



## Presidents Message

Our DuPage Birding Club meeting on November 8 will, of course, be our annual business meeting. In addition to electing new officers for the new year, the Board has proposed changes to our bylaws that the membership must vote up or down. We have had increasing difficulty the past few years attracting members to leadership positions within the club; the proposed changes to the bylaws aim to distribute responsibilities more evenly across the club leadership and to make it easier to recruit new leaders. The proposed changes are:

- VP/President becomes a 2-year term, with Past President NOT on the board as a voting member but continuing to assist the board only in an optional, voluntary capacity.
- The Past President is no longer responsible for identifying the new slate of leadership positions. That responsibility falls to a Nominating Committee with a chair identified by the President.
- Three Directors "at large" will serve on the board rather than two.
- VP retains responsibility for planning programs as chair of a Programs Committee.
- Responsibility for coordinating the biennial auction shifts from the VP's job description to one of the Directors, who will chair the Auction Planning Committee.
- Programs Committee and Nominating Committee should be standing, active committees.

### Next Meeting

Oct. 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**

Many of these changes can be made without changing the club's bylaws, but some will require changing three articles of the bylaws. Article 12 of the bylaws states that all members must be notified of all proposed amendments at least two weeks before an annual meeting and that these amendments may be adopted by an affirmative vote of the majority of all club members present at that meeting. Here are the proposed changes that attending members will vote on at the November 8 meeting, with changes in red:

### Article 3

#### Officers & Executive Committee

The officers of the club shall be a President, Vice President, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer. ~~These officers shall constitute an Executive Committee with three Directors, one of whom is the immediate past president.~~ Together with three Directors, these officers shall constitute an eight-person Executive Committee.

### Article 4

#### Election, Terms of Office

The Vice President/President Elect, the two Secretaries, the Treasurer, and ~~two~~ **three** Directors shall be elected by a simple majority vote of the members present at each annual meeting...

## Article 5

### Nominations

~~In August of each year~~ The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of not more than three members; ~~with the immediate Past President as Chairperson~~, which shall prepare a slate of nominees to be presented to the membership for election at the annual meeting held in November. Nominations may also be made from the floor.

Any questions you may have on these amendments can be directed to Stan Zatarski ([SZatarski@DuPageBirding.org](mailto:SZatarski@DuPageBirding.org)), or John Baker ([JBaker@DuPageBirding.org](mailto:JBaker@DuPageBirding.org)). To review the complete bylaws, see the last few pages of the DBC directory.

I hope to see you all at the November meeting to help us all keep the club viable.

John Baker  
President, DuPage Birding Club

## Attention All Club Members !

Here is a chance to cross an item off your Bucket List. The following positions are in need of your talents.

President - Normally filled by the Vice President, the one year position is open due to the vacant VP position this past year.

Director - Two, one year positions are open for 2019.

Corresponding Secretary - Two year term.

Audio/Video Person - Help with setting up equipment for meetings.

If any of these openings interest you please contact John Baker at [JBaker@DuPageBirding.org](mailto:JBaker@DuPageBirding.org) or Stan Zatarski at [SZatarski@DuPageBirding.org](mailto:SZatarski@DuPageBirding.org).

# October Meeting

Trinidad-Tobago

Jean and Bob Spitzer

Bob & Jean Spitzer have been active birders with the DuPage Birding Club for 15 years. Jean had prior birding experience and Bob became a “birder” with the DBC. They have and continue to be active in all fascists of birding. Their birding has expanded across the USA, and in recent years to other parts of the globe. At this point, they have recorded about 1,700 bird species. Tonight, they will share their experience of birding in Trinidad and Tobago. Besides the birding, Bob and Jean will share some personal connection with this Caribbean nation. Birding has become a significant part of their lives.

## Native Seed Harvest at the Dixon Waterfowl Refuge

- Saturday, October 6, 2018
- 9:00 AM 12:00 PM

Celebrate fall by helping to collect native seed in the Dixon Waterfowl Refuge’s beautiful restored prairies and wetlands. No experience is needed for this fun and easy volunteer activity!

The seed harvested by volunteers will later be cleaned, sorted, and planted over the winter in other areas of the Refuge that are being restored. This is an important way you can participate in restoration of this internationally recognized site and its diverse native habitats.

Bring your own water bottle and we'll provide snacks, tools, and gloves. There will be a light picnic lunch at the Refuge farmhouse when you’re done harvesting.

Please wear appropriate clothing for fieldwork (e.g., long pants, closed-toe shoes). Children 16 years old or younger must be accompanied by a parent or other chaperone.

Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the parking lot by the observation tower. Click [here](#) for a map and driving directions.

Please [email us](#) if you plan to attend.

## October 2018 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) 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.

*Interested in being a field trip leader? It's easy! Let us know your favorite birding spot and a time when you can lead and we will add it to the list. You do not have to be a birding expert, you just need to be comfortable at a specific site. Contact [dbcfieldtrips@dupagebirding.org](mailto:dbcfieldtrips@dupagebirding.org) for more information.*

**Monday, October 1, 10:00 pm**

**Birding By Ear: Nocturnal Flight Calls: Reed Kepler Park, West Chicago**

Leave your binoculars at home and bring a lawn chair instead for this unique birding experience! During migration, we observe only a fraction of the migrants that pass through an area during the daylight hours. After dark fall, many species of neotropical migrants follow the stars and move through the night sky. This evening we will conduct a flight call count. Meet at the farthest west parking lot (near the dog park) where we will sit under the night sky and listen for birds!

**Leader:** Glenn Perricone, 630-687-2921, [gperricone@dupagebirding.org](mailto:gperricone@dupagebirding.org)

**Wednesday, October 3, 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 non-members. On Wednesdays 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, [mnye@dupagebirding.org](mailto:mnye@dupagebirding.org)

**Friday, October 5, 5:30 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 I-55. We will be walking on earthen trails, so dress appropriately. **Leader:** Glenn Perricone, 630-687-2921, [gperricone@dupagebirding.org](mailto:gperricone@dupagebirding.org)

**Sunday, October 7, 7:00 am**

**Fermilab Species Spotlight: Ammodramus Sparrows, Batavia**

Back by popular demand! We will be searching the site for LeConte's and Nelson's Sparrows. Because we will be entering the laboratory prior to public visiting hours, 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, [gperricone@dupagebirding.org](mailto:gperricone@dupagebirding.org)

**Sunday, October 7, 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, [lhipes@dupagebirding.org](mailto:lhipes@dupagebirding.org)

**Saturday, October 13, 7:00 am**

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

This is an all-day trip. Birding will end around noon with an optional group lunch. (we hope to return between 3:00-4:00 pm traffic dependent). 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. (Carpools can be decided with arrival time back to Downers Grove in mind.) The driving time is over one hour. Glacial Park will be our focus. Other stops 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. If you have concerns about trip timing please communicate with the trip leaders. Given the distance, if no one contacts one of us, the trip will be cancelled.

**Leaders:** John Cebula, 630-858-3767, [jcebula@dupagebirding.org](mailto:jcebula@dupagebirding.org) (birding day cell 630-640- 2721) Bob and Jean Spitzer, 630-790-4842 (birding day cell 630-222-3307, [rspitzer@dupagebirding.org](mailto:rspitzer@dupagebirding.org))

**Saturday, October 13, 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](mailto:jreiter@wordsonbirds.com)

**Sunday, October 14, 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, [Tmurray@dupagebirding.org](mailto:Tmurray@dupagebirding.org)

**Tuesday, October 16, 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](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. If there is rain at 8:00am, the trip will be cancelled.

**Leader:** Laurel Salvador 630-344-9803, [lsalvador@dupagebirding.org](mailto:lsalvador@dupagebirding.org)

**Saturday, October 20, 6:00 pm**

**Eggers Grove, Chicago**

Get a unique chance to explore the Forest Preserves at night while you look and listen for local owls. Held in conjunction with the Forest Preserves of Cook County "Bird the Preserves" initiative.

**Leader:** Jessica Becker, 708-642-7240, [jessica.becker@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:jessica.becker@cookcountyil.gov)

**Sunday, October 21, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm**

**Greene Valley FP Hawk Watch**

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. Follow the count daily at [hawkcount.org](http://hawkcount.org). For more information on hawk watching go to: [www.hmana.org](http://www.hmana.org)

**Leader:** Jeff Smith, cell 331-481-3362, [Jsmith@dupagebirding.org](mailto:Jsmith@dupagebirding.org)

**Saturday October 27, 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 Lyman Woods parking lot. Trails could be muddy. We strongly recommend wearing boots and suitable clothing.

