# BIRD'S-EYE VIEW





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A CHAPTER OF NATIONAL AUDUBON SINCE 1981.

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

MARCH - APRIL 1993

# MID-WINTER BALD EAGLE COUNT REPORT:

This past January 30th, four teams totaling twenty-three participants counted 141 Bald Eagles along the Illinois River between Henry (Rte. 18 bridge) south to Havana (Rte. 136 bridge). This total is a corrected figure from the 132 I first reported...sorry for the error in my arithmetic. Though we did not break last year's high record of 149, we still had a very successful year. Our participants ranged in age from 5 to 65+. Though it was cold and breezy, it did warm up a bit as the day advanced. Identified birds were 54 adults, 22 immatures, and 65 unidentifieds (seen flying off a roost south of Lacon in the dark early hours of the morning -possible duplicate sightings within several miles of the roost were not tallied to prevent duplicate counting). A big "THANKS" to all who participated.

Marj Tattersall, Compiler

# 1ST ANNUAL BALD EAGLE DAY IN PEORIA:

On January 23rd, Peoria Audubon and Forest Park Nature Center held it's first "Bald Eagle Day in Peoria". Over 100 people attended the two informational sessions presented by Mike Miller of FPNC and Maury Brucker and Marj Tattersall of Peoria Audubon. People of all ages came to learn about Bald Eagles that winter here along our Illinois River. Due to the day's success, we plan to hold this event every year to inform the public of this natural wonder right here in our own home town.

### 1992 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS:

Bad weather plagued the Chillicothe and Peoria Counts, but though it was very cold, the Chautauqua Count was a nice sunny day. Some nice unexpected sightings were: 5 Mute Swans, 2 Greater Scaup, 1 No. Goshawk, 1 Gray Catbird, 1 Fox Sparrow, and 240 Eurasian Tree Sparrows. Red-headed Wdpkrs. and Brown Creepers were down, but Hairy Wdpkrs., Swamp Sparrows, E. Bluebirds, both Kinglets, and Rough-legged Hawks were up. Since next year's Saturday counts will fall on Christmas Day and New Year's Day they have been changed. 1993 Christmas Bird Counts: Peoria on Saturday, Dec. 18th; Chautauqua on Thursday, Dec. 23rd.; and Chillicothe on Sunday, Jan. 2. ('92 Counts on P.2.)

## **CONSERVATION NOTE**

In November, a meeting of 87 countries agreed to move the deadline up for eliminating chlorofluorocarbons (CFC's) from the year 2000 to January 1, 1996. Further evidence shows that the use of refrigerants, solvents, cleaning agents, etc. is a strong factor in ozone depletion. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says that this move can reduce skin cancer by one million cases in the U.S. alone. Also, the production of halons, which are used in fire extinguishers and are 10 times more dangerous to the ozone layer than CFC's, has been banned after January 1, 1994.

DON'T FORGET LINE 15a ON YOUR 1040 STATE TAX FORMS. Please give a donation to the Ill. Dept. of Conservation's Non-Game Wildlife Conservation Fund.

# **CHANNEL 47 NATURE PROGRAMS:**

March 7 - 7 PM..."Echo of the Elephants"...follow the life of the herd with their 45-year old matriarch "Echo" and her baby "Ely".

March 17 - 7 PM..."Our Favorite Animals -The Best of Wild America"...bison, bighorn
sheep, Scissor-tailed Flycatchers, and river
otters.

March. 21 - 7PM..."The Private Lives of Dolphins", and a 8PM..."Encounters With Whales".

	CHIL.	CHAU.	PEOR.	CHIL. CHAU. PEOR	•
Date	12-19-92	12-26-92	1-2-93	Red-headed Wdpkr. 14 11	2
Participants	24	18	21	Red-bellied Wdpkr. 68 78 4	<b>-</b>
Teams	9	7	9	Yellow-bellied Saps. 1 2	-
				Downy Woodpecker 87 69 60	Ø
Pied-billed Grebe		7		Hairy Woodpecker 12 6 1:	3
Horned Grebe		3			7
Dbl-crest. Cormor.		4D	3D		1
Gr.Blue Heron	17	29	1	Horned Lark 31 87 1	
Mute Swan		5		Blue Jay 204 431 124	
Canada Geese	2,028	6,624	843	American Crow 153 392 47	
Wood Duck		3		Blk-cap. Chickadee 239 132 19	
Green-wing.Teal	1		2	Tufted Titmouse 79 67 109	8
Amer.Black Duck	1	46	8	Red-Br. Nuthatch 3	_
Mallard	3,675	1,672	517	Wht-Br. Nuthatch 77 64 60	
Northern Pintail	6			Brown Creeper 9 17	
Northern Shoveler		47	9	Carolina Wren 22 24 1	
Gadwall		47	8	Winter Wren 7	
American Wigeon		5		Silver and the second of the s	2
Canvasback Redhead		11		Ruby-cr. Kinglet 2	
		7			1
Ring-Necked Duck Greater Scaup		255 2D	2	Hermit Thrush 1	_
Lesser Scaup		ՀՄ 54	11	American Robin 1 4 20	
Common Goldeneye	4	54	218		1D.
Bufflehead	1	2	210		1
Hooded Merganser	3	17	2		1
Common Merganser	308	1,485	$2\overset{2}{2}$	Cedar Waxwings 57 2 6	
Red-Br. Merganser	10	1,405	44	European Starling 3521 2,335 3,723	
Ruddy Duck	1	2		Yellow-rump. Wblr 2	
Bald Eagle-adult	9	63	12	No. Cardinal 195 153 270	
-immat.		46	4	Amer. Tree Sparrow 112 322 70	b
-?		2		Field Sparrow 4	- 5
Northern Harrier		8		Fox Sparrow 1 Song Sparrow 84 90 45	0
Sharp-shin. Hawk		2	1		3
Cooper's Hawk		4	ī	Swamp Sparrow 28 47 White-th. Sparrow 14 6 1	
Northern Goshawk			ī	White-cr. Sparrow 3	_
Red-Tailed Hawk	30	75	30	Dark-eyed Junco 393 599 500	Q
Rough-leg. Hawk	3	18	3	Red-wing. Blackbird 5 24 3	
American Kestrel	36	22	26	Eastern Meadowlark 9	-
Unidentified Hawk		1	41		1
Ring-neck.Pheasant	1	25	1	Brn-head. Cowbird 1	
Northern Bobwhite	24	20	22		1
American Coot		53		House Finch 20 12 5	
Killdeer	2		2	Pine Siskin 2 26	
Common Snipe	5			American Goldfinch 132 158 110	6
Ring-billed Gull	374	54	2,472	House Sparrow 1,171 950 1,41	
Herring Gull	157	32	468	Eurasian Tree Sp 240	
Unidentified Gulls		4	150		
Rock Dove	128	59	265	Total Birds 13,905 17,394 12,769	9
Mourning Dove	245	31	174	Total Species 63 84 69	
Eastern Screech Owl		8	2	Record # of Species n/a (86) (7)	
Great Horned	3	7	1	The second secon	2500
Barred Owl	2	3	2	D = Documented Species	
Belted Kingfisher	10	7	3		

Bird's-Eye View is published bi-monthly by the Peoria Audubon Society.112 W. Lake Ave., Peoria, IL 61614. Next information deadline is April 15, 1993. Send articles of interest to Marj Tattersall. 915 W. St. Mary's Ct., Peoria, IL 61614 (309) 692-2247 GLEN OAK ZOO & SUN FOUNDATION'S POSTER CONTEST: Students, pre-school thru high school, are invited to submit entries on Endangered Species. Deadline is May 1st. One poster will be chosen to be put in the Sun Foundation Journal and Peoria Park District's newspaper, and the winner will also be used for educational and promotional future use in educational awareness. Submitters will receive a free pass to the zoo on exhibit grand opening and sculpture day Saturday, May 8, 1-3 PM at Glen Oak Zoo. Preston Jackson and Pat Keck of Peoria will work with 4 area students on creating a steel sculpture of an endangered animal for permanent display at the Glen Oak Park Zoo. Poster Info: Glen Oak Zoo 686-3364.

# UP-COMING PEORIA PARK DISTRICT COURSES OF INTEREST:

- Mar. 4 Build a Wren House (must register)
- Apr.17 Birding for Kids (must register)
- Apr.18 May 23 Early Worm Bird Walks on Sudays (free)
- Apr.22 Earth Day (see local newspaper for events)
- Apr.24 Bird and Breakfast (must register)

SUPER HEROES: A HIGH-TECH ADVENTURE: Don't forget to take the family to this fun hands-on exhibit at Lakeview Museum...lasts thru May 2nd.

AUDUBON HANDBOOKS: EASTERN BIRDS and HOW TO IDENTIFY BIRDS are on sale for \$20/both volumes with a savings of \$8.45 at Forest Park Nature Center's Trailhead Nature Store.

### NOTES FROM MEMBERS:

Valerie Mount writes us about the wildlife at her parent's home in Hopewell. This past summer a pair of Caroline Wrens built a nest in their garage on a shelf. Unfortunately, the eggs did not hatch, but they sure enjoyed the wren's bold attention to anyone going into their garage. A Ruby-throated Hummingbird nest was also found in an oak tree about 8 feet from their deck...their feeder "wars" were fun to watch and they have been known to "taste" someone's coffee. A male Wild Turkey started hanging around when he became "attached" to a turkey lawn ornament. Several people were startled one day when one of the ornaments moved. They've had deer, snakes, moles (dug up and presented by their dog Molly), put up E. Bluebird houses with one pair nesting each year since. Valerie has even had Bluebird success in the backyard of their new home in E. Peoria.

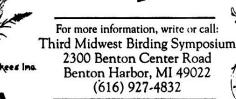
Marcy Hoepfner (The Bluebird Lady of Metamora) has also had Carolina Wrens lunching on her homemade peanut butter/cornmeal/lard mixture. She had a White-throated Sparrow on 1-10-93, and on 1-24-93 their Bluebirds were already back investigating their nest box.

THIRD MID-WEST BIRDING SYMPOSIUM: Several members have attended this symposium in past years and highly recommend it to everyone. Two years ago, Luann Elwood, Louise Endres, Kris Huber, and Marj Tattersall attended. The highlight was having Roger Tory Peterson sign their copies of his books.



September 17-19, 1993

An Appreciation Of Birds





Host: Lake Michigan College

Cosponsors: Berrien County Parks Dept., Fernwood, Sarett Nature Center, and Lake Michigan College Environmental Center

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#### RECENT SIGHTINGS

Jan.20--Chestnut-sided Longspurs/Lapland Longspurs near Manito..L. Endres.

> --Tundra Swan at Chautauqua; 3 Mute Swans at Spring Lake..V. Humphrey.

Feb.24--E. Screech Owl in Marj Tattersall's backyard patio tree 2:30-4:30 PM... north side of Peoria.

Mar. 1--Lapland Longspur near Manito,
Purple Finch at Spring Lake No.,
Goldeneyes, Buffleheads, Redheads
plus 4 Trumpeter Swans (2 with
KU-- Kansus Univ. numbered neck
bands) and 2 Mute Swans at Spring
Lake, 7 Wild Turkeys at Sand Ridge
S.F. in open snow-covered field
near highway. White-crowned and
White-throated Sparrows at Rice L.
feeder..L. Endres M. Tattersall.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar.3--Endangered Species <u>Lecture Series--</u>
"Illinois <u>Bats</u>: Everything You Ever
Wanted To Know". Forest Park N.C..7:30pm.

7--Woodcock Watch--join Robinson Park's Steward Suzie Barber to watch the forest come alive near dusk, meet at Forest Park N.C., 4:30 PM. Suzie 676-6856.

10--Endangered Species Lecture Series-"Endangered Species..."The Scientific
Basis", 7:30 PM. (Attend in place of
monthly membership meeting.)

20--Field Trip--Chautauqua Southern
Circuit. Meet at 7:30 AM at Powerton
Fish & Wildlife parking lot. Pack a
lunch and dress warm for a full day of
birding. Marj Tattersall 692-2247.

27--Field Trip--Metropolitan Sanitary

<u>District</u> near Canton. Meet at 8 AM in
downtown Farmington at Jct. Rtes. 116
and 78; or meet at MSD headquarters
at 8:30 AM. Pack a lunch/dress warm.
Full day. Bert Princen 691-0519.

Apr. 2--Peoria Academy of Science Banquet, 6 PM, Monastery of the Franciscan Bros., Reservoir Blvd., Peoria--flier in April-June Peo. Academy of Sci. newsletter.

> 3--Endangered Species Workshop for Summer Field Work--A Team Approach To Locate Endangered and Threatened Mammals and Birds Throughout Central Illinois, by Randy Nyboer, IDOC Natural Heritage Biologist, Forest Park Nature Center, 10AM - 3PM, bring a sack lunch.

14--Membership Meeting. 7:30 PM, Forest Park Nature Center. Program: Marge Bjorklund of Wildlife Prairie Park will speak on Wildlife Rehabilitation. She will bring live birds (hawk & Barred Owl) and a mammal to the meeting.

18--Field Trip--Johnson Sauk Trail St.

Park. 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 and dress warm. Louise Endress 682-8500.

18--Early Worm Bird Walk, FPNC, 6AM.

24--Field Trip--McNaughton Park, Pekin. Trip is for people who don't mind some heavy hiking & creek crossings (wear old shoes). Meet at 8AM in the Park. Take Rte. 98 entrance in and on back to the circle drive area to park your car. Pack a lunch. Jana Smith. 382-3889.

25--Early Worm Bird Walk, FPNC, 6AM.

May 8--Spring Bird Count and Bird-A-Thon:
Fulton--Virginia Humphreys 682-0418
Mason--Dick Bjorklund 968-6502
Peoria--Eleanor Voeste 697-0353
Stark--Maury Brucker 493-5181
Tazewell--Louise Endres 682-8500
Woodford--John Todt 694-3948

12--Membership Meeting, 7:30 PM, Forest Park N.C. Program: Spring Bird Counts.

15--Endangered Species Workshop for Summer Field Work on A Team Approach to Locate Endangered Plants throughout Central Illinois, by John Taft, Ill. Natural History Survey, 10AM - 4PM, Forest Park N.C., pack a lunch.

OFFICERS...President...Volunteer requested)

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Field Trips

Hospitality Membership, Louise Endres Newsletter, Mari Tattersall

INFORMATION: Greet Princen (309) 691-0519

Maury Brucker (309) 493-5181

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