



## President's Message

Greetings, fellow birders!

Being a birder has its benefits. Read on to see why birding is actually more than just a pastime—it's good for you!

### 1. Birding Together - Birding For Life

Birding is a phenomenal activity for couples and I'm surprised there aren't more of them out on the trail. Karen and I enjoy planning each bird outing together. What's new and exciting to see out there? What equipment will we need (mucking boots, scope, water bottle, Diet Coke, almonds, PB&J, sunscreen, Hot Hands)?

### 2. Birding Fits Your Lifestyle

Once you start birding, you will find that this is one activity you can adjust to your time, energy, and pocketbook:

You can go out searching for birds as often as you want and you determine where you want to go and when.

You decide how much you want to spend on equipment. Do you have an old pair of binoculars around? That's fine. Want to go out and spend \$2,000 on a fancy pair? Great, if you can afford it.

You can go birding when you're young and continue until you're old.

Birding is one of those activities that you can do as much or little as you want. Start just by observing and identifying the birds in your backyard. Then take a hike with your binoculars.

### 3. Birding Connects You with Nature

Some time during each birding expedition I'll stop, look around, and marvel at the sights, sounds, and scents of nature surrounding me. Be it a wooded forest, a sandy beach, a stream bubbling by, or a marsh filled with cattails, each place elicits in me a sense of awe and wonder.

### 4. Birding Helps You Get (Some) Exercise

Birding gets you outside and walking. A typical birding expedition for us is about 2-3 hours long. To be fair, birding is typically not an aerobic exercise but for a typical adult walking burns about 300 calories per hour so there are health benefits to birding.

### Next Meeting

April 13, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Via Zoom Only!

See page 3 for details

### Save the Date!

May 6, 2023

Spring Bird Count

See page 4 for more information.

## **5. Birding Is Good for Your Brain**

Birding is an excellent way to stimulate your brain because when you're out birding you're constantly working your brain as you see and hear birds and then interpret those sensory inputs. Birders work the temporal lobe to connect the image and/or sound of a bird to information about that species stored in the brain. Perhaps it was best put by Helen Macdonald in her award-winning book *Vesper Flights* (Grove Press, 2020), "For there's an immense intellectual pleasure involved in making identification, and each time you learn to recognize a new species of animal or plant, the natural world becomes a more complicated and remarkable place, pulling intricate variety out of a background blur of nameless grey and green" (p. 21).

## **6. Birding Encourages You to Discover Your Neighborhood**

One of the things we have enjoyed about birding is that it has taken us to some previously unknown natural areas very near to where we live. Karen and I have explored over 25 different parks and forest preserves right in DuPage County. Places that we've driven by hundreds of times before, without even glancing at, have now become regular stops in search of birds—like Lyman Woods. Thanks to birding we have a keener appreciation for the people who have worked to set aside, protect, and maintain these spaces for all of us to explore and enjoy.

## **7. You Can Learn So Much as a Member of The DuPage Birding Club!**

All birders, regardless of experience, are welcome to join our club. As a member you get information about upcoming field trips and can sign up for them before nonmembers. Members also are encouraged to expand their knowledge of birds and birding by attending our club meetings (live or via Zoom) and get reports from experts in the field. DBC's [YouTube Channel](#) has lots of videos (many thanks to Denis Kania) that will inform you about bird identification. You can even use our website to find out where the [best places](#) in DuPage County for birding are.

As you can see there are many advantages of being a birder, especially for members of our DuPage Birding Club! Happy Birding!

Mike Warner  
President

## **In Case You Missed It: Members' Night Entertained as Always!**

What a night! Members' Night 2023 entertained as always. Here in the U.S., presentations took us from the far north of Duluth and Sax-Sim Bog to sunny Florida. Journeys to Central America had stops in the Yucatan of Mexico and Costa Rica. Adventures further afield took us to Antarctica, South Georgia and the Falkland Islands to the foothills of the Himalayas and Nepal. DBCers get around, no two ways about it. Check out their adventures here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H64PvcemSMDg>.

