



Flyway

Spring 2007

DAS ANNUAL CONSERVATION CONFERENCE MARCH 31, 2007

At the Detroit Zoo's Ford Education Center

Featuring

DANIEL KLEM, JR., Ph.D., D.Sc. of Muhlenberg College

JOELLE GEHRING, Ph.D. of Central Michigan University

Our Annual Conference will be held at the Detroit Zoo's Ford Education Center and there will be no cost to attend the conference.

The subject matter this year will be about the billion birds that are killed every year because they crash into man-made structures such as buildings and communication towers. Our two

featured speakers will enlighten us about this tragic reality. Dr. Daniel Klem has done considerable research on the hazards that glass windows pose to birds. Dr. Joelle Gehring has done her research on the dangers that birds face from the proliferation of communication towers. It is not feasible to move buildings or towers, so at first glance it seems there is nothing that can be done to alleviate these terrible problems. However, our speakers don't agree with that pessimistic view. They will have some ideas for us which, if put into effect, could reduce the enormous toll of birds.

For those who would like something more to contrast with the serious aspect of the conference, the Detroit Zoo will give the first 80 pre-registered attendees the opportunity to visit the zoo's serenely lovely butterfly garden in the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery, followed by a tour of the attached Free-flight Aviary. Zoo personnel will be on hand to guide us through these outstanding exhibits. This pre-conference event will start at 7:00 a.m. and end at 8:15 a.m.

Note: The restricted number of attendees is necessary because of the space constraints in these exhibits.

In addition, for those who wish to spend their afternoon after the conference visiting the zoo, there will be a \$2 reduction in the regular zoo attendance fee. Pre-registration is required, along with the required admission fee. You will receive a wristband at the registration table in the Ford Education Center to allow you to enter the zoo.

Please note that this year's conference material is not suitable for children. For those who wish to have their child accompany them to the zoo on March 31, we have arranged for a special children's program to be available. CHILDREN MUST BE AT LEAST 5 YEARS OLD TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SPECIAL PROGRAM. Parents should be sure their children are at the registration table by 9:15 a.m.

The children's activities will include a walking tour of the zoo, games, and crafts. BE SURE YOUR CHILD IS PREPARED FOR THE WEATHER AND THE WALKING. Three hours is a long time for children. The zoo will provide animal crackers and lemonade for the children. If your child has allergies or special nutritional needs, please pack your own snacks for your child.

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Flyway

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The opinions expressed by the authors and editors do not necessarily reflect the policy of the DAS.

Articles that appear in the Flyway may be reproduced freely as long as credit is given to Detroit Audubon Society.

Submission of original articles and artwork is welcomed. Deadline for the Summer '07 Issue is May 1, 2007.

Advertising rates are available by contacting the DAS office.

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DETROIT
AUDUBON
SOCIETY



a member of **Earth Share**
OF MICHIGAN

To find
out about
workplace
giving, e-mail
John Makris at
detas@bignet.net

RARE BIRD ALERT PHONE MESSAGE DISCONTINUED

The DAS Rare Bird Alert recorded phone message has been cancelled due to very low use. The use of the internet for regular information on recent sightings of unusual species or numbers of birds has made the use of the phone unnecessary. Please go to our website to find where to find recent news of bird sightings. www.detroitaudubon.org. We will continue to add other sources.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Richard Quick

The New Year for the Detroit Audubon Society will bring challenges and opportunities we have not experienced before. The challenges will test our ability to serve as a viable environmental organization. The opportunities will offer us chances to be involved in new programs and to expand others we have been involved with in recent years.

To help meet these challenges, we have completely remade our web page to give it a new and vastly improved appearance, more content and better navigation. We will continue to update to make it even more useful. If you have not visited the site, go to www.detroitaudubon.org. Visit it often!

In the past years, DAS has offered membership programs and we will continue this year. We hope to bring our Southfield programs back and continue the Wyandotte downriver programs. The downriver programs scheduled are listed in this *Flyway*. Look for the new schedule coming in the fall and plan to attend these presentations.

Our Annual Conference last year was very successful and helped to open the new Ford Education Center at the Detroit Zoo. We will be offering another important program there this year featuring our new project, Safe Passage Great Lakes, which is intended to reduce migrating bird deaths due to collisions with buildings. See the DAS Annual Conservation Conference article on page 1 and register soon as space is limited. The DAS Board has given this project a very high priority. This will be a major challenge and can only be successful with your support. I hope to see you on March 31st.

We were challenged by the Dove Hunting Proposal petition in 2005 and the vote in November. The opportunity to be a part of the campaign by the environmental community against Proposal 2 resulted in a heavy NO vote to defeat dove hunting in Michigan.

