



# Northwest Illinois Audubon Society

www.nwilaudubon.org

## NIAS MONTHLY PROGRAMS

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

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

Most programs begin at 7 PM 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!*

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Top text/photo: [allaboutbirds.org](http://allaboutbirds.org)  
Lower: (photos provided by speakers)

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2019

### Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*)

An intense bundle of energy at your feeder, Red-breasted Nuthatches are tiny, active birds of north woods and western mountains. These long-billed, short-tailed songbirds travel through tree canopies with chickadees, kinglets, and woodpeckers but stick to tree trunks and branches, where they search bark furrows for hidden insects. Their excitable yank-yank calls sound like tiny tin horns being honked in the treetops.



### FEBRUARY PROGRAMMING

#### WINTER IS FOR THE BIRDS

7:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 5th  
St. John's United Church of Christ  
1010 Park Blvd. Freeport

While we find Sandhill Cranes throughout the Midwest between spring and late fall, visiting one of their southern winter habitats provides quite a different spectacle. Photographers Wolf and Linnea Koch will share pictures and stories of their visit to Bosque del Apache, NM, a Federal Wildlife Management area along the Rio Grande River. The presentation will provide outstanding photos of Sandhill Cranes and other birds found at Bosque del Apache. They will also share information on the migration patterns and habits of Sandhill Cranes.

Wolf and Linnea Koch are from Sterling, IL and teach photography seminars including seminars on capturing wildlife with your camera. Join us for an evening of spectacular photography and details about the birds of Bosque del Apache, New Mexico.

For information about this program contact Teresa at 815-238-3963

### MARCH PROGRAMMING

#### CLEAN ENERGY FOR ALL: BUILDING ILLINOIS' CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE

7:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 5th  
St. John's United Church of Christ  
1010 Park Blvd. Freeport

In 2016, the Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition helped pass the Future Energy Jobs Act- a landmark piece of legislation that has dramatically increased energy efficiency and clean energy growth throughout Illinois. Now the Clean Jobs Coalition is working to set even bolder goals for our state. Come learn about Illinois' growing clean energy economy, the work of the Clean Jobs Coalition, and how you can get involved!

Our speaker Caroline Wooten is currently an organizer with the Illinois Sierra Club and works with coalition partners, concerned IL residents, and Sierra Club members to build grassroots power in support of policies that protect communities and the planet. She first got involved with organizing as a college student in Chicago, working to engage fellow students in a broad coalition working to retire Chicago's two polluting and aging power plants. Since then she's worked on a number of electoral and issue campaigns, including the Illinois Clean Jobs campaign which resulted in the passage of the Future Energy Jobs Act.



For information about this program contact Teresa at 815-238-3963

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# CALENDAR

## CONSIDERATIONS

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**February 1** – Field trip, Open Land Birding, 9 a.m.-noon. See “Field Trips” for details.

**February 5** – Program at 7:00 p.m. at St. John United Church of Christ, 1010 Park Blvd. See Page 1 for details.

**February 10** – 1:30-3:30 PM – “Talking About the Issues” discussion session at the home of Chris Kruger, 201 West Zimmerman Street in Dakota (815-238-9259)

The topic for the first hour will be announced at the February 5<sup>th</sup> general membership meeting. The second hour will be the customary discussion of whatever issues are brought forth by participants. All are welcome to attend this issues discussion.

*Carpool from the parking lot at the former Staples store in Freeport at 1:00 or call Chris for directions.*

**February 27** – 7:30-9:00 PM – Night Walk at Oakdale Nature Preserve  
See “Field Trips” for details.

**March 5** – Program at 7:00 p.m. at St. John United Church of Christ, 1010 Park Blvd. See Page 1 for details.

**March 15** – Elkhorn Creek Woodcock Watch, 7 p.m. See page 4 for more information.

**March 20** – Elkhorn Creek Woodcock Watch, 7 p.m. See page 4 for more information.

**March 24** – “Talking About the Issues” monthly discussion, 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the home of Dick Luthin, 1712 W. Parkview Dr., Freeport (815-232-8624). The first hour topic: Every September 11, twin columns of light arise from lower Manhattan to signal America’s resolve to remember lives lost. Thanks to cooperation and partnership – and science – at the site, the Tribute in Light

has also become a model of bird collision risk-monitoring and avoidance. For a copy of the article contact Mary Blackmore at 815-938-3204, or pick up a copy at the March monthly program. The second hour will be an open discussion of whatever issues are brought forth. *Everyone is welcome.*

**March 26** – Elkhorn Creek Woodcock Watch, 7 p.m. See page 4 for more information.

**March 30** – Field Trip, Spring Waterfowl on the Mississippi, 8 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. See “Field Trips” for details.

