



President's Message

I hope you had a wonderful month of fall birding, sharing experiences with fellow club members and other birdy friends. Nearly every time I walked out my door, birds were everywhere: a Golden-crowned Kinglet landing a few feet away as I traversed a Chicago neighborhood, and hordes of American Robins popped up at seemingly every preserve. In one park along the DuPage, I came upon a Great Horned Owl sitting serenely in a tree surrounded by a flock of songbirds, darting around in their morning feeding. October 9th was a global Big Day—more about that later in this newsletter.

Upcoming Events

November 11, 2021

Zoom Meeting
See page 5 for details

December 18, 2021

Christmas Bird Count
See page 10 for details.

Winter Birding

Although birds are abundant during migration, identification can be tricky with molting birds, young birds, and leafy trees abounding. Winter birding offers a contrast to this—more settled plumage, fewer species, and far fewer leaves. I am happy that recently more than one person has told me they thought winter birding was a great time for new birders. I completely agree.

Maybe this notion rings true to me because when I returned to the Chicago area, I searched for volunteer opportunities—and one of them turned out to be the all-day Christmas Bird Count (CBC). I got to know our leader, Linda Padera, her husband Frank, and a cadre of other friendly, stalwart people who were willing to stand perfectly still in the cold looking for birds. For a few years, I didn't bird much other than the Christmas and Spring counts, but my knowledge grew year by year anyway—eventually I joined the DBC and stepped things up. I have Linda and that group to thank for that more than anyone.

November is a great time to get acclimated to the cold, to get ready for the CBC and other winter birding adventures. Properly layered up, birding in winter has a lovely aesthetic—there is the thrill of the “hunt” and much less traffic on the paths. It's a great time to study the differences between Hairy and Downy woodpeckers. Great satisfaction can be found in seeing a stray Ruddy Duck that's stayed behind, or one of those indomitable overwintering bluebirds. There is a certain charm for me in standing by a patch of withered grasses waiting for that mystery sparrow to pop back up, with the hum of ComEd power lines as backdrop.

I hope you'll participate in this year's Christmas Bird Count. You don't even have to bird the whole day; just getting out there for some of it is a contribution. There's an announcement in this newsletter for the FermiLab Circle count, which will be held on Saturday, December 18. Contact Jeff Chapman at jeffchapman948@gmail.com to sign up. And if you're up for playing two, there's the nearby Lisle-Arboretum Circle that is holding its count on Sunday, December 19. Email Carl Giometti at chicagiometti@gmail.com for more on that one.



A Christmas Bird Counter's dream—three visible Song Sparrows in one place! Photo by Stan Barrack.

Celebrating a Red-tailed Hawk

A few weeks ago, I visited Lake County's Ryerson Conservation Area. Although I greatly enjoyed seeing Red-headed Woodpeckers among the snags and morning drizzle, the highlight for me was learning about their resident Red-tailed Hawk, who passed away on May 7, 2021. She was rescued in 1988 and after healing from her injuries could not fly, only glide. She spent the next 33 years as a wildlife ambassador. Honoring her origins as a wild bird, she was called "Red-Tailed Hawk." To see her life in photos and read her touching story, click [here](#).

Happy birding!

Steve / steve.constantelos@gmail.com

2022 Slate of Officers and New Volunteers Prepare for the New Year

The slate of proposed officers for DBC's 2022 Board has been finalized and will be presented to members for voting at the November 11 club Zoom meeting. Here's a preview for your consideration:

President—Natalie McFaul has been birding for over 20 years. She served a year as a Director back in 2012. In 2019 she stepped into a vacant Director position and in 2021 took on the role of Vice-President. As VP, Natalie lined up speakers for club meetings, participated in the Outreach program, and helped organize the Birders and Breakfast and Volunteer Luncheon events. She also experimented with some new field trip ideas: Bird Sits and Bird the Park. Natalie feels strongly that it is important to give back to a club that offers so many field trip opportunities and congenial people to share the adventures of birding.

