



Northwest Illinois Audubon Society

www.nwilaudubon.org

NIAS MONTHLY MEETINGS

Join us the first Tuesday of every month, September through May. All of our meetings are open to the public.

Most meetings are held at the St John United Church of Christ, 1010 Park Blvd., in Freeport.

Most meetings begin at 7PM with announcements, followed by the program at 7:30 and then refreshments.

Check the current newsletter or our website (nwilaudubon.org) for specific monthly details, special events or any changes to the usual time and place.

Please join us!

INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER:

2. Calendar Considerations
3. Field Trips
4. Field Trip Recap
5. NIAS Board Retreat, Spring Bird Walks
6. Going Solar, part II
7. Bird Seed Sale and Donation Items, Prairie Seed Collection

Top: Henslow's Sparrow
Text: allaboutbirds.org
Henslow's Sparrow: Dominic Sherony
Photo of Keith Blackmore: Dan Barron

August - September 2015

Henslow's Sparrow *Ammodramus henslowii*

An uncommon and famously inconspicuous bird, the Henslow's Sparrow breeds in weedy grasslands of the east-central United States. Its population numbers have declined steadily over the past few decades, largely because of habitat loss.



Keith Blackmore, ecologist and founding member of our Chapter, passed away on Tuesday July 21 at his home in Forreton. For many of us, Keith is the person who opened the gate and pointed us down the path toward better preserving and protecting our natural world. Every conversation with Keith could deepen and strengthen your understanding. Whether sitting across from him at an Audubon potluck, working by his side at Elkhorn Creek, or listening to his stories and insights at one of the campfires, spending time with Keith could give you a deeper appreciation of our Earth and a stronger sense of our membership in its natural community.

Please take a few moments to consider Keith's insights. Then go do something that would have made him smile.

A memorial gathering is being planned for Saturday, August 15, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Highland Community College.

Check the newspaper or the Audubon website (nwilaudubon.org) for details. Please join us.

If you have a favorite story about Keith, or his contribution to your understanding, please send it in to the NIAS Newsletter Editor and we'll run some of them in the next newsletter. Submissions may be emailed to: nias.nl.editor@gmail.com or mailed to Dan Barron, 1706 Johnson Street, La Crosse, WI 54601.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING PROGRAM/POT-LUCK

September 1st at 6:00 PM | St John United Church of Christ, 1010 Park Blvd, Freeport

Please note the location because it is different from previous September meetings. Start the evening with a delicious pot-luck meal. Bring a dish to pass and your own table service. NIAS will provide beverages. A short business meeting with announcements and the program will follow immediately after the meal.

Our program for the evening will be presented by Lee G. Johnson

Lee is a former director of the Burpee Museum of Natural History in Rockford but perhaps more people know him as the person who started Sand Bluff Bird Observatory in 1967. Through his master bird banding permit issued by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and over thirty dedicated volunteers, SBBO has banded more than 300,000 perching birds. The program will concentrate on his many years of experience banding birds at Sand Bluff, which is located near Shirland, Illinois. Lee will tell about some of the interesting and important things that have been learned from bird banding and why habitat, especially along migration corridors, is so important.

CALENDAR CONSIDERATIONS

August 6 - Prairie Work Session at Freeport Prairie, 7-9 a.m.
Leader: Mary Blackmore (815-938-3204).

*The preserve is located off of Walnut Rd. on Freeport's south side.
Tools, gloves, and water provided. Optional breakfast after.*

August 11 – “Talking About the Issues” monthly discussion session; 7-9 PM at the home of Chris Kruger; 201 West Zimmerman St in Dakota (815-449-2019).

The first hour topic will be potential funding cuts to Soil & Water Conservation Districts. The second hour will be the customary discussion of whatever issues are brought forth by participants. Call Richard Benning (815-865-5279) for a copy of the first hour topic reading. All are welcome to attend these issues discussions. Carpool from the Staples parking lot in Freeport at 6:30 PM or call Chris for directions.

