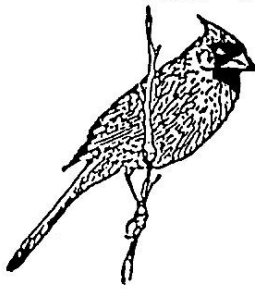


BIRD'S-EYE VIEW



PEORIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

A CHAPTER OF NATIONAL AUDUBON SINCE 1981.
ORNITHOLOGICAL/AUDUBON SECTION OF THE PEORIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE SINCE 1930.

JULY - AUGUST 1991

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Summer recreation is on most peoples agenda in this area for June, July and August. Peoria Audubon does not meet formally for these three months. Even if work items crowd out some of the planned time to just relax, it is ice to see the green landscape, the growing plants, and the birds and other animals re-creating their populations for another year. Summer walks to relax and learn by observing nature is enjoyed by many people.

Some Audubon members will be combining recreation with collecting useful information as we work to finish the last summer of the breeding bird atlas field work. The board is planning to meet on August 8th to makeup for the March Board meeting that was snowed out.

Snow! Snow is difficult to visualize during summer recreation.

Maury Brucker, President

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- July - Final month for breeding bird atlas survey. All maps and records due to Bert Princen as soon as possible. "Thanks to all who helped -- WE DID IT".
- Aug 8 - Board Meeting, 6:30 PM Marj Tattersall's house, 915 W. St. Mary's Ct. (692-2247).
- Aug. 17 - Shore Bird Field Trip, 7:30 AM, to Peoria Sanitary Dist., 2322 South Darst. Be on time--gate locked after admittance. Wear cool clothes & sturdy shoes and bring liquids to drink. Very hot/humid/no shade available--but a great birding spot. Leader: Greg Brown (686-3754).
- Sep. 11 - Membership Mtg., 7:30 PM, Lakeview Museum Rm. A/B. Program: Marcy Hoepfner of Metamora to talk & show videos on Bluebirds. Short Board Meeting at 7:00 PM.

AUDUBON COUNCIL OF ILLINOIS REPORT:

The June 8th meeting was attended by Maury Brucker, Bill Beeson, and Bert & Greet Princen. Two main topics were discussed. 1. WETLANDS: the Council agreed not to support the Hayes bill HR1330, sponsored by the Home Builders and Farm Bureau. As stated, it would define wetlands in such a way that it would include a fraction of the wetlands as defined for protection today. It would also take away the law-enforcing powers of the Army Corps of Engineering under Section 404.

2. A positive outlook exists, however, on CLEARCUTTING in the Shawnee Nat'l. Forest. The proposed new forest plan calls for a greatly reduced clear-cutting harvest, as supported by Audubon and Sierra Club. Hearings will begin soon, and we are hopeful that the reduced numbers will be adhered to, or at least greatly reduce the figures in the final plan. Also, the process of clear-cutting has finally been recognized as very detrimental, and that selective harvesting is the way to go.

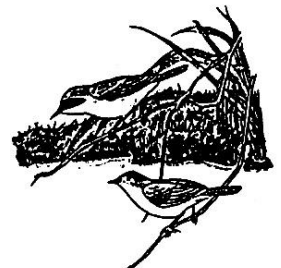
GREAT LAKES REGION REPORT:

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

On June 9th, Bert & Greet Princen, Bill Beeson and Maury Brucker had the opportunity to meet with our new regional vice-president, Steve Sedam, from Columbus, Ohio. He is the past Executive Director of the Ohio Environmental Council and experienced in leadership and with working with various groups for conservation. He has some really good ideas as to where we should be directing our future. Maury will give a report at our September membership meeting.



Recycled Paper



CONSERVATION COMMENTS:

1. The U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service is doing a study on land that is now part of the Norris Farm near Lewistown--remember the Thompson Lake proposal? The new private owner is interested in the study's conclusions, which plan to do an environmental and economic analysis of a potential wildlife refuge. Andrew French, project manager who also oversees the Chautauqua Nat'l Wildlife Refuge in Havana, says details of the study such as exact location, size and scope will be determined through working with local groups, the general public, and landowners. The Fulton County Board, a group historically opposed to a conservation use that would cause the loss of the Norris Farm's property taxes, has been contacted "up front", and appreciates the consideration being shown to all parties involved. The USFWS is interested in all the pros and cons to the proposal. Watch your local newspapers for further developments.
2. Recycling comes to the Illinois outdoors--the Ill. Dept. of Conservation is launching a major program to encourage campers, boaters, picnickers and other visitors at state-managed recreation areas to recycle aluminum, glass and plastic, according to Conservatin Dir. Brent Manning. By July 1, the DOC plans to have 151 specially constructed recycling sheds installed at about 65 major parks and recreation areas. The sheds will be located in campgrounds, day-use areas or near boat launch facilities. Those areas not having recycling centers will receive special recycling bags that visitors can use to carry recyclable wastes when they leave.

