



President's Message

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone has had a chance to get out and do a little holiday birding either on the annual Christmas Bird Count, one of the DBC field trips or on your own at your favorite spot. If not, you can start the new year right by joining one of the **January field trips**! January, with its bare trees and open landscape, is a great time to get a good look at some of our wintering birds. Our new field trip coordinators, Karen Warner and Wally Levernier, have put together a nice list of January field trips.

Next Meeting

January 13, 2022

Zoom Meeting

See page 3 for Details.

Gull Frolic

February 19, 2022

See Page 2 for Details.

Take your camera when you go so you can capture a winning photo for the **DuPage Birding Club Photo Contest**. All photos are welcome: amateur, funny, imperfect and high quality. We want to see what you've seen in December, January and February whether it is out your back window or basking in the sun in the Florida Keys. For entry information and more details, check out the article in this Drummings.

A long, cold January night is a great time to sharpen your birding skills by checking out some of the many titles on the **DBC's Education Channel**. Visit the [DBC YouTube](#) site with a cup of cocoa and learn something new.

January is also a time of looking to the past and toward the future. Looking back, I want to thank Steve Constantelos for doing a great job leading the club and say goodbye to board members Andie Duffy, Donna Kubik, John Hebert and Denis Kania. It has been great fun working with all of you! I look forward to working with returning board members Steve Constantelos, Joe Suchecki, and Jane Barnett along with our new board members, Mike Warner, Sirimon Reutrakul, Dennis Streicher and Angela Levernier. I think it is going to be a great year for the DBC!

Wishing you all a great year of birding,
Natalie

Happy New Year, Everyone!



We survived year 2 of the pandemic—and that's worth celebrating! Hoping your holiday season was full of good cheer and your New Year is rich with good friends, good health, and of course, good birds!

Make sure you start 2022 on the right foot with an up-to-date DBC membership. Read on...

Call for Action: Get Your Dues in Now!

Your 2022 annual dues for membership in the DuPage Birding Club were due by December 31. This income funds our operations, helps us attract topnotch speakers, and enables us to make grants and donations to worthy bird-related initiatives. Dues are especially important this year as we have had to postpone our major fundraiser, the biennial auction.

Dues remain \$20 for individuals, \$30 for families, and \$10 for students. 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

The Gull Frolic is Back!

Saturday, February 19, marks the return of The Gull Frolic, a unique winter event sponsored by Illinois Ornithological Society (IOS) at gull hotspot North Point Marina. Join your fellow birders and gull experts outside the yacht club to look for some of our winter gull rarities, including Iceland (Thayer's and Kumlien's), Glaucous, Great Black-backed, and Lesser Black-backed Gulls. You might also find scoters, goldeneye, and other diving ducks, along with the occasional raptor, owl, or winter finch. IOS volunteers will be available to help answer questions.

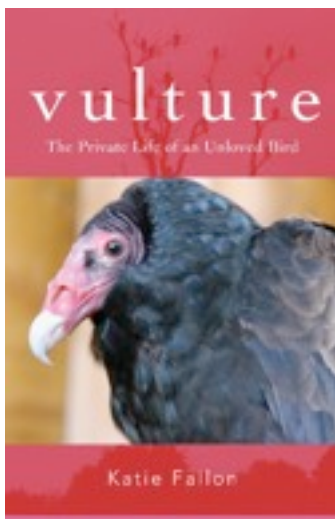
Your \$35 registration fee includes breakfast and lunch, access to hot cocoa in the Yacht Club, a great speaker program exploring bird coloration, and more. Tickets sell out quickly so sign up NOW if you have an interest. <https://www.illinoisbirds.org/event/gull-frolic-2022/>



January 13, 2022 7:00 P.M. Zoom Meeting:

Vultures—The Private Life of an Unloved Bird Speaker: Katie Fallon

We see them on warm summer days gliding overhead, tipping their wings as they gracefully spiral up the late afternoon thermals. Vultures flying overhead are a pretty common sight here in Illinois—it is much rarer to see these large birds up close.



