



President's Message

Hello fellow birders. As you read this I'll be winging my way home from Thailand. The trip is bound to be a real highlight in an otherwise pretty uneventful winter. I'm not sure that what we have experienced can even be called winter. In any case, I'll be happy to move along. What I'm looking forward to is one of my favorite events of the spring Members' Night! I always find the March meeting to be a source of inspiration. Whether the presenters have traveled near or far to capture their images and stories they always provide food for thought. Heck, that's one of the reasons I ended up in Thailand!

Next Meeting

March 12, 2020
7:00 p.m. Social Time
7:30 p.m. Program

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

5:15 p.m. Pre-meeting dinner
Ellyn's Tap and Grill
940 Roosevelt Rd.
Glen Ellyn

Last year there were quite a few new presenters which I found very satisfying. It was a chance to see new faces grabbing the spotlight for a few minutes. We all have birding stories to share and we can all contribute to the success of the club. Kate Hopkins presented "E Bird Newbie: Stories from the Backyard," that highlighted a visiting Spotted Towhee. We also heard from Sirimon Reutrakul, who presented "Birding on Sulawesi Island in Indonesia," which gave us a peek at one of those magical parts of the world. These stories were the epitome of birding near and far! We also heard about pretty much everywhere in between. I'm always looking for new birding destinations and I haven't made it to Kate's backyard or Sulawesi Island yet. Thanks to Members' Night, I've put them both on my target list!

Members' Night teaches us more than just about new destinations. If we dig a little deeper we can learn other lessons as well. Birding is sharing. Whether it is a favorite birding location or a little photography trick birders love to share. Some of the presenters will undoubtedly talk about bird-related projects they are involved in. Those projects might involve the promotion of birding to the general public through field trips, or other activities they have led, or possibly bird monitoring projects that put them in a place at the right time to learn something about bird behavior that is not generally known. Once we see these examples we too may want to stretch our birding comfort zone and share what we have learned. We should all become ambassadors for birds. Members' Night is much more than a bunch of pretty pictures.

Participating in Members' Night does not require a huge lens on your camera, an image of a rare bird, or a National Geographic quality image. All that matters is that you have a passion for a particular place or an experience that you wish you could share with everyone you know. Maybe it will even help us put winter in our rear-view mirror.

One can only wonder what presentations will surface this year. We have so many talented photographers and story tellers in the club. Some we have never heard from. I hope they seize the opportunity! I can't wait to hear about a birding hot spot that will possibly lead to another pin in my travel map.

Happy Birding!

Denis

April Program

Amazing Hummingbirds of the World

Denis Kania

Date: Thursday, April 16, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, Glen Ellyn, IL



Of all the bird families in the world, for Denis Kania none are as interesting as hummingbirds. Sadly, with only one regularly-occurring species here in Illinois, Denis has had to travel to enjoy this unique family of birds. Counting four newly-acquired species he “acquired” on a trip to Jamaica, he has now seen 207 hummingbird species. It has taken many years and many trips to Central and South America to track them all down, and Denis has many first-hand reports of these aerial acrobats to share.

Hummingbirds seem to break all the rules. They fly upside down and backwards. They have adapted to freezing temperatures, alternate migration patterns, and plant evolution. The DBC is delighted to give its own president the floor as Denis explores the anatomical features that allow these birds' unconventional flight, their role as pollinators, and their fascinating relationships with plants. For such tiny creatures they are simply amazing!

Mini Tutorial: tbd

Future Programs

Our May meeting will feature Bob Dolgan and his film “Monty and Rose” the first Piping Plovers to nest in Chicago in 64 years.

In October, our guest will be Greg Miller of “The Big Year” book and movie fame.

DBC Welcomes New Members

Please welcome the following individuals to our club. They joined in December and January of this year. We're now up to 274 members, everyone!

Ron Skleney
Chris and Jeff Haag
Marcia Basciano
Mark and Heidi Enright
Jackie Vernot
John Sullivan
Jim and Cindy Bowhay
Kay McNamara
Steve Raczak
Diana Marek

DBCers, shout it loud and proud!

Attention, all members! Now we have a way for you to identify yourself as a DuPage Birding Club member. We have created a car “cling” that can be affixed to your car window to easily identify you as a DBC club member. It shows off our woodpecker logo and the club name. Think how useful that will be in the parking lot when you are trying to connect with a field trip group or see if anyone you might know is on the trail ahead of you? It also lets you become an instant bird ambassador for people who want to know more about birds.

Pick up your car cling at the Welcome desk at the March and April meetings.