**Leader:** Joan Campbell, Cell: 630-337-2605, [jcampbell@dupagebirding.org](mailto:jcampbell@dupagebirding.org)

## **In Case You Missed It – September 13, 2018**

### Hemi-Marsh Restoration for Wetland-Dependent Birds

Gary Sullivan, Ph.D., has been the Wetland Initiative's (TWI) senior ecologist since 2001, and he brought his expertise in habitat restoration to the DBC in a talk entitled, "Conservation Action Planning and Hemi-Marsh Restoration in Chicago's Calumet Region." Gary and the rest of TWI have done wetland and upland restorations at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie and Dixon Waterfowl Refuge and, since 2015, the Calumet region of SE Chicago and NW Indiana, starting with Indian Ridge Marsh.

#### *Calumet*

Gary began by explaining that before European settlement, the Calumet was one of the most ecologically diverse wetland regions on the planet with, for example, 200-300 species of orchids alone. But as Chicago became Chicago, massive industrial pollution set in, leaving Calumet's natural resources highly degraded and fragmented. Now, with active industry much reduced, the goal is to restore the area's hydrology and topography to create conditions under which hemi-marsh can develop by managing water levels, removing debris and toxins, controlling invasive species, and planting native ones.

In addition to the science and creating strategies for about 20 restoration areas, TWI and its coalition partners must navigate the human landscape, showing a maze of landowners, managers, and regulators what can be done and how to get there, providing rationale for all-important funding. In a landscape characterized by heaps of slag, extreme pH, eco-toxins, plant-destroying carp, purple loosestrife, and the universal infestation of the reed phragmites, this is a complex task.

#### *Hemi-Marsh*

Just what is a hemi-marsh and what does it mean to wildlife? It's a 50:50 mix of emergent vegetation and open water (with vegetation under water, of course). The best supporter of abundance of wetland birds is, according to one study, "the extent of interspersed emergent vegetation"—the mix of open water and emergent vegetation that humans can help restore and the muskrat can maintain, creating openings where they build their dens. This is hemi-marsh, and it is the focal point of the Calumet restorations.

A few sites where restoration is proving an early success for TWI and its partners include Hegewisch Marsh, Big Marsh and its breeding pairs of gallinules, and Indian Ridge Marsh, where after killing off phragmites and removing decades of accumulated dumped garbage, the local community is joining TWI and Audubon Great Lakes in replanting for the future.

#### *Birds!*

Secretive marsh birds that have been in decline now have a chance to come back, with the coalition and its citizen monitors focusing seven primary focal species that are good indicators of quality hemi-marsh habitat: Pied-billed Grebe, Common Gallinule, King Rail, Virginia Rail, Sora, American Bittern, and Least Bittern.

Accompanying these are nine secondary focal species that could return with restoration: Black-crowned Night Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Little Blue Heron, Snowy Egret, American Coot, Blue-winged Teal, Swamp Sparrow, Marsh Wren, and Yellow-headed Blackbird.

### *Bird Monitoring*

The Calumet Marsh Bird Project, run by Audubon Great Lakes, has surveyed about 30 sites for marsh birds of concern from May 1 to June 15 each year since 2015. Monitors record the target species 30 minutes before sunrise until 3 hours after sunrise. Gary showed us that nearly all of the sites—Burnham Prairie, Eggers Grove, Big Marsh, Hegewisch, and Indian Ridge among them—show significant improvement in target species represented, with only Powderhorn Lake in decline.

By 2027, the coalition hopes to restore 200 acres of marsh habitat in coastal IL to support 79 breeding pairs of Pied-billed Grebes, 27 pairs of Least Bitterns, and 43 pairs of Common Gallinules. Needless to say, as they make their way toward this goal, scads of other birds and creatures will benefit and come along for the ride.

Click [here](#) for more on TWI's Calumet activities, and click [here](#) for info about upcoming TWI events, including a seed collection day and a celebration of cranes and wetlands. And you can always contact [Gary](#) or the DBC's [Vera Miller](#) for more information on hemi-marsh restoration and birding the Calumet.

—[Steve Constantelos](#), DBC Recording Secretary

Also of note...

### *Cookies and a Raffle*

Meetings got a new wrinkle with cookies at the tables, plus a raffle of a comfy DBC cap, embroidered with our downy woodpecker logo. The next two meetings will also feature raffle items from the online store, so be sure to be there. And if you're looking for a great way to clothe/accessorize yourself and promote the club, go to our website and click SHOP at the top of the page, or just click [here](#).

### *Pitching In*

Past President Stan Zatarski, who has rendered heroic service on the board this year, made a call for club officers for 2019. If you're interested in a position, or any volunteer possibility with the DBC, [email him](#). A list of possibilities and contact information can be found on the [CONTACT](#) page.



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

## **First Class**



## **2018 Meetings**

January 11

March 8

April 12

May 10

July 12

September 13

October 11

November 8