



The **HERON**

Bimonthly Newsletter of the Fond du Lac County Audubon Society

Refreshments and Door Prizes

Please contact Diana Beck –
922-7931 or
dbeck7931@charter.net
if you are able to bring
refreshments or door prizes
to any of the meetings.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS



Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Wild Feast Potluck

5:30 pm, UW-Fond du Lac, East Parking Lot

(See inside of newsletter for more details.)

Herbs and Birds

7 pm, UW-Fond du Lac, Henken Lounge

***Speaker: Minodinoquay Nettie Burnett,
Apprentice to Grandmother Keewaydinoquay***

Our season kicks off with a potluck. Participants are encouraged to bring a dish made from wild plants (although conventional food is fine, too). Following the meal, enjoy a presentation on five Native American bird clans and their interconnectedness with the world.



Wednesday, October 14, 2009

7 pm, UW-Fond du Lac, Henken Lounge

Niagara Escarpment

***Speaker: Eric W. Fowle, Executive Director
of East Central Regional Planning Commission***

What needs to be done to preserve this unique geological feature.



Directions to the Henken Lounge at UW-Fond du Lac: Park in the back of the Art Building or in the main parking lot. Proceed through the Commons area and the tunnel OR go up the outside ramp leading to the Art Building, where you enter the second floor. The Henken Lounge is down the hall. Audubon programs are open to the public with no admission charge. Adults, families, and young people with an interest in environmental issues are encouraged to attend.

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Second Annual Zoopolis Tour a Success

On August 4, 2009, the Zoopolis Tour had spectacular weather. There were about 180 people who went through some, if not all of the sites. Audubon helps to sponsor the event, which hopes to educate the public with examples of yards with habitat and biodiversity. There were many enthusiastic and positive comments from participants and a special interest in the transformation of the condo grounds. If anyone would like to be involved or volunteer your yard as a future site, please contact Diana Beck at 922-7931 or email dbeck7931@charter.net.

Learn to Appreciate Weeds

Are you having trouble reducing your lawn turf or relaxing your standards to allow more biodiversity? I would highly recommend a recent book with the title *A Weed By Any Other Name, The Virtues of a Messy Lawn or Learning to Love the Plants We Don't Plant*. The author, Nancy Gift, a trained weed ecologist and professor of environmental studies, shares her stories about various "weed" type plants. Follow her through the seasons of the year and learn about some of the beauty of these plants as well as the ecological reasons to embrace a weedy yard. The book is entertaining and good food for thought.

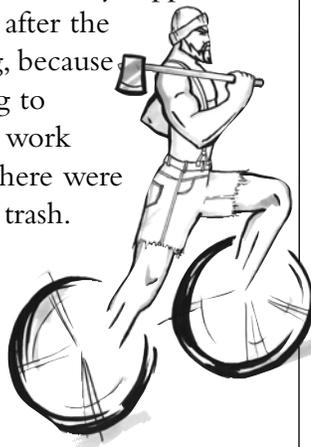
—Diana Beck

Adopt a Trail Help Needed

Join the Fond du Lac County Audubon on Saturday, October 24 at 10 am at the Prairie Trail at the intersection of Ducharme and the 151 bypass. We will be picking up trash and sweeping off any loose gravel. Wear gloves and work shoes. The county supplies the trash bags and collects the trash after the cleanup. Please consider helping, because with six or more people helping to clean the mile long section, the work goes more quickly. Last spring there were only two volunteers and lots of trash.

Kettleman Duathlon

Run and bike September 27, 8:30 am, Long Lake Recreation Area in the Kettle Moraine State Forest. For info: www.redlinetricluborg/duathlon.html.



Wild Feast Potluck September 9

Join us for our second annual "Wild Feast Potluck" on Wednesday, September 9 at 5:30 p.m. The theme is wild foods and participants are encouraged to bring a dish that includes some items from the wild.

The plants could even be edible weeds in your own yard and lawn. Items in season can be made ahead of time and then frozen, such as the dandelion entrée that will be offered at the potluck. Bring a label for your entrée as well as the recipe for those who might want to try making it in the future. If you are unsure about recipes, look on the internet or in books from the library.

Last year some of the dishes included: savory burdock patties, venison stew, garlic mustard pesto, jerusalem artichoke, wild berry muffins, rice with burdock root, and many others. All the food tasted so fresh and delicious. It was fun to prepare and eat something new.

For those of you who are unsure of which plants are edible, bring something from your own garden or trees. If your "wild feast" item is small, so that other people will have only a taste of it, then bring a more conventional item with you as well. Finally, for those who view this adventure with some trepidation, please bring whatever dish or dessert that you would normally bring to a potluck.

We are asking people to bring their own chair, plate, silverware, cup and beverage. Meet at the shelter by the east parking lot at the UW campus. If you have a fold up table that you can bring, we can use a few to place the potluck dishes on. This event is a great opportunity to socialize before the regular meeting and speaker at 7 p.m. Members and the public are welcome.

