



FEBRUARY–MARCH 2023

NORTHWEST ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY



Blue Jay
Cyanocitta cristata

A chapter of the National Audubon Society

nwilaudubon.org

NIAS MONTHLY PROGRAMS

Join us the first Tuesday of every month, September through May. All of our programs are open to the public.

Please note: schedule and location of programs are subject to change due to COVID-19 restrictions; please see newsletter and website for up-to-date information.

Most programs are held at the St John United Church of Christ, 1010 Park Blvd., in Freeport.

Most programs begin at 7 PM with announcements, followed by the program at 7:30 and then refreshments.

Check the current newsletter or our website nwilaudubon.org for specific monthly details, special events or any changes to the usual time and place.

Please join us!

INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER:

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About Bird Information:
birds.cornell.edu

Bird Photo: Dan Barron
Program photos: (top) Dan Barron, (bottom) public domain, John James Audubon

This common, large songbird is familiar to many people, with its perky crest; blue, white, gray, and black plumage; and noisy calls. Blue Jays are known for their intelligence and complex social systems, and have tight family bonds. They often mate for life, remaining with their social mate throughout the year. Only the female incubates; her mate provides all her food during incubation.



THE WILDLIFE AND LANDSCAPES OF BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK

Presenters: Teresa Smith and Mary Blackmore

Tuesday, February 7th | 7:00 p.m.
St. John's Church, Freeport, IL

In April of 2022, 11 NIAS field trip participants traveled to Big Bend National Park in west Texas to enjoy the wonderful birds that live in the various park ecosystems. We saw a lot more than birds! From the banks of the Rio Grande River to the Chihuahuan Desert to the mid-altitude areas of the Chisos Mountains, the group observed many insect, mammal and bird species, among them Greater Roadrunner, Vermilion Flycatcher, Mexican Jay, Black Bear and even an active Dung Beetle.

Utilizing photos of the trip, Teresa Smith and Mary Blackmore will share some highlights of their journey.

WILSON AND AUDUBON: AMERICA'S FIRST BIRD ARTIST PRESENTED BY MATTHEW VINCENT

Tuesday, March 7th | 7:00 p.m.
St. John's Church, Freeport, IL

Mystery, intrigue, and drama, it is all there in the story of these first artist to illustrate America's birds. Alexander Wilson (1766-1813) traveled over 10,000 miles through America over a seven-year period making observations. From those travels he wrote eight volumes of his "Ornithology." They contained illustrated and detailed descriptions of 264 bird species. Forty-eight had never been previously known.

John James Audubon (1785-1851) produced visual records of America's birds. He documented birds' characteristics and his own experiences in the wilderness in his "Ornithological Biography," published in five volumes between 1831 and 1839. By this time, he had been a celebrated figure in the United States, appearing in the press and lecturing to the public.

Come out to hear Matthew Vincent tell the story of these two men, their accomplishments, their rivalry, and their place in art and science. Matthew is a professor of Art at Rock Valley College in Rockford, IL. He is very comfortable at the crossroads where science meets art. He is a gifted artist as well, being well versed in the natural world. He can be found seining local creeks, birding, fishing or putting colors on an empty canvas.



CALENDAR CONSIDERATIONS

- O FEBRUARY 4TH** – “Wee Naturalists” Groundhogs (U of I Extension Program) 9:30am (see page 3 for more information)
- M FEBRUARY 7TH** – NIAS monthly program, 7:00pm (see cover for more information)
- P FEBRUARY 18TH** – Winter Scavenger Hunt, 11:00am (see page 3 for more information)
- F FEBRUARY 21ST** – Nicholas Conservatory Field Trip (see page 3 for more information)
- O MARCH 4TH** – “Wee Naturalists” Signs of Spring (U of I Extension Program) 9:30am (see page 3 for more information)
- M MARCH 7TH** – NIAS monthly program, 7:00pm (see cover for more information)
- P MARCH 10TH** – Elkhorn Creek Woodcock Watch, 7:00pm (see page 6 for more information)
- P MARCH 18TH** – Springtime Scavenger Hunt, 10:00am (see page 3 for more information)
- P MARCH 18TH** – Elkhorn Creek Woodcock Watch, 7:00pm (see page 6 for more information)
- P MARCH 22ND** – Elkhorn Creek Woodcock Watch, 7:00pm (see page 6 for more information)
- F MARCH 25TH** – Spring Mississippi River Waterfowl (see page 3 for more information)
- O MARCH 29TH** – NIAS 40th Annual Banquet (see page 4 for more information)

- M Meeting**
- F Field Trip**
- S Stewardship**
- P Program**
- E Event**
- O Other**

THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN MIGHTY WOMEN

tackled most of Audubon’s Elkhorn Creek Biodiversity Preserve sowing mixed native seeds on wetland, dry, and mesic, upland and lowland prairies on December 12th, 2022.

