



www.detroitaudubon.org

Flyway

Winter 2009/2010

Volume 2010, Issue 1

Birds Need Our Help! Act now to help pass the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act



A few months ago you may have helped in the conservation of our birds by sending an email to your Representative or Senator asking them to dramatically increase funding for the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act. Thanks to your support and thousands more like you, we have made considerable advances, but there is still more to do before we reach our goal. **Please can you once again Act for Songbirds today?**

A new bill has now been introduced in the Senate (S.690) and a companion bill in the House (H.R. 2213), to reauthorize the existing Act at significantly higher levels. In the House on 9/22/09, hearings were held in the **Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife**. In the Senate the **Committee on Environment and Public Works** has ordered to be reported without amendment favorably. By sending a second message to your Senators and Representative you can ensure that both bills pass for the benefit of birds.

Each spring, some five billion birds of 500 different species make their spectacular migration from their winter habitats in Latin America to breed in North America. These birds face many threats, in particular the continuing loss of habitat across the hemisphere. Many of these birds are experiencing significant population declines. Several species, such as the Cerulean Warbler and Olive-sided Flycatcher, have declined by as much as 70% since the 1960s.



The Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act is the only source of federal funding dedicated specifically to bird conservation throughout the Americas. It is an extremely effective matching grants program that coordinates and funds the conservation of neotropical migratory birds and their habitats in the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean. It has a proven track record of reversing habitat loss and degradation, and of advancing innovative management and habitat restoration strategies.

Thanks to these bipartisan bills in the Senate and House, funding could be dramatically increased from the current authorized level of \$6 million to \$20 million. All grants made by this Act must be matched by other funds at a ratio of 3:1, meaning every one tax-payer dollar from the Act leverages three from private sources. Overall, the program could result in some \$60 million in additional funding for bird conservation!

You can make a difference! Using our automated action center, you can quickly and easily send a message to your Senators and Representative explaining how you feel about these bills. Go to www.audubon.org and click on "Take Action". Click on the **Help Save Our Migratory Birds!** link to submit your comments.

This is one simple thing everyone can do for birds.

Source: American Bird Conservancy and National Audubon Society

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Flyway

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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 Spring 2010 Issue is January 1, 2010.

Advertising rates are available by contacting the DAS office.

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President's Message

by Jack Smiley

Here we are in the fall of 2009 already. Most of the migratory birds have left for warmer climes and we'll soon have a few bird species arriving into our area from more northern regions, including from the arctic. How birds are able to navigate these long distances is one of the great wonders of life.

But each year, birds are facing increasing peril along their epic journeys. Nature takes its toll, but millions of birds die from human causes. Man-made objects, such as cell towers and skyscrapers, have become tremendous obstacles to nighttime migration. Studies have shown that lights on both towers and in buildings have greatly increased the carnage. Artificial lights can attract and disorient birds, especially on foggy nights, causing them to collide with these deadly structures.

There is a simple solution which lessens the number of collisions: turning out the lights. This is not always possible, but in many instances it is a very easy and effective thing to do. Detroit Audubon has been at the forefront of encouraging building owners to turn out the lights in the upper stories of their tall buildings. This not only saves the lives of a great many birds, but it saves a lot of energy and money. Please take some time to read about Detroit Audubon's "Safe Passage Great Lakes" program by visiting the DAS website at www.detroitaudubon.org. You can also read about ways in which you can help reduce the number of bird deaths, including those caused by collisions with windows.

In addition, you can play a personal role in protecting birds by supporting the Detroit Audubon Society. During this economic downturn, your support is more important than ever. Please watch for our year-end appeal and plan to make a generous tax-deductible donation. We will greatly appreciate your support...and so will the millions of birds which migrate through southeast Michigan.

For the Latest News and Views from Detroit Audubon

be sure to frequently visit our website:
<http://www.detroitaudubon.org/>

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THE FLYWAY ONLINE?

