



Audubon Log

NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

March 2004



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Events and Activities

Saturday, March 13

Salamander Romance, Appleton and Green Bay.

Friday night, March 19

Hunters of the Sky special exhibit preview 6:30pm-8:30pm at Neville Museum, Audubon members enter free this night.

Late March-early April

Salamander field trips, Appleton, Door County.

Wednesday, April 14

Annual Banquet, WI Bird Songs CD-John Feith, Green Bay.

Late April

Sturgeon tagging, Shiocton, in cooperation w/ WI DNR & Winnebago Audubon.

Friday, April 30

Frog Calls, Brillion, co-sponsor Brillion Nature Center.

Late April-May

Wood Turtle Project, Brown County, in cooperation w/ St. Norbert College & St. Mary University, Minneapolis.

May 3 -May 8

Garlic Mustard Suppression Week (see article) Call Paul Hartman at UW-Extension 920.391.4610 to participate in pulls.

Saturday, May 8

Bird Banding at Point Au Sable, in cooperation w/ UW-GB.

Frog Calls, Green Bay, co-sponsor Brown County Parks.

Friday, May 14

Frog Calls, Green Bay, co-sponsor Brown County SW Library.

Saturday, May 15

Frog Calls, Door County & Green Bay, co-sponsor Brown County Parks.

Saturday, May 22

Frog Calls, Appleton.

Saturday May 29

Frog Calls, Oshkosh, co-sponsor Winnebago Audubon.

N.E.W. AUDUBON ANNUAL BANQUET



Wed., April 14, 2004

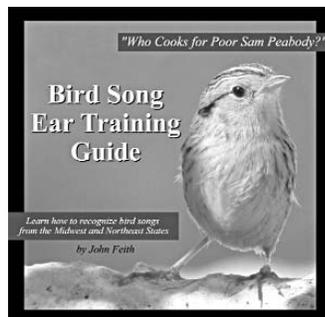
Eagles Nest Supper Club

5:30 p.m. Social & Silent Auction

6:15 Dinner

7:00 Speaker: John Feith

Topic: Wisconsin Bird Songs



John Feith, an avid birder and computer engineer from Madison, WI, is this year's banquet speaker. John recently produced an audio CD "Bird Song Ear Training Guide: Who Cooks for Poor Sam Peabody?" in order to help others learn bird songs. He recorded all of the 189 bird songs on the CD in Wisconsin over the last 3 years.

Since birds are often hidden from view, bird-watchers who can recognize bird songs have a huge advantage over those who can't. "It's like being able to see through leaves and branches and it adds another layer of enjoyment to nature walks. Once you tune in to

bird sounds you immediately begin to pay more attention to birds wherever you are," Feith notes.

The CD is organized in a quiz format, with a short narration following each call. It also includes mnemonics (word phrases that sounds like the song and aid our memory, like 'Quick, three beers!' and 'Pizza!') In fact, John decided to make a CD after hearing a number of unusual mnemonics. "The way birders remember bird songs can be more memorable and funnier than the calls themselves." We're thrilled that John will share his many stories and bird sounds with us on this night of civilized fun. His CD will be available at the banquet or you may order it at our website newaudubon.org. Do come!

Once again, we will be holding our annual silent auction as a fundraiser at the banquet. Everyone is encouraged to bring something to be sold. In the past, members have brought art work, decorative swords, binoculars, books, candle sticks, picture frames, and it all sold well. We also invite you to bring home-made items, such as breads, cakes, teas, maple syrup, bird houses, etc. The auction is a lot of fun and raises money for research, education and projects that protect our Wisconsin lands.



N.E.W. Audubon Annual Banquet Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Please send your registration by April 7, 2004

Tickets are \$14 per person.

Enclosed please find \$ _____ for # _____ individuals.

Please make checks payable to N.E.W. Audubon and mail to:

Terrie Howe

2479 Vagabond Street

Green Bay, WI 54302

Questions? Call Terrie at (920) 465-8263.