Our January speaker, Katie Fallon, will offer an intimate look at vultures. Vultures are often overlooked, underappreciated, and unloved, despite the vital role they play in healthy ecosystems. Worldwide, vultures are more likely to be threatened or endangered than any other group of raptor, but in the United States, Turkey and Black Vultures may be increasing in number. Based on Katie Fallon’s book, this fun presentation will discuss the life and times of the noble Turkey Vulture, including its feeding, nesting, and roosting habits, migratory behaviors, and common misconceptions.

Katie Fallon is the author of the nonfiction books *Vulture: The Private Life of an Unloved Bird* (2020, 2017) and *Cerulean Blues: A Personal Search for a Vanishing Songbird* (2011), as well as two books for children. She is a founder of the Avian Conservation Center of Appalachia, a nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving the region’s wild birds through research, education, and rehabilitation, and has served as President of the Mountaineer Chapter of the National Audubon Society. A member of the International Association of Avian Trainers and Educators, Katie has worked with birds since 1998; over the last 20 years she has given educational presentations featuring live raptors, vultures, parrots, and corvids. She is also a columnist for *Bird Watcher’s Digest* and has taught writing at West Virginia University, Virginia Tech, and elsewhere. Her first word was “bird.”

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwpc-qsrzMsHtEOb9Qd85fYxakLY1QXVeHP>

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

Save the Date: DBC Members' Night March 10

The DuPage Birding Club's annual Members' Night will be via Zoom on Thursday, March 10, 2022, and all DuPage Birding Club photographers are invited to share their favorite bird photos and stories that evening. The photos can be from any birding location, and all levels of photographic expertise will be welcomed. Start thinking about what your presentation might be now—signup information will be in next month's Drummings.

DuPage Birding Club Photo Contest Open Through February 28

The DuPage Birding Club is proud to announce its first bird photography contest! The DBC is looking for **pictures of birds taken between December 1, 2021 and February 28, 2022**. Photographs will be judged by a small team of DBC members. All photos are welcome: amateur, funny, imperfect, high-quality. The “story behind the shot” will be taken into account when judging. The judges want this to be a fun contest; no categories have been defined for award-winners so every entry has a chance to win!

The contest is open to DBC members only. Photos may be taken anywhere (not just DuPage/Illinois) for all you Snow-Birds. If a picture includes people, the submitter must have permission from those people to publish their image on the DBC website.

There are two ways to enter your bird photographs:

If you have a Google Account (i.e., Gmail email) click link below:

[DBC Photo Contest Entry Form](#)

If you don't have a Google Account, email your image as an attachment to duplicatebirdingclub@gmail.com. In the body of your email include:

- a) Your name.
- b) The species of the bird(s).
- c) Where the picture was taken.
- d) Catchy caption - Enter a caption or title you would like displayed with your pictures. (Optional)
- e) Narrative - Tell us about your picture - what's the story behind the shot? Include any information the judges might need to fully appreciate your shot.

Good luck!

CBC Results for Fermi-Batavia Circle Set Records

On December 18, 2021, 90 birders counted every bird they could see and hear within the 15-mile circle during the 46th Fermi-Batavia CBC. Eighty-seven species were observed in the count, above our 10-year average of 84 species. We had high counts of six species and added two new species to the count: Bohemian Waxwing and Tennessee Warbler. Thank you to all the area captains and counters in making this year another successful count!