**April 13** – Mark your calendar now for the annual Midwest Crane Count, 5:30-7:30 a.m. Each year our chapter volunteers to census cranes in Stephenson County.

*Details in next newsletter. County Coordinator: Teresa Smith [timtreetsmith@gmail.com](mailto:timtreetsmith@gmail.com) or 815-238-3963*

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Karen and Ernie Brose – Stockton, IL

Carol Drummet – Freeport, IL

Jim Duis – Rock Falls, IL

Margaret Henning – Polo, IL

Rick McGinnis – Thomson, IL

Mary Sandquist – Davis, IL

Pam Ballard – Forreston

Barbara Sowers – Freeport

Frank Rutter – Freeport

Abby Strominger – Lena

Donald Werner – Mount Morris

Carol Beatty – Hopewell

Valdean Ohlsson – Naperville

Darlene and Darcey Fredrick

– Freeport, IL

### Questions About Your Membership?

Contact Teresa Smith at 815-238-3963  
or [timtreetsmith@gmail.com](mailto:timtreetsmith@gmail.com)

This Snowy Owl photo, taken by Patty Weik, is an example of one of the pre-program member photos that are shared prior to each monthly program.

*If you have a photo that you would like us to share at the monthly membership program you should e-mail it to [Teresa Smith](mailto:Teresa Smith) at [timtreetsmith@gmail.com](mailto:timtreetsmith@gmail.com) by the Saturday before the monthly meeting.*

*You can also call 815-238-3963 if you have questions about submitting your photos.*





# FIELD TRIPS

FEBRUARY – MARCH

## OPEN LAND BIRDING

*Friday, February 1 – 9:00 a.m.-noon*  
Leader: Mary Blackmore, 815-938-3204  
Carpool from the former Staples lot in  
Freeport at 9:00 a.m.

We will carpool and cruise country roads in local areas that were historically prairie looking for open land species from the north that frequent our area primarily during winter.

*Optional lunch after in Freeport. Confirm your attendance by calling Mary.*

## NIGHT WALK AT OAKDALE NATURE PRESERVE

*February 27 – 7:30-9:00 p.m.*  
Leader: Richard Benning, 815-865-5279  
*call for more information.*

Join a leisurely stroll on some of Oakdale's trails after the sun has set and darkness rules. It can be a fascinating experience as we learn to adjust our sensory awareness. There is no guarantee of hearing owls or other nocturnal residents, but it is a possibility. We will witness how darkness affects our sense of sight and how to sharpen our other senses. If the sky is clear we might look for some of the constellations.

*433 S Cranes Grove Rd, Freeport, IL 61032*  
*Meet at the Mogle Center, which is at the far end of the main parking lot.*

## MISSISSIPPI RIVER SPRING WATERFOWL

*Saturday, March 30 – 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.*  
Leader: Anne Straight, 815-938-3263  
Carpool from the Forreston Municipal lot at  
8:00 a.m.

Join us as we look for migrating waterfowl on the Mississippi River south of Savanna. Usually a wide variety of both diving and dabbling ducks are seen in all their breeding plumage glory, along with Grebes, Bald Eagles, Sandhill Cranes and some early songbirds. If we're lucky we'll still see migrating Tundra Swans.