Salamander Romance

Saturday, March 13, 2004
(two locations)

Memorial Park Arboretum & Gardens, Appleton
9:30 am to 11:30 am
10 am Talk: Salamander Romance

Brown County Central Library
515 Pine St., Green Bay
1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
2pm Talk: Salamander Romance

Speaker: Dr. Mary Linton,
professor of aquatic biology,
University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

Free and open to general public. No pre-registration required.

The salamanders of Wisconsin are an amazing collection of animals that are perfectly suited to help keep Wisconsin's forest soils alive and fertile. Dr. Mary Linton will not only explain why you should have great fondness for Wisconsin's salamanders, but also describe that heady spring season when salamanders, themselves, rise from the just thawed ground and seek romance in forested ponds. Along the way, she will describe the cues and setting that lead salamanders to forget their usual solitary lives and resurrect feelings of spring love.

We will have live salamanders and frogs for children to see and hold before and after the program. Dr. Linton is providing us good background knowledge of salamanders before we head out later in March on evening field trips to try to find them moving to their breeding pools.



Audubon co-sponsors programs for:

- A travelling museum exhibit from the Science Museum of Minnesota at the Neville Public Museum of Brown County
- March 20, 2004-January 2, 2005
- Special free preview Friday night, March 19, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Hunters of the Sky gives visitors a closer look at eagles, fal-



cons, hawks, owls, and vultures. Viewers learn up-close the critical role predatory birds play in the ecosystem. This world-class exhibit has 10 interactives, 3 dioramas, 35 mounted birds, 20 large graphics, 5 videos and more to make learning about birds of prey exciting. Sections such as: *Falcons and Skyscrapers*, *What is a Raptor*, *The American Eagle*, *Life on a Wing*, *Raptors and Native Americans*, *Predators and Prey*, *Extinction's Edge*, *The Owl and the Forest*, and *Broken Wings* explain all aspects of the natural history of birds of prey and their encounters with humans. There is even a *Hooting Booth!*

NEW Audubon is cosponsoring a series of nine monthly programs featuring birds of prey with the Neville Public Museum of Brown County to compliment the *Hunters of the Sky* exhibit. All programs will be free and open to the public. They will be held on Thursday nights at 7 p.m. in the Neville Theater at the Museum. Audubon members will not have to pay the general admission price to see *Hunters of the Sky* on the evening of the program, so come early and experience the exhibit and then attend the program. Refreshments will be served before the program for several but not all programs.

All presentations start at 7 p.m. Arrive early to experience the *Hunters of the Sky* exhibit for free.

- *April 8 Rehabilitation of Birds of Prey
Mike Reed, Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary
- May 13 Eagles of Wisconsin, Ron Epstein, WI DNR
- June 10 Peregrine Falcons Nesting in Green Bay
Allan Trick, Wisconsin Public Service
- *July 8 Natural History of Turkey Vultures in Wisconsin
Lisa Hartman, WI DNR
- *August 12 Birds of Prey and Man Tom Doolittle
- *September 9 Training Volunteers for Bird Handling
Kim Kaster, Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary
- *October 14 Owls of Wisconsin
John Jacobs, Neville Public Museum of Brown County
- November 11 Burrowing Owls Ryan Brady
- December 9 Red-shouldered Hawk Nesting Biology,
John Jacobs, Neville Public Museum

*Explorer Saturday: Birds of Prey / April 24, 9:00-12:30
Hands on stations with live hawks, owls and vultures. Free.

Wildlife Research for Kids / Tuesday, Aug 10, 9:30-11:30
Ages 9-12: \$10, \$8 members of the Museum or NEW Audubon
Learn how wildlife researchers discover the private lives of hawks and owls. Through hands-on experiences, young wildlife biologists will learn to analyze owl pellets to discover what owls have been eating and how scientists study birds using tiny radio transmitters. Maximum 10 students.

Contact: Matt Welter, Curator of Education, Neville Public Museum (920) 448-4460 ext. 219

*PROGRAMS FEATURING LIVE BIRDS OF PREY

Becoming an Audubon Donor

The board of Northeastern Wisconsin Audubon, Inc. recently approved new donor categories in order to increase chapter revenues and to establish financial independence. National Audubon sliced our dues share in half from \$5 per member in 2001 to \$2.30 in '02 and '03. Member dues share is the mechanism whereby National financially supports its 500 local chapters. National has recently decided to extend dues sharing one more year. After this, it is likely that all chapters will be self-supporting.