Grand Canyon Rafting Trip June 2010

Calling all adventurous souls who would like to be part of a rafting trip to the Grand Canyon for the dates of June 18 through 27! The Fond du Lac Audubon Society will organize 25 participants to share two rafts and lots of adventure. The trip will begin in Las Vegas with an overnight, and on the following morning a bus takes the group to Lee's Ferry where the rafting experience begins. Colorado Rivers and Trails Expeditions is a wonderful, family owned company with great equipment, guides, food and leadership skills. The cost per person is about \$3100, which includes hotel, the rafting trip, tips for the guides, bus trips and air fare. While this is not a cheap trip, it is a very fair price in comparison with other rafting companies.

CRATE will donate back to our local Audubon Society, thus making this trip a fund raising opportunity for our program activities. Further details can be obtained on our website. If you are interested in being part of the trip, please contact Diana Beck at 922-7931 or email dbeck7931@charter.net. A deposit of \$300 is required by February of 2010, but we need to hear from you before the end of September 2009. At this point it is important for us to know if there are enough interested people. It is not necessary for a participant to be an Audubon member.



AUDUBON FIELD TRIPS

Nature Photography Workshop

October 3, 2-4:30 pm—Nature Photography Workshop, Fond du Lac School District's Conservation Education Center, Highway 23 West

Come experience hands-on nature photography. Ted Eischeid will introduce the basics of nature photography in a natural setting. Participants will then have a chance to practice their skills at the Fond du Lac School District's Conservation Education Center. A sharing session will follow. All photographers are invited, but the emphasis is on amateurs with simple digital cameras. Be sure to bring a patch cord and a power cord for sharing your work at the end of the workshop. Bring a laptop computer for this purpose if available. Also wear appropriate outdoor clothing and shoes/boots for the weather since we will be spending some time outside capturing images. Limit: 20 participants; Ted Eischeid facilitator; Contact Kathleen Stetter to reserve a place (920-872-2250 or Stetter@centurytel.net).

Salmon Run in Kewaunee County

October 10, 8 am-3 pm. Watch the salmon run at the C. D. (Buzz) Besadny Fish and Wildlife Area, Kewaunee County, 3884 Ransom Moore Lane off of County Highway F, west of Kewaunee, on the west bank of the Kewaunee River, Kewaunee County. Meet at the UW-Fond du Lac campus main entrance parking lot near the picnic shelter to form a car pool/caravan at 8 am; then drive to Kewaunee to watch the salmon run. Mandy Knox, site naturalist, will lead us on a one-hour tour of the facilities. Bring sunglasses for viewing the fish in the river. Afterward, hike along the 1/2 mile river trail and/or a one-mile hike of the Ahnapee State Trail. Dress for the weather and bring along a sack lunch. Contact Kathleen Stetter (Stetter@centurytel.net or 920-872-2250) See http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife/wildlife_areas/cdbesadny.htm for more information.

Bird Seed Sale

Saturday, October 17, 9 am-1 pm, Hoerth Storage, 74 Halbach Ct., Fond du Lac. Excellent seed mixes. Order forms will be mailed, or call Ken Fisher at 921-0366 or email: kjfish@sbcglobal.net.

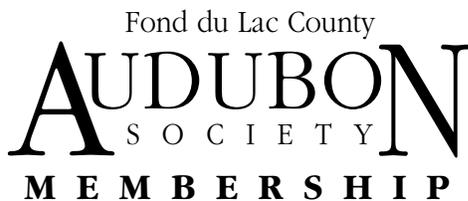


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Submit articles for the Audubon newsletter
via e-mail to mcdesign@charter.net

THE HERON



Special Introductory 1 Year Membership: \$20
Special Introductory 2 Year Membership: \$35
Special Introductory 1 Year Senior Membership: \$15

Yes! I want to become a member of the National Audubon Society, and the Fond du Lac County Chapter. My annual membership dues entitle me to six issues of Audubon magazine, and all chapter benefits. I am enclosing a check payable to:
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY.

I am not a member of National Audubon, but I am interested in receiving the chapter newsletter, *The Heron*, to stay informed of chapter activities. I have enclosed \$4.00 payable to:
FOND DU LAC COUNTY AUDUBON.

(Fee covers printing and mailing for a year of issues.)

Name

Address

City State Zip

Mail this form with payment to:
Fond du Lac County Audubon, Membership Services
W4148 Kiekhaefer Parkway, Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Global Warming Impact on Birds

Analyses of citizen-gathered data from the past 40 years of Audubon's Christmas Bird Count (CBC) reveal that 58 percent of the 305 widespread species that winter on the continent shifted significantly north since 1966, some by hundreds of miles. Movement was detected among species of every type, including more than 70 percent of highly adaptable forest and feeder birds. Only 38 percent of grassland species mirrored the trend, reflecting their severely-depleted habitat and suggesting that they now face both habitat loss and climate adaptation.

Population shifts among individual species are common, fluctuate, and can have many causes. However, Audubon scientists say the ongoing trend of movement by some 177 species, closely correlated to long-term winter temperature increases, reveals an undeniable link to the changing climate.

"Birds are showing us how the heavy hand of humanity is tipping the balance of nature and causing ecological disruption..." said report co-author and Audubon Director of Bird Conservation, Greg Butcher, Ph.D. "Common sense dictates that we act now to curb the causes and impacts of global warming to the extent we can, and shape our policies to better cope with the disruptions we cannot avoid."

See Audubon's web pages <http://www.audubon.org/campaign/energy/> for more information about green energy and curbing global warming.