

# The Lake Flyer

## Winnebago Audubon Society, Inc.

March/April 2013

All programs and activities are open to the public

Vol. 33, No. 5

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Check our website for up-to-date information: [www.winaudubon.org](http://www.winaudubon.org)

### Calendar of Events

Check out the website for details as they become available and in future newsletters.

- Mar 23** Wings over Winnebago—Bluebirds at Utica with Dave Misterek (p. 1)  
Sat.
- Apr 13** Annual Midwest Crane Count (p. 2)
- Apr 20** Spring Banquet at Hilton Garden Inn. Dinner, Silent Auction, Awards followed by wildlife photographer John Van Den Brandt  
Sat.
- Apr 22-24** Richard Louv Fox Cities Reads author presentations (p. 1)
- April, May, June: White River Marsh.** 3 trips to the marsh with Tom Underwood. (p. 2)
- May** Birdathon (p. 4)
- May 4** Oshkosh Bird Fest  
Sat. [www.oshkoshbirdfest.com](http://www.oshkoshbirdfest.com)
- May 11** Frog Night Hike with Randy Korb
- June 9** Paddle Rush Lake
- July 18** Wisconsin Bats with DNR "bat team"
- Late Aug./Early Sept.: Monarch Tagging**

### Wings over Winnebago - Bluebirds at Utica

Saturday, March 23

10:00 - 11:30 am

Coughlin Center, 625 E. County Road Y, Oshkosh



The public is invited to come for an enjoyable morning to hear of the latest efforts of Winnebago Audubon and Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin (BRAW) to promote bluebird populations in Winnebago County. This will be accomplished in part, by establishing a bluebird trail at Utica Golf Course located a few miles southwest of Oshkosh. This location should provide a good example of prime habitat for increasing bluebird populations by installing and monitoring approximately 24 bluebird houses on the golf course. We will describe the efforts to install and monitor these houses using proven guidelines including predator control as promoted by BRAW. These guidelines maximize the nesting success of bluebirds since they are cavity nesters and depend on artificial nest boxes for improved nesting success.

Come to learn more about how you too may be able to provide increased bluebird nesting opportunities through installation and monitoring of a single nest box in your back yard or a bluebird trail consisting of multiple boxes. Hope to see you there. — *Dave Misterek*

### Fox Cities Reads features Richard Louv

Author of "Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder"

Winnebago Audubon is proud to partner with Fox Cities Reads 2013 to bring Richard Louv to our area April 22-24. Meet him in person at one of the presentations listed at the end of this article.

Richard Louv is a journalist and author of eight books about the connection between family, nature and community. His newest book is *The Nature Principle: Human Restoration and the End of Nature-Deficit Disorder*, which offers a new vision of the future, in which our lives are as immersed in nature as they are in technology. This future, available to all of us right now, offers better psychological, physical and spiritual health for

people of every age.

*Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder* has stimulated an international conversation about the relationship between children and nature. Louv is also the founding chairman of the Children & Nature Network at [www.childrenandnature.org](http://www.childrenandnature.org), an organization helping build the movement to connect today's children and future generations to the natural world. Louv coined the term Nature-Deficit Disorder™ which has become the defining phrase of this important issue.

(Continued on page 2)

## Secure Your Site Early! Count Cranes for ICF April 13

**IMPORTANT NOTE to PAST COUNTERS:**  
*Please confirm your site by April 1.*

### *Sites available for new counters.*

The Annual Midwest Crane Count is Saturday, April 13, 2013 from 5:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. Winnebago Audubon Society will again coordinate the Winnebago County sites with Evelyn Meuret as the Coordinator.

As always, you need to be assigned a Winnebago County site prior to the count date. Many of our counters have been participating for years and like to count on the same site each year. **All previous counters should contact Evelyn by Monday, April 1 to secure their site.** New counters should contact Evelyn to be assigned a site. If you provided your email address in 2011, you should have received an email reminder. When you confirm a site, please reaffirm your email address so we keep our contact information current.