We are one of two chapters (Madison Audubon is the other) that are allowed to renew our national members. National Audubon staff will evaluate our two pilot membership programs later this year before making recommendations to other U.S. chapters. Renewing your national membership or becoming a local donor through NEW Audubon, (using our membership form), provides the support that we need to carry out our field trips, indoor programs and other conservation activities.

Renewing through us also entitles you and family members to participate in our field trips at no cost. If you renew through National Audubon and send payment directly to them you will continue to receive our newsletter and Audubon magazine but will not receive free admission at our field trips.



Northeastern Wisconsin Audubon Society



Please check the box for the annual donor category you choose.

\$60 Renewing National & Local Donor:

- Audubon magazine
- Monarch T-shirt
- Wisconsin Frogs Book & CD
- N.E.W. Audubon Newsletter
- Free Wildlife Field Trips

\$45 Renewing National & Local Donor:

- Audubon magazine
- N.E.W. Audubon Newsletter
- Free Wildlife Field Trips

\$35 Renewing Local Donor:

- Monarch T-shirt **or** Wisconsin Frogs Book & CD **(circle one)**
- N.E.W. Audubon Newsletter
- Free Wildlife Field Trips

\$25 Renewing Local Donor:

- N.E.W. Audubon Newsletter
- Free Wildlife Field Trips

Please make your check payable to "NEW Audubon Society."

NAME _____ Date _____/_____/04

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

To receive local chapter newsletter electronically, please clearly print your email address: _____

T-shirt Size: (Circle One) YOUTH: S (6-8), M (10-12), L (14-16) ADULT: S, M, L, XL

Mail this form with payment enclosed to:

N.E.W. Audubon Society, PO Box 1963, Green Bay, WI 54305

Chapter Code: Z05 7BRF

Fridge It!

2004 WILDLIFE FIELD TRIPS

An important benefit of being a local donor is the opportunity to experience an array of fascinating wildlife events with local experts throughout the year, often at no charge. Connecting young people to nature is a priority to us. Though we plan many of our outings for young families, parents and their children, all ages are welcome.

As wildlife behavior often depends on temperature, precipitation and other uncontrollable factors (see sturgeon, salamanders below) some of our field trips will be impromptu and we will need to reach you by email. If it is important to you to experience these spontaneous happenings, please send us your email address and we'll add you to our email alert list.

Field trips are free for donors and their immediate family members. Non-members pay \$5 per adult, \$3 per child. Pre-registration is required. To pre-register email newaudubon@aol.com and note the field trip(s) that you are interested in and the number of family members who will attend. We will send a confirmation email that will include the details about the trip. We prefer that you email. If you would like to participate but are electronically challenged, you may call 920.884.0466 to pre-register.

We are accepting pre-registration for the following field trips via email at newaudubon@aol.com Specific dates are listed in Events and Activities on the front page of this newsletter.

Salamanders

Salamanders move predictably from their hibernation sites on the forest floor to nearby woodland breeding pools on spring's first warm, rainy night. On this night, Audubon groups will go out to breeding areas in Door County and near Appleton to search for these silent amphibians. Because it is not possible to predict the exact evening that this will occur, participants will be notified by email alert or phone the day of this event. Parents note that this may occur on a school night.



Sturgeon

A water temperature of 53F triggers the lake sturgeon spawning frenzy along the banks of the Wolf River. We'll see WI DNR fisheries experts scoop out these massive spawners at Bamboo Bend, Shiocton. They will measure, attach tags, remove eggs or silt and do whatever else is necessary to ensure the continued survival of these prehistoric behemoths. We will be able to touch the fish when they are on land. Water temperatures fluctuate in spring making it difficult to predict when spawning occurs. Notification is by email alert.