16	Snow Goose	59	Hairy Woodpecker
4	Greater White-fronted Goose	2	Pileated Woodpecker – Tied Record High!
3	Cackling Goose	56	Northern Flicker – High Count!
11,522	Canada Goose	7	American Kestrel
1	Mute Swan	2	Northern Shrike
10	Northern Shoveler	150	Blue Jay
4	Gadwall	89	American Crow
1,195	Mallard	649	Black-capped Chickadee
2	American Black Duck	8	Tufted Titmouse
6	Northern Pintail	3	Horned Lark
1	Green-winged Teal	3	Ruby-crowned Kinglet – Tied Record High!
1	Redhead	18	Golden-crowned Kinglet
2	Lesser Scaup	47	Red-breasted Nuthatch
1	Bufflehead	223	White-breasted Nuthatch
52	Common Goldeneye	67	Brown Creeper
15	Hooded Merganser	12	Winter Wren
87	Common Merganser	8	Carolina Wren
1	Pied-billed Grebe	2,250	European Starling
4	Wild Turkey	1	Gray Catbird
381	Rock Pigeon	61	Eastern Bluebird
417	Mourning Dove	6	Hermit Thrush
2,141	Sandhill Crane – Record High!	356	American Robin
79	Ring-billed Gull	425	Cedar Waxwing
34	Herring Gull	1	Bohemian Waxwing – New Count Record!
22	Great Blue Heron	845	House Sparrow
9	Northern Harrier	267	House Finch
2	Sharp-shinned Hawk	5	Purple Finch
17	Cooper's Hawk	8	Common Redpoll
14	Bald Eagle	15	Pine Siskin
89	Red-tailed Hawk	611	American Goldfinch
1	Red-shouldered Hawk – Tied Record High!	1	Snow Bunting
23	Eastern Screech-owl	783	American Tree Sparrow
28	Great Horned Owl	28	Fox Sparrow
4	Barred Owl	984	Dark-eyed Junco
2	Long-eared Owl	39	White-crowned Sparrow
1	Short-eared Owl	85	White-throated Sparrow
6	Northern Saw-whet Owl – Tied Record High!	1	Savannah Sparrow

11	Belted Kingfisher	97	Song Sparrow
2	Red-headed Woodpecker	31	Swamp Sparrow
323	Red-bellied Woodpecker – High Count!	1	Eastern Towhee
294	Downy Woodpecker	1	Eastern Meadowlark
12	Red-winged Blackbird	1	Orange-crowned Warbler
1	Brown-headed Cowbird	15	Yellow-rumped Warbler
14	Common Grackle	409	Northern Cardinal
1	Tennessee Warbler-New Count Record!		

Featured Content on the DBC Education Channel

The DBC Education channel library on You Tube has several titles in its collection that can help you through the holidays and give you some tips for improving your birding skills. Featuring our very own Denis Kania, Joe Suchecki and others, please check out these titles so that you are at the top of your game when the snow flies.

On the Prowl for Owls

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

The Beak of the Bird

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

Bird Topography

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQ9oUSNVjzA&t>

Birding by Ear: Thrushes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MX9Po8ZiWBM>

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.

P.S. ...

The bird art of Denis Kania is being featured at the Thomas Ford Memorial Library in Western Springs. The exhibit will be in the lobby through the month of January so stop on by and have a look. The library is located at 800 Chestnut Street in Western Springs and is open every day except Sundays. Normal hours are 10:00am to 6:00pm, extended to 8:00pm on Tuesdays.

A Warm Welcome to Our Newest Members

Reggio Blackwell	Aurora	Ana Estka	Lombard
Cristen Vincent, Thomas Pawlicki	Itasca	Ed Morris	Glen Ellyn
Gerard Keefe, Victoria Kucharski	Darien	Shevawn and Shawn O'Connor	Naperville
Dirk Landis	Hinsdale	Susan MacKnight and John Grimmer	Naperville
Diana Greenhow	Wheaton	Pamela Martin-Nemeth and John Nemeth	Western Springs
Nikki Chura, Kurt Orr	New Lenox		
Christine and Frank Hartel	Wheaton		

2021 Greene Valley Hawkwatch Results



Thanks to Stan Zatarski, for capturing these spectacular cranes, as they flew by on 11/19

You're probably asking yourself: Why are Whooping Cranes this year's featured photo? Well, the close and cooperative approach and flyby of these 4 Whoopers got at least 1 vote as the #1 2021 highlight! How would you vote? Because 2021 proved to be another 'average' raptor year on the hill (see yearly totals excluding Broadwings in the Table below). In this 16th year of the GVHW, only 1 new high species count was set – 41 Red-shouldered Hawks. We also registered one all time low, with not a single N. Goshawk recorded. The only good news about this number – we don't have to worry about setting and even lower low.

