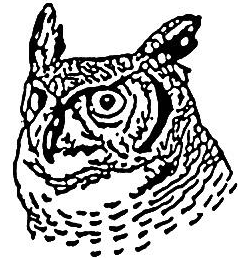
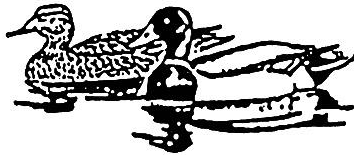
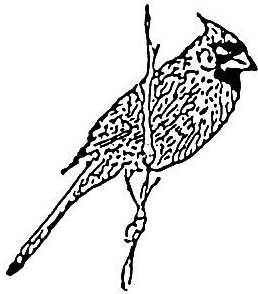


BIRD'S-EYE VIEW



PEORIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

A CHAPTER OF NATIONAL AUDUBON SINCE 1981.

ORNITHOLOGICAL/AUDUBON SECTION OF THE PEORIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE SINCE 1980.

MARCH - APRIL 1992

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

It is interesting that the groups gathering to oppose Endangered Species Act powers, coastal zoning and wetland regulations, etc., refer to their emphasis as "wise use". It is a phrase that environmental groups also easily use about the same resources. The problem will be that the word "use" will have a very different meaning for each group.

The wise-use lobby groups will hear use as the economic use of the resources. In addition to economic uses, I would hear use for research to learn new things about eco-systems, social use as in wetlands filtering water and slowing floods and use for pure appreciation with an example being the last 10,000 acres of 20,000,000 acres of Illinois prairie. Let's make sure that all the uses are considered in the "wise use" of our natural resources.

Maury Brucker, President

NATIONWIDE ISSUES OF INTEREST:

The Endangered Species Act and The Clean Water Act:

These two important acts are approaching their twentieth birthdays, yet they both face their toughest challenge ever--the battle over reauthorization.

I. Logging and mining companies, real-estate and water developers, and a whole cadre of anti-environmental groups are determined to tear at the Endangered Species Act's "safety net" and render it meaningless. But conservationists point out that each native species is a valuable component of its ecosystem, and to let it pass into oblivion could irreparably damage that system. (For instance, the rosy periwinkle and the Pacific yew both offer valuable medicines for cancer treatment.) Audubon believes it is essential that the act remain intact and not be weakened one iota.

Bill H.R.4045 introduced by Rep. Gerry Studds (D-Mass) would expand the act to protect habitat of endangered wildlife and plants--currently listed and candidate species--before they reach the brink of extinction.

II. Though there has been much progress made in reducing water pollution, discharges of untreated wastes and sewage have not been eliminated. Loopholes in the law, inadequate funding, and lax enforcement have undermined the act's ability to protect aquatic systems and water quality.

The debate over clean water has already sparked considerable controversy with industry and agribusiness lobbyists attacking the key wetlands-protection provision, Section 404. Bills introduced by Rep. Jimmy Hayes (D-LA) and Sen. John Breaus (D-LA) would effectively "redefine" all but the soggiest wetlands out of existence and weaken Section 404 permit requirements to give developers wide latitude to drain, flood, or fill wetlands. If passed, these bills would severely impact water quality (wetlands are a natural water filter) as well as affect important feeding and breeding grounds for many wildlife species--possibly completely obliterating them.

An all-out effort is needed by Audubon activists..YES that means YOU! Please let your congressmen and representatives know you want to:

- I. Maintain the Endangered Species Act in tact as it is today; and support HR4045.
- II. Support the Clean Water Act by maintaining Section 404 with strong wetlands protection and pollution prevention. Oppose S.1463 and H.R.1330.(Hayes and Breaus).

Thank you.



National Audubon Society's 1992 Annual Convention
at the American University, June 13 thru 19:

Make a difference for wildlife. Join hundreds of other Audubon chapter leaders, activists, community leaders, birders, and educators in Washington, D.C. From the Halls of Congress to the White House, the Audubon Wildlife message will be heard! Information: Audubon Convention Office; 4150 Darley, Suite #5; Boulder, CO 80303; (303) 499-3622.



