

THE HOY HONKER

HOY AUDUBON
SOCIETY, INC
RACINE — KENOSHA, WI
March - April 2006



UPCOMING EVENTS

Raptor Education Group / Avian Rehabilitation

Thursday, March 2, 2006 at 7:00 P.M.

**River Bend Nature Center
3600 N. Green Bay Rd. - Racine**

Marge Gibson co-founded Raptor Education Group, Inc (REGI) in 1990. Marge has worked with wildlife for over 30 years. She began her work with raptors as a field biologist. She has worked with many high profile field projects including the California Condor Recovery Team and the Bald Eagle Capture and Health Assessment Program in Valdez, Alaska following the Valdez Oil Spill where she was team captain. In addition, Marge teaches wildlife rehabilitation internationally.

In the beginning, REGI was focused on public education programs and supporting field research on avian species. In part due to the remote northern location of the center in Antigo, WI, it soon became apparent that rehabilitation would be a major part of the work done at the center. While specializing in large raptors and swans, all avian species are accepted for rehabilitation at the center. Since its beginning, thousands of raptors and other avian species have been patients at the wildlife center.

Silent Conversations with Eastern Wood Warblers

Thursday, April 6, 2006

Program at 7:00 P.M.

Bird Walk at 6:00 P.M.

River Bend Nature Center



Silent Conversations with Eastern Wood Warblers is an intimate photographic journey into the lives of the thirty-eight species of warblers that migrate through the Americas east of the Great Plains. Laurie Smaglick Johnson is an electrical engineer and businesswoman by education and career experience; a scientist by thought process; and a conservationist by heart. Her love of birds, the environment and photography has come together to provide others with intimate glimpses into the lives of the birds we share this earth with. She was born, raised and makes her home still today in Racine County.

Wisconsin's Favorite Birding Haunts

Thursday, May 4, 2006

Program at 7:00 P.M. - Warbler Walk at 5:30 P.M.

Hawthorn Hollow - 880 Green Bay Road - Kenosha

Daryl Tessen has been a birder in Wisconsin virtually his entire life, starting his passion for bird-watching when just a young child. Daryl was born and raised in Appleton, Wisconsin, the town to which he retired after a 33-year career as a high school biology teacher in Illinois. Daryl has been a member of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology for over 45 years. He has been an editor of the popular book Wisconsin's Favorite Bird Haunts, spent 24 years as regional editor in the Western Great Lakes for "North American Birds" and has recently co-edited Birds of Minnesota and Wisconsin. We'll take a bird and wildflower hike at 5:30 or if you come later, walk the trails on your own or sit on the bench outside and watch the feeder activity. **Election of the Hoy Audubon Society officers and board members will also take place this evening at 7:00 P.M.**

Earth Day Project at Nicholson Wildlife Refuge

Saturday, April 22, 2006

9:00 A.M.

For Earth Day, we will be installing trail markers, bluebird houses, and cutting invasive trees. NWR is located on 5 Mile Road, between County H and the Nicholson Road - Racine Co. / Caledonia Township. There is a small gravel parking lot on the south side of the road. Bring a pair of work gloves and water.

International Migratory Bird Day

Saturday May 13, 2006

Mark this day on your calendars to help with the spring bird count. Contact Eric Howe to sign up.

Field Trips

Weekday Mornings at Windpoint - 7:00 A.M.

Through the end of March, we'll meet WEDNESDAY mornings and enjoy late winter mornings looking for waterfowl (including specialties such as Long-tailed Ducks and perhaps a Harlequin Duck), various gull species (~7 possible), winter sparrows, finches, and more. It's always a surprise at what we might find. Meet at the Windpoint Lighthouse (Racine Co.) on Wednesday mornings - 7:00 A.M.

Starting in April, we'll begin meeting on THURSDAY mornings and change our starting location to Myers Park (southeast of Racine Gateway Tech College) to take advantage of spring migrants found along the shoreline and base of hillside throughout April and May. A few of us may arrive earlier at 6:30 to begin.