Upper left to lower right: Mary Blackmore, Teresa Smith, Kara Gallup, Laura Dufford, Judy Corrie, Pam Richards, Nancy Ocken
Photo by Pam Richards



SCHOLARSHIPS FOR BEYOND PLASTICS POLLUTION CLASS

Are you interested in learning more about plastic pollution and what you can do to address plastic pollution? Beyond Plastics, a nonprofit organization with a goal to end plastic pollution everywhere, has partnered with Bennington College in VT to offer a virtual class to college students and community members to provide individuals with information about plastic pollution and solutions to plastic pollution.

Teresa Smith, one of the Northwest Illinois Audubon board members, recently audited the class and found the class to be a great way to learn more about plastic pollution, the inherent issues related to recycling plastic, and learn how others are decreasing plastic pollution.

CLASSES RUN APRIL 19 - MAY 31, 6:00 - 8:00 PM.

These sessions are taught by **Judith Enck, who served as a Regional Administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency**, and a variety of guest speakers from organizations across the country with expertise in plastic pollution. The link for the virtual class is emailed to you upon registration for the class. To register for the class you can click on the hyperlink Bennington CAPA Online: Beyond Plastic Pollution - Spring 2023 (beyondplastics.org/events/beyond-plastic-pollution-spring-2023).

If you are interested in participating in the class Northwest Illinois Audubon Society is now providing scholarships for individuals to take the class: either auditing it or taking it for college credit. For more information about the class and/or request the scholarship application you should contact Teresa at 815-238-3963 or email us at nwilaudubon@gmail.com

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Contact Teresa Smith at 815-238-3963
or timtreetsmith@gmail.com

PROGRAMS, EVENTS AND FIELD TRIPS

WINTER SCAVENGER HUNT

Saturday, February 18th | 11:00 am – Noon
Oakdale Nature Preserve
4433 S. Cranes Grove Rd., Freeport, IL
Coordinator: Adam Moderow, 815-541-5842

Before winter leaves us, it's important to take note of some of the unique sights and sounds nature provides at this time of year. We will have a winter focused scavenger hunt through Oakdale to take note of some of these seasonal aspects of our environment. The scavenger hunt will be self-paced and each group can make their own adventure of it. Make sure to dress warmly and have your eyes and ears ready. Meet by the Mogle building, just off of the parking lot.

Contact Adam Moderow at adamoderow@gmail.com or at 815-541-5842 to register in case it becomes necessary to limit the number of participants.

NICHOLAS CONSERVATORY FIELD TRIP

Tuesday, February 21st
10:00 – 11:30 am. (Carpool 9:15 am)
1354 N 2nd St, Rockford, IL
Coordinator: Chris Kruger 815-238-9259

Take a break from winter! Join us for a tour of Illinois' third largest conservatory. Located on the Rock River in Rockford, the facility offers tropical plants, water features, sculptures, and seating areas. The annual orchid exhibit includes hundreds of tropical orchids creatively arranged throughout the conservatory. Find more information at nicholasconservatory.com

Admission on Tropical Tuesdays is \$5. Please bring cash so we can pay as a group.

Carpool from Harbor Freight at 9:15 am or meet us at the conservatory at 10 am. Expected return time to Freeport is 12:15 pm.

Call Chris Kruger (815)238-9259 to sign up for this trip by Feb 12th. We need 10-12 people for a guided tour. Feel free to call after the deadline to see if we can accommodate you.

SPRINGTIME SCAVENGER HUNT

Saturday, March 18th | 10:00 – 11:00 am
Oakdale Nature Preserve
4433 S. Cranes Grove Rd., Freeport, IL
Coordinator: Adam Moderow, 815-541-5842

As spring begins, the animals and plants around us begin to make their voices heard and colors seen. Just like we get more active as the weather begins to warm, so does the natural world around us. In this lesson, we will look for the signs of that increased activity. There will be a brief explanation and then a scavenger hunt through Oakdale to see what is poking through the snow. Every group or family can set their own pace and make the activity uniquely theirs. Make sure to dress warmly and have your eyes and ears ready. Meet

(SPRINGTIME SCAVENGER HUNT CONTINUED)

by the Mogle building, just off of the parking lot.

