



Upcoming Programs

Native Americans and Plants

Thursday, March 1, 2007 at 7:00 P.M.

River Bend Nature Center - Racine

3600 N. Green Bay Rd. - Racine

Native Americans and the early European settlers depended on the resources of the land for food, medicine, clothing, construction materials, dyes and more. How did they decide what plants to use and how to use them? Self-employed Interpretive Naturalist *Kate Redmond* will share her longtime interest in the uses of plants as she explores the many roles plants played in the lives of early Americans.

Kate has a Master of Science in environmental education from Cornell University and has worked at a number of nature centers in the east. She now presents programs for teachers, students, seniors, scouts, garden clubs and other groups as "The Traveling Naturalist" and teaches at the UWM Field Station and Cedarburg Bog.

The Economic Values of Birding

Thursday, April 5, 2007 at 7:00 P.M.

River Bend Nature Center - Racine

3600 N. Green Bay Rd. - Racine

Jon Motquin is a graduate of Carroll College and has an M.S. in Environmental Science and Policy from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay where he studied the economic values of recreational bird watching. He is a Senior Land Use Planner with the Brown County Regional Planning Commission. He has prepared several comprehensive plans and is involved with several aspects of natural resource planning. He will be discussing and assessing the direct economic impact birders have on Wisconsin, the values wildlife viewers associate with bird watching, current avian conservation funding programs, and the imminent need for a new conservation fund dedicated to the future expansion of the Wisconsin Important Bird Area Program.

Thursday, May 3, 2007

7:00 P.M. - The Jocotoco Birdathon

5:30 P.M. - Bird and Wildflower Walk

Hawthorn Hollow Nature Center

880 Green Bay Rd. - Kenosha County



We'll begin our bird and wildflower hike at 5:30 or you may also watch the feeder and tree activity from the benches.

Andy Paulios, Coordinator for the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative (WBCI), will share with us through powerpoint slides and video the results of the first ever Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative (WBCI) - sponsored Jocotoco Birdathon. In short, it was a smashing success!

Last September, a group of twelve adventurous birders, well stocked with gorp and rain gear, headed to the Andes of Ecuador to do a bit of "conservation birding". It's difficult to accurately describe birding in Ecuador, but "sensory overload" somehow seems appropriate. When all was said and done, the team heard and saw 390 species of birds. The tally included 47 species of tanagers, 33 species of hummers, myriad flycatchers, antbirds, ovenbirds, tapaculos, and a smattering of the rarest feathered denizens on the planet - Jocotoco Antpitta, Long-wattled Umbrellabird, and Golden-plumed Parakeet, to name just a few of the headliners. The team also raised more than \$14,000 to help purchase critical bird habitat in Ecuador.

The group had so much fun, they are doing it again in August of 2007! If you're interested in world class birding and would like to learn why funding is badly needed for land acquisition for the Mindo Coludforest Foundation, come hear and see the program this May or click on the Long-Wattled Umbrellabird at www.wisconsinbirds.org.

Election of the Hoy Audubon Society officers and board members will also take place this evening.

Field Trips

Thursday Mornings - 7:00 A.M.

Through the end of MARCH, we'll meet Thursday mornings at 7:00 A.M. at the Wind Point Lighthouse (Racine Co.) to 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

Beginning in APRIL, we'll change our start location to Myers Park (southeast of Racine Gateway Tech College) to take advantage of spring migrants found along the shoreline,

Field Trips (continued)

wetland vegetation, and the hillside throughout April and May. A few of us may arrive earlier at 6:30 to begin. The group usually departs by 8:15 A.M., while others may continue on to Colonial Park..

Evening Woodcock Walk at Cliffside Park

Wednesday, April 11 and April 18

6:00 - 8:30 P.M.

Listen to the peents and watch the aerial dances of the twittering "Tmberdoodle" at twilight. With any luck, we may see the ground chattering confrontations of rival male American Woodcocks as they dispute over their territories. Meet by 6:30 P.M. at Picnic Area #2 (near the yellow gate). While there is daylight, we'll bird along the main trail north of the yellow gate and may go as far north as the bluff overlooking Lake Michigan to view waterfowl. Last year we viewed 8 Woodcock on display as well as many other early migrants.

Some of the trails may be wet from recent rainfall, so it is advised to bring rainboots/waterproof footwear. 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 25 - May 30 - 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 spring migrants. From the early Yellow-rumped and Palm Warblers to the later arriving species like Canada Warblers, they'll be plenty of eyes to help point out all the activity.

May 17 - 20, 2007 - Birding the Lower Wisconsin River

with the WSO's 68th Annual Convention

UW-Richland, Richland Center.

We'll join the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology for their multi day pre-convention field trip, the annual convention on Saturday, and the Saturday and Sunday morning field trips. Each year, the convention is held in a different area of our state to showcase the diverse habitats of Wisconsin.

We'll share more details of this annual convention at our March and April meetings or you can download the details and a registration form at: http://www.uwgb.edu/birds/wso/2007_Convention.pdf Mail in registration must be received by May 1st, otherwise registration is at the door.

