

Stewards of War Bluff Valley Sanctuary

Shawnee Chapter

Illinois Audubon Society



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Shawnee Chapter

Illinois Audubon Society
www.shawneeaudubon.org

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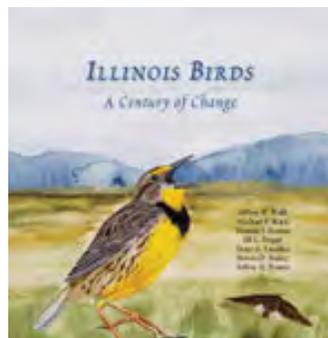
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SHAWNEE CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING ILLINOIS BIRDS: A CENTURY OF CHANGE MAY 9 • 7 PM • CARBONDALE TOWNSHIP HALL



Please join the Shawnee Audubon Chapter for our Annual Meeting and very special presentation. A short business meeting to elect officers and board directors will be followed by a very special presentation.

Dr. Jeff Walk, Director of Science at the Illinois Chapter of The Nature Conservancy and Board Director of Illinois Audubon Society, will discuss the results of a census of Illinois birds from 2007 to 2009. The study is the third

such systematic survey undertaken in Illinois since 1900. The first was from 1906 to 1909, when Alfred Gross and Howard Ray traveled the state and noted the birds they found in all habitats. In the mid-1950s, Richard and Jean Graber repeated the survey in roughly the same areas. And from 2007 to 2009, more than a half-dozen researchers took to the field again. The result is a comprehensive look at bird populations in 22 Illinois habitats.

While it will come as no surprise that many species are in decline since the first two surveys, some of the findings might surprise you. Several species, including cedar waxwing and wood duck, that were recorded in the third survey were unrecorded in the earlier surveys.

Researchers have gained a lot of knowledge about our birds and their habitat losses. The results of this important work will help guide conservation strategies through the 21st century.

Dr. Walk is the Director of Science for the Illinois Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign studying grassland birds, and authored the recovery plan for greater prairie-chickens in Illinois. He was an assistant professor at the University of Dubuque for two years before returning to Illinois to draft the Illinois Wildlife Action Plan as a research scientist for the Illinois Natural History Survey. Dr. Walk and colleagues at the University of Illinois recently published their findings from the oldest bird survey in North America in the book, *Illinois Birds: A Century of Change*. Jeff also serves on the Board of Directors for Illinois Audubon Society and on the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board.

Celebrate our 16th Birthday as a Chapter of Illinois Audubon Society! Come early and have dinner with the speaker at Tres Hombres at 5:30 PM. Please RSVP to terri@shawneeaudubon.org so we know how many seats to reserve.

Carbondale Township Hall is located at 217 E. Main.
Please use parking lot and entry at rear of building.

CELEBRATE!



16 years as a Chapter of the Illinois Audubon Society!



Shawnee Audubon Chapter members, pat yourself on the back for making our Chapter the wonderful, fun, active chapter that we are! Celebrate all that we do at our Annual Meeting on May 9 at 7 PM at the Carbondale Township Hall. Participate in our annual election of officers and board directors and kick back and enjoy the tremendous program we have lined up for this special occasion. See all the details on the first page of the newsletter.

ELECTION 2011

The election of officers and directors of Shawnee Audubon Chapter will be held at the Annual Meeting on May 9 at the Carbondale Township Hall. The slate of nominees thus far is listed below. Contact our Secretary, Hank Mulder, to make a nomination (including yourself) for any of the positions. The election shall be by ballot unless there is but one nominee for each office, in which case the Secretary will be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate. A quorum of 1/5 of the voting membership shall be required in order to hold elections.

Officers:

Andrea Douglas, President
Georgia Norman, Vice-President
Henry "Hank" Mulder, Secretary
Debbie Hogg, Treasurer

Directors:

John Wallace, Conservation Chair
Anne Parmley, Birding Chair
Kevin Nagele, Sanctuary Chair
Terri Treacy, Program and Education & IAS Representative



*New Shawnee
Chapter T-shirt
Design!!*

We are excited to announce that we have a brand new T-shirt design. Shirts will be available at meetings and events. All proceeds from our t-shirt sales go to help fund many great things such as War Bluff Valley Sanctuary, Insect Awareness and Appreciation Day, Illinois Audubon Society, Cache River Nature Fest, Free Again Wildlife Rehabilitation Center and much more. When you purchase a T-shirt you help support great causes.

