



The Meadowlark Messenger

ChampaignCountyAudubon.org

Champaign County Audubon Society • A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

November Program: An Avian Cabinet of Curiosities

Thursday, November 2, 7pm

Urbana Free Library

Presenters: Mike Jeffords, Sue Post

Michael R. Jeffords and Susan L. Post have circled the globe--and explored their neighborhood--collecting images of the natural world.

This presentation will feature their personal cabinet of curiosities to tell the stories of the pair's most unusual encounters with birds.

They are coauthors of *Curious Encounters with the Natural World, Exploring Nature in Illinois* and *Illinois Wilds*.

Open to the public.



Field Trip: Jasper-Pulaski to see Sandhill Cranes

Saturday November 18

Meet at Anita Purves Nature Center parking lot at 10am for about a 3 hour drive. Bring lunch, as we will stop at Willow Slough for a picnic. We will be returning in the evening so we can watch the spectacular return of the cranes from their day of foraging.

Up to 15,000 cranes stop each year at Jasper Pulaski on their way south. Dress warmly.

Sunday Morning Birdwalks

Sundays, Sept 3 - Oct 29, 7:30am

Anita Purves Nature Center parking lot

Walks officially end at 9am, but if things are exciting some folk stay longer. Birders of all ages and experience welcome. Children should be accompanied by an adult.

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Champaign County Audubon Society
P.O. Box 882, Urbana, IL 61803
ChampaignCountyAudubon.org
mail@champaigncountyaudubon.org

Officers

- President: Sara Johnson
- Vice President: John Dunkelberger
- Secretary: Charlene Anchor
- Treasurer: Allan Penwell

Members at Large, 2016-2017

- Janet Jokela
- Caitlin Lill
- Jeff Peyton

Members at Large, 2017-2018

- Beth Chato
- Brody Dunn
- Carie Nixon

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- Bylaws: vacant
- Conservation: Jeff Peyton
- Education: Pam Leiter
- Field Trip: Beth Chato
- Finance: Astrid Berkson
- Hospitality: vacant
- Membership: Brody Dunn
- Nature Shop: Beth Chato
- Program: Sara Johnson
- Publications: vacant
- Publicity: Carie Nixon

Newsletter editor, Webmaster &
BirdNotes Listserve Manager: Pam
Leiter

Champaign County Audubon
publishes *The Meadowlark Messenger*
nine times per year. Comments
regarding the newsletter, or articles
for submission, are welcome.



Get this newsletter delivered right to your inbox—in color! Would you like to go paperless and help our funds go further? Please

visit the Newsletter page on our website and enter your name and email address.



10% discount for CCAS members!
Monday–Saturday, 9am–4pm
Anita Purves Nature Center
1505 N. Broadway, Urbana, IL

New items for the young include light up Meteor Balls. As always, binoculars, CDS & DVDs, hummingbird and other feeders. A good selection of field guides, coloring books, children's books and much, much more. Come check out the shop. All proceeds go for environmental education projects.



Field Notes

Submitted by: Beth Chato

Fall migration is slowing down. Early Snow Geese and Pine Siskins were seen at Allerton, as well as a Red-breasted Nuthatch at Heritage. Some warblers are still with us, Hooded and Black-throated Blue being seen in Busey Woods recently.

Report from the Emiquon Field Trip

Eight of us went to the Emiquon National Wildlife Preserve across the Illinois River from Havana. We saw spectacular numbers of waterfowl and shorebirds, plus eagles and White Pelicans, for a total of 50 bird species. Emiquon is an exciting place.

Blast from the Past

Beth Chato

From Audubon Newsletter of March 1972. "Robert Allerton Park has been registered as the 123rd National Natural Landmark by the Department of the Interior. However, this does not affect the Oakley Dam project and the Committee on Allerton Park and other groups are continuing their objections." The dam was ultimately stopped.

Birdnotes Listserve

Join our Birdnotes listserve to get the latest local bird sightings in your inbox!

Here's how: go to ChampaignCountyAudubon.org and click on 'Join Birdnotes.' Enter your info, then click 'Subscribe.'

Conservation Spotlight: Illinois Environmental Council

Submitted by: Jeff Peyton

We are featuring an ongoing series of monthly spotlights on local conservation organizations to highlight their efforts to preserve our natural resources and habitats. It is a critical time for protecting our natural areas, and we hope to provide concerned readers with information about how they can join the effort, either through volunteering, contributions, or just by taking advantage of the services these organizations provide.

This month's conservation spotlight features the Illinois Environmental Council (IEC), a group that advocates for public policy that will have a positive environmental impact, and that seeks to be "the environmental community's eyes, ears, and voice in Springfield."