## April Meeting: Studies of the Red-tailed Hawk in Illinois

What is the size difference between male and female Red-tailed Hawks? Are our Red-tailed Hawks migratory?

These and other interesting questions will be answered by Dr. Given Harper of Illinois Wesleyan University and his research assistant, Steven Burkett, who will share their findings from two research studies. The first is an Illinois Ornithological Society (IOS)-funded project in which they utilized equations to sex Red-tailed hawks via morphological measurements.



*Photo by Mike Warner*

During the study, they live-trapped 82 red-tailed hawks and discovered their sex based on extracting DNA from their feathers.

We will also hear an update on another ongoing project in which they are determining if wintering Red-tailed Hawks in Illinois are year-round residents, or if they are migratory. This project was funded by DBC in an IOS grant of \$1,000. This is a great chance to learn more about the benefit of our donations and this common bird of our skies.

NOTE: This meeting will be via Zoom only. To register for the meeting, click [here](#). Login information will be sent to you upon registration.

## Joe Suchecki Awarded Distinguished Achievement Award



At the March DBC meeting, long-time member Joe Suchecki was awarded the Distinguished Achievement Award in recognition of his exceptional service to the DuPage Birding Club. Denis Kania presented the award to Joe along with a “Kania original” of Klaas’s Cuckoo, which happened to be the 3,000<sup>th</sup> bird on Joe’s life list.

Joe has served on the Board in many capacities, including President and most recently Corresponding Secretary. In addition to these important roles, Joe has lent his creative and organizational talents in several other capacities.

Joe produced several tutorials on birding by ear for the DBC Education Channel and last spring co-developed with Denis Kania a Beginning Birder course for the Club. When the Club was looking for a new compiler for the Spring Bird Count, Joe answered the call. Joe has worked closely with the DuPage Forest Preserve District on various projects, most recently our McKee Marsh Planting Day, and is a great ambassador for the birding community. Joe also organized the sale of our donated cache of decoys, which raised a significant sum of money we could donate to conservation projects.



And we all know Joe as the Springbrook Birder who puts in countless hours of work doing bird monitoring and ecological restoration. A well-deserved congratulations to Joe!

## Spring Bird Count is Saturday, May 6, 2023!

Hold the date and plan to participate in the 2023 Spring Bird Count in DuPage County on Saturday, May 6.

The Spring Bird Count is held annually throughout Illinois around the first weekend in May and is intended to provide some information and data on early spring bird migration throughout Illinois. The Spring Bird Count also is a great opportunity for birders of all skill levels to get out in the field and look for all those great and colorful spring migrants moving through northeastern Illinois. The DuPage Birding Club coordinates the spring count efforts in DuPage County, and last year we recorded 173 species on spring count day. Results from past counts can be found on the DBC website.

It is not too early to start getting ready for this year's spring count. If you have participated in the past, look for an email in mid-April from Joe Suchecki with information about the count, your area captain and your count area. If you have not participated previously and would like to join the fun this year, contact Joe Suchecki at [dupagesbc@gmail.com](mailto:dupagesbc@gmail.com) and he will put you in touch with an area captain for the count.

Last year 139 participants counted birds on the spring count in DuPage County. We would like even more people to participate this year. So, don't miss out on the fun and excitement of the great Spring Bird Count on May 6. Any questions? Contact Joe Suchecki who is coordinating this year's count at [dupagesbc@gmail.com](mailto:dupagesbc@gmail.com).

## Ready to Give Back? Become a BCN Breeding Bird Monitor

Want to help birds by giving back in a big way? Join a corps of birding enthusiasts who dedicate time monitoring our breeding birds each breeding season, adding to two decades of data that is useful to land managers and researchers. The Bird Conservation Network (BCN) is actively recruiting new monitors for its annual BCN Survey. DBC is a BCN member and a funding sponsor of their recently published 22-year analysis of breeding birds in Chicagoland.

This important community science project relies on birders with at least three years of experience to record evidence of species presence during the June and early July breeding season. BCN supports monitors with training that includes process guidelines, plus tools for enhancing skill-set for birding by ear. If you are not confident in your birding ID skills, we can pair you with an experienced monitor to get you started.

