



President's Message

It seems like such a short time ago that we were all talking about the spring migration and the warmer weather that accompanies spring. Summer was a blur and fall has arrived, and with it, the much anticipated fall migration. Last year we had abundant rainfall and the shore birds and passerines had plenty of places to quench their thirst and bathe. This year, we have been in an extended drought and many of the wetlands and fluddles are dried up. Our water levels have dropped, and hopefully the much needed rains will arrive soon to help the birds on their journey to their winter homes. Reports and postings of fall migration species have begun to come in and many members have been trekking to various areas to find their targeted species. I hope you are having good luck with your quests.

With the advent of fall, the annual hawk watch is underway by a group of dedicated volunteers at the Greene Valley Forest Preserve in DuPage County, Fort Sheridan Forest Preserve and Illinois Beach State Park. The Hawkwatches will continue until the end of November. If you are interested in participating, DBC will have a field trip outing to the Greene Valley site on October 22nd. See the field trip guide for more information. There are additional field trips planned for migratory bird outings so see the field trip guide for those also.

Our Auction committee has been working feverishly to bring you the best ever auction on October 12th. Look for the special notifications in the Drummings and an email blast coming soon with a listing of all of the auction items available.

Have a great October.

Stan Zatarski

Next Meeting

Oct. 12, 2017
6:15 p.m.
Auction Night

Cantigny Park
1 S 151 Winfield Rd.
(South of Roosevelt Rd)

See page 2 for details!

Don't Miss This!
DBC's 2017 Auction and Fundraiser
October 12

Mark your calendar, and plan to attend the club's fundraising auction on Thursday, October 12! It'll be a fun night at Cantigny Park and a very important night for our club. Cantigny Park is located on Winfield Road, south of Roosevelt, at 1S151. Parking is free for this evening event.

Support YOUR club and all that we do!

The auction, held every other year, is DBC's only major fundraising activity and your chance to support the excellent programs you enjoy as a member. We've kept dues low so that more members can enjoy our speakers, field trips, spring and winter bird counts, lending library, and other benefits. Auction proceeds enable us to keep it all going AND allow us to give something back to the birds and the organizations that help conserve them. This year, part of the proceeds of the auction will go to assist a project at Fermilab: to construct a birding observation platform along the east shore of A.E. Sea to allow better viewing of the lake and birds while protecting the shoreline.

What will you go home with?

Live Auction:

Not knowing is part of the fun! This is your chance to bid on a wide range of birding items donated by merchants, DBC members, and conservation-related organizations. Look for original artwork, photographs, feeders, bird houses, seed, memberships, subscriptions, apparel, birding books, software, and gadgets. You can even win a personal field trip led by one of DBC's or other local expert birders!

Birder's Bazaar:

Please come early, **6:15 p.m.**, to survey the live-auction merchandise and browse the always popular "Birder's Bazaar." Tables around the room will be loaded with items priced at \$1, \$3, \$5, \$10, or >\$10. You're sure to find great deals on gently-used books, art, and birding knick-knacks.

Raffle:

Finally, you'll love the DBC Raffle. You'll get a free ticket when you register and get your bid number. Then you can improve your chances by purchasing a few additional tickets. Winners will get to **choose** from a wide array of new merchandise and gift certificates. Bring a friend who's not a club member and you get an extra raffle ticket!

Did we mention the CASH BAR?

That's another good reason to arrive early! Cantigny's famous fresh-baked cookies will be served, too, free of charge.

Donations

We are not collecting and storing items for the Birder's Bazaar ahead of time this year. Instead, you are encouraged to bring gently-used items for the Birder's Bazaar tables directly to Cantigny on October 12, but **PLEASE** arrive early if doing so, **between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m.** Please attach your name to the item, box, or bag you bring and include a list with a VERY brief description for each item and which table (\$1, \$3, \$5, \$10, or >\$10) you think it should go on to help our volunteers place items on the \$\$ tables. *Please do not bring used bird houses, bird baths, or feeders.*

See you on Auction Night!

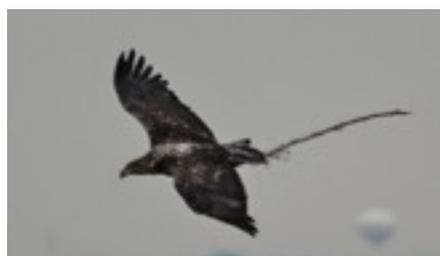
The fun begins at 7 p.m. Please arrive early to register, preview the auction items, and browse the Birder's Bazaar. Live bidding commences at 7:30 p.m., starting with The Thumb Warmer!