Contact Adam Moderow at adamoderow@gmail.com or at 815-541-5842 to register in case it becomes necessary to limit the number of participants.

SPRING MISSISSIPPI RIVER WATERFOWL

Saturday, March 25th | 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Coordinator: Anne Straight, 815-938-3263 (call to register)

Join us as we look for migrating waterfowl on the Mississippi River south of Savanna. Usually a wide variety of both diving and dabbling ducks can be observed, with males in their colorful breeding plumage. We also should see grebes, pelicans, eagles, geese and some songbirds. Hopefully we'll spot some cranes and swans as well.

Participants may meet at the Spring Lake parking lot just off of HWY 84 about 2 miles south of Savanna or carpool from the Forreton municipal lot on the south side of the village library on HWY 26. Carpoolers must be prepared to wear a mask if the area infection rates warrant that.

Several downstream sites also will be visited, ending at Lock and Dam #13. Bring a sack lunch if you plan to stay past noon.

NIAS would like to help share information about the University of Illinois Extension new environmental education program for children ages 4-7 called "Wee Naturalists", hosted by 4-H Youth Educator Kelly Lafferty.



It is an interactive program that includes a story, craft/activity, and an outdoor component (so it is encouraged to dress appropriately!). It is held on the 1st Saturday of every month through May 2023 at the University of Illinois Extension Office, Highland Community College campus (building R), 2998 W. Pearl City Road, Freeport. (Use Parking Lot B)

Programs include:

February 4 - Groundhogs | March 4 - Signs of Spring
April 1 - April Showers | May 6 - Insects

The cost is \$5.00 per session and is from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

For more information or to register, call 815-235-4125
or visit go.illinois.edu/jsw.

SAVE THE DATE!



40TH ANNUAL BANQUET FEATHERS TO FUR

Wednesday, March 29th

**Highland Community College, Freeport
Student Conference Center, Building H**

Silent Auction at 5:30 PM | Dinner at 6:00 PM

Program Begins at 7:30 PM

Please join us for a fantastic evening as **David C. Olson**, an accomplished photographer, takes us on a visual tour of the natural world. David will present to us images from his travel photography as well as fascinating information about some of North America's native wildlife. David has been photographing the natural world for more than 25 years. His photographs have appeared in a variety of books and magazines, including Alaska, National Geographic, Audubon, and National Wildlife Federation. We have the chance to view and hear firsthand about some of our magnificent furry and feathered inhabitants thanks to this large-screen display of breathtaking wildlife photos and stories from the field. In the world of nature photography, his perspective and style are distinctive. His subjects appear incredibly stunning and detailed in his photography. David's award-winning studio, Olson Photography, and gallery are located on State Street in Rockford, Illinois. View his imagery at www.davidolsonphoto.com



Watch for the banquet flyer in your mailbox in February.

Reservations for the banquet must be received by March 18th; however, reservations are not necessary to attend the program (no meal) which starts at 7:30 p.m. Further details about the banquet can be found at www.nwilaudubon.org by calling Tim at 815-835-5109 or by requesting a form through email at nwilaudubon@gmail.com. The cost for the program only is \$3 for adults with no charge for children under one year old.

NEW SPECIES AT OUR PRESERVES

New species continue to be observed at our preserves. Many thanks to everyone who helped to locate and identify these additions. For a complete species list for each preserve, consult our website or call Mary at 815-938-3204.

– Mary Blackmore



Hog Peanut
(*Amphicarpa bracteata*)

Elkhorn Creek (3)

INSECTS

Lettered Sphinx (moth)

Black and Gold Bumblebee

PLANTS

Hog Peanut
(*Amphicarpa bracteata*)

Silver Creek (2)

AMPHIBIANS

Green Frog

PLANTS

Leafy Spurge
(*Euphorbia esula*)



November 18th Prairie Seed Processing at the Deluxe Nienhuis Shed. | photos by Pam Richards



NATIONAL SKIP THE STRAW DAY!

We are always looking for a reason to celebrate and Friday, February 24th is National Skip the Straw Day. Well, maybe it is not a big day to celebrate, however it gives us a great opportunity to take action for the natural environment that we are preserving for the next generation. National Skip the Straw Day was created in 2017 by a group of teenagers from Whitehall, Michigan and has gained momentum each year since its origin. The intent of recognizing National Skip the Straw Day is to decrease plastic pollution and help fight global warming.

