craig Kruse

On November 9<sup>th</sup>, Olivia, Dad, and I spent the morning birding between Savanna, Illinois, and Lock and Dam 13 in Fulton. If you've never been there before, it's loaded with birding opportunities. Generally, when we make this run we start at the Sabula Lakes and then head east across the Mississippi, then south towards Spring Lake. From there, we work the river edges until we end at the Lock and Dam. On this particular trip, we were lucky

Swans fattening up for their flight south for the winter; the horizon was white with them. Closest to us there were even a couple of Trumpeter Swans mixed in.

Trumpeter Swans versus Tundra Swans - from a distance and without hearing them, how do you tell what is what? This is what I asked myself while standing in that parking lot looking at all the big white birds in the distance. If I look in my *Peterson's Field Guide*, this is what it tells me: the Trumpeter Swan is larger than the Tundra Swan; they both have all black bills, but the Tundra Swan may have a small yellow basal spot between the bird's bill and eye. The Tundra Swan's bill's lores are black and form a "V" whose point leads into the bird's eye. Another fantastic tool that I have found for researching birds and comparing similar species is Cornell Lab of Ornithology's "All about Birds" site on the internet, <http://www.allaboutbirds.org>. All I have to do is go to the website, type in "Tundra Swan," and it pulls up pages of information on the bird. It shows me identification tips, range maps, eating habits, cool facts, and more. Possibly my favorite feature is the fact that you can click on a tab called "similar birds" and it will show you a side-by-side comparison of the two birds with a breakdown of their differences. This was the first thing I did when we got back from



enough to run into a large wave of migrating ducks and swans. All along the Mississippi we found just about every dabbling duck possible. A dabbling is a duck that feeds by upending from the surface of the water. We saw Eagles, a Eurasian Tree Sparrow, and a ton of Coots. The most impressive sight was at the Spring Lake parking lot where we ran into about a thousand Tundra

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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 Drumming*.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 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 Drumming*. 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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 Dubuque, IA 52004-3174**





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the first thing I did when we got back from our trip down south to double check my findings.

This year marks the hundredth anniversary of the death of the last passenger pigeon, and Dubuque Audubon's next meeting will have a speaker on this very subject. The meeting is Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the E.B. Lyons Auditorium. January 3<sup>rd</sup> will be our Christmas Bird Count, and January 17<sup>th</sup> brings Dubuque's annual Bald Eagle Watch.

We've got a lot of fun things lined up for the end of this year and the start of next year, and we hope to see you there.



### DECEMBER PROGRAM: THE PASSENGER PIGEON

The year 2014 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the extinction of the Passenger Pigeon. On September 1, 1914, the last Passenger Pigeon, named Martha, died alone at the Cincinnati Zoo. Within a few decades, the once most numerous bird on Earth was driven to extinction. Stanley Temple will tell the story of this extinction.



### THE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

By: Charlie Winterwood



The Christmas Bird Count will take place on Saturday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, with a snow date of Jan 4<sup>th</sup>. We will attempt to count all birds within a 15-mile diameter around Dubuque. No experience is required, but binoculars and warm clothing and boots would be helpful. We will compile the numbers of birds and have a chili supper at sunset at EB Lyons interpretive center. We will start there at 8AM, or you can contact the trip leaders (below) in advance.

- City Craig & Olivia Kruse 582-0328
- Swiss Valley Jenny Ammon 556-6745
- Centralia Joe Tollari 583-2077
- Airport harlie Winterwood 588-2783
- Mines of Spain Wayne Buchholtz 556-0620
- Durango Dave Shealer 557-7519
- Wis/EDbq Ted Harms harmsted9@aol.com

#### 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



## DUBUQUE AUDUBON SOCIETY CALENDAR OF EVENTS DECEMBER 2014 - JANUARY 2015

|                        |   |  |
|------------------------|---|--|
| December 11th THURSDAY | DUBUQUE AUDUBON PROGRAM: ALL ABOUT THE PASSENGER PIGEON | EB Lyons Interpretive Center 8991 Bellevue Hts, Dubuque, IA<br>5:30 pm – Dubuque Audubon Society Board Meeting 7:00 pm – Stanley Temple, Professor Emeritus in Conservation, University of Wisconsin-Madison and Senior Fellow, Aldo Leopold Foundation, will discuss the history of the Passenger Pigeon.   |
| December 13th Saturday | FAMILY NIGHT HIKE                                       | 6:00 – 7:30 pm. Swiss Valley Nature Center, 13606 Swiss Valley Rd., Peosta. Bundle up and enjoy the sweet silence and beauty of the upcoming winter. Snow or no snow, we will hike through the valley listening and looking for nocturnal creatures brave enough to stay during the cold months. All ages are welcome; there is no need to register. |
| January 3rd Saturday   | CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT                                    | 8:00 am E. B. Lyons Interpretive Center. Meet to divide into routes.<br>4:00 pm Meet at E. B. Lyons Intrepretive Center to tally results and enjoy a chili supper while recounting the high lights of the day's events.  |
| January 8th Thursday   | DUBUQUE AUDUBON PROGRAM                                 | E. B. Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Hts., Dubuque, IA<br>5:30 pm -Dubuque Audubon Society Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.<br>- at press time, we lost our speaker for January. Please look for the program announcement in the paper or on our web-site:<br><a href="http://www.audubondubuque.org">www.audubondubuque.org</a>                    |
| January 10th Saturday  | 2015 BALD EAGLE WINER SURVEY                            | 10:00 am. Anyone interested in participating in the Survey should meet at the Payless Grocery Store in Dyersville.<br>For questions, contact Charlie Winterwood, 563-588-2783.   |
| January 17th Saturday  | BALD EAGLE WATCH  | Grand River Center, Port of Dubuque. Doors open at 9:00 am. Exhibitors, vendors, and children's activities all day. <b>World Bird Sanctuary</b> at 9:30 am, 12:15 pm, and 3:00 pm.<br><b>Jim Pease</b> at 11:00 am and 1:45 pm.<br>9:00 - 4:00 pm <b>Eagle viewing</b> at Lock and Dam #11   |
| February 12th Thursday | DUBUQUE AUDUBON PROGRAM                                 | E. B. Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Hts., Dubuque, IA<br>5:30 pm - Dubuque Audubon Society Board Meeting<br>7:00 pm - Lois Norrgard, Alaska Wilderness League.  |