Last year, the International Crane Foundation started using eBird to track the crane count. Crane counters are asked to log into [www.ebird.org](http://www.ebird.org) to set up a personal account for their crane count. All cranes counted through the Annual Midwest Crane Count will be logged through eBird.org. I recommend you go to [www.savingcranes.org](http://www.savingcranes.org) and read about the crane count. Select Species Field Guide, scroll down and select Sandhill Crane. Scroll down

and read about the Sandhill Crane, listen to their calls to familiarize yourself for the count and select "To learn about the Annual Midwest Crane Count, click here". You should review the Counter Information where the data sheets are available to print, and the Data Entry Instructions: Using eBird. These are relatively easy to follow. You must register as a new user unless you used this last year or for other counts. To find your site on the Map, indicate the closest road to your site and type the road name and city and state in the Zoom to: search area. You should be able to see your site. Mark it as a personal location and log your crane count. If you want a site map for your site, Evelyn can e-mail you one.

We do not have plans to meet after the count for breakfast as we have in the past. If you are disappointed in our decision, please let us know. We are open to suggestions, since it is fun to share our counting experience and enjoy the camaraderie

We look forward to having great participation in the crane count this year. Confirm the site you want to count from previous years by sending Evelyn an email or calling and leaving a message. Please provide contact information when you do that. If you are a new counter or don't have a favorite site, let her know that too. She will assign the remaining sites after the April 1 deadline, probably by April 6. Remember to mark your calendar for Saturday, April 13 for the Annual Midwest Crane Count.

*Evelyn Meuret, Winnebago County Coordinator*  
evelynmeuret57@att.net or 920-573-7828

## White River Marsh Field Trips

Details are still being worked out for a series of three field trips to White River Marsh, west of Berlin, with Tom Underwood. They will focus on woodcocks, Karner blues, and whooping cranes. Watch for a special mailing and e-mail to come. Or check our website for updates.

*(Continued from page 1)*

### **Fox Cities Reads Presents Richard Louv**

In 2008, he was awarded the Audubon Medal, presented by the National Audubon Society. He has received numerous other awards from across the country.

For more information about all of the programs and book discussions put together for Fox Cities Reads 2013, visit: [www.foxcitiesreads.org](http://www.foxcitiesreads.org).

#### **Schedule of author presentations:**

April 22	12:00 pm	<b>UW Fox Valley</b> 1478 Midway Rd., Menasha
April 22	6:30 pm	<b>Appleton Public Library</b> 225 N. Oneida St., Appleton
April 23	1:00 pm	<b>Kimberly Public Library</b> 515 W. Kimberly Ave., Kimberly
April 23	6:30 pm	<b>1,000 Islands Nature Center</b> 1000 Beaulieu Ct., Kaukauna
April 24	1:00 pm	<b>Neenah Public Library</b> 240 E. Wisconsin, Neenah
April 24	6:30 pm	<b>Menasha Public Library</b> 440 First St., Menasha

*Winnebago Audubon Society extends a sincere thank you to everyone who made a contribution to our chapter. Your support is invaluable and allows us to continue to provide positive experiences in nature for our community, especially for children.*

Anonymous (3)  
Karen Beckstrom  
Constance Berner  
Bill & Judi Biglow  
Ginny Bruch  
Kristine Folletz  
Robert Gluth  
Dave & Pat Hable  
Denise Lanthier  
Tim McKeon

Derek Mulloy  
John & Pat Nichols  
MB Petesch,  
*In Memory of Bruce Fowler*  
Leonard Place  
Wendy Stobbe  
Karen Syverson  
John Talin  
Doris Thomas  
Lillian Williams

#### **Rill Prairie Fund**

Gilbert Roderick

#### **In-Kind Donation**

John Pagel,

*Mail List Processing*

#### **Sullivan's Woods Fund**

Anonymous  
Charles L. Foote, Jr.  
Karen Hielsberg  
David & Christine Misterek, *In Memory of Kay & Russ Rill*  
Patricia Pensis  
Val Williams, *In Honor of Louise Coumbe*

#### **Wisconsin Amphibians Program Fund**

Robert Bokelman, *In Memory of Cheryl Bokelman*  
Marilyn Fender  
Barb Stanek  
Elaine & Severin Swanson



# Spring Banquet

Make Your Reservation

## Saturday, April 20, 2013

Hilton Garden Inn - 1355 W. 20th Ave., Oshkosh

**5:30 pm Social and Silent Auction**

with a special showing of the latest from your quilting naturalist, Anita Carpenter

**6:30 pm Dinner . . .** followed by a very brief business meeting and awards before our program

**\$25.00** per person - **RSVP by April 11**

### “Wildlife from A to Z”

Wildlife photographer, John Van Den Brandt of Wild Wings Images, will take us on a tour of the animal kingdom, literally from A to Z, mixing his stunning images with humor, stories from afield and fascinating animal facts. From alligators to zebras, from tiny elf owls to massive orca whales, the presentation is a visual feast featuring many of John’s amazing images that have appeared in his nationally distributed calendars.