In 2015, a picture of a sea turtle with a straw in its nose went viral on YouTube with over 5.5 million people watching it. That picture was taken in Costa Rica by a young student at Texas A&M and is a reminder to all of us that we should skip the use of plastic straws and limit our use of single use plastics that go in the landfill and do not decompose.

Straws have been used for many centuries to sip beverages from a glass. The plastic straw was introduced in the 1960's and today it is estimated that in the United States we use 500 million plastic straws each day. If you are a visual person, 500 million straws would fill about 125 school buses. Most of these straws are used once and then discarded in the garbage. Like other plastic items that go in the garbage, they never biodegrade.

The plastic will break down into smaller pieces known as microplastics but they will never be completely degraded. These microplastics are the same as those found in personal care products and are known to contaminate our ground water, poison birds, mammals, fish and other aquatic life.

In 2011, a program called "Be Straw Free" was started by a 9 year old boy from Vermont named Milo. Thanks to Milo, we have 8 national parks/ monuments that have adopted a policy to offer straws only when requested by a customer. Also because of Milo, the National Restaurant Association now recognizes it as best practice to not offer straws to customers unless they request one.

In July 2018, Seattle became the first city in the U.S. to implement a single-use plastic straw ban. Several states have



*Straws picked up in short stretch of beach between Isabela and Aguadilla, Puerto Rico.
photo by "The Last Plastic Straw"*

implemented laws to at least partially ban plastic straws. Several restaurants in northwest Illinois are implementing the National Restaurant Association best practice and are now training staff to not offer customers a straw unless they request one.

What can we do to take action in 2023 to decrease the number of plastic straws used? If your favorite restaurant or pub is still serving straws to all customers request the server does not give one to you. Ask them to skip the straw.

Be a Milo or be like those teenagers in Whitehall, Michigan and speak up. If you dine at one of these restaurants that only offers a straw upon request stand up

and say "thank you" to those restaurants for doing their part. Give the business a positive review online thanking them for decreasing the use of plastic straws.

If you're someone who uses plastic straws at home and you are looking for options to replace that single use plastic straw you might consider biodegradable options, reusable stainless steel straws or the new reusable silicone straws.

TAKE ACTION AND SKIP THE STRAW.

– Article submitted by Teresa Smith from the NIAS Conservation Committee.

ELKHORN CREEK WOODCOCK WATCHES



American Woodcock by Dan Barron

PLEASE CALL THE LISTED COORDINATOR TO REGISTER IN ADVANCE.

Friday, March 10, 7:00 pm

*Coordinator: Mary Blackmore
815-938-3204*

Saturday, March 18, 7:00 pm

*Coordinator: Anne Straight
815-938-3263*

Wednesday, March 22, 7:00 pm

*Coordinator: Mary Blackmore
815-938-3204*

Join us for any or all of these evening outings to watch and listen for American Woodcocks performing their amazing courtship display. It will be especially gratifying to witness the return of these birds after what may be a long hard winter.

The woodcock's "Sky Dance" itself is part ground-strutting and part zig-zagging flight, barely visible in the early evening sky. More fascinating perhaps are the sounds that go with it, the repetitious vocal

"peent!" followed by the twittering and chirping sounds made when air rushes through primary flight feathers during the bird's flight. On a quiet evening, it is pure audio magic.

In the past we have had 3-6 woodcocks performing their twilight display for about 3-4 weeks. When and if this begins is an educated guess, so be sure to call the listed leader to register in advance and to receive confirmation that the birds have

returned and the weather is suitable.

The preserve is located about 3 miles southwest of Forreton in the southeast corner of West Grove and Freeport Roads. The parking lot is off of West Grove Rd.

Make time to experience this unique avian harbinger of spring. The joy will be all yours.

– Mary Blackmore



▲ **HIGHER:** At our Elkhorn Creek Biodiversity Preserve, this nest was built on a branch of a Black Cherry tree on the south side of Elkhorn Creek where there are no trails.
Photo by Mary Blackmore

A BALD-FACED HORNET YEAR

Bald-faced Hornet nests were observed at dramatically varying heights in 2022 at both of our preserves and at Mary Blackmore's home. While this insect, *Vespula maculata*, has a reputation for being extremely protective of the nest, hornets from the lower nests appeared not to bother we humans who were, at times, quite close to those nests. Truly works of art, the nests were interesting and fun to watch as they grew larger over the months. When cold weather arrives, mated queens leave the nest to overwinter in soil or leaf litter and all other hornets, in various stages of their life cycle, die.

