



President's Message

Hello, fellow birders. As you read this monthly message, I should have been traipsing through the wilds of New Zealand searching for such wonders as Southern Brown Kiwi, Yellow-eyed Penguin, Kea, Tui, and Stitchback. We were planning a trip of three weeks in New Zealand followed by another three weeks in Southern Australia. Unfortunately, due to covid we are bound to our own backyard. A trip to the Yucatan in December is also falling off the books. With trips already set for 2021 and 2022, it is hard to envision how these trips can find their way back onto the calendar. So many places to go and so little time.

Next Meeting

Nov 12, 2020

Zoom Meeting
see page 3 for details

I know that many of you are having a hard time relating to my dilemma. I admit that I am addicted to international travel, and I hope I will be able to explain why. I wouldn't bother except that I think everyone should give it a try.

Certainly, the names and the numbers can be mind boggling. There have been several trips where well over 500 species have been recorded. Having the opportunities to see 21 species of Birds-of-Paradise, or the incredible Shoebill, or White-necked Picathartes, or Andean Cock-of-the-Rock are lifetime experiences. Some birds we long to see because of their bizarre behavior or gaudy plumage. Each has its own call that beckons us to the hunt. On my last trip to Ecuador, I ended up seeing 64 species of hummingbirds. None of them were new to me, but I'm sure you all know what a turn-on that was for me.

It's not all about the birds. I think back to my early school days of flipping through the pages of my social studies books. I never dreamed that I would visit the places that appeared in photographic form in those books. I've now had the opportunity to scramble around places like the Galapagos Islands, the Amazon rainforest, Mayan ruins throughout Central America, Machu Picchu, Angkor Wat, the Serengeti, and the Great Barrier Reef, just to name a few.

Along the way there is an opportunity for a first-hand look into different cultures and to meet people with a different view of the world.

What becomes obvious is that people all over the world are friendly, and we have so much in common. We share the same basic goals of a better life for our families, a little respect, and happiness. If you take the time, you can learn a lot from the people beyond our borders.



Then there are the travel companions to consider. Over the years, quite a cast of characters has found their way onto my birding trips. We have shared some magical moments like seeing the sun rise in Cambodia which revealed roosting Giant Ibis in a tree or hiking in the dark to get to a Cock-of-the-Rock lek before the birds started their centuries-old ritual of dancing at first light to impress a potential mate. One of my favorite experiences was an encounter with a Harpy Eagle in Peru. One of our great travelers on that expedition was Jack Pomatto.



Jack was a long-time club member that was a teacher at heart, a wonderful photographer, and a respected naturalist. Jack was the perfect example of the deep bonds that have developed as a part of our travels. We lost Jack several years ago to cancer, and he is missed. This newsletter includes a little story that I wrote about that Harpy Eagle encounter with Jack back in 2010. Check it out.

Since having to wait out the pandemic, I sure have missed the birds. I think that more than the birds it's the people, the good friends, and the cherished experiences that are not likely to be created any other way. Yes, I'm addicted to my international birding, but it's my traveling companions more than anything that I enjoy. Let me know if you ever want to give it a try!

Denis

SAVE THE DATE: November 12, 2020 – 7:00 Zoom Meeting

It All Began at Maple Grove: 15 years of Avian Research First Inspired by DuPage County Than Boves

Over the past 15+ years, Than Boves has conducted research on a wide variety of birds from Barn Owls to warblers to Loggerhead Shrikes, covering themes from conservation to behavior to coevolution.

Than's love of birds began as a young birdwatcher at Maple Grove Forest Preserve in Downers Grove. There he met Hal Cohen, and eventually others from the DuPage Birding Club, who supported him, gave him a community to engage with, and set him on his career path; Than is certain he wouldn't be where he is today if it weren't for them! In this talk, he will hit the highlights of his research as a professional ornithologist since his days at Maple Grove.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcod-qhqTkvhDCKA031TxkYAcKrxbyS2RN>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.