The challenge to save Humbug Marsh and create the resulting Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge has had a great deal of support from DAS and this year we will continue to be very involved with the DRIWR. DAS will be involved with development of the headquarter's building and nature area and we look forward to the opportunity to help present programs there.

Last year, DAS began what I hope will be a significant relationship with the Detroit Zoo and the Huron Clinton Metro parks at the Belle Isle Nature Zoo. This is an opportunity to live up to our name: The "Detroit" Audubon Society.

Our St. Clair sanctuary will need attention to continue to protect habitat and we will look for other opportunities to preserve habitat in other areas as well. Protecting rare and endangered plant and animal species has always been a priority for the DAS.

Environmental challenges will continue to be a priority for the DAS this year. The Board will be deciding on priorities in the next month and we need to hear from you. What areas should we give high priority? Let us know what you think.

Probably the greatest challenge we face is our financial condition. DAS must develop an ongoing membership giving program and a grant/challenge relationship with foundations and corporations. Our past efforts have been too small to support the kinds of programs we want to develop. The Board will be putting together a development campaign in the next few months and I hope you will seriously consider supporting DAS with your donations. For now, please use the form in the *Flyway* or go to our website to print a form to make your tax deductible donation to DAS.

Yes, the New Year will be challenging for DAS but I am determined to turn them into opportunities and continue our legacy of environmental protection. I hope you will support our efforts.

The Detroit Audubon Society presents the
2007 Conservation Conference
"BIRDS, GLASS, AND TOWERS"
Saturday, March 31, 2007 9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.
At the Detroit Zoo's Ford Education Center

Featuring:

Daniel Klem, Jr. Ph.D., D.Sc.
Professor of Biology and
Sarkis Acopian Professor of
Ornithology and Conservation Biology
Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA.

Joelle Gehring, Ph.D.
Michigan Natural Features Inventory
and faculty of Central Michigan
University, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

Conference Agenda:

7:00 a.m.: Tour of Butterfly Garden and Free-flight Aviary. **No charge, but you must pre-register**

8:30 a.m.: Registration in the lobby of the Ford Education Center. **Free**

View and bid on silent auction items.

View 2006 Shell Photographer of the Year Exhibit

9:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.: Special Children's Program : Ages 5-12 - **\$5.00 fee**

9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.: Annual Conservation Conference Program

"BIRDS, GLASS, AND TOWERS" presentation

2007 HONORS AWARDS:

Conservationist of the Year

Conservation Organization of the Year

12:30 -1:00 p.m. Pick up Silent Auction items

Those with admission enjoy your zoo visit.

DETROIT AUDUBON ANNUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Please include the names of EVERYONE attending the Conference and/or the Butterfly Garden and Free-flight Aviary

If you plan to visit the zoo afterwards, you MUST PREPAY the reduced admission price:

Adult - \$9.00 Senior (62+) - \$7.00 Child (2-12) - \$6.00

You MUST PREPAY the Children's Program fee (children ages 5 -12 only).

CONTACT PERSON: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name (Attendees)	Adult (A) Child (C) Senior (S)	Butterfly Garden Tour (Y or N)	Children's Program \$5	Zoo Admission* (Only if visiting zoo in afternoon)	Subtotals
			\$	\$	\$
			\$	\$	\$
			\$	\$	\$
			\$	\$	\$
			\$	\$	\$

Donation to DAS to help defray cost of conference: \$

GRAND TOTAL: \$

Please make check payable to: Detroit Audubon Society

Mail this completed registration form and your check to: DAS, 1320 N. Campbell Rd., Royal Oak, MI 48067

DAS FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

Belle Isle

February 17, 2007 (Saturday) 9:00 a.m.

Leader: Steve Santner

The Detroit River is one of the key wintering areas for waterfowl in North America and Belle Isle is a very convenient location to take this in without having to go too far from your vehicle.

Meet at the Nature Center parking lot on Belle Isle.

Owl Prowl, Stony Creek Metropark

March 3, 2007 (Saturday) 7:00 p.m.

Leaders: Doug Spiller (supervisory naturalist at Stony Creek) and Jim Bull

Great Horned Owls will have been nesting since early February and Barred Owls will just be beginning to nest at this time of year. Since they are defending their territories, playing an owl tape or imitating their call will likely bring a response from them, perhaps even bringing them into view. Screech Owls should also be responsive to imitations of their calls by our leaders.