August 12 - Perseids Campfire at Elkhorn Creek.

We hope to catch sight of this annual meteor shower, this year very close to the new moon.

Prairie walk at 7 p.m.; campfire at 8:00. S'mores and water will be provided. Bring a lawn chair and flashlight. Carpool from the Staples lot in Freeport at 6:30 p.m. The preserve is located about 3 miles southwest of Forreton in the southeast corner of West Grove and Freeport Rds. The parking lot is off of West Grove Rd. Rain date is August 13. If weather is questionable, call Mary at 815-938-3204.

August 18 - Prairie Work Session at Silver Creek Biodiversity Preserve, 7-9 a.m. Leader: Mary Blackmore, 815-938-3204.

Carpool from the Staples lot in Freeport at 6:15 a.m. Tools, gloves and water provided. The preserve is about 2 miles south of Leaf River, with parking lot off of Leaf River Rd.

August 21 - Local Foods Trip at Belly Fire Farm & Open Range Products. See *Field Trips* on page 3 for more information.

August 27 - A Conservation Conversation will be held at Amigo's Restaurant on the corner of Galena and Clark in Freeport.

Join us at 5:30 for some Mexican and/or American fare and some friendly conversation — generally about conservation. Newcomers are welcome!

August 29 - Elk River Canoe Trip. See *Field Trips* on page 3 for more information.

September 1 - General Membership Meeting, Program/Pot-Luck. St John United Church of Christ, 1010 Park Blvd, Freeport
See cover page for more information.

September 8 - NIAS Board Meeting at St John UCC, 7-9PM.

September 9 – “Talking About the Issues” monthly discussion session; 7-9 PM; at the home of Harlan and Judy Corrie; 5901 Charolaise Drive in rural Cedarville (815-563-4932).

The first hour topic will focus on Aldo Leopold's book, A Sand County Almanac. Call Richard Benning (815-865-5279) for more information on which essays in the book we will focus on. The second hour will be the customary discussion of whatever issues are brought forth by participants. All are welcome to attend these issues discussions. Carpool from the Staples parking lot in Freeport at 6:30 PM or call Harlan and Judy for directions.

September 15 - Field Trip, Horseshoe Mound Preserve. See *Field Trips* on page 3 for more information.

September 23 - Autumnal Equinox Campfire at Silver Creek Biodiversity Preserve. Join us as we bid farewell to summer.

Stroll the trails at 6:30 p.m.; campfire at 7:30. S'mores and water will be provided. Bring a lawn chair and flashlight. Carpool from the Staples lot in Freeport at 5:45 p.m. For directions see August 18. Rain date is September 25. If weather is questionable, call Mary at 815-938-3204.

September 24 - A Conservation Conversation will be held at Amigo's Restaurant on the corner of Galena and Clark in Freeport.

Join us at 5:30 for some Mexican and/or American fare and some friendly conversation — generally about conservation. Newcomers are welcome!

September 27 - Prairie Seed Collecting at Elkhorn Creek, 2-4 p.m. See cover for details.

The preserve is located about 3 miles southwest of Forreton in the southeast corner of West Grove and Freeport Rds. The parking lot is off of West Grove Rd. Rain date is August 13. If weather is questionable, call Mary at 815-938-3204.

October 3 - Field Trip, Aldo Leopold Shack and Leopold Center & International Crane Foundation, Baraboo, WI. See *Field Trips* on page 3 for more information.

Field Trips

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER



Elk River Canoe Trip

Saturday, August 29th

Paddle the Elk River as it feeds into the Mississippi River with Pam Steinhaus from the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Savanna. We will have the opportunity to see American White Pelican nesting areas and enjoy a leisurely paddle on the back waters of the Mississippi.

We will paddle from 4:00 – 7:00 PM. If it is a very windy day the back-up plan would be to paddle from Savanna Slough to Big Slough. A limited number of canoes will be provided by the US Fish and Wildlife Service at no cost. If you are interested in joining us for this trip you must contact Richard at 815-865-5279 by Monday, Aug 24th. Reservation for a canoe is required by calling Richard. We will carpool from the Freeport Staples leaving at 2:30 and returning about 9:00 PM.