In Case You Missed It...

At the October 15, 2020, meeting our guest speaker was Tara Beveroth, ornithologist with The Illinois Natural History Survey, who presented "Cryptic Birds of the Night." The natural history of Owls and Nightjars, challenges they are facing, and projects underway to monitor these birds were discussed. Among her current projects, Tara is involved with tracking trends in abundance, causes of declines, habitat requirements, and management practices for these bird groups. 61 people attended the meeting via Zoom. The presentation is available for viewing at the DBC Education Channel on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AhaC110xfkw>

Slate for 2021 DBC Board Announced + New Volunteers!

The slate of officers for DBC's 2021 Board has been finalized and will be presented to members for voting at the November 12 meeting. Here's a preview for your consideration:

President—Steve Constantelos moves up from his role as Vice-President. As VP, Steve had a hand in all things DBC, including lining up speaker programs, migrating our meetings to the ZOOM platform, guiding the launch and management of our DBC Education Channel on YouTube, shepherding content for the Outreach program, and more. His new job should be a breeze in comparison!

Vice-President—Natalie McFaul moves from her current role as Director. Among her accomplishments as a Director, Natalie organized our Volunteer Luncheon and Birders Breakfast events and displayed her artistry, creating the Birdo-Bingo game for the Outreach program. She will leverage her copious leadership and creative skills as our VP.

Treasurer—John Hebert continues to look after the DBC's financial health and to make sure we continue our mission to bird with a purpose through our donations and assistance to students. John's served as Outreach head, led field trips, and loves sharing stories of birds he's seen close to home and on his many trips to the wilds of Wisconsin.

Recording Secretary—Andie Duffy continues after a year of pitching in on many projects, sharing club-related news, and taking thorough Board meeting notes as we worked to meet the year's challenges. Her down-to-earth and optimistic spirit remains a great club asset.

Corresponding Secretary—Joe Suchecki returns to the Board after serving the club for many years in various capacities—President, Spring Bird Count coordinator, field trip leader, annual presenter at Members' Night, and Dean of Springbrook Prairie.

Director—Donna Kubik, a Fermilab bird monitor, continues after a heady year of Outreach efforts, fielding calls for speakers and creating a lot of impressive website content in the form of deep dive profiles of our beloved DuPage birds and other tools for educators and birders of all stripes. You can find a lot of her work on the Learn About Birds pages of the website.

Director—Jane Barnett continues as Director, a spot she filled mid-year when Kate Hopkins relocated. Jane has a lot going for her, and is both a Master Naturalist and owner of an Ornithology Certificate from the Morton Arboretum, which is also one of her several volunteer gigs. She's also long participated in both the Spring and Christmas Bird Counts. Ask her about her spark bird, a certain Northern Flicker she once saw in Lincoln Park.

Director—Denis Kania has shown strong leadership as our President in the Year of the COVID, keeping the club relevant with new channels like the DBC Education Channel videos, Hotspots, and Outreach program. He also completed revisions on the DuPage bird checklist. As a Director, he will continue to contribute in these areas, and help bring forth another exciting DBC Auction.

Twice Past President **Diann Bilderback** will be leaving the Corresponding Secretary post, but has created a new position for herself as lead of the Communications Committee, ensuring timely, accurate, and consistent communications across all DBC communications channels, including the website, *Drummings*, Eblasts, and key social media sites. Her industrious and rejuvenating spirit are a perfect fit for this role.

Thanks to all of our current and future Board members and volunteers for their willingness to give of their time and talents to the club. You are what makes the club the successful organization it is.

Speaking of volunteers...announcing some club members in new roles:

Thank you to **Kathy Mineck** for two years of excellent service as a Field Trip Coordinator, particularly in light of 2020's difficulties. **Joan Campbell** will take Kathy's spot, reuniting with **Bonnie Graham** to line up field trips in 2021.