– Mary Blackmore



► **LOWER:** This nest was built on the back of one of Mary Blackmore's solar arrays. The photo was taken in November after the nest was abandoned.

Photo by Dan Barron



► **LOWEST:** At our Silver Creek Biodiversity Preserve, inches from the ground, this nest was built on a small Black Walnut sapling that was only a foot or two off the trail.

Photo by Mary Blackmore



CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

2022 CBC RESULTS

This year marked the 123rd running of the annual Christmas Bird Count, with the Northwest Illinois Audubon Society participating on December 17, 2022 for the 47th time. We are one of the approximately 2500 counts in the Western Hemisphere that make up this long standing endeavor. Each participating count has a count circle that is fifteen miles in diameter within which all their observations must take place on one specific day. Our count circle is centered in Read Park in Freeport.

We had eighteen field counters and thirteen feeder counters contribute data. The totals for the day were 11,359 birds, representing 47 different species. The species total is within the range that we normally tally each year. The total number of birds is the most ever in the history of our count circle. Weather conditions on the day of our count worked to our advantage in spotting certain species of birds, with the light snow cover helping to bring them to the roadside in search of grit.

Highlights and other interesting results from count day are as follows. Twenty-four Bald Eagles were seen (20 adults and 4 immatures) marking the 19th year in a row we have recorded this species. A Northern

Shrike was seen north of Freeport. This predatory perching bird species nests farther north and often ventures south this time of year. We typically see one every two or three years. The following species tallied the highest numbers ever in the 47 year history of our count; Northern Harrier, Downy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Dark-eyed Junco and House Finch. The birds previously mentioned picking up grit on roadsides were usually Horned Larks, Lapland Longspurs, Snow Buntings, American Tree Sparrows and Dark-eyed Juncos. All these species had high numbers, probably due to our ease in spotting them. Without the light snow cover most of these birds would have been much more difficult, if not almost impossible, to find. Tallying low numbers this year were Red-tailed Hawks and American Kestrels. A species not observed this year was American Robin, after tallying a record number last year. One "count week" species was seen (Purple Finch) meaning that it was spotted within our circle up to three days before or three days after count day, but not on count day. Count week species are not included in total birds or total species.

A complete list of species observed, and the tally for each species, can be accessed online at www.christmasbirdcount.org.

However it may take a while for the results to be entered into the database. You can also get results from other count circles at this website. This year's top ten list for our count is as follows; Canada Goose (2259), Dark-eyed Junco (1876), House Sparrow (1529), European Starling (1401), Horned Lark (772), American Tree Sparrow (680), Snow Bunting (457), Rock Pigeon (323), Lapland Longspur (314) and American Crow (290).

Thank you to the following individuals for helping with this year's count. Field observers were Carol Beatty, Richard Benning, Mary Blackmore, Paul Brown, Jeremy Dixon, Leah Dixon, Mason Dixon, Wyatt Dixon, Doug Dufford, Laura Dufford, Kara Gallup, Gary Gordon, Russ Kilker, Rex Sides, Teresa Smith, Tim Smith, Anne Straight and Anita Nienhuis. Feeder observers were Julie Beach, Ken Beach, Harlan Corrie, Judy Corrie, Somer Elgin, Richard Luthin, Bill Palmquist, Kelly Saul, Fran Shriver, Jeff Shriver, Rebecca Shriver, Lurane Slaght and John Walt. Special thanks go to Tim Smith for storing our CBC data in digital format.

– Richard Benning, Freeport Circle
Christmas Bird Count Compiler



◀ A few children from the Boys and Girls Club of Freeport during a field trip to Sand Bluff Bird Observatory on November 6th. Pictured are the children with Bird Bander, Mike Eikman holding a Sharp-shinned Hawk. | photo by Juliet Moderow

This field trip preceded our first 8-week bird education program at the Boys and Girls Club organized by Gary Gordon, Juliet Moderow, Jeff Shriver, and Carol Redmore.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

- Mary Pfeil - Freeport
- Johnny Bernard - Freeport
- Beverly Huyck - Freeport
- Karl Bronn - Freeport
- Robert Nickels - Freeport
- Lenora Luecke - Freeport
- John Marcus - Hanover
- Fred Weis - Lena
- Daniel McVeige - Davis
- Ronald Weis - Davis
- Frances Van Oosten - Polo
- Susan Zook - Polo
- Dan Williams - Rockton

Would you like to join Audubon as a NEW Member or give a GIFT membership? *Two types of membership are available:*

1. Northwest Illinois Audubon Society and National Membership
includes this local newsletter, local mailings and the national "Audubon" magazine.