Are you one of our members looking to reduce the amount of mail you receive and the amount of paper you have to recycle? Are you also interested in saving DAS postage costs - over \$1.40/year currently? If so, send us an email message and we will add you to a FLYWAY notice list and stop mailing the FLYWAY to you. We will be posting it as both text and as a pdf on our DAS website, www.detroitaudubon.org for those who like reading on their computer. We will send a message the day the FLYWAY is ready to print.

Send email to: detas@bignet.net; put "FLYWAY Online" as the subject. We will confirm receiving it.



Detroit Audubon Society Resolution On Climate Change

Whereas, the world’s scientific community has concluded with a very high level of confidence that emissions of carbon dioxide, methane, and other greenhouse gases are causing the Earth’s climate to warm; and

Whereas, a warmer climate could have severe economic and environmental impacts on this state, nation, and the world and will require action on the part of government, business, organizations, and the general public; and

Whereas, there is mounting scientific evidence that global warming is already having profound effects on birds, particularly regarding biodiversity, habitat, ecosystems, geographic range, reproduction timing, migration timing and patterns, and frequency and intensity of pest outbreaks which change or destroy habitat, all of which can lead to extinction; and

Whereas, the burning of fossil fuels—oil, natural gas and particularly coal, is the major source of greenhouse gas emissions; and

Whereas, coal plants also emit mercury, lead, arsenic, uranium, sulfur dioxide, nitrous oxide, particulate matter and other pollutants into the air, land and water (coal plants are the leading source of mercury in our environment, fish and other animals); and

Whereas, approximately 80% of the electricity in SE Michigan is generated from burning coal and 20% - 30% of this coal comes from mountain-top removal (mountain-top removal destroys bird habitat, pollutes streams and ground water and even destroys human communities); and

Whereas, there are alternatives to coal-generated electricity including conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy, which have far less harmful impacts on birds and all other animal life;

Therefore, the Board of Directors of the Detroit Audubon Society resolves to become more active in fighting global warming and supporting National Audubon’s call to members to become active citizens, to reduce energy consumption, and to support the National Audubon legislative call to:

- * Reduce global warming pollution 20 percent by 2020 and 80 percent by 2050;
- * Repower America by moving us toward a 100 percent clean energy future;
- * Reduce our dependence on oil by half;
- * Invest in the clean energy economy of tomorrow.

And further, Detroit Audubon Society resolves to fight proposed Michigan coal power plants and to support Michigan and U.S. legislation and efforts encouraging energy efficiency, renewable energy, and other global-warming-reduction actions.

DETROIT AUDUBON SOCIETY

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

Name _____ e-mail _____ Phone _____

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

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

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Mail this completed form (your check payable to Detroit Audubon Society) to:
Detroit Audubon Society, 26080 Berg Road, Southfield, MI 48033

Thank You for your support!

Osprey Nest in Wayne County

Wildlife Refuge press release

In 2009, a pair of osprey built a nest in a cell phone tower adjacent to the Gibraltar Wetlands Unit of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, representing the first time that osprey have successfully nested in Wayne County since the 1890s.

Osprey are one of the largest birds of prey in North America, with a nearly six foot wingspan. Previously known as "fish hawks," osprey feed almost exclusively on fish and are considered a good indicator of aquatic ecosystem health. As with bald eagles, a dramatic decline of osprey occurred throughout North America due to widespread use of DDT and other organochlorine pesticides that caused eggshell thinning. DDT was banned in Michigan in 1969 and nationwide in 1972. Osprey restoration efforts began in the mid-1980s.

In the Gibraltar Wetlands Unit, osprey first attempted to nest in a large tree in 2006 and 2007. Both attempts were unsuccessful. In 2008, osprey again attempted to nest in the cell phone tower located on the edge of the Gibraltar Wetlands Unit, but were again unsuccessful. Finally in 2009, osprey successfully nested in the cell phone tower next to the Gibraltar Wetlands Unit and fledged two young.

"The first successful osprey nest in southeast Michigan was reported in 2002 at Kensington Metropark," noted Jim Kortge of Osprey Watch of Southeast Michigan which works with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to restore the osprey population and educate people about this unique raptor. "Since 2002, osprey restoration efforts have been very successful, culminating with 18 confirmed nests in southeast Michigan that produced 46 chicks during 2009."