Barb Dougan is now assisting **Nancy Allured** with Webmaster duties. Once we return to in-person meetings, **Julie Appler** will be our A-V Coordinator. And club veteran and past President **Susan Kaley** will be taking over the Membership Directory after many years of wonderful service by **Bob Spitzer** in that role.

Call for Annual Membership Dues

It's time to renew your club membership so we can begin building our new Member Directory for early 2021 publication. As you might recall, the DBC Board moved annual dues renewals from the July renewal date to a calendar year renewal beginning January 1. This gave all current members an extra 6 months of free membership, which seemed appropriate for a pandemic year in which some club activities had to be curtailed.

Please note: if you renewed or joined July 1 or later this year, your dues are considered paid through 2021.

Annual dues of \$20 (\$30 family, \$10 student) are the major source of annual funding for our speaker program, grants and donations, and operating expenses. They ensure that the club continues to serve your interests and supports the birding community.

You can renew one of two ways:

1. Online using PayPal or credit card—visit www.dupagebirdingclub.org/membership and click on the PayPal button. Easy!
2. Via mail—fill out the form online at the above URL, print it, and mail it and a check for your dues to the address on the form. Please do not mail cash. Your canceled check is your receipt.

The DBC does not rent, sell, or share your personal information, and the personal information you share with DBC is not stored on the DBC website or the host server.

New Hotspots Near You—St. James Farm, York Woods, and Seager Park

Three new Hotspots join our library of insider knowledge on hot birding locations in DuPage County.

- St. James Farm (contributed by Carl Strang)—home to the largest presettlement woodland in western DuPage County
- York Woods (contributed by Kathy Mineck)—the very first preserve in DuPage County
- Seager Park (contributed by Ann Letzel)—a hidden gem in Naperville that packs a lot into its 30 acres

Check out these Hotspots at www.dupagebirding.org/dupage-hotspots.

We've reached a milestone 20 locations described by DBC members. Would you like to help us build this terrific resource? If you have a favorite birding patch, whether a small park or one of the bigger preserves yet to be documented, let us know. Just to get you thinking, here are a few places we'd like to add to the repository:

- Danada Forest Preserve
- Fullersburg Woods
- Maple Grove
- McKee Marsh
- Pratt's Wayne Woods
- Songbird Slough
- West Chicago Prairie
- Wood Dale/Itasca Reservoir

If you'd like to share your insights into one of the above locations or have a favorite patch of your own, contact Diann Bilderback for a template and guidelines at dbilderback@dupagebirding.org.

New “Learn About Birds” Section Headlines Website Enhancements

A recent round of enhancements to www.dupagebirding.org includes a new top-level navigation called “Learn About Birds,” wherein we have consolidated all of our assets related to learning more about our avian friends. These assets include obvious resources like the DBC Education Channel, along with tools we have had but never shared widely and new assets created this year by the Outreach team. New dropdown menu items here include:

- Getting Started—content for beginning birders
- DBC Education Channel—links to videos on Birding Basics, Mini-Tutorials, and DBC Meetings
- Tools for Educators—Outreach program options for educators plus content on Common Birds and the Birdo-Bingo game
- Webcams—resources for those who enjoy watching nesting birds
- ABA Code of Ethics—the code we adhere to as ethical birders

DuPage Forest Preserve Features DBC Members

The DuPage Forest Preserve recently featured three DBC members and shared their perspectives in the Catching Nature blog.

President Denis Kania shares how he found his true calling in the 90s after he accepted a role in natural resource management for the St. Charles Park District. He shares his perspective on being proactive stewards of nature, letting nature inspire us, and the interrelatedness of the natural world.

