



President's Message

8 Ways to Spread the Word about the DBC

This past year+ has found many of us close to home, exploring our more immediate surroundings. People have spent more time in local parks and looking out their backyard windows, noticing the bird world and its goings-on at possibly record levels! DBC membership has grown by leaps and bounds.

Our communications and outreach teams have done a fabulous job employing our new website, social media, Zoom, and the *Drummings* to share activities and our love of birds with members and the wider public. Whether it's these diligent efforts, buzz from members, or articles appearing in the *Daily Herald*, the word is out about birding and about the DuPage Birding Club.

Potential member or not, it's great to let people know a club like ours is out there and is eager to share its love of birds and the natural world with anyone interested. Here are a few ways to spread the word.

Next Meeting

July 8, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

See page 3 for details.

1. Tag your bird- and club-related posts and pictures with [#dupagebirdingclub](#) on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other social media. By the way, we're always looking for photos of club members and birds for the website, so email duplicatebirdingclub@gmail.com if you have field trip or event images you'd like to share.
2. Volunteer to help Donna Kubik and the Outreach/Youth Education team. Not only have they created a splendid bunch of website resources [for educators](#) and [beginning birders](#), club members are also sharing their love of birds with community groups via Zoom and in person. Email dkubik@dupagebirding.org to learn more.
3. This will become easier once we start meeting in person again, but the club has printed brochures and DuPage bird checklists aplenty that you can grab and hand out to an interested party, or tack to a bulletin board at a local business, library, nature center, church, etc. I use my checklist to record my backyard bird list. Download a copy [here](#).

4. Mention the DuPage Birding Club in the comments section of your eBird checklists. If you led or participated in a DBC field trip, share it with our eBird account, [DupageBC](#). Mention the DBC in the comments section of your checklist—someone may spot it and become interested!
5. Share posts, news, and photos with DBC's social media presence on [Twitter](#) (@DBCbirds), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#). Share your expertise and interest by commenting on posts!
6. Refer people to our website and YouTube channel. If someone can't believe we have cuckoos living in DuPage County, tell them about [this video](#). If someone is looking for local birding spots, have them [check this out](#). We have tools for educators and new birders (see #2 above). If someone has a question, they can [contact the club](#) via website or by emailing duplicatebirdingclub@gmail.com. We're happy to help people find answers to their ornithological questions.
7. Not shy about sharing your affiliations? Buy (and wear) some [colorful DBC apparel](#).
8. Most satisfying of all, take a friend, family member, colleague, or acquaintance on a bird walk. If you see someone birding the trails, or if someone seems curious about what you're doing with that pair of binoculars strapped around you, tell them about the DBC!

Happy birding!

Steve

steve.constantelos@gmail.com

Save the Date: Birding and Breakfast August 14!

One of life's great pleasures is birding. Another is eating. Put them together and you have a perfect start to your day, Birding and Breakfast! AND it is a great opportunity to socialize and get to know new club members and see some friends you may not have seen for a while!

Please join us for a bird walk and casual breakfast at Pratt's Wayne Woods, Saturday, August 14. We will begin at 7:30 a.m. with a short bird walk. Then at 9:00 a.m., breakfast will be served in the picnic shelter. The club will provide bananas, bagels, donuts, juice, and coffee. All birders and potential birders are welcome! This is an activity the club has done in the past that has always been a pleasant morning. As the summer comes to an end it is a great time to get together and share highlights of summer birding experiences with others who share your interest in birding and the outdoors.

Pratt's Wayne has a variety of habitats so you might just be able to pick up one more bird for your summer list, spot a new dragonfly or see a butterfly or two. Pratt's Wayne is located at Powis Road south of Stearns Road in Wayne ([Driving Directions Here](#).) Meet at the picnic shelter.

July 8, 2021, 7:00 P.M. Zoom Meeting

Birds in the Garden: Creating and Enjoying a Bird Oasis Pam Karlson

NOTE: This program will not be recorded.

This past year many of us have spent more time than usual observing birds in our own backyards. July's program will provide inspiration for creating a great backyard bird habitat.

The program will feature Pam Karlson's photographs of the Chicago bird garden she created and its bird visitors, illustrating how it's possible to attract over 100 bird species in an urban garden. Tips include landscape enhancements, practices and plant selection, with an emphasis on natives and nativars. Chicagoland's importance along the migratory route, bird species diversity, habitat, diet/foraging, nesting, supplemental support and citizen science will also be discussed. Doug Tallamy's book, *Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard*, includes Pam's city garden, exemplifying the power of urban lots.

Pam Karlson is a career artist and certified professional gardener/garden designer. Art, nature and gardening have been her passions since early



childhood. She has been rescuing migratory birds since 2004 as a volunteer with licensed wildlife rescue/rehabilitation organizations. Residing in Chicago, she co-owns Waxwing Studio, Inc. with her artist husband, specializing in design, illustration, gardening/garden design, and landscape watercolor painting.