ILLINOIS
ENVIRONMENTAL
COUNCIL

IEC works to keep us informed on issues affecting the environment and to bring together over 80 affiliate environmental groups throughout Illinois – groups like the Champaign County Audubon Society – to influence policymakers to make environmentally responsible decisions.

The Illinois Environmental Council was founded in 1975 by a group of grassroots organizers and has grown to be an important voice in the state's environmental movement. Over the years they have played a role in several important environmental successes for the state in areas like soil conservation, reducing mercury contamination, action on climate change, and many others.

Do you know how your local state legislators voted on the issue of limiting bobcat hunting this year? What about on protections for water quality? You can find out by checking the Illinois Environmental Council's Legislative Scorecard, which presents the voting records of Illinois state lawmakers on bills affecting the environment and assigns each member of the Illinois House and Senate a score based on their environmental record.



You can also subscribe to the EnviroBulletin to get updates on the status of environmental legislation and receive notifications when urgent actions like public comments to legislators are needed.

The scorecard and EnviroBulletin can be found on the IEC's website, ilenviro.org, where you can also find information about donating and getting involved.

IEC also has a facebook page at facebook.com/ilenviro that publishes regular updates about environmental public policy in Illinois.

\$250 Mini-Grants for Educators

Deadline: February 2

Our mini-grants provide help to Champaign County educators with bringing environmental education to students. Some suggestions are: classroom equipment, books, guest speakers, outdoor learning areas, field trip costs, professional development, etc. Be creative!

Grants are available to educators within Champaign County only. Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by members of the CCAS Education Committee. The final choices will be made by our Board of Directors. Only one grant will be awarded to any educator.

If you would like to apply, please fill out the application found on our website.

Sponsor a Mini-Grant!

Your donation of \$250 will provide one mini-grant to a local classroom. Checks can be made out to CCAS and mailed to PO Box 882, Urbana, IL 61803-0882. All donations are tax deductible. Thank you for supporting these valuable education opportunities!



K-12 Pollinator Schools Program

The Illinois Clean Energy Foundation's Pollinator Schools Program supports the creation of native pollinator habitat at locations in Illinois that provide environmental education opportunities for K-12 students. Students learn about Illinois' native plants while the habitat provides a much needed food source for a variety of pollinators that are important to both food crops and wildflowers.

For more info: <https://www.illinoiscleanenergy.org/natural-areas-program/k-12-pollinator-schools-program>



Join Champaign County Audubon Society!

Yes, I'd like to become a member!

When you join the Champaign County Audubon Society, 100% of your dues and donations support our efforts (and they're tax deductible!).

\$ _____ CCAS Membership (\$15 due each January).

\$ _____ Additional donation to CCAS

\$ _____ **TOTAL**

I am a new member I am renewing my membership

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone # (_____) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Beginning in 2017, CCAS members will be automatically enrolled to receive our newsletter by e-mail; check this box if you would prefer to receive a **paper** copy.

Checks should be made payable to CCAS. Send this form and your payment to: CCAS Membership Chair, P.O. Box 882, Urbana, IL 61803-0882. Thank you!

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Join National Audubon Society!

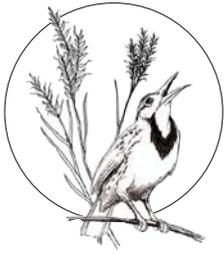
When you join National Audubon Society you receive one year of Audubon magazine. You also have the option to receive local birding and community events delivered to your inbox from CCAS.

- **New members:** Go online to <http://bit.ly/nas-g50> or call 1-844-428-3826. Please tell them Champaign County Audubon Society sent you using our chapter code "G50."
- **Renewing members:** Go online to <http://bit.ly/renew-nas> or call 1-844-428-3826.



Audubon

The Champaign County Audubon Society is a Chapter of National Audubon Society, Inc.



Champaign County Audubon Society
PO Box 882
Urbana, IL 61803-0882

Calendar of Events

Sundays, Sept 3 - Oct 29, 7:30-9am

Sunday Morning Bird Walks

Meet in the Anita Purves Nature Center parking lot.

Thursday, Nov 2, 7pm

Monthly Program: An Avian Cabinet of Curiosities

Urbana Free Library

Saturday, Nov 18, 10am

Field Trip to Jasper-Pulaski Fish & Wildlife Area

Meet at 10am at the Anita Purves Nature Center parking lot to car pool.

Urbana Park District's Stewardship Days

December 9: 9-11 am Busey Woods, 1-3pm Weaver Park

Call Anita Purves Nature Center (384-4062) for more info and to register.

Monday, Nov 20, 7pm; Board Meeting

Anita Purves Nature Center. Members are welcome.

Visit our website for more information!