FROG CALLS

Learn Wisconsin's frogs and toads by sight and sound at one or more night hikes in NE Wisconsin wetlands this spring. Youngsters may hold tiny peepers, bullfrogs and others before we venture into the night to hear the musical breeding choruses of calling males. Please specify the date(s) that you wish to attend.



 **N.E.W. Audubon**
NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

To pre-register email newaudubon@aol.com

FIELD TRIPS ...CONTINUED...

Bird Banding

UW-GB students and faculty net and attach tiny aluminum leg bands to warblers, thrushes, orioles and colorful migrating songbirds up from the tropics. Kids may hold and release birds after banding. This is a great way to learn Wisconsin's breeding birds.



Wood turtle citizen science project

The wood turtle is handsome, intelligent and long-lived. It is also a threatened species in Wisconsin. Auduboners will revisit a study site in Brown County to see what impact a housing development has had on a population of wood turtles. St. Norbert College students and faculty studied this population about 10 years ago. The property was sold in 1996 and subsequently developed. Some turtles may still survive in the remaining habitat. We'll search the area, take data on any turtles that we find, and compare it with the data taken earlier. We may attach a radio transmitter to a turtle in order to track its movements. Perhaps our efforts will help these rare turtles survive, if any are still there.

Upcoming Wildlife Field Trips

We are not yet accepting pre-registration for these field trips

July

Butterflies: Collect, identify and release common Wisconsin butterflies with experienced lepidopterists.

Spiders Collect, identify and release common Wisconsin spiders with an arachnid expert.

August

Wolves, Whooping Cranes, Trumpeter Swans, and Karner Blues: See, hear and experience all of these endangered species with experts at Necedah National Wildlife Refuge.

August - September

Monarch Butterflies: Net and tag migrating monarchs bound for Mexico.

September

Bird Banding: Band songbirds going home to the tropics and other points south.

October

Saw Whet Owls: Tiny, tame owls perch on your finger!



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NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

To pre-register email newaudubon@aol.com

PO Box 1963
Green Bay, WI 54305

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Green Bay, WI

Garlic Mustard Suppression Week

Paul Hartman, Horticulture Agent, Brown County UW-Extension

Invasive plants do tremendous damage to native vegetation and animals. Invasive plants are recognized as the second most critical threat to the survival of native plants and animals after the threat of habitat loss.

In Brown County we have 30 acres of the invasive garlic mustard that needs to be pulled before it takes over more of our native woodlands. May 3-8 is garlic mustard suppression week in Brown County. Every day May 3-8 there is a pulling event. Anyone is welcome to participate, (ages 6 and up), whether you can pull for just an hour or for half a day. We will rid the Wildlife Sanctuary, Baird Creek, Lost Dauphin Park, Wrightstown, Pulaski Park and railroad tracks in Allouez of these nasty plants.

To sign up for a pull or for more details, call Paul Hartman at 920-391-4610 or email blondin_ll@co.brown.wi.us.



Current Board of Directors

Marty Gallagher, Secretary
martygal1@yahoo.com

John Jacobs, President
jacobs_jp@co.brown.wi.us

Ken Kiesner
kkiesner@netnet.net

Randy Korb
randykorb@hotmail.com

Dennis Prusik
dprusik@juno.com

Carl Scholz
scholz@doorpi.net

Joe and Marlene Spangler,
Treasurer
920-494-6347

Dorothy Summers, Past President
DSUMM2428@msn.com

Visit our website at:
www.newaudubon.org

Email us at: newaudubon@aol.com

Board Member Nominees The following members are nominated for 9 board positions. All members may nominate additional people to serve on the board but nominees must be current NEW Audubon members. Call Carl Hujet at 920.497.7954 to make additional nominations.

Appleton

Emily Korb
Steve Plamann
Patricia Warrick

Little Chute

Cynthia Mueller

Green Bay

Marty Gallagher
Carl Hujet
John Jacobs
Randy Korb
Dorothy Summers
Marlene Spangler

Sturgeon Bay

Carl Scholz

Bylaws Changes Revisions to our chapter bylaws may be viewed at our website, www.newaudubon.org or at the Brown County central library.