



# The Meadowlark Messenger

ChampaignCountyAudubon.org

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

## June Program

### Swallow Watch & Potluck

Thursday, June 6th, 2019, 6:30pm

Walnut Hill Shelter, Homer Lake Forest Preserve

Enjoy an evening at beautiful Homer Lake with fellow bird enthusiasts while you watch the Cliff Swallows and many other swallows. Please bring your own table service, your own beverage, and a dish to share.



## Wings of Wonder and Audubon

Saturday, July 20, 3–5pm

Champaign Public Library

Meet magnificent tropical birds from Wings of Wonder Avian Rescue, a nonprofit based in Mahomet. Learn all about adopting and caring for these exotic pets who need new homes. The Audubon Society will also be on site to answer avian questions!

For all ages. For all events at the library:  
[champaign.org/events](http://champaign.org/events)

## Birdnotes Listserve

Join our Birdnotes listserv to get the latest local bird sightings in your inbox! Here's how: go to [ChampaignCountyAudubon.org](http://ChampaignCountyAudubon.org) and click on "Go Birding" then click the "Join Birdnotes" button.

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

Officers

- President: Brody Dunn
- Vice President: Sara Johnson
- Secretary: Christina Ruiz
- Treasurer: Allan Penwell

Members at Large, 2018-2019

- Janet Jokela
- Roger Digges
- Jennifer Wick (2019)

Members at Large, 2019-2020

- Beth Chato
- Charlene Anchor
- Tyler Owens

Committee Chairs

- Bylaws: Roger Digges
- Conservation: Jeff Peyton
- Education: Pam Leiter
- Field Trip: Beth Chato
- Finance: Astrid Berkson
- Hospitality: vacant
- Membership: Rachel Vinsel
- 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 in your inbox!

Would you like to go paperless and help our funds go further? Please visit the [Membership](#) page on our website and enter your name and email address.



Find us on Facebook!



[/ChampaignAudubon](#)



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

Need to identify those birds in your yard? The Nature Shop has a variety of field guides to birds, wildflowers and animals. For the rock lovers there are an assortment of mineral collections and geodes. There are a variety of animal finger puppets, singing birds, children’s books and coloring books and as always bird guides.



As always, proceeds support environmental education programs. Come check us out.

### Field Notes

*Submitted by: Beth Chato*

Great Horned Owls and Red-tailed Hawks are nesting. Most warbler species have been seen including Hooded, Kentucky, and Cerulean as well as most other species in Busey/Crystal Lake Park. A Black-crowned Night Heron at Robeson Park and 2 Black-necked Stilts near Homer were seen.

### Illinois Spring Bird Count:

Results are still being collected. So far for Champaign County observers have reported 147 different species.

We had about 30 people in 12 teams out counting.



*Cerulean Warbler*  
Photo: Rob Kanter

## ***Educator's Corner: Thank You for the Mini-Grant!***

I wanted to thank you and the Champaign County Audubon Society for the grant you gave our school. We went to Lake of the Woods in Mahomet and learned about reptiles and frogs.

Our Kindergarten - 3rd graders saw turtles and a snake (and snake skin!) up close then had the opportunity to look for these and other life around the pond. We saw numerous turtles and frogs.

Your generous grant allowed the students the opportunity to expand their knowledge beyond book information and see these animals up close and in their natural habitat.

Sincerely,

Pam Rudick, teacher K/1, St. John Lutheran school,  
Champaign IL



### **Thank You Donors!**

Thank you to all who donated beyond membership dues:  
*Joyce Burdge, Kay Lindsay, Cheryl Nimz and Nancy Snellen*

### **Welcome New Members!**

*Virginia Brubaker, Shelby Lawson, Cheryl Nimz, David Requa, Mary Richardson and Ted Veselsky*

### **Thank you Renewing Members!**

*Van & Kathy Bowersox, Joyce Burdge, Kay Lindsay, Philip O'Neill and Nancy Snellen*

**Questions?** Please contact our Membership Chair, Rachel Vinsel (ccas.membership -at- gmail.com)



# 36th Annual Birdathon: May 5-12, 2019

*Illinois birds are in trouble - and you can help!*



## ***Contributions still very welcome!***

During the Birdathon, teams eagerly searched for as many birds species they could find. Pledge donations are based on the number of species seen by your selected team, or you may pledge a flat amount.

### **Team results so far:**

1. Old Timers: 90 species
2. Big Sit: 42 species
3. Ghostbusters: 62 species
4. Bird Nerds: 137 species

Other teams: Forest Preserve District Rangers/Urbana Park District, Crazy Kayakers, President's Team (results pending).

For more info, contact Beth Chato at [ejchato@gmail.com](mailto:ejchato@gmail.com) or 344-6803.

## ***Where will my donation go?***

Your birdathon contributions go toward the CCAS Kendeigh Memorial Fund, which supports scientific ornithological research in Illinois.

Since its beginning in 1988, the fund has supported over \$30,000 of research projects on Illinois birds. Topics have ranged from the impact of cowbird nest predation to the varied problems of declining grassland birds. Many grant recipients have gone on to prestigious careers in the natural history field.

A successful Birdathon will support next year's grants and move toward our dream of a sustaining endowment fund.

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## ***Yes! I will pledge to support the Birdathon!***

I pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per species seen by team \_\_\_\_\_

I will make a flat donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help the cause

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Send this form to: CCAS Birdathon, P.O. Box 882, Urbana, IL 61803-0882, or contact Beth Chato ([ejchato@gmail.com](mailto:ejchato@gmail.com) or 344-6803). Checks should be made out to CCAS; note Kendeigh Fund on the memo line. ***Thank you!!***

***Who was Dr. S. Charles Kendeigh?***  
*Dr. Kendeigh was an eminent ornithologist and a renowned professor of zoology at the University of Illinois. He was a founding member, president, and board member of CCAS.*  
*One of Dr. Kendeigh's most enduring contributions was a standard method for censusing birds.*

***Donate Online!***  
Save time by contributing via your mobile device or computer! *Visit our website to donate online.*

# 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**

### ***Or Join Online!***

Save time by contributing via your mobile device or computer! Visit our website to join or donate online.

I am a new member     I am renewing my membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

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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### ***Our Mission:***

*Promote interest, enjoyment, and understanding of all aspects of our natural environment, and actively encourage the protection of wildlife and native habitats.*



## 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

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## Calendar of Events

### **This Summer:**

**Thursday, June 6, 6:30pm**

**Swallow-watching & Potluck**

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### **This Fall:**

**Monday, Aug 19, 7pm**

**Board Meeting**

*Champaign Public Library*

CCAS members welcome.

**Sundays, Sept 1 - Oct 27, 7:30–9am**

**Sunday Morning Bird Walks**

Meet in the Anita Purves Nature Center parking lot. Walks officially end at 9am, but if things are exciting some folks stay longer. Birders of all ages and experience welcome. Children should be accompanied by an adult.

*Stay tuned for more!*