*Carpool as above or meet at Spring Lake at 9:00 a.m. We'll have lunch in Thomson around noon and then head to Lock and Dam #13 for the afternoon. Call Anne to confirm your attendance.*



*SAVE THE DATE!*

## NORTHWEST ILLINOIS AUDUBON SPRING BANQUET

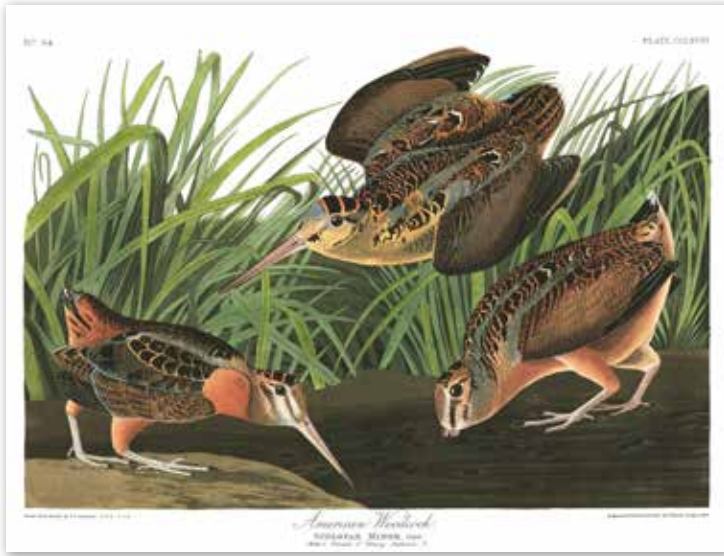
*Presenting David Olson*

**Highland Community College**  
**Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>**

*Silent Auction starts at 5:30 • Dinner at 6:00 • Program at 7:30*  
*Registration forms will be mailed in March.*

Professional photographer and naturalist David C. Olson will be giving a large screen presentation on some of his travels and highlights. David's photography expeditions have taken him to the Arctic circle, Central America and many more places throughout North America's wildest locations. This large screen audio and visual program will feature a collection of David's favorite images and stories to go along with the pictures. His photography work has been seen in National Geographic, Audubon, Alaska magazine and many more publications. This program is a real treat for the entire family.

*See his photography at [www.davidolsonphoto.com](http://www.davidolsonphoto.com)*



American Woodcock by John J. Audubon

# ELKHORN CREEK WOODCOCK WATCHES

**Friday, March 15, 7 p.m.**

*Leader: Mary Blackmore, 815-938-3204*

**Wednesday, March 20, 7 p.m. (Happy Equinox!)**

*Leader: Anne Straight, 815-938-3263*

**Tuesday, March 26, 7 p.m.**

*Leader: Mary Blackmore, 815-938-3204*

Join us for any or all of these evening outings to watch and listen for American Woodcocks performing their amazing courtship display. The "Sky Dance" itself is part ground-strutting and part zig-zagging flight, barely visible in the early evening sky. More fascinating perhaps are the sounds that go with it, the repetitious vocal "peent!" followed by the twittering and chirping sounds made when air rushes through primary flight feathers during the birds' descent. On a quiet evening, it is pure audio magic.

In the past we have had 2-6 woodcocks performing their twilight display for about 2-3 weeks. When and if this begins is an educated guess, so be sure to call the listed leader before you make the trip to confirm that the birds are back and that the weather is suitable.

*Carpool from the former Staples lot in Freeport at 6:30 p.m. or meet at the preserve at 7:00. The preserve is located about 3 miles southwest of Forreton in the southeast corner of West Grove and Freeport Roads. The parking lot is off of West Grove Rd. Make time to experience this unique avian harbinger of spring. The joy will be all yours.*

# NEW SPECIES AT PRESERVES

Once again we were fortunate to find many new species at both of our preserves in 2018. While most of the new listings were first sightings, a few species had been seen previously but not recorded. Thanks to everyone who helped find and identify these additions!

## ELKHORN CREEK (18)

### Forbs

Solomon's Seal  
Starry False Solomon's Seal  
Tall Agrimony  
American Pokeweed  
Brown-eyed Susan  
Old-field Goldenrod  
Black-eyed Susan

### Shrubs

Iowa Crab  
Climbing Bittersweet

### Insects

Eight-spotted Forester  
Milkweed Tussock Moth  
Striped Hairstreak  
Coral Hairstreak  
American Snout  
Goldenrod Leaf Beetle

### Birds

Greater Yellowlegs  
Spotted Sandpiper  
Bank Swallow

## SILVER CREEK (12)

### Forbs

Blue-eyed Mary  
Golden Ragwort  
Starry False Solomon's Seal  
Common St. John's Wort

### Ferns

Sensitive Fern

### Trees

White Ash

### Insects

Black Saddlebags  
Brown-Hooded Owllet

### Birds

Winter Wren  
Blackburnian Warbler  
Northern Waterthrush  
Sedge Wren

**The Striped  
Hairstreak**  
*Satyrium liparops*

*photo by  
Pam Richards*



**Blue-Eyed Mary**  
*Collinsia verna*

*photo by  
Mary Blackmore*

# CONSERVATION COMMITTEE NEWS

As we start a new year, let's keep making an effort to rid our lives of plastic! Plastics have been called "solid fossil fuels." Their manufacture contributes to climate change and plastic products are responsible for the plague of ocean (and lake and river) pollution that we keep hearing about, including microfibers.