Vice-President—Mike Warner. Mike and his wife Karen have had an interest in birds for many years. They would go to ranger-led talks about birds in the state and enjoy looking at birds during hikes in national parks. About eight years ago Mike's brother in Connecticut challenged them to find 100 species during the month of May. A hundred species! Why, they thought that was impossible! But they were up to the challenge and went out birding every day that May and ended up seeing 123 species. That's when they became passionate about birding!

Since then they go out birding every opportunity they can. Mike enjoys photographing birds and even has his own website, GreatBirdPics.com, to display his pics and encourage others to post their photos there, too. They use eBird every time they go out and enjoy checking their stats there. Mike says they still have much to learn about birds and being a member of DBC provides them with many opportunities to gain in their birding knowledge.

Treasurer—Jane Barnett has served as a DBC Board Director since mid-2020, when she filled a mid-year vacancy after a Director moved out of town. During her time on the Board, Jane helped with various projects and social events, including Birders and Breakfast and the Volunteer Luncheon. Jane is now volunteering to be Treasurer. She is comfortable with numbers and spreadsheets after a 30-year career in banking from which she retired two years ago. Jane has been a bird and nature enthusiast for decades, obtaining an Ornithology Certificate in the former Morton Arboretum program and a Master Naturalist certification through the University of Illinois Extension Service. She also volunteers for the Downers Grove Park District and Morton Arboretum Natural Areas.

Recording Secretary—Angela Levernier moved to DuPage County in 2004 from downstate Illinois. After taking several birding classes at the Morton Arboretum, she joined the DuPage Birding Club. Going to school for botany mostly entailed looking at the ground instead of paying attention to wildlife, and birding didn't become a hobby until late in grad school after becoming friends with several ornithologists in the same program. Luckily her husband Wally also enjoys birding and they frequently hike, bird, and travel together, mostly along with their border collie/lab mix sidekick. Angela has also served as Secretary of the Illinois Native Plant Society for the past 4 years.

Corresponding Secretary—Joe Suchecki continues in this role, promoting the club in media channels and other communications efforts. Joe has long served the club—as President, Spring Bird Count coordinator, field trip leader, annual presenter at Members' Night, and Dean of Springbrook Prairie. This past year he also produced some fantastic videos for the club's YouTube channel, and made podcast and club meeting appearances.

Director—**Dennis Streicher** began birding in 1977, before the formation of the DBC. Very early in his birding experience he ran into Dick Blewett (the club's founder and first President) and regularly birded with Dick on Spring counts and Christmas counts. Dennis attended the formational meetings of the club at Dick's home in Bloomingdale where he and other DBC pioneers discussed how to get area birders to share information. (This is before cellphones and the internet, so getting the word out about local sightings took some effort!) When the group became too large to meet at Dick's home they moved to the College of DuPage, voted on the first bylaws, and the Club was officially born.

Dennis served as a Director in those early days, but work and life in general drew him away from active participation in the club. After working 40 years in a public utility, Dennis retired as Director of Water and Wastewater from a local municipality, but continues to be active in water quality issues. While working, Dennis and two others formed the DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup with the mission of addressing remaining water quality issues in our local rivers. The group has successfully removed several dams in Salt Creek and the East Branch of the DuPage and continues to target other dams and river restoration projects, including the Graue Mill Dam at Fullersburg.

Director—**Sirimon Reutrakul** began birding in 2004 during a family trip to the Everglades, when Sarida, her child, who was four at a time, showed interest in shore birds. The whole family gradually picked up birding, initially as a tag-along activity on trips but then as the main focus, which slowly transformed into everyday birding. Birding spread to their parents who started in their 70's as well (never too late!). South and Central Americas (Peru, Ecuador, Costa Rica), Asia (Borneo, Indonesia, Japan), Australia and New Zealand are among places visited (although always needing to go back as they didn't see enough!). With a family and home in Thailand, it's one of her favorite places to visit and bird. Lastly, backyard visitors bring daily joy. She is so grateful as birding is the family activity that everyone enjoys and brings quality time into their relationship. Sirimon would like to spread love and conservation of birds around.

