

THE HOY HONKER



HOY AUDUBON
SOCIETY, INC
RACINE — KENOSHA, WI
September / October 2005

UPCOMING EVENTS

An Overview of Insect Communication
Thursday September 1, 2005 at 7:00 P.M.

Pringle Nature Center
9800 160th Ave., Kenosha

Robert J. Kopanic, Jr., an entomologist with SC Johnson & Son, Inc., will discuss the many fascinating ways insects communicate with each other. He did his graduate work (MS and PHD) at North Carolina State University in Insect Behavior.
Bring your questions!

Pringle Nature Center's Fall Festival
October 15, 2005 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
9800 160th Ave., Kenosha

Hikes, children activities, music, food, hay rides, displays, videos and much more! For additional information, check our website or contact Dan Werner at (262) 857-8008 or pnc@hoyaudubon.org

Central Wisconsin Grasslands Partnership —
Cooperative Efforts Focused on Restoring
Grassland Habitat for Birds, including the
Greater Prairie Chicken

Thursday October 6, 2005 at 7:00 P.M.
River Bend Nature Center

3600 N. Green Bay Rd. — Racine

Andy Paulios is with the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative (www.wisconsinbirds.org)

Wisconsin Bird Songs

Thursday November 3, 2005 at 7:00 P.M.
At River Bend Nature Center

John Feith is a Madison birdwatcher and the author of both a DVD (Birds, Birds, Birds!) and a CD (Bird Song Ear Training Guide) designed for learning how to identify birds. He will talk about recording bird songs, bird song mnemonics and how he created his DVD and CD. Thanks to John's passion of the natural world, profits from his work go to benefit the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology (WSO) and The Nature Conservancy. <http://www.caculo.com>

Protecting & Stewarding Wisconsin's Natural
History...Past, Present and Future

Thursday, September 29, 2005 - Milwaukee

Wisconsin's State Natural Areas (SNA) protect outstanding examples of our natural landscape. There are now 416 SNAs in the state. Many of these are terrific places to find birds and are important for bird conservation. You can visit <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/sna> to learn more about the SNA program and individual SNAs. With so many SNAs and with WDNR's budget for stewardship funds so short, there is concern with the future stewardship of many of these wonderful areas. To help address this situation, the Natural Resources Foundation (NRF) is initiating an Adopt-a-Natural Area Program.

"Protecting & Stewarding Wisconsin's Natural History...Past, Present and Future") is held on Thursday, SEPTEMBER 29 from 5:00-7:30 PM in the WE Energies PSB Auditorium in downtown Milwaukee, 231 W. Michigan. The event also will celebrate local community group's efforts in stewarding Wisconsin's natural areas. The evening event will feature a photographic presentation of coastal natural areas by Thomas Meyer, WDNR Conservation Biologist. Tickets are \$15 per person and include drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Call NRF toll-free at (866) 264-4096 or visit <http://www.nrfwis.org/whatsNew/eventsCal.htm> to print out a Registration Form and for more information. Registration deadline is September 15.

Chimney Swifts and
Common Nighthawks

A few members of Hoy Audubon have been enjoying the sunsets and counting swifts and migrating nighthawks. They have located three chimney swift roost sites in downtown Racine, and are looking for more. The ones located so far are: the old Ala Rug Co, 500 6th Street (3 different chimneys are used here!); St. Patrick's Church on Erie St.; and the Water Department south of North Beach. At this time the Water Department chimney is the largest with about 100.

This is our 4th year of monitoring the Swifts in downtown Racine. Perhaps some of you would like to participate in this endeavor for the next couple weeks. The count period is nightly for Night Hawks until mid September. Most of the birds will be seen in the next week. The next Swift Night Out will be September 9, 10, 11th. Call Helen Pugh at 637-4359 if interested and for further details on either count activity. For additional info on Swifts, go to www.chimneyswifts.org

FIELD TRIPS

Wednesday Mornings at Lake Michigan Lakefront

Enjoy fall migration as we watch for warblers, shorebirds, waterfowl and other species. Meet at the Racine Windpoint Lighthouse Wednesday mornings — 7:00 A.M.

Sunday, September 18. We will go to Winneconne, WI
and bird lakes Poygan and Butte de Morts.

We seek migrating shore birds and waterfowl on this trip, as well as the "confusing" fall warblers. This trip holds a lot of promise, it is highly recommended by the WSO publication, "Wisconsin's Favorite Birding Haunts".

Saturday November 5: November is the first of our

Annual Racine Backyard Feeder Walks. We will tour six or more backyard feeding stations. Hopefully, we will all learn how to better sustain our feathered friends during the harsh winter months ahead; and how to outwit our fluffy tailed mammalian friends. *If you are interested in displaying your feeders and participating in this first ever tour,* please contact John Raymond.

Please contact John Raymond, 262.633-0285 or fieldtrips@hoyaudubon.org for information regarding the above trips.