John Van Den Brandt has had a love affair with photography nearly all his life. He’s experienced in the art of wedding, portrait, product and model photography. It wasn’t until the last ten years however, that he merged his enthusiasm for photography with his fascination with the natural world.

A long-time “birder”, John has seen over 500 species of birds in the lower 48 states. The urge to capture some of those sights formed the basis of his true passion – wildlife photography. Before long, he dropped all other forms of photography to focus solely on wildlife.

In 2007, John founded his wildlife photography company, Wild Wind Images LLC. In addition to selling framed fine art prints, stock photography and speaking, Van Den Brandt’s nationally distributed calendars have sold over 70,000 copies. John credits his knowledge of animal behavior and habitat, along with exceptional patience and a creative eye to produce images that uniquely capture his subjects in their essence. When not exploring the remote reaches of the globe, Van Den Brandt makes his home in northeastern Wisconsin with his wife Jean, his “photo assistant, travel companion and source of all inspiration.”

All of the creatures found in John’s images are certified to be wild and free. He doesn’t use game farm animal models or digital manipulation beyond normal darkroom techniques.

John hopes his work inspires viewers to find and explore their own wild places and to experience first hand the beauty and drama of the natural world.

If you would like to donate an item to the **Silent Auction** please contact Janet at [wiss@centurytel.net](mailto:wiss@centurytel.net) or 920-589-2602. Come prepared to place your bids and support our chapter.

**To make your reservation** please complete the form below, enclose your check made payable to Winnebago Audubon, and mail to: Winnebago Audubon, PO Box 184, Oshkosh, WI 54903

### DINNER RESERVATION FORM

Name(s) of those attending:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please circle dinner choice for each person.**

- A.** Vegetarian Lasagna    **B.** Chicken Piccata
- C.** Southwest Roasted Pork Loin
  
- A.** Vegetarian Lasagna    **B.** Chicken Piccata
- C.** Southwest Roasted Pork Loin

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Chicken Piccata:** Chicken Breast topped with Capers in a Lemon White Wine Cream Sauce.  
**Southwest Roasted Pork Loin** served with a Dijon Cider Glaze, sauteed Peppers and Onions

**Total enclosed for Dinner: \$25.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**2013-14  
SLATE OF OFFICERS  
AND  
PROPOSED BUDGET**

The Winnebago Audubon Society will hold its annual meeting for the election of officers and board members and to approve the proposed budget for 2013-14 on April 20 at the Spring Banquet.

The board presents the following **slate of officers** for 2013-14:

*President:* Janet Wissink  
*Vice President:* OPEN  
*Secretary:* Evelyn Meuret  
*Treasurer:* Carla Hansen  
*Board of Directors:* Anita Carpenter  
 Zaiga Freivalds  
 Pat Nichols

Dave Hanke and Dave Moon both have another year to serve of their two year term as Directors.

If you would like to nominate someone, or know of someone who might be interested in serving on the board, please contact Janet at [wiss@centurytel.net](mailto:wiss@centurytel.net) or 920-589-2602. We would very much like to have more members take an active role in our chapter.

The following budget has been approved by the WAS Board. Please take this opportunity to review it. If you have any questions, please call Carla Hansen, 233-1129, PRIOR to the April 20 annual meeting. The membership will be asked to approve this budget at the meeting.

