

Birds-eye View



Conserving
bird habitats
for over
75
years

Mark your calendars
Wednesday Sept. 12
First Fall Meeting: Whooping Cranes

August
September
2007

Newsletter of The Peoria Audubon Society . . . Chapter of National Audubon since 1981
Chapter of The Peoria Academy of Science since 1930

www.peoriaaudubon.org

Contact the Peoria Audubon Society at audubon@peoriaaudubon.org

Audubon Calendar...

Membership Meetings: Peoria Audubon meets at 7:00 on the second Wednesday of every month, September through May (holiday potluck starts earlier) It's a relaxed, friendly evening with an interesting presentation followed by refreshments. Free & open to the public.

September 12, 7:00 PM@ FPNC

Whooping Crane Conservation

Featured Speaker: **Joan Garland, Director of Education International Crane Foundation**

The ICF works worldwide to conserve cranes and their wetland and grassland habitat.

They strive to alert scientists, government officials, and the public to the dependence of cranes on their habitats, and the causes and remedies for habitat destruction.

ICF maintains a collection of captive cranes at their 225-acre site near Baraboo, Wisconsin, allowing them to pursue two vital techniques for crane preservation: captive breeding and reintroduction into the wild. The site is open to the public. Visitors can see all 15 crane species, and can explore nature trails through oak savanna, wetlands and tall grass prairie – inhabited by many native bird species.

Don't miss Joan Garland's fascinating presentation! Visit the ICF Web Site at www.savingcranes.org



Events & Trips:

Hummingbird Festival

Aug 25 @ FPNC

Vernon Kleen (one of the few licensed hummingbird banders in the U.S.) will be on hand to demonstrate hummingbird banding and discuss the fascinating world of hummingbirds. You'll have a chance to feel the heartbeat of a hummingbird and "adopt" one of these beautiful flyers. This free event is a come-as-you-please activity. So, drop by between 9 am - 1 pm.

August 18

The Awesome Shorebird Migration

John and Maury will lead a fall migration field trip to Chautauqua Wildlife Refuge and adjoining sites - some of the best places in Illinois to see the thousands of shorebirds that stop during their migration. The \$30 fee includes transportation and a delicious lunch.

Please preregister by calling FPNC at 686-3360.



This important three-day conference runs **October 12 to 14** at the Embassy Suites in **Bloomington Minnesota**, and features researchers, authors and policy-makers discussing the good, the bad and the ugly in our region's ecosystems. The conference, sponsored by Audubon Minnesota, is open to the public.

UPPER MIDWEST REGIONAL AUDUBON CONFERENCE

A full day devoted to the Mississippi River spotlights the importance of this major flyway, culminating in a excursion on a Mississippi River sternwheeler. Too many events to list here have been planned! More information and registration forms at <http://mn.audubon.org>

Bert's annual fall bird-watching field trip to the wetlands near Canton is scheduled for **October 27**. Look for further details in the next newsletter or call 691-0519.

A Note from our President



Greetings! First, let me introduce myself. My name is Pete Fenner, and as of January, I am the new president of Peoria Audubon. Secondly, I'd like to thank **John Mullen**, our outgoing

president, for his outstanding leadership in the past four years. We progressed much during his terms as president, and we would like to recognize him for his leadership and service.

Of course, we still have much to accomplish. First on our list – continue moving toward selecting a site for a **Peoria Audubon sanctuary**. We have already raised over \$30,000 in seed money. The sanctuary subcommittee and members of the board have visited several sites, and more sites will be evaluated in the next few months. Please be patient with us, as we want and need to make the best decision regarding our site selection.

We also have several conservation and avian education items on our agenda. We want to increase the number of classrooms receiving **Audubon Adventures** this next year. We want to lead more **birding trips** and also arrange a field trip to the **Oak Bluff Savanna** habitat.

This is just the beginning! To accomplish all that we want to do, **we need volunteers**. If you are interested in becoming active, or more active in Peoria Audubon, I encourage you to do so! Please feel free to contact any of our board members, or feel free to send me an email at president@peoriaaudubon.org.

Finally, we are hoping to increase the amount and regularity of communication to members of Peoria Audubon via e-mail. We recognize that electronic communication is a faster and more efficient way to reach and inform our members. Another benefit: fewer printing and mailing costs for the society. So, for those of you who are able to communicate via e-mail, please consider sending me an e-mail at president@peoriaaudubon.org, with your name and e-mail address so we can add you to our list. We promise not to share information or e-mail addresses with anyone outside of Peoria Audubon.

Thank you for your time and your volunteer service. Your comments are welcome.

Best birding to you all!

Pete

October 10, 7:00 PM@ FPNC

The Challenge of Bird Photography

Featured Speaker: **Don Chamberlain of Mindmeld Photography, Decatur, IL**

Don says, "I have developed a love for photography and specifically for bird photography. This show highlights many of the challenges that one faces when seeking that memorable scene of avian wonder."



