



President's Message

I hope you all had a great holiday season. A number of us participated in the annual Christmas Bird Counts that took place in the later part of December. The weather was mostly cooperative and we made it through the count days with no problems. If you never have participated in the CBC's, it is a great opportunity to meet new people, sharpen your birding skills, see new birds, and have fun with your fellow birders while performing a vital function in the tracking of birds in the Illinois region. If you have never participated, I would like to suggest that you consider it for future bird counts. You need not be an expert birder to take part in these events.

Here it is January 2017 already and I hope you are ready for a fantastic birding season. We will be kicking off the new year with our first DuPage Bird Club meeting on January 12th. Information can be found on the website or page 2 of this newsletter. Stop by and say hello as I would like to get to know my fellow birders.

Finally, the annual gull frolic is right around the corner. This year's event takes place on February 11th 2017 at North Point Marina in Winthrop Harbor. Start time is 9:30 AM. There will be educational programs on birds and birding information you can use. The registration fee is \$15.00 and you can register at Illinoisbirds.org/16th-annual-gullfrolic/. Participation is limited to 150 people.

Thanks, and we'll see you in the field.

Stan Zatarski

Next Meeting

January 12, 2017
7:00 p.m. Social Time
7:30 p.m. Speaker

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

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

January Meeting Program

Birding Indiana Dunes

Brad Bumgardner, Interpretive Naturalist at Indiana Dunes State Park

The Indiana Dunes is the top spot in Indiana for bird watching. It's one of the best spots on Lake Michigan and one of the top three sites in the Midwest for birding. Just like in real estate, good birding is all about location, location and location. The Indiana Dunes' location at the southern tip of Lake Michigan creates a "funnel effect," funneling birds along the shoreline as they migrate. And even in the winter, when birders put up their binoculars in other parts of the Midwest, dunes birders are rewarded with sights like snowy owls.

Our speaker has worked for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources for fifteen years. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Purdue University. Brad serves as the station coordinator for the popular saw-whet owl banding station in the Indiana Dunes and currently serves as past president of the Indiana Audubon Society and chair for the fast-growing Indiana Dunes Birding Festival.



Break out the winter gear and scopes as tis the season for waterfowl and gulls.



January 2017 Field Trips

The coming months are the time to see winter birds. Some species are only seen this time of year. We are offering many 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/>.

Dress warmly and be prepared for winter weather.

Friday, January 6, 4:15 pm-Pre-registration Required no later than January 3

Fermilab Species Spotlight: Short-eared Owl

The 'Fermilab Species Spotlight' features uncommon birds or those particularly unique to Fermilab. January highlights the Short-eared Owl, a crepuscular species of owl that hunts Fermilab's grasslands. Because we will be entering non-public areas of the lab, REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED at minimum three days ahead of time. Upon registration, additional details will be disclosed.

Leader: Glenn Perricone, 630-687-2921, gp_arts39@yahoo.com

Saturday, January 7, 7:30 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: Urs Geiser 630-310-9443 ugeiser@comcast.net

Saturday, January 7, 7:30 am

McKee Marsh, Warrenville

Join our morning walk around the marsh to check out winter birds and waterfowl. Meet at the visitor parking lot on the north side of Mack Rd., located between Winfield Rd. and Rt. 59 in Warrenville. Most of our walk will be on limestone and earthen trails; wear appropriate shoes and clothing.

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

Sunday, January 8, 9:00 am

Southern DuPage Birding Tour

We will bird along the southern edge of DuPage County from Waterfall Glen to Greene Valley and places in between. We may even sneak south of the border looking for local winter specialties such as shrikes, owls, finches, etc. Meet at Waterfall Glen at the intersection of Bluff Rd. and Cass Ave. (Cass Ave. south of I-55). Dress warmly and be prepared for winter weather.

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

Sunday, January 15, 9:00 am

Starved Rock Dam (LaSalle Co.)- Pre-registration Required no later than January 13

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 13 (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

Saturday, January 21 8:00 am

York Woods FP, Oakbrook

This will be a walk for new birders. We will walk slowly and allow time for all to look at the birds. York Woods Forest Preserve is the oldest forest preserve in the county. This is a small preserve with a less than a mile loop trail. Its marshland, oak woodlands, and floodplain forest provide good habitat for birds. New birders are welcomed to this site with paved trails. On past trips we have had good looks at winter sparrows and a noisy Carolina Wren. Meet at the parking lot off Harger Road.

Leader: Lesa Hipes 630-689-7463 lesahipes@gmail.com

Sunday, January 22, 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

Thursday January 26, 4:20 pm

Know Your Neighborhood: Bensenville

The first of twelve 'Know Your Neighborhood' trips, exploring hidden gems, odd and under-birded hot spots in DuPage County, we will be checking O'Hare Airport for Snowy Owl and other winter birds. Meet at the Bensenville McDonalds on Irving Park Rd. two blocks west of York Rd. where we will consolidate vehicles. We will leave promptly at 4:30 pm. We should be back no later than 5:30 pm.

Leader: Glenn Perricone, 630-687-2921, gp_arts39@yahoo.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

Joan Campbell

peachjmc@gmail.com

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 dbcboard@gmail.com

President : Stan Zatarski

Vice President, Programs : John Baker

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

2017 Members' Night Call for Presenters

DuPage Birding Club "2017 Members' Night" is Thursday, March 9, 2017, and all DuPage Birding Club photographers are invited to share your best bird photos with your fellow members. The photos can be from any birding location. You needn't be an ace photographer to participate.

Each member presentation is limited to 10 minutes, so pick the very best 15–20 images to share. We will only have time to show approximately 10 presentations and first come, first served. Help us share your best photographic moments with the rest of the club.

STEP 1

Coordinate submission with John Baker by e-mail, JBaker@DuPageBirding.org. Please include Presenter's Name, Presentation Title, Number of pictures or slides (not including titles and separators), and a paragraph describing the proposed presentation.

STEP 2

Upload submissions to the Membership/Upload Files webpage on the Club Website <http://www.dupagebirding.org/upload-files> by **February 23, 2017**.

The Dropbox will accept files up to 100 Mbytes, which should work for everyone. However, if there are any problems encountered, please e-mail Dale Kalina at DaleK@DuPageBirding.org. He will help with alternative submission possibilities.

We will load all files onto a Dell PC laptop. The club projector is a NEC with standard VGA cable.

Submission Requirements:

Two acceptable formats for Photo Submission are:

- Windows Photo Viewer (sequenced photos)
- PowerPoint

If you are submitting image files for use with Photo Viewer, name the files so that the numeric or alphabetical order of the file names corresponds to the order in which you want to display the images.

Note to Mac Users

- All JPEG files must have extensions .jpg.
- All PowerPoint presentations must have extensions .ppt or .pptx
- Be aware that the PC will substitute some fonts; don't use any exotic fonts; don't rely on exact placement of lettering.

If you must include sound or movies as part of your presentation, please bring your own equipment to ensure that the external files are all in the correct locations. (Please check in with Dale Kalina).

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

First Class



2017 Meetings

January 12

March 9

April 6

May 11

July 13

September 14

October 12

November 9

The photocopying of this newsletter is done through the generosity of the Birches Assisted Living Facility in Clarendon Hills. DuPage Birding Club sincerely appreciates the Birches' continued support.