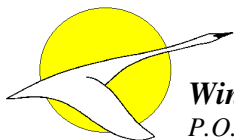
**2013-14 PROPOSED BUDGET**

**INCOME:**

Banquet.....	2,000.00
Birdathon.....	1,800.00
Chapter Memberships.....	500.00
Donations .....	1,800.00
Grants .....	1,000.00
Interest .....	2.00
Merchandise.....	400.00
National Dues Share.....	771.00
Membership Donations.....	400.00
National New Memberships .....	300.00
Programs Admissions .....	250.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME .....</b>	<b>\$ 9,223.00</b>

**EXPENSE:**

Activities .....	\$ 2,500.00
Annual Report.....	10.00
Banquet.....	1,800.00
Donations .....	750.00
Dues and Memberships .....	150.00
Fundraisers-Annual Appeal.....	150.00
Liability Insurance .....	279.00
Merchandise .....	200.00
Newsletter .....	500.00
Printing.....	150.00
Postage .....	300.00
P.O. Box Rental.....	120.00
Program Expense .....	1,114.00
Rent.....	300.00
Sullivan's Woods .....	400.00
Supplies.....	300.00
Website .....	200.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE.....</b>	<b>\$ 9,223.00</b>



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 P.O. Box 184, Oshkosh, WI 54903  
[www.winaudubon.org](http://www.winaudubon.org)

**Croak! Croak!  
Sounds of the Outdoors  
Heard in Oshkosh Schools**

Thanks to Winnebago Audubon and other sponsors, Randy Korb returns for the sixth year to Oshkosh bringing his Wisconsin Amphibians to the elementary schools in our community.

This year, April 29 to May 3, the tree frogs, true frogs, toads and salamanders native to Wisconsin, and maybe your back yard, will be wowing children in kindergarten through fifth grade at Carl Traeger Elementary School.

Stayed tuned. Pictures and story in future newsletters.

**Winnebago Audubon  
May Birdathon**

**Help Audubon Continue To Sponsor Programs and  
Activities in our Schools and Community!**

May is the perfect time for bird watching during the spring migration. And, so it is a great time for our Birdathon. You are invited to help us count! Give us a call to join one of our bird watching teams. We have a wonderful time visiting our favorite bird haunts to see, hear, count and record as many birds as we can in a 24 hour period. Spend an hour with us or the whole day. The Birdathon would not be a success without the generous contributions of our members and friends. Please sponsor our birders by pledging a per bird amount or fixed dollar amount. Your support allows us to continue providing quality events and programs in our community. Contact Carla Hansen for more information, to make a pledge, or join a team: 920-233-1129 or [carlajhansen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carlajhansen@sbcglobal.net)

**OSHKOSH BIRD FEST** Saturday, May 4  
 6am-2pm Menominee Park — 6pm-9pm Gallery Walk  
[www.oshkoshbirdfest.com](http://www.oshkoshbirdfest.com)

**Annual Midwest Crane Count April 13**  
 To participate contact Evelyn at  
 920- 573-7828 or [evelynmeuret57@att.net](mailto:evelynmeuret57@att.net)



## Tern South

A small craft advisory was posted and seas ran seven to nine feet. Yet that was of little consequence for the National Park Service's high-speed, 110-foot catamaran, the Yankee Freedom. Yes, we rocked and rolled a few times and I got splashed but I was headed to a place I've wanted to visit for a very long time.

The Dry Tortugas is a group of seven, small, sand and coral islands, lying 70 miles southwest of Key West, Florida. It's historical claim to fame is the presence of Fort Jefferson on Garden Key, an 1840's era fort, built but never completed, to defend the Gulf of Mexico from foreign invaders. During the Civil War it became a prison whose famous "resident" was Dr. Samuel Mudd, the physician who treated John Wilkes Booth's broken leg. Dr. Mudd was later released. Eventually the fort was abandoned in the 1880's. Because this region has extraordinary wildlife, from coral reefs to nesting green sea turtles, the dry Tortugas became a National Wildlife Refuge in 1908 and finally designated a National Park in 1992.

This pristine area is a mecca for birdwatchers, especially during April into May when neo-tropical migrants such as tanagers, warblers, orioles and thrushes are winging their way north from South America. They may land exhausted on these tiny islands before continuing. Although I was here the first week of February and not expecting an avian spectacle, I was pleasantly surprised. A Dry Tortugas specialty, sooty terns, were returning to nest.

Sooty terns, *Onychoprion fuscatus*, have an amazing story to tell. For identification, simply stated, these 16-inch terns are black on top and white underneath. They are warm-ocean-loving terns of the tropics, spending most of their lives on the wing and only coming to land to nest. The Dry Tortugas is one of their preferred nesting sites and the only one in the United States.

