

# Drummings August 2024

## President's Letter



### Next Meeting

September 12, 2024

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.  
Presentation at 7:00 p.m.

Faith Lutheran Church  
41 N. Park Blvd.  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

### Premeeting Dinner

5:30 p.m.  
Ellyn's Tap and Grill  
940 Roosevelt Rd.  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Hello, birders! I wasn't able to do a lot of birding this past month. With work and life, things get busy. Despite not being able to go birding, my life was still dominated by birds. Just today, my grandma sent me a photo of a dead bird she found in her backyard asking if I could identify it. Unfortunately, the bird in question ended up being an Ovenbird, a shame to see a bird that interesting had died.

As many of you have experienced in your own life, being a birder automatically makes you the identification expert. My mother is always asking me to identify birds her friends see. One of the birds my mom reported was a black and white speckled bird with a red head that was apparently seen not too far from our home in Lombard. I simply told her "Nothing like that exists. Sorry!"

A lot of times, our nonbirder friends will describe something so out there that there's no way for us to provide a proper identification. I found the cartoon next to this letter a few years ago and it pretty much sums up what I'm getting at...

I can't escape the birds at work either! My colleagues have been sending me daily updates on aggressive Red-winged Blackbird attacks on patrons, ducks, and herons in ponds, and House Sparrows trying to make nests in playgrounds. Even the teenage staff I oversee ask me about the different birds I've seen. They discovered my eBird account and have enjoyed looking at all my pictures, the Brown Booby being their favorite, for obvious reasons...

Although it can get annoying at times, I enjoy the fact that people ask me questions about birds. I like making people more aware of birds and hope they are close to the top of people's minds. It's now common for my teenage staff to come into work telling me about birds they've seen while out and about. Who knows? One of them might take on birding as a hobby!



Next time someone asks you a simple bird question, don't feel annoyed. Feel honored that someone looks to you as a local expert on something they want to know more about. Provide guidance or direct them to DBC's excellent educational resources!

Robert Perez  
President, DuPage Birding Club  
[robertperez787@gmail.com](mailto:robertperez787@gmail.com)

## September 12 Meeting, in person and via Zoom: Illinois Peregrines—From Decline to Recovery

**Presented by Mary Hennen, Director, Chicago Peregrine Program, Bird Division, The Field Museum**

Please join us to learn about the Peregrine Falcon and the fascinating story of their recovery in the Chicago area. Once on the Endangered Species List and extirpated in Illinois from 1951 until 1986, the Peregrine Falcon population is now past historic levels. Mary's presentation will take us through the recovery of the Peregrines in Illinois. As the majority of the population now lives in an urban habitat, learn what it means to live in close proximity to this remarkable bird.

For more information on Illinois Peregrines, be sure to check out the Illinois Peregrine [Website](#) and follow them on [Facebook](#)!

**This meeting will be in-person and via Zoom.** Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the meeting starts at 7:00 pm at Faith Lutheran Church (41 Park Boulevard, Glen Ellyn). To register for the Zoom session, click here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcqfuiurD4sG9yVI7qMcshYWL8tAqpFta-k>

As usual, all are invited to the premeeting dinner at 5:30 pm at Ellyn's Tap and Grill (940 Roosevelt Road, Glen Ellyn). For any questions, please email Robert Perez at [robertperez787@gmail.com](mailto:robertperez787@gmail.com)

## NEW AND EXCITING: DBC Member Survey

You're invited to provide feedback to DBC's leadership team through a short survey here: [2024 DBC Survey](#). The survey is designed to gather feedback on your thoughts and experience with DuPage Birding Club. Your responses will be used to improve the Club moving forward and will provide the Executive Board with a clearer idea of what club members' needs and interests are. Responses will be reviewed by Executive Board members only and aggregated results will be shared with the club.

For any questions or additional feedback, please reach out to Robert Perez at [robertperez787@gmail.com](mailto:robertperez787@gmail.com).