Think about all your clothing made of acrylic, nylon, and polyester. Yes, that means fleece, trousers, blouses, socks, and even your beloved yoga pants. Every time you wash these synthetic fabrics, millions of microfibers are released into the water. Microfibers are too small to be filtered out by waste treatment plants, so they end up in our waterways and oceans, where they wreak havoc on marine animals and the environment.

Plastic fibers are now showing up in fish and shellfish sold in California and Indonesia for human consumption. And one paper showed that microfibers are responsible for 85 percent of shoreline pollution across the globe. How can we stop this pollution?

Consider purchasing a Guppy Friend wash bag. In tests, the bag captured 99 percent of fibers released in the washing process. The bags can be purchased from Patagonia for around \$30.00.

Phase out synthetic fabrics for natural fibers, such as cotton, linen and wool.

Eco-Challenge for NIAS members: Reduce/eliminate plastic products from the bathroom. Here are a few ideas, but what are yours? Let's see how many plastic products we can get rid of!

Choose a toothbrush made from bamboo (see [www.myplasticfreelife.com](http://www.myplasticfreelife.com)) or consider a toothbrush with a replaceable head, such as Fuch's.



Photo uploaded by Dolovis - Author U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

Swap out liquid soap for bar soap. Try a shampoo bar instead of liquid shampoo (such as J.R. Liggett's - see [myplasticfreelife.com](http://myplasticfreelife.com)).

Try making your own tooth powder (sample recipes below). Save money, get a feeling of accomplishment, and eliminate all the harmful ingredients commercial toothpaste is made of - and - it takes about 5 minutes to prepare!

## **Simple Peppermint Tooth Powder** (from [DIYNatural](http://DIYNatural.com))

- 2/3 cup baking soda
- 1 tsp fine sea salt (optional - direct application of the minerals in sea salt is great for teeth, but can be left out if the taste is too salty)
- 1 - 2 tsp peppermint extract or 10-15 drops peppermint essential oil
- filtered water (add to desired consistency)

Combine dry ingredients in a bowl and mix thoroughly with a spoon. Drip peppermint into the mixture and stir well to combine. Transfer to a small container or jar with a tight fitting lid.

And another Eco-Challenge: Calculate your carbon footprint - go to [carbonfootprint.com](http://carbonfootprint.com) - then see how much you can reduce it in 2019!

Candy Colby  
Conservation Chair

“Conservation is a cause that has no end.  
There is no point at which we say, ‘Our work is finished.’”

Rachel Carson

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## NIAS PRESIDENT'S TWEET - WINTER

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Winter, where are you? At the time of this writing in early January, we have had 50-degree weather and no snow. It is a little disturbing. I can hope that it is a fluke, but my concern is that this is a new trend that we will continue to have. Although spring is my second favorite season (after fall of course), I feel that this spring-like weather is too soon.

Whenever February and March approach, I can think of a few things to look forward to – my husband's birthday, American Woodcock watches, and the Crane count! Those are a few of my favorite things!

If you have never attended a woodcock watch, please try to this year! It is a spectacular show for your eyes and ears. In addition, if you want a little bit of adventure, participate in the crane count. The adventure part is getting up early and using your senses to hear the cranes. A Sandhill Crane call is one of the best sounds out there. Once the sun rises, then you can start looking for them and when you do, it is worth the early start. Plus, you get breakfast afterward (or maybe your second breakfast!)

Let's hope that by the time you read this newsletter, a "normal" winter has shown itself and then you can start looking forward to the real return of spring!

