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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Joe Tollari

Last month in this column, I was looking for signs of spring. I've seen robins; I've heard Red-winged Blackbirds; I've watched the snow disappear. I guess that Spring is here – although I know better than to rule out a late snowfall.

After postponing the event for a week, the Duck Waddle was a success. Bob Walton reminded us that this was the 40th anniversary of the Duck Waddle! There must have been 15 to 20 people participating. The weather cooperated. The winds were light so not much wind-chill. Sunny skies provided good light for viewing. And the temperatures were tolerable - not a bad morning. I haven't been able to tabulate the final list yet, but I know that we saw over 20 species of waterfowl.

Our program for April will be presented by Brian Preston, the Director of the Dubuque County Conservation Board. He will speak on the Barn Owl population in Dubuque County. As you know, the Barn Owl as a species has nearly disappeared from Iowa. However, the population has shown some resiliency in recent years. Brian will speak of the

attempts of this species to establish itself in Dubuque County.

The National Audubon Society will host the national convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this summer. This used to be a major event in "Audubon World." I remember going to conventions in Estes Park, Colorado. They revived the tradition two years ago. They are hoping to have at least one person from every chapter attend. So I am including the invitation in this newsletter.

Join us in Milwaukee for Audubon's biennial convention designed to bring together Audubon's vast network of dedicated chapter, state, center, national, and international leaders from across all four flyways. This can't-miss event will feature an array of inspiring speakers, in-depth workshops and discussions, exciting field trips, and the camaraderie and networking opportunities that only the Audubon Convention can provide. Situated on Lake Michigan, Milwaukee is a beautiful and historic place to gather, learn, and network. The Wisconsin Audubon Council, Milwaukee Audubon Society, Schlitz Audubon Nature Center, and the Audubon Great Lakes team are excited to welcome the whole Audubon network to Milwaukee.

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The Audubon Convention will take place at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center—a beautiful, historic Art Deco hotel centrally located in Milwaukee and a Travel Green Wisconsin-certified business. All activities will take place under one roof, and you will be a short walk from Lake Michigan and numerous parks and attractions.

[Online registration is now open](#), and early-bird tickets at discounted rates will be available until April 14th. For general queries, please contact us at convention@audubon.org.

Want to take a tour of the Harlem murals? New York City Audubon has you covered. Visit 30 installations on a Sunday morning escapade, along with John James Audubon's final resting place. [More details and registration here](#). You can also take a self-guided tour using [our printable map](#). When in New York City, be sure to check out the New-York Historical Society's [Birds of America gallery](#), which now features the mural project along with John James Audubon's original watercolors. And if you're in Chicago, be sure to check out a spin-off project in Rogers Park featuring 13 climate-threatened birds that use habitats in the Chicago region.

If you are an artist and would like to participate in the project, please e-mail: amp@gitlerand.com. Please understand that we receive a large amount of submissions, and not all e-mails can be answered.

Information for this article was reprinted from the *National Audubon Magazine* with permission. For more detailed information visit the National Audubon Society Website: [www. https://www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org)



Where Birds Meet Art . . . After Dark

The Audubon Mural Project is a collaboration between the National Audubon Society and Gitler & Gallery to create murals of climate-threatened birds throughout John James Audubon's old Harlem-based neighborhood in New York City. The project is inspired by the legacy of the great American bird artist and pioneering ornithologist and is energized by Audubon's groundbreaking *Birds and Climate Change Report*, which reveals that at least half of all North American birds are threatened by a warming climate. The project commissions artists to paint murals of each of the report's 314 species and has been widely covered in the media, including *The New York Times*.

[Sponsor A Mural](#)

A special thanks to all of our donors thus far! To find out how you can help or be a sponsor, please email us at muralproject@audubon.org.

OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

If you have questions or comments, please contact us!

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DUBUQUE AUDUBON SOCIETY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April
2019

Save the date: Spring Species Count is May 11th!

<p>FRIDAY April 5th</p>	<p>Woodcock Watch and Owl Prowl</p>	<p>7:30 – 9:00PM. Whitewater Canyon Wildlife Area, 29112 9th Ave, Bernard, Iowa. Join naturalists from Jackson, Jones, and Dubuque County for an evening hike to search for some very special birds! Keep an eye to the skies to witness the American Woodcock perform their sky dance mating ritual and be listening for the hoot of an owl! Dress for the weather and wear your hiking footwear. Meet at parking lot at end of access road.</p>
<p>THURSDAY April 11th</p>	<p>Dubuque Audubon Program: Barn Owls in Dubuque County</p>	<p>EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Hts, Dubuque. 5:00PM– Dubuque Audubon Society Board Meeting 6:00PM– Brian Preston will present a program on Barn Owls in Dubuque County.</p>
<p>SATURDAY April 13th</p>	<p>Trash Clean Up</p>	<p>1:00– 2:30PM. Heritage Trail, Dubuque. Celebrate Earth Day which falls on April 22nd 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. Call 563.556.6745 to let us know you'll be there.</p>
<p>SATURDAY April 20th</p>	<p>Spring Wildflower Walk</p>	<p>10:00 - 11:00AM. Maquoketa Caves State Park, 9688 Caves Rd, Maquoketa. Spring has sprung and the woodlands are blooming with spring flowers. Join Naturalist Tony Vorwald for an enjoyable hike at the park and learn to identify spring woodland wildflowers.</p>
<p>SUNDAY April 28th</p>	<p>Discover Your Park: New Wine Park</p>	<p>1:00 – 3:00PM. New Wine Park, 15971 New Wine Lane, New Vienna. Join other outdoor enthusiasts and explore Dubuque County Conservation parks and nature preserves. The hike may vary from good exercise to a social stroll and will end with snacks and beverages (bring your own). All participants should bring a water bottle and dress for the weather.</p>
<p>THURSDAY May 9th</p>	<p>Dubuque Audubon Program:</p>	<p>EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Hts, Dubuque. 5:00PM– Dubuque Audubon Society Board Meeting 6:00PM– Kelly Grussendorf, from UD, will present a program on the local tick population and its effect on wildlife.</p>

Dubuque Audubon Society

PO Box 3174

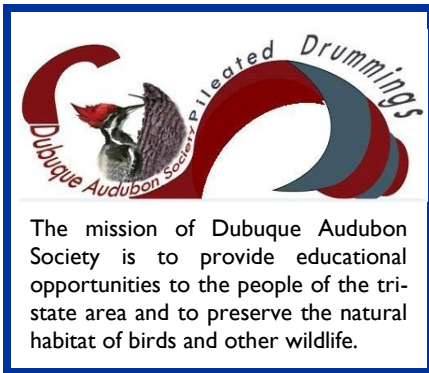
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DUBUQUE AUDUBON SOCIETY

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 Society. 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 ➡ Click on "JOIN" then "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.

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Mail check payable to Dubuque Audubon Society.

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