Audubon's Public Policy Office monitors local, national and international conservation issues **Stay informed!** Get monthly updates via email. Sign up at www.audubon.org/campaign

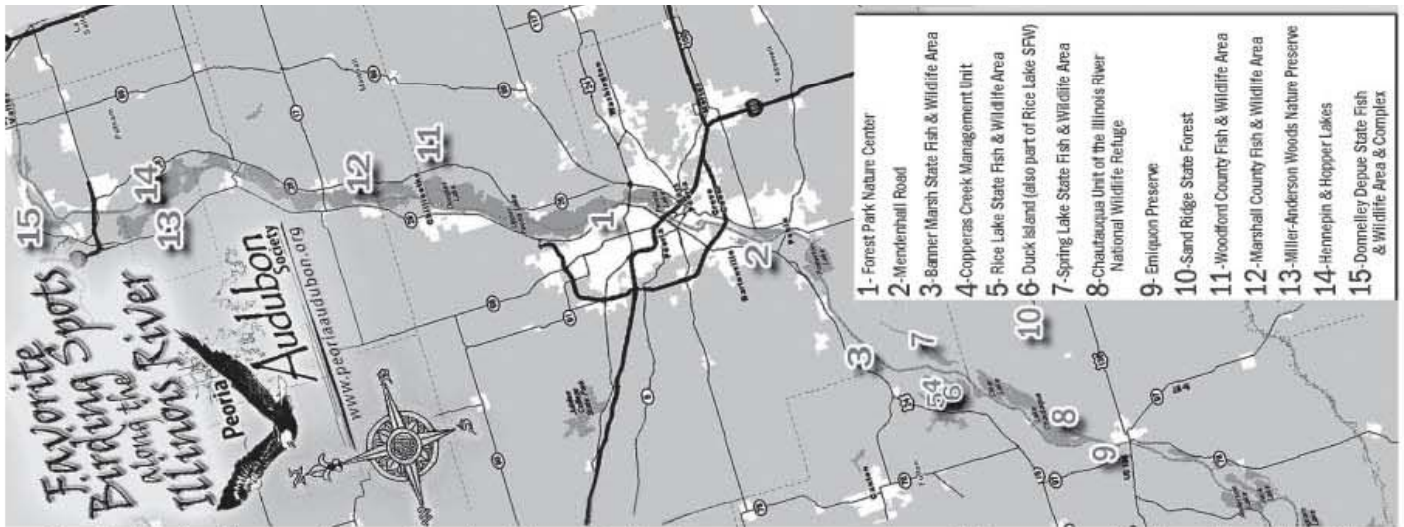
Must-See Websites

www.peoriaparks.org/fpnc/fpncfree

Get information about the FPNC Photography Contest, the Nature Art Show & Sale, the Holiday Shop & Stroll, naturalist-guided walks, Tai Chi, Meditation...

www.birds.cornell.edu/AllAboutBirds/BirdGuide

The Cornell Ornithology WebSite just keeps getting better! Select a species, listen (🔊) to its calls; see its range, its diet, status, habitat, behavior; view lots of photos, learn some "cool facts".



For detailed directions and information about these 15 sites, log onto www.peoriaaudubon.org and click on **Local Birding**.

Has your annual membership expired? * To find out: Check your mailing label

Peoria Audubon Society Membership Form G66-7XCH

☐ **Local Only** (Peoria Audubon). . \$15 ☐ **Dual** (National Audubon & Peoria Audubon) Regular/Renewal \$35

☐ Local Program Donation \$ _____

☐ Sanctuary Fund Donation \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

email _____ ☐ Please include my email in Peoria Audubon's Network

Send to: Peoria Audubon Society • c/o Greet Princen
677 East High Point Terrace • Peoria, Illinois 61614

Make all checks payable to Peoria Audubon Society.

Peoria Audubon is incorporated in the State of Illinois with 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, making all charitable contributions tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Peoria Audubon membership includes membership in the **Peoria Academy of Science**.

Did you know – Caterpillar now matches employee and retiree gifts of \$50 or more to environmental organizations – such as **Peoria Audubon**. More information and matching gift forms can be found at the following web site: www.cat.com/cda/layout?m=41980&x=7 Many other central Illinois companies match their employee or retiree donations. Ask if your workplace sponsors a matching-funds program. And, please be sure to include the matching gift forms with your donation.

Hummingbird Festival
August 25
@ Forest Park Nature Center
for children of all ages

A Hummingbird coloring activity for your children or grandchildren is included in this newsletter.

Become a classroom sponsor
for more information email: education@peoriaaudubon.org

Audubon ADVENTURES
Opening new eyes to nature

The Awesome Shorebird Migration

Wildlife guides John Mullen & Maury Brucker at last spring's Chautauqua trip.

Hooded Merganser

Bald Eagle - Chautauqua

On August 18 from 7-3, John and Maury will lead a fall migration field trip to Chautauqua Wildlife Refuge and adjoining sites - some of the best places in Illinois to see the thousands of shorebirds that stop during their spectacular migration.

The \$30 fee includes transportation and a delicious lunch. Please preregister by calling FPNC at 686-3360.

Officers
Pete Fenner - President
Dennis Endicott - Vice President/Programs Chair
Web site administrator
Karen Solomon Dunn - Secretary/Newsletter Editor
Greet Princen - Treasurer
Maury Brucker - Conservation
Bert Princen - Membership/Field Trips

Board
Jim Miller John Mori John Mullen
Deb Roe Roseann Tomko
Lynn Elwood - Classroom Sponsorship

Peoria Audubon Board
audubon@peoriaaudubon.org

Peoria Audubon Society
677 E. High Point Terrace
Peoria, IL 61614

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

Has your annual membership expired? * To find out: Check your mailing label

Saturday, August 18
All-day trip to Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge
The Awesome Shorebird Migration