Director—**Steve Constantelos** has led the club as President in 2021 and will continue to serve on the Board, pitching in and making sure everyone feels at home in their new positions. As President, Steve had a hand in all things DBC, including club meetings and events, the *Drummings*, field trips, outreach, and our YouTube channel. He will continue in some of these capacities and cast an eye toward some new projects.

A number of valued volunteers are leaving the Board at the end of 2021. Director and Past President **Denis Kania** will continue his industrious educational efforts for the club, leading field trips, delivering outreach talks, creating content for our YouTube channel, and maybe a surprise or two. Recording Secretary **Andie Duffy** will continue to help plan DBC events and will be taking up a hospitality role at club meetings. Look for Treasurer **John Hebert** to contribute to field trip and outreach efforts, while Director **Donna Kubik** will maintain her leadership of the innovative Outreach Committee.

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:

Karen Warner and **Wally Levernier** will be our Field Trip Coordinators in 2022. Thank you, **Bonnie Graham** and **Joan Campbell**, for service in lining up a fantastic array of club trips. Also, a welcome to **Keri Myslinski**, who joins **Maddie Olivieri** in managing our Instagram account: @dupagebirdingclub.

Coming November 11, 2021, via Zoom: “21 Years of Breeding Bird Monitoring by the Bird Conservation Network”

Presenters: To be announced

Join the DBC November meeting for this in-depth look at the status of our region’s breeding bird species. The Bird Conservation Network (BCN) is a coalition of 20+ local and regional birding and conservation organizations; the DuPage Birding Club is a member.

BCN volunteers use scientific protocols to monitor bird populations throughout the Chicago region during the breeding season. Their data is used to help land managers improve habitat for our breeding species, prioritize species of concern, and provide a measuring stick for progress in local and regional restoration projects.

BCN recently completed a massive data analysis/update of what is now 21 years of breeding bird monitoring data. The speakers will present highlights from this important resource, examining local breeding bird population trends, and discuss how this valuable database is put to use. This will be an interesting night in which DBC members have an opportunity to see firsthand how on-the-ground citizen science and data collection are used to help protect our local birds.

The slate of 2022 DBC board nominees will also be presented for a vote by the DBC membership at this meeting. We hope you can attend!

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vc-CgrTopE9aveAXE5lsvCb3ExSAiS8cQ>

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

In Case You Missed it: October 14, 2021 Meeting: “Where in the World are the Birds?”



So, you’ve birded in local forest preserves and have traveled around the U.S. expanding your bird list. How about venturing to more distant places?

At the October 14 meeting, Joe Suchecki and Denis Kania, longtime DBC members and experienced international travelers, inspired Zoom viewers to

venture even farther in the world. So many birds and other species can only be found in other countries and on other continents, so maybe it’s time to fulfill that bucket list destination while making new friends along the way.

Denis and Joe described different ways to plan an international trip and offered resources to help with the process. They shared some of their experiences as well as many photos of birds, other animals, and some of the diverse environments they’ve enjoyed.

As Denis concluded, “The opportunities are endless.”

The presentation can be viewed on the DBC Education Channel at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?>

DBC Volunteers Gather at Hidden Lake Luncheon October 2

The DuPage Birding Club exists because of its many volunteers. Volunteers sit on the board, lead and organize all the field trips, publish the *Drummings*, manage the website, plan events, produce content for the DBC Education Channel, share their birding expertise through outreach programs, and do a hundred other big and little things to make this club engaging, vibrant, and fun!