ADDRESSES FOR CONSERVATION SUPPORT LETTERS:

Hon. Alan J. Dixon, Senator 600 E. Monroe, Room 117 Springfield, IL 62701 (217) 492-4126	Hon. Lane Evans, U. S. Rep. 125 E. Main Galesburg, IL 61401 (309) 793-5760
Hon. Paul Simon, Senator 3 W. Old Capitol Plaza, #1 Springfield, IL 62701 (217) 492-4960	Hon. Robert H. Michel, U. S. Rep. 100 N. E. Monroe, Suite 107 Peoria, IL 61602 (309) 671-7027

Secretary Edward Madigan Dept. of Agriculture Administration Bldg. 12th & Jefferson Dr., S.W. Washington, D. C. 20250 (202) 447-3631	President George Bush The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Washington, D. C. 20500 (202) 456-1111
---	---



STATEWIDE ISSUES OF INTEREST:

Donations to the Illinois Non-Game Wildlife Conservation Fund can again this year be done when filing your taxes. This year's plans are for projects to reintroduce species, restore habitat, research and manage non-game plants and animals, and educate the public about their plight. Please be generous.

We'd like to show you a way to put some of your tax return into someone else's nest egg.



Save Illinois Endangered Wildlife.
Donate To The Nongame Wildlife Fund
Line 15a On Your State Income Tax Return.

Trumpeter Swan Shot...(article from Champaign County Aud. Soc's. February 1992 "The Meadowlark Messenger"). **ALERT!** On Sunday, January 12, 1992 a federally endangered trumpeter swan was shot and killed at Lake of the Woods Park in Mahomet. If you have any information regarding this incident, please call the Poacher's Hotline at 1-800-252-0163.

"Slides & Stories of the Oregon Wilderness" by Lou Gold, the "Johnny Appleseed of environmentalism. Hear wilderness tales of bears, owls, fungi and wildfire. March 9, 7PM at

Lakeview Museum auditorium. Sponsored by Sun Foundation, Sierra Club and other interest groups, including Peoria Audubon.

Forest Park Nature Center/Peoria Park District is offering courses on building a wren house and a bluebird house. Info: 688-3667.

Early Worm Bird Walks, Sundays, at FPNC, 6 AM, from April 12th thru May 10th. Free to public.

Audubon TV Special--"America's Great Plains" will be shown on TBS in March. Consult your TV program guide for times.

PEORIA AUDUBON SOCIETY UPDATE:

Our theme for 1992 will be "Endangered Species". A means toward contributing to this effort will be our assisting the Nature Conservancy "Heartland Stewards" at their sites in bird identification, migration observations, and in breeding surveys. Interested volunteers should call Maury Brucker at 493-5181.

1992 Spring Bird-a-thon/Spring Bird Count, Saturday, May 9th: Start asking your family, neighbors and friends and co-workers to sponsor yourself, a special team, or a county total for 5¢/10¢/20¢ or more per species seen. Money earned will go toward local conservation efforts and support of our Great Lakes regional office. Your participation will be appreciated.

Member's Comments: from Lu Ann Elwood Project Feederwatch, a winter feeding survey by Cornell Lab. of Ornithology in Ithaca, New York, reports the 25 most abundant/widespread birds last winter were:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Dark-eyed Junco | 15. Pine Siskin |
| 2. Am. Goldfinch | 16. Purple Finch |
| 3. Blue Jay | 17. Hairy Wdpkr. |
| 4. House Sparrow | 18. Red-bellied Wdpkr. |
| 5. Downy Wdpkr. | 19. Red-winged |
| 6. Black-Capped Chickadee | 20. No. Flicker |
| 7. Mourning Dove | 21. Song Sparrow |
| 8. House Finch | 22. White-throated Sparrow |
| 9. Eur. Starling | 23. Brown-headed Cowbird |
| 10. No. Cardinal | 24. Am. Crow |
| 11. White-breasted Nuthatch | 25. Evening Grosbeak |
| 12. Am. Robin | |
| 13. Common Grackle | |
| 14. Tufted Titmouse | |



The top four in our NE Region: Blue Jay, Dark-eyed Junco, Am. Goldfinch, Downy Wdpkr.

MID-WINTER BALD EAGLE COUNT REPORT:

Our Feb. 1st count brought us our highest total ever--149 Bald Eagles (99 Adults, 48 Immatures, 2 Unidentified). The immatures were 32% of the total number--a good sign for their future. Fourteen participants made up four teams who scouted the Illinois River, back-water areas, and inland lakes between Henry and Havana. Warm temperatures, mild winds, and 50% or less ice coverage made a great birding day. A big "Thanks" to all who helped out.

WHO WAS THE 'MYSTERY' BIRD ON OUR CHILLICOTHE CHRISTMAS COUNT?

Linda Nicot and Les Bodell saw a hawk near Yankee Lane north of Chillicothe. Linda was able to get some good pictures, but after checking all their books, they couldn't decide if it was a Gyrfalcon or Prairie Falcon. Neither could the club members at our Jan. 8th meeting. In Springfield, Dave Bohlen studied the pictures and favors it being a Gyrfalcon, but recommended Linda send the pictures to the Ill. Rare Bird Committee. We can only wait and see!



