



# The Meadowlark Messenger

ChampaignCountyAudubon.org

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

## “Wild About Birds” Audubon Adventures Classroom Kit

Teachers: request a FREE kit by Sept 13

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:

- Owl Prowl
- Waterbirds
- Wild About Birds

Plus... a subscription to Audubon magazine and the Audubon Adventures eNewsletter.

Visit our website for more information!

## \$100 Mini-Grants for Educators

Deadline: Oct 3

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

## Sponsor a Kit or Mini-Grant!

Because of the generosity of our members, we have been able to support environmental education in over seventy classes in the past five years!

Your sponsorship of \$50 will provide one printed Audubon Adventures classroom kit. A 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!

## September Potluck

Thursday, Sept 1, 6pm

Izaak Walton Cabin

Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve

Our new season starts off with our annual September potluck at the Izaak Walton cabin at Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve. Bring food to share and your needed plates, silverware, etc. Also, if you have pictures you would like to share, bring those as well. We will have a powerpoint projector set up.

## Sunday Morning Birdwalks: Fall Location Changed!

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

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- Vice President: Allan Penwell
- Secretary: Charlene Anchor
- Co-Treasurers: Susan Stearns, John Dunkelberger

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- Jim Hoyt
- Beth Chato
- Carie Nixon

Members at Large, 2016-2017

- Janet Jokela
- Caitlin Lill
- Jeff Peyton

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- 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

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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

We have 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: Summer

*Submitted by: Beth Chato*

Fall migration is beginning! North east of Homer 100 Killdeer, 50 Pectoral Sandpipers, and 1 Upland Sandpiper were seen in a flooded field. A Yellow-rumped Warbler was spotted at Riverbend, and an immature loon at Homer Lake.

## Breeding Season Highlights:

*Submitted by: Beth Chato*

So far this summer some evidence of breeding for 98 species have been recorded in Champaign County.

- Noteworthy were a family of Blue-winged Teal, a Sora rail and a Coot at Weaver Park. Homer Lake also had a Coot.
- A Bald Eagle nest and pair of Sandhill Cranes continue at Middle Fork. A Sedge Wren and Henslow’s Sparrow are also there.
- Black-crowned Night Heron or herons are at Champaign Parks.
- Lake of the Woods had Bell’s Vireo.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoos are unusually abundant, being at all parks and preserves surveyed.

Please let me know of your breeding bird sightings from June through August. I’d especially like to hear of any Wild Turkey families, nesting owls or woodpeckers to add to my records.

## Sunday Morning Bird Walks – A Big THANK YOU!

Each migration season, many of you look forward to attending Sunday morning bird walks at Busey Woods and Crystal Lake Park with Greg Lambeth leading the way. This fall will be a bit different. Not only will the bird walks be held at Meadowbrook Park, but Greg will no longer be leading the way. He has accepted a position out of state and moved on to a new adventure.

We wish to extend a special thank you to Greg for his 20+ years of dedication and volunteer service. He could be found birding the park as early as 6am just to find the best birding spots before others arrived. A great teacher, he would call the birds in, point them out, and identify them for all to learn. While the bird walks are scheduled as a 90 minute walk, it was not uncommon for him to continue leading birders until noon on a beautiful day. We are grateful for Greg's years of service and we wish him the best of luck in his new adventure.

## Birdathon Results

With a combined total of 143 species of birds spotted, this year's Birdathon raised \$1076 in donations. These funds will go to fund our annual Kendeigh grants.

Since its beginning in 1982, the Charles S. Kendeigh Research Grant project has funded over \$30,000 of research on Illinois birds. Many grant recipients have gone on to prestigious careers in the natural history field.

Many thanks to our donors this year: Martha Byrd, Silkwood/Sullivan Family, Silver Family, Lukasik Family, Rob Kanter, Ogle Family, Beth Chato, Betsy Kuchinke, Helen Parker, Gansel Family, Chris Chato, Myers Family, Charlene Anchor, Anne Robin, Belinda Porter, James Hoyt, Virginia Gordon

Additional contributions are still very welcome.

## Welcome New Members!

*Andrea Wolfe Bretl, Ann Beddini, Ashley Genter, Brad Knishey, Braj B. Jain, Carl Belber, Celia M Elliott, Cheryl Pettus, Christi Pogue, Craig Pond, David Bales, David Casteel, Donna J Beck, Dr. Miriam G. Iben, Ellen Moore, George Grubb, Ian D Westbury, J. And P. Miller, Jackie Harden, James Oliver Smith, John Laskowski, Joseph T Morris, Judy Bantz, Leslie McClintock, Marcia Richards, Margaret Maher, Martha Milas, Martha Wenzel, Martin Koeck, Michael Louison, Michelle Hartig, Mr. Bruce Barnard, Mr. C. B. Trask, Mr. Clifton Bergeron, Mr. Daniel B. Blake, Mr. James W. Kleinhans, Mr. Joseph Duchere, Mr. Marv Piwoni, Mr. Warren Compton, Mr. William H. Breeding, Mrs. Winfred D. Gerber, Ms. Betty Esser, Ms. Helen M. Parker, Ms. Karen B. Kane, Ms. Lucy Mcauley, Ms. Shirley Walker, Ms. Theresa Scott, Ms. Virginia Satterlee, Nancy Boma, Nora Love Miller, Richard-Jenny Harvey, Robert D Espeseth, Russ Houglan, Sue Finkenbiner, Theresa Feller, Trish Craig*