In October, DBC volunteers gathered for a little birding and a thank-you lunch at Hidden Lake Forest Preserve. The weather was pleasant and the pizza delicious. On the morning walk, there were several warblers—Northern Parula, Bay-breasted and Black-throated Green—also a Kingfisher and several Rose-breasted Grosbeaks. In addition, the group was treated to a pair of Wilson’s Snipe feeding along the shore of Round Meadow Lake! It was a day of great birds and exceptional company.

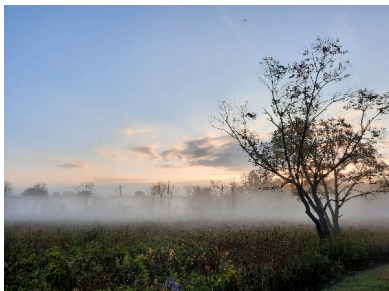


Thanks to the organizers of the event: Jane Barnett, Andie Duffy, Donna Kubik, and Natalie McFaul. And a big, big thank you to all of our DBC volunteers. You make good things happen!

October 9 Big Day Delivers Big Fun

The DBC joined the global community and 33,000 other birders by participating in eBird’s October 9 Big Day, celebrating Global Birding Weekend and World Migratory Bird Day. It was a sparkling day with mild temps and mostly clear skies.

Fifteen club members submitted 21 checklists covering 14 sites, from backyards and neighborhoods, from Hidden Lake to Cantigny, from McKee Marsh to the Greene Valley Hawkwatch. A couple ventured out of DuPage: Batavia’s Riverwalk in Kane County and Axehead Lake/Chippewa Woods in Cook County, where a great number of Yellow-rumped Warblers and swallows were seen. In all, 90 species were counted, including a variety of waterfowl and migrating raptors. Among many highlights, a few club members shared recollections and photos from the day.



“I arrived at Greene Valley and was greeted by a beautiful misty sunrise. I walked for about an hour on my own, then was joined by my friend Andie Duffy. We birded for about an hour and then I went up to see what was flying overhead at the Hawk Watch. My favorite birds were a singing White-crowned Sparrow and Golden-crowned Kinglet.”

--Natalie McFaul

“I didn’t have a ton of time for birding on the October Big Day, but I did get out to my local patch spot, called the Bensenville Ditch, and I was able to observe an American White Pelican flying over. This bird is very uncommon in the county so I was happy to have been able to see it.”

--Henry Meade



“I walked the entire Springbrook Prairie Trail just after sunrise and lifting of the fog on Saturday, October 9. My favorite sightings were three Northern Harriers—one north of the model airplane parking lot, another near the fire station, and the last along Book Road. My best photo is of one of the 19 House Finches scattered around the preserve.”

--Rick Roche

FermiLab is not open to the public at this time, but we got a glimpse of birdlife there thanks to two club members who are employees, Wally Levernier and Donna Kubik. One of their highlights was this pair of Marsh Wrens.

Visit the DBC page and view our lists by clicking [here](#). Thank you to all who submitted lists!

To view global and country-based results from October 9, visit eBird’s page: <https://ebird.org/octoberbigday>. We plan to continue participating in these sponsored Big Days, and maybe design one of our own. In the meantime, field trip leaders and groups of DBCers are encouraged to share their outings with the club’s eBird account: **DuPageBC**.



A Standout Backyard Birding Day for the IOS Big Sit

Some DuPage Birding Club members formed enthusiastic teams for the Illinois Ornithological Society's Big Sit competition held the weekend of September 24–26. Vera and David Miller joined Vera's father Ron Leopold and David's mother Joanne Miller for a team called "Return of the Batty Pelicans," tallying birds from their backyard wildlife sanctuary in Downers Grove. As DBC's Twitter administrator, Vera live-tweeted their Big Sit experience!



For a Big Sit, participants stay put all day and try to identify as many birds as they can by sight or sound from within a 20-foot circle. The Batty Pelicans chose to count on Friday, September 24th. Their effort began before dawn at 6:30 a.m., with the team recording Northern Cardinal, American Robin, and White-breasted Nuthatch from their count circle.