Preregister for this event here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0pceCsrD0sG9YQhvYH0SQoLgoW5vW6IQMI>

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

DBC Auction Is Coming October 14—Will You Volunteer?

Yes, preparations are underway for the 2021 DuPage Birding Club Auction! This year's auction will be on Thursday, October 14, at 7:00 PM at Cantigny Park. It will be a fun night with the very popular live auction, Birder's Bazaar, raffle, cookies, and a cash bar. Don't miss out. Mark your calendar now!

The auction event takes place every other year and serves as the club's primary fundraiser and your chance to support the excellent programs you enjoy as a member. It has allowed us to keep our dues low so that more members can enjoy our speakers, field trips, spring and winter bird counts, 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.

A successful auction depends on volunteers. We will need people to help with the pre-auction process and the night of the auction. All members are welcome to participate. Contact Natalie McFaul at natcatcher7@gmail.com if you'd like to serve on the committee or volunteer in a smaller capacity.

If you have a new bird-related item for the live auction or raffle that you'd like to donate, contact Natalie McFaul at natcatcher7@gmail.com.

58 Field Trips Year to Date—Time for a Shout-Out!

As we reach the half-year mark, it's time for a big shout-out to our field trip coordinators, Bonnie Graham and Joan Campbell, and the 27 field trip leaders who have made it possible to sponsor 58 field trips year-to-date, which includes 6 trips co-sponsored with Cantigny Park. In addition, there were extra trips some trip leaders scheduled to accommodate overflow registrants. This total is tracking WAY ahead of our typical year with 80 field trips.

Trips have explored DuPage and neighboring counties as well as distant sites like Hennepin & Hopper Lakes and the Mississippi River Valley. Special-focus trips have targeted beginning birders and birders with more limited mobility. And in a nod to the pandemic and social distancing guidelines, we introduced "Bird the Park," wherein members bird a site on their own and compare notes with other members they meet on the trail.

Thank you to Bonnie and Joan and every single one of our field trip leaders! You're part of what makes the DBC such an exciting and vital club.

Nancy Allured	John Hebert	Vicky Srocynski
Diann Bilderback	Lesia Hipes	Jeff Smith
Joan Campbell	Denis Kania	Jean and Bob Spitzer
John Cebula	Mary Loye	Andrew and Rebecca Steinmann
Jeff Chapman	Natalie McFaul	Pat Sterbling
Bob Fisher	Kathy Mineck	Joe Suchecki
Mark Freeburg	Jeff Reiter	Karen and Mike Warner
Bonnie Graham	Alan Seelye-Jones	Kyle Wiktor

Forest Preserve Invites Your Input on Master Plans

The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County is creating master plans for four of their most important preserves—Blackwell, Greene Valley, Waterfall Glen, and Willowbrook Wildlife Center. They want to hear from you through some quick surveys and open house events.

The first section below has informational links for all four preserves. The second section links you to quick surveys for each of these preserves. The third section lists open houses for Willowbrook (open houses for the other three preserves took place in June).

We encourage you to participate and let the Forest Preserve know that you bird these precious areas, and that you care about preserving and restoring natural habitats that are home to many nesting species as well as essential waystations for birds migrating through our county.

Information

Press release

<https://www.dupageforest.org/news/news-releases/preserve-master-plans>

Full timeline for the projects

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/d1fd31733c8c49739730b73f72641a04>

Willowbrook Wildlife Center

<https://www.dupageforest.org/news-upcoming-projects-willowbrook-phase-2>

Surveys

Blackwell Forest Preserve Survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BlackwellPublicFeedback>

Greene Valley Forest Preserve Survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GreeneValleyPublicFeedback>

Waterfall Glen Forest Preserve Survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/waterfallglenPublicFeedback>

Willowbrook Wildlife Center Survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WillowbrookPhase2Public>

Willowbrook Master Plan Open Houses

Thursday, July 29, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Zoom meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/91879536142?pwd=d21WZWFwbFBvZVFQbW9RTGNLZG5MZz09#success>

Saturday, July 31, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. In person at:

Picnic Pavilion at Willowbrook Wildlife Center, 525 S. Park Blvd. Glen Ellyn

Tuesday, Aug. 10, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. In person at:

Forest Preserve District Headquarters 3S580 Naperville Rd., Wheaton

Thanks to Dennis Streicher and Bob Fisher for consolidating this valuable information and bringing this opportunity to our attention!

Make Way for Nestlings: All-New Nesting Guide from Outreach

Just in time for nesting season, our Tools for Educators <https://dupagebirding.org/tools-for-educators/> will include an amazing, easy-to-use compilation of nesting characteristics of the 21 birds most commonly seen in DuPage County, created by new outreach member Kelly Hong. You will have facts about their nesting habitat, nest size and composition, number of broods, clutch size, incubation period, and much more, at your fingertips!