Have some favorite birding spots? Chances are good that one or more of them is a monitoring site opportunity. Become one of BCN's 200+ monitors – collecting vital information on species abundance and their population trends. Your time spent monitoring will make a world of difference for the birds!

To learn more, register your interest at [www.bcnbirds.org/monitoring](http://www.bcnbirds.org/monitoring) or contact one of our BCN reps: Diann Bilderback ([diann.bilderback@yahoo.com](mailto:diann.bilderback@yahoo.com)), Glenn Perricone at [bcndupage@gmail.com](mailto:bcndupage@gmail.com), or Glenn Gabanski at [ggabanski@comcast.net](mailto:ggabanski@comcast.net). We will contact you to explore your interests and get you started.

## DuPage Birding Club's Spring '23 Photo Contest Now Open!

The DBC is looking for pictures of birds taken between March 1 and May 31, 2023. All photos are welcome: amateur, funny, imperfect, high-quality. The “story behind the shot” is also taken into account when judging. The judges want this to be a fun contest; no categories have been predefined for award-winners so every entry has a chance to win! NOTE: The judges usually do not give out more than one award to the same author if they submit multiple images.

If you would like to look at past DBC Photo Contest winners [CLICK HERE](#).

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

Photographs will be judged by a small team of DBC members. If you are interested in being a judge (no experience necessary) please contact Mike Warner at [mwarner2543@gmail.com](mailto:mwarner2543@gmail.com).

### **There are two ways to enter your bird photographs:**

1. If you have a Google Account (you have one if you use Gmail) click the link below:

[\*\*DBC Photo Contest Entry Form\*\*](#)

2. If you do not have a Google Account, email your image as an email attachment to [dupagebirdingclub@gmail.com](mailto: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) A 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! Winners will be announced in the July Drummings.

## **Volunteer Opportunity with COD and Chicago Bird Collision Monitors**

The Chicago Bird Collision Monitors and the College of DuPage are looking for volunteers to walk the campus searching for injured or deceased migratory birds from April 3-May 31. If you are unfamiliar with the Chicago Bird Collision Monitors, here is a link to the Volunteer section of the website with an accompanying video: <https://birdmonitors.net/Volunteer.php>

If you would like to learn more, feel free to reach out. Or if you are excited to jump in, you can sign up by visiting the Google document link below, titled COD Bird Initiative. Training will take place at 10:00 am, April 3, location to be determined (somewhere on College of DuPage campus).

[COD Bird Initiative](#)

## **Outreach Corner**

As we reported in last month's Outreach Corner, DBC Outreach had a great start this year! That was just the beginning! We already have seven future events scheduled.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

Please consider joining us for any or all events. It would be helpful to have more leaders on the bird walk at Herrick Lake on Sunday, April 16. We need volunteers to host tables as an ambassador for birds and DBC at the The Growing Place's Earth Day event on April 22. The day-long Explore More Day at Winfield Primary School on Friday, May 12, would greatly benefit from your participation, even if you only have time for an hour or so. You can make all the events more successful!

Here's what is on the docket in the next few months:

### **My Garden...My Oasis**

#### **Sponsored by Garden Clubs of Illinois**

Sunday & Monday, April 16 & 17

DBC is leading a bird walk on Sunday at Herrick Lake from 2:30-4:00. There are many other activities at the convention that may be of interest to DBC members. Program description and registration are on pages 8-9 of the following: <https://files.constantcontact.com/3b1559fe101/4d90c12e-722b-47df-8a5d-5a2d8d877bad.pdf>

### **Attracting Hummingbirds with Native Plants**

#### **Sponsored by The Growing Place**

Saturday, April 22 EARTH DAY! 11:00-2:00

Meeting Location: The Growing Place, Naperville

DBC will present a talk from 12:00-1:00 and will host a table providing information on birds, pollinators, and native plants from 11:00-2:00.