It also was a 'slow' Broadwing year –98 BWs, the 4th lowest count in our 16 year history. TVs, Sharpies and Redtails made up over 75% of GV's total count, as usual; Redtails continued their apparent slow decline in numbers, but Sharpies up ticked a bit from 2020.

Only 4 of the last 15 days of November provided favorable winds for migration; 11/30 was a blue dome day with a high of 50°F. Our single day high raptor count was 362 (239 TVs and 79 Sharpies dominated the list) on 10/15.

Species	Turkey Vulture	Osprey	Bald Eagle	N. Harrier	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Cooper's Hawk	N. Goshawk	Red-shouldered Hawk	accipiters total	
2021	935	48	90	48	404	74	0	41	478	
2020	963	46	101	42	353	62	1	37	416	
2019	1021	79	112	58	444	57	2	24	503	
2018	935	70	86	48	331	69	1	27	401	
2017	841	36	69	32	313	91	3	23	407	
2016	546	47	91	47	593	102	2	21	697	
2015	658	43	52	64	340	94	3	29	437	
2014	605	44	100	64	472	82	2	22	556	
2013	1078	30	57	40	563	90	4	37	657	HIGH
2012	763	65	60	75	463	146	3	16	612	COUNTS
2011	512	44	35	52	646	117	5	22	768	IN
2010	306	36	22	69	486	94	6	14	586	GREEN
2009	650	17	21	45	574	124	5	24	703	LOW
2008	510	39	22	50	328	103	2	20	433	COUNTS
2007	471	17	12	60	682	164	10	13	856	IN
2006	185	16	12	45	236	113	2	7	351	RED
16 year total	10979	677	942	839	7228	1582	51	377	8861	
16 year avg.	686	42	59	52	452	99	3	24	554	
										Total minus Broadwings
Species	Broad-winged Hawk	Red-tailed Hawk	Rough-legged Hawk	Golden Eagle	Am. Kestrel	Merlin	Peregrine Falcon	Unknown raptor	TOTAL	
2021	98	472	10	3	16	42	39	50	2373	2275
2020	1868	547	14	2	9	40	31	69	4187	2319
2019	4993	433	10	10	5	46	61	72	7431	2438
2018	423	449	11	4	12	45	46	64	2625	2202
2017	56	656	17	3	8	38	45	63	2286	2230
2016	4271	651	12	5	17	71	70	82	6632	2361
2015	240	559	11	11	5	45	60	47	2261	2021
2014	1596	682	27	7	12	50	28	44	3837	2241
2013	36	986	16	8	8	66	46	54	3119	3083
2012	4432	848	7	5	15	40	19	51	7008	2576
2011	716	836	17	5	22	54	37	42	3162	2446
2010	48	643	31	11	14	31	30	48	1889	1841
2009	73	893	10	3	22	29	40	41	2571	2498
2008	1745	788	17	10	14	31	16	40	3735	1990
2007	687	838	14	3	25	33	32	38	3099	2412
2006	786	318	2	6	5	26	8	27	1794	1008
16 year total	22068	10599	226	96	209	687	608	832	58009	35941
16 year avg.	1379	662	14	6	13	43	38	52	3626	2246

Just 2 rare/vagrant raptor species were seen this year – a **Swainson's Hawk** and a **Snowy Owl**. Here's the GVHW rarity history: Mississippi Kite: 10/3/08, 10/11/11, 9/9/12, 9/20/12, 9/3/17, 9/17/17, 9/13/19 (2) and 9/17/19; Swainson's Hawk: 1 in 2012; 2 in 2013; 3 in 2014; 1 on 9/18/17; 1 on 9/14/18; 1 on 10/9/19; 1 on **10/12/21**; Snowy Owl: 11/14/07; **11/27/21**; Ferruginous Hawk: 10/15/10 and 9/25/12; Prairie Falcon: 9/21/14 and 10/17/17; Gyr Falcon 11/6/16.