A one-page tip sheet will be distributed telling park users how to separate recyclable materials and how to prepare them for the recycling center. Park users will also be informed on practices to minimize the impact of their recreational activities on the environment. Some of the tips are:

- a. Buy items that are reusable rather than disposable.
- b. Pack picnics in reusable containers instead of throw-away bags.
- c. Use plates, cups and flatware that can be taken home, washed and reused, or choose biodegradable paper plates rather than plastic foam ones.
- d. Use cloth rags or towels instead of paper towels.
- e. Carry a litter bag with you when hiking.
- f. Wear crepe soles or soles with shallow lugs instead of erosion-promoting hiking boots.
- g. Cut up plastic six-pack beverage rings.
- g. Properly dispose of used fishing lines.



3. State and federal grant money has been awarded to the Fon du Lac Park Distric (\$176,000) for developing Cooper Riverfront Park with trails and boardwalks through wetlands, overlooks, fishing stations and shelters, all of which would be accessible to people of varying physical abilities.

PEORIA AUDUBON SOCIETY "UPDATE":

1. Spring Bird Count Report: Saturday, May 4th, 1991, was partly cloudy with some fog and very little rain, moderate wind (5-30 MPH), with temps in the low 50's to high 70's. Highlight: Warbler fallout.
- Fulton: 16 Participants --- 116 Species
Virginia Humphreys, Compiler
Notes: 2 Ruddy Ducks, 1 Little Blue Heron, 1 Black Duck, 1 Northern Harrier, 2 Semi-palmated Sandpipers, 1-Redhead, 4 Upland Sandpipers.

Mason: 16 Participants -- 144 Species
Dick Bjorklund, Compiler
Notes: 1 Sharp-Shinned Hawk, 2 Wild Turkeys, 1-Dunlin, 2 Forster's Terns, 3 E. Screech Owls, 1 Chuck-will's-widow, 1 Cliff Swallow, 1 Cape May Warbler, 1 Pine Warbler, 21 Prothonotary Warblers, 14 Eurasian Tree Sparrows.

Peoria: 18 Participants --- 140 Species
Eleanor Voeste, Compiler
Notes: 2 Green-winged Teal, 14 Northern Pintail, 2 Northern Shoveler, 1 Lesser Scaup, 3 Broad-winged Hawk, 28 Sora, 1 Pileated Woodpecker, 108 Bank Swallow, 2 Prairie Warbler, 1 Bay-Breasted Warbler, Documented: 3 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, 1 Long-billed Dowitcher, 1 Rough-legged Hawk, 1 Peregrine Falcon, 1 Dark-Eyed Junco, 1 Clay-colored Sparrow.

Stark: (not available)

Tazewell: 10 Participants --- 108 Species
Louise Endres, Compiler
Notes: 1 Black-Crowned Night Heron, 1 American Woodcock, 4 Ruby-Throated Humming-Birds, 1 Mourning Warbler, 1 Wilson's Warbler, 141 House Wrens, 25 Nashville Warbler, 57 White-Crowned Sparrow.

Woodford: 7 Participants --- 120 Species
John Todt, Compiler
Notes: Day-time sightings of Barred, E. Screech, and Gr. Horned Owls, 3 Green-winged Teal, 1 Amer. Woodcock, 1 Least Flycatcher, lots of warblers, 2 Scarlet Tanagers.

TELEVISED AUDUBON SPECIALS:

Channel 47, WTVP, will be showing National Audubon's television specials on Tuesday nights at 8 PM. Tune in for a fascinating look at the world around us. This award-winning series is made possible through a grant from the people of GE.

- 7-9 - DANGER AT THE BEACH, Ted Danson host.
- 7-16 - WILDFIRE, James Woods host.
- 7-23 - HOPE FOR THE TROPICS, Lauren Bacall.
- 7-30 - IF DOLPHINS COULD TALK, Mike Douglas.
- 8-6 - THE NEW RANGE WARS, Peter Coyote.
- 8-13 - ANCIENT FORESTS: RAGE OVER TREES, Paul Newman.
- 8-20 - ARCTIC REFUGE: A VANISHING WILDERNESS, Meryl Streep.
- 8-27 - WOLVES, Robert Redford.

TBS will present a new Audubon Special titled THE GREAT TOXIC LAKES. Once Upon A Time, There Were Five Great Lakes...