_____ National Membership \$20

All renewals for national memberships need to use the national membership form.

2. Northwest Illinois Audubon Society Local only Membership
includes this newsletter and other mailings from our local chapter.

_____ Local Only \$15

Name of new member or gift recipient _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

If this is a gift membership, please indicate the name of the person providing the gift membership:

Name _____

*Make check payable to **NORTHWEST ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY** and mail to:
Treasurer, Northwest Illinois Audubon Society, P.O. Box 771, Freeport, IL 61032*

BOARD MEMBERS

President | Richard Benning
Vice-President | Laura Dufford
Secretary | Mary Blackmore
Treasurer | Tim Smith

Board members At-Large:
Elizabeth Boettner, Jeremy Dixon,
Carol Redmore, Fred Redmore,
Fran Shriver, Steve Simpson

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership | Jeff Shriver
Conservation | Teresa Smith
Programs | Don Miller
Education | Adam Moderow
Publicity | Leah Dixon
Field Trips | Chris Kruger

Equity Diversity Inclusion
Gary Gordon and Juliet Moderow

President Emeritus | Gary Gordon

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56781 W. Fawn Drive | Steuben, WI 54657
815-541-3261 | dan@driftlessflora.com

nwilaudubon@gmail.com

rev 5/22



THANK YOU!

Tim Smith for removing downed trees from trails at our Elkhorn Creek Preserve.

Shey Lowman for updating species lists for both preserves.

Fall stewardship volunteers: Mary Blackmore, Kara Gallup, Judy Corrie, Paul Brown, Don Miller, Bernard Lischwe, Hailey Schultz and Aaron Anderson.

Nancy Ocken and Mary Blackmore for contacting volunteers for preserves stewardship days.

Volunteers who helped process prairie seed: John and Anita Nienhuis, Harlan and Judy Corrie, Phyllis and Larry Seffrood, Mary Blackmore, Randy and Nancy Ocken, Paul Brown, Kara Gallup, Merry Blake, Molly Doolittle, Laura Dufford, Carol Redmore, Bernard Lischwe, and

Pam Richards. Special thanks go to John and Anita for their outstanding hospitality including all of the delicious homemade treats!

Teresa Smith and Mary Blackmore for serving as the NIAS board nominating committee, and to everyone who agreed to take a turn on our board.

Mary Blackmore for finishing our seed processing from both preserves.

Volunteers who helped with December overseeding at both preserves: Judy Corrie, Mary Blackmore, Teresa Smith, Pam Richards, Kara Gallup, Nancy Ocken and Laura Dufford.

Jeremy Dixon, Bernard Lischwe, Juliet Moderow, Nancy Ocken, Pam Richards, Teresa Smith, Kara Gallup, Mary Blackmore, Anita Nienhuis and Judy Corrie for providing homemade treats for break time on all stewardship events at our preserves in 2022.

Pam and Jim Richards and Mary Blackmore for donating prairie seed for overseeding at our Silver Creek Preserve.

Recent field trip and event leaders: Adam Moderow and Mary Blackmore.

Richard Benning for doing such a great job as our Christmas Bird Count compiler.

Tim and Teresa Smith and Mary Blackmore for resetting boundary posts and signs at our Silver Creek Preserve.

Deborah Cheek and Barry Treu for their recent monetary donations.

Gloria Bartlett, Ellen Baker and Sheila Schultz for their recent monetary donations in memory of Virginia Thorn who was a member of Northwest Illinois Audubon Society for many years.

Gary Gordon, Juliet Moderow, Jeff Shriver, and Carol Redmore for coordinating and volunteering their time for an 8-week bird class at the Boys and Girls Club.

**NORTHWEST ILLINOIS
AUDUBON SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 771
Freeport, IL 61032-0771

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ADDRESSES/EMAILS OF YOUR LEGISLATORS

Capitol Switchboard (202) 224-3121 • State House Switchboard (217) 782-2000

*When using the state switchboard simply ask to be connected to the legislators office.
When using the capitol switchboard follow the series of prompts.*

FEDERAL

Senator Richard Durbin

230 S. Dearborn, Suite 3892,
Chicago, IL 60604
www.durbin.senate.gov/contact/

Senator Tammy Duckworth

230 S Dearborn Suite 3900,
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www.duckworth.senate.gov/connect/

16th District Rep. Darin LaHood

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309-671-7027 | <https://lahood.house.gov/>

17th District Rep. Eric Sorenson

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<https://sorensen.house.gov/>

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