Greene Valley Hawkwatch Species List 2006-2021

(New in 2021 Green and underlined)

Mute Swan	Rough-legged Hawk	Downy Woodpecker	Snow Bunting
Trumpeter Swan	Yellow Rail	Hairy Woodpecker	Nashville Warbler
Tundra Swan	Sandhill Crane	Northern Flicker	Common Yellowthroat
Wood Duck	Whooping Crane	Pileated Woodpecker	Magnolia Warbler
Gadwall	Black-necked Stilt	American Kestrel	Blackpoll Warbler
American Wigeon	Black-bellied Plover	Merlin	Palm Warbler
American Black Duck	Am Golden-Plover	Gyr Falcon	Am. Redstart
Mallard	Semipalmated Plover	Peregrine Falcon	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Blue-winged Teal	Killdeer	Prairie Falcon	Wilson's Warbler
Northern Shoveler	Spotted Sandpiper	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Eastern Towhee
Green-winged Teal	Solitary Sandpiper	Eastern Wood-Pewee	American Tree Sparrow
Northern Pintail	Greater Yellowlegs	Eastern Phoebe	Grasshopper sparrow
Ring-necked Duck	Lesser Yellowlegs	Say's Phoebe	Chipping Sparrow
Greater Scaup	Upland Sandpiper	Eastern Kingbird	Clay-colored Sparrow
Black Scoter	Hudsonian Godwit	Northern Shrike	Field Sparrow
Common Goldeneye	Buff-br Sandpiper	<u>Red-eyed Vireo</u>	Vesper Sparrow
Hooded Merganser	Dunlin	Warbling Vireo	Lark Sparrow
Common Merganser	Least Sandpiper	<u>Yellow-throated Vireo</u>	Savannah Sparrow
Red-br Merganser	Pectoral Sandpiper	Blue Jay	Henslow's Sparrow
Red-throated Loon	Wilson's Snipe	American Crow	Le Conte's Sparrow
Common Loon	American Woodcock	Horned Lark	Fox Sparrow
Horned Grebe	Bonaparte's Gull	N. Rough-winged Swallow	Song Sparrow
Double-cr Cormorant	Franklin's Gull	Purple Martin	Lincoln's Sparrow
Anhinga	Ring-billed Gull	Tree Swallow	Swamp Sparrow
Am. White Pelican	Herring Gull	Bank Swallow	White-throated Sparrow
American Bittern	Iceland Gull	Barn Swallow	White-crowned Sparrow
Least Bittern	L Black-backed Gull	Cliff Swallow	Dark-eyed Junco
Great Blue Heron	Great Black-backed Gull	Cave Swallow	Northern Cardinal
Great Egret	Caspian Tern	<u>Tufted Titmouse</u> - heard	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Cattle Egret	Black Tern	Black-cap Chickadee	Indigo Bunting
Green Heron	Rock Pigeon	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Dickcissel
pegadis Ibis sp.	Eurasian Collared-Dove	White-br Nuthatch	Bobolink
Turkey Vulture	Mourning Dove	House Wren	Red-winged Blackbird
Osprey	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Winter Wren	Eastern Meadowlark
Golden Eagle	Great Horned Owl	Sedge Wren	Western Meadowlark
Mississippi Kite	Snowy Owl	Marsh Wren	Yellow-headed Blackbird
Northern Harrier	Barred Owl	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Rusty Blackbird
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Short-eared Owl	Eastern Bluebird	Brewer's Blackbird
Cooper's Hawk	Common Nighthawk	American Robin	Common Grackle
Northern Goshawk	Eastern Whip-poor-will	Gray Catbird	Brown-headed Cowbird
Bald Eagle	Chimney Swift	European Starling	House Finch
Red-shouldered Hawk	Ruby-thr Hummingbird	American Pipit	Purple Finch
Broad-winged Hawk	Belted Kingfisher	Sprague's Pipit	Red Crossbill
Swainson's Hawk	Red-head Woodpecker	Cedar Waxwing	Common Redpoll
Red-tailed Hawk	Red-bellied Woodpecker	Lapland Longspur	Pine Siskin
Ferruginous Hawk	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Smith's Longspur	American Goldfinch