Thank you Karen Frailey, Georgia Norman, Rose Weisburd, John Wallace and everyone else who helped work on our beautiful new T-shirt design!!

MAY 2011 HAS BEEN PROCLAIMED INVASIVE SPECIES AWARENESS MONTH BY GOVERNOR QUINN

In many places invasive plant species are aggressively overtaking or displacing native species causing a drastic reduction in our native biodiversity and natural beauty. Unfortunately, War Bluff Valley Sanctuary is not immune to this phenomenon.

One of our favorite Virginia bluebell sites is getting infested with multiflora rose. So, grab a pair of leather gloves and join us for an ISAM event on May 28 for a rose-pulling party!! If there is time and enough volunteers we'll try out the weed wrench on some of the smaller autumn olive bushes, too.

We'll get started at 10 AM and work until about 2 PM. Lunch and snacks will be provided.

Directions to War Bluff Valley Sanctuary: From Golconda, follow Rte. 146 north about 3 miles to Bushwack Road. There is a brown Wildlife Viewing Sign before the road. Turn left and follow Bushwack about 2.2 miles to Sanctuary entrance. Sanctuary phone: 618.683.2222

UPCOMING EVENTS!

May 28 • Invasive Species Pull at War Bluff Sanctuary (see above for details)

June 4 • Cache River Nature Fest

Due to extreme flooding, Cache River Nature Fest is rescheduled for June 4, 2011. Please give the Cypress Creek National Wildlife Refuge office a call at 618-634-2231 with questions or concerns. Thank you for your interest in the event and we look forward to celebrating Cache River Nature Fest on June 4, 2011.

July 16 • Shawnee Chapter Campout

Join the fun at Little Grassy Lake Campground. We've reserved the group campsite where we have a shaded camping area and direct access to the water. Bring your swimsuit, kayak or canoe or pontoon boat (!), your camping gear, your favorite beverages, something to throw on the grill and a side dish to share. We'll start setting up camp around noon and will break camp the following day after brunch and morning splash or paddle!

August 27 • 17th Annual Insect Awareness and Appreciation Day

Save the date for our most popular event of the year! Check the website in the coming months for a lineup of this year's presenters and field trip leaders. As usual, registration will begin at 3:00 PM, followed by field trips, potluck supper, Really Cool Raffle, music and Creatures of the Night. If you are interested in leading a field trip or helping with organization and setup, please contact terri@shawneeadubon.org or 618-683-2222.

Check the website for additional information about upcoming activities and events.
<http://shawneeadubon.org>

SEND US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

Sign up to receive your newsletter electronically.
Contact the editor at terri@shawneeadubon.org

SAVE STAMPS FOR WILDLIFE!



ILLINOIS BIRDS: A
CENTURY OF CHANGE
MAY 9 -- 7 PM
Shawnee Audubon Chapter
Illinois Audubon Society
PO Box 73
Carbondale, IL 62903

Join Us at War Bluff Valley Sanctuary

War Bluff Valley Sanctuary is a beautiful place. If you've never been there or if you only get out there once in a while, you ought to see what you're missing. Come for a visit anytime or come to volunteer on **Stewardship Day the second Saturday of every month**---bring work gloves, water and a sack lunch. We start about 9:30 am. Call 618.683.2222 for more details or if the weather in inclement.

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SHAWNEE AUDUBON CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

As a member of Shawnee Audubon Society (SAS) you will receive newsletters and event announcements plus membership in the Illinois Audubon Society (IAS). As a member of IAS you will be part of Illinois' oldest conservation organization and you will receive *Illinois Audubon*, the IAS quarterly magazine and the *Cardinal News*, the IAS newsletter.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES (INCLUDES ILLINOIS AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP)

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student \$18 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend \$43 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$31 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$58 | <input type="checkbox"/> Eagle Club \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$38 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$75 | <input type="checkbox"/> Cardinal Club \$1000 |

Pay by check or credit card! Make checks payable to:
Illinois Audubon Society-Shawnee Chapter - OR - fill out your credit card information below.

Circle: Visa Mastercard AMEX Discover

Card Number: _____

Exp Date: (MM)____ (YYYY)____ Signature: _____

Mail to: Illinois Audubon Society, PO Box 2547, Springfield, IL 62708-2457