### **Spring Birding: Two Events on a Sunday Afternoon**

#### **Sponsored by Darien Garden Club and Indian Prairie Public Library**

Sunday, May 7, 1:30-3:30

Meeting Location: Indian Prairie Public Library

#### **Talk on Spring Birding**

Sunday, May 7, 1:30-2:45

Presenter: John Cebula

<https://ippl.libcal.com/event/10075335>

### **Spring Birding Experience**

Sunday, May 7, 1:30-3:30

Learn about binoculars and other "tools of the trade" from Darien Garden Club & DBC members <https://ippl.libcal.com/event/10075507>

## **Explore More Day**

### **Sponsored by Winfield Primary School PTA**

Friday, May 12, 9:30-3:30

Meeting Location: Winfield Primary School, 0S150 Winfield Rd

Explore More Day is a PTA-sponsored event where students are given the opportunity to participate in different activities and consider new ideas by attending classes for a day that are taught by parents and other community members. It is a day-long event at the school that consists of 5 class periods, each lasting 45 minutes and attended by 12 - 20 students in 2nd - 5th grade. DBC will present a talk called "Feathered Friends"

## **Also of Outreach Interest...**

The Lombard Historical Society is presenting two free programs related to birding that might be of interest.

### **Gardening for Birds, Butterflies & Bees**

Wednesday, April 5, 7:00 p.m.

Presenter: Nina Kozial

Meeting Location: Lombard Historical Society

Registration required at [www.lombardhistory.org](http://www.lombardhistory.org)

### **Robert Ridgway: When Amateur Bird Watching Became a Rigorous Science**

#### **An Illinois Humanities Council Road Scholar program**

Wednesday, April 26, 7:00 p.m.

Presenter: Brian "Fox" Ellis

Meeting Location: Lombard Historical Society

Registration required at [www.lombardhistory.org](http://www.lombardhistory.org)

## **Welcome, New Members!**

Patric Basso                      Naperville

Hal and Joyce Hothan        Glen Ellyn

## Announcing DBC's Winter 2023 Photography Contest Winners!

The DBC's Winter 2023 photo contest winners are official! The 42 entries were judged by John Hebert, Andie Duffy, Steve Constantelos, Natalie McFaul, and Mike Warner. Because of the quality of all the submissions, the committee had a very tough time deciding on which pictures to recognize. The committee wants to thank all the photographers for their entries.

Below are the DBC Winter 2023 Photography Contest Winners:



### **Best of Show - Bohemian Rhapsody**

**Photographer:** Emil Baumbach

**Species of Bird:** Bohemian Waxwing

**Where was the picture taken?** Orono, Maine

**Narrative** - This bird was one of about 100 that had a feeding frenzy in a clump of crabapple trees. I was looking to get a shot of a bird either flipping a berry in the air or holding one in its beak. Luckily this bird seemed to savor holding the berry. The exposed branch with three empty stems indicates the feast this bird was having. Is the bird tasting the berry with its tongue for ripeness before eating it? You be the judge.





## **Award For Most Artistic**

**Photographer:** Mike Davern

**Species of Bird:** American Wigeon

**Where was the picture taken?** Riparian Preserve, Gilbert, Arizona

**Narrative** - I went to Arizona for work and brought along my long lens thinking I would look for some desert species. Little did I know I would end up at the Riparian Preserve in Gilbert where I was able to get 28 species on camera, many of them waterfowl, enjoying the wetlands. The Preserve is using a natural method to recycle 100% of the city of Gilbert's effluent water over 110 areas in 7 water recharge basins. It was an amazing area and 298 species of birds have been identified at the site. Definitely going to be a repeat visitor on my future trips to the Phoenix area.



## **Best Foreign Portrait**

**Photographer:** Daryl Kellenberger

**Species of Bird:** Grey-headed Kingfisher

**Where was the picture taken?** Amboseli National Park in Kenya

**Narrative** - My wife Jane and I were fortunate to be able to go on an African Safari in December and were able to visit a number of National Parks or protected areas in both Kenya and Tanzania. This bird was one of the first flashy birds that I saw during a walk at the first lodge we stayed at on our trip. I was very excited and tried to get a photo of one; I got some photos but it was late in the day and the lighting was not very good. I took many photos of this bird during our trip that were OK, but it took me a while to finally get a decent photo. This photo was taken while we were out on a game drive and it was later in the day so the light was better. I finally got fairly close to this bird and he stayed on the branch long enough to let me take his picture. I would have liked to get one in flight as their wings are a vibrant and flashy blue color, but I had to settle for a still photo. That being said, I was very happy and appreciative that I was able to get a decent photo of this beautiful bird.