Local Foods Trip

Belly Fire Farm & Open Range Products

Friday, August 21st

We will be visiting Belly Fire Farm near Mt. Morris. Belly Fire is a small, bio-intensive family farm. Danica Hoehn and Adolfo Parra are the owners of this operation and they specialize in heirloom veggies, herbs, berries and goat milk soap. Their products are sold on the farm and also through a CSA.

We will then head to Open Range Products near Pecatonica. Kathy Spataro McGinty will be showing us their meat and poultry operation. Kathy raises animals, all free range with no antibiotics, steroids, hormones or animal/fish proteins. There will be meat (beef, pork, lamb, goat, & chicken) available for purchase at the farm.

We will be stopping at Tony's in Winnebago for lunch afterwards.

Please meet at the Staples Parking lot at 7:45 a.m. We will arrange car-pooling and leave promptly at 8:00. We should arrive back in Freeport by 2:00. COST FOR THIS TRIP IS \$1.50 (purchase of plastic boots for the Open Range portion). Bring a cooler if you plan to purchase meat or produce at Belly Fire Farm. Pre-registration is requested to make car-pooling set up easier. Please call Laura Dufford (815) 947-2720 and leave a message with your name and how many will be attending. Also if you are willing to drive.

Horseshoe Mound Preserve

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

1679 N. Blackjack Road, Galena
Leader: Chris Kruger 815-238-9259

Join us for a guided tour of Horseshoe Mound Preserve near Galena. This is one of Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation's newest preserves. They refer to the 40 acre site as one of the most scenic properties in all of Northern Illinois, featuring lookouts with views of three states. JDCF staff will guide the 1.5 hour tour highlighting the geology of the driftless area. Jim Louderman, Collections Specialist from the Chicago Field Museum will also be on-hand to discuss insects.

Carpool from the Staples lot in Freeport at 11:45 am or meet us at the preserve before 1 pm. We will be traveling over the lunch hour so plan to eat ahead of time, or bring along a sack lunch for the ride. There is no charge, but JDCF does accept donations. Expected return time around 3:45 pm. Please call Chris Kruger at 815-238-9259 by September 10th if you plan to attend. We can accommodate a few who sign up late, but need to call in an approximate head count by the 10th.

Aldo Leopold Shack and Leopold Center & International Crane Foundation, Baraboo, WI

Saturday, October 3, 2015

Leader: Chris Kruger 815-238-9259

Travel with us to Baraboo, WI to tour the Aldo Leopold Shack and Leopold Center. Many consider Leopold to be the greatest conservationist of the 21st century. Visit the land that inspired "A Sand County Almanac," and tour the Center that continues his legacy. In the afternoon, we will visit the nearby International Crane Foundation. This non-profit organization is dedicated to the research, education, habitat protection, captive breeding, and reintroduction of cranes. For more information, check out www.aldoleopold.org and www.savingcranes.org.

Carpool from the Staples lot in Freeport at 7 am. Bring a sack lunch. Admission fee \$17 for both. Please bring cash and we will collect before we get there to save time. Dress for the weather, multiple layers and rain gear, long pants, and closed toe shoes are strongly recommended. Expected return time by 6 pm. Contact Chris Kruger at 815-238-9259 by September 18th if you would like to attend. We need a minimum of 10 people for the group tour, so the sooner you can reserve your spot, the better.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Roberta Asher – River Forest | Charlene Bell – Savanna | Annelisa Cleary – Apple River
Patricia and Richard Fuller – Mount Carroll | Marvin and Hannelore Gerdes – Dixon | Tracey Hulbert – McConnell
Gene and Sue Klock – Rock Falls | Sue Riebock – Freeport | Susan Solheim – Freeport | James Winker – Freeport

*Mark your calendar and
save the date
for upcoming field trips!*

Field Trips

*NYGREN WETLAND PRESERVE FIELD TRIP
AND BISON AND BABIES FIELD TRIP TO
NACHUSA GRASSLANDS*

Stay tuned for details on a field trip to the **Sand Bluff Bird Observatory** in September! Date to be determined and announced at the September meeting. The NIAS board recently discussed this year's upcoming field trips at the annual retreat. If you have ideas, suggestions, or would like to help lead a trip, please call Chris Kruger at 815-239-9259.