From I-75 exit on M-59 East, then go north on M-53. Exit at 26 Mile Road to the park entrance. We will meet either at the nature center or at the golf course parking lot. Watch the Flyway and our website for more details or call our office at 248.545.2929. If we have a big group, we will split up into two smaller groups.

Woodcock Watch

April 13, 2007 (Friday) 7:15 p.m.

Leaders: Kevin Arnold (Oakwoods Metropark Naturalist) and Jim Bull

Right at dusk, this sandpiper, with a long beak and huge comical eyes, comes to open areas to do its spectacular aerial courtship display. This program is especially good for families with children.

From I-75 exit at West Road, go west, from there go south on Telegraph (M-24), west on Van Horn, then east (left) on Huron River Drive to the entrance to Oakwoods Metropark. You will need an annual Metroparks sticker or a daily pass. Meet at the nature center.

Smith's Chicken Trip, NW Indiana, Central Illinois

April 12-15, 2007 (Thursday-Sunday)

Leader: Karl Overman

The target birds for this trip are Smith's Longspur and Greater Prairie Chicken. We will start out birding in northwest Indiana where, besides looking for Smith's Longspurs, we will look for whatever early spring migrants we can find. We will drive into Illinois where Smith's Longspurs are regular in spring migration though their exact whereabouts shift from year to year. There is no money-backed-guarantee on that bird but we have succeeded in all participants seeing Smith's Longspurs on the five previous trips DAS has run. For Greater Prairie Chicken we will go to Newton County, Illinois which is currently the eastern outpost for the species, albeit a tenuously held outpost. Bring wading boots as we are likely to try for Yellow Rail as well. Check the DAS web page under Trip Reports regarding the results of the last trip.

Meet in Farmington Hills at 8:00 a.m. on April 12. Return around 9:00 p.m. on April 15. Lodging and

transportation provided. Charge: \$450; \$100 deposit; single room supplement extra. Payment in full due by April 1, 2007.

Frog Symphony, Blue Herons, Great Horned Owls—West Bloomfield Nature Preserve

April 20, 2007 (Friday) 7:15 p.m.

Leaders: Sally Petrella and Jim Bull

Join us for an evening of listening to and searching for frogs. We'll start out the trip watching Great Blue Herons from an observation platform. Wood Ducks and other waterfowl are possible. For the last few years we have been able to observe a Great Horned Owl nest with young in the middle of the heron rookery. This field trip is co-sponsored by Detroit Audubon Society and Friends of the Rouge. This program is especially good for children.

From Telegraph Road, go west on Long Lake Road to where it dead-ends at Orchard Lake. Turn left and go to the next traffic light. Turn right on to Pontiac Trail. Take Pontiac Trail and look for the sign "West Bloomfield Nature Preserve" at Arrowhead Road. Follow signs to the preserve parking lot.

Crane Creek Ohio

April 21, 2007 (Saturday) 8:00 a.m.

Leader: Mike Mencotti

Think spring thoughts and venture to this famous birding locale. The trip will be timed for when the auto trail is open at Ottawa Refuge.

Take I-75 to Toledo; turn off on I-280 to Highway 2. Follow Hwy 2 east about 18 miles and turn north at the Crane Creek entrance. Drive to west end of beach parking lot at beginning of Bird Trail.

Saginaw Bay

April 28, 2007 (Saturday) 9:00 a.m.

Leader: Karl Overman

The trip will start at Nayanquing Point where we should get Yellow-headed Blackbirds plus shorebirds and waterfowl. Then we will move on to Bay City State Park for migrant passerines.

Drive north on I-75 to Exit 173 (Linwood). Go east to M-13 and go three miles north to Kitchen Road. Take Kitchen Road east to the end. Meet at the tower at Nayanquing Point.

Frog Symphony and Campfire

May 4, 2007 (Friday) 7:15 p.m.

Leaders: Sally Petrella and Jim Bull

Join us for an evening of listening to and searching for frogs (and maybe salamanders), followed by a campfire with s'mores, singing and just plain fun in this beautiful rural setting. Co-sponsored by Detroit Audubon, Friends of the Rouge and Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy.

For online directions use the address 2384 N. Prospect Road, Ypsilanti, Mi. or go to the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy website at www.landconservancy.com. The wetland entrance is 3/4 mile north of Geddes Road and 2.25 miles south of Ford Road.

St. Clair Woods

- Wildflowers and More -

May 5, 2007 (Saturday) 1:00 p.m.

Leader: Richard Quick

Join us for a tour of Detroit Audubon's own St. Clair Woods Sanctuary where there is a scenic stream and a carpet of wildflowers under a mixture of deciduous and coniferous woods. Yellow Trout lilies, hepatica, red trillium, white trillium and the locally rare painted trillium. Salamanders are sometimes found and we'll even look at birds though the focus will be on wildflowers.