## In Case You Missed It: Recovery of Eastern Whip-Poor-Wills in the Midwest

Presented by Dr. Mike Ward

At the July 11 meeting, DBC heard from Dr. Mike Ward regarding his investigation of the decline of Eastern Whip-poor-wills in the Midwest and how we can help the species recover. More often heard singing its namesake song than seen, this cryptic night bird has been steadily declining in the Midwest. Dr. Ward shared factors likely leading to their decline and discussed work occurring on both breeding and wintering grounds to conserve the species. All present agreed it was a fascinating presentation full of interesting learnings. View it here: [https://youtu.be/z\\_4ujoVHZyQ](https://youtu.be/z_4ujoVHZyQ)



*Eastern Whip-poor-will. Photo by Mike Warner*

## You're invited: Birding and Breakfast Saturday, August 3, 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

The DuPage Birding Club invites all members to come out for our annual Birding and Breakfast event on **Saturday, August 3, at Herrick Lake Forest Preserve**. We will meet at 7:00 a.m. at the South Shelter (turn into the west parking lot on Herrick Road and follow the signs to the South Shelter).

After some morning birding around the forest preserve, DBC will serve breakfast to all attendees. Breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m. If you want to skip the walk and just attend the breakfast, you're more than welcome to do so!

Interested in attending? Please send an email to [robertperez787@gmail.com](mailto:robertperez787@gmail.com). We hope to see you there!

## DBC Outreach: Birdies and Brews August 2 at the Arb

DBC is hosting a table at the Morton Arboretum's Birdies and Brews event August 2, 4:30-9:00 p.m. This is a great chance to enjoy a round of mini golf and beer on tap, and stay for a special event focused on studying, appreciating, and protecting birds. A professional falconer will talk about falconry and fly trained birds, and you can even have your photo taken with the falcon. Experts from the DBC and the Ohio School of Falconry will be on hand to answer questions for the duration of the event.

Timed-entry tickets for this event are required and must be purchased online. Tickets are \$40 for Arboretum members and \$50 for nonmembers. Each Birdies and Brews ticket includes one round of [Wonder Woods Mini Golf](#) (last tee time is 8:00 p.m.) and two drinks from Off Color Brewing or nonalcoholic options from Go Brewing. This event is for individuals ages 21 and older.

To learn more or register: <https://mortonarb.org/explore/activities/events/birdies-and-brews/>

## 2024-2025 Federal “Duck Stamp” Now on Sale

The 2024-2025 Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, commonly known as the Duck Stamp, is now on sale. This year’s stamp features a Northern Pintail by Montana artist Chuck Black. The \$25 stamp is an excellent way to support conservation of wetland and grassland habitats.



The Duck Stamp is required as part of the annual license fee duck hunters pay, and it has also become highly collectible among stamp collectors, birders, and other nature enthusiasts. Since its inception in 1934, proceeds have contributed more than \$1.2 billion to the conservation of more than six million acres of habitat in the National Wildlife Refuge System. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service press announcement, ducks are not the only species that benefit:

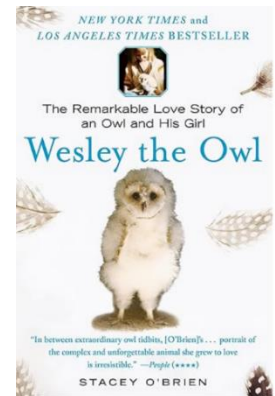
“Thousands upon thousands of shorebirds, herons, raptors and songbirds, as well as mammals, fish, native plants, reptiles and amphibians rely on these landscapes as well.”

The purchase of a Federal Duck Stamp entitles you to free admission to any National Wildlife Refuge that charges admission. To learn more about the Duck Stamp and its role in preserving habitat, visit: <https://www.fws.gov/press-release/2024-06/service-debuts-new-federal-and-junior-duck-stamps>

## DBC Book Club’s Next Read: *Wesley the Owl*

*Wesley the Owl* by Stacey O’Brien is the DBC Book Club’s next read. Widely lauded by the nature community and a New York Times Bestseller, *Wesley the Owl* tells the story of the special relationship that developed between an injured Barn Owl and the woman who adopted him and committed two decades of her life to his care when it was determined he could not live as a wild bird.

The next book club will meet September 10, at 7:00 p.m. All members are welcome! Please contact Mike Warner at [mwarner2543@gmail.com](mailto:mwarner2543@gmail.com) if you’d like details on participating.