A sample below is from the WSO -

"Richland County is located in the rugged Driftless Area of southwest Wisconsin. Centered within the county is the appropriately named town of Richland Center, site of the 2007 Wisconsin Society for Ornithology Convention. This area of the state provides a mosaic of bird habitats, including but not limited to upland hardwoods, brushy hillsides, pastures, agricultural lands and grassy fields in its valleys and on its ridge tops, as well as river bottom lands along the Wisconsin River. These areas should provide a very exciting cross-section of bird life for us to experience.

At this time of year the passerine migration should be at its apex and the dawn chorus, involving migrants and resident species, could be mind boggling. The list of species birders should expect is quite impressive, with a few of Wisconsin's exceptional species more easily found here than in other Wisconsin haunts. Some of the specialties include Turkey Vulture; Red-shouldered Hawk; Northern Bobwhite; Whip-poor-will; Barred Owl; Red-headed and Pileated Woodpeckers; Acadian and Willow Flycatchers; Carolina and Winter Wrens; Tufted Titmouse; Bell's Vireo; Blue-winged, Cerulean, Yellowthroated, Pine, Kentucky, Prothonotary, and Hooded Warblers; Louisiana Waterthrush; Orchard Oriole; Bobolink; and Grasshopper, Henslow's and Lark Sparrows. There is potential for Peregrine Falcon, Eastern Screech-Owl, Chuck-will'swidow, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, White-eyed Vireo, Worm-eating Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Dickcissel (late migrant), plus many other possibilities. The birding should be fabulous!"

The Thursday and Friday (May 17-18) all-day field trip may fill quickly, so register soon!

April 13-15, 2007 - Weekend Birding Trip to Navauo, IL

Contact John Raymond for details.

Please contact John Raymond (unless otherwise noted above), 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, events or for directions to any of the Hoy meeting locations mentioned on this page.

Anyone with an interest is welcome to attend programs and fieldtrips.

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

Other Upcoming State Events / Field Trips

The following events / field trips are not sponsored by Hoy Audubon Society but have been included here for those interested in attending. We'll discuss at our regular meetings if anyone would like to carpool to any of the below events.

March 11 (Sunday) - (WSO) Sheboygan - Lakefront Birding

Meet: 8:00 am at Sheboygan Marina. Directions: take Hwy. 23 (Erie Av.) east into downtown Sheboygan. Continue east on Erie to 4th Street, turn right (south) to Wisconsin Ave. At Wisconsin turn left (east) and follow to it's end. You'll see the marina across the street. Depending on current birding information, their travels may take the group north to Manitowoc and Two Rivers harbors or south to Harrington Beach State park and Port Washington.

March 17 (Saturday) - (WSO) LaCrosse - Lansing Loop

Meet: 7 am at entrance to Goose Island County Park off Hwy. 35 south of LaCrosse. This outing is roughly an 8-hour car caravan trip with minimal walking to see migrant waterfowl, raptors, and early passerines. Lunch in Lansing, Iowa at any of several restaurants. South from Goose Island along the River with a foray east near Rush Creek, west into Iowa at Lansing and the power plant for Peregrine Falcon. Then north, on Hwy 26 through New Albin, Iowa, on into Minnesota and the west bank of the river to Pool 8 at Reno. On to LaCrescent, MN/LaCrosse, WI. This trip will be led by Fred Lesher. If you'd like detailed information, contact him at 608-783-1149 or email to: corax6330@yahoo.com.

March 24 (Saturday) - Dane & Columbia County Ponds

Meet: 8:00 am at Goose Pond, 1 mile south of Hwy. 51/60 on Goose Pond Road, east of the town of Arlington. The group will tour by auto to several ponds and flooded fields in this very productive area. A wide variety of water birds, shorebirds, migrant passerines and others are possible (i.e.: swans, Gr. White-fronted & Ross's Geese, pipits, longspurs, sparrows, etc.). The trip ends after birding the causeway (CTH V) on Lake Wisconsin. Bring a bag lunch.

April 7 (Saturday) - Mead Wildlife Area

Meet: 7:30 am at the George W. Mead State Wildlife Area headquarters building along CTH S, 2 miles south of CTH C or 6.2 miles north of Hwy 10. This trip will be led by Kent Hall and Gerry Janz. If you have questions about this trip you may contact Kent Hall at (715) 344-8081 or kentsue@charter.net.

April 28 (Saturday) - White River Marsh

Meet at 5:00 am for those wanting to experience the early dawn chorus of woodcock, snipe, rails, cranes, etc. Meet at the parking lot near the cattail marsh along White River Road -- follow it about 4.3 miles east from Hwy. D (north of Princeton in Green Lake County). If you don't want to arrive that early, the group will be along this road until at least 9:00 AM. Bring along a lunch.

For the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology (WSO) field trips, severe weather conditions may cancel the trip. In the event of cancellation, every attempt to notify participants via the WSO Hotline (call 262.784.4032 for recording) and WisBirdNet (recent postings at <http://www.birdingonthe.net/maillinglists/WISC.html>)

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 and organizations 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 Receive newsletter by email only? Yes No e-mail _____

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Hoy Audubon Society website - www.hoyaudubon.org

P. O. Box 044626, Racine, WI 53404

Next Board Meeting

Thursday, March 29 - 7:00pm - at the home of John Raymond.

Hoy's Library Open to Members

Hoy Club's library of books and multimedia are available to any member to check-out at the River Bend Nature Center. 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.