Take I-94 east, exiting on M-21. Go west. Turn south (left on Wadhams Road), then right on Griswold. Look for sanctuary sign and drive into the small parking lot.

Humbug Marsh

May 6, 2007 (Sunday) 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Leader: Jim Bull

See this natural gem of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge in spring.

Take I-75 to Gibraltar Road. Go east toward Gibraltar, turn left on Jefferson and drive north to Vreeland Road. Park in the Refuge Headquarters parking lot on the east side of Jefferson. Parking lot is accessed from Toledo Road.

Southfield Park Hop

May 10, 2007 (Note: Thursday) 8:00 a.m.

Leader: Karl Overman

A chance to explore close to home with the prospects of interesting birds in unlikely locations. We will visit a series of parks in Southfield on this venture.

Meet at the playground area in the NE part of the Southfield Municipal Complex on Evergreen Road just east of the Lodge Expressway (M-10).

Metropolitan Beach

May 12, 2007 (Saturday) 8:00 a.m.

Leader: Joanna Pease
(straxvaria@sbcglobal.net)

A justly famous migrant trap

Take I-94 east and exit on Metropolitan Parkway. Drive east into the park and park (entrance fee) on the west side of the main parking lot near the Nature Center. Meet at the Center.

Rondeau Provincial Park

May 19, 2007 (Saturday) 8:00 a.m.

Leaders: Fred Charbonneau & Georgia Reid

A fine area for breeding birds at a time when there still should be a good selection of migrants. The best place in Ontario to look for Prothonotary Warblers.

From Windsor take 401 east to Exit 101, then drive southeast on Kent Road all the way to the park (entrance fee). Follow the main road for about 2.5 miles and turn left at the gate. Meet at the parking lot of the Nature Centre.

Please E-mail Us!

If you would like to receive notices about membership meetings, field trips, and other time sensitive material, please send your e-mail address to detas@bignet.net. Simply type the word "subscribe" in the subject line. Please include at least your name in the message area of your e-mail. We will only send out a few e-mails a month and you can ask to be removed at any time. E-mail will help save postage and paper costs -- and will allow us to give you speedy notification of events.

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

At the December meeting of the Board of Directors the new officers for the coming year were elected.

Those elected are:

President - Richard Quick
Vice-president – Rosemarie Fielding
Secretary – Rosemarie Attilio
Treasurer – Beth Johnson

Directors re-elected to the Board of Directors class of 2009 by vote of the membership are:

Rosemarie Attilio
Andy Howell
Eugene Perrin
Rosemarie Fielding

Congratulations to all.

Congratulations to Rochelle Breitenbach for your service as president of the Board for the last two years. Rochelle has spent endless hours directing Detroit Audubon, attending meetings, organizing our activities and leading the Board of Directors. She will continue as a valued member of the Board. Thanks Rochelle.

Chris Fielding, a long-time member of the Board has decided to leave us and we thank him for his service to the Society. Chris will continue to serve DAS as webmaster and will no doubt spend many hours in that position. Thanks Chris.

NEEDED DAS BOARD DIRECTORS and VOLUNTEERS

Over the past few years, the DAS Board of Directors has been reduced to 16 members as members have resigned or not continued at the end of their three year term. We are in need of new members, who will bring energy and expertise, to help us with new programs and continue existing programs. Needs include:

- Fund raising
- Volunteer organization
- Environmental education
- Designing member programs
- Outreach to schools
- Knowledge in various fields of environmental concerns to help work toward solutions.

We also need volunteers to help with many other areas. We often have booths at many events in the area and must have people to staff them. We need people to join committees (Conservation, Education, Membership, etc.) and help with the Flyway mailing and fund-raising.

Please consider joining the DAS Board of Directors or volunteering. Contact us at detas@bignet.net or call the office at 248-545-2929.

FEATHERED TALES



By Bev Stevenson

On our lake property located just south of Pere Marquette, we **Stevensons** love having an abundance of Red-headed Woodpeckers. However, they completely took over our feeders this last summer and chased away all the other birds with the exception of the Red-winged Black Birds, who gave them a fight.

Suzanne Robinson of Clarkston saw a Flying Squirrel on Halloween night.

What a great new year treat it was for **Bob Flowers**, who watched a male and a female Hooded Merganser on the 4th. of January, in Northville, between 5 and 6 Mile on the west side of Ridge Rd. There is an 8 ft. boardwalk along side the Cold Water Springs Area adjacent to Johnson Creek.

