



The Audubon Outlook

Newsletter of the Lake County Audubon Society
Vol. 31, No. 3 Audbirds@aol.com 847-362-5134 Sep/Oct 2006

General Meeting: Oct. 2, 2006 Special Program-"John James Audubon" Visits Lake County

Presented by
Brian "Fox" Ellis
7:30 pm
Byron Colby Barn
Prairie Crossing, Grayslake

Brian "Fox" Ellis, nationally known performer, storyteller, and author, portrays Audubon himself in this hour-long program co-sponsored with the Liberty Prairie Conservancy and Lake-to-Prairie Wild Ones.

This colorful character of the 1800's became one of our most famous naturalists and painters of birds and other wildlife. Brian's portrayal will make connections between Audubon's work and concerns and their relevance to environmental conditions and issues in Lake County today.

Brian meticulously researched the life of Audubon through his writings and contemporary accounts and, as Audubon, he will "bring to life bird behavior and history as he saw it in the early 1800s. With lessons on field ecology, the scientific method, art history, and bird migration, the audience is invited to imitate birds and discuss the life histories of their favorite feathered friends."

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF LOCATION. Free to members of the sponsoring organizations, there will be a \$5.00 charge for nonmembers, with the opportunity to join that evening. The Byron Colby Barn is located on Jones Point Rd. on the west side of Rte. 45, one half mile south of Rte. 120.

Bird House Kits:

Houses to accommodate Bluebirds and Wrens will be available at each meeting of LCAS. The price is \$7 for members and \$10 for non-members.

Upcoming Meetings: Program Schedule for 2006-2007: (Clip and keep this schedule)

October 2- "John James Audubon"

November 6 - Important Bird Areas, Judy Pollock, Chicago Wilderness

December 4 – Pot Luck Dinner

February 5 – Birds of Hawaii, Darlene Fiske

March 5 – To be Determined

April 2 – Birding Tips, Donald Dann, Bird Conservation Network

May 7 – Volo Bog, Stacey Iwanicki, Naturalist

General meetings of the Lake County Audubon are held at 7:30 pm on the first Monday of the month October through May skipping January. These meetings are open to the public as well as to the members of the National Audubon Society and are typically held in the second floor meeting room of the Libertyville Village Hall at 118 W. Cook which is just across the street to the north of the Cook Memorial Library. This newsletter is mailed to our members two times in the fall and two times in the spring.
Email the Lake County Audubon

Lake County Audubon Society maintains an email list (name is only for our communication and will not be shared). This will make two-way communication easier and allow updates on important environmental topics, upcoming programs, field trips, etc. If you would like to be on the list, please send your email request to Audbirds@aol.com

Workshop on Safe Migration and Upper Midwest Audubon Conference

Location: Ho-Chunk Conference Center , Wisconsin Dells/Baraboo, WI

October 13 No Bird Left Behind

How can humans reduce the threats to migrating birds resulting from tall towers, buildings and wind farms.

October 14-15 UMAC

Join with other Audubon'ers from Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin to learn more about citizen science, birds and birding, habitat preservation and more. Roundtable sessions provide opportunities to learn from other chapters. Many field trip opportunities are available including the nearby International Crane Foundation and Aldo Leopold Shack. For more information see:

<http://www.madisonaudubon.org/audubon/>

Global Warming

A report released 6/22/06 from the National Research Council of the National Academies of Science and Engineering in Washington [<http://national-academies.org>] revealed that there is sufficient evidence from tree rings, boreholes, retreating glaciers, and other "proxies" of past surface temperatures to say with a high level of confidence that the **last few decades of the 20th century were warmer than any comparable period in the last 400 years**. Less confidence could be placed in proxy-based reconstructions of surface temperatures for A.D. 900 to 1600. The available evidence does indicate that **many locations were warmer during the past 25 years than during any other 25-year period since 900**. A globally averaged warming of about 1 degree Fahrenheit (0.6 degrees Celsius) has been recorded during the last century.

The Council pointed out that surface temperature reconstructions for periods before the Industrial Revolution -- when levels of atmospheric greenhouse gases were much lower -- are only one of multiple lines of evidence supporting the conclusion that current **warming is occurring in response to human activities**, and they are not the primary evidence.

How You Can Help Fight Global Warming (www.globalwarming.com)

Inside the house: Home energy accounts for a large percentage of our global warming pollution. Check for air leaks and adequate insulation.