Your 2017 Auction Committee: John Baker, Diann Bilderback, Davida Kalina, Vera Miller, Kathy Mineck, Jeff Reiter, and Stan Zatarski

Greene Valley Hawkwatch September Summary



Our twelfth season on the hill has got off to a slow start with too many days of unfavorable winds. We tallied below average numbers for all species with the exception of Mississippi Kite (2) and Swainson's Hawk (1) both of which are rarities for the hawkwatch. Broad-winged Hawks (56) were a big disappointment after recording 4266 of them last September. We are hoping for some better winds in October to push some Golden Eagles and Northern Goshawks our way. We have already begun to see American Pipits and Lapland Longspurs feeding on the lawn in front of us. Soon Snow Buntings will be joining them. It is not too late to join in on the fun. The hill is open to the public Saturdays and Sundays from 11 am to 6 pm through the end of October. See the field trips page for information regarding the Oct. 22 trip to the hawkwatch.



News from the Wacky World of the Web

Living With 80,000 Birds

Great Big Story

Resting on a steep hill on the island of San Pascual, Philippines, is a house that's home to one man and 80,000 birds. These tiny black-and-brown birds are known as "swiftlets," and they're a hot commodity in the country. Their nests are formed from hardened saliva, the very special ingredient used to make bird's nest soup, a Filipino delicacy. So, when the little creatures began to infiltrate his home, Eddie "Macoy" Espares welcomed them — he even gave them a floor in his house. And, despite [Read the full story](#)

This Amazing Dog Helps to Save Endangered Parrots

National Geographic

Ajax is a highly-trained border collie who helps locate New Zealand's endangered kea. [Read the full story](#)

October 2017 Field Trips

NOTE: Check DuPageBirding.org for any trip changes, additions or cancellations.

The fall months are the time for birds to begin their migration southward. There are opportunities for all types of birders to participate and enjoy the season. We are offering a variety of field trips both during the week and on weekends.

Situations sometimes change. Check our DBC website ([DuPage Birding Club](http://DuPageBirdingClub.com)) for the latest on trips. Participants are welcome to contact the trip leader if they have questions including additional driving directions. Participants, remember that weather and trail conditions can be variable. Biting insects can still be present. Please dress accordingly and bring insect repellent. We expect everyone to enjoy birding in a safe manner by being careful and prudent.

Sunday, October 1, 7:00 am

Fermilab Species Spotlight: Amodramus Sparrows (Pre-registration required)

Come celebrate Fermilab's 50th anniversary with a bird walk! We will be searching the site for LeConte's and Nelson's Sparrows. Because we will be entering non-public areas, REGISTRATION is REQUIRED at least two days in advance for the limited number of participants allotted.

*DISCLAIMER: This will be an advanced level trip with difficult bird ID and rough terrain covered.

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

Sunday, October 1, 8:00 am

Hidden Lake, Downers Grove

This is a walk for those new to birding. We will go slowly and take time for everyone to see the birds. This is a great preserve with a mix of habitats. The entrance to Hidden Lake is located on Rt. 53, just south of Butterfield Rd. Meet in the southern end of parking lot, near trail head.

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

Wednesday, October 4, 7:30 am

Morton Arboretum, Lisle

We will be looking again for sparrows, warblers and other migrating passerines. Meet at parking lot #13 on the east side. Parking Lot #13 is across the main road from Big Rock. The Arboretum is located just north of I-88 off Rte. 53 in Lisle. The Arboretum has a per person charge for nonmembers. On Wednesday's it's \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors over 65. Note: the Arboretum does not open its gates until 7:00 am

Leaders: Marcia & Lee Nye, 630-605-6374, warbler4908@gmail.com

Friday, October 6, 5:00 pm

Know Your Neighborhood, Downers Grove

The tenth of twelve 'Know Your Neighborhood' trips, exploring hidden gems, odd and under-birded hot spots in DuPage County, we will explore Belmont Prairie Nature Preserve in search of fall migrants. Meet at the Walnut Park parking lot on Walnut Ave, the first southbound street off of Ogden Ave. east of I355. We will be walking on earthen trails, so dress appropriately.

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

Saturday, October 7, 8:00 am

Salt Creek Forest Preserve, Wood Dale

Salt Creek Park is a 92-acre preserve comprised of upland forest and floodplain woods along Salt Creek. The Forest Preserve District has conducted extensive restoration efforts in recent years. This under-birded preserve hosts mature oaks and hickories that offer important habitat to resident and migratory birds. Ron is a bird monitor and has recorded over 100 species at Salt Creek Park. The walk will be conducted on mowed turf trails that can be wet/muddy depending on recent weather. Plan accordingly. The preserve entrance is on Elizabeth Dr. just east of Addison Rd. Meet at the picnic shelter.