Materials Accepted

- Weed killer
- Insecticides
- Paint
- Paint remover
- Antifreeze
- Pool chemicals
- Solvents
- Furniture stripper
- Used oil
- Prescriptions
- Car batteries
- "Unknown liquids"
- Unused or outdated pesticides

Two Drop-off Locations

Exposition Gardens
Northmoor Road
Peoria, Illinois

Peoria City/County
Health Department
2116 N. Sheridan Rd.
Peoria, Illinois
(behind the building)

Sponsors

- Peoria City/County Health Dept.
- Cooperative Extension Service, Peoria Co.
- Phone: 309-686-6033
- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

For information call our recorded hotline 686-8735

NOTES: Low Counts--Horned Larks, No. Flickers, White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows, Am. Robins, all owls, E. Meadowlarks, No. Bobwhites, Killdeer, Kingfishers, and Pine Siskins.

High Counts--No. Cardinals, Red-tailed Hawks, Kestrels, Bald Eagles, Brown Creepers, and White-br. Nuthatches.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS FOR 1991:

	Peoria 12-14	Chaut. 12-21	Chill. 12-28		Peoria 12-14	Chaut. 12-21	Chill. 12-28
Pied-billed Grebe	-	2	-	American Crow	266	744	159
Great Blue Heron	-	75	26	Black-capped Chickadee	260	112	365
Mute Swan	-	2	-	Tufted Titmouse	64	49	178
Snow Goose (blue phase)	-	2	-	Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	3	-
Canada Goose	447	3,798	1,031	White-breasted Nuthatch	50	63	154
Wood Duck	-	-	3	Brown Creeper	15	10	10
American Black Duck	-	140	238	Carolina Wren	7	16	10
Mallard	261	6,020	4,734	Winter Wren	2	1	-
Northern Pintail	-	2	-	Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	19	1
Gadwall	1	184	-	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	1	-
American Wigeon	-	1	1	Eastern Bluebird	2	-	5
Canvasback	-	10	-	American Robin	9	12	-
Redhead	-	2	-	Northern Mockingbird	1	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	11	-	Brown Thrasher	1	-	-
Lesser Scaup	11	7	-	Cedar Waxwing	20	-	-
Common Goldeneye	76	106	87	European Starling	3,822	946	1,722
Bufflehead	10	-	-	Northern Cardinal	162	202	256
Hooded Merganser	-	42	-	American Tree Sparrow	125	347	157
Common Merganser	15	2,818	133	Field Sparrow	1	3	1
Red-breasted Merganser	-	3	13	Song Sparrow	23	49	37
Ruddy Duck	-	1	-	Swamp Sparrow	-	29	24
Bald Eagle	11	113	17	White-throated Sparrow	20	6	2
(adult)	(9)	(74)	(13)	White-crowned Sparrow	-	546	363
(immature)	(2)	(3)	(4)	Dark-eyed Junco	-	5	-
Northern Harrier	-	1	1	Lapland Longspur	-	29	7
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	1	2	Red-winged Blackbird	211	10	-
Cooper's Hawk	-	1	1	Eastern Meadowlark	-	1	-
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	Rusty Blackbird	-	1	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	42	1	-	Common Grackle	6	-	196
Red-tailed Hawk	1	-	36	Brown-headed Cowbird	180	-	78
Rough-legged Hawk	1	-	-	Purple Finch	11	3	6
Golden Eagle (immature)	1	16	-	House Finch	25	-	18
American Kestrel	34	44	35	Common Redpoll	1	75	31
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	21	3	Pine Siskin	90	126	201
Wild Turkey	-	21	-	American Goldfinch	1,833	546	1,246
Northern Bobwhite	-	18	-	House Sparrow	-	54	-
American Coot	1	-	2	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	-	-	-
Killdeer	-	-	-				
Common Snipe	3	-	3				
Bonaparte's Gull	1,342	248	1,693	Documented Species:			
Ring-billed Gull	504	146	48	Black-legged Kittiwake	2	-	-
Herring Gull	-	1	-	Double-crested Cormorant	-	8*	-
Glaucous Gull	-	1	-	Franklin's Gull	2	-	-
Rock Dove	548	135	111	Sandhill Crane (Wild.Pr.Pk)	1	-	1
Mourning Dove	76	61	31	Surf Scoter	-	1**	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	4	2				
Great Horned Owl	-	4	1				
Belted Kingfisher	3	3	5				
Red-headed Woodpecker	12	29	36				
Red-bellied Woodpecker	33	48	71				
Downy Woodpecker	54	73	125				
Hairy Woodpecker	17	14	23				
Northern Flicker	11	33	11				
Pileated Woodpecker	-	9	2				
Horned Lark	19	15	8				
Blue Jay	196	361	289				
				TOTAL SPECIES:	60	80	60
				TOTAL BIRDS:	11,402	18,724	14,957
				Total Participants	24	21	19
				Total Groups	9	6	9