BOOKSTORE BITS

By Bev Stevenson

The book, Shorebird Guide at \$26.00, is highly recommended by Ken Kaufman, Pete Dunne, David Sibley and Stephen Moss. This guide enables birders of all levels to identify shorebirds quickly and simply with over 870 stunning color photographs. It entertains and educates.

DETROIT AUDUBON SOCIETY

I'm enclosing or charging my tax deductible contribution of: ___ \$1000 ___ \$500 ___ \$100 ___ \$50 ___ \$20 ___ OTHER

Name _____ e-mail _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

To Charge, indicate: ___ Visa ___ MasterCard Card Number: _____ Exp. Date _____

Name as Shown on Card _____ Signature _____

This gift is (circle one: 'in memory of' 'in honor of'): _____

Please send acknowledgement to: _____

Mail this completed form (your check payable to Detroit Audubon Society) to:
Detroit Audubon Society, 1320 N. Campbell Road, Royal Oak, MI 48067
Thank You for your support!

DETROIT AUDUBON MONTHLY ARMCHAIR NATURE EXPEDITIONS

Enjoy and learn about wildlife in these evening programs at St. Elizabeth Church, 1123 Second St. Wyandotte, MI. 48192. The church is on Goodell between First and Second Streets. Saturday programs are in the church's beautiful sanctuary (enter from Goodell). The Thursday programs are held in their basement social hall (access from alley door). **All programs are FREE but donations are strongly encouraged to help defray the cost of bringing you these extraordinary programs.**

SATURDAY PROGRAMS

Saturday March 10, 2007. 7:30 p.m. Concert. SONGS AND STORIES OF THE GREAT NORTH WOODS with singer-songwriter Tom Hodgson.

For all ages. Humorous and sensitive songs reflecting the many human experiences possible in the wild outdoors. Tom first discovered the power and effectiveness of music as an interpretive tool 35 years ago while a park naturalist for Michigan State Parks. Thousands of campers joined in his music around countless summer campfires. He also worked as naturalist for Cranbrook Institute of Science. While director of the Dahlem Environmental Education Center in Jackson, Tom expanded his musical offerings to summer day camp songs, and began performing concerts in local elementary schools. For five summers Tom toured with the Michigan Humanities Council's "Great Outdoor Culture Tour," which brings musicians and artists to perform at Michigan state parks and tourist attractions. You'll have fun at this concert and you just may learn a thing or two about nature in the process.

THURSDAY PROGRAMS

Thursday May 10, 2007. Program. MICHIGAN'S FARMING BUTTERFLIES. Dr. Mike Kielb.

Michigan's butterflies are wonderful indicators of healthy ecosystems. Their larvae need specific plants while adults may have different needs. If the proper vegetation is not in place, then their numbers decrease and they ultimately disappear. When everything is healthy, they thrive. How do butterflies help their ecosystems through "farming" the plants they need? Eastern Michigan University Biology Professor Mike Kielb explores this story with great slides and humorous tales. Kielb also studies birds in the Upper Peninsula's Huron Mountain Club.

CATHERINE BULL PASSES



Longtime member of the DAS, Catherine Spence Bull, died suddenly on Oct. 19, 2006. She is survived by her two sons James Nickell Bull, twice president and current board member of Detroit Audubon Society, Robert Blackwell Bull, her brother Harold Spence and several nephews, nieces and grand nephews and nieces.

Memorial Gifts can be sent to Detroit Audubon

SPRING 2006 BANDING SUMMARY Metro Beach Metropark Allen Chartier - Permit No. 23156

The spring of 2006 was the third year of a renewed banding study. To see the results go to our web site at: www.detroitaudubon.org. and click on **Citizen Research**.

Donation Thank You!

A special thanks to all the members who generously gave donations throughout this past year. If you've donated and we missed your name, please call the office at 248-545-2929.

Alger, Joel - Beattie, Susan - Belfon, Everard F. - Call, Jon - Capo, Marilou J. - Crookshank, Philip N. - Feingold, Martin - Ferry, Ruth L. - Fisher, Frances - Fowler, Joanna - Fox, Norma Alice - Frederick, Linda - Frohardt-Lane, Dan - Gerhardstein, Sue - Germaine, Mark - Glazer, Louis - Hintz, Michele - Kinsey, Melinda - Klosner, Bruce R. - Levantrosser, Barbara - Ludwig, Elaine - Magyari, James - Miller, Eric/Paige - Miner, Jill Craig - Nicholson, Vassilia B. - Parnicky, Kris - Robinson, Lisa - Simek, Rick/Pam - Smith, W. Floyd - Stevenson, Stephanie - Stewart, Robert - Stoner, Penny - Sypula, Monica - Watkins, Margaret - Widdis, Barbara Ann - Zepelin, Cathleen

THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

COUNT FOR THE BIRDS
IN NORTH AMERICA'S GREAT BACKYARD

10TH ANNUAL
**GREAT BACKYARD
BIRD COUNT**

White-breasted Nuthatch Feb 17, 2006 - Feb 20, 2006

**FEBRUARY
16-19, 2007**

THIS PRESIDENTS' DAY WEEKEND

- Discover more about the birds around you
- Track results in real time online
- Count *anywhere*—in your backyard, balcony, schoolyard, park, refuge
- All ages and skill levels welcome • No fee or registration required

For extra copies of this 10th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count poster, please email citizenscience@audubon.org or visit www.birdsource.org/gbbc

10th ANNUAL
GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT
FEBRUARY 16-19, 2007

HOSTED BY THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
& CORNELL LABORATORY OF ORNITHOLOGY

Audubon CORNELL LAB OF ORNITHOLOGY

TAKE PART BY VISITING
www.birdsource.org/gbbc

We looked at more than 3,000 bird photos sent in during the February 2006 count. Visit the GBBC web site at <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/gallery/> to view short listed 73 images and the winners of the 5 categories.

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon have archived the images for use in our education and outreach efforts on behalf of birds. Thank you to everyone who submitted photos.

Help spread the word with the Great Backyard Bird Count poster and press release.

You can print or email a Great Backyard Bird Count poster/brochure to distribute in your community. It's available on the GBBC web site along with a press release that you can send to your bird club or community newsletters to alert them about the upcoming count, February 16-19, 2007. If you'd

like to receive copies in the mail, please email citizenscience@audubon.org. This year, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon are challenging bird enthusiasts to "Count for the record!" Please help by encouraging your friends and colleagues to take part. Greater participation provides a more complete record of where the birds are. Last year, participants submitted 60,616 checklists--just missing the all-time record by 433 checklists.

Poster/brochure: <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/press/news-stories/free-poster-brochure>

Press release: <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/press/news-release>

Have you ever led or participated in a Great Backyard Bird Count workshop?

Please tell us about what worked for you. We're developing materials to help participants lead workshops in their communities. Send ideas or suggestions to Jennifer Smith at jls39@cornell.edu in the subject line, write "Workshop."

Join our team of ambassadors.

Would you like to be on our list of GBBC ambassadors? Ambassadors help spread word of the count in their communities however they can. Your level of involvement is up to you. We'll send you suggestions. Just email Jennifer Smith at jls39@cornell.edu

and write "GBBC ambassador" in the subject line. In the body of the message, include your name, address, phone number, and preferred email address. Write "Media OK" if you are willing to be contacted by the media. All materials for ambassadors are on the GBBC web site, but if you'd like to receive a postal mailing, write "Mail packet." If you have already signed up, thank you. We'll be in touch with you soon.

Support Citizen Science this holiday season.

If you'd like to support National Audubon and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology in their Citizen Science efforts with a donation, you can do so online. To support the Lab by becoming a member, visit <http://www.birds.cornell.edu>. To support Audubon, please go to <https://loon.audubon.org/payment/donate/SCIgBBC.html>.

Remember to add February 16-19 2007 to your calendar.

NATURE & CONSERVATION BOOKS • • • • • BIRD FEEDERS • • •

**Shop for all your
Nature Gifts at
the DAS
Book & Gift Shop**

BIRD SONG RECORDS • • • • • BIRD SONG TAPES • • • • • BIRD HOUSES • • • • • SWEAT SHIRTS & T-SHIRTS • • • • •

Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday - 8 am to 4 pm
10% discount to Audubon members on cash purchases

1320 N. Campbell Road • Royal Oak • (248) 545-2929

One block south of 12 Mile Road, west of I-75. Free parking in rear

• • • FIELD GUIDES • • • • • BOOKS AND GAMES FOR CHILDREN • • •

DAS Annual Conference - cont'd from page 1

Parking for all conference participants will be free. However, everyone must pre-register for this benefit. So even if you will not be participating in the pre-conference event or the post-conference zoo visit, please complete and return the registration form on page 2. The guard who will be on duty at the zoo needs a list of all registered participants, since we will be entering the zoo prior to the regular opening time and will not be entering at the regular zoo entrance.

