



JULY 2022

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| President's Corner                    | 1 |
| Officers & Board Members              | 1 |
| Christmas Bird Count                  | 2 |
| Spring Species Bird Count             | 2 |
| Calendar of Events                    | 3 |
| Membership & Renewal Application Form | 4 |

## OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

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

**President:** Ken Kiss  
**V-Pres.:** Jim Oleson  
**Secretary:** Wayne Buchholtz  
**Treasurer:** Maggie O'Connell;  
*Co-: Stormy Mochal*  
**At-Large Board Members:**  
*Craig Kruse Joe Tollari*  
*Lalith Jayawickrama Bob Walton*  
**Field Trips:** Tony Moline  
**Membership:** Ken Kiss 563-556-0156  
**Newsletter:** Michele Zuercher  
**Conservation:** Charlie Winterwood 563-588-2783  
**Iowa Audubon Liaison:** Bob Walton 563-495-0591  
**Web Master:** Jan Friedman-  
 janfrdmn@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.audubondubuque.org  
**Email:** [audubondubuque@gmail.com](mailto:audubondubuque@gmail.com)  
 & [FB link](#)

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Ken Kiss

The Audubon Board members will be planning programs for the next fall, winter, and spring in August or September. We normally have no programs in the summer. We welcome suggestions on what types of programs you would like to see. Also, we welcome members that would like to serve on the board. You can contact me if you want additional information about joining the board (Ken Kiss, 563-556-0156, [1976kiteman@gmail.com](mailto:1976kiteman@gmail.com)). Programs will start at 6:30 pm on the second Thursdays of the month at E.B. Lyons. Note that local chapter dues are due starting in July. (National members are automatically enrolled in our local chapter.) You can use the attached form at the end of this newsletter to pay your dues or pay them in the fall when our programs start. It also would be helpful if you return the form to make sure we have your current address and email. I noticed when I send out emails that I get a lot of undeliverable notices. Also, let me know if you want hard copies of our newsletter or just an email copy.

Our spring bird species count was held on May 7, 2022. For this, count members spend part or all of the day observing and recording species in their favorite birding areas. We then get together for a picnic to tabulate the results. This year we tabulated 123 species. Some of the migrating warblers we normally see showed up a few days later (May 8-10). I saw my first Blackburnian Warbler the next day after our event.

One of my favorite birds is the Great Horned Owl. There is a nest I follow at the Mines of Spain that a pair of Owls usually utilize. I am happy to report that this year two owlets



were successfully raised. Last year they either didn't nest or found a different location. This makes 3 out of 4 years that two owlets have been raised. The only thing unusual this year was the owls started nesting several weeks later than normal.

Again, this year I am monitoring Bluebird houses in the Mines of Spain. If anyone is interested in learning about Bluebirds and sharing in this monitoring program, let me know. I would be happy to teach you about the process. There are 25 Bluebird houses throughout the park. Another cavity nester that uses these boxes is the Tree Swallow. Near E.B. Lyons, the cavity bird nesting trail has been refurbished. This short trail displays some of the typical cavity nesting birdhouses. With the help of my wood working friend, we rebuilt these birdhouses and Dubuque Conservation Commission provided the cedar wood.

What projects has the Dubuque Audubon been doing? This summer four members have been monitoring the prairie birds at Whitewater Canyon. We set up six monitoring locations and took bird surveys every two weeks for two months. We are interested to find out if we see any Bobolinks, Henslow's Sparrows, and Grasshopper Sparrows. It seems like these species were more prevalent at Whitewater in the past. We have yet to tabulate the results.

On May 14, 2022, I attended the Birding Field Day by the Phil Specht family at their farm, northwest of Marquette, IA. The Specht family has set up a conservation easement to protect this grassland for birds. They manage the grazing of his Holstein cattle to protect the land.