HOY AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC
P.O. BOX 044626
RACINE, WI 53404

Your Help Needed to Save Arctic Refuge!

The fight over the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is heating up -- YOUR HELP NEEDED NOW before Congress considers the budget bill sometime in September. Audubon is making a big push to save the pristine wilderness in Alaska from destructive oil drilling, and you can help!

After 25 years of fighting, our last best chance to protect the refuge will be in the House of Representatives on a vote quickly approaching in September. Please make a point to call, write or e-mail your elected official today!
Contact Congressman Paul Ryan / Phone: (202) 225-3031 / Fax: (202) 225-3393 / <http://www.house.gov/ryan/email.htm>
Every member of Congress will be voting on this measure and right now, it's too close to call.

Log on to Audubon's special "Protect the Arctic" website -- accessed via www.audubon.org, or contact Desiree Groves in Audubon's public policy office in Washington, DC at 202-861-2242, x. 3038 (dgroves@audubon.org) to find out more about how you can help!

Upper Midwest Regional Audubon Conference—"Uniting For Conservation: Moving Forward" September 30, October 1 & 2, 2005—Chestnut Mountain Resort—Galena, IL

If you would like to take a more active role in Audubon or simply learn more about current issues and what Audubon's role is, join other regional members learn about important environmental issues, gain networking skills to work on regional projects, hear other chapter's ideas to help benefit local chapters, make new friends, and have a lot of fun Join us!

Many field trips are planned for Saturday morning, October 1st including visits to Mississippi Blufflands, Lost Mound, Backwaters of the Mississippi and more. Keynote speakers feature Bill Handel on the "Illinois Natural History Survey: Illinois Plant Vegetation: Past, Present and Future". Buddy Huffaker with the Aldo Leopold Foundation: "Looking for Leadership: Rising to Today's Conservation Challenges". Jim Herkert with The Nature Conservancy on "Status and Trends of Grassland Birds in the Upper Midwest". AND many other concurrent sessions on Saturday and Sunday. For more detailed registration form, check out a copy on our website or contact one of the board members listed below.

Midwest Birding Symposium Oct. 13-16, 2005

Birding enthusiasts are invited to the Quad Cities for the Midwest Birding Symposium Oct. 13-16, 2005. Headquartered at the River Center in downtown Davenport, IA, participants will have the opportunity to attend sessions on raptors & river ecology with nationally-recognized speakers; walk through the trade show with all kinds of birding merchandise, such as binoculars, books and feeders; enjoy guided birding field trips, exhibits, family programs, and silent auction; and a cruise on the Mississippi River on the Celebration Belle riverboat.

Nationally-known birding experts will be keynote speakers. Some of the speakers will include: Don and Lillian Stokes, John Acorn from the Animal Planet channel, Bill and Elsa Thompson from Bird Watcher's Digest and Ernesto Ruela-Inzuna from Venezuela to speak on birds of South America.

The event will also be hosted in the Quad Cities in September 2007. For more information on scheduled speakers, registration and the Quad Cities, visit their website at <http://www.visitquadcities.com/midwestbirding>.

Hoy Audubon Society Membership

Hoy Audubon Society offers "Chapter Supporter" memberships. PLEASE NOTE the expiration date by your mailing address. If it is past due, please send in your Chapter Contribution to continue to receive the newsletter for information on current programs and fieldtrips AND to help support LOCAL projects in our area. Thanks!

Dues are \$15 per year/ \$20 per year for families.

Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Send dues to P. O. Box 044626, Racine, WI 53404

Would you like to receive the newsletter by email only? Yes No e-mail: _____

Contact Information:

President, Michael Goodman, goodman@hovaudubon.org

Vice-President, Joan Rohan, 634-5245

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Director, Eric Howe, info@hovaudubon.org

Director, Helen Pugh, 637-4359, helen.pugh@hovaudubon.org

Director, John Raymond, (262) 633-0285, fieldtrips@hovaudubon.org

Director, Dan Werner, (262) 857-8008, pnc@hovaudubon.org

Website for Hoy Audubon Society - www.hovaudubon.org

P. O. Box 044626, Racine, WI 53404

Next Board Meeting at home of Joan Rohan—Thurs. Sept 22—7:00 pm

Project: Give a second life to used feeders

Hoy Club is actively seeking: Usable, used feeders that may need a small amount of rehab. Persons who would like to receive used feeders. A person to rehab used feeders and redistribute them.

Hoy's Library Now Open to Members

Hoy Club's growing library of books, videos, CD's, etc. is set up for your use at the River Bend Nature Center. Any member may access any of Hoy's material at the River Bend Nature Center by simply signing out for it. Should you wish to make a donation to the library, please give the item(s) to a board member. River Bend is open 9am-4:30pm Mon-Fri and 12:30pm-4:30pm Sat & Sun.