



The Meadowlark Messenger

ChampaignCountyAudubon.org

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

CCAS Newsletter to go (Mostly) Paperless in 2017!

Our biggest expense at CCAS is paper newsletters. Right now all new members (through NAS and CCAS) automatically receive a paper newsletter. We send approximately 450 newsletters out for nine months of the year, which has a high cost with printing and bulk mail. We're also concerned about the environment; being good stewards probably doesn't include printing almost 10,000 sheets of paper a year!

Instead, starting February 2017 we're

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Membership Form Changes

National Audubon Society has recently changed their process for how local chapters forward membership dues to them. It is much more time intensive for our treasurers to manage this system, and in researching the issue we've found that NAS encourages all members to join and renew online. They also offer an extensive renewal program for all NAS members and ask chapters to refrain from offering renewal services to any member in order to avoid confusion and the creation of multiple memberships.

Because of the switches at NAS, CCAS has decided that we will no longer accept

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October Program

Thursday, Oct 6, 7pm

Urbana Free Library Auditorium

The Incredible Journey

Many birds do it. Some insects do it. Caribou do it. Some humans do it. Do what? Migrate, of course.

We will talk about these seasonal movements at the Oct. 6 meeting — come and join us!

Sunday Morning Birdwalks

Sundays, Sept 4 – Oct 30, 7:30 – 9am

Meadowbrook Park (Note location!)

Meet at the Race St parking lot.

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

Officers

- President: Brian Stearns (595-5052)
- Vice President: Allan Penwell
- Secretary: Charlene Anchor
- Co-Treasurers: Susan Stearns, John Dunkelberger

Members at Large, 2015-2016

- Jim Hoyt
- Beth Chato
- Carie Nixon

Members at Large, 2016-2017

- Janet Jokela
- Caitlin Lill
- Jeff Peyton

Committee Chairs

- Bylaws: Allan Penwell
- Conservation: Jeff Peyton
- Education: Pam Leiter
- Field Trip: Beth Chato
- Finance: Allan Penwell
- Habitat: Bob Vaiden
- Hospitality: Astrid Berkson
- Membership: Caitlin Lill
- Nature Shop: Beth Chato
- Program: Helen Parker
- Publications: Vacant
- Publicity: Carie Nixon

Newsletter Coordinator: Ruth Walker

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 our website and look for the link “Get your Meadowlark Messenger via email.”



10% discount for CCAS members!

Monday–Saturday, 9am–4pm

Anita Purves Nature Center
1505 N. Broadway, Urbana, IL

Hummingbirds will be with us a while longer, and winter is coming. We have a good variety of carefully selected feeders, as well as a wide selection of guide books, children’s books, puppets, stuffed singing birds, geodes, children’s toys, feeders, binoculars, coloring books, and much more. Spread the word! A portion of the proceeds support CCAS!



Field Notes

Submitted by: Beth Chato

Warbler migration actually began in August with Blackburnian and Pine Warblers in a Champaign yard. It is now heating up with Redstarts, Chestnut-sided, Magnolia, Black-throated Green-winged, Golden and Blue-winged Warblers among those reported so far. Also in August, a Swallow-tailed Kite visited the area as well as a possible Mississippi Kite. A sub-adult Rufous Hummingbird was reported from an Urbana feeder.

Fall Birdwalks

Submitted by: Beth Chato

Fall birdwalks at Meadowbrook Park continue. Do join in each or any Sunday morning, 7:30am at the Race Street parking lot for Meadowbrook Park.

Field Trips

Homer Lake and St. Joe Wetlands

Saturday, October 15

Meet at 7:30am at the Anita Purves Center parking lot for a morning trip looking for fall migrants.

Jasper-Pulaski

Saturday, October 29

Meet at 10am at the Anita Purves Nature Center parking lot for our annual pilgrimage to the migratory stop over of thousands of Sandhill Cranes. Spectacular sights and sounds. Bring lunch. We usually stop for dinner on the way home and return to Urbana around 10pm.

\$100 Mini-Grants for Educators

Deadline: Oct 3

Our annual \$100 Mini-Grant Program offers 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 Audubon Education Committee. The final choices will be made by the Champaign County Audubon 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 \$100 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!