## **Look Into My Eyes Award**

**Name:** Bonnie Graham

**Species of Bird:** Barred Owl

**Where was the picture taken?** Fullersburg Forest Preserve

**Narrative** - One Sunday morning, I decided to get a bit of birding in before church. I heard and saw a Belted Kingfisher, so I waited along the creek to try and get a photo of the Kingfisher. As I was standing there, this Barred Owl swooped down from somewhere and perched on a tree across the creek. He looked at me and I took my shot. This was one of my dream shots of an owl.



## **Backyard Bird Award**

**Photographer:** Cindy Duranceau

**Species:** Northern Cardinals

**Location:** My Backyard in Naperville, IL

**Narrative:** The snow started and 12 Cardinals (6 male and 6 female) came into our yard at the same time. A few of them are pictured here in the Serviceberry bush next to our patio. The others were checking out a ground feeder on the patio. This was a new record for our yard! Then the next night, 16 showed up together. Delightful!



## **Best Action Shot Award**

**Photographer:** Mark Levesque

**Species of Bird:** House sparrow

**Where was the picture taken?** My backyard in Naperville

**Narrative** - A house sparrow is a fairly plain looking bird when it is roosting somewhere. In flight, they are a thing of beauty!



## **Lunch Award**

**Photographer:** John Cebula

**Species of Bird:** Little Blue Heron

**Where was the picture taken?** Collier County, Florida

**Narrative** - The three species of waders I see most often are Snowy Egrets, Tricolored Herons, and Little Blue Herons. Of the three, the Little Blues are the ones I've been able to photograph most often with a prey item. Here it's a sunfish: I've also taken a photograph of an adult with a crayfish and an immature with a Brown Anole.



## **Rock Solid Award**

**Photographer:** Emil Baumbach

**Species of Bird:** Snow Bunting

**Where was the picture taken?** North Point Marina, Winthrop Harbor, IL.

**Narrative** - I watched a small flock of Snow Buntings feed along the rocks and weeds near the water's edge. I was wondering if I'd ever get a bird to perch when all of a sudden this very small bird decided to land on this very large rock. The bird gave me a nice look. I liked the composition without really cropping very much. Everything felt right with the picture and I decided it was time to leave.



## **A Great Great Egret Shot**

**Photographer:** Cindy Duranceau

**Species:** Great Egret

**Location:** Port Richey, Fla

**Narrative:** While visiting Florida, my cousin took us to look at some birds. Turns out it was a "rookery" for several species, next to a pond, complete with a swimming Alligator. The birds were nest building, mating, and just trying to attract attention, like this particular Great Egret.





## **Best Family Portrait**

**Photographer:** John Cebula

**Species of Bird:** Limpkin

**Where was the picture taken?** Freedom Park, Naples, Florida

**Narrative** - Because most of my birding has always taken place in the cracks and crevices of my daily life, I have not had the chance to explore this park in the past five years I've spent time in Naples. However, I recently took advantage of an opportunity to explore parts of this park I had not seen before. I was glad to see shrikes show up in an open area along a drainage canal--then I spotted a pair of wading birds. Experience suggested they were a small heron, but when I approached, I realized they were Limpkins, a relatively uncommon bird. I began photographing the pair; it was only after I took a few shots that I realized they were accompanied by five juveniles! While I watched, the birds caught and fed on apple snails.



## **Worth The (Frigid) Wait Award**

**Photographer:** Henry Meade

**Species of Bird:** American Three-toed Woodpecker

**Where was the picture taken?** Near Cook, Minnesota

**Narrative** - The looks we got of this American Three-toed Woodpecker was way beyond anything I was expecting. Completely made up for the fact that we had to stand on the side of a random county road for 2 hours in -28 degree weather waiting for him to make an appearance. We first heard him peeling bark, but deep in a spruce thicket on private property. After a while I spotted him flying across the road; the long wait was rewarded with looks of him foraging at eye level!



## Best In Flight Award

**Photographer:** Laurel Ahlenius

**Species:** Short-eared Owl

**Location:** Brunner Family Forest Preserve, Dundee, IL

**Narrative:** This is a lifer for me! These Short-eared Owls (about 4-5) were amazing: flying high, flying low, swooping down, wheeling around in flight, catching their prey, landing on the ground or on a stump, and a few in-flight discussions with each other. Birders and photographers respectfully observed from around the perimeter of a large fenced field which gave ample space and distance for the owls to hunt and be successful. I would love to say that I was this close to the owl, but I wasn't. Thanks to the APS-C sensor and the telephoto lens, I was able to grab this shot as the owl was mid-field. What an afternoon!

## April 2023 Field Trips

These early spring field trips target migrating waterfowl, raptors, passerines, and shorebirds plus some returning breeders. We are offering a variety of field trips, including mid-week trips. There are opportunities for all types of birders to participate and enjoy the season.

Please remember that the weather can be variable, 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. 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: For trips with a participant limit, registration with the trip leader is required. In those cases, you are NOT registered until you receive a confirmation from the trip leader.**

**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 stay home.
- Attendees of DBC field trips and other events under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.
- All field trip attendees should be aware of and follow the <https://dupagebirding.org/aba-code-of-ethics/>

**NOTE: All last-minute changes are posted on [www.dupagebirding.org/field-trips](http://www.dupagebirding.org/field-trips).**

**Wednesday, April 5, 7:30-10:30 am Danada West Forest Preserve, Naperville**

We will be looking for shorebirds, waterfowl, rails and others on this 2-mile walk through Danada West. Meet in the east side of the parking lot at Forest Preserve Headquarters. We'll be walking on limestone and dirt trails.

**Leader: Vicky Sroczynski 630-297-9512**

**Saturday, April 8, 7:00 am, Springbrook Prairie, Naperville**

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

This trip will focus on early grassland birds, marsh birds and waterfowl. Please park at the Main Parking Lot for Springbrook Prairie on 83rd Street west of Book Rd in Naperville.

**Leader: Joe Suchecki, 630-842-4921, Please RSVP to [issuesman50@yahoo.com](mailto:issuesman50@yahoo.com)**

**Monday, April 10, 7:30 pm, Woodcocks, Greene Valley Forest Preserve, Woodridge/Naperville**

Greene Valley Forest Preserve is known for its Woodcock displays, which begin shortly after sunset. Join us this spring on one of our walks. Meet at the west entrance parking lot: west on 79th St. from Greene Rd, then Thunderbird Rd. south, apprx. 1/2 mile to the campground entrance. The walk will NOT be canceled due to weather.

**Leader: Jeff Smith, [mrqmagoo13@gmail.com](mailto:mrqmagoo13@gmail.com)**

**Wednesday, April 12, 8:00 am – 10:00 am, Greene Valley, Woodridge/Naperville**

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

We will search for early migratory birds. Meet at the Thunderbird Youth Camp Parking Lot. Go west on 79th about 1/2 mile, the entrance is on the south side of 79th Street, west of Greene Road in Naperville/ Woodridge.

**Leader: Mark Freeburg, [freebs59@sbcglobal.net](mailto:freebs59@sbcglobal.net) or call or text 630-661-1521**

**Saturday, April 15, 8:00 am-11:00 am, West Branch Forest Preserve**

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

This morning trip is designed to focus on waterfowl such as Common Loons and Horned Grebes, but we will also search for songbird migrants alongside the lake. We will most likely go onto smaller trails, which could be muddy depending on recent conditions, so boots are highly recommended. We will meet in the parking lot off Army Trail Road.

