



APRIL 2018 EDITION

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SUNDAY  
APRIL 22, 2018

**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

By Craig Kruse

What a busy week! It started last Thursday with a great turnout for our March Program. Jennifer Drayna from the National Mississippi River Museum



presented ***"Invertebrates: The Life of a Bug,"*** and it was a great time. We had a great interactive crowd and actual bugs (in cages) in the room. How many people can say they got to touch a cockroach with something besides the sole of their shoe? Well, I still can't, but I can say that all of the kids in attendance braver than me. It was a great night, and any day I get to see a tarantula is a good day. I think Jennifer will be back next year with some more creatures to show us.



Two days after our "Buggy" meeting was our annual Duck Waddle. At 6:00 that morning I found myself traveling

with my wife and twelve other birders to Green Island to check out the waterfowl that was migrating up the river. We saw fifty-six species that morning - not bad for 40-degree weather! We had so much fun that it didn't even feel cold. We had a good assortment of birds, too. We got most of the waterfowl we were expecting, various raptors, Sandhill Cranes, and lots of other species. Then to top it off we had breakfast at the Sandbar in Sabula. I ate so much that I didn't have supper that night. Check out the list featured later in the newsletter if you want to read what we saw.

Also, last night I got to give our "Intro to birding" presentation to the folks at the Mt. Pleasant Home (a retirement community). I always enjoy stopping in there and talking to that great bunch of people. They are always so friendly and eager to talk about birds. They bring their own insights and observations to the program, too. It feels more like a social gathering than me just presenting. So that was a great end to my week.

Before I get a little long-winded, I'll give you my plug for our April meeting. It's going to be a good one. Our very own Maggie O'Connell and Sandy Walton and going to talk to us about their trip to Australia and the birds they saw. Make sure you join us for that. Until then, I'll see you in the field. 😊

**Species Seen on the 2018 Duck Waddle:**

Greater White-fronted Goose	Northern Harrier
Snow Goose	Red-tailed Hawk
Cackling Goose	Rough-legged Hawk
Canada Goose	American Kestrel
Trumpeter Swan	American Coot
Tundra Swan	Peregrine Falcon
Wood Duck	Sandhill Crane
Gadwall	Killdeer
American Wigeon	Ring-billed Gull
American Black Duck	Herring Gull
Mallard	Iceland Gull (Thayer's)
Northern Shoveler	Rock Pigeon
Northern Pintail	Mourning Dove
Green-winged Teal	Great Horned Owl
Canvasback	Belted Kingfisher
Ring-necked Duck	Red-bellied Woodpecker
Lesser Scaup	Northern Flicker
Bufflehead	Pileated Woodpecker
Common Goldeneye	Blue Jay
Hooded Merganser	American Crow
Common Merganser	American Robin
Red-breasted Merganser	European Starling
Ruddy Duck	American Tree Sparrow
Wild Turkey	Song Sparrow
Double-crested Cormorant	Swamp Sparrow
American White Pelican	Northern Cardinal
Bald Eagle	Red-winged Blackbird

**Beginning Birding Series**

Join Dubuque Audubon Society for its Beginning Birding Series at Swiss Valley Nature Center! Whether you are just getting introduced into birding for the first time or are looking to brush up on some of your skills, these classes are the perfect addition to any birder's toolkit! Sign up for one class or join us for all of them! Space is limited to twelve participants per class. Children under 12 years old must be accompanied by an adult. Binoculars and field guides will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Call 563-556-6745 to register.

All classes will be held from 9:00am-11:00am at the Swiss Valley Nature Center. There will be a short classroom portion before we trek into the field and put our skills to the test.

**Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> – What You Need**

The first class will go over the basics of what tools you will need to start your birding adventures. We will give you some tips and tricks on using binoculars to track birds. We will also recommend some of our favorite field guides and places in the area to go birding.

**Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> – Identifying Birds**

This class will cover some of the most common birds you may see in the field. One of the keys to identification is being able to pick out which family that bird may belong. We will cover some basic bird

**Beginning Birding Series, continued**

anatomy and how it differs among families. We will also look at the habitats these different families might be found.

**Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> – no class held but Spring Bird Count invitation**

There will be no class held this week but we invite you to attend Audubon's Annual Spring Bird Count to put your newfound birding skills to the test. We will be meeting at the north entrance of Eagle Point Park at 8:00am. This event is great for beginning bird watchers. Experienced bird watchers will help to locate and identify resident and migrating birds. Bring binoculars and dress for the weather.

**Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup> – In the Field**

This class will be an extension on the previous class with the majority of our time in the field using the skills we've learned thus far. We will also be going more in-depth on field markings and identification by bird calls.

**Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> – The Birdlist**

Every good birder has THE list. We will show different resources you can use to keep a record of birds you've seen, apps that work well for identification, and the eBird website. Each participant will receive a comprehensive list of birds found in Dubuque County to get started. We will then venture outside to see how many we can check off this list!