DuPage Birding Club				
2019 Treasurer's Report				
INCOME				
Dues	4,859.00			
Auction Income Net of Expense	6,869.00			
TOTAL INCOME	<u>11,728.00</u>			
EXPENSE				
Donations Out	3,100.00			
Grants	2,000.00			
Insurance	497.00			
Rent	1,790.00			
Speakers	2,500.00			
Website	839.00			
Other Expense	2,112.00 *			
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>12,838.00</u>			
NET OPERATIONS	<u>(1,110.00)</u>			
TAL ASSETS AS OF DEC. 2018	15,912.00			
2019 Operations	<u>(1,110.00)</u>			
TAL ASSETS AS OF DEC. 2019	<u>14,802.00</u>			
* Includes Brochures, awards, birders breakfast				
and other operating expenses				

Attention All Birders

Wondering how you might do more to help conserve bird species in the Chicago area? How about becoming a bird monitor?

The Bird Conservation Network (BCN) conducts a breeding bird survey during the month of June throughout the six-county Chicagoland area. We're looking for birders who would like to join our team and help measure how our bird populations are doing. Required are two early-morning visits in June to a preserve near you. More about the survey is here: <http://bcnbirds.org/monprotocol.html>

What: Introduction to Breeding-Bird Monitor Training
Winging it with Waterfowl

Who: New and Experienced Birders

When: Saturday, 21 March 2020, 10:00-12 pm & 1 pm

Where: Sagawau Environmental Learning Center
12545 West 111th St, Lemont, IL 60439

Register by phone: 630-257-2045, or

Volunteer: Cook County FPD, [Breeding-Bird Monitor Training](#), [Winging it with Waterfowl](#)

In the 10 am-12 pm program, we'll outline how BCN surveys are conducted, discuss the qualifications for monitoring, and the steps new birders can take, or the more experienced birders can use to sharpen their skills. In addition, Bird Migration will be discussed.

At 1 pm, a class on Waterfowl ID follows, in preparation for McGinnis Slough Waterfowl Watches, at 10 am on Wednesdays, 3/25 & 4/1.

Come join us and become an important part of bird conservation in Northeast Illinois.

BCN Questions? Contact Tim Balassie at tbalassie@gmail.com, 630-513-7345 or Tom Mulcahy at tmaxm@sbcglobal.net, 630-726-0608 .

March 2020 Field Trips

This month's field trips target migrating waterfowl, raptors, passerines and shorebirds, plus some returning breeders. There are opportunities for all levels of birders to participate and enjoy the season including several midweek trips. We encourage everyone to enjoy birding in a safe manner. Please remember that the weather can still be very cold, and trails can be muddy, so dress accordingly with warm clothing and appropriate footwear.

Wednesday, March 4, 7:30 am

Bemis Woods South, Western Springs

Join us at Bemis Wood South for a morning of birding. This will be a walk for new birders. We will walk slowly and allow time for all to check out the late winter and early spring migrant birds. Meet by the "Go Ape: course. The entrance is off Ogden Ave. between I 294 and Wolf Rd. The trails can be muddy so wear appropriate footwear and warm clothing.

Leader: Lesa Hipes, 630-689-7463, lhipes@dupagebirding.com

Saturday, March 7, 6:30 am - late

Havana Waterfowl

The Havana area is known to host large numbers of waterfowl during migration. This trip will target the tens of thousands of Snow Geese that rest on the waters of Chautauqua NWR and the Emiquon NWR and Preserve. Large numbers of ducks, swans, pelicans, etc., may also be seen. Sorry, no Little Stint. Pre-register with Jeff Smith by March 5 for additional directions. We will meet to carpool to Havana. Warning!! It is a 3-hour drive to this location, and we may not return before 7 pm. We will lunch at a local Havana eatery. Bring snacks, water, scope, cameras, etc.

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

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 8

Friday, March 13, 7:00 pm

Woodcocks, Greene Valley Forest Preserve, Naperville/Woodridge

Greene Valley Forest Preserve is known for its Woodcock displays, which begin shortly after sunset. Join us this spring on one of our walks. Meet at the west entrance parking lot: west on 79th St. from Greene Rd, then Thunderbird Rd. south, appr. ½ mile to the campground entrance. The walk will NOT be cancelled due to weather.