Feast in the Field Dinner (details forthcoming): Toni's of Winnebago is planning a special dinner called "Feast in the Field" featuring locally grown/ raised/ produced food sometime during the months of August and September. As of newsletter press time the date, time, price and other details were unknown. If you are interested in attending this (certain to be tasty) event call Richard Benning (815-865-5279) and leave your name and phone number. You will then be notified when further details are known.



Nygren Wetland field trip
Photo by Chris Kruger



Nygren Wetland field trip
Photo by Kara Gallup



Bison at Nachusa
Photo by Anne Straight



THANK YOU:

Our Silver Creek Bird Festival volunteers who helped with setting up, providing refreshments, tea, tours, loaning equipment, staffing the welcome tent and cleaning up: Tim and Teresa Smith, Lynn Feaver, Mary and Keith Blackmore, Kara Gallup, Terri Clark, Richard Benning, Laura Dufford, Judy Corrie, Randy and Nancy Ocken, Rex Sides, and Melody Farringer. We saw 53 species (9 new ones) during the festival.

Prairie work volunteers from May 14 through July 8: Randy and Nancy Ocken, Lynn and Sandy Feaver, John and Anita Nienhuis, Harlan and Judy Corrie, Mary and Keith Blackmore, Larry and Phyllis Seffrood, Fred and Carol Redmore, Kara Gallup, Anne Straight, Jeremy and Mason Dixon, Jennifer and Charlie Nowicki, Chris Kruger and Bernard Lischwe.

Lynn Feaver for mowing trails at both Elkhorn and Silver Creek Preserves.

Sterling Taylor for field mowing at Silver Creek.

Recent field trip leaders: Chris Kruger, Teresa Smith, and Mary Blackmore.

Teresa Smith for providing a dessert of her homemade red and black raspberry pies at the Nachusa bison field trip.



Nachusa Grasslands field trip
Photo by Chris Kruger



Nachusa Grasslands field trip
Photo by Chris Kruger



June Campfire at Elkhorn Creek
Biodiversity Preserve
Photo by Anne Straight



Back Row: Lynn Feaver, President; Richard Benning, Programs; Mark Keister, At-large; Kayse Rushford, At-large; Chris Kruger, Field trips; Larry Seffrood, At-large
 Middle row, standing: Tim Smith, Treasurer; Bernard Lischwe, Membership; Nancy Ocken, At-large, Laura Dufford, Secretary; Gay Brooks, At-large
 Front Row, seated: Steve Simpson, At-large; Rex Sides, Vice President & Finance; Juliet D'Souza, Education (Newsletter Editor, not present, Dan Barron)

What Happened at the Annual Board Retreat?

The 2015 NIAS Board Annual Retreat was held July 11 with all 14 Board members in attendance. Besides having good food at the potluck lunch and a mosquito-ridden walk in the woods, the retreat focused on the three main facets of our Chapter's purpose.

PRESERVES We continue to work to protect, enhance, and properly use the two 40+ acre preserves that our Chapter owns and manages. These are: Elkhorn Creek Biodiversity Preserve southwest of Forreston and Silver Creek Biodiversity Preserve south of Leaf River. At the retreat, plans were made for both Preserves, including finishing the kiosks and expanding our stewardship and program efforts. The Board adopted a 2015 preserve expense budget of \$6150 for this work.