## News from the DuPage Forest Preserve

The DuPage Forest Preserve was lauded in an article on May 16, 2024, in *The Daily Herald* for its commitment to sustainable practices. Titled *DuPage Forest Preserve Takes in More Carbon than it Emits*, the article cited the electric golf cart solar recharging building, geothermal at the new Willowbrook Wildlife Center, and other solar projects. Upcoming efforts include installing solar for the District headquarters and landfill gas to be harnessed into natural gas for clean electric energy. Clean air, water, and land are essential for the District mission to protect the natural environment for healthy habitats in DuPage County.

See additional story in this issue regarding upcoming Forest Preserve events.

## Welcome, New Members!

Ilke Arslan                      Naperville  
Desmond Novinger        Wheaton



## August 2024 Field Trips

In August, birds are raising their families, juveniles are growing up, and all are fattening up for migration. It can be a nice, lazy time to see some birds in action.

There are opportunities for all types of birders to participate and enjoy. As always, nonmembers are welcome. There are no fees for birding trips.

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](http://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](http://www.dupagebirding.org/field-trips).

### **Saturday, August 3, 7:00 am - 10:00 am. Herrick Lake Forest Preserve, Wheaton Birding and Breakfast!**

Please RSVP!

After some morning birding around the forest preserve, DBC will serve breakfast to all attendees. Breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m. If you want to skip the walk and just attend the breakfast, you're more than welcome to do so! We will meet at 7:00 a.m. at the South Shelter (turn into the west parking lot on Herrick Road and follow the signs to the South Shelter).

**If you are interested in attending the breakfast and/or the walk, please send an email to: Robert Perez, [robertperez787@gmail.com](mailto:robertperez787@gmail.com)**

### **Thursday, August 8, 6:00 pm – 7:45 pm, Danada East, Wheaton**

Registration is not required, but please email the trip leader if you plan to attend so you can receive any trip updates.



*See birds and make new friends at a DBC field trip! Photo by Mike Warner*

A more casual evening trip, perfect for anyone hoping to beat the summer heat and who cannot get out in the mornings. This trip is planned with the after-work crowd in mind, but anyone interested is 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](mailto:pillwixler@gmail.com)**

**Sunday, August 11, 8:00 am, Wood Dale Reservoir, Wood Dale**

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

On this trip we will be exploring one of the premier shorebird spots in DuPage County. We will focus on finding and identifying migratory shorebirds such as Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers and both species of yellowlegs. There's even the chance for something rarer like a Stilt or Baird's Sandpiper. The walk will be about a mile. Please meet in the parking lot at the end of School St.

**Leader: Henry Meade, [kathleenreeves22@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleenreeves22@yahoo.com)**

**Thursday, August 15, 5:45 pm, Lyman Woods, Downers Grove**

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

We will be looking for late summer woodland/wetland residents and early migrants. Lyman's trails are almost always muddy regardless of weather. If rain occurs ahead of the trip, expect areas with standing water. Be prepared with appropriate footwear, and insect repellent is recommended. Meet at the parking lot on 31st Street.

**Leader: Matt Crisler, [crislermj@gmail.com](mailto:crislermj@gmail.com)**

**Friday, August 16, 7:00 am - 9:30 am, Knoch Knolls Park, Naperville**

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

New birders welcome! We'll seek summer residents, youngsters, and early migrants along the DuPage, in the woods, at a field's edge, and among shade trees by the nature center. Trails are level and are grass/dirt/paved. Meet at the parking lot on 336 Knoch Knolls Rd., Naperville.

**Leader: Steve Constantelos, 630-890-8956, [steve.constantelos@gmail.com](mailto:steve.constantelos@gmail.com)**

**Sunday, August 18, 7:00 am to 9:00 am, Greene Valley Forest Preserve, Naperville/Bolingbrook**

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

We'll be looking for summer residents (including youngsters!) and early migrants as we explore the fields and woods along the Thunderbird Trail. New birders are welcome as we will take a fairly leisurely pace to see (and listen to) the birds and to answer questions. If conditions are good, we'll do a little bonus walk at the end. Meet at the Thunderbird Youth Camp Parking Lot at the south end of Thunderbird Road. The entrance is located on 79th Street, about 0.5 miles west of Greene Road.

