



APRIL 2016 EDITION

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Craig Kruse

Have you ever watched an old war movie where you see the soldier standing on the battlefield and he looks up just as hundreds of aircraft fly overhead? Well, that same thing happened to me the other night. Ok... not exactly. There were no planes and no battlefield but there were ducks and geese. Thousands of them!! Olivia and I were birding at sunset with Bob and Sandy Walton. We were parked all the way down Fish Lake Road at Green Island, past the parking lot and in front of the bridge when we looked up and all you could see in the sky was water fowl. There were so many birds that we couldn't count them, and they went on forever. And there must have been 10 to 15 different species and they just kept coming. The conversations went something like, "Look at all the Pintails," "There go some Wood Ducks," "Do you hear the Sandhills arguing with the Tundra Swans?" and "We must be looking at every duck in eastern Iowa!" It was one of those sights that you know you'll remember forever. It really was like something from a movie, but we were witnessing it in person. This is one of the "perks" of living in Dubuque Land. If we time it right, any of us came go and see something remarkable on occasion.

To me Dubuque Audubon is about a lot of things. It's about the birds, of course, and everything else we can see

"out in the field." It's about education and preservations, but it's also about the people involved. I like to drop the names of the people who have participated in my adventures in my articles. This month I'd like to give a big "Tip of the Hat" to Jenny Ammon, a Naturalist at Swiss Valley and Dubuque Audubon Board Member. Five years ago when Olivia and I first started birdwatching, Jenny was the first Audubon member we met. Liv and I were at Swiss Valley looking out at the bird feeders when Jenny walked up and simply asked us what we were seeing. When we saw a sparrow we couldn't identify, she was the one who pointed us in the direction of Dubuque Audubon and this guy named "Charlie" who could identify anything. Since then, we've had more than a few good birding adventures together, from birding in an old Sherriff's car to walking the entire length of White Top Road just to see what we could see. Last month was Jenny's last month with Swiss Valley and with Dubuque Audubon. Her family will soon be moving on and having outdoors adventures in other parts of the country. As we say goodbye, we should keep in mind that her time in Dubuque was well spent, from the outstanding programming that she initiated both for Swiss Valley and Dubuque Audubon to the hundreds of kids and adults that she has inspired. Maybe if we ask nicely, she'll post some of her new adventures on our Facebook page. Who knows, sometimes the world doesn't seem like such a big place. *see page 2*



cont'd from page 1

Maybe one day you'll be looking at a bird or coyote or maybe you'll just be taking a walk and run into Jenny in the field...

APRIL PROGRAM

"Birding Peru: from the Ocean to the Andes to the Amazon Basin"

In Nov. 2014, Iowa Audubon president Doug Harr and former president Karl Jungbluth spent two weeks of intensive birding in central and southern Peru. This presentation is highlighted by photos of everything from Humboldt Penguins and Coastal Miners near Lima, to Inca Wrens and Crested Ducks high in the Andes, to Horned Screamers and Round-tailed Manakins in the Amazon basin. The program also features many photos of Machu Picchu and the culture of Peru.

Doug Harr spent over thirty-eight years with Iowa DNR, as a Wildlife Management Biologist, Wildlife Diversity (nongame) Biologist, and State Coordinator of Iowa's Wildlife Diversity Program. He holds BS and MS degrees in wildlife biology from South Dakota State University, where he also served as an Instructor of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences. Prior to his DNR career Doug worked briefly for the US Fish and Wildlife Service. In retirement he now serves as president of Iowa Audubon. Doug's favorite hobby is bird photography.

OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

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

President: Craig Kruse birder1972@hotmail.com

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Newsletter: Michele Zuercher

Conservation: Charlie Winterwood

Iowa Audubon Liaison: Joe Tollari

Web Master: Jan Friedman: Janfrdmn@gmail.com

Website: www.audubondubuque.org

Waterfowl Watch
at the **LOWER BEE BRANCH**

FREE Introductory Class
SATURDAY, APRIL 2
8:00 – 9:30AM

Bee Branch watershed

THE CITY OF **DUBUQUE**
LEISURE SERVICES

Audubon

Meet at the 16th St. Detention Basin behind Dairy Queen; questions: 563.589.4263



DUBUQUE AUDUBON SOCIETY CALENDAR OF EVENTS



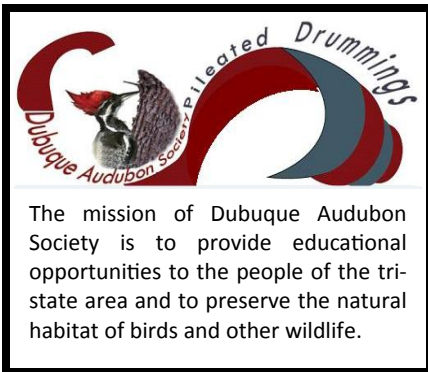
FRIDAY April 1st	Woodcock Watch and Owl Prowl	7:00 pm, Whitewater Canyon. Join Jackson, Jones, and Dubuque County naturalists for a night at Whitewater Canyon. We will be on the hunt for some amazing nocturnal birds. We will call for owls and observe the mating dance of the American woodcock. It will wonderful night full of wildlife so be sure to join us and dress for the weather!
SATURDAY April 2nd	Waterfowl at the Retention Basin	8:00 am. Meet behind 16th street Dairy Queen to observe waterfowl in the Retention Basin. This is a joint venture with the City of Dubuque to promote wildlife viewing in the Bee Branch corridor.
THURSDAY April 14th	Dubuque Audubon Program: Birds of Peru	EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Hts, Dubuque, IA 5:30 pm – Dubuque Audubon Society Board Meeting 7:00 pm – Doug Harr will recount his experience birding in Peru.
SUNDAY April 24th	Rattlin’ An Image of Iowa’s Snakes	2:00 pm, Hurstville Interpretive Center, 18670 63rd Street, Maquoketa, IA. Come to learn of some commonly held beliefs about Iowa’s snakes, and to uncover these snakes’ true character. This FREE program will include an audio-visual presentation, props, and live animals.
SATURDAY May 7th	Spring Species Count	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.
THURSDAY May 12th	Dubuque Audubon Program:	EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Hts, Dubuque, IA 5:30 pm – Dubuque Audubon Society Board Meeting 7:00 pm – Carolyn Scherf, ISU Local Food Coordinator



Dubuque Audubon Society

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Dubuque IA 52004-3174

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Dubuque, IA 52001
Permit # 459



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**