CONSERVATION Our retreat discussion highlighted conservation issues that included:

- Further protection of biodiversity and habitat, locally and globally
- Ways to expand public awareness of conservation issues at the national and state level
- Opportunities to promote a healthy environment for birds and birding
- Continued support for sustainable agriculture

The Board adopted an expense budget for conservation of more than \$3400 – much of this being money we raise to support the work of other conservation organizations.

CONNECTING PEOPLE

WITH NATURE At the retreat, we hatched a flock of good ideas to help connect people with nature in the coming year. We listed ideas for our monthly program speakers, field trips and an exciting Banquet feature. We also discussed how to enhance our efforts to reach out to kids, families and students.

Keep your eyes on future newsletters, our website and Facebook to watch some of these ideas grow into reality! The Board adopted an expense budget of just over \$11,000 to help make these 'connections.' About \$5,000 of this is used to publish and mail our newsletter and to keep the website and publicity in public view.

We also discussed Fundraising. Obviously we can't spend all this money on preserves, conservation and connecting people with nature if we don't bring some money into our coffers. Your annual membership fees are a part of this income. Thank you.

Money raised by our annual birdseed sale and donated by generous friends during Bird-a-thon, at the banquet's silent auction and through other gifts makes up the biggest part of our income. We surely appreciate your support. (Buy more birdseed. It's in your best interest!)

If you have questions about what the Northwest Illinois Audubon Society is doing – or how we're doing it, please contact any Board member or me. (Lynn Feaver) We're listed in this newsletter. You can also write a letter to our PO Box or leave us a message on the website. We'd like to hear from you.

SPRING BIRDWALKS

GREAT TIMES, GREAT SIGHTINGS

Although the Children's Nature Walk was rained out, the preceding 7 weekly birdwalks of spring proved to be wonderful opportunities to observe both local nesting species and migrants.

Eight to 16 people participated in each walk, with species total ranging from 28-48 per outing. All of the sites were in Stephenson county except for the Pecatonica River Forest Preserve in Winnebago county .

Species and behavior highlights included many flocks of Sandhill Cranes, Ring-necked Duck, Hermit Thrush, Rex's Great-horned Owls, Barred Owls, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Magnolia Warbler, Great-crested Flycatcher, Scarlet Tanager, Veery , a flock of American White Pelicans, an active Baltimore Oriole nest, and a Chipping Sparrow gathering nesting material from last year's oriole nest. At the Pecatonica River Forest Preserve walk, spring wildflowers stole the show.

Many thanks to the NIAS members who led the walks: Mary Blackmore, Somer Bozovsky, Richard Benning, Laura Dufford and Anne Straight.

We hope you can join us next year when we'll once again enjoy the beauty and wonder of the spring migration.

GOING SOLAR PART II EFFICIENCY

By Josef Appell

I am writing this after returning from the Midwest Renewable Energy Fair in Custer WI. It was June 19-21st this year, and I met some incredible folks. What I heard time and again was to know your loads, peak demands, and efficiency, efficiency, efficiency. So that's my message to you: EFFICIENCY. Here are some examples.

Lighting: If you are like me, you grew up with your parents referring to the electric utility bill as "the light bill." Although this is far from the truth, lighting costs are the easiest ones to reduce. I was an early adapter to CFLs 25+ years ago. I have entirely switched to LED's, and they do make a difference. Also, CFLs contain lead and mercury, which is hazardous to us and to our winged friends. LED cost has come down to parity. Home Depot recently told me the Philips Model: #455576 Soft White 60 watt equivalent was back in stock. These are not dimmable, but at \$2.50 per LED bulb, the time to upgrade is now.

Refrigerators: If yours is 'avocado' or 'harvest gold', call ComEd and take advantage of their free pick-up, plus, they throw in a few bucks as well. If you moved your old one into the garage after you replaced it, donate it or have it hauled away. Residential refrigerators are only designed to run down to 55 degrees ambient. Lower than that, they are extremely inefficient. Plus, garages tend to get very hot, compounding inefficiency. Bad idea all around!

