



President's Message

Hello, Birders!

The other night I looked out the porch window at the setting sun and was surprised to see how far south it has traveled since June. The sun is a beautiful marker of the changing seasons. September 22 is the Autumnal Equinox and the first day of fall!

The birds are also traveling. The BirdCast website ([BirdCast Link](#)) predicts that about 214 million birds across North America will be on the move tonight. They will not all be passing through our area, but a quick look at eBird shows that DuPage birders are already starting to see fall migrants. In my backyard the number of hummingbirds visiting the feeder has increased dramatically, another sign of autumn.

The long list of September field trips also reflect the coming of fall. This month there are opportunities to visit some of DuPage county's best birding sites: Elsen's Hill, McDowell Grove, Springbrook Prairie, Waterfall Glen, Greene Valley, and others. DBC field trips are a great way to see some of the many varieties of birds that pass through our area. Field trip leaders do an excellent job making sure everyone feels welcome and gets their eye on the bird.

All DuPage Birding Club field trips are led by volunteers. The DBC would not exist if not for the many people that give of their time to lead field trips, head committees, sit on the board, and do all the big and little things that make this the great club that it is. Fall is the time of year when the DBC board starts looking for volunteers to fill upcoming board positions and committee vacancies. If you think you might be interested in migrating from member to volunteer, fall is a good time to make your move! See the article in this month's *Drummings* for more details about volunteer options or contact me if you are interested in volunteering some of your time.

Hope you all have an opportunity to get outdoors and witness some of the beautiful changes that September brings,

Natalie

Next Meeting

September 8, 2022.

7:00 p.m.

Faith Lutheran Church, 41

N. Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn

AND

via Zoom

See page 2 for details.

September 8 Meeting: News from Willowbrook Wildlife Center Plus Tips for Traveling eBirders

Sign up now for our next DBC meeting on September 8. This will be a hybrid Live meeting and Zoom meeting (Mike has figured out how to connect his computer to the projector—really!). [See registration information for each at the bottom.](#) Below are the two topics scheduled for the meeting:

Update on Willowbrook Wildlife Center: Mission and Planned Improvements

Stephanie Touzalin, Education Specialist for the DuPage Forest Preserve, will present information about the Willowbrook Wildlife Center. Known throughout the region as a center for bird and wild animal rehabilitation, Willowbrook holds a key position in maintaining the health of the bird population in DuPage County. The Forest Preserve has plans for updating and expanding Willowbrook's facilities and Ms. Touzalin will share information about those plans with us.



Traveling with eBird

eBird

As some of us return to traveling far from home, we always enjoy looking for birds in the areas we visit. Mike Warner will share some techniques he uses to find birds in unfamiliar areas using eBird, which contains a lot of information about the bird species found in any part of the world you might travel to. Even if you're just going for a couple of days on business, to visit family, or on a non-birding vacation, eBird might just help you find a couple of Lifers while you are there.

How the Hybrid Meeting Will Work

In Person: To maintain social distancing we are only admitting 60 people in the meeting room at Faith Lutheran Church, 41 N. Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn. To be admitted, you must preregister for the meeting by sending an email to natcatcher7@gmail.com. Include your name and the name(s) of anyone else that will be attending with you. You are requested to wear a mask while inside Faith Lutheran Church. You will receive a confirmation email informing you if you are among the first 60 people, or if not, how to register for the Zoom meeting.

Zoom: The Zoom meeting will begin at 7 PM. We will try to capture as much of the meeting on Zoom as possible. To register for the Zoom meeting, click on the following link: [September Zoom Meeting Registration](#). Zoom meetings are recorded and placed on the DBC YouTube Channel a few days after the meeting.

If you have any questions regarding the in-person or Zoom meeting, you may contact Mike Warner at mwarner2543@gmail.com.

Coming October 13 ...

Here's a sneak peek at the headliners for our October 13 meeting.



First up will be Bob Dolgan, producer of the film *Monty and Rose*, who will screen his latest production entitled *The Magic Stump*. This film focuses on a tree stump in downstate Illinois and the raptors that have visited it over the years. DuPage Birding Club helped underwrite this film with a donation of \$250.



Our second presentation comes from the Bird Conservation Network (BCN), featuring its finding that the Chicagoland region is a stronghold for breeding birds and of global importance to some species. The BCN team will speak to highlights from its 22-year survey of nesting species and share some of the monitoring experiences that are the foundation of the survey process. The DBC is a long-standing member of the BCN.

Breakfast with the Birds Was a Blast!

