

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 31, 2009

## Audubon Banquet Open to All – Even Hummingbirds Reservations Due by April 7

The 28<sup>th</sup> annual banquet of the Northwest Illinois Audubon Society will be held Wednesday, April 15 at 6pm at Embury United Methodist Church in Freeport. “Hummingbirds and How to Attract Them” will be the topic of the program which begins at 7pm. Both the banquet and the program are open to the public.

The banquet will feature locally-raised sweet corn and pasture-raised turkey from Arnold’s Farm, as well as all the trimmings and a home-made piece of pie or other dessert. Tickets for the banquet are \$12.50 for adults and \$5.50 for children. The reservation deadline is April 7. Call Judy Kurr at (815) 563-4984 for banquet reservation information.

A fun and interesting silent auction including a wide-range of items and services with a ‘nature and environment’ theme will be conducted before and immediately after the 6pm dinner – so come early and bid often. Shade-grown Audubon coffee will also be on sale. All proceeds benefit local environmental concerns.

At 7pm, after the banquet and auction, Michael and Kathi Rock will present a wide range of information about the biology and behavior of hummingbirds, and how to establish a hummingbird garden. The Rocks, whose Madison garden includes more than 100 species of annual and perennial plants that attract hummingbirds, will also discuss the varieties and styles of hummingbird feeders, and how you can get started in your own back yard or neighborhood. Rocks publish the newsletter ‘Hummingbird Nectar News’ and are online at [mywebspace.wisc.edu.mjrock/web](http://mywebspace.wisc.edu.mjrock/web).

Though reservations must be made for the banquet, there is no charge or registration required for attending the ‘Hummingbird’ program which will begin at 7pm. Embury Church is located at 515 S Galena Ave. in downtown Freeport. Parking areas are on both Pleasant and Iroquois.

For additional information about the Northwest Illinois Audubon Society, and to learn about a wide range of other Audubon initiatives and activities visit the Chapter’s newly opened website at [nwilaudubon.org](http://nwilaudubon.org).

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