If you measured your refrigerator and came up with 500-600kWh/year, keep it. If you are in the 800+ range, start researching at energystar.gov and watch for sales. Be careful though. The Energy Star tags can be misleading, as the manufacturers are not yet held accountable. My Tier III refrigerator estimated at 487 kWh per year (30% less than Energy Star) turned out to draw 850-900kWh/year.

This resulted in my having to buy more solar panels and batteries to get it off-grid. Complaining to the store only got a shrug from the manager. In the future, I will demand a guarantee in writing for a 100% refund if an appliance does not meet the claimed kWh. I suggest you do the same. We wouldn't put up with a car that got 55% of the claimed mpg, and we shouldn't have to with appliances.

If you have incandescent lights in your refrigerator, try the LED pictured. Menards carries it, and it is the only one I found to work in a refrigerator or freezer. 10% of incandescent energy goes to light, the rest to HEAT. You are paying to cool, then paying to heat, and then paying to cool again!

HVAC: Sadly, Natural Gas is by far the most economical way to heat. But fracking aside, having a 90+% efficient furnace is not the whole story. Insist on a fan with a variable-frequency drive. It greatly reduces the electric draw, to the point that you can run on low speed throughout the summer. This balances the upstairs and downstairs temperature and humidity, and I have found that it eliminates that "musky smell". In regard to air conditioning, if your central air is a SEER of 12 or above, you are in great shape

for this climate – as long as your sealing, insulation, and windows are efficient. If you are considering replacement, check on furnace/air conditioning packages. Besides the package savings, they are now designed to work together for maximum efficiency.

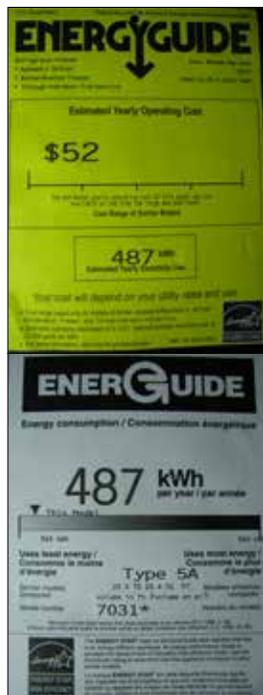
Water Heater: If you have electric, go to a heat pump if you can't install natural gas. I did because I couldn't afford a solar thermal unit (Solar Thermal is pricy in this climate, and high maintenance), but I didn't want another Natural Gas appliance. It is noisy, and draws more electric than I planned, but I can't complain. If you have a Natural Gas one, know that in <10 years it will probably need replacement, and that you want to plan on a horizontal exhaust unit for the highest efficiency.

Television: LED is the best, and you should take the time to do the custom settings. A calibration

disk may have to be bought for your set. Once done properly, the low light setting on my 46" LED TV draws only 28 watts. This is amazing, compared to 125 to 300 watts just five years ago. It really is worth the time.

Does all this sound like a lot of work? With my last "Light Bill" of \$16, I'm not complaining. Remember, first find out where your electricity is being used (my June/July article), and then go for EFFICIENCY. For a good introduction into energy saving products, and workshops, consider attending the Illinois Renewable Energy Association Energy Fair at the Ogle County Fairgrounds in Oregon IL on Saturday, August 22nd, and Sunday, August 23rd. Info is available at Illinoisrenew.org.

In my next article, I'll write about Going Solar. Questions or comments? Feel free to contact me at revoxltd@hotmail.com



Would you like to join Audubon as a NEW Member or give a GIFT membership?

Two types of membership are available:

1. Northwest Illinois Audubon Society and National Membership

includes this local newsletter, local mailings and the national "Audubon" magazine.