**Leader: Steve Constantelos, 630-890-8956, [steve.constantelos@gmail.com](mailto:steve.constantelos@gmail.com)**

**Thursday, August 22, 5:45 pm, Greene Valley - 83rd Street Fluddle, Naperville**

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

Meet at the north end of the Greene Road parking lot. We'll make our way east to the 83rd Street Fluddle area, with the primary goal being migrating shorebirds, with birding along the way as time permits. Scopes/tripods are highly recommended, and trip leader will have one. Fall shorebird IDs can

be difficult even with experience. The trip leader will be happy to help people who may be new to it, but it will help to review field guides, eBird/Merlin, and/or some of the DBC YouTube content ([Yellowlegs and Similar Waders](#), [Peeps](#)) ahead of time. Take appropriate measures for ticks/mosquitos.

**Leader: Matt Crisler, [crislermj@gmail.com](mailto:crislermj@gmail.com)**

**Saturday, August 24, 7:30 am - 10:30 am, or so. McKee Marsh, Warrentville**

Pre-registration not required.

This site remains one of DuPage County's premier birding spots. Walk around the marsh with us, approximately 3.25 miles, to check out resident species and early fall 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 Warrentville.

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

**Sunday, August 25th, 7:30 am – 10:00 am, Fermilab, Warrentville**

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, 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 summer residents and early fall migrants with the primary focus on the trip dependent upon the weather leading up to the date of the trip. We will likely walk a loop around the AE Sea Nature Area which will cover about 2 miles on wide, mown grass trails. 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](#). If needed, Fermilab security can provide a site map and directions to this area when you arrive.

**Leader: William Pixler, [pillwixler@gmail.com](mailto:pillwixler@gmail.com)**

**Thursday, September 5, 7:30 am - 10:30 am, or so. McKee Marsh, Warrentville**

Pre-registration not required.

This site remains one of DuPage County's premier birding spots. Walk around the marsh with us, approximately 3.25 miles, to check out resident species. We hope to see Red-headed Woodpeckers, Henslow's Sparrows, Eastern Meadowlarks, and some marsh and woodland species. 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 Warrentville.

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

## SAVE THE DATE!

**Sunday, September 22, Robert Perez** will be leading a birding trip to **Montrose Point Bird Sanctuary**, in Chicago. [Link](#). More information to come!

**Friday & Saturday, November 15 & 16, Nygren Wetland Preserve, Rockton, IL.**

Pre-Registration is required, limit is 10 participants.

This trip will begin Friday at 3:30 pm, at Nygren Overlook, and end around Noon to 1:00 pm Saturday. Nygren is a beautiful wildlife refuge located in Rockton, Illinois, owned by the Natural Land Institute, a 501(c)(3) non-profit land trust which was created in 1958 by George Fell, one of the founders and first executive director of The Nature Conservancy. It covers over 700 acres of pristine wetlands, woodlands, and prairies, making it a diverse and important ecosystem in the area. It is a waystation for Sandhill Cranes as they migrate south for the winter. On this field trip, between the evening and daytime walks, we hope to see a variety of waterfowl and raptors, including Northern Harrier and Rough-legged Hawks and early migrants like Lapland Longspurs and late sparrows. We will also look for Northern Shrike, and Barred and Short-eared Owls. We will be visiting **Ferguson Forest Preserve** and perhaps **Sugar River Forest Preserve** during this trip.

To register and for more detailed information contact Lenny Edgin @ [ledgin72@gmail.com](mailto:ledgin72@gmail.com). *Full itinerary will be sent to registrants.*

**Led by Dan Williams. Organized by Lenny Edgin.**

*Dan Williams has lived in Winnebago County for over 50 years and has been birding for more than 45 years. He is currently a member of the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee. He has been the President and past board member of the Natural Land Institute, the owner of the Nygren Wetland Preserve, and a former member and past chair of the Land Advisory Council, a citizens advisory committee of the Winnebago County Forest Preserve District. The purpose of the LAC was to advise the Forest Preserve Commission regarding land acquisition opportunities.*

### **Additional birding opportunities:**

Cantigny Park in Wheaton posts Accessible Birding 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.