Our August 13 Birding and Breakfast event was a definitely a pleasant way to kick off a Saturday morning. Thirty-four DBCers gathered to share some camaraderie. We started the morning at Pratt's Wayne Woods with a bird walk, followed by a yummy breakfast of bagels and cream cheese, fruit, juices, tasty Starbucks coffee and some killer donuts. The morning's best bird was a juvenile Red-headed Woodpecker, suggesting that this species is now breeding in the preserve.



Thanks to organizers Natalie McFaul, Andrea Duffy, Donna Kubik, Jane Barnett, Angela Levernier, and Diann Bilderback.



Announcing: DBC Volunteer Luncheon October 29 at Blackwell Forest Preserve

The DuPage Birding Club Board would like to acknowledge the efforts of all of our volunteers with a luncheon Saturday, October 29, at Blackwell Forest Preserve. The event is open to anyone who has volunteered on behalf of the club in the last year. This includes Board Members, Committee members, field trip leaders, outreach volunteers, newsletter and website contributors, and any others who have helped out in the past year.

The event will begin at 9:00 a.m. with a walk to explore the new Spring Brook wetland restoration project and look for migrants and resident birds followed by a luncheon at 11:30. We will meet at the North Shelter which is located on the north end of Silver Lake. This is also a great time to socialize with fellow members, so mark your calendar now.

Nominating Committee Sets Its Sights on 2023

The Nominating Committee is actively seeking volunteers to fill open Board posts and Committee leads for the 2023 year. The DBC thrives year after year on the efforts of its core of dedicated volunteers. Please consider joining the effort to keep this club a vital resource by offering a few hours a month in its service.

In addition to Board positions, we are seeking new Field Trip leaders to show off their favorite hotspots. If you'd like to educate people of all ages about birds or have an artistic flair, the Outreach Committee would love to hear from you. If you can turn a phrase in writing or have a knack for spotting typos, Communications may be your bag. The bottom line: if you're interested in sharing your love for birds and birding, we have some ideas for you.

If the time is right for you to step up, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee to learn more about the many opportunities for volunteering:

Natalie McFaul, natcatcher7@gmail.com

Mike Warner, mwarner2543@gmail.com

Joe Suchecki, dbcsec2020@gmail.com

Steve Constantelos, steve.constantelos@gmail.com

Nancy Allured Featured in “Catching Nature”



DBC member Nancy Allured was recently profiled in the DuPage Forest Preserves feature called “Catching Nature,” which highlights people connecting with nature in our managed lands. Nancy shares her lifelong love of nature and how birding has been an ongoing way to connect to the natural world. She has a long history of volunteerism, including roles with the DuPage Forest Preserve, Bird Conservation Network, annual Hawkwatch, and DuPage Birding Club (currently one of our webmasters and a past member of the Board).

Several DBC members have been featured in “Catching Nature” over the last few years. They include Denis Kania, Anna Testone, Jeff Smith, Glenn Gabanski, Joe Suchecki, and perhaps others.

Read Nancy's column here: <https://www.dupageforest.org/catching-nature/>

Warblers, Warblers, Oh Those Fall Warblers!

The DBC Education Channel library has several titles in its collection that can help you get ready for those fall warblers and close associates. Check these out so that you are at the top of your game as fall migration gets underway.

First, let's focus on fall plumage identification:

- Vireos Without Wingbars - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NbQG9MzNhD8>
- Three Fall Warblers: Tennessee, Orange-crowned, and Nashville - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WA30sG-AGIM>
- Four More Fall Warblers: Chestnut-sided, Pine, Blackpoll, and Bay-breasted - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ftQutBEIJAI>

If you need some help with those warblers up in the treetops, here are a couple of tutorials that will give you the upper hand.

- Warblers from Below Part 1 – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oyWwHEaBZ9A&t>
- Warblers from Below Part 2 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OI9dQTo5FLk&t>

Hope to see you out there on the trails!



Fall Outreach Calendar Fills Up!

The Outreach team is busy this fall as everyone returns from summer vacation and gets back into the swing of things. You might find some of these events of interest. And of course, if you'd like to volunteer some of your time, the Outreach team would welcome you. Upcoming opportunities include engaging with the school system to teach children about birds. If interested, contact Donna Kubik at donnakubik@gmail.com.

Helping Birds and Butterflies in your Garden

Sag Moraine presents a free webinar

Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 7 pm

John Cebula will discuss what homeowners can do to help our declining birds and butterflies right in their own back yards. John will share what essential things birds and butterflies need to thrive and offer suggestions on how we can provide those essentials.

