

THE HOY HONKER

HOY AUDUBON
SOCIETY, INC
RACINE—KENOSHA, WI
MARCH-APRIL, 2002



(THANK GOODNESS FOR THE BIRDS OF WINTER!)

UPCOMING HOY EVENTS

THURSDAY, MARCH 7th, 7:00 PM Gateway College
“BIRDS OF TEXAS” with Eric Howe

Our president Eric Howe will show photos and slides of his recent birding tour of Texas. See the colorful and rare southern birds and waterfowl, plus a possible bonus of Florida birds presented by other Hoy chapter travelers.

As almost always, Ed Prins will show slides. This month he will prepare us for the next phase of spring migration in our area.

As always, refreshments will be provided. Arrive early for best parking.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4th, 6:30PM Shoop Park Clubhouse, Racine
This meeting site is tentative

- We will observe migrant shorebirds and waterfowl along Lake Michigan.
- Refreshments will be provided
- Tentative program is “The Great River Birding Trail” presented by Midwest Audubon Staff members. They will tell us about hot birdwatching areas along the Mississippi River, and provide maps for day or weekend getaways.

MARCH FIELD TRIPS TO WINDPOINT LIGHTHOUSE
EVERY THURSDAY 7AM

- Our Thursday morning birding tours continue through this winter month.
- During February we have regularly been entertained by the numerous common goldeneyes, buffleheads, and mergansers. The odd peregrine and scoter have been spotted. We are still hopeful of finding a snowy owl off Racine’s shore. Dress warmly and come join the fun!

EARTH DAY EVENTS

Pringle Nature Center (on highway MB south of highway C) west of I-94 and south of WI 50 in Kenosha County.

Work parties will meet on Saturday and Sunday April 20 and 21 from 8AM to 4PM to rid the woodlands of unwanted plants such as garlic mustard. Sunday noon will feature a salad lunch for all workers. Call Dan Werner at 857-2688 to volunteer or for more information.

GYRFALCON IN RACINE

The Racine Journal-Times of February 8 had an article about the bird seen at the Courthouse, which may be a rare (for this part of the country) gyrfalcon. It has been seen there several times throughout the last month. The article is accompanied by a photo of the bird and several warmly clothed birders, including members of the Hoy Nature Club. I hope that everyone who wished to see the bird had an opportunity. It is a very striking bird especially with its large size and wingspan.

WSO Field Trips

Sunday March 10 8 AM at McKinley Marina in Milwaukee on Lincoln Memorial Drive.

Come for an hour or the whole day. Bring a bag lunch.

Saturday March 23 8 AM at Goose Pond, one mile south of highway 51/60 on Goose Pond Rd east of Arlington.

Bring a bag lunch.

Interesting reading

The January 6, 2002 New York Times Magazine has an article about a scientist who has been following some black guillemots up by the Arctic Circle. He has been checking on them every breeding season since 1975. At first there were only a few breeding pairs, but as the summers got longer (global climate change) the number grew from 100 birds to over 500. Recently, he has noticed the population dropping. He suspects that, as the summer has become longer and the ice has receded from the little island he is on, that the birds have to travel too far for food.

Other Wisconsin Events

Crane count in Outagamie County—
Sunday March 24 from 1:30 to 2:30.

The count is scheduled for April 13.

Waterfowl watch at Mosquito Hill Nature Center—Sunday April 6 from 6:30 to 10:00

call 920/779-6433

Gulls at Northpoint Marina

Several Illinois bird groups met at Northpoint Marina in Winthrop Harbor to look at winter gulls on Saturday february 16. Five species were identified, which were herring, ring-billed, glaucous, iceland and Thayer's gulls. Although it seemed chilly out there along the lake, it was a great event and a real chance to learn how to tell gulls apart. Some excellent videos were shown.

2002 HOY CLUB OFFICERS:
PRESIDENT—ERIC HOWE, 633-0086
VICE-PRESIDENT—JOAN ROHAN, 634-5245
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NEWSLETTER—STAN ROSENSTIEL, 694-2206
MEMBERSHIP—MUFFY PETRICK, 619-0844
WEBSITE: www.hoyaudubon.org

Next Board meeting will be held at Helen Pugh's 6:30 March 12th. Come early for 6pm birding...



***PLEASE....
FEED THE BIRDS...
WATER, TOO!
THEY WILL THANK YOU.***

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