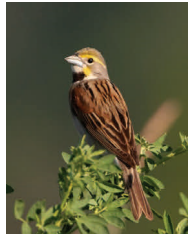
PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Continued from Page 1

There is an established wildlife management area that you can walk in and observe birds. The Bobolink was especially numerous in this managed grassland. Reading and seeing the Bobolink got me thinking about the fascinating migration of some birds. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology has the following facts:



- The Bobolink is one of the world's most impressive songbird migrants, traveling some 12,500 miles (20,000 kilometers) to and from southern South America every year. Throughout its lifetime, it may travel the equivalent of 4 or 5 times around the circumference of the earth. A migrating Bobolink can orient itself with the earth's magnetic field, thanks to iron oxide in bristles of its nasal cavity and in tissues around the olfactory bulb and nerve. Bobolinks also use the starry night sky to guide their travels.



Another bird you might see in the prairie is the Dickcissel. It also is a long-range migrant to the northern part of South America. A good place to observe Dickcissel and Bobolinks in Dubuque is near the NW Arterial behind Blain's and the movie theater (get there before they mow the grass in early summer).

The Iowa DNR is participating in a new method of tracking migrating birds. They have installed five automated radio telemetry receivers as part of the Motus Wildlife Tracking Network. Radio transmitters (tags deployed on the wildlife that emit a radio signal) using two specific radio frequencies are micro-coded so thousands of unique individuals can be identified. The purpose of this system is to collect data on bird migration or other wildlife. The receiver stations will be permanent fixtures, always listening for tagged wildlife in Iowa. This lays the ground work for future research on the movements and migrations of Iowa's birds and bats.

122nd CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT Jan. 2nd, 2022

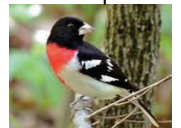
Table listing bird species for the 122nd Christmas Bird Count on Jan. 2nd, 2022. Includes species like Cackling Goose, Canada Goose, Trumpeter Swan, Tundra Swan, Gadwall, Mallard, Northern Shoveler, Canvasback, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Wild Turkey, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Bald Eagle, Red-tailed Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Eastern Screech-Owl, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, (Yellow-shafted) American Kestrel, Blue Jay, American Crow, Horned Lark, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Eastern Bluebird, European Starling, Lapland Longspur.

122nd CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT, continued

Table listing bird species and counts for the 122nd Christmas Bird Count. Includes American Tree Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco (Slate-colored), White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Northern Cardinal, Red-winged Blackbird, House Finch, American Goldfinch, House Sparrow, Total Individuals 4276, Total Species Reported 53.

SPRING SPECIES COUNT May 7th, 2022

Table listing bird species for the Spring Species Count on May 7th, 2022. Includes Canada Goose, Trumpeter Swan, Wood Duck, Gadwall, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Hooded Merganser, Ring-necked Pheasant, Wild Turkey, Common Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Horned Grebe, Eared Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, American White Pelican, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Cattle Egret, Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Sora, American Coot, Sandhill Crane, American Golden Plover, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Least Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, American Woodcock, Wilson's Phalarope, Rig-billed Gull, Herring Gull, Caspian Tern, Rock Pigeon, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Mourning Dove, Eastern Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, American Kestrel, Peregrine Falcon, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Bell's Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, American Crow, Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Nor. Rough-winged Swallow, Bank Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Winter Wren, Carolina Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Bluebird, Swanson's Thrust, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing, Northern Waterthrush, Blue-winged Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Cerulean Warbler, Northern Parula, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Palm Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Song Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Baltimore Oriole, House Finch, Purple Finch, Eurasian Tree Sparrow.