Carved out by ancient glaciers, the Great Lakes contain one-fifth of all the surface fresh water on Earth. The water's clear appearance is dangerously deceptive. Industrial pollution has ravaged these inland seas, leaving a trail of toxic effects up and down the food chain. Humans are no exception. The physical effects on our children are just beginning to be realized. James Earl Jones hosts this compelling story that desperately needs a happy ending.

8-25 10:00 PM Eastern Time

8-26 12:50 AM " "

8-31 11:05 AM " "

9-2 2:05 AM " "

ANNOUNCING THE "SECOND MIDWEST BIRDING SYMPOSIUM":

Three days of dynamic presentations on the future of birds and birding. Hear experts in the fields of bird behavior and research, conservation, ecology and education. Speakers include Pete Dunne, Victor Emanuel, Kenn Kaufman, and Jack Connor. The symposium fee is \$35.00. Hosted by College of DePage (and Blue Shield of Illinois) at their Arts Center in Glen Ellyn, Illinois on September 6-8, 1991. Information: (709) 858-2800, ex: 2770 or 2772, or write to College of DuPage, 22nd Street & Lambert Road, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137-6599.

"Bird's Eye View" is published bi-monthly by the Peoria Audubon Society. The next article deadline date will be August 10, 1991. Send or call all items of interest to: Marjorie Tattersall, Editor, Peoria Audubon Society, 915 W. St. Mary's Ct., Peoria, IL 61614. (309) 692-2247.

2. May 11th Warbler Walk to Forest Park Nature Center and Singing Woods: Most Warblers were too high up to identify, but a Louisiana Waterthrush and an Ovenbird were identified. We wish to thank Dale Goodner of FPNC for leading the trip, and also for the nice write-up he gave the Illinois Breeding Bird Atlas project in their recent "Tracks & Trails" newsletter.

3. June 16th Breeding Bird Blockbuster Day in Fulton County: Ipava Block had 61 species sighted, and 32 confirmed breeders; Smithfield Block had 57 species sighted, and 24 confirmed breeders. Notes: Yellow-throated Vireo in Smithfield; Bell's Vireos numbers are up; Eurasian Tree Sparrows confirmed in both blocks.

4. Recent Sightings:

Immature Hooded Merganser on 6-15 at Mendenhall Boat Dock flooded woods area. Double Breasted Cormorant Colony as Cilco Duck Creek Station has really increased, in size this year--try to get out to see them soon!



POSSIBLE NEW "NATIONAL PRAIRIE PARK":

Spurred by Audubon's interest, the Kansas congressional delegation asked the Nat'l. Park Service to prepare a feasibility study on the purchase of the Spring Hill Ranch. It is located in one of the largest segments of undisturbed tallgrass prairie in the U.S. about 130 miles southwest of Kansas City, and is 10,894 acres, or 17 square miles, in size.

There are a number of historic buildings on the property which is home to more than 400 species of vascular plants and dozens of bird species, and it is large enough to hold bison, elk, and pronghorn antelope.

Ron Klataske, Vice-President for Audubon's West Central Region, has said that the owner is willing to sell. A number of local ranchers, the Kansas Farm Bureau, and the Kansas Livestock Association are opposing federal purchase of the site. Distrust of the federal government runs deep among some of the area's cattle ranchers. Mr. Klataske has recommended that a part of the property be devoted to a "living history" ranch to recognize the importance of the cattle trade in the development of the prairie.

Supporters of this project are asked to write letters to Sen. Nancy Kassebaum (R-Kan), Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan), and Rep. Dick Nichols (R-Kan). For further information: Ron Klataske, West Central Regional Office, Nat'l. Audubon Society, 200 Southwind Pl., Manhattan, KS 66502. (913)537-4385.



1991 is the final year for our participation in the Illinois Breeding Bird Atlas Project for the Illinois Dept. of Conservation and Illinois Audubon Society. Listed below are the high-priority, endangered, threatened and missing species we're trying to confirm as breeders in our seven-county area. If you know of or suspect any of these species nesting in your area, please report your information to Bert Princen, 677 E. High Point Terr., Peoria, IL 61614, (309) 691-0519.

Sights to report: courting displays, territorial defense, nest building or incubating, adult giving a distraction display (like a

broken-wing act), adult seen with food flying to a nest, adult seen leaving a nest with fecal sac or eggshell, or finally, baby birds or fledglings.

Please NOTE! Any records of nesting species from 1986 to the present year, will be accepted for consideration. Please provide as much information as possible: dates, location and habitat, numbers of offspring, and pictures will all help to confirm past sightings for inclusion in our Atlas records.

Any assistance or information you have to offer will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

(Numbers = No. of blocks species reported in. E = Endangered and T = Threatened.)
(c = confirmed as a breeder. nc = not confirmed in 7-county area.)