<https://www.dupageforest.org/catching-nature/denis-kania>



DBC member Anna Testone was always a nature lover but caught the birding bug when her daughter introduced her to Facebook birding groups and she discovered all the lovely preserves nearby where she too could see—and photograph—our beautiful birds. She talks about the restorative power of a walk in the woods and prairie and the lessons she's learned from nature. <https://www.dupageforest.org/catching-nature/anna-testone>

DBC member Jeff Smith is a core member of the Greene Valley Hawkwatch

monitoring migrating raptors. Jeff describes how his professional duties in golf course maintenance and management fueled his interest in birds. His discovery of a roosting barn owl in a maintenance shed led him to build a nest platform that was used to house the first and only known successful barn owl nest in DuPage County.



<https://www.dupageforest.org/catching-nature/jeff-smith>

The Technical Side of Birding

by Stan Barrack

Thanks to DBC member Stan Barrack for contributing this story and a longer, more in-depth version that resides on the DBC website at <https://dupagebirding.org/learn-about-birds/>. If you're in the market for bins, it's a must-read.

Choosing the Right Binoculars for Birding

The most common binocular you'll see hanging around a birder's neck is an 8x42 roof prism. Why do most birders choose that binocular? Should you choose the same binocular? What do those numbers mean? Let's start at the beginning and work our way through the specifications.

Magnification

What is it?

The first number you'll see is the magnification of the binoculars. It's the number before the "x". For example, the 8x42 binoculars referenced earlier will magnify the image 8 times. A 7x35 binocular will make your bird appear 7 times closer.

Why is it important?

To state the obvious, we need the right magnification to enlarge those frantically moving little dots in the tree tops. Unless we're birding for ostriches, we need enough magnification to distinguish eye rings, wing bars, and notched tails. Too little magnification and we cannot capture all the details we need for identification. Too much magnification and it becomes difficult to find and follow that bird.

Objective Lens

What is it?

The second number you will see is the diameter of the objective lens in millimeters. It's the number following the "x". When you look through your binoculars, you are looking into the ocular lenses and out through the objective lenses. The 8x42 binoculars have an objective lens of 42mm in diameter.

Why is it important?

The objective lens is where you get your light. I stated earlier that you look into the ocular lenses and out of the objective lenses. Though true, it's really the other way around that is more important. Light enters through the objective lens and exits through the ocular lens, allowing you to see the image. Binoculars are all about light. Therefore, larger diameter objective lenses allow the binoculars to gather more light for brighter images. All things being equal, 8x42 binoculars will have a brighter image than 8x32 binoculars.

Prism Type

What is it?

This identifies the type of glass used in the internal prisms. Prisms are used to redirect (or bend) light. In binoculars, they correct the image orientation (the objective lens inverts the image) and they reduce the length needed, which is why your binoculars can be smaller than those long pirate spyglasses.

Generally your choices are BaK4 or BK7, both are standards of glass quality by German manufacturer Schott AG. Most of the higher quality binoculars use Bak4 because it has a higher refractive index than BK7.

Why is it important?

It's all about the light. Better glass will usually mean less light lost.

Type to enter text **Glass Coating**

What is it?

Coatings are put on the surfaces of the glass components of binoculars to reduce light reflection and therefore increase light transmission.

Why is it important?

Glass is a very reflective material. Light reflects off both external and internal lens surfaces. Coatings help reduce those reflections for a specific light frequency (color). Multiple coatings can reduce reflections for multiple frequencies. Fewer reflections has the added benefit of reducing the light bouncing around inside your binoculars which can make the image cloudy.

Marketing continuously comes up with novel ways to hype less expensive, lower quality coatings. You should be aware that there is a difference between coated, multi-coated, fully coated, and fully multi-coated (sometimes FMC). I'll just cut to the chase and tell you that FMC means every glass surface is fully coated with multiple coats, and that's the one you want.

The Punchline

The prevailing wisdom seems to be to buy *the best pair of binoculars you can afford*. I think that is good advice for your SECOND pair of binoculars.