Historical ornithological records from southeast Michigan are limited. "However, based on available surveys and reports, there have been no reports of nesting osprey in Wayne County since the 1890s," notes ornithologist Julie Craves of the Rouge River Bird Observatory.

"This news of osprey reproduction in Wayne County along the Detroit River is part of a larger ecological recovery story for the Detroit River," said Tim Payne, wildlife biologist from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Since the enactment of the Clean Water Act and the signing of the U.S.-Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement in 1972, there has been a substantial reduction in pollutant loadings to the Detroit River and substantial improvement in the water quality of the Detroit River.

"There is no doubt that more needs to be done to clean up the Detroit River, but the environmental improvement achieved to date has laid the foundation for one of the most remarkable ecological recoveries in North America," reports Dr. John Hartig, Refuge Manager of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. Scientific evidence has documented the return of bald eagles, peregrine falcons, lake whitefish, lake sturgeon, walleye, and mayflies in large areas from which they had been extirpated or negatively impacted. And now there is evidence of the return of osprey to Wayne County. Clearly, this is good news for people living in the Detroit and Windsor metropolitan areas because if this ecosystem is cleaner for fish and wildlife, it is cleaner for people.

The Detroit River has the distinction of being the only international wildlife refuge in North America and the only river system to hold both American and Canadian Heritage River designations.

Feathered Tales

By Bev Stevenson



Amy Transchida, who lives in Romeo (33 Mile Rd. and Van Dyke), has had a Chukar hanging around her back yard all through the month of August. The Chukar is in the pheasant family and is a Western bird. They can stand temperatures to -30 degrees, so he's got a pretty good chance of surviving our winter if he sticks around.

Yet another Chukar!!! This one spotted around Adams & Walton Rds. by **Rose Bartnik** for a couple of weeks around mid-September.

Jim Hewins watched his 'resident' Cooper's Hawks raise their 2 young ones last April. He noticed the 'chicks' go from yellow to white and then gray. They quickly outgrew their nest, which was atop his white pine between his mail box and front door.

Heather Martin was pleasantly surprised to see a Cedar Waxwing on the pavement in a parking lot around Mack and Woodward. She approached it thinking it might be hurt - but it took off. This was back in June.

In the middle of June, **Kevin Kissel** noticed 10 times the usual number of Blue Herons on Grosse Ile. He's been going there for the last ten years and never saw that many.

John Grant spotted hundreds of Night Hawks on W. Outer Drive in Detroit, just north of 96. This was around the end of August.

Barb Bullock saw two Brown Thrashers in her Royal Oak backyard at the End of September.

Right after hearing about Barb's sighting in Royal Oak, **Rose Wagnitz** called to say there was a Brown Thrasher in HER back yard in Troy.

DETROIT AUDUBON SOCIETY WINTER FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

Niagara River Trip

November 27-29 2009 (Friday thru Sunday)

Leaders: Alan Wormington and Karl Overman

The Niagara region is the place to be in late fall in the Great Lakes region with masses of waterfowl and gulls. Alan Wormington is the best possible guide to that area. He has, with DAS members, turned up such notable birds as Great Cormorant, Gannet, King Eider, Purple Sandpiper, California Gull, Slaty-backed Gull, Kittiwake, Little Gull, Mew Gull, Snowy Owl, Hawk Owl, Rufous Hummingbird, and Golden-crowned Sparrow.

Departure will be at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, November 27 and returning Sunday November 29 at approximately 9:00 p.m. Location of departure will be in Farmington Hills. Contact Karl Overman at (248) 473-0484 for directions. Transportation and 2 nights lodging will be provided. You are on your own for food. Cost: \$350; \$75 deposit. Single room supplement \$450.

Detroit Christmas Bird Count

December 20, 2009 (Sunday)

Be a part of this nationwide birding phenomenon once and you are likely to be hooked for a lifetime.

Call Tim Nowicki at (734) 525-8630 or the DAS office (248) 990-1316 for details.