Leader: Jeff Smith, 331-481-3362, jsmith@dupagebirding.org

Saturday, March 14, 8:30 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 Rd. (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

Friday, March 20, 8:30 am

Know Your Neighborhood: Aurora

The third of the 'Know Your Neighborhood' trips, exploring hidden gems, odd and under-birded hot spots in DuPage County, we will be searching the parks, lakes and ponds of Aurora for winter waterfowl. Join us for 7:00 am breakfast at Blueberry Hill Pancake House at 405 N Eola Rd. or join us later at 8:30 am at Waubonsie Lake Park at 998 Kautz Rd. From there, we will consolidate vehicles and drive around Aurora in search of waterfowl at Eola Rd. Marsh, Night Heron Marsh and other open-water spots. We should be back no later than 11:30 am. Bring a spotting scope if you have one. Leader: Glenn Perricone, 630-687-2921, gperricone@dupagebirding.org

Saturday, March 21, 7:30 am

McKee Marsh, Warrenville

Join another morning walk to the marsh to check out early migrating birds. We hope to see migrant waterfowl. Bring a spotting scope if you have one. 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 warm clothing.

Leaders: Steve and Kathy Mineck, 630-254-4077, kmineck@dupagebirding.com

Thursday, March 26, 7:00 pm

Woodcocks, Greene Valley Forest Preserve, Naperville/Woodridge

Greene Valley Forest Preserve is known for its Woodcock displays, which begin shortly after sunset. Join us this spring on one of our walks. Meet at the west entrance parking lot: west on 79th St. from Greene Rd, then Thunderbird Rd. south, appr. ½ mile to the campground entrance. The walk will NOT be cancelled due to weather.

Leader: Jeff Smith, 331-481-3362, jsmith@dupagebirding.org

Saturday, March 28, 7:30 am

Cricket Creek Forest Preserve, Addison

This morning trip is especially designed for new birders and will be at a leisurely pace to provide as much time as desired to look at each bird and to answer questions on equipment or bird identification. Join us to check out this small preserve on the eastern side of DuPage County, right next to Salt Creek. Meet at the parking lot north of Fullerton Avenue (west of Rt. 83, east of Villa Ave.). Website link:

<http://www.dupageforest.com>

Leaders: Andrew and Rebecca Steinmann, 708-533-6604, asteinmann@dupagebirding.com

NOTE: All last-minute changes are posted on dupagebirding.org/field-trips.

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

Field Trip Coordinators

Bonnie Graham

Kathy Mineck

DBCFieldTrips@gmail.com

Birds in the News

Letter of Recommendation: Starlings

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/11/magazine/letter-of-recommendation-starlings.html?referringSource=articleShare>

How Climate Change Threatens One Of The World's Most Loved Seabirds

And the community that has gone from hunting and eating them, to rescuing them.

Read in HuffPost: <https://apple.news/AaVRs5kFuTPOhXISEh1LpXg>

How humans killed off the only parrot native to the continental U.S.

The last Carolina parakeet died in captivity in 1918. Now, new genetic analysis has revealed what drove the bird to extinction.

Read in National Geographic: https://apple.news/ALJkUmv_bTROJrNWGYWNCQ

Migrating Russian eagles run up huge data roaming charges

Russian scientists tracking eagles got huge SMS bills when some birds flew to Iran and Pakistan.

Read in BBC News: <https://apple.news/AqAMk11rQcePAIRuFrBbuQ>



DuPage Birding Club

2020 DBC Executive Committee Members

President, Denis Kania,
dkania@dupagebirding.org

Vice President, Stephen Constantelos,
sconstantelos@dupagebirding.org

Treasurer, John Hebert,
jhebert@dupagebirding.org

Recording Secretary, Andrea Duffy,
aduffy@dupagebirding.org

Corresponding Secretary, Diann Bilderback,
dbilderback@dupagebirding.org

Director, Kate Hopkins,
khopkins@dupagebirding.org

Director, Natalie McFaul,
nmcfaul@dupagebirding.org

Donna Kubik,
dkubik@dupagebirding.org

2020 DBC Committee Chairs

Outreach/Youth Education: John Hebert, Kathy Hebert
Bird Conservation Network Reps: Glenn Gabanski, Tom Mulcahy, Glenn Perricone
Forest Preserve Liaison: Pat Eggleston
Grants and Donations: Vera Miller
Spring Count Coordinator: Joe Suchecki
Christmas Count Coordinator: Jeff Chapman
Stewardship: Diann Bilderback
Field Trips: Kathy Mineck and Bonnie Graham
Webmaster: Nancy Allured
Membership Directory: Bob Spitzer
Drummings Newsletter: Jeff Smith
Email Distribution: Bob Fisher
Twitter: Vera Miller
Facebook: Glenn Perricone and John Cebula
Flickr: Urs Geiser
Hospitality: Geralyn Hoffman
Audio-Visual Coordinator: Kate Hopkins
DBC Apparel: Steve Constantelos
Lending Library: Jeff Smith

2020 Meetings

January 9

July 9

March 12

September 10

April 16

October 15

May 14

November 12