If this is your first pair, compare the 8x42 binoculars from Athlon, Bresser, GPO, Hawke, Nikon, Steiner, and Vortex. Each of these companies make quality products (as of August 2020). They each have multiple tiers of binoculars, so find the first tier of each that has FMC Bak4 prisms and pick the one with the best specifications for your needs. **(Please visit the website for an expanded version of this article which details additional specifications you'll want to know like exit pupil, eye relief, depth of field, size/weight, etc.)**

If possible, try new binoculars before you buy them. Keep in mind that the person writing the specifications is not often the same person who designed and manufactured the binoculars. Mistakes happen. A dark and stormy day, too rainy for birding, is great for comparing binoculars at your favorite sports or optics store. Those conditions are perfect for evaluating light gathering and clarity in a pair of binoculars.

If these are your second pair of binoculars, then you can move on to *the best binoculars you can afford*. You will have a better understanding of what you need. Your current 8x42's can go in the glove compartment. You need a backup pair of binoculars anyway, don't you?

Welcome to New DBC Members!

The DBC welcomes seven new members this month:

James Bowhay, La Grange

Lilian Ficht, Downers Grove

Frank and Layrel Czworniak, Plainfield

Kent Jager, Oakbrook Terrace

Dan Ellig, Arlington Heights

Jacqueline Tilles, Park Ridge

Jack and the Black-and-chestnut Eagle

(Dedicated to a great travel companion, Jack Pomatto)

This was the latest in a series of adventures into the birding heaven known as South America. This time the destination was Southern Peru ranging from high in the Andes at an elevation of roughly 13,000 feet down to 1,700 feet and the doorstep of Amazonia.

After many years of traveling in South America, it was great to be back visiting old friends such as Puna Teal, Plumbeous Kite, Sparkling Violetear and Blue-gray Tanager. Besides those old friends we hoped that just maybe this would be the trip that we would get a better look at some of our BVD (Better View Desired) species on our life list. Sometimes the conditions were just so tough because of weather or vegetation. We knew we saw the bird but did we really see it well enough to get a handle on those distinguishing characteristics? Did we really bond with the bird? It was a moving scale, and there are times we just walked away knowing that we would never see this bird any better, so in the end we counted it. After all, we saw it, we knew what it was, but we just didn't like the look. Chalk up a BVD.

We were put in that situation again on this trip by notorious toughies such as Barred Parakeet and Uniform Crake which are normally ticked as heard only. Barred Parakeets have a knack of flying over only when there is a thick blanket of cloud cover. What else would one expect in the cloud forest? On this trip there was a break in the clouds, and we jumped for joy at mere dots in the sky. The crake can behave even worse, never venturing out of dense vegetation in swamps. That is, until the day that we startled two of them in the middle of a trail and they zipped off the track like lightning. We felt good about the shape, color and size, but it was not the most rewarding experience. I came home with two new BVD's.

Sometimes on these trips birds have a magical way of avoiding us. We wonder how we can continually miss birds that have a large range and appear on study list after study list. These are the birds that we really hope to see. We do our best to fill a couple more holes in our South American list.

This trip was no different. I had amassed quite a list of "holes" in my life list over the years. Maybe we could at last stumble upon that Lanceolated Monklet, Bluish-fronted Jacamar, Lemon-throated Barbet, Amazonian Antpitta, Ringed Antpipit, White-eared Solitaire or even Paramo Pipit. I know I'm not alone in this dilemma. Many of my traveling partners had the same hopes, just different species. For example, Joe Suchecki's hopes were for any tinamou (ha, that sounds easy enough!), Torrent Duck, White-throated Quail-Dove or Crested Quetzal. Others in the group like Diann Bilderback and Linda Gohlke that had not made so many journeys were still hoping for hummingbirds like the Giant and Sword-billed, Great Potoo or knock-out cotingas such as Amazonian Umbrellabird or Andean Cock-of-the-Rock.

Jack Pomatto had set his sights high. High in the sky that is. He was hoping to fill holes with things like Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle and Black-and-chestnut Eagle among others. This was a tall order considering the low density of these species and the huge amount of suitable habitat. A story repeated again and again in tropical birding.