Great Blue Heron	13		Carolina Wren	22		Pied-billed Grebe(E)	6	c	
Cattle Egret	3		Sedge Wren	4	nc	Eared Grebe			Rare
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	2	nc	Marsh Wren	2	nc	Double-crested Cormorant(E)	4	c	
Mute Swan	1	nc	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	16		American Bittern(E)	1		
Northern Pintail	1	nc	White-eyed Vireo	8		Least Bittern(E)	2		
Blue-winged Teal	6		Bell's Vireo	6	nc	Great Egret(E)	6	c	
Hooded Merganser	1		Yellow-throated Vireo	14		Snowy Egret(E)			Local
Ruddy Duck	2		Blue-winged Warbler	2	nc	Little Blue Heron(E)			Local breeder in South
Turkey Vulture	23	nc	Northern Parula	4	nc	Black-crowned Night-Heron(E)	6	c	
Broad-winged Hawk	3	nc	Yellow-throated Warbler	3		Northern Shoveler			Rare
Gray Partridge	4	nc	Cerulean Warbler	2	nc	Black Vulture			Uncommon in extreme Southern Illinois
Wild Turkey	6		Black and White Warbler	1	nc	Mississippi Kite(E)			Local in Southern Illinois
King Rail	3		American Redstart	7		Bald Eagle(E)			Rare breeder
Sora	1	nc	Prothonotary Warbler	6		Northern Harrier(E)	5	c	
American Coot	6		Worm-eating Warbler	1	nc	Sharp-shinned Hawk(E)	1		
Spotted Sandpiper	17		Ovenbird	6	nc	Cooper's Hawk(E)	1		
Common Snipe	1	nc	Louisiana Waterthrush	3	nc	Red-shouldered Hawk(E)			Uncommon in Southern Illinois, rare here
American Woodcock	11		Kentucky Warbler	6		Swainson's Hawk(E)			Local in Northern Illinois
Ring-billed Gull	2	nc	Hooded Warbler	2	nc	Virginia Rail			Uncommon
Black-billed Cuckoo	25		Yellow-breasted Chat	15	nc	Common Moorhen(T)	1	c	
Eastern Screech-Owl	10		Summer Tanager	5		Sandhill Crane(E)			
Great Horned Owl	18		Scarlet Tanager	22		Upland Sandpiper(E)	3	c	
Barred Owl	11		Blue Grosbeak	6		Wilson's Phalarope(E)			Rare in Northern Illinois
Common Nighthawk	14		Lark Sparrow	16		Herring Gull			Rare
Chuck-will's-widow	1	nc	Savannah Sparrow	27		Common Tern			Rare on Lake Michigan
Whip-poor-will	5	nc	Swamp Sparrow	2	nc	Forster's Tern			Occasional in Northeastern Illinois
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	12		Bobolink	16		Black Tern			Common in North, rare here
Pileated Woodpecker	7		Yellow-headed Blackbird	1		Common Barn-Owl(E)			Occasional permanent resident
Acadian Flycatcher	6		House Finch	15		Long-eared Owl(E)			Rare
Willow Flycatcher	24	nc	Pine Siskin	2		Short-eared Owl(E)			Rare
Bank Swallow	12		Eurasian Tree Sparrow	8	nc	Alder Flycatcher			Migrant
Cliff Swallow	10					Least Flycatcher			Uncommon in northern Illinois
						Western Kingbird			Very rare
						Fish Crow			Uncommon in Southern Illinois
						Carolina Chickadee			Common South and East of here
						Brown Creeper(T)	3		
						Bewick's Wren(E)			Rare here
						Veery(T)	4		
						Loggerhead Shrike(T)	13	c	
						Pine Warbler			Uncommon in Southern Illinois
						Prairie Warbler			Uncommon to rare here
						Swainson's Warbler			Rare in Southern Illinois
						Bachman's Sparrow(E)			Very rare in Southern Illinois
						Henslow's Sparrow(T)	4		



Officers...President, Maury Brucker
Vice Pres., Brenda Onken
Secretary, Greg Brown
Treasurer, Greet Princen
Conservation, John Richard

Board.....Dick Baird (1 yr.)
Bill Beeson (2 yrs.)
Lu Ann Elwood (2 yrs.)
Cindy Holloway (1 yr.)
Melissa Pierson (1 yr.)
Paul Pierson (2 yrs.)
Marj Tattersall (Past Pres.)

Chairs....Field Trips & Surveys - open
Hospitality - open
Membership - Louise Endres
Newsletter - Marj Tattersall

Information...Greet Princen (309) 691-0519
Maury Brucker (309) 493-5181

PEORIA AUDUBON SOCIETY
PEORIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE
1125 W. LAKE AVENUE
PEORIA, IL 61614



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