



Presidents Message

Next Meeting

January 11, 2018
7:00 p.m. Social Time
7:30 p.m. Speaker

Faith Lutheran Church
41 N. Park Blvd. Glen Ellyn
Basement

6:00 p.m. Pre-meeting dinner
Panera Bread
751 Roosevelt Rd. Glen Ellyn

NOTE NEW LOCATION

Winter is upon us, and Chicago winters are legendary. However, there are worse places for the weather. Some years ago, my son and I went to Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada one February weekend, to see the Aurorae Borealis. It was forty below and the wind was howling when we got there. The only birds to be seen were Ravens, and the weather was so bad they were walking. I asked Bob, our guide, how people could stand to live in such a place, with such awful weather. He said you had to get out, embrace the weather. If you stayed indoors, you'd go nuts. It's the same here in Chicago—you must get out, and birding is a great excuse! We've just finished the annual Christmas Count. This year the weather wasn't so bad—there've been years when there was ice and snow and much colder temperatures. But no matter what, it's important to quantify the health of our bird flocks, but more importantly, a good reason to get outside and have some fun, joining with other birders, looking at birds.

The Club has other winter opportunities, too. We have many field trips, even in the winter months. There are many beautiful birds that winter here. And, the many Forest Preserves of DuPage and nearby counties are open all year around. So let's get out and embrace our winters!

And, although the day we arrived in Yellowknife offered no opportunities to see the Aurorae, the next two nights were calm, crystal clear, and only twenty below. And the Aurorae were spectacular. I got some good pictures, too, until the film froze in my camera...

John Baker
President

January Meeting

Understanding disease outbreaks in wildlife:
what we can learn from studying wild birds

Molly Staley, Brookfield Zoo

The talk will focus on House Finch eye diseases but will incorporate information on other bird diseases as well. Find out how birders' field observations assist this important research.

Molly Staley is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Brookfield Zoo. She received her graduate training in the Biological Sciences at Auburn University in Alabama. Dr. Staley began her career at Iowa State University, where she worked as a research assistant in the field of avian physiological ecology and aging. Having varied interests, Dr. Staley concurrently sought out an opportunity to work in molecular virology and study arboviruses. From there, Dr. Staley accepted a one-year fellowship through the Cellular and Molecular Biosciences Program at Auburn University, which provided an opportunity to build skills through research rotations. Collectively, these experiences enabled Dr. Staley to take novel, multi-disciplinary approaches to her graduate research on emerging infectious diseases of wild birds. As a member of the Animal Welfare Team, Dr. Staley draws upon her uniquely diverse expertise to help develop and implement laboratory tools that can be used to inform us all on animal welfare.

News from the Wacky World of the Web

Wisdom the Oldest Known Albatross Is Expecting (Again)

Smithsonian

The Laysan albatross is now 67 years old and is thought to have raised 30 to 35 chicks in her lifetime [Read the full story](#)

Bizarre Amazon Rainforest Bird Species Discovered to Be Extremely Rare Hybrid

Newsweek

This bird is the first known hybrid species of its kind. [Read the full story](#)

This one I found interesting as I recognized many of the scenes when visiting my daughter. We had looked for the birds without success.

A wild parrot safari ... in Brooklyn?

CNN

A number of wild parrots were shipped to New York in the 1960's destined for pet stores. Many escaped and their descendents live in the trees of Brooklyn as CNN's Richard Roth discovered. [Read the full story](#)

January 2018 Field Trips

NOTE: Check [DuPageBirding.org](http://www.dupagebirding.org) for any trip changes, additions or cancellations. This is more likely with winter weather.

This month is the time to see winter birds. Some species are only seen this time of year. We are offering a variety of field trips. There are opportunities for all types of birders to participate and enjoy the season. We encourage everyone to enjoy birding in a safe manner, wear proper warm clothing and winter footwear. These trips are also listed on our DBC website at <http://www.dupagebirding.org/>.

Sunday, January 7, time TBD

Winter Ramble (Pre-registration required)

Time and location to be determined. We will meet at the Bolingbrook Park & Ride for carpooling. Weather may determine targets for the trip. Email trip leader by January 6th for more information.

Leader: Jeff Smith cell: 331-481-3362, mrqmagoo13@gmail.com

Sunday, January 14, 9:00 am

Starved Rock Dam, LaSalle Co. (Pre-registration Required no later than January 12)

We will check the Illinois Waterways Lock 7 Dam for eagles, gulls, and waterfowl. If conditions are right, we will check the LaSalle Co. area for possible Snowy Owls, other raptors, field birds, longspurs, and buntings. Be sure to bring walkie-talkies and scopes if you have them. Dress warmly. Directions: Take I-80 west, exit Utica (IL-178) south. Go through Utica to Dee Bennett Rd. (just before the river) and turn left (east) and continue to the Visitor Center for the dam on your right. Please pre-register by Friday, January 12 (the trip may be cancelled in the event of inclement weather and driving conditions).

Leaders: Bob and Karen Fisher 630-985-2956, KFisher928@aol.com

Sunday, January 21, 3:00 pm

Pratt's Wayne Woods

We will be looking for winter residents. Dress for the cold. Meet at the dog/model airplane parking lot east of Powis Road, as far as you can drive in on the forest preserve road. The entrance on the east side of Powis Road is just north of Army Trail Road and south of Sterns Road.

Leader: Kyle Wiktor 708-506-5186 kylewiktor@msn.com

Friday, January 26, 8:00 am

Fullersburg Woods Forest Preserve, Oak Brook

This will be a walk for new birders. We will walk slowly and allow time for all to look at the birds. We will walk along the Salt River in the lowland woods with good habitat for birds. Meet at the main parking lot on Spring Road in Oak Brook.

Leader: Nancy Allured, nallured@gmail.com

Saturday, January 27, 8:00 am

Des Plaines River, Will County

There are birds for viewing in the winter. We will take our traditional January tour of the Des Plaines River between Romeoville and Joliet. We will be looking for waterfowl and whatever else we can find. We will meet at the Park lot on Old Chicago Drive just east of IL Rt. 53 (behind the Ramada) about 1/4 mile south of I-55 in Bolingbrook. Dress warmly and be prepared for windy conditions.

Leader: Jeff Smith, 331-481-3362, mrqmagoo13@gmail.com

Other Birding Opportunities For additional birding opportunities check out the **Illinois Birding Calendar** at <http://www.illinoisbirds.org/calendar/>

Call us if you have questions about the trips or if you would like to lead a trip. Leaders do not have to be birding experts, just familiar with the location. There is no need to register for trips ***unless otherwise indicated***. Visitors are always welcome. We do not charge fees for birding trips. Field trip information is also found at: www.dupagebirding.org

Field Trip Coordinators

Jessica Becker

Nancy Allured

DBCFieldTrips@gmail.com

DuPage Birding Club

The club exists to provide fun and camaraderie between birders of all skill levels and ages while enjoying some serious birding experiences.

Member Benefits include:

- Meetings featuring regional and national speakers • Field Trips throughout the year
- Informative Club Website
- Illinois Spring Bird Count
- Christmas Bird Count
- DuPage County Checklist
- Lending Library of bird-related videos & books • Biennial Auction of birding items

Contact Us at:

President: John Baker JBaker@DuPageBirding.org

Vice President, Programs: Pat Eggleston PEggleston@DuPageBirding.org

Send your articles and photos to chipnotes2013@gmail.com for inclusion in **DRUMMINGS**.

DuPage Birding Club
P.O. Box 3381
Glen Ellyn, IL 60138

First Class



2018 Meetings

January 11

March 8

April ??

July 12

September 13

October 11

November 8