As the sun rose higher, the species quickly racked up. Woodpeckers had a strong showing with four species. A House Wren appeared in the brushpile, scolding, while a Red-eyed Vireo arrived to eat a large caterpillar in the maple tree nearby. A Red-breasted Nuthatch gave its tiny-truck-backing-up call.

As the morning wore on, the team tallied a total of five migrating warbler species, including two Chestnut-sided Warblers (a first for the Miller yard!) that foraged through the trees at close range. An adult Bald Eagle that soared over midday provided a thrilling final species for the count. In total, the Downers Grove team found 32 species, beating their previous Big Sit record of 25 found in 2020.

The Batty Pelicans weren't the only ones counting in DuPage. Several DBC hawk watchers formed a GV Gray Ghosts team, recording birds from the Greene Valley scenic overlook. As part of IOS' 2021 Big Sit, each team asked for pledges and donations, which went toward IOS' mission of supporting birds and birding in Illinois. In all, 13 teams perched across Illinois raised a total of \$11,764 for IOS initiatives and spotted a whopping 182 bird species! Consider joining them in the fun next fall!

Learn more about IOS and the 2021 Big Sit here: <https://www.illinoisbirds.org/bigsit/>.



Ron Leopold (left) and David Miller (right) counting in the Millers' Downers Grove backyard at dawn.



Ron Leopold and Joanne Miller toward the end of the Millers' Big Sit count.

DBC Members Honored by the DuPage Forest Preserve District

October 27th was looking like another typically slow day at the Greene Valley Hawkwatch with the predicted light, southeast winds. By the time Hawkwatch coordinator Bob Fisher arrived on top of the hill an unusually high number of fellow hawkwatchers were already in attendance. Perhaps hoping that another Golden Eagle should pass by? Shortly after Bob arrived, as Katherine Howard distracted him with bird photos on her camera, a parade of vehicles climbed the road to the top. Bob, still looking at the photos, was not aware of the small crowd that had gathered.

In a surprise ceremony, Erik Neidy (Director, Natural Resources Management, DuPage Forest Preserve District,) and Cindy Hedges (Stewardship Program Coordinator,) presented Bob Fisher with a plaque, honoring the twenty-five years-plus of service by Karen and Bob Fisher. Karen and Bob monitored birds at Waterfall Glen and Wood Ridge Forest Preserves. Erik also acknowledged Bob's frequent and selfless speaking engagements and instructional talks to the staff and the Board of Directors, his persistent advocacy on behalf of birds, wildlife, and conservation efforts of the Natural Resources Management department, and his willingness to pick up the phone and make personal contact to work with others and reach goals. Bob consulted with the district to install the least-impactful trails at Oldfield Oaks Forest Preserve. Bob and Karen were instrumental in the founding of the hawk watch, conducted Breeding Bird Surveys, and a Pines Study at Waterfall Glen.

In attendance were Scott Meister (Manager of Natural Resources,) many hawkwatch volunteers, and friends of Bob and the hawk watch from DuPage Birding Club, including President Steve Constantelos and Natalie McFaul, Vice-President. True to his character, Bob downplayed his individual efforts and thanked the group for their volunteer service and support. It was a joyous occasion, on a beautiful day. Watch for a granite stone to be placed soon, with an engraved plaque designating the hawk watch site as "Fisher Point." Congratulations to Bob Fisher for this well-deserved honor!



Erik Neidy, Bob, and Cindy Hedges



Photos and story by Vicky Sroczyński

Sign Up for Christmas Bird Count December 18!

As winter draws near and we pull out our woollies and mittens, it's time to start planning for the annual Christmas Bird Count, December 18, when more than 100 of us will show our Midwestern grit by braving the elements to count every bird we see. This important Citizen Science census provides valuable data about bird population trends, wintering habits, abundance, and more. It's also a fun day to share your love of birding with like-minded fellows.