Morning Bird Hike at Pringle Nature Center and Bristol

Woods County Park

April 1, 2006 - 7:30 A.M.

9800 160th Avenue - Bristol, Kenosha Co.

April begins the 1st Sunday of the month bird hikes on the wooded trails of Bristol Woods. Meet at the Nature Center. Contact Stan Rosenstiel for more information.

Evening Wetland and Waterfowl Bird Walk

at Nicholson Wildlife Refuge

Tuesday, March 28 and Wednesday, April 5, 2006 - 5:30 P.M.

Nicholson Wildlife Refuge, in a normal wet spring, is a good location to view migrant waterfowl during March and April. Highlights seen in the past have been a flock of Tundra Swans, Ring-necked Ducks, Northern Shoveler, Pied-billed Grebes, Green and Blue-winged Teal, Wood Duck, Northern Pintail, Redhead Duck, Hooded and Common Mergansers, Ruddy Ducks, Sora, Virginia Rail, Great Egret, Yellow-headed Blackbird and much more.

NWR is located on 5 Mile Road, between County H and the Nicholson Road - Racine Co. / Caledonia Township. There is a small gravel parking lot on the south side of the road. Meet at the gravel lot at 5:15 PM or meet us down the trail to the south where we'll be viewing the pond from. Contact Eric Howe for more information.

Evening Woodcock Walk at Cliffside Park

Wednesday, April 12, 2006 (Rain date April 19)

6:30 - 8:00 P.M. ?

Listen to the peents and see the aerial dances of the twittering "Tmberdoodle". With any luck, we may see the ground chattering confrontations of rival male American Woodcocks. Meet by 6:30 P.M. at Picnic Area #2 (near the yellow gate).

Should bad weather occur on the 12th, we have planned a rain date of Wednesday, April 19th. Some of the trails may be wet from recent rainfall, so bring rain boots if you have them. Cliffside Park is located on the lakefront in northeast Racine Co., between the 6 and 7 Mile Road, off of Michna Road.

Evening Warbler Walks at Colonial Park

Wednesday evenings April 26 - May 31 - 5:30 P.M.

Our annual evening hikes at Colonial Park are a great opportunity to relax after a long day and relish the progression of new spring migrants. From the early Yellow-rumped and Palm Warblers to the later coming Canada Warbler and perhaps a Connecticut Warbler, they'll be plenty of eyes to help point out all the activity.

Pepin, Buffalo, Trempealeau, and Jackson Counties.

Friday, May 5 - Sunday 7 or Monday 8, 2006

WI Favorite Birding Haunts describes this area as "The expanse where the Chippewa River slams broadside into the Mississippi River is one of the most important spots in the state for birds. ...In May it reaches its zenith as countless numbers of flycatchers, thrushes, vireos, warblers, finches and sparrows plus various marsh birds follow the river in their north-ward flight."

Please contact John Raymond (unless otherwise noted), 262.633.0285 or fieldtrips@hoyaudubon.org for information regarding the above Hoy sponsored field trips or to suggest future fieldtrips.

Go to www.hoyaudubon.org for recent bird sightings and events.

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

Organic and Fair Trade Coffee For Sale

We again have coffee for sale at our general meetings. Organic and shade grown coffee provides invaluable habitat for our neotropical migrants as compared to that full sun monocultures which require chemicals. Coffee that is slow to grow and slow to ripen, as in shade grown coffee, better converts its starches to sugars and is richer in flavor. Fair trade certified coffee also guarantees the people working a fair wage and good working conditions. For more information, read an article on shade grown coffee that we have posted at our website. A one pound bag of whole bean coffee or a 12oz. bag of ground coffee is \$10. Contact Stan Rosenstiel for more information.

Get Audubon, Save a Forest

If you are a member of National Audubon Society Tired of renewal notices that consume precious forests? Call 800-274-4201 and sign up for Audubon's Paper Free Renewal Program. Instead of mailing you renewal reminders, Audubon will automatically renew your membership each year. You'll simply receive a bill, as with a newspaper subscription. Of course, you can cancel at any time. And don't forget you can also subscribe and renew on the web.