As mentioned in a previous Flyway, DAS has embarked on an effort to encourage building owners and managers to turn off the lights in the upper-floor windows of their buildings overnight during the spring and fall bird migration seasons, so that night-migrating birds will have less chance of crashing into the buildings. Birds flying in the daytime also crash into windows, including those in homes. One way to help prevent this kind of tragedy is to place decals in the windows so birds will better understand that these windows are not "throughways." Each conference attendee will receive one such decal and we will have packages of them available for purchase. There will also be a silent auction at the conference and our bookstore will be there, too.

The entrance gate for our conference will be Gate #3, which is along the Ten Mile Road service drive to I-696. Parking will be free in the large zoo lot near the Ford Education Center. There will be someone stationed there to check off your name as a pre-registered attendee. Official registration for the conference will begin in the lobby of the Ford Education Center at 8:30 a.m. The program will begin at 9:30 a.m. Those arriving early will have the opportunity to tour the Annual Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibit in the Ford Education Center. These are some of the finest wildlife photographs imaginable.

Those people coming to the pre-conference event at the Butterfly Garden and Aviary should arrive several minutes early (preferably by 6:45 a.m.) to meet in the parking lot, after entering Gate #3, so that they will have time to walk to the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery near the front of the zoo. You might want to bring binoculars for this event.

While zoo parking and the DAS Annual Conference are free, donations will be gratefully accepted.



GO GREEN

Green Lodging Michigan Program Certifies First Six Facilities

The Michigan Energy Office introduced its new Green Lodging Michigan program at the October 18 meeting of the Michigan Society of Government Meeting Professionals. Green Lodging Michigan (GLM) is a joint effort by the Michigan Energy Office (DLEG) and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to encourage the lodging industry to conserve and protect the state's natural resources while increasing marketability and lowering utility costs. The program is a voluntary, non-regulatory effort established to provide certification and assistance to lodging facilities that make special efforts to protect the environment and conserve natural resources.

Hotels and motels that implement "green" practices have also found that they can save money and generate good publicity. Environmental tourism has grown exponentially over the past 10 years. A survey of U.S. travelers found that 87 percent would be more likely to stay at "green" properties. There are 43 million people in the U.S. who are self-proclaimed "eco-tourists."

Facilities are certified at different levels based on meeting basic requirements and a number of additional environmental initiatives. The environmental initiatives are in seven categories: communication and education, energy efficiency, air quality, solid waste reduction, toxic and hazardous waste, water conservation, and purchasing.

There are three levels of certification that can be earned: Partner, Steward and Leader. The first six facilities that have earned Green Lodging Michigan certification include two partners: Bayshore Resort, which is located on the sandy beaches of West Grand Traverse Bay, and the Wren's Nest, a bed and breakfast located in West Bloomfield. The next highest level of certification is Steward. Four have earned Steward certification: Crystal Mountain, located in picturesque northwest lower Michigan, Livonia Marriott, located just outside of Detroit, the 100 year old Neahtawanta Inn, a bed and breakfast located on the Old Mission Peninsula in Grant Traverse Bay, and the Dept. of Natural Resources' Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center, located on the northern shores of Higgins Lake. As facilities are certified, they will be added to the GLM web site at www.michigan.gov/greenlodging. Think Green when you travel.

Join Us

Memorial Weekend Nature Getaway

Sponsored by Detroit Audubon and Michigan Audubon
Loon Lake Lutheran Retreat Center
Hale, Michigan

You, your family and friends are invited to join us for an inexpensive weekend of birds, nature, learning, and lots of fun at the beautiful Loon Lake Lutheran Retreat Center. It is located in Iosco County near Hale, about a 2.5 to 3 hour drive from the Detroit area.

The camp has beautiful Loon Lake, cabins, a lodge and many acres of woods, marshes, fields and streams. Check out their website at www.loonlakeretreat.org

Fieldtrips, Family Adventures & Other activities

Offsite field trips will include trips to Tawas Point State Park, Tuttle Marsh,

Kirtland's Warbler viewing area, Rifle River Recreation Area, and Lumberman's Monument. Back at the camp, enjoy kayaking, canoeing, fishing, swimming and guided hikes around camp.

Evening Programs

From singing around the campfire and roasting s'mores to learning about Michigan wildlife.

Join Us

The weekend package (Saturday through Monday) includes: eight meals, snacks, field trips, evening programs and three night's accommodations.

Upon registration, you will receive a packet of information with directions and what you will need to bring. We look forward to having you at Loon Lake.

Make your reservation today!