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](http://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](mailto:sherrycourtney10@gmail.com)

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

## Change to Field Trip Distribution

You may have noticed that you did not receive an advance notice of the August field trips via email this month. That's because the *Drummings* has begun publishing 3-4 days before month end instead of the first week of the month. As before, you will receive a notice when *Drummings* has posted on the website. To give you preference for trip signups over the general public, we will defer posting all field trips on the website until the day before the month starts.

## McCormick Place Acts to Stop the Carnage...and Other Good News

It's exciting to report some progress on bird-friendly building design here in the Chicago region. Birds rely on the moon and stars to navigate, and bright lights from reflective glass structures attract and confuse them. Often, they can't perceive the glass and think they can fly straight through.

The big news, of course, is that McCormick Place has begun a \$1.2 million project to retrofit its glass façade with a bird-safe film that will deter migratory birds from flying into the building's windows. After a tragic night in October of 2023 in which almost a thousand migratory birds perished as they crashed into McCormick Place's glass



*McCormick Place Convention Center*

windows, the pressure on the facility to address the long-standing problem mounted. The event was covered in both local and national media, reinforcing Chicago's reputation as a deadly place for migrants due to its heavy light pollution and position in the central migratory flyway. The initiative will require several months to complete but is expected to be in place in time for fall migration.

In other local news, Lake County recently passed ordinances requiring bird-friendly building design in all government construction and in all nonresidential construction in unincorporated Lake County. These successes are largely due to the committed advocacy of BCN Advocacy Co-Chair Donnie Dann to educate legislators and gain public support. In Kane County, the Forest Preserve District committed to installing in all future construction wildlife-friendly lighting that is designed to reduce light pollution in adherence to standards set by Dark Sky International.

Let's hope other communities take note and look at ways to reduce the impact of light pollution and find ways to be more wildlife-friendly.

## Fall 2023 Greene Valley Hawkwatch

Commentary by Bob Fisher



*Katherine Howard captured this plummeting Red-tailed Hawk on the foggy, drizzly morning of September 8.*

Katherine Howard's 9/8 picture of a diving Red-tailed Hawk proved to be a pretty good metaphor for the 2023 season at the Greene Valley Hawkwatch (GVHV)—last year proved to be another generally poor raptor year on the Hill. No new species high counts were set in our 18<sup>th</sup> year of the GVHW, but one all-time low was set—the above-mentioned Red-tailed Hawks. Cooper's Hawks, plus Red-tailed Hawks, both seem to be declining in their annual numbers, that pattern beginning in 2017—a continuing drop in the number of migrating birds of this species to an 18-year low—291, 8 fewer than 2022's record low!

We all hope to see the Broad-winged Hawk spectacle every Fall—but don't always get our wish—because "big BW days" typically happen every 2-3 years when brisk northwest winds guide their passage over the Hill. In 2023 the total BW count was 604, under half our 18-year average. On just one day, 561 (93%) passed, carried on the northwest winds of 10/7, mostly in the morning. Noteworthy, but not spectacular; and if you were not there, you missed it. Not a record day, but worth the seeing...



*Our first American Goshawk in three years!  
Photo by Jeff Smith.*

On the upside, Sharp-shinned Hawks rebounded from 2022's all-time low count. One Mississippi Kite glided by on 10/3, and two Swainson's Hawks were observed, one on 10/9, the other two days later on 10/11. After missing this species in 2021-22, a single American Goshawk (why the name change, click [here](#)) was spotted and photographed. The two 2023 newbies were a Summer Tanager on 9/14 (stayed for several days) and a Pine Warbler on 10/5.

A few other observations:

- Monarch butterflies were seen in small numbers well into November, plus we had a couple of dragonfly migration days (the latest swarm, mostly Green Darners and Black Saddlebags, was on 10/24).
- Horned Larks, American Pipits (first on 9/12), Lapland Longspurs (first on 9/18) and Snow Buntings (first on 10/16) were present as usual. The longspurs and buntings kept us company on a daily basis in good numbers later in the season. Juncos and White-crowned Sparrows first appeared on 10/17.
- We recorded our last Chimney Swift on 10/19, four days earlier than last year.
- Just under 25,000 Sandhill Cranes flew over during the season (24,000 in November!). Our biggest day was 9,700+ on 11/24. We did not see/count any Whooping Cranes—they're not "annual" yet!
- Zero November swallows this year! 10/22 was the last sighting—Tree Swallows.
- Inclement weather caused the 2023 count to be canceled on just five days, so our low totals were certainly not lack of time on the Hill.