If you would like to join a team this year, contact CBC compiler Jeff Chapman at jeffchapman948@gmail.com. If you can devote a half day or full day, either one works. You don't have to be an expert birder either, as you will be paired with others. Find time to do this—you won't regret it!

New and Review-Worthy at the DBC Education Channel

This month the DBC Education channel team will release a tutorial outlining a strategy for finding Harris's Sparrows in the fall. Watch for the new release on the first Wednesday of the 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 as waterfowl migration progresses.

The education channel has several waterfowl ID videos for your review.

Fall Grebes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ygpBhVj-AeY&t>

The Odd Goose

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4XNGrw0ar8o&t>

Two Scaup and Ring-necked Duck

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b4u2QzKaZ9w&t>

Female Dabbling Ducks

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MUBkH3n9IPI&t>

If you would like to work on your bird song skills you should begin by reviewing

Bird Identification Without Binoculars

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=poMBh_whArc&t

There are many tutorials in the library to help you with tips on everything from bird song identification to understanding bird topography. Watch the videos of your choice and hone your skills for the next time you are in the field birding.

Annual Dues Renewal Time is Near

Your 2022 annual dues for membership in the DuPage Birding Club are due by December 31. Dues remain \$20 for individuals, \$30 for families, and \$10 for students. We know it's early, but we hope to close the membership roster very early in 2022 in order to publish a timely Member Directory.

Please note that any new member joining on or after September 1 is automatically registered for 2022 and need not renew their membership.

Dues may be paid through our website using PayPal or credit card. Here is the link to the renewal page of our website: <https://dupagebirding.org/renew/> Dues may also be paid by check and mailed to:

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

There's Still Time: Join Project FeederWatch!

This annual bird-counting program from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Birds Canada runs from November through April. Cornell gives you tools to keep track of the birds that visit your chosen count area (most people count at home), and you will contribute to a growing database on the dynamics of bird populations across North America.

Guess what: you can FeederWatch without feeders! If you have plantings, water, or other features that bring birds to your yard even without feeders, you can still participate. In fact, counts without feeders are just as important as counts with feeders.

For more information, visit: <https://feederwatch.org/>

A Unique Set of Books, Looking for a Good Home.

Are you interested in buying a complete and largely unopened set of the 16-Volume Handbook of the Birds of the World? The books were shipped straight from Lynx Edicions in Barcelona as they were published--some are still in their original shipping box. From the estate of deceased member Bill Stecher of Downers Grove who passed in a tragic car accident birding in Mexico many years ago. If you're interested, contact Richard Newman at RRPNEWMAN@yahoo.com. Asking price at present is \$1,500 and they can be picked-up in DeKalb or delivery can be arranged to DuPage.

News from the Forest Preserve

Celebrate Oaktober: Over 500 types of insects rely on oak trees, and numerous birds and other critters rely on those insects. These mighty oaks need our support to ensure healthy populations. Oak experts are available to speak to groups and individuals, organizations, and clubs to encourage them to plant oaks, and there are many programs on oaks at the Forest Preserves. Visit <https://www.dupageforest.org/blog/celebrate-oaktober> for more information.

Songbird Slough - Mill Road Purchase: The Forest Preserve has approved a contract for purchase of a property adjacent to Songbird Slough called Mill Road.

Salt Creek Greenway Forest Preserve: An intergovernmental agreement between the FPDDC and the Elmhurst Park District was approved to provide for the continued use of a trail benefiting both agencies and residents.

Hine's Emerald Dragonfly: A federally endangered species, the Hine's Emerald Dragonfly, is found only in a few parts of the Midwest, one of which is here in DuPage. In a recent action, the dragonfly was declared a priority to the Forest Preserve.