89 species were tallied (plus 1 heard only) from the hilltop during the 2021 season.

Monarch butterflies were seen in small numbers well into November.

Horned Larks, Am. Pipits, Lapland Longspurs (another 'early arrival'? year on 9/21) and Snow Buntings (first seen on 10/22) as always kept us company, the longspurs and buntings on a daily basis in good numbers later in the season.

We recorded our last Chimney Swift, on 10/20, 4 days later than in 2020.

About 14,800 Sandies flew over during the season; on our biggest day, most of them were travelling far to the east. This total was down slightly from 2020, perhaps attributable to the mild weather for most of the season – Sandies were still migrating well into December.



Snowy Owl : Photo by Margie Busic

No November swallows this year; Barns and Tree were last seen on 10/21.

67% of our winds this season had a mostly southerly component. 55% (97 hrs) of the 171 hours we spent on the hill in November had that S component. We only had to hide behind the cars on a couple of occasions – it was mostly balmy – winter never arrived!



Osage orange bocce contest winner Katherine Howard.
Sketch by Lai Leong

Some of us will not soon forget our Osage orange bocce ball tournament; Dick Young provided the equipment – Katherine Howard rolled to victory! No raptors to count – we'll just play bocce! So, with apologies to songwriter Harold Arlen, here's a GVHW theme song, for your consideration:

Don't know why...there's no hawks up in the
sky...balmy weather
Though our hawks and us ain't together
We keep scanning all the time!

Sometimes life is sweet, raptors everywhere,
And balmy weather;
We get our poor old eyes together
and keep watchin' all the time!

That's what keeps us coming back...the birds, the friendships, but perhaps most of all, the genuine feeling of peaceful detachment from that busy world 200 feet below us.



Osprey traversing the moon! Photo by Katherine Howard.

One or more of our dedicated volunteer counters/observers were on the hill for 634 hours during 2021 – a new record, thanks especially to the indefatigable Jeff Smith, who pretty much carried the 2021 GVHW on his shoulders – up there daily, scanning, counting, then logging/entering data every evening. He was ably supported by the other counters and observers who weren't able to put in quite as much time, but who all helped greatly in spotting and counting on many occasions. We were on the hill an aggregated 1883 hours, another record high for our dedicated count team!

As always, thanks to our dedicated team of volunteers, the DuPage County Forest Preserve District, and Waste Management, for their support of our Count!



Red-tailed Hawk and Bald Eagle Photo by Katherine Howard

News from the Forest Preserve

Approval of a Bond: A bond was approved for Willowbrook Wildlife Center upgrades as well as other priority projects throughout the District. It will not exceed \$41,500,000. There were multiple letters generated and read aloud (Nov. 16) concerned about the removal of invasive plants at Waterfall Glen and the amount of this bond. These letters seem to be in conflict with the high public support for this project previously made at various public comment opportunities. Commissioner Painter and Al Murphy voted against this bond and for a lower amount. All 5 other votes were in favor.

Native Plant Sale: A contract was issued for the purchase of native plants via consignment between the FPDDC and Possibility Place Nursery, Inc. The sale will take place at Mayslake Forest Preserve and will be educational as well as an opportunity to purchase native plants for residential yards. The sale will return to a tent sale with an early bird tent sale. Plants (169 varieties) will be native to our region.