**D**UBUQUE AUDUBON SOCIETY  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**SUMMER...2022**

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <p><b>Sunday</b><br/><b>July 24</b></p>          | <p><b>Kids<br/>In<br/>Nature</b></p>                  | <p>10:30 AM – 1:30 PM. EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Heights. Enjoy exploring a nature theme with a naturalist. This event normally includes environmental education, exploration, crafts, songs, and more! The Kinds in Nature is geared towards children ages 3- 7 but all ages are welcome. This is not a drop-off program as parents and chaperones are required to stay and encouraged to participate. Register on <a href="#">Eventbrite</a> (DCCB). Additional event: 8.7.22 10 AM NEW WINE PARK</p>   |
| <p><b>Wednesday</b><br/><b>July 27th</b></p>     | <p><b>Prairie<br/>STRIPS<br/>Field Day</b></p>        | <p>5:30 PM - 7:30 PM. Dave Gossman's Farm, 19502 159th St., Zwingle, IA 52079. The public is invited to attend an open house event and learn more about the Prairie Strips program through ISU. Iowa Learning Farms, ISU, JCCB, Sand County Foundation will be there to share more information about opportunities to incorporate prairie plantings on your land. Free supper will be provided. Be prepared to walk a short distance to see different examples of prairie plantings on the farm. Please call to place your reservation. Register at least 48 hours before event. Call (563) 652-3783 or email <a href="mailto:jmeyer@jacksoncounty.iowa.gov">jmeyer@jacksoncounty.iowa.gov</a> to register.</p> |
| <p><b>Wednesday</b><br/><b>August 10th</b></p>   | <p><b>Neil Smith<br/>Wildlife<br/>Refuge Trip</b></p> | <p>10:00 AM. Explore the tallgrass prairie and see bison at Neil Smith Wildlife Refuge in Prairie City! Carpooling from nature centers at 7 AM. <a href="#">Full details here</a>. Register 48 hours in advance. Email Jen Meyer at <a href="mailto:jmeyer@jacksoncounty.iowa.gov">jmeyer@jacksoncounty.iowa.gov</a>.</p>   |
| <p><b>Thursday</b><br/><b>August 18th</b></p>    | <p><b>OWLS<br/>Hamilton<br/>Prairie Hike</b></p>      | <p>6 PM - 7:30 PM. Join Dubuque, Jackson, and Jones County Conservation OWLS (Older Wiser Livelier Souls) group as we explore the natural beauty of Hamilton prairie. We will explore Ray Hamilton's prairie located at the corner of Codfish Hollow Road and 288th Ave Maquoketa, IA. To register call (563) 652-3783 or email <a href="mailto:tony@jacksonccb.com">tony@jacksonccb.com</a>. The OWLS group is free and open to any adult.</p>   |
| <p><b>Thursday</b><br/><b>September 1st</b></p>  | <p><b>Sunset<br/>Paddle:<br/>Mud Lake</b></p>         | <p>6:00 PM. Mud Lake Park, 22312 Golf Lake Rd, Dubuque. Join us for a paddle on the Mississippi River backwaters while seeing wildlife and enjoying the colors of the sunset. This will be an out-and-back paddle that will be about 2 miles long. Limited number of kayaks are available. Register on <a href="#">Eventbrite</a> (Dubuque County Conservation Board).</p>  |
| <p><b>Saturday</b><br/><b>September 10th</b></p> | <p><b>Monarch<br/>Tagging:<br/>Swiss Valley</b></p>   | <p>11:30 AM. Swiss Valley Nature Center. 13606 Swiss Valley Rd, Peosta. Learn about one of the world's most talked-about butterflies and what makes them so unique! We will also try our hand at catching and tagging monarchs as they migrate to their winter home in Mexico. Come prepared to move around and have some fun! Long pants are recommended as you might be chasing butterflies into the tallgrass prairie. This event is great for families! Additional events: Proving Grounds Sept.12. 5PM; Whitewater Sept. 16, 5PM</p>   |

**Dubuque Audubon Society**

PO Box 3174

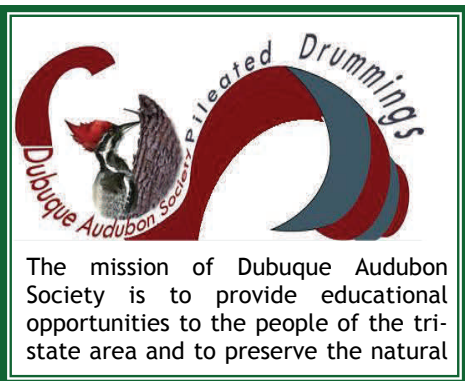
Dubuque IA 52004-3174

Non-Profit Organization

US Postage Paid

Dubuque, IA 52001

Permit # 459



**DUBUQUE AUDUBON SOCIETY**

**NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & RENEWAL FORM**

*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 4 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     *Pileated Drummings* sent by way of:  E-mail or  Postal mail

**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.

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

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

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

CODE: CIZH200Z

Mail check payable to Dubuque Audubon Society.     Mail to:

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