**April Program: Spring in the Downunder of Southeastern Australia & Tasmania**

This program will feature photos taken by Maggie O'Connell and Sandy Walton during their recent trip to one of the most beautiful avifaunas in the world. Australia is home to some 776 species of birds of which over 300 are endemic. They encountered birds wearing a dazzling rainbow of shades of blue, red, green, and purple. It is also home to the greatest number of reptiles found anywhere and marsupials such as kangaroos, koalas, echidnas, wombats, and the Tasmanian Devil. There are challenges for the varied ecosystems of Australia. The threats to Eucalyptus forests, saltbush flats and mallee habitats presented by human activity and introduced plant and animal species will be discussed.

**OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS**

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

<b>President:</b>	Craig Kruse	563-582-0328
<b>V-Pres.:</b>	Wayne Buchholtz	
<b>Secretary:</b>	Olivia Kruse / Joe Tollari	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Maggie O'Connell	563-923-4308
<b>At-Large Board Members:</b>		
	Angie Jansen	Terri Stanton
	Lalith Jayawickrama	Michele Zuercher
	Allie Schmalz	
<b>Field Trips:</b>	Tony Moline	
<b>Membership:</b>	Joe Tollari	563-583-2077
<b>Newsletter:</b>	Michele Zuercher	
<b>Conservation:</b>	Charlie Winterwood	563-588-2783
<b>Programs:</b>	Allie Schmalz / Angie Jansen	
<b>Iowa Audubon Liaison:</b>	Joe Tollari	563-583-2077
<b>Web Master:</b>	Jan Friedman	janfrdmn@gmail.com



# DUBUQUE AUDUBON SOCIETY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

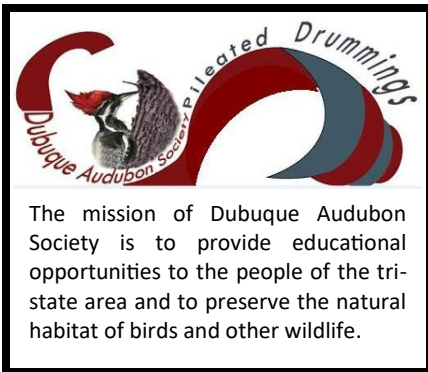


April 6th Friday	<b>WOODCOCK WALK / OWL PROWL</b>	7:00PM Whitewater Canyon Wildlife Area. Sponsored by Swiss Valley Nature Center. See the American Woodcock's sky dance and call the owls! Dress for the weather.
April 8th Sunday	<b>THE ART OF CONSERVATION: A VISIT WITH DING DARLING</b>	1:00PM Hurstville Interpretive Center, 18670 63rd Street, Maquoketa. In this 45-minute presentation, Jay N. "Ding" Darling visits with the audience, as an old friend, in his 11th office at <i>The Des Moines Register</i> . From the introduction of The Duck Stamp to the creation of the National Wildlife Federation, Ding is considered by many to be one of the most important members of the modern conservation movement in the first half of the 20th century, and the impact of his work is still felt today.
April 12th Thursday	<b>DUBUQUE AUDUBON PROGRAM: SPRING IN THE DOWNUNDER OF SOUTHEASTERN AUSTRALIA &amp; TASMANIA</b>	EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Hts, Dubuque. 5:00PM– Dubuque Audubon Society Board Meeting 6:00PM– Maggie O’Connell and Sandy Walton will present photos of the variety of bird species and will discuss the issues facing Australia and Tasmania. See the article in the newsletter for more details.
April 22nd Sunday	<b>HERITAGE TRAIL TRASH CLEANUP</b>	1:00PM - 3:00PM Swiss Valley Nature Center, 13606 Swiss Valley Rd, Peosta. Celebrate Earth Day and lend a hand to help clean up the Heritage Trail. We will meet at the Heritage Pond parking lot and split into groups to cover different areas of the trail. Trash bags, grabbers, and gloves will be provided. Come on your own or get a group together and help us keep Heritage Trail clean and beautiful for both users and wildlife.
May 10th Thursday	<b>DUBUQUE AUDUBON PROGRAM: INTERNATIONAL CRANE FOUNDATION</b>	EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Hts, Dubuque. 5:00PM– Dubuque Audubon Society Board Meeting 6:00PM– International Crane Foundation

**Dubuque Audubon Society**

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Dubuque IA 52004-3174

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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.**

- **LOCAL MEMBERSHIP:** 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

- **NATIONAL & LOCAL MEMBERSHIP:** If you wish to become a member of both local and national:

Go to [audubon.org](http://audubon.org)  $\Rightarrow$  Click on "Join"  $\Rightarrow$  "Become a member"

The membership in National is \$20 per year. Any amount you give above that is considered a donation. The National membership automatically gives you membership in the local group in addition to the award winning Audubon magazine. It is a good idea to note the month you joined so you will not be confused by multiple early reminders.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CODE: CIZH700Z

Mail check payable to Dubuque Audubon Society.

Mail to:

**Dubuque Audubon Society**

**PO Box 3174**

**Dubuque, IA 52004-3174**