On this day, only about 1000 terns were present, talking noisily over the island, jostling for air and nesting space. This was just the start of nesting season. More terns will return over the next 1-1/2 months with the nesting colony eventually totaling 80,000 birds on Bush Key. After a nest site is selected on the sand, each female lays one egg. Both birds share incubation duties for 29 days. They care for the chick for 8 to 10 weeks, feeding it fish and squid. By June into July, the birds are dispersing. Adults remain in the eastern Caribbean. The young birds undertake an

incredible journey to the waters off Africa's west coast where they remain for five years or so before returning to the little dot of an island, Bush Key in the Dry Tortugas. How do they find it?!? A sooty tern may be seven to eight years old before it nests for the first time—the longest period from hatching to breeding for any tern species.



Duncan Wright, USFWS

For most of a sooty tern's life, it plies the warm ocean on long, pointed wings. Reportedly, it even "sleeps" on the wing. What an amazing bird. I was fortunate to observe sooty terns for the first time when they had arrived early, just five days before my visit. How lucky was that! As an added delight, the sooty tern marks 600 on my U.S. life list, a birding milestone I've been creeping towards for at least 15 years.

Sooty terns weren't the only surprise of the day. Three other nesting specialties of the Dry Tortugas were present: the brown noddy, also an ocean-loving tern, and the masked booby. Both were life birds. Magnificent frigate birds perched on their favorite island but, unlike the other three species, they may be observed fairly regularly flying over the Florida Keys.

The 4-1/2 hours spent on Garden Key passed so quickly. I can only imagine what 80,000 noisy sooty terns must sound like. Snorkeling was also on the agenda but stirred up, murky water curtailed that activity. The return trip was expected to be rougher because we were heading into the wind but the waves were only five to six feet high. Not bad. Soon Fort Jefferson disappeared into the horizon. The 2-1/2 hour boat ride slipped by quickly. I bird watched from the stern the entire trip with little to report. All too soon, I was back in Key West on Mallory Square with the street performers and tourists watching the sun set over the Gulf of Mexico. A wonderful, memorable day.

## Monarchs and Milkweed

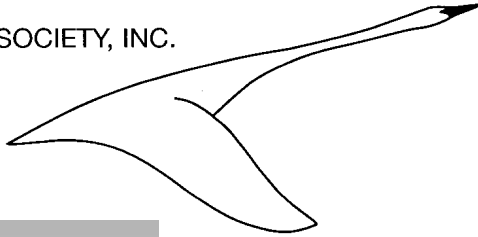
Wild Ones Fox Valley Area Chapter invites Audubon to their program, Monarchs and Milkweed on Thursday, March 28, 6:30 pm, at Evergreen Retirement Community, 1130 N. Westfield St., Oshkosh.

Jessica Miller, Mosquito Hill Nature Center naturalist, will discuss monarch biology, ongoing research and what you can do to help perpetuate this amazing butterfly. Wild Ones Fox Valley will have order forms available for their

May 11 native plant sale that features host and nectar plants for the monarch. Be inspired to plant these in your yard.

Public is invited to attend. Refreshments at 6:30 pm, program at 7:00 pm. For more information and programs, go to [www.wildones.org/chapters/foxvalley](http://www.wildones.org/chapters/foxvalley) or email [wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com](mailto:wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com).

WINNEBAGO AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.  
P.O. BOX 184  
OSHKOSH, WI 54903



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**GO GREEN** by opting to receive your newsletter via e-mail. Contact Pat Nichols at patnichols@earthlink.net

**Important Note: TEMPORARILY AWAY?** Please notify us if you will be temporarily away. The post office will not forward your newsletter. If your newsletter is returned to us, we remove you from our mailing list. Please contact Pat Nichols at patnichols@earthlink.net or 920-426-0261 with any questions.

**RENEWALS:** Your mailing label includes your membership expiration date above your name. If you are a "Chapter Only" member the word CHAPTER will appear after the expiration date. Please renew your chapter membership by filling out the application form below. Thank you for helping us save on the cost of renewal reminders.  
If you are a member of National Audubon, NATL will appear after the expiration date. You will receive renewal notices from National or you may renew by using the form below.  
If you are receiving a complimentary newsletter, COMP will appear with an expiration date. Please consider joining our chapter by using the application below.

**Winnebago Audubon Society Mission Statement:** Advance the mission of the National Audubon Society to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity through grassroots efforts of community outreach and advocacy.

**AUDUBON SOCIETY  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**Chapter Only Membership:** