

Drummings May 2024

President's Message



Hello, birders! I am writing this letter at 4:00 a.m. in the Charlotte, North Carolina, airport. I went on a fantastic trip to the Lower Rio Grande Valley in April, adding 39 new birds to my life list. The highlights included:

Cattle Tyrant— a bird native to South America that has been visiting a dumpster in Corpus Christi for the past several weeks.

Chuck-will's-Widow—a strange looking bird that I flushed while walking around a park.

Green Jay—a beautiful green, blue, and black relative of our Blue Jay.

Southern Lapwing—a South American vagrant that has only been seen in the US once before!

Painted Bunting—my 600th lifer and an all-around brilliant bird.

I flew into Corpus Christi, spending a couple days there before driving down to South Padre Island, Brownsville, and McAllen. Some of the places I visited included Leonabelle Turnbull Birding Center (Port Aransas), Sabal Palm Sanctuary (Brownsville), South Padre Island Birding Center, Estero Llano Grande State Park (Mercedes), Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge (Alamo), and the National Butterfly Center (Mission). The weather was beautiful almost every day, and I'd highly recommend a trip if you haven't been to the region.

Severe storms struck Dallas on the day I was supposed to fly home, so travel chaos ensued! My original flight from Corpus Christi to home was rescheduled from Saturday to Monday, so I decided to drive two hours north to San Antonio, hoping for a better selection of flights there. I ended up on a flight to Charlotte, North Carolina, but upon arriving there, my connection to Chicago was delayed eight hours, prompting my first overnight stay in an airport.

This may sound odd to some, but I wasn't particularly annoyed by this inconvenience. It was an interesting experience, even though I was forced to pull an all-nighter. Of course, these are the risks we all face when choosing to travel.

During my trip, I met several birders, not only from around the United States, but from around the world—Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, and Australia. We were all brought together due to our shared love of birding and sense of adventure. We all worked together, providing tips, helping each other see our target birds and sharing our birding stories.

The shared enthusiasm and passion we all have for birding is one of the many reasons I value DBC so much. I am proud to be part of an organization that is so dedicated to helping people learn more about birds. The DBC website has excellent resources where you can get a refresher before going out on a field trip. Speaking of those field trips, I think DBC does an excellent job of welcoming new birders and making them feel comfortable on those trips. It's incredibly important to create an environment where everyone feels comfortable asking questions and being involved. A DBC field trip could be someone's first experience with birding and we need to make sure it's a positive one. Next time you're on a field

trip, strike up a conversation with someone you don't know—you may find that you have a lot in common with them!

Robert Perez
President, DuPage Birding Club
robertperez787@gmail.com

May 9, 2024, 7:00 p.m. In-Person and Zoom Meeting: The Fascinating World of Hummingbirds

Presented by Denis Kania

For our May Meeting, we welcome back founding DBC member and past President Denis Kania. Denis has always been fascinated with hummingbirds. They exhibit behaviors unparalleled in the bird world. They have unique flight abilities, feeding strategies, and an amazing tolerance of diverse habitats and climates. Depending on your favorite taxonomy, there are as many as 366 species spread across the western hemisphere. Political unrest and complicated logistics make it unlikely to see them all. That's not stopping Denis from searching out every little flying gem that he can find. Denis will share some of his adventures while enjoying the chase.

We hope that you can join us for this hybrid (in person and via Zoom) meeting on Thursday, May 9. To register for the Zoom meeting, click [here](#).

For those of you looking to join us in-person, see the details below!

When: Thursday, May 9, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Faith Lutheran Church (41 N Park Blvd, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137)

Please join us for a premeeting dinner at Ellyn's Tap and Grill (940 Roosevelt Rd, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137) from 5:15-6:30pm. Come mingle with your fellow birders before the official meeting!

In Case You Missed It: Chicago Bird Collision Monitors (CBCM)

Annette Prince of CBCM shared how city lights and reflective glass confuse birds migrating through Chicagoland, resulting in a devastating loss of bird life each spring and fall migration. In the early morning hours during migration, CBCM volunteers patrol city streets and rescue injured birds and take dead birds to the Field Museum where they become part of the research program.

Annette also spoke to actions homeowners can take to minimize window strikes at their residences and steps to take to advocate on behalf of bird-friendly building design. If you missed this compelling presentation, you can view it here: <https://youtu.be/9tcYilqlCvQ>



Kick off Your Summer Fun: Monitor Birds with BCN

The Bird Conservation Network (BCN) is actively recruiting new monitors for the annual BCN Survey. Start your summer strong by joining the dozens of other birders who spend a few mornings each summer monitoring our breeding birds.

Now in its 25th year, this important community science project relies on birders with at least three years of experience to count birds during the June breeding season. Training sessions will be available to review the protocols and help you enhance your skill-set for birding by ear.

Have some favorite birding spots? Chances are good that one or more of them is an open monitoring site opportunity. Help BCN expand its coverage, add to the bigger picture of what is happening in our region, and provide further insights for our land managers and researchers.

To learn more, visit www.bcnbirds.org/monitoring. To request more information or express interest in signing up, click the “Become a Monitor” button.

Refresh Your Warbler ID Skills on the DBC Education Channel

The DBC Education Channel library has multiple titles in its collection that can help you refresh your warbler identification skills just in time for the May 4 spring count and the busy migration season. Check it out!

Yellow Female Warblers – Hooded Warbler, Wilson’s Warbler, and Yellow Warbler females can be somewhat difficult to tell apart. You’ll find some useful tips in this tutorial.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EpYh2FIdurY>

Thrushes – One tutorial will walk you through the finer points of visual identification and the other will help you to sort through the thrush vocalizations.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hluC2VcGAi8>

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

Connecticut Warbler vs. Mourning Warbler – With a bit of luck you will have an encounter with one of these skulking warbler species. Be ready to make a positive ID even if you only have a fleeting look.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0tOnsZWWFX8>

Vireos – Another group that can be a bit confusing both visually and by vocalization. Fortunately, there are two tutorials in our library that can answer many of your ID questions.

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

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

May 2024 Field Trips

May is certainly the most exciting month of the birding year, and our field trip schedule this month gives you ample opportunity to take advantage of lovely migrants passing through and catch up with returning summer birds. With 18 trips plus the Spring Bird Count, DBC is setting a high bar for

opportunities to get out there and do some birding! We have weekday, weekend, and evening trips this month that are designed to cover areas where we hope to see migrating passerines (especially warblers), waterfowl, raptors, shorebirds, returning species, and grassland birds. There are opportunities for all types of birders to participate and enjoy. As always, non-members are welcome. There are no fees for birding trips. Come and join us for a spring trip!

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. Field trip information is also found at: www.dupagebirding.org.

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.

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:

- 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: When possible last-minute changes are posted on www.dupagebirding.org/field-trips.

Wednesday, May 1, 7:00 am. Northeastern DuPage County Hotspots.

Registration required, limit 10 people. Call or text only to register.

On this trip, we will visit multiple birding hotspots in Northeastern DuPage County. We will cover several kinds of habitats, and spring migration is upon us, so many species are possible. Contact trip leader for the meeting location and expect to drive from point to point on this trip. This trip will last a few hours, and the option to meet for lunch afterwards is optional; but participants can always leave early if necessary.

Leader: Kyle Wiktor, cell: 708-506-5186

Friday, May 3, 7:30 am - 10:30 am. 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

Saturday, May 4, Spring Bird Count, DuPage County

A hundred or more birders will fan out across DuPage County to identify all the bird species they can find. A group of birders will be in the field somewhere near your home. Come join us; we need more birders to make it possible to cover as many locations within the county as we can. You don't have to be an expert birder to participate; all skill levels are welcome. Even if you can only bird for part of the day,

we can use you. And if that's your preference, you'll probably be able to look for birds close to home, since we divide the county into 17 areas, with teams scouring each area. To volunteer or find out more information.

Email Joe Suchecki at DuPagesbc@gmail.com

Sunday, May 5, 7:00 am. Lyman Woods Forest Preserve, Downers Grove

Pre-registration not required.

This morning trip will be oriented toward spring migration and resident birds. Lyman has a variety of habitats to explore for these birds. Meet in the parking lot in front of Lyman Woods Interpretive Center, located one block east of Highland Avenue on 31st Street. Boots are HIGHLY recommended as trails are often muddy. Contact leader if you have questions.

Leader: Matt Hejna, mhejna@gmail.com

Wednesday, May 8, 7:00 am – 11:00 am + lunch. Waterfall Glen Sawmill Creek Area, Lemont

Pre-registration not required, but text any questions.

We'll walk at least 3 miles searching this watershed for all the spring migrants, summer breeding birds, and a couple resident specialties. PLEASE be prepared for rocky, root-filled trails along the creek, and hills throughout. Bring lunch so we can eat together in the picnic shelter afterwards. Park in the large new parking lot just southeast of the intersection of Cass and Bluff (enter from Bluff Rd. and listen for nesting Pine Warblers singing.)

Leader: Vicky Sroczyński, 630-297-9512

Thursday, May 9, 7:00 am – 10:00 am. McDowell Grove Forest Preserve, Naperville

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

Meet at the parking lot for McDowell Grove Forest Preserve on Raymond Road just south of I-88. Field trip to look for migrants, especially warblers. Bring insect repellent for ticks and mosquitos. Email the leader at to reserve a spot on this field trip and be sure to receive a confirmation regarding your participation.

Leader: Joe Suchecki, dbcsec2020@gmail.com

Thursday, May 9, 7:30 am – 10:30 am. Elsen's Hill/West DuPage Woods, Winfield

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

Elsen's Hill is known for spring migrating birds and is a traditionally an excellent spot for warblers. Take Winfield Rd. to Gary's Mill Rd. Go west on Gary's Mill Rd. to the Preserve parking lot entrance on the north side of the road. Be sure to wear appropriate clothing and boots for muddy trails.

Leader: Denis Kania, djkan36@gmail.com

Thursday, May 9, 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm. Danada East, Wheaton

Pre-registration is required for this trip (please email), limit 8 participants. A more casual evening trip primarily for the after-work crowd that can't get out in the middle of the day during migration, but any and all participants are welcome! This trip may be cancelled due to weather and will not be rescheduled. Danada East is located at 3S501 Naperville Road, on the east side of the road, south of Butterfield Road and north of I-88. Those using GPS can set navigation to the Danada House. Plan to meet at the north end of the parking lot near the entry kiosk and area with benches and bike racks.

Leader: William Pixler, pillwixler@gmail.com

Friday, May 10, 7:30 am – 10:00 am. Lambert Lake Nature Preserve, Glen Ellyn

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

This walk will be geared towards new birders, but any level of birder is invited. Lambert Lake is a hidden gem surrounded by shrubby woodland and a small lake to see an assortment of ducks and waders. Our walk will focus on migratory birds, including warblers, orioles, and vireos. A wood chip trail encircles the lake, but spots can be muddy. A few trails to the south can be a good spot for warblers. Those trails can also be muddy and some have an incline. Please wear appropriate footwear.

We will meet in the parking lot off of Lambert Rd., just south of Roosevelt Rd.

Leader: Bonnie Graham, 630-204-8750, Coye72112@gmail.com

Wednesday, May 15, 7:30 am – 9:30 am. Lincoln Marsh, Wheaton

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

Between 1979 and 1992 more than 100 parcels of land were assembled to form the core of this park. Today it is one of the most accessible natural areas in DuPage County, having wood chip trails and a floating boardwalk. There is a small prairie and an oak forest besides the marsh. The walk should be between one hour fifteen minutes and two hours and cover approximately a mile.

Directions: The entrance to Lincoln Marsh is on the west side of the park, at the corner of Harrison St. and Pierce Ave. From County Farm Rd., turn east on Harrison St. and proceed one mile to the parking lot. If entrance gate is locked, be prepared to park along the street. (People who use their GPS are misdirected to the Lincoln Marsh Office).

Leader: John Cebula, 630-640-2721, joceb2005@sbcglobal.net

Thursday, May 16, 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm. Danada East, Wheaton

Pre-registration is required for this trip (please email), limit 8 participants.

A more casual evening trip primarily for the after-work crowd that can't get out in the middle of the day during migration, but any and all participants are welcome! This trip may be cancelled due to weather and will not be rescheduled. Danada East is located at 35501 Naperville Road, on the east side of the road, south of Butterfield Road and north of I-88. Those using GPS can set navigation to the Danada House. Plan to meet at the north end of the parking lot near the entry kiosk and area with benches and bike racks.

Leader: William Pixler, pillwixler@gmail.com

Sunday, May 19, at 8 am – 11:00 am. Danada West Forest Preserve, Naperville

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

On this trip we will be meeting in the Forest Preserve HQ parking lot which allows us to explore the most amount of habitat possible on this morning. We will attempt to see and hear the greatest number of species possible, which could include everything from shorebirds to warblers, sparrows and other migrating passerines.

Leader: Henry Meade, henrymm21@icloud.com

Wednesday, May 22, 7:30 am. Bird Sit at Hidden Lake Forest Preserve, Downers Grove

Pre-registration not required.

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 and sit as a group and look for spring migrants and any birds that come to us! Birders of all levels are welcome.

The entrance to Hidden Lake is on the east of side of Route 53 a quarter mile south of Butterfield Road. We will meet in the south parking lot (turn **right** as you enter the park and drive all the way down to the south parking lot.) Bring a lawn chair, water, bug spray and dress for the weather. [Hidden Lake FP](#)
Leader: Natalie McFaul, natcatcher7@gmail.com

Thursday, May 23, 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm. Danada East, Wheaton

Pre-registration is required for this trip (please email), limit 8 participants.

A more casual evening trip primarily for the after-work crowd that can't get out in the middle of the day during migration, but any and all participants are welcome! This trip may be cancelled due to weather and will not be rescheduled.

Danada East is located at 3S501 Naperville Road, on the east side of the road, south of Butterfield Road and north of I-88. Those using GPS can set navigation to the Danada House. Plan to meet at the north end of the parking lot near the entry kiosk and area with benches and bike racks.

Leader: William Pixler, pillwixler@gmail.com

Friday, May 24, 7:30 am - 10:30 am. McKee Marsh, Warrenville

Pre-registration not required.

This site remains one of DuPage County's premier birding spots. Walk around the marsh with us to check out resident species and spring migrants. Most of our walk will be on preserve limestone and earthen trails; wear appropriate shoes and clothing. Meet at the visitor parking lot on the north side of Mack Rd., located between Winfield Rd. and Rt. 59 in Warrenville.

Leader: Kyle Wiktor, cell: 708-506-5186

Saturday, May 25, 7:30 am – 12:00 pm. Fermilab, Warrenville

Pre-registration is required (please email), limit 10 participants.

Please note that Fermilab is a government research facility and has strict access requirements: All participants aged 18 and over must have a REAL-ID compliant state ID or passport to enter the site. When on site, you must remain in public areas at all times, have a visitor's tag visible, and leave the same way they came in. When arriving at Fermilab, present your ID and let the security guard know you are here for bird watching, they will provide a visitors tag for you to wear. Full details on public access to Fermilab can be found [HERE](#).

We will cover a variety of habitats, while looking for any and all migrants and summer residents but will mainly focus on birds that favor shrubland and grassland. We will cover about 2 miles - mostly on wide, but occasionally uneven mown grass trails – as we walk a loop around the AE Sea Nature Area. Depending on time and interest, we may drive elsewhere within Fermilab. We will meet at the 'Red Barn Area' located at the end of Sauk Circle (Google Map Link: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/aaAdwsv846nb6xvc8>).

Fermilab security can provide a site map and directions to this area when you arrive.

Leader: William Pixler, pillwixler@gmail.com

Sunday, May 26, 7:30 am. Bird Sit at Elsen's Woods, West DuPage Woods, Winfield

No pre-registration required.

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 and sit as a group and look for spring migrants and any birds that come to us! Birders of all levels are welcome.

Elsen's Woods is part of West DuPage Woods. We will meet at the Gary's Mill Road parking lot. Take Winfield Rd. to Gary's Mill Rd. Go west on Gary's Mill Rd. to the Preserve parking lot entrance on the north side of the road. Bring a lawn chair, water, bug spray and dress for the weather. [West DuPage Woods](#)

Leader: Natalie McFaul, natcatcher7@gmail.com

Wednesday, May 29, 7:00 am – 10:00 am. Springbrook Prairie Forest Preserve, Naperville

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

Meet at the Model Airplane Field Parking Lot on the west side of Plainfield-Naperville Road about 0.5 miles south of 75th Street. Field trip to look for marsh, grassland, and migrant birds in the various habitats at Springbrook Prairie. Wear footwear suitable to go off trail and bring insect repellent for ticks and mosquitos. Email the leader to reserve a spot on this field trip and be sure to receive a confirmation regarding your participation.

Leader: Joe Suchecki, dbcsec2020@gmail.com

Thursday, May 30, 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm. Danada East, Wheaton

Pre-registration is required for this trip (please email), limit 8 participants.

A more casual evening trip primarily for the after-work crowd that can't get out in the middle of the day during migration, but any and all participants are welcome! This trip may be cancelled due to weather and will not be rescheduled.

Danada East is located at 3S501 Naperville Road, on the east side of the road, south of Butterfield Road and north of I-88. Those using GPS can set navigation to the Danada House. Plan to meet at the north end of the parking lot near the entry kiosk and area with benches and bike racks.

Leader: William Pixler, pillwixler@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE!

FUTURE FIELD TRIPS

Horicon Field Trip: May 18 & 19: FULL!

The Horicon field trip is full. Thanks to all of you who registered. If you would like to be put on a waiting list, in the event of an opening, send Natalie an email at natcatcher7@gmail.com

Sunday, June 2, 8:00-10:00am, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, Will County

Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie is one of the premier grassland birding spots in the area. The area is littered with abandoned munitions bunkers, as well as fantastic grassland species such as Henslow's

Sparrow, Bell's Vireo, Yellow-breasted Chat, and Blue Grosbeak. This walk will primarily take place on old asphalt roads, but may venture into tall grass. Dress appropriately and bring bug spray and sun protection. We will meet at the Iron Bridge Trailhead on Route 53 in Elwood, Illinois. The entrance to the trailhead parking lot is about 2 miles south of Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery and the intersection of Hoff Road and Route 53. Although there is no limit to registration for this walk, please reach out to **Leader: Robert Perez at robertperez787@gmail.com if you want to attend.**

Sunday, June 9, 9:00-11:00am, Goose Lake Natural Area, McHenry County

This unique spot in northern McHenry County is a great spot for sought after marsh birds. The walk will focus on finding the site's nesting Yellow-headed Blackbird population, as well as species such as Black Tern, King Rail, Marsh Wren, and others. There is roughly a mile walk on a straight gravel path before we hit the marsh area. We may venture off trail into tall grass, so dress appropriately and bring bug spray and sun protection. The parking lot is behind the Hebron Township Building in Hebron, Illinois (10206 Seaman Rd, Hebron, IL 60034). Although there is no limit to registration, please reach out to **Leader: Robert Perez at robertperez787@gmail.com if you want to attend.**

Additional birding opportunities:

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.

Area Forest Preserves may have birding opportunities. Check out the DuPage and Cook County forest preserves: <https://www.dupageforest.org/calendar-of-events>, www.fpdcc.com/events.

Questions/Comments: Email us if you have questions, would like to lead a trip, or have an idea for a trip. Leaders do not have to be birding experts, just familiar with the location.

Field Trip Coordinators:

Sherry Courtney, sherrycourtney10@gmail.com

Karen Warner, k_warner@comcast.net

How Not to Be a Good Field Trip Participant

If you are new to birding and participating in field trips for the first time, it's important to practice good birding etiquette. In addition to following the [ABA Code of Birding Ethics](#), a few rules guide field trip participation. Make sure you are not committing these offenses.

- **Chat it up loudly with your fellow birders and make it distracting for people to hear bird calls.** Talk quietly and give nature a chance. Often bird calls indicate the presence of a species before anyone has seen it, so let them be heard.
- **Call birds you see before you have enough to really identify the species.** It's better to say you have a sparrow in the reeds than to excite everyone with a call of Swamp Sparrow before you have really seen enough to have reasonable confidence that it is a Swamp Sparrow. If you're not absolutely sure, cite field marks or behavior that you see instead.
- **Spot an interesting bird but don't tell anyone until later.** "I saw a Golden-winged Warbler back there" is only going to make you a pariah among fellow field trip participants. Call it when you see it

so others can get on it. If you're not sure what you're seeing, then call out what you do see and let others weigh in.