This was a special trip as all trips to South America are. On the fifth day of the trip while road birding, Joe Suchecki spotted a large raptor soaring along the ridge line. It was a Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle! The majestic bird danced in and out of view along the top of the ridge teasing us with potential BVD looks. Then the bird broke from the ridge and flew down the valley and, for good measure, landed on a facing slope for a brief time. Way to go Jack! I think you can count that.



As the days went by we made our way down to lower elevations and the Amazonia Lodge where we stayed for five days. Great birding was enjoyed every day and “holes” were being filled by one species or another. Eventually, our itinerary brought us back up through the same mid-elevation valleys on day thirteen. Jack was running out of time for that second eagle on his wish list.

We returned to bird again on the same road and not far off from the elevation where we had the Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle. It was a damp and drizzly morning. No raptor in its right mind would be soaring today. As we

walked the road a rush of wings was heard close overhead. There, a huge raptor flew no more than 50 feet over our heads and cruised right down the road and down slope from where we stood. Dan Lane shouted out, Black-and-chestnut Eagle! As the huge bird traveled down the road, I could not make sense of the tail pattern. Was this an immature, I wondered? Why didn't we cover this in the study sessions? It was surely not an adult with that pattern. This was indeed a special day on a special trip. About 150 yards further down the road the bird decided to perch up on a huge limb in clear view. It landed with its back more or less facing us, but then as it turned on its perch it revealed a thick black collar across the upper breast and a new and even greater roar went up. HARPY EAGLE!!! Sorry, Jack!

This eagle of eagles stayed perched for several minutes allowing for multiple scope views and photo opportunities. Eventually we got greedy and as we moved forward the great Harpy Eagle decided to look elsewhere for monkeys to dine on. No one was disappointed. This was a bird not even on the study list, but for most of us on the trip it replaced a BVD view from Brazil. For those that saw their first Harpy Eagle that day, there wouldn't be any BVD notations made next to its name. We could not dream of a better experience. Our guide, Dan Lane, said that at 3,300 feet Harpy Eagles are not to be expected. The norm would be the Black-and-chestnut Eagle. Of all of the bird species mentioned in this story, only the Black-and-chestnut hole was left unfilled. No complaints from Jack.

Thanks to all who participated in this trip which included Roberta Asher, Renee Baade, Diann Bilderback, Linda Gohlke, Peter Howlett, Denis Kania, Jack Pomatto, Donnaly Quint, Lisa Spellman, Dennis Streicher, Joe Suchecki and our guide Dan Lane.

November 2020 Field Trips

Please note the following guidelines that will be strictly observed to ensure that our birding is safe and comfortable for all:

Preregistration with the trip leader is required; you are NOT registered until you receive a confirmation from the trip leader.

Field trips are open to nonmembers. Participant limit is set at 15, including the leader. Absolutely, no stretching the limit.

Face masks are required, which should cover both nose and mouth.

Participants should spread out and keep in mind the six-foot distancing recommendations.

Anyone not feeling well should not attend.

There should be no sharing of field guides, binoculars, etc.

No carpooling from site to site if the trip is moving around, except for members from the same household.

This month is the time to see early winter birds. Some species are only seen this time of year. There are opportunities for all types of birders to participate and enjoy the season. Please remember that weather and trail conditions can be variable and dress accordingly. We expect everyone to enjoy birding in a safe manner by being careful and prudent. Situations sometimes change; please check our website (DuPageBirding.org) for any trip changes, additions or cancellations. Participants are welcome to contact the trip leader if they have questions.

Saturday, November 14, 9:00 am – 11:00 am, (Preregistration is required)

St. James Farm Forest Preserve, Warrenville

Join us in our morning search for winter birds in the former domain of the McCormick's. This 600-acre preserve has woodlands, prairies and wetlands with 3.5 miles of trails. The entrance is on Winfield Rd. just north of Butterfield Rd. Meet at the horse statue. Please note that this trip will be cancelled in case of inclement weather.