2019 Illinois Survey Results (FPDDC): A presentation by [The Conservation Foundation](#) reviewed a survey conducted in 2019 to determine the support for referendums and open space in DuPage. 1,200 voters were interviewed. An 80% favorable rating was given. Over the history of the past 20 years or so there have been two referendums and both passed in DuPage County. Voters overwhelmingly support open space, conservation, and using their dollars for this purpose. DuPage lined up with very similar views with the other 5 collar counties. The highest approval rating for uses of funds are:

- Protect drinking water
- Protect water quality
- Reduce flooding
- Protect wetlands
- Protect watersheds to improve water quality of rivers, lakes and streams
- Move or modify dams to restore rivers
- Create and maintain resilient and sustainable ecosystems
- Improve air quality and plant trees
- Nature education for kids
- Protect wildlife habitat
- Protect endangered species
- Recreational Uses such as trails for walking/biking and support for fishing, hiking, picnicking

Financing for Future Capital Projects: The Forest Preserve District is considering a bond issuance for the following projects:

- | | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------|--------------------|----|---------------------|----|
| • Willowbrook | \$22 M | • Land Acquisition | 6M | • Fleet replacement | 4M |
| • Mayslake Exterior | 6M | • WFG Parking lot | 2M | | |

November 2021 Field Trips

This is the month where migration wraps up and early winter birds are seen. 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.

Monday, November 8, 7:30 am – 10:30 am

Pratt's Wayne Woods, Bartlett

Pre-registration with the leader is required, limit 10 participants. Call or text only to register.

On this trip, we will check out different spots within this massive IBA (Important Bird Area) for resident birds and late fall migrants. This time of year should be good for finding a variety of waterfowl. We will meet at the parking lot for Harrier Lake on the south side of Sterns Rd., west of Munger Rd., and east of Powis Rd. After checking that area, we will all drive to other spots in Pratt's Wayne, and depending on time may even visit other nearby sites.

Leader: Kyle Wiktor, call or text 708-506-5186

Tuesday, November 9, 8:00 – 10:00 am **NOTE New Time!

Bird Sit at Herrick Lake West Shelter, Wheaton

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. Dress for the weather, it might be cold! Bring drinking water.

We will be birding at the Herrick Lake West Shelter. Meet at the parking lot located on the east side Herrick Road south of Butterfield (Hwy 56). Drive all the way to the end of the parking lot, the shelter is on the right. The lot for the West shelter is located on the east side of Herrick Road south of Butterfield. [Herrick Lake](#)

[Forest Preserve](#)

Leader: Natalie McFaul, natcatcher7@gmail.com

Sunday, November 14, 7:30 am – 9:30 am

Seager Park, Naperville

Pre-registration with the leader is required, limit 12 participants.

Let's see what birds may still be passing through or settling in for winter in this 30-acre patch of woods, ephemeral wetland, and grass, with lots of edge habitat. New birders welcome. We'll take our time and keep our eyes and ears open for woodpeckers, kinglets, creepers, raptors, and crows. Trails are mostly gravel, grass, and dirt/mud, with some chip and pavement. We have an option to descend into the beautiful ravine down a somewhat steep slope. Meet at Seager Park at 1163 Plank Road, Naperville 60563. Google Maps link [here](#). Indoor restrooms available.

Leader: Steve Constantelos, 630-890-8956, steve.constantelos@gmail.com

Friday, November 19, 8:00 am – 11:30 am

Southeast DuPage and Southwest Cook Waterfowl Search

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

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

Monday, November 22, 8:00 am – 11:30 am

Southeast DuPage and Southwest Cook Waterfowl Search

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

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

Tuesday, November 23, 7:30 am – 10:30 am

McKee Marsh, Warrenville

Pre-registration with the leader is required, limit 20 participants. Call or text only to register.

Join our morning walk around the marsh to check out late fall migrants and wintering birds. Northern Shrike, American Black Duck, and many other species of birds regularly winter at this site. There should be some late fall migrants present as well. 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 Preserve limestone and earthen trails; wear appropriate shoes and clothing.

Leader: Kyle Wiktor, 708-506-5186

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



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