* Now expected, rather than unexpected.
** New to count; observed by three parties

RECENT SIGHTINGS:

Mid-Dec.---No. Shrike at Dick Collins' farm.
 January---Goshawk, Sand Ridge St.F. Hdqtrs.
 8th---Ross' Gull seen by Bert Pricen in
 Alton, north of St. Louis.
 February---55 Bald Eagles, Fox Sparrow, Purple
 Finch, and White-Throated Sparrows
 seen by Dick Collins at his farm
 south of Lacon.
 ---Peoria Lock & Dam had the following
 Gulls: Glaucous, Thayer's, Iceland,
 and Lesser Black-backed.
 ---Roanoke and Canton areas have LOTS
 of Canada Geese
 2nd---Flooded field in front of Dixon
 Mounds had 2 or 3 Ross' Geese in
 with Snow Geese, and at Spring Lake
 area there was a Hermit Thrush and
 a Mockingbird per Louise Endres.

Note: Where are the Common Redpolls and the
 Pine Siskins?

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

MARCH---(mid-month Wild Turkey courtship and
 breeding begins; rooster Pheasants
 establish territory; male Ruffed Grouse
 begin drumming to attract females; Quail
 covey breakup begins end of March).



11---Membership Mtg., 7 PM, Lakeview Museum A/B.
 Program: Jerry Bade of U. S. Fish & Wild-
 life will talk on the Federal Endangered
 Species.

14---Chautauqua Field Trip: 7:30 AM at Powerton
 Fish & Wildlife parking lot. Pack a lunch/
 dress warm. All day trip. If you plan to
 attend or need a ride, call Marj Tattersall
 at 692-2247 (after 5PM).

28---Metropolitan Sanitary Dist. Field Trip:
 Meet at 8 AM in downtown Farmington at Jct.
 Rtes. 116 and 78; or meet at M.S.D. Head-
 quarters at 8:30 AM. Pack a lunch/dress
 warm. If you plan to attend or need a ride,
 call Bert Princen at 691-0519.

APRIL---(mid-month pheasant hens form
 harems; spring Mallard migration peaks;
 throughout Apr/May/Jun Wood Ducks are
 nesting throughout the state).

4---(Household Hazardous Waste Collection
for Peoria County. See P. 3)

8---Membership Mtg., 7 PM, Lakeview Mus. A/B.
 Program: Peoria Audubon's plans for
 working with endangered species this
 year..breeding bird surveys with Nature
 Conservancy's Heartland Stewards.(Board
 Meeting at 6:30 PM)

26---Johnson Sauk Trail St. Park Field Trip:
 Meet at 7:30 AM at Landmark's parking
 lot closest to Forest Hill, or at 8:30 AM
 at JSTSP in first parking lot on your
 left. Pack a lunch/dress warm. If you
 plan to attend, or if you need a ride,
 call Louise Endres at 682-8500 evenings.

MAY 9th---SPRING BIRD COUNT AND BIRD-A-THON.
 (See article on P. 2)

13---Membership Mtg., 7 PM, Lakeview Mus. A/B.
 Program: Spring Bird Count--county
 reports; and Heartland Water Resources'
 future plans.

14---Robinson Park Field Trip: 8 AM, Join Marj
 with Susie Barber, Nature Conservancy's
 Heartland Steward for Robinson Pk, as
 they do their breeding bird survey.
 Bring a snack and drink. Meet at shelter
 at 2nd. parking lot going East on Moss-
 ville Rd. from Rte. 88. If you plan to
 attend, or need a ride, call Marj
 Tattersall at 692-2247.

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



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

BOARD:.....Bill Beeson (92)
 Les Bodell (92/93)
 Lu Ann Elwood (92)
 Linda Nicot (92/93)
 Paul Pierson (92)
 Kathy Warner (92/93)

CHAIRS:....Audubon Adventures, Melissa Pierson
 Field Trips, Marj Tattersall
 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

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 U. S. POSTAGE PAID
 PERMIT NUMBER 875
 PEORIA, ILLINOIS