___ Individual \$20 ___ Senior Citizen \$15 ___ Student \$9

*Prices listed are for NEW national memberships only and DO NOT apply to renewals.
All renewals for national memberships need to use the national membership form.*

2. Northwest Illinois Audubon Society Local only Membership

includes this newsletter and other mailings from our local chapter. ___ Local Only \$15

Name of new member or gift recipient _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

If this is a gift membership, please indicate the name of the person providing the gift membership:

Name _____

*Make check payable to **NORTHWEST ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY** and mail to:
Treasurer, Northwest Illinois Audubon Society, P.O. Box 771, Freeport, IL 61032*

BOARD MEMBERS

President | Lynn Feaver
3003 Forest Rd - Freeport IL 61032
815-235-9530

Vice President | Rex Sides

Secretary | Laura Dufford

Treasurer | Tim Smith

At-large | Gay Broocks, Mark Keister,
Nancy Ocken, Kayse Rushford,
Larry Seffrood and Steve Simpson

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Conservation | (open)

Programs | Richard Benning

Education | Juliet D'Souza

Publicity | (open)

Membership | Bernard Lischwe

Field Trips | Chris Kruger

Sustainable Agriculture

Richard Benning, Mary Blackmore,
Laura Dufford and Heidi Thorp

Newsletter Editor | Dan Barron

1706 Johnson St - La Crosse WI 54601

815-541-3261 - dan@beewise.us

FALL PRAIRIE SEED COLLECTING

Every September and October we collect prairie seeds at our preserves for planting in degraded areas of those same sites. Our only long-range scheduled collecting outing at our Elkhorn Creek Preserve is September 27, 2-4 p.m. (see calendar). An October date for Silver Creek will be in your next newsletter. However, we will be seed collecting on many more days on shorter notice as weather permits. To get on the call list for the spontaneous seed collecting outings, sign up



Bernard Lischwe and Mary Blackmore collecting seed with NIAS issue "Milk Jug Seed Baskets"
photo by Dan Barron

at the September meeting or call Mary Blackmore at 815-938-3204. When called, you may join us if you are available, or if not, we will catch you another time. We typically gather seeds for about two hours at a time during afternoons.

Seed collecting is an easy, leisurely task. Novices are welcome. There will always be a leader to point out which plants to pick seed from. Water, snacks and equipment will be provided. Wear long pants and long sleeves. It's a fun way to spend a couple of hours on nice fall afternoons. We hope you can join us!

BIRD SEED SALE ALERT

This year's Bird Seed Sale will be held October 15-17. Sale fliers will be mailed in mid-September. If you can help with sorting orders or delivering seed, please call 815-238-9259.

BINOCULAR DONATIONS WANTED

Good quality binoculars that could be used for field trips, particularly for our children events. We have field trips with children throughout the year and many of them do not have their own binoculars. We would like to give the children the opportunity to learn how to use binoculars and have more fun on our nature walks! You can bring donations to Juliet D'Souza at any of the next meetings. Any questions, please send them to nwilaudubon@gmail.com.

**Northwest Illinois
Audubon Society**

P.O. Box 771
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When using either switchboard, simply ask to be connected to the legislator's office.

FEDERAL

Senator Richard Durbin

Kluczynski Building 38th Floor
230 S. Dearborn, Chicago, IL 60604
www.durbin.senate.gov/contact.cfm

Senator Mark Kirk

230 S. Dearborn, Suite 3900, Chicago, IL 60604
www.kirk.senate.gov/?p=comment_on_legislation

16th District Rep. Adam Kinzinger

628 Columbus Street, Suite 507, Ottawa, IL 61350
<https://kinzingerforms.house.gov/email-adam/>

17th District Rep. Cheri Bustos

100 19th Street, Suite 101, Rock Island, IL 61201
<http://bustos.house.gov/contact>

STATE

45th District Sen. Tim Bivins

50 W. Douglas Street, Suite 1001, Freeport, IL 61032
senatorbivins@grics.net

36th District Sen. Mike Jacobs

1114 4th Avenue, Silvis, IL 61282
jacobs@senatedem.state.il.us

89th District Rep. Brian Stewart

50 W. Douglas Street, Suite 1001, Freeport, IL 61032
repstewart@gmail.com

90th District Rep. Tom Demmer

1221 Currency Street, Suite B, Rochelle, IL 61068
rep@tomdemmer.com