All four preserves below: A three-year contract with the possibility of a two-year extension was approved. Woody species removal, controlled burning, and maintenance are included in the contracts below.

- **Herrick Lake Forest Preserve:** A habitat improvement project is approved for Herrick Lake. Because much of this preserve is class 4, the highest quality of native lands, invasive species management will be a great support for the 550 acres. The oak woodland natural restoration and all species that thrive in their presence will benefit by this stabilization of their habitat.
- **Egermann Woods and Hickory Grove Forest Preserves:** Because these two preserves are very close, they are included as one project. The effort is to remove enough invasives so the preserves can be regenerated. Work in the lower class part of the preserves will begin and continue for the first two years and more maintenance will be available as a result.
- **Waterfall Glen Forest Preserve:** A contract was approved for the Waterfall Glen Forest Preserve Youth Camp Woods Habitat Improvement Project. A reminder that Waterfall Glen is the largest preserve of the District with over 800 acres. It is also the most ecologically diverse habitat in the county. The primary work to be done to the 72-acre woodland project will be to remove honeysuckle and buckthorn. This is part of a phased approach to restore the woodland savanna in Waterfall Glen.
- **Waterfall Glen:** Improvements have been approved for the Waterfall Glen parking lot near Cass Ave. at Waterfall Glen Forest Preserve and Bluff Rd. Wetlands were identified, soil borings taken and tree inventories were completed for minimal impact to the preserve to avoid disturbance to sensitive areas. The number of cars is slightly diminished from over 200 to 175 slots. The lot will connect to the regional trail. Bids will go out in winter 2022 with construction to begin in the spring and be completed by fall of 2022.

January 2022 Field Trips

This month is the time to see winter birds, especially waterfowl, raptors, owls and our usual winter residents. 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 the weather can be variable and trails can be snow covered or icy, so dress accordingly. 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. Situations can sometimes change, so please check our DBC website www.dupagebirding.org for the latest status information.

NOTE: For most trips 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, January 1, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

New Year's Day Birding at the Morton Arboretum, Lisle

A reservation with the Morton Arboretum is required (see below).

There is no limit to the number of participants.

You do not need to register with the DBC Organizers listed below, but they are available to answer questions.

Come one, come all to Morton Arboretum to start the new year right! Gather at the north end of the Visitor's Center parking lot, P1. We will split into several groups to look for birds across the Arboretum. There will be several Organizers that will give a hand with the various groups. We can rendezvous back at the parking lot to compare our sightings.

- Non-members (aka, guests) can't enter the Arb until 9:00 am, so we will start gathering at 9:00 am and begin birding at about 9:15.

- We will adhere to the Arb's Covid-19 policies. Vaccinated birders don't need to wear masks outdoors. See this FAQ for more details:
<https://mortonarb.org/visit-the-arboretum/faq/#covid-19-adjustments>.
- We are not planning a lunch; bring your own water/snacks. Bathrooms will be open. Dress warmly!

Here is the link for reserving an entry pass: <https://buy.acmeticketing.com/events/480/list>

Please read the details below on how to obtain an entry pass to the Arboretum:

- Every attendee must reserve their own entry pass online.
- This must be done well in advance (days).
- Non-members (aka, Guests) will need to pay for their pass.
- Entry passes are sent via email.
- The pass must be shown at the entry gate.
- Entry is only allowed at the selected entry time.

If you have questions, feel free to contact any of the Organizers:

Kathy & Steve Mineck, kmineck@yahoo.com

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

Diann Bilderback, diann.bilderback@yahoo.com, 630-272-5746

Wednesday, January 5, 8:30 a.m.