- **Wander ahead of the field trip leader and flush birds before the rest of the group can see them.** Let the trip leader lead! Stay with the group and avoid lagging too far behind or getting ahead of the trip leader.
- **Leave the field trip early without checking in with the trip leader.** Okay, most trips now have a waiting list for participation so if you can't make the whole trip, let someone else have your spot. If at the end of the trip, you need to scoot early, have the courtesy to tell your trip leader.
- **Don't show up.** If you must cancel at the last minute, give your trip leader notice via text, call, or email so he or she is not waiting for you to arrive. If your notice is early enough, someone on the waitlist may be able to take your place.

Upcoming Outreach Events

A variety of organizations reach out to the DuPage Birding Club in search of presentations and programs. The Outreach Committee's 28 members try to fulfill as many requests as possible. If you'd like to help out or know of an organization looking for information about birds, please contact Mike Warner at mwarner2543@gmail.com.

Below are upcoming events:

May 17 - Explore More Day. Longfellow School, Wheaton. Led by Mike Warner.

May 18 - Fullersburg Forest Preserve Field Trip. Presented for The Well Spirituality Center and led by Mike Warner and Elena Nelson.

June 3 - Birds of DuPage County. Presented for the Itasca Library by Mike Warner.

June 18 - Birding 101. Presented for the Glenside Public Library by John Cebula.

July 22 - Birds of DuPage County: Four Habitats, Four Seasons. Presented for the Wheaton Public Library by Mike Warner.

October 1 - Attracting Wild Birds in The Winter. Presented to the Crestview Garden Club by Mike Warner.

A Season on the Wind at DBC Book Club June 4

The DBC Book Club's next read is Kenn Kaufman's fascinating account of the science and magic of spring migration and its many perils as it is experienced at one key location familiar to many of us—the shores of Lake Erie in northwestern Ohio at the famed Magee Marsh and environs. This site attracts birders from all over the globe to witness close encounters with a stunning variety of colorful spring migrants. It also has become the site of one of the biggest birding festivals in the world. This is a timely read as we're in the thick of spring migration.

The next book club will meet June 4, at 7:00 p.m. All members are welcome! Please contact Mike Warner at mwarner2543@gmail.com if you'd like details on participating.

New Members

Welcome, new DBC members!

Rosanne Baldino	Plainfield
Dan Crosser	Naperville
Darren Miller	Aurora
Mary Watters	Warrenville

Spring 2024 Photo Contest Runs through May

The DBC is looking for pictures of birds taken between March 1, 2024, and May 31, 2024, for the Spring 2024 Photo Contest. 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.

There are two ways to enter your bird photographs:

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

[DBC Photo Contest Entry Form](#)

If you do not have a Google Account, email your image as an email attachment to dupagebirdingclub@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! Submit your entries by June 6. Winners will be announced in the July Drummings.



2024 Meeting Schedule

January 11 July 11
March 14 September 12
April 11 October 10
May 9 November 14

2024 DBC Executive Committee Members

President: Robert Perez
Vice President: **OPEN**
Treasurer: Jane Barnett
Recording Secretary: Mark Freeburg
Corresponding Secretary: Natalie McFaul
Director: Rob Thomas
Director: Steve Mineck
Director: Pamela Martyn-Nemeth

2024 Committee Chairs

Audio-Visual Coordinator: **OPEN**
Bird Conservation Network: Glenn Gabanski,
Donna Kubik, Diann Bilderback, Glenn Perricone
Christmas Count Coordinator: Jeff Chapman
Communications: Diann Bilderback, Steve Constantelos
DBC Apparel: Steve Constantelos
DBC Book Club: Mike Warner
Drummings Newsletter: Diann Bilderback
Email Distribution: Bob Fisher
Facebook: John Cebula
Field Trips: Karen Warner, Sherry Courtney

Flickr: Urs Geiser
Forest Preserve Liaison: Dennis Streicher
Grants and Donations: Vera Miller
Hospitality: Bonnie Graham
Instagram: Henry Meade
Lending Library: Jeff Smith
Membership Directory: Susan Kaley
Outreach/Youth Education: **OPEN**
Spring Count Coordinator: Joe Suchecki
Twitter: Vera Miller
Webmasters: Barb Dougan, Nancy Allured
YouTube Ed Channel: Denis Kania, Steve Constantelos