“Wild About Birds” Audubon Adventures Classroom Kit

This fall, we funded kits for 11 classrooms - that’s over 300 students! Classrooms at these schools received kits:

- Broadmeadow Elementary
- Cunningham Children’s Home/Gerber School
- Holy Cross Elementary
- Leal Elementary (2)
- M.L. King Jr Elementary (2)
- Swann Special Care Center
- Wiley Elementary (3)

Audubon Adventures is an educational kit for 3rd-5th grade classrooms, developed by the National Audubon Society. The kit includes both printed student resources and online content for three new learning modules each year. Plus... a subscription to Audubon magazine and the Audubon Adventures eNewsletter.

Thank You Donors!

Thank you to all who have donated to CCAS above and beyond their dues!

- Barbara Schleicher
- Susan & Ronald Kiddoo
- Ken & Brenda Mulle
- Derek Liebert
- Curtis Krock



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switching our "default" enrollment. All members who provide an e-mail address will be sent the e-newsletter.

But fear not! If you strongly prefer the paper copy we will send it upon request to those who have paid the \$15 annual membership dues for CCAS. This is in addition to any dues paid to NAS and directly funds our local programs, research and conservation efforts. We will be sending out CCAS renewal notices beginning in November and you can let us know then that you would like to continue receiving the paper copy.

Thank you for your understanding as we move to a greener solution!

Membership Form Changes

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membership dues on behalf of the National Audubon Society for 2017 memberships. Instead, we encourage you to follow the links to online membership forms and the phone number for NAS Member Services department on both our forms and website. NAS will also continue to mail renewal forms to members.

CCAS will continue to accept dues and donations intended for Champaign County Audubon Society. We are available to answer any questions you may have about your memberships with Champaign County Audubon Society and National Audubon Society.

Birds, Bites & Brews

Oct 13, 6:30-8pm at Pizza M

Come out for a drink, a snack, and some good conversation with your fellow birdwatchers at our informal monthly get-together. You don't need to be a member to attend! Please RSVP to cklill@gmail.com.

Pizza M: 208 W. Main St., Urbana (meet in the back room)

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.'

Educator's Spotlight: Bird Adaptation Loan Kit

Enhance your lessons on bird adaptations by exploring the types of beaks, eggs and feet that help birds survive!

This kit includes replicas of bird skulls, eggs and tracks, as well as hands-on activities, and is appropriate for grades K-12.

To reserve the loan box email hlcenter@ccfpd.org or call 217-896-2455. Loan box can be reserved for 2 weeks. It is housed at the Homer Lake Interpretive Center at Homer Lake Forest Preserve.

Special arrangements can sometimes be made if you cannot pick it up at that location. \$25 refundable deposit required.

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!

Welcome New Members!

Alan Snipes, Angela R Wiley, Ann Robin, Beverly Lewman, Bjorg Holte, Chris Johns, Dr. Robert S. Chambers, Gloria Franczak, Karen R Silver, Lauren Mccafferty, Linda Linke, Lynne Dearborn, Mr. Curtis Kroch, Mr. Greg Koster, Ms. Gail A. Mcwilliams, Ms. Pamela Moore, Ms. Ruth S. Walker, Patricia Jeng, Patricia Knowlles, Robert E. Kanter, Robert Guthrie, Roberta B Lindstrand, Tabitha Sands, Virginia Brubaker, Vivienne Mackie, William A Marshall

Thank You Renewing Members!

Judy Bantz, Marvin Lukasik, Mr. Dorey Panno, Stephanie Foote, Ms. Linda Hermann, Curtis Krock, Derek Liebert, Margaret Smith



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

Have questions? Contact Caitlin Lill, our Membership Chair, at cklill@gmail.com.

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.



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

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Calendar of Events

Thursday, Oct 6, 7pm

October Program:

The Incredible Journey

Urbana Free Library Auditorium

Sundays, Sept 4 – Oct 30, 7:30 – 9am

Sunday Morning Birdwalks

Meadowbrook Park ***Note New Location!***

Meet at the Race Street parking lot.

Saturday, Oct 8:

9-11am Busey Woods;

1-3pm Weaver Park

Saturday, Oct 22:

9-11am Meadowbrook Park;

1-3pm Perkins Road

Urbana Park District's Stewardship Days

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

Thursday, Oct 13, 6:30-8pm

Birds, Bites & Brews

Pizza M (in the back room); Come out for a drink, a snack, and some good conversation.

Saturday, Oct 15

Field Trip to Homer Lake & St. Joe Wetlands

Meet at 7:30am at the Anita Purves Center parking lot.

Thursday, Oct 20, 7:15pm

Board Meeting: At Anita Purves Nature Center. Members are welcome.

Saturday, Oct 29

Field Trip to Jasper-Pulaski

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

Visit our website for more information!