Rockwood Christmas Bird Count

Co-sponsored with the Grosse Ile Nature and Land Conservancy

December 26, 2009 (Saturday)

The 15 mile diameter circle for the Rockwood Count includes: Grosse Ile, Lake Erie Metropark, Trenton, Rockwood, South Rockwood, Newport and Oakwoods Metropark. Call Jim Bull at (313) 928-2950 if you live in the count area and want to participate in a bird feeder watch that day from the comfort of your home. To sign up to do more serious counting outside that day, contact count compiler, Tom Carpenter, at tcarpen1980@yahoo.com or (734) 728-8733 so he can assign you to an area and count team. There are many inland areas that desperately need coverage. A chili lunch and chili dinner will be provided. There is a \$5 fee if you want your name listed in the official report.

Belle Isle

February 6, 2010 (Saturday) 9:00 a.m.

Leaders: Steve Santner and Fred Charbonneau

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 in the Nature Center parking lot on Belle Isle.

I Am an Animal Rescuer

By Annette King-Tucker

Wild Heart Ranch Wildlife Rescue

Claremore, Ok

I am an Animal Rescuer.

My job is to assist God's creatures.

I was born with the need to fulfill their needs.

I take in new family members without plan, thought, or selection.

I have bought dog food with my last dime.

I have patted a mangy head with a bare hand.

I have hugged someone vicious and afraid.

I have fallen in love a thousand times

And I have cried into the fur of a lifeless body.

I have animal friends and friends who have animal friends.

I don't often use the word "pet."

I notice those lost at the road side

And my heart aches.

I will hand raise a field mouse

And make friends with a vulture.

I know of no creature unworthy of my time.

I want to live forever if there aren't animals in Heaven

But I believe there are.

Why would God make something so perfect and leave it behind.

We may be master of the animals,

But the animals have mastered themselves,

Something people still haven't learned.

War and abuse makes me hurt for the world,

But a rescue that makes the news gives me hope for mankind.

We are a quiet but determined army

And making a difference every day.

There is nothing more necessary than warming an orphan,

Nothing more rewarding than saving a life,

No higher recognition than watching them thrive.

There is no greater joy than seeing a baby play,

Who only days ago was too weak to eat.

I am an Animal Rescuer.

My work is never done.

My home is never quiet.

My wallet is always empty,

But my heart is always full.

In the game of life, we have already won.

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.

The Merlin's Dangling Dinner

By Leonard Weber

A little light snow was just beginning to fall about noon on a cold January day as I headed out for a short birding break in Eliza Howell Park, close to my northwest Detroit home. As usual, I took the path into the wooded area by the Rouge River. The bird appeared overhead as I began to walk along the north side of the river. My immediate identification reaction was to think of birds the right size that are likely to be around this time of the year. But just as quickly as I put it in the size category of a robin or maybe a mourning dove, I knew it was something quite different. I needed to get a better look.

Luck was with me. As I opened the zipper of my coat to pull out my binoculars, the bird came to rest on a branch of a tree at the river's edge, about 50 or 60 yards away from where I stood. Despite the falling snow, I was able to make the identification. A Merlin! Perched high in the tree, looking from side to side, it was the first Merlin I have ever seen in Eliza Howell Park. After about 300 birding walks here over a 10-year period, it is exciting to see any new species in the park. There is something about raptors that adds to the excitement.

Cautiously, trying not to frighten the Merlin away, I worked my way in for a closer look. The light was not very good, but I was now close enough to see more details. The back looked more brown than blue/gray, so I thought it might be a female. Then it changed its position. As it turned around, I was surprised to see that its left claw clutched its captured prey, a small bird. The catch was still intact and complete. Apparently the Merlin had not yet begun to devour it.

My birder's curiosity would be satisfied only when I knew the prey. As I slowly maneuvered to a better position for identifying the dangling dinner, the Merlin began to pluck and discard feathers. I watched the feathers fall, thinking that maybe I could later take a look at them for identification purposes. But they slowly drifted down onto the open water of the river and floated away.