Leader: Ron Skleney, Lynys2859@yahoo.com

Sunday, October 8, 7:30 am

Oakhurst Forest Preserve, Aurora

Oakhurst F.P. is a 450-acre island on the east side of Aurora. Its varied habitats include a 70-acre lake-marsh complex, a mature forest, and sections of old field succession of varying ages. It is on the Kane-DuPage line, four miles south of Fermi and three miles from Big Woods Forest Preserve. Website: <http://www.kaneforest.com/ForestPreserveView.aspx?ID=35> Go west on New York St., past the mall to Eola Rd. Go south on Eola to McCoy Drive, then west on McCoy, which becomes 5th in Kane County, to the entrance of the preserve on the north side of the street. Meet in lower lot by boat launch. A Greek Church is south of the preserve, which you do not want to go past. Most of the driving described above is through subdivisions, so when you find trees, you are at the Preserve.

Leader: Terry Murray, 630-896-3219, Tamurray@msn.com

Thursday, October 12, 8:00-10:30 am

Whalon Lake, Naperville

Target birds are Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow and LeConte's Sparrow, shorebirds, and waterfowl. Meet at the picnic shelter near the first parking lot by the shallow wetlands and dog park. Wear water-proof shoes for one grassy trail, much of the time we will be on pavement.

Leader: Vicky Sroczynski, 630-297-9512, vsroczynski@comcast.net

Saturday, October 14, 7:00 am

Glacial Park and Other Hot Spots, McHenry County (Pre-registration required)

This is an all-day trip (we hope to return between 3:00-4:00 pm). We will meet in the parking lot of Juicy O, Downers Grove, on the NW corner of Finley and Butterfield Roads near the Duluth Trading Store (in the Main Street Square mall). From there we will car pool to McHenry County. The driving time is over one hour. Planned stops include Glacial Park and dams along the Fox River, but the exact itinerary will be determined on the day of the trip. We'll look for birds in a variety of habitats. The timing in mid October should produce some good waterfowl and sparrows. Wear appropriate clothing and shoes, and bring insect repellent. We plan to have lunch at a nearby location before returning. **Please contact one of the leaders if you plan to attend.**

Leaders: John Cebula, 630-858-3767, joceb2005@sbcglobal.net (birding day cell 630-640-2721)
Bob and Jean Spitzer, 630-790-4842 (birding day cell 630-222-3307, bobspitzer!@msn.com)

Saturday, October 14, 7:30 am

Cantigny Park, Wheaton

Cantigny started a birding program in 2008 and offers regular walks on the 500-acre property. Please bear in mind that 25 or more birders is common. Enter through the main gate on Winfield Road (just south of Roosevelt Rd.) and tell the attendant you are with the bird walk. Parking is free. Meet at the Visitors Center.

Leader: Jeff Reiter, jreiter@wordsonbirds.com

Tuesday, October 17, 8:00 am

Herrick Lake Forest Preserve, Wheaton

We will meet at the Butterfield Road parking lot, at the Boat Rental building. Here is the official DuPage County Forest Preserve link for driving directions:

http://www.dupageforest.org/Herrick_Lake_Map.aspx

There are restrooms and water available at the start of the walk. We will walk on marked trails and bird various ecosystems: woodland, aquatic, wetland and prairie looking for fall migrants and residents.

Leader: Laurel Salvador 630-344-9803, laurelsalvador@gmail.com

Sunday, October 22, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Greene Valley FP Hawk Watch, Part 2, Naperville

Join the Hawk Watch Team in recording raptor observations from DuPage County's 2nd highest point. Mid-October is peak migration for many raptors. This can be a good time to see Golden Eagles and Northern Goshawks soaring overhead. Entrance to the hill is on Greene Rd. south of 79th St. Meet at the top of the hill after 11:00 am. Note: The Forest Preserve does not open the gate until 11:00 am. Bring snacks, water, hat, lawn chair and scope. It can be 10-15 degrees cooler, and windy, on the hill, so bring clothing to layer. For more information on hawk watching go to: www.hmana.org

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

Saturday, October 28, 7:30 am

Lyman Woods, Downers Grove

This is a morning trip over gravel and earthen trails. We continue to visit this site year-round because it has multiple habitats that attract birds. Let's meet at the Lyman Woods parking lot. Trails could be muddy. We strongly recommend wearing boots and suitable clothing.

Leader: Joan Campbell, Cell: 630-337-2605, peachjmc@gmail.com

Other Birding Opportunities

For additional birding opportunities check out the Illinois Birding Calendar at

<http://www.illinoisbirds.org/illinois-birding-calendar/>

Email 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

**DuPage Birding Club
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**.

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.