Details and registration: <https://sagmoraine.org/jcebula22/>

Helping Birds

Wednesday, September 14, 2022 at 7 pm

Presented by Bloomingdale Park District

Location: Johnston Recreation Center 172 S. Circle Ave., Bloomingdale, IL. 60108

"Helping Birds" examines what has led to the 25% decline in North American bird populations since 1970 and what individuals can do to help stop the decline. This seminar will be led by John Cebula and will discuss various actions homeowners can take on their properties to help birds.

Registration is required: Call 630-529-3650 to register. Details on page 47: https://www.bloomingtondaleparks.org/publications/Brochure/fall/2022/BPD_Fall2022.pdf

I've Seen One Hundred Species: Attracting Birds to Your Garden

Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 7 pm

Presented by Bloomingdale Park District

Location: Johnston Recreation Center 172 S. Circle Ave., Bloomingdale, IL. 60108

John Cebula presents "A Hundred Species" to provide an in-depth look at attracting birds in the context of bird loss.

Registration is required: Call 630-529-3650 to register. Details on page 47: https://www.bloomingtondaleparks.org/publications/Brochure/fall/2022/BPD_Fall2022.pdf

Welcome to New Members!

Channon Douglas	Naperville
Sachin Manimekalai Balakrishnan	Lombard
Kathryn Wolf	Warrenville

News from the Web

The World's Most Distinct Birds Are Going Extinct Fastest

Extinctions drive far greater declines in species with extreme physical attributes and unique ecological strategies, and this has far-reaching impacts as important ecosystem services are lost

Read in Forbes: <https://apple.news/A1h7Bzf2vR1utWpzvKSRFGQ>

Spix's Little Blue Macaws Fly Free Again After Decades In Cages

After being listed as Extinct-In-The-Wild for 22 years, Spix's little blue macaws have returned home in northeastern Brazil where eight are now flying free

Read in Forbes: <https://apple.news/AB2w7vfCgSfWfgptB259YXg>

Rare hummingbird last seen in 2010 rediscovered in Colombia

Birdwatcher 'overcome with emotion' on spotting the Santa Marta sabrewing, only third time it has been documented

Read in The Guardian: <https://apple.news/AFi2iIDB6S4-dsAXzSzFFMg>

How Bird Collecting Evolved Into Bird-Watching

In the early 1900s, newfound empathy for avian creatures helped wildlife observation displace dispassionate killing

Read in Smithsonian Magazine: https://apple.news/Aaz-XGB9qT_Sy72ZgsSD-Hw

September 2022 Field Trips

Late summer and early fall are the time for resident birds to raise their young, molt, and for many species to begin their migration south. September is the best time to see fall warblers. There are opportunities for all types of birders to participate.

Please remember that the weather can be variable, 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 <https://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 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 <https://dupagebirding.org/events/category/trips/>.

Saturday, September 3, 7:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Elsen's Hill/West DuPage Woods, Winfield

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

We will be looking for early fall migrants, especially warblers passing through on their way to their wintering grounds. Take Winfield Rd. to Gary's Mill Rd. west to the preserve parking lot entrance on the north side of the road. Bring boots as needed for muddy trails.

Leader: Joe Suchecki, DBCsec2020@gmail.com

Saturday, September 3, 7:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Elsen's Hill/West DuPage Woods, Winfield

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

We will be looking for early fall migrants, especially warblers passing through on their way to their wintering grounds. Take Winfield Rd. to Gary's Mill Rd. west to the preserve parking lot entrance on the north side of the road. Bring boots as needed for muddy trails.

Leader: Joe Suchecki, DBCsec2020@gmail.com

Thursday, September 8, 7:30 – 10:00 a.m.

McDowell Grove Forest Preserve, Naperville

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

This morning trip will focus on woodland migrants passing through our area. This is a popular migrant hotspot in both spring and fall. If birds are on the move, we will be in a great location to view them. Meet in the first parking lot after entering the preserve. The entrance is at the intersection of Raymond Dr. and McDowell Rd. where there is a stoplight.

Leader: Denis Kania, djkan36@gmail.com

Sunday, September 11, 7:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Elsen's Hill/West DuPage Woods, Winfield

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

Elsen's Hill is another great site for migrants, especially warblers passing through on their way to their wintering grounds. Take Winfield Rd. to Gary's Mill Rd. west to the preserve parking lot entrance on the north side of the road. Bring boots as needed for muddy trails.

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

Tuesday, September 13, 7:30 – 10:00 a.m.