I would have to make a visual identification on the basis of what I could presently see. Fortunately, the Merlin co-operated. It modified its position several times, giving me different views of the small bird. Somewhat reluctantly, I concluded that the Merlin's catch was a Black-capped Chickadee.

While birding a couple weeks earlier, I found myself remembering the words of the old girl scout song: "Make new friends and keep the old. One is silver and the other gold." My thought at that time was that I return to the same place to bird time after time looking for both the old and the new. The "old" are the birds that I typically see and always enjoy seeing again. The "new" are the unexpected whose presence I can never predict but who bring new excitement when they appear.

Among the "old" in the winter at Eliza Howell Park are Dark-eyed Juncos and Northern Cardinals and, yes, Black-capped Chickadees. The two most recent "new" birds this winter are Rough-legged Hawk and, now, Merlin. I was witnessing one of my new and exciting birds eating one of my reliable old favorites.

Chickadees are among my favorites for many reasons. They are pretty and energetic; they are found at all times of the year; they often signal the presence of other small birds, especially in fall and winter; they allow people close for better looks than we get of many other birds, so they are one of the birds that introduce non-birders, including children, to the world of wild birds. Like many other people, I have had the experience of Black-capped Chickadees eating seeds out of my hand. So I had a real feeling for the size and weight of the bird that the Merlin is grasping.

The Merlin ate slowly – picking at its food. I moved on, thinking that I would try to find a live chickadee or two. After a twenty-minute loop during which I saw no chickadees, I returned to see if the Merlin was still in the same location. It was – taking the last few bites. I then took another short loop, in a different direction. Still no chickadees. And when I returned, the Merlin was still roosting in the same tree, apparently enjoying a little postprandial rest. A third loop had the same results – no chickadees and the continuing presence of the Merlin.

It was now at least an hour and a half since the Merlin had first arrived. I consider myself very fortunate to have had such an extended opportunity to observe this northern falcon, but it would have been good to see a live Black-capped Chickadee as well.

Shortly after I got home, I glanced out of the kitchen window and saw a chickadee! I did have both silver and gold this day, after all.

A Murder of Crows

By Rosemarie Fielding, Vice President, DAS

Murder!? That's not the usual read in Detroit Audubon's *Flyway*, but hopefully it captured your attention. Actually, this isn't about murder at all, although crows are involved.

If you peruse the DAS website, you may have read *An Unconventional Book Review* posted during the summer. It introduced our readers to a new book, *Flyaway, How a Wild Bird Rehabber Sought Adventure and Found Her Wings*, by Suzie Gilbert. The review was "unconventional" as the reviewer (me) hadn't actually read the book at that time. Shortly thereafter I did read it and absolutely LOVED it.

(-continued on Page 8)

Time to Think About the 2010 Memorial Day Nature Getaway

Although snow might be on the ground, it is already time to think spring and plan ahead for Detroit Audubon's Annual Memorial Day Weekend Nature Getaway at the Loon Lake Lutheran Retreat Center just north of Hale, MI. Mark the dates, Friday, May 28-31, on your calendar and plan to join us this year. You'll be glad you did.

What will you get if you come?

- Loons nesting on the lake with their laughing, eerie call filling the north woods air at night and early morning
- Bald Eagles fishing in Loon Lake and nesting and feeding young which you can see from the observation deck at the Rifle River Recreation Area which we visit during the nature getaway
- A second look at spring migrating warblers and other songbirds
- Spend a weekend with interesting people
- Eat incredibly delicious food (and lots of it)

- Sing around a campfire and make s'mores
- Listen to a guest speaker on a nature topic
- Enjoy slides or power points of nature adventures of other Detroit Audubon guests
- Take a canoe or paddle boat around the lake
- Hike the trails and see the lady slippers in bloom
- See the endangered but recovered Kirtland's Warbler singing in the jack pines
- Climb to the top of an historic lighthouse at Tawas Point
- Enjoy birding at this miniature Point Pelee where we've seen some rare birds including Crouch's Kingbird
- A challenge course for the young and young at heart
- A frisbee golf course
- Swimming
- See the AuSable River from scenic overlooks and view warblers and merlins
- Visit the magical largo Springs with its board walks, water cress, marsh marigolds, skunk cabbage, Northern Waterthrush, nesting Red-shouldered Hawks and an invigorating climb of 200 to 300 stairs.