**Leader: Henry Meade.** Please register with [kathleenreeves22@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleenreeves22@yahoo.com)

**Thursday, April 20, 7:30 pm, Woodcocks, Greene Valley Forest Preserve, Woodridge/Naperville**

Greene Valley Forest Preserve is known for its Woodcock displays, which begin shortly after sunset. Join us this spring on one of our walks. Meet at the west entrance parking lot: west on 79th St. from Greene Rd, then Thunderbird Rd. south, apprx. 1/2 mile to the campground entrance. The walk will NOT be canceled due to weather.

**Leader: Jeff Smith, [mrqmagoo13@gmail.com](mailto:mrqmagoo13@gmail.com)**

**Monday, April 24, 7:00 - 9:00 am, Bird Sit at Isle a la Cache, Romeoville**

Pre-registration with the leader required, limit 10

Join us at this new location to see what birds come to visit us. 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 at the picnic shelter, when entering the park turn right and drive to the end of the far right parking lot to reach the shelter. Isle a la Cache is located on the Des Plaines river about a mile east of Route 53 on Romeo Road/135th St, Romeoville. [Isle a la Cache Website](#)

Dress for the weather, bring bug spray, drinking water and a folding chair.

**Leader: Natalie McFaul, [natcatcher7@gmail.com](mailto:natcatcher7@gmail.com)**

**Thursday, April 27th, 8:00 am, Maple Grove Forest Preserve, Downers Grove**

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

We'll be looking for spring migrants, including warblers, songbirds, and Wood Ducks that nest in the area. Trails are dirt and may be muddy, so wear appropriate footwear. Meet in the north parking lot off of Gilbert Ave. next to the train tracks in Downers Grove.

**Leader: John Hebert, [johnhebert@yahoo.com](mailto:johnhebert@yahoo.com)**

**Friday, April 28, 7:30am, Greene Valley, Woodridge/Naperville**

Pre-registration with the leader is required.

This morning trip will be more oriented for new birders, but experienced ones are welcome. We will walk at a leisurely pace to allow for all to see any birds. We will search for early migratory birds. Meet at the Thunderbird Youth Camp Parking Lot. Go west on 79th about 1/2 mile, the entrance is on the south side of 79th Street, west of Greene Road in Naperville/ Woodridge. **Leader: Bonnie Graham.** 630-204-8750, [coye72112@gmail.com](mailto:coye72112@gmail.com)

**Sunday, April 30, 8am-noon Lockport Prairie and Prairie Bluff Preserve (Will County)**

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

We'll start at [Lockport Prairie Nature Preserve](#) for a short walk through the grassland and to check the trees by the river. Park on Division Street east of Route 53/Broadway Street. Then we'll drive to Prairie Bluff Preserve to search for migrant Smith's and Lapland Longspurs, and other grassland birds. This trip is on uneven terrain and more primitive trails so sturdy hiking boots are recommended.

**RSVP to Vicky Sroczynski: [VSroczynski@comcast.net](mailto:VSroczynski@comcast.net)**

**Cantigny Park** in Wheaton posts bird walks and related events several months in advance on the calendar pages of [Events | Cantigny](#). 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: <https://www.dupageforest.org/calendar-of-events>, [www.fpdcc.com/events](http://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](http://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](mailto:wglevernier@gmail.com)

Karen Warner, [k\\_warner@comcast.net](mailto:k_warner@comcast.net)



## 2023 Meeting Schedule

January 12	July 13
March 9	September 14
April 13	October 12
May 11	November 9

## 2023 DBC Executive Committee Members

President: Mike Warner

Vice President: Robert Perez

Treasurer: Jane Barnett

Recording Secretary: Angela Levernier

Corresponding Secretary: Natalie McFaul

Director: Dennis Streicher

Director: Sirimon Reutrakul

Director: Pamela Martyn-Nemeth

## 2023 DBC Committee Chairs

Audio-Visual Coordinator: OPEN

Bird Conservation Network: Glenn Gabanski,  
Diann Bilderback, Glenn Perricone

Christmas Count Coordinator: Jeff Chapman

Communications: Diann Bilderback, Steve  
Constantelos

DBC Apparel: Steve Constantelos

Drummings Newsletter: Jeff Smith, Diann  
Bilderback

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: 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

YouTube: Denis Kania, Steve Constantelos