*Tandem Sandies! Who knew? Photo by Katherine Howard.*

The Greene Valley Hawkwatch is now up to 193 species recorded over our 18-year history. It 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. The 2024 season fast approaches! Let's put our eyes on the sky once again!

One or more of our dedicated volunteer counters/observers were on the hill for 559 hours during 2023; thanks especially to the indefatigable Jeff Smith, who once again pretty much carried the 2023 GVHW on his shoulders—up daily, scanning, counting, then logging/entering data in real time. 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 1572 hours.



*What the heck is that, you ask? Phone pic by Bob F. through his SUV's skylight roof hatch – this buteo was only 20 ft up and moving fast. Consensus: Rough-Legged Hawk, maybe? It's worthy of a prize for the worst picture of the season--agreed?*

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

Species	Turkey Vulture	Osprey	Bald Eagle	N. Harrier	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Cooper's Hawk	N. Goshawk	Red-shouldered Hawk	accipiters total	
2023	728	39	70	57	442	56	1	31	499	
2022	695	41	88	60	230	48	0	39	278	
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
18 year total	12402	757	1100	956	7900	1686	52	447	9638	
18 year avg.	689	42	61	53	439	94	3	25	535	
										Total minus Broadwings
Species	Broad-winged Hawk	Red-tailed Hawk	Rough-legged Hawk	Golden Eagle	Am. Kestrel	Merlin	Peregrine Falcon	Unknown raptor	TOTAL	
2023	604	291	11	3	18	35	23	50	2462	1858
2022	3544	299	14	3	17	32	17	46	5174	1630
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
18 year total	26216	11189	251	102	244	754	648	928	65645	39429
18 year avg.	1456	622	14	6	14	42	36	52	3647	2191

## An Opportunity to help our Forest Preserve District

DBC members can help in the restoration and management of habitat for birds in our DuPage County Forest Preserves while having fun at the same time. The Friends of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, the 501 (C) (3) charitable organization that raises private donations to support District programs, is holding two fundraising and fun events in September. All monies raised will be used to restore and manage wildlife habitat in the County.

The first event is a rubber **Duck Race** on September 5 at St. James Farm Forest Preserve. You can purchase a duck to enter the race and have a chance to win the \$500 first prize. Racing duck entries are \$25 each or five for \$100. You can cheer your duck on as it races down Spring Brook to the finish line, but you do not need to be present to win. Information and entry forms are available on-line at [www.dupageforest.org/friends](http://www.dupageforest.org/friends).

The Friends is also holding their annual fundraising event—**A Night For Nature**—on Thursday, September 12 from 5-8:30 pm. The event will be held at St James Farm Forest Preserve and is a fun evening outside at the pavilion with dinner, music, drinks and lots of great fellowship with like-minded friends and colleagues. Also included are wagon rides around the preserve, campfires, and a silent auction of great gifts and experiences. Tickets to this wonderful event are \$100 each.

All proceeds will benefit habitat restoration and wildlife preservation in our DuPage County Forest Preserves. A Friends' donor has issued a challenge grant to match the monies raised at A Night for Nature up to \$7500, so your donation will go even further. Tickets, gift opportunities to the silent auction, and donation information are available at [www.dupageforest.org/night-for-nature](http://www.dupageforest.org/night-for-nature) or you can call the Friends office at 630-871-6400.

As birders in DuPage County, we know that the forest preserves provide essentially all of the areas where we can go to enjoy our hobby and find birds. Without continued management and care, bird habitat in DuPage will decline and there will be fewer birds for us to see. Please consider supporting our local forest preserves by purchasing Duck Race entries and A Night For Nature tickets today or making a donation to the Friends.





## 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: Thelma Hulka  
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