On the Road: Choosing to drive a more fuel-efficient vehicle is one of the biggest ways an individual can help reduce global warming. Keep your car well maintained and combine errands into one trip.

On Vacation: Don't stop saving energy just because you are on vacation. Lower your thermostat and put lights on a timer when you are away. Many hotels offer the option not to have your sheets and towels washed every day.

10 Steps:

1. Turn off unnecessary lights.
2. Keep your windows closed tight.
3. Run dishwasher ONLY when full.
4. Wash clothes in warm or cold water, not hot.
5. Adjust your thermostat lower in winter, higher in summer.
6. Recycle paper, plastic, glass, metal.
7. Walk, bike, carpool, use mass transit when possible.
8. Buy energy efficient light bulbs.
9. Choose recyclable products over disposable.
10. Check your car's tire pressure regularly.

Put the Family on a Low-Carbon Diet: a Checklist for Kids

1. Always turn off lights when leaving a room.
2. Turn off TVs, video games, and other electronics when you're done with them.
3. Close windows when heat or air conditioning is on.
4. Turn off your computer monitor when you won't be using it for at least 20 minutes or more.
5. Don't use too much hot water-make sure that you keep your showers short.
6. Sort glass, metal and plastic recyclables.
7. On vacations, keep your energy saving habits! Don't leave lights /TVs on when you leave the room.
8. Use the carbon calculator at fightglobalwarming.com to check your family's carbon weight.

LCAS Donation

The Lake County Audubon Chapter donated 28 Wren box kits and 9 Bluebird box kits to Boy Scout Troop 181 from Lake Villa. We thank the Troop for constructing the bird house kits and putting up the wren houses along various tree lines in the surrounding woods. The constructed Bluebird houses were then donated to the Lake County Forest Preserve to be used along the Bluebird trails at various Preserves.

Volunteer Opportunities

Do you have some time to devote to do good deeds in our local parks and nature preserves? Check out the following links:

Lake County Forrest Preserves

<http://www.lcfpd.org/involved/index.cfm?fuseaction=volunteer.view>

Experienced Bird Watchers Wanted:

<http://www.lcfpd.org/birdsurvey/>

Liberty Prairie Conservancy

<http://www.libertyprairie.org/waystohelp/volunteer.html>

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

<http://dnr.state.il.us/volunteer/index.htm>

Lake Hennepin Field Trip:

Due to the popularity of this outing last fall, we are planning to revisit the restored wetland called Lake Hennepin north of Peoria on September 30. Gary Sullivan, Wetlands Restoration Ecologist, will once again act as guide. We will depart early from Libertyville since it will be a 2 ½ hour drive to Lake Hennepin. If you are interested in this trip, please contact us by Sept. 15th at audbirds@aol.com or call Frank at 847-362-0472 (leave a message if necessary) to express your interest in participating and we will keep you posted so arrangements can be made.

Ancient Grackle

A letter from a reader of Bird Watcher's Digest (Vol. 28 No. 5, May-June 2006) relates the story of a common grackle banded after the hatch year in 1983 and recaptured in 2005. The bird was said to be in

excellent physical shape with some white feathers at the base of the bill but flew away with a strong wing beat when released. Since the bird was at least one year old at the time of banding, it must have been at least 23 years old at that time!

Feather Functions

Peter Stettenheim, Birder's World, Vol. 20, Issue 3, June 2006

What do feathers do? Ornithologists know of at least 30 essential functions, organized into 23 categories.

Additional functions await discovery.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Conserving body heat | 13. Making sounds |
| 2. Regulating body temperature | 14. Muffling sounds |
| 3. Shielding body parts | 15. Foraging |
| 4. Repelling water | 16. Ensuring food supply |
| 5. Flying | 17. Keeping clean |
| 6. Swimming and diving | 18. Aiding digestion |
| 7. Floating | 19. Constructing nests |
| 8. Snow shoeing | 20. Transporting water |
| 9. Tobogganing | 21. Sending olfactory signals |
| 10. Bracing | 22. Eluding predators |
| 11. Feeling | 23. Sending visual signals |
| 12. Hearing | |

National Audubon Membership

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Join or give a gift subscription today at the special **Introductory rate of just \$20**...43% off the basic rate.

Mail your check and this form to:

Lake County Audubon Society
P.O. Box 332
Libertyville, Illinois 60048

Name _____

Address _____

(city) _____ Illinois(zip) _____

Telephone _____

Make checks payable to National Audubon Society. Dues include \$15 for AUDUBON magazine. Please allow 4-6 weeks from receipt of payment to receive your first issue of AUDUBON.

