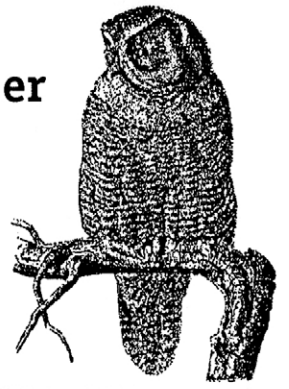


Bird's-Eye View

October
November
1999



The Newsletter of The Peoria Audubon Society...

A Chapter of National Audubon since 1981

Ornithological-Audubon Chapter of The Peoria Academy of Science since 1930

Birding on the Banks of the Mackinaw

by Brenda Onken

On a recent visit to the Mackinaw River with some friends, I was delighted at the number of birds I heard and saw. Throughout the day, the birds kept singing. It was a very warm day and the birds were very active.

The Warbling Vireo and the Red-eyed Vireo were singing away. I didn't get to see them since the leaves were doing a good job of hiding them. House wrens were busy with their babies, Baltimore Orioles were flying around and chattering. Bank Swallows had their nest made in a tall bank. There were several lines of holes, and the swallows were all flying around. It was quite a sight.

The robins were all upset. I expect an Owl... Yep, there it goes, through the woods. I think that it was a Great Horned. Joining the protesting Robins was a Rose-breasted Grosbeak. Indigo Buntings were numerous and the males were singing from high perches. They are such a vibrant shade of blue. I also heard an Eastern Bluebird as I approached a clearing. The Song Sparrow showed up at several locations along the river. I also picked up a Vespers Sparrow singing in the distance. "Whichity-whichity-whichity" pipes the Common Yellowthroat as it sticks to the dense brushy growth. Out in front of me flew the Great Blue Heron down the river. The Green Heron was there also, stopping along a gravelbar to do a little fishing.

Also along the gravelbars were Killdeer with their babies. Everybody knows how cute Killdeer babies are! A Spotted Sandpiper was also bobbing along the gravel in search of invertebrates.

"Pee-a-wee." Off in the distance an Eastern Wood Pewee sounds off. Soon the Eastern Phoebe joins the chorus. Here and there woodpeckers would call. Red Headed, Downy, and Redbellied Woodpeckers were joined by a Flicker. Chickadees, Tufted Titmice and White-breasted Nuthatches were all flitting about. The Cardinal and Catbird came out to the edge of a clearing. Deeper in the woods the song of the Woodthrush echoed. In contrast, the sharp rattle of the Belted Kingfisher sounded as it flew downstream. Amongst all of this birdsong, the Bluejay's were there but unusually quiet.

A day along the Mackinaw proved to be a very productive and enjoyable one. I just hope that I didn't forget to mention anyone. Have fun birding!

Upcoming Events...

Wednesday, October 6, 7:00 PM at Forest Park Nature Center
Audubon Board meeting

Wednesday, October 13, 7:00 PM at Forest Park Nature Center, Membership Meeting: Biodiversity of Illinois. A slide presentation developed by The Illinois Natural History Survey, highlights the many unique and varied habitats and species found in Illinois.

Saturday, October 16, Refuge Day

Hosted by Emiquon Audubon at Chautauqua NWR in Mason County. A day full of activities including field trips and planned opening of the levee road for drive around tour. For more information, call Jennifer Trimpe Audubon Refuge Keeper Contact at (309)543-2793

Saturday, October 30, Fieldtrip to the Greater Chicago Water Reclamation District near Canton.

Bert Princen will be the trip leader. Meet either at intersection of Rt 116 and 78 in downtown Farmington at 8:00 am or at GCWRD Headquarters on Cuba Blacktop at 8:30 am. Please RSVP to Bert Princen at (309)691-0519

Saturday, November 6, Bird-Seed Sale Pick-up at Kelly's Seed. Please note new pick-up location!