You just don't want to miss this weekend--so sign up now.

Memorial Weekend Nature Getaway

At Loon Lake Lutheran Retreat Center, Hale, MI

Friday, May 28 - Monday, May 31, 2010

Registration Deadline: May 16, 2010 (No refunds will be given after this date)

Rates: Children < 4 years = Free, K - 8th grade = Child, 9th grade and Up = Adult

_____ **Plan A (Lodging, Meals, Snacks, & Programs)**

_____ Seaholm Lodge (Dorm style bunk beds for men & women)

_____ Mini Lodge (Priority given to families with young children)

_____ Rustic Cabin (Unheated w/ bunk beds, minimum of two people needed to reserve a cabin)

_____ Child(ren) X \$140 + _____ Adult(s) X \$170 = \$ _____

_____ **Plan B Day Rate Entire Weekend (Meals, Snacks, Programs & Day Use Fee)**

_____ Child(ren) X \$100 + _____ Adult(s) X \$125 = \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL = \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Detroit Audubon Society

_____ Vegetarian / Dietary Restrictions: (please explain) _____

_____ I will assist with field trips / activities

_____ DAS Member

Declaration: (Each participant must sign; if under 18, legal guardian must sign)

I/We agree that I/we have read the preceding information and agree not to hold DAS liable for injury, accident, loss or theft, or any other problems on the 2010 Memorial Weekend Nature Getaway.

Signature(s): _____

Adult Name(s) & Gender: _____

Name(s), Age(s) & Grade Level(s) of Children under 18: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Any questions can be directed to Jim Bull at 313-928-2950

Mail this completed form and check(s) to:

DAS Memorial Weekend Nature Getaway, 26080 Berg Rd., Southfield, MI 48033

(A Murder of Crows - continued from Page 6)

Last summer, Ms. Gilbert graciously rushed me her children's book *Hawk Hill*, as I wanted it for a child's birthday party. She unquestionably trusted that I would forward the payment, and the book arrived on time.

I learned of her children's book through her website www.suziegilbert.com featuring her new book, *Flyaway*. Intrigued by the website and pleasantly affected by her cooperation, I just had to read the book. It recounts her years as a wild bird rehabilitator in captivating style, luring the reader into the life of a passionate devotee of wild birds.

Her love of birds began as a child standing motionless under her family's bird feeder with outstretched hand hoping the birds would light and grab the seed. They did, and that cemented their hold on her. As a young adult, she quickly realized that city life was not for her. Initially moving to Maine, she eventually settled in a small town in the Hudson Valley with her husband and a pet macaw. A job in an animal hospital began her journey into the realm of a wild bird rehabber, with the ultimate result of opening *Flyaway, Inc.*, a nonprofit rehabilitation center at home.

We are taken on a chaotic, witty, painful, loving, profound journey of devotion to these amazing feathered members of our world. We experience her joy and sadness through heartfelt accounts of caring for song birds, ducks, vultures, herons, raptors and just about everything else with feathers, with a particular affinity for her friends the American Crow, housed in the "Crow Mahan," with "George and Gracie."

We feel the pangs of sorrow when letting go of those we love, the exhilaration of releasing an armful of the majesty and strength of a raptor, the desperate waiting for that one special individual to return when we know it won't. We experience the pandemonium in which her children are raised and her own guilt for imposing that unusual (yet ultimately favorable) childhood on them.

This book weaves the reader through an adventure like no other, what initially we think is about one wild bird rehabber and her love of birds. We soon come to realize that the story is really about our own human condition: our own challenges, love, happiness, sadness, failures and accomplishments.

If I were a publisher, I'd immediately set up a book tour for Suzie Gilbert, especially on Oprah and all the morning news shows because I believe everyone will benefit from reading it. This book enchants, informs, and inspires. It lends value and gives a real voice to the wild world and the people who love it. How can you beat that?



*Detroit Audubon Society
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