____The National Audubon Society occasionally makes its membership list available to carefully selected organizations whose mailings you might find of interest. To have your name omitted from this list, please check here.

Chapter Code G64 (Lake Co. Audubon)

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Welcome New Members! (Feb-Jun)

Coral Ackerman	William Leblanc	Sonja Velins	Dianne Eberhardt	Adam Blonsky	Woodrow Lee
Virginia Adams	Janet Ledvina	Judith Wagner	George Evert	David Buchanan	Claudette Loiacono
Elizabeth Adomaitis	Linda Leonard	Robert Walz	Lewis Faulkner	Rosemary Ferguson	Bernadine McGregor
Vincent Allison	David MacKenzie	Shari Weinberg	Lawrence Fenwick	Ellen Funk	John Nields
Philip Anen	Sauna MacMillan	Charlotte Wennlund	Glen Gertschen	Donna Heaps	Barbara Redman
Mary Auston	Katie Marks	Dona Willard	Luisa Ginnetti	Mr. Mrs. William Hill	Merle Rosskam
Marge Blake	Karen Memory	Maureen Winemaster	Gary Gintant	Cynthia Howell	Gabrielle Rousso
Isabelle Buckner	Samuel Mendelson	Kristine Zwicky	Helen Hanna	Ippolito	Anthony Rusinak
Robert Burgess	Louise Michels	Evonne Dagostino	Helen Harold	John Kindsvater	Nancy Schlegel
Margaret Clarke	Jerrald Miller	Ann Harp	Everett Hoebbel	Gary Klein	S. Sorensen
Ruth Cortesi	Ken Miller	Pat Sayerstad	Dotty Hoepner	Janusz Listos	John & Miriam Steinke
Dan Crovetti	Lynda Murphy	Jim Sullivan	Anita Jung	Elaine McGahan	Tori Trauscht
John & Patty Decker	L. Panko	Charles Adamovic	Elaine Koepke	Michelle Moreno	Henry Wheeler
C. Drozd	Brandt Pfeifer	Timothy Babington	Rosemary LaMantia	MaryJean Pierce	Emily Fletcher
Phillip Flason	JP Reindl	Bernice Bershad	John Lambert	Mary Ann Randle	<u>TRANSFERS</u>
Alison Frank	RohlWing	Johathan& Betty Grote	Pelayia Limbos	Therese Schmitt	Jonathon Milam
James Godshalk	Carol Rose	Ruth Bohn	J. Loranca	Patrick Sheehan	Muriel Richard
KM Guiteras	Mary Ryan	James Bottrell	David MacKenzie	Chris Skan	Dana Smith
Eric Hebert	Barbara Saether	Bette Brya	Margaret Maczulski	Margaret Sundstrom	Gail Anderson
Trish Hoglan	Lee Schwaba	James Busch	Michael Malak	William Williams	Robert Garber
Christine Ippolito	Rose Shaver	Robert Carter	Donald Miller	Kailey Mullins	E. Melvin Ellinsen
Lawrence Isaac	James Swartout	David Cugier	Mary Nelson	Kenneth Legel	Sarah Lifson
Dorian Kriston	Rev AM Talarico	James Curtis	Mary Robinson	Martha Arquilla	Judy Marcus
Mrs. Carl Lang	Mary Tvaroh	Marv Dolinko	Bruno Siensa	Gary Bell	
Roger Stein	Justen Schroeder	Chris Glab	AE Solmor	Deborah Carpenter	
Mary Stembal	Vince Unger	Kevin Happ	Joanne Till	Sean Derrig	
Gerald Thiel	Karen Adams	Brenda Hart	Rosemary Troxel	Johnny Fay	
Edwin Thompson	Alison Attar	Barb Hermann	Andrea Ubel	Friends of Ryerson Woods	
Lucille Weintress	Sara Baldwin	James Leahy	Sara Baldwin	Sue Golan	
Alexandra Weston	Mike&Nancy Brown	Marlene Rosen	Patricia Barker	Elisabeth Kniazewycz	
Audrey Wiedner	Patricia Erber	Mrs. John Scholz	Walter Barker	Joanne Kula	
Reinhart Wimmer	Douglas Geiger	Ms. Schultz	Patricia Beyer	Robert Lansing	