McDowell Grove Forest Preserve, Naperville

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

This morning trip will focus on woodland migrants passing through our area. This is a popular migrant hotspot in both spring and fall. If birds are on the move, we will be in a great location to view them. Meet in the first parking lot after entering the preserve. The entrance is at the intersection of Raymond Dr. and McDowell Rd. where there is a stoplight.

Leader: Denis Kania, djkan36@gmail.com

Friday, September 16, 7:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Bird Sit at Pratt's Wayne Woods, Powis Road, West Chicago

Pre-registration with the leader 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 meet in the first parking area by Pickerel Lake as you come into the park off Powis Road. **NOTE: the entrance is on the WEST side of Powis Road** north of Army Trail and south of Stearns Road. Be aware that when using GPS it sometimes takes you to the Preserve which is NOT where we will meet, we are meeting at Pratt's Wayne Woods: <https://www.dupageforest.org/places-to-go/forest-preserves/pratts-wayne-woods>

Dress for the weather and bring bug spray (sitting, we are easy targets for mosquitoes!) and drinking water.

Leader: Natalie McFaul, natcatcher7@gmail.com

Saturday, September 17, 7:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Elsen's Hill/West DuPage Woods, Winfield

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

On this trip we'll be exploring Elsen's Hill within West DuPage Woods in hopes of finding migrant songbirds, in particular warblers. Please meet in the parking lot off Gary's Mill Rd.

Leader: Henry Meade, Please register with kathleenreeves22@yahoo.com

Sunday, September 18, 7:30 - 10:00 a.m.

McDowell Grove Forest Preserve, Naperville

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

This morning trip will focus on woodland migrants passing through our area. Meet in the first parking lot after entering the preserve. The entrance is at the intersection of Raymond Dr. and McDowell Rd. where there is a stoplight.

Leader: Joe Suchecki, DBCsec2020@gmail.com

Tuesday, September 20, 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Waterfall Glen Poverty Prairie, Darien

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

Meet at the Lemont Rd. parking lot, south of I55 at 101st Street. We'll start in the Kettle Pond Woods and walk to the prairie.

Leader Vicky Sroczynski, RSVP to vsroczynski@comcast.net or text 630-297-9512

Wednesday, September 21, 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Seager Park, Naperville

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

Meet at the main parking lot, 1163 Plank Rd. We will be in search of migrants, especially fall warblers and other woodland birds.

Leader: Mark Freeburg, freebs59@sbcglobal.net

Saturday, September 24, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

St. James Farm Forest Preserve, Warrenville

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

This morning's walk will take us through some prairie and woods. We'll be looking for resident birds as well as migratory birds. We'll be walking approximately 2 miles on mostly easy terrain. We will meet in the parking lot off on Winfield Rd, just north of Butterfield Rd.

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

Sunday, September 25, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Greene Valley Overlook, Naperville

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

Drive up to the overlook parking lot south of 79th Street off Greene Rd and meet the hawk watch volunteers to scan the skies for raptors. Hawk ID handouts provided and discussed. Review buteos by watching the club's Hawk Watch talk on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com). Please bring layers (it can be much colder up on the hill than at ground level,) and a hat for sun (no shade.) Bring lunch, extra water, and a lawn chair.

Leader Vicky Sroczynski, RSVP to vsroczynski@comcast.net or text 630-297-9512

Wednesday, September 28, 7:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Lyman Woods Forest Preserve, Downers Grove

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

This morning trip will be oriented toward fall migration. We will be at a leisurely pace to provide as much time as desired to look at each bird and to answer questions for any new birders. Meet in the parking lot in front of Lyman Woods Interpretive Center, located one block east of Highland Avenue on 31st Street. Boots are recommended if it's been raining recently. Some areas are muddy.

Leader: Lisa Gaylord, lisarae59@icloud.com, cell phone: 630-740-0911. Please leave a message or text along with your name & email.

Cantigny Park in Wheaton posts bird walks and related events several months in advance on the calendar pages of <https://cantigny.org/events/>. For that reason, the events are often at capacity by the time DBC publishes its monthly calendar. To ensure your spot on a Cantigny walk, check the park's website and follow the sign-up instructions. In addition to regular walks, held monthly, Cantigny now offers Accessible Birding opportunities for those with limited mobility.

For additional birding opportunities, check out the DuPage and Cook County forest preserves: www.dupageforest.org/calendar-of-events, www.fpdcc.com/events. Also check local park districts.

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:

Wally Levernier, wglevernier@gmail.com

Karen Warner, k_warner@comcast.net



2022 Meeting Schedule

January 13	July 14
March 10	September 8
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: Diane Bilderback,
Steve Constantelos, Glenn Gabanski, 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