We continue to fulfill requests by local libraries and clubs for presentations. Recent topics include Spring Migration, Attracting Hummingbirds, and Gardening for Birds and Butterflies. Keep your ears open for school and scouting groups, retirement homes, and any others expressing a desire to learn more about birds, and please send them our way.

The DBC Community Outreach team is delightfully growing, with active members of all ages, from high schoolers to retirees! There's always room for more. If you'd like to be included in our Outreach Presenter Pool, we would welcome you with open arms! If you would like to engage with us or access Community Outreach tools, please email Donna Kubik at dkubik@dupagebirding.org. We hope to hear from you!

Let's Play Bird-Call-Bingo!

A companion to our Birdo-Bingo bird identification game has been introduced by the Forest Preserve of DuPage County. Called Bird-Call-Bingo, it lets you hear the calls of many of the birds featured in Birdo-Bingo with one easy click. The Forest Preserve has graciously allowed us to include a link on our website. Learn more about at www.dupagebirding.org/tools-for-educators.

Hone Your Skills for Summer Birding at the DBC YouTube Education Channel

It's summertime and the birding has slowed a bit. This is a great time to work on your birding skills. There is a great mini-tutorial set for release that can help you to prepare for your next field trip. In July we will be releasing a new tutorial titled "Summertime Birding at McKee Marsh" presented by Denis Kania. Watch for new releases on the first Wednesday of every month.

The education channel library also has several titles in its collection that can help you with many ID questions. Check these out so that you are at the top of your game next time you are out birding.

Three Grassland Sparrows – Savannah, Grasshopper and Henslow's Sparrows.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_BYuSIX9dxU

The Beak of the Bird – Many bird identifications are made easier by paying closer attention to bill structure.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ko7zTaFt4s8>

Vireos Without Wingbars – Be ready to distinguish a Red-eyed Vireo from Warbling Vireo and Philadelphia Vireo

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NbQG9MzNhD8>

NOTE: YouTube has instituted new terms of service and is now occasionally running ads on DBC videos. Please note that the club is not gaining any revenue from these ads, nor do we endorse the products appearing in these ads.

July 2021 Field Trips

Now is the time for birds to nest, raise their young, molt feathers, and prepare for the fall migration. There are opportunities for all types of birders to participate and enjoy the season.

Please remember that the weather can be variable and trails can be muddy, so dress accordingly and bring protection for biting insects, including ticks. We expect everyone to enjoy birding in a safe manner by being careful and prudent.

Participants are welcome to contact the leader if they have any questions. Our field trip leaders can help you find the trip's starting location if you need additional directions. Situations can sometimes change, so please check our DBC website www.dupagebirding.org for the latest status information.

NOTE: Registration with the trip leader is required; you are NOT registered until you receive a confirmation from the trip leader. Each trip has a participant limit ranging from 10 to 20 (including the leader). Absolutely no stretching the limit.

Field Trips will observe a few guidelines to ensure that our birding is safe and comfortable for all:

- It is expected that all field trip participants will follow the CDC's recommendations regarding masks and social distancing.
- Anyone not feeling well should not attend.
- Attendees of DBC field trips and other events who are under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.
- All field trip attendees should be aware of and follow the [ABA Code of Birding Ethics](#).

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

Saturday, July 10, 9:00 am

Swainson's Hawks, Kane County

Pre-registration with the leader is required, limit 15 participants.

This trip will be to look for the Swainson's Hawks that have traditionally nested in this area. Also, we will check out some nearby grassland locations for grassland birds such as Western Meadowlark. Pre-register for directions to meeting spot and/or car-pooling opportunities.

Leader: Bob Fisher, 630-985-2956, bfisher928@aol.com

Sunday, July 11, 7:00 am - 9:00 am

Pratt's Wayne Woods, Wayne

Pre-registration with the leader is required, limit 20 participants.

Designated as an Audubon Important Bird Area, this is the largest forest preserve in DuPage County. We will be looking for summer residents, including wrens, sparrows and marsh birds. Meet at the Pickerel Lake parking lot off Powis Rd.

Leader: Diann Bilderback, diann.bilderback@yahoo.com

Tuesday, July 13, 7:00 am - 9:00 am

Danada Forest Preserve (East), Wheaton

Pre-registration with the leader is required, limit 10 participants.

This morning we will look for grassland birds, and check out the lake and the wooded areas. Meet at the parking lot east of Naperville Rd. in Wheaton.

Leader: Nancy Allured, nallured@comcast.net

Thursday, July 22, 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Greene Valley, Woodridge

Pre-registration with the leader is required, limit 20 participants.