Leaders: Bob and Jean Spitzer, bobspitzer1@msn.com, 630-790-4842

Friday, November 20, 8:00 am – 11:30 am (Preregistration required)

Southeast DuPage and Southwest Cook Waterfowl Search

We'll look for waterfowl, gulls and others at the Centennial Trail Borrow Pit and ponds, Lemont Quarries, and Saganashkee Slough. Depending on conditions and sightings, other stops may include Sag Quarries, Long John Slough, and Maple Lake. Meet at the Lemont Rd. parking lot of Waterfall Glen (at the portable toilet). We will then caravan to the Borrow Pit. The trip will be canceled if waterfowl are scarce or the weather is poor.

Directions to Waterfall Glen: drive south on I55 on Lemont Rd. to 101st St., and turn left at the stoplight into the parking lot. Please register with the leader who will e-mail driving directions to each location in case the caravan gets separated. For questions ahead of time, or if you are running late the day of the trip, please call 630-297-9512.

Leader: Vicky Sroczynski, VSroczynski@comcast.net

Saturday, November 28, 7:30 am – 9:30 am (Preregistration is required)

McKee Marsh, Warrenville

Join us on another morning walk to the marsh. Bring a spotting scope if you have one. Most of our walk will be on preserve limestone and earthen trails; please wear appropriate shoes and clothing. Meet at the visitor parking lot on the north side of Mack Rd., located between Winfield Rd. and Rt. 59 in Warrenville.

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

Other Birding Opportunities

For additional birding opportunities go to 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. 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 jcampbell@dupagebirding.org

Bonnie Graham bgraham@dupagebirding.org

Greene Valley Hawkwatch Update

The hawkwatch team tallied 2216 migrating raptors in October, led by Turkey Vultures (908) and a late Broad-winged Hawk (568) movement. The latter was a surprise as we had fewer than 250 BWs in the previous 14 Octobers combined. Two Short-eared Owls, one Golden Eagle, and one Northern Goshawk have been seen thus far as we hope to see a few more of these rare visitors. From watching the Hawk Ridge reports we could be in for a good number of Goshawks this winter. While they have not had a large influx of these large accipiters, half of the birds they are seeing are adults. In typical winters most all are immature birds.

Non-raptor highlights include 3 Whooping Cranes, American White Pelicans, Tundra Swans, and a possible Evening Grosbeak flying around with siskins and finches.

You can follow our count and other counts around North America at www.hawkcount.org



This immature Red-tailed Hawk is screaming at Ollie our plastic owl



Our first Golden Eagle of the season.



DuPage Birding Club

2020 DBC Executive Committee Members

President, Denis Kania, dkania@dupagebirding.org

Vice President, Steve Constantelos, sconstantelos@dupagebirding.org

Treasurer, John Hebert, jhebert@dupagebirding.org

Recording Secretary, Andrea Duffy, aduffy@dupagebirding.org

Corresponding Secretary, Diann Bilderback, dbilderback@dupagebirding.org

Jane Barnett Director, jbarnett@dupagebirding.org

Natalie McFaul, Director, nmcfaul@dupagebirding.org

Donna Kubik, dkubik@dupagebirding.org

2020 Meetings

January 9

March 12

April 16

May 14

July 9

September 10

October 15

November 12

2020 DBC Committee Chairs

Outreach/Youth Education: Donna Kubik

Bird Conservation Network Reps: Glenn Gabanski, Tom Mulcahy, Glenn Perricone, Steve Constantelos

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: Susan Kaley

Drummings Newsletter: Jeff Smith

Email Distribution: Bob Fisher

Twitter: Vera Miller

Facebook: Glenn Perricone and John Cebula

Flickr: Urs Geiser

Hospitality: Geralynn Hoffman

Audio-Visual Coordinator: Could this be YOU?

DBC Apparel: Steve Constantelos

Lending Library: Jeff Smith