*Juliet Moderow*  
*nwilaudubon@gmail.com*

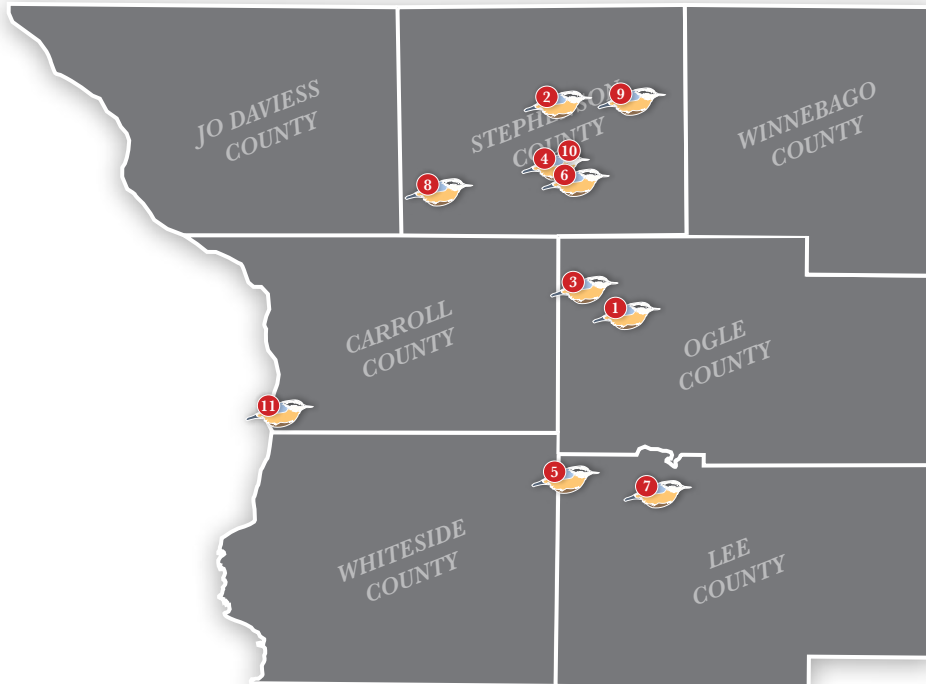


*Red-breasted Nuthatch, photo by Mary Blackmore*

## Got Nuthatch?

In this irruptive year for the Red-breasted Nuthatch, we're interested in finding out more from our members. Have you had this species at your feeders this fall/winter or have you seen Red-breasted Nuthatches while out for a walk?

If you've had an encounter, let us know. Send your name and sighting location to our newsletter editor, Dan Barron at [dan@beewise.us](mailto:dan@beewise.us) or 815-541-3261.



**At the time of printing, the following locations have reported sightings:**

1. Mary Blackmore, 9024 W. West Grove Rd. Forresteron
2. Harlan & Judy Corrie, rural Cedarville
3. Anne Straight, Forresteron
4. Gary Gordon, Freeport
5. Tim and Teresa Smith, 1975 Mound Hill Rd., Dixon
6. Juliet Moderow, Freeport
7. Carla Jaffe – 1103 Park Lane, Dixon IL
8. Steve Simpson - 13476 W Loran Rd, Pearl City IL
9. Paul Brown – 3982 E Cedarville Rd, Dakota IL
10. Dick Luthin – 1712 Parkview Drive, Freeport IL
11. Anne Straight – Thomson Causeway (along Mississippi River)

# WANTED: BIRDATHON BIRDERS!

If you enjoy watching birds during the peak of the spring migration, we invite you to join our 2019 Birdathon on Sunday, May 5! Not only is being a Birdathon birder fun, but also it's rewarding. Your efforts help to raise money for several organizations - our chapter included - involved in bird conservation work along the Mississippi Flyway and in Central America, the winter home to many of "our" birds.

The organizations that benefit from Birdathon include: Northwest Illinois Audubon Society, National Audubon's Mississippi River Initiative, Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Sand Bluff Bird Observatory, Stewards of the Upper Mississippi River Refuge and the Belize Audubon Society. They all work to improve habitat along the migration

route for our feathered friends and provide educational opportunities for the public. Birdathon participation is easy: get pledges, go birdwatching on Birdathon Day and collect pledges.