Elsen's Hill, Winfield

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

Come check out the resident and wintering birds at this birding hotspot within West DuPage Woods. The walk will be on earthen trails. Meet at the parking lot for West DuPage Woods—Elsen's Hill Area on the north side of Gary's Mill Rd., which is west of Winfield Rd. and east of where Gary's Mill & Roosevelt Rd. intersect.

Leader: Kyle Wiktor, 708-506-5186

Saturday, January 8, Start time: To be determined.

(Bad weather on Saturday, alternate date is Sunday 1/9/22)

Dixon Waterfowl Refuge at Hennepin

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

Come check out this refuge for waterfowl and possible other locations nearby for other wintering birds. This 3,000-acre restored wetlands is one of the premier natural areas in the state. It is approximately a 90-minute drive from the western suburbs.

Meet at the main parking lot of the refuge. Start time TBD, but not real early! Dress warmly since we may be at times standing in one exposed location. Trip may be cancelled in the event of bad weather or if the refuge and other nearby open water areas are frozen.

Leader: Bob Fisher, bfisher928@aol.com

Saturday, January 15, 8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

St. James Farm Forest Preserve, Warrenville

Pre-registration is not required for this walk.

Come out for a Birding/Nature Walk at a local forest preserve. St. James Forest Preserve is a 595-acre preserve that contains more than 100 acres of woodlands, prairies, and wetlands **We will be looking for winter birds and enjoying the pristine winter landscape.** Paths are gravel. Dress for the cold. The main entrance is on Winfield Rd. just north of Butterfield Road. **Meet at the Horse Statue in the parking lot.**

Leader: Pat Sterbling, pesterbling@gmail.com

Monday, January 17, 7:30 a.m.

McKee Marsh, Warrenville

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

Thursday, January 20, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Centennial Trail, Lemont

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

On this field trip we will meet in the gravel parking lot at the end of Canal Bank Road. Coming off of Lemont Road this turnoff is called Old Lemont Road, and is unmarked, so turn at this pin: 41,683840, -88.003541. [Google Map link](#). We will be walking Centennial Trail along the Des Plaines River in search of waterfowl, Bald Eagles, and winter residents.

Leader: Mark Freeburg, freebs59@sbcglobal.net , 630-661-1521

Saturday, January 22, 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Seager Park, Naperville

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

A short walk to see what birds have settled in for winter in this 30-acre patch of woods, ephemeral wetland, and grass, with lots of edge habitat. New birders welcome. We'll keep our eyes and ears open for woodpeckers, raptors, crows, etc. 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

Sunday, January 30, 8:00 a.m.

Fullersburg Woods Forest Preserve, Oak Brook

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

This will be a walk for birders of all levels. We will walk slowly and allow time for all to look at the birds. We will walk along the Salt Creek in the lowland woods with good habitat for birds. Meet at the main parking lot on Spring Road in Oak Brook.

Leader: Lesa Hipes, lesahipes@gmail.com

NOTE: Don't forget to register with the leaders. For most trips 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:

Karen Warner: k_warner@comcast.net

Wally Levernier: wglevernier@gmail.com



2022 Meeting Schedule

January 13	July 14
March 10	September 9
April 14	October 13
May 12	November 10

2022 DBC Executive Committee Members

President: Natalie McFaul

Vice President: Mike Warner

Treasurer: Jane Barnett

Recording Secretary: Angela Levernier

Corresponding Secretary: Joe Suchecki

Director: Dennis Streicher

Director: Sirimon Reutrakul

Director: Steve Constantelos

2022 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: Karen Warner, Wally Levernier

Flickr: Urs Geiser

Forest Preserve Liaison: Dennis Streicher

Grants and Donations: Vera Miller

Hospitality: Geralynn Hoffmann, Andie Duffy

Instagram: Keri Myslinski, Madison Olivieri

Lending Library: Jeff Smith

Membership Directory: Susan Kaley

Outreach/Youth Education: Donna Kubik

Spring Count Coordinator: Joe Suchecki

Twitter: Vera Miller

Webmasters: Barb Dougan, Nancy Allured