This morning trip is oriented towards our summer residents. Most of the walk will be on gravel or mulch paths. Wear appropriate shoes and bring bug spray. Don't forget to bring some water to stay hydrated. As always, new birders are welcome as we will take a leisurely pace to provide as much time as desired to look at each bird and to answer questions on equipment or bird identification. Meet at the Thunderbird Youth Camp Parking Lot. Go west on 79th St. about 1/2 mile; the entrance is south of 79th St., west of Greene Rd. in Naperville/Woodridge.

Leader: Bonnie Graham, coye72112@gmail.com , 630 204-8750

Tuesday, July 27, 7:30 - 9:30 am

Bird Sit at Fullersburg Woods, Oak Brook

Pre-registration with the leader is required, limit 10 participants.

This is a field trip for anyone who finds the long walks of our regular field trips too difficult or who would just like a less vigorous birding experience, but still share the camaraderie of fellow birders. Bring your folding lawn chairs, binoculars, and field guides. We will be birding at Fullersburg Woods near the Nature Education Center. We will meet in the main parking lot (NOT the lot for Graue Mill). Birders of all levels are welcome.

The main entrance is at 3609 Spring Road, 1 mile south of 31st Street and 0.25 mile north of Ogden Avenue. [Fullersburg Woods website](#). Dress for the weather and bring bug spray (sitting, we are easy targets for mosquitoes!) and drinking water.

Thursday July 29, 7:00 AM

Bird the Park: McDowell Grove, Naperville

This is a leaderless birding experience, you do not need to sign up with the leader.

You will bird on your own between the hours of 7 AM and 10 AM. The idea is you will “bump” into fellow birders as you make your way along the trail loop, chat a little about what you are seeing, then move on and hopefully run into another birder further along the trail. You can start at 7 or sleep in and start at 8 or even 9!

The route we will bird is as follows: from the parking lot follow the West Branch trail south to the 1.2 mile loop trail head north on the 1.2 mile loop and follow it around and back to the parking lot. [Map](#) As always you can hike the loop in either direction.

McDowell Grove is on the east side of Raymond Drive, south of Interstate 88. The main entrance is south of Diehl Road, approximately 1 mile north of Ogden Avenue (Route 34). [McDowell Grove website](#). Dress for the weather, bring bug spray and water.

Organizer: Natalie McFaul, natcatcher7@gmail.com

NOTE: Don't forget to register with the leaders. You are not registered until you receive a confirmation from the leader.

Cantigny posts field trips several months in advance on the Cantigny website, and for that reason they are often sold out by the time the DBC publishes its monthly calendar. To ensure your spot on a monthly Cantigny field trip, check [Events | Cantigny](#) and sign up there.

For additional birding opportunities, check out the Illinois Birding Calendar at <http://www.illinoisbirds.org/illinois-birding-calendar/> or the DuPage and Cook County forest preserves: <https://www.dupageforest.org/calendar-of-events>, www.fpdcc.com/events.

Non-members are always welcome. We do not charge fees for birding trips. Field trip information is also found at: www.dupagebirding.org.

Email us if you have questions or would like to lead a trip. Leaders do not have to be birding experts, just familiar with the location.

Field Trip Coordinators:

Bonnie Graham, coye72112@gmail.com

Joan Campbell, peachjmc@gmail.com



DuPage Birding Club

2021 Meeting Schedule

January 14	July 8
March 11	September 9
April 8	October 14
May 13	November 11

2021 DBC Executive Committee Members

President: Steve Constantelos

Vice President: Natalie McFaul

Treasurer: John Hebert

Recording Secretary: Andrea Duffy

Corresponding Secretary: Joe Suchecki

Director: Donna Kubik

Director: Jane Barnett

Director: Denis Kania

Contact the Board and its members at dupagebirdingclub@gmail.com or by filling in the online form at <https://dupagebirding.org/contact/>.

2021 DBC Committee Chairs

Audio-Visual Coordinator: **OPEN**

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

Christmas Count Coordinator: Jeff Chapman

Communications: Diann Bilderback

DBC Apparel: Steve Constantelos

Drummings Newsletter: Jeff Smith

Email Distribution: Bob Fisher

Facebook: John Cebula, Glenn Perricone

Field Trips: Bonnie Graham, Joan Campbell

Flickr: Urs Geiser

Forest Preserve Liaison: Dennis Streicher

Grants and Donations: Vera Miller

Hospitality: Geralynn Hoffmann

Instagram: Madison Olivieri

Lending Library: Jeff Smith

Membership Directory: Susan Kaley

Outreach/Youth Education: Donna Kubik

Spring Count Coordinator: Joe Suchecki

Twitter: Vera Miller

Webmasters: Nancy Allured, Barb Dougan

YouTube Educational Channel: Denis Kania,
Steve Constantelos