Other Upcoming Field Trips

The following field trips are not sponsored by Hoy Audubon Society but have been included here for those interested in attending. There is interest from Hoy members in attending the March 3-5 trip up north. If you are interested in the March 3-5 trip, please contact Eric Howe for details or contact the RBC contact below directly.

March 3-5 (Friday to Sunday) - North Woods Winter Birds (RBC)

Riveredge Bird Club will rendezvous at 7 a.m. Friday at the intersection of County H and Highway 173 in Mather (C/D6, Page 51) in DeLorme). Four-wheel drive, good boots, warm clothes and a bag lunch are good ideas. The first day will again take the group to the Bear Bluff Road cranberry bogs in Jackson-Juneau-Wood counties, where they have seen golden eagles, sharp-tailed grouse, rough-legged hawks, wild turkeys, trumpeter swans, etc. They will move on to the Buena Vista Grasslands in search of prairie chickens and short-eared owls, redpolls, etc. They then will work their way north through the bogs around Tomahawk and overnight again at the Oneida Village Inn in Three Lakes. They have reserved a block of rooms there for Friday and Saturday nights. Regular rates are \$47.50 a night for a single and \$58.50 for a room with two double beds. Call (715) 546-3373 and mention the Riveredge Bird Club to secure one in that block and receive a 10% discount. Of course, you are free to stay elsewhere, but the motel will serve as their headquarters and they will leave from there predawn Saturday in search of spruce grouse, then work their way through the Nicolet National Forest for black-backed woodpecker, boreal chickadee, pine and evening grosbeak, both redpolls, both crossbills, gray jay, raven, Bohemian waxwing, northern goshawk, northern shrike, purple finch, etc. Sunday morning they will make our plans based on our success the previous day and then bird their way home. To register for the trip, to offer a carpool seat or for further questions, please e-mail RBC field trip chair Carl Schwartz at cschwartz@journalssentinel.com or call him at 414-964-2052.

Sunday, March 12 - Milwaukee - Lakefront Birding (WSO)

Meet: 8:00 - 8:30 A.M. at South Shore Yacht Club (Milwaukee). Travels will take us north from here to various birding locations. Depending on the current birding information they often times end their trip at the Sheboygan Harbor. Bring a bag lunch. Field trips of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology (WSO) are free and open to the public.

March 25 (Saturday) - Dane and Columbia County Ponds (WSO)

Meet between 8 and 8:30 a.m. at Goose Pond, one mile south of Highway 51/60 on Goose Pond Road, east of the town of Arlington. Bring a bag lunch. A variety of water birds, early shorebirds, passerine migrants. Past highlights include pipits, longspurs, red-necked grebes, white-fronted geese and even a loggerhead shrike.

Has Your Membership EXPIRED ? - 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 or does not appear, please send in your Chapter Contribution to continue to receive our bi-monthly newsletter for information on current programs and fieldtrips AND to help support LOCAL projects in our area. Thanks! To continue your national membership and the Audubon Magazine subscription with National Audubon Society (NAS), please refer to information you receive from NAS. NAS only members will receive the Hoy Audubon Society newsletter twice a year.

Chapter Supporter Dues are \$15 per year (single)/ \$20 per year (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, 414.764.9610, goodman@hoyaudubon.org

Vice-President, Joan Rohan, 262.634.5245

Treasurer, Stan Rosenstiel, 262.694.2206, treasurer@hoyaudubon.org

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Director, John Raymond, 262.633.0285, fieldtrips@hoyaudubon.org

Director, Dan Werner, 262.857.8008, pnc@hoyaudubon.org

Hoy Audubon Society website - www.hoyaudubon.org

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Next Board Meeting - Tuesday, March 21 - 7:00pm

at home of Helen Pugh - Come early to bird beginning at 6:00pm

Project: Give a second life to used feeder

Hoy is seeking: Usable, used feeders they 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 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 library 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.