For More Information & Registration

Rosemarie Attilio, email: rattilio@aol.com, DAS office: 248-545-2929

Jim Bull, DAS office: 248-545-2929

Jeanette Henderson, MAS Program Coordinator, 517-886-9144 or email: programcoordinator@michiganaudubon.org

Scenes from Last Year's Memorial Weekend Nature Getaway

- photos courtesy of Rosemarie Attilio & Jan Pallard -



Detroit & Michigan Audubon Joint Spring Nature Weekend May 25-28

WHEN: Friday evening May 25 (no dinner provided) through Monday lunch, May 28, 2007.

WHERE: Loon Lake Lutheran Retreat Center, formerly Camp Mahn-Go-Tahsee, just north of Hale, Michigan on M-65 and about 25 miles inland from Tawas City in forested Iosco County. Registration 5-9:00 p.m. Friday May 25, Seaholm Lodge. Let us know if you can't make it until later.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Seaholm Lodge at Camp Mahn-Go-Tahsee has separate heated sleeping areas with bunk beds for men and women. There are two heated mini-lodges available with priority given to families with young children. We will have at least two summer cabins available this year. A few more are possible only if we exceed 100 campers. You can also choose to stay in a motel and join us for meals and programs.

MEALS: Eight meals included with registration: Saturday and Sunday evening snacks, three meals on Saturday and Sunday, plus breakfast and noon meal on Monday. Vegetarian options available.

CAMPOUT PROGRAM: The weekend will start Friday night at 8:00 p.m. or after most folks have arrived with a get-acquainted activity and program in Seaholm Lodge. Evening programs, exciting field trips, night hike, children's programs, canoeing and a variety of nature activities will be offered every day.

CONFIRMATION: Your reservation confirmation will include a map of the area, list of things to bring, directions to camp and other pertinent materials.

PRE-CAMPOUT INQUIRIES: Jim Bull (313) 928-2950, Rose Attilio (248) 683-6122 or Jeanette Henderson (517) 886-9144. All registration questions should be directed to Jeanette.

	Adult	Child (K-8)	Child (Pre-K)
COSTS (per person):			
Weekend Package (lodging, meals & program)	\$155	\$85	Free
Day Use - Entire Weekend (meals & program)	\$100	\$50	Free
Day Use - Saturday or Sunday (meals & program)	\$50/day	\$25/day	Free
Day Use - Monday (meals & program)	\$20	\$10	Free

Rustic summer cabins are \$25 additional per night. You can share a cabin to spread the cost, but that is up to you and not the organizers. This is what we are charged. There is no mark up on this fee.

Detroit & Michigan Audubon Joint Spring Campout May 25-28, 2007

Name of Contact Person: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone: _____

Grade Level: Please give the grade level of all children & youth under 18. List Pre-K children too.

Accommodation Preference: SL = Seaholm Lodge ML = Mini-Lodges (Families w/ young children) D = Day Use (Specify Sat, Sun, or Mon)

Meal Preference: V = Vegetarian F = Vegetarian w/ fish or poultry O.K. N = No special needs / preferences

DAS/MAS Membership: D = DAS M = MAS N = None If you aren't a member, consider joining one or both organizations

Name of Attendee(s)	Grade Level (If under 18)	Gender: M or F	Accomm. Pref: SL, ML, D	Meal Pref: V, F, N	DAS/MAS Member: D,M,N	Amount
						\$
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						\$
Total Enclosed						\$

Mail this completed form with your check (payable to Michigan Audubon Society) or MasterCard / Visa information completed below to:
 Ms. Jeanette Henderson, Program Coordinator, Michigan Audubon Society, 6011 St. Joseph, Suite 403, Lansing, MI 48917

If you are using MasterCard or Visa.

Name as it appears on card: _____ Signature: _____
 MasterCard or Visa Number _____ Exp. Date _____

POINT PELEE CAMPOUT



The annual DAS Pt. Pelee Spring Migration campout will be held this year on the weekend of May 4-6. This is for tenters only. Group camping is the only way to camp at Pt. Pelee, a national park located near Leamington, Ontario. The cost is \$28 per person for the weekend at the Little Raccoon group campsite within the park. Space is limited to 20 campers, so don't delay.

Make checks out to Mike Fitzpatrick and send to:
56 Hubbard St., Mt Clemens, MI 48043

Include the names of all campers you are registering. A confirmation/info sheet will be returned to you.

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DAS WISH LIST

Gently used binoculars and birding field guides

Provide a new birder the opportunity to develop the passion for birding that sustains many of us. We encourage you to donate your gently used binoculars and birding field guides. We can arrange pick up of donated items and provide you an acknowledgement of your tax deductible donation.



*Detroit Audubon Society
1320 N. Campbell Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067*