

## 2025 Auction Breaks All Records!

The 2025 DBC Auction and Fundraiser was worth the wait according to participants. Our first auction since 2019, the October 9 event was certainly a big night for the DuPage Birding Club as it smashed records for number of items auctioned, volume of books and bazaar items, cool raffle items, number of participants, and funds raised. The sold-out event hosted 100+ people, including DBC members, forest preserve staff, and family and friends.

### A Lively and Fast-Paced Evening

Auctioneers Denis Kania and Jeff Chapman set a lively pace as they auctioned a wide range of optics, artwork, feeders and supplies, experiences, gift baskets, and more. The always popular Birders' Bazaar was especially loaded with books as DBC liquidated its Lending Library, which had become less relevant as it aged now that many resources are available online. It was treasure hunting at its best at the Free and \$3 tables! And thanks to Erva Tool and Manufacturing, one of our donors, every attendee could go home with a BirdBath Purifying Disk for their birdbaths.

### Auction Raises \$7,700!

Preliminary tallies in round numbers put the auction results at \$7,100 from the 60+ items auctioned during the event and another \$600 from the Raffle and Birders' Bazaar. This figure exceeds all prior auction results. Good work, team!

Proceeds fund club operations such as our speaker program and outreach events and our Grants and Donations Program, which has donated \$21,367 to bird- and conservation-related programs since 2019.



Photos by Diann Bilderback

## A Shout-Out to our Donors and Volunteers

This event couldn't happen without a lot of helping hands. First, a big thanks to our generous donors in the business community. Please remember them in your fall and holiday shopping and your giving program.

American Bird Conservancy  
American Birding Association  
Barn Owl Garden Center  
Buikema's Ace Hardware Wheaton  
BWD (formerly Bird Watcher's Digest)  
Chicago Bird Alliance  
Conservation Foundation  
Cornell Lab of Ornithology  
Dean's Beans Fair Trade Coffee  
DuPage Forest Preserve  
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International Crane Foundation  
Morton Arboretum  
Red Hill Birding  
Schaumburg Boomers  
The Growing Place  
Wild Birds Unlimited (Lisle)



*Chris Cudworth and winning bidder  
Jeannine Kannegiesser. Photo by Jeff Reiter*

Thank you to all the members who donated auction, raffle, and bazaar items. Your hand-crafted items, beautiful artwork, and rehomed treasures added eclectic variety and spice to our offerings. A special thank you to artist and teacher **Chris Cudworth**, who created a painting of a Blackburnian Warbler and framed it live during the event. It was auctioned at the close of the evening.

Thank you to the 20+ volunteers the night of the auction who hauled in boxes, set up tables, and supported the auction process. You brought order to the mayhem and helped us stay organized!

And finally, thanks to the committee who made this event happen: Diann Bilderback, Denis Kania, Jeff Reiter, Jim Mateski, Lindsay Vacek, John Baker, and Steve Mineck. Job well done!