## Thank You Renewing Members!

*Angela Wiley, Barbara Slanker, Carl Fay, Carlene Roberts, Cheryl Esgar, Chris Johns, Clayton Overstreet, Darcy Gentner, Ellen & David Willcox, Greg & Lynne Sancken, J. B. Andrews, Janet Whitlock, Karen R Silver, Marilyn Boddy, Martha & Charle Weller, Mary Fisher, Mary K Bailey, Meagan Smith, Mr R Shiley, Mr. David Stone, Mr. Edward Conrad, Mr. Ernest N. Gullerud, Mr. John Jordan, Mr. John T. Jones, Mr. Karl Muster, Mr. Leon R. McCulloh, Mr. Michael Todd McCulley, Mr. Todd Kinney, Ms. Gertrude Holzer, Ms. Janice Bahr, Ms. Jennifer Hines, Ms. Joan Sharp, Ms. Margaret Smith, Ms. Tanya Sutton, Pat Chapel, Patty Williams, Paul Wilson, Phyllis Williams, R. D. Davis, Rebecca Grady, Robert Smitley, Roger & Cathy Digges, Sharon Donovan, Sue Ellen Finkenbiner, Susan Orban, Tod & Beth Satterthwaite, W. J. Nelson, William Marshall*

## Conservation News

*Submitted by: Jeff Peyton*

### ***Wind turbines on Great Lakes shorelines would pose risk to migrating birds***

A study from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has observed heavy bird migration activity along the shore of Lake Ontario in New York, an area targeted for future wind energy development. The study used avian radar to measure bird traffic, providing a clearer picture of migration patterns than previously available, particularly because the greatest amount of migration occurs at night, which limits the utility of visual monitoring.

The radar study not only tells us more about migration routes and density, but also about the altitude profile and timing of migration events. Studies like this one can help to inform regulations on wind energy development in migration corridors.

In addition to limiting installation of turbines in heavily-traveled areas, these data can suggest policies like curtailing nighttime turbine operation during certain hours or in certain seasons to limit fatalities.

*(source: <https://www.fws.gov/radar/documents/Avian%20Radar%20Sp2013%20Ontario%20Full.pdf>)*

### ***Majority of bird species protected by Endangered Species Act are recovering***

A report from July by the American Bird Conservancy shows that 78 percent of mainland U.S. bird species that have been listed under the ESA have populations that are stable, increasing, or have recovered sufficiently to have their threatened status removed.

Among these de-listed species are the Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, and Brown Pelican. Twice as many listed species now have increasing populations than those that are decreasing.

Unfortunately, 21% of listed birds are still declining, and the report highlights the situation in Hawaii, where recovery efforts have been less successful, a 52% success rate compared to the 78% on the mainland.

The report cites inadequate resources for recovery in Hawaii as part of the reason for this discrepancy.

*(source: <https://abcbirds.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/ESA-Report-2016-FINAL.pdf>)*

# Join Audubon! Yes, I'd like to become a member!

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Membership dues for 2016. (\$15: Friend of CCAS ~OR~ \$20: Member of NAS & CCAS)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Additional donation to Champaign County Audubon Society

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL**

I am a new member     I am renewing my membership

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

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

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

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

Yes, I'd like to go paperless and receive the newsletter electronically

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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!

<b>Membership Types</b>	
<b>Friend of Champaign County Audubon Society</b>  <b>Annual Dues: \$15</b>  When you choose to become a member of CCAS only, 100% of the membership dues support this local Audubon Society chapter.  Renewal is due each January.	<b>Member of National Audubon Society (includes membership in CCAS)</b>  <b>Annual Dues: \$20</b>  If you choose this option, we will forward your info and dues to NAS. Members of NAS are automatically a member of their local chapter. A portion of your dues are returned to CCAS.
Have questions? Please contact Caitlin Lill, our Membership Chair, at <a href="mailto:cklill@gmail.com">cklill@gmail.com</a> .	

## Thank You Donors!

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

- Patricia Chapel
- Roger Digges
- Darcy Gentner



**Audubon**

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



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## Calendar of Events

**Thursday, Sept 1, 6pm**  
**Annual Potluck**

Our new season starts off with our annual September potluck at the Izaak Walton cabin at Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve. Bring food to share and your needed plates, silverware, etc. Also, if you have pictures you would like to share, bring those as well. We will have a powerpoint projector set up.

**Sundays, Sept 4 – Oct 30, 7:30 – 9am**  
**Sunday Morning Birdwalks**

Meadowbrook Park \*\*\*Note New Location!\*\*\* Meet at the Race Street parking lot.

**Saturday, Sept 10: 9-11am Busey Woods; 1-3pm Weaver Park**

**Saturday, Sept 24: 9-11am & 1-3pm Meadowbrook Park**

**Urbana Park District's Stewardship Days**

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

**Thursday, Sept 15, 7:15pm**  
**Board Meeting**

At Anita Purves Nature Center. Members are welcome.

*Visit our website for more information!*

### **Birdnotes Listserve**

Join our Birdnotes listserve to get the latest local bird sightings in your inbox! Here's how: go to [ChampaignCountyAudubon.org](http://ChampaignCountyAudubon.org) and click on 'Join Birdnotes.' Enter your info, then click 'Subscribe.'