**GET PLEDGES** – Names of Birdathon birders (including yours!) will appear on a pledge form in our next newsletter and on pledge forms at our April banquet. You also may ask anyone you choose - friends, relatives - to make a pledge per species that you will see. A 10¢/species pledge is common, but donors can pledge any amount or simply make a flat donation regardless of how many species you see.

**BIRDING** – Have a blast on May 5! You can bird alone, with a friend, or join a team (teams vie for the coveted Cardinal-On-A-Stick trophy!). You can bird for a few hours or all day. You can bird in your yard, at a park, or at a series of sites.

**COLLECT PLEDGES** – Let your sponsors know how many species you saw and how much they owe you, then send your pledge checks to the Audubon treasurer. That's it!



## Burn Volunteers Wanted

We invite you to get on our contact list for prairie burns this spring. Due to weather factors that can foil even the best-laid plans, we don't schedule burns far in advance. When conditions are right, we call you, and if you're available you join our crew.

Usually you'll get the call 24-48 hours beforehand. The burn season for us typically runs from early March through mid-April. Don't worry if you lack experience. There are tasks on burn days that are fine for novices. Snacks and water are provided, as well as all needed equipment.

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*To get on the list sign up at the monthly meetings or call: Mary Blackmore at 815-938-3204.*



**SANCTUARY**  
*a FREE public concert featuring*  
**Carrie Newcomer**  
**With pianist Gary Walters**

*Sponsored by*  
*the Northwest Illinois Audubon Society*  
*In celebration of the 20th anniversary*  
*of Audubon's Elkhorn Creek*  
*Biodiversity Preserve*

**Saturday, August 24, 7 p.m.**  
*Doors open at 6 p.m. – no reserved seating*

*Highland Community College*  
*Student Conference Center H-201*

# ELKHORN CREEK BIODIVERSITY PRESERVE

## 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

### THE FIRST YEAR

Below are a few highlights of our first year of acquiring and caring for what became our Elkhorn Creek Biodiversity Preserve:

*April 13 – At our annual banquet an introduction to the preserve was made, including the playing of an on-site recording of several species of vocalizing frogs at the preserve.*

*May 28 – Closing on purchase, done jointly with the Prairie Preservation Society of Ogle County. Each organization's cost was about \$38,000, with 3 years to pay off their loans.*

*July 11 – 40 people enjoyed the first tour of the property followed by an ice cream social at Mike and Terri Clark's home. By this time over \$14,000 had been donated or pledged toward our debt.*

*October 2 – Joint fundraiser – dinner, speaker, silent auction – was held with the Prairie Society.*

*November 13 – At our first work session, 20 volunteers removed interior fencing and trash from a small dump.*

*December 16 – Audubon board approves “Elkhorn Creek Biodiversity Preserve” as official preserve name after getting many suggestions from our membership.*

*December 31 – We are over halfway to our fundraising goal! Photo premiums – 8x10 mated Question Mark butterfly or Side-oats Gramma – are offered for donations of \$100 or more.*

*April 18 – “Frog Listen” field trip to the preserve where 4 species were vocalizing.*

### FROM OUR VOLUNTEERS

In each 2019 newsletter we'll have reflections from members who volunteer at our Elkhorn Creek preserve. In this issue comments are from Harlan and Judy Corrie (rural Cedarville), Jim and Pam Richards (Lake Carroll) and Kara Gallup (rural Leaf River).

#### What got you interested in volunteering at Elkhorn Creek?

*Judy and Harlan: We began attending Audubon meetings, heard the invitation for volunteers and thought it sounded interesting.*

*Jim and Pam: After Pam received her Master Naturalist training she heard, through U. of I. Extension, about the prairies Audubon was involved in and we wanted to learn more about that process.*

*Kara: Literally, Keith Blackmore. Figuratively, I think I was seeking a refuge, as Carrie Newcomer writes in her song “Sanctuary,” a haven from the storm.*

#### What do you enjoy most about volunteering?

*Judy and Harlan: We greatly enjoy the beauty of our surroundings at Elkhorn, and being in the company of kindred spirits. The work to be done always seems worthwhile and actually fun. We just love being there.*

*Jim and Pam: #1 is the kindred spirits in the group – very welcoming, loving, intelligent people. #2 is just adore being amongst the outdoor smells, sounds, sights of the plants, seeds, birds, insects. . .*

*Kara: Physically being in the prairie . . . the smell of Monarda, the hum of varied conversations, the song of the Red-winged Blackbird. . . a “circle of friends.”*

**“Life’s a twinkling, that’s for certain, but it’s such a fine thing.”**

**“The Gathering of Spirits”**

*Carrie Newcomer*



**July 11, 1999**

*(top) First tour of E.C.B.P., (L to R) Wendy and Jack Gibbons, Jim Akins (lower) Ice cream social*



**American Woodcock displaying at the Elkhorn Creek preserve.**  
*Photo by Gary Gordon*



## 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.*

\_\_\_\_\_ National Membership \$20

*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 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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** | Juliet Moderow

**Vice President** | Fred Redmore

**Secretary** | Lynn Feaver

**Treasurer** | Mary Blackmore

**Past President** | Rex Sides

**At-large** | Linda Black, Mark Keister,

Pam Richard, Jim Richards,

Abby Strominger, Jessica Miller

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Conservation** | Candy Colby

**Programs** | Teresa Smith

**Education** | Richard Benning

**Publicity** | Deb Lischwe

**Membership** | Gay Broocks

**Field Trips** | Laura Dufford

### Sustainable Agriculture

Richard Benning, Mary Blackmore,

Laura Dufford and Heidi Thorp

**Newsletter Editor** | Dan Barron

2115 15th Pl. So. - La Crosse WI 54601

815-541-3261 - dan@beewise.us

[nwilaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:nwilaudubon@gmail.com)

# THANK YOU!



Volunteers at our Silver Creek November burn: Richard Benning, Paul Brown, Merry Blake, Bob Wittenbeck, Mary Blackmore, Kara Gallup, Jim Richards and Anne Straight.

Fall preserve stewardship session volunteers for November: Anne Straight, Kara Gallup, Paul Brown, Mary Blackmore, Tim Smith, Judy Corrie and Pam Richards.

Prairie seed processing volunteers: John and Anita Nienhuis, Mary Blackmore, Pam Richards, Judy and Harlan Corrie, Nancy Ocken, Anne

Straight, Paul Brown, Larry and Phyllis Seffrood, Melody Farringer, Kara Gallup, Fred and Carol Redmore.

Tim Smith for mowing firebreaks at both preserves and winterizing our mower.

Richard Benning for organizing and compiling our Christmas Bird Count.

Jim Richards and Mary Blackmore for clearing downed trees from an area scheduled to be burned and overseeded at our Elkhorn Creek preserve.

Recent field trip leaders/coordinators: Laura Dufford, John Walt, Richard Benning, and Mary Blackmore.

Thanks to Rick Incelli for his donation.

Thanks to everyone who contributes to this newsletter and our organization.

**Northwest Illinois  
Audubon Society**

P.O. Box 771  
Freeport, IL 61032-0771

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**ADDRESSES/EMAILS OF YOUR LEGISLATORS**

Capitol Switchboard (202) 224-3121 • State House Switchboard (217) 782-2000

*When using the state switchboard simply ask to be connected to the legislators office.*

*When using the capitol switchboard follow the series of prompts.*

**FEDERAL**

**Senator Richard Durbin**

Kluczynski Building 38th Floor  
230 S. Dearborn, Chicago, IL 60604  
[www.durbin.senate.gov/contact.cfm](http://www.durbin.senate.gov/contact.cfm)

**Senator Tammy Duckworth**

230 S Dearborn Suite 3900, Chicago, IL 60604  
Phone: 312-886-3506  
[www.duckworth.senate.gov](http://www.duckworth.senate.gov)

**16th District Rep. Adam Kinzinger**

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

**17th District Rep. Cheri Bustos**

2401 4th Ave., 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](mailto:senatorbivins@grics.net)

**36th District Sen. Neil Anderson**

1825 Ave of the Cities - Suite 1, Moline, IL 61265  
[senatorneilanderson.com/Contact](http://senatorneilanderson.com/Contact)

**89th District Rep. Brian Stewart**

50 W. Douglas Street, Suite 1001, Freeport, IL 61032  
[repstewart@gmail.com](mailto:repstewart@gmail.com)

**90th District Rep. Tom Demmer**

1221 Currency Street, Suite B, Rochelle, IL 61068  
[rep@tomdemmer.com](mailto:rep@tomdemmer.com)