Wednesday, November 10, 7:00 PM at Forest Park Nature Center, Membership Meeting: Marj Bjorklund, local wildlife rehabilitation, will share the trials and tribulations endured by local wildlife. She will be bringing several animals that she works with on a daily basis. A fun program for the entire family.

Wednesday, December 8, 7:00 PM at Forest Park Nature Center
Members Night, bring slides to share.

Wednesday, January 12, 6:30 PM at Forest Park Nature Center
Members Potluck, Bring a dish to share and table service.

Peoria Audubon News... by Mike Miller, editor

I received a lot of information on sightings and field-trip checklists over the last couple of months. Unfortunately, space constraints in this issue make it hard to put it all down. Check out the bulletin board at Forest Park Nature Center for complete results.

Chautauqua News... In the June /July issue of Bird's Eye View, I made an error in the description of Dr. Bjorklund's Species lists. The Sand Ridge State Forest Checklist is up to 209 species. The "Chautauqua Checklist" is quite different and is actually the Illinois River Refuge Checklist (comprising 4 units) and has 253 species plus 17 rare and accidentals. Also be sure to check out the Emiquon Audubon's Refuge Day (see above) on October 16.

Bird Seed Sale... Please note the order form on the back of the Newsletter! Also note that the pick-up site has changed. We can no longer use the Farmer's Market at the Metro Center. They feel that our sale will set up unfair competition with Wild Birds Inc, a new tenant. Kelly Seed will allow us to use their facility for Pick-up. Thank You Kelly's!

The Bird's Eye View is published bimonthly by Peoria Audubon.

Layout and Editing by Mike Miller

Deadline for submissions to next issue: Nov. 15.

Send submissions to: Birds Eye View c/o Mike Miller, Forest Park Nature Center, 5809 Forest Park Drive, Peoria IL 61614, email rmiller3@ix.netcom.com, FAX (309) 686-8820



Annual Bird Seed Sale

Friends of The Rock Island Trail and Peoria Audubon Society

Support your local environmental organizations by ordering your birdseed now. All seed is from Kelly Seed Company, who provides the seed at a special reduced price. Order plenty. The birds will love you. **PLEASE NOTE: SEED WILL BE SOLD BY PRE-ORDER ONLY.** For more information, call 691-0519.

Important Dates:

Order Deadline: November 2, 1999

Pick-up Day: Saturday, November 6, 9:00 AM till 12:00 noon

New Pickup Location: Kelly's Seed and Hardware Parking Lot, Corner of Washington and Hamilton in Peoria

Personal Reminder: I ordered and will pick up on November 6:

_____ bags of _____
_____ bags of _____

----- cut here ----- mail bottom with check ----- save top -----

ORDER FORM

<u>Type of Seed</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>NO. of Bags</u>	<u>Total</u>
Sunflower (Oil)	25 lbs	\$7.00	_____	\$ _____
	50 lbs	\$11.00	_____	\$ _____
Sunflower (Striped)	25 lbs	\$8.50	_____	\$ _____
	50 lbs	\$15.00	_____	\$ _____
Sunflower Hearts	10 lbs	\$7.00	_____	\$ _____
	50 lbs	\$30.00	_____	\$ _____
Safflower	10 lbs	\$6.00	_____	\$ _____
Thistle (Niger) Seed	5 lbs	\$5.50	_____	\$ _____
	10 lbs	\$10.00	_____	\$ _____
Premium Mix	25 lbs	\$6.00	_____	\$ _____
	50 lbs	\$10.75	_____	\$ _____
White Millet	10 lbs	\$2.75	_____	\$ _____
Cracked Corn	25 lbs	\$4.00	_____	\$ _____

Mail order and check for amount due to Peoria Audubon Society, 677 E High Point Terrace, Peoria, IL 61614

An additional \$3.00 may be charged if order is not picked up on scheduled date.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, ZIP _____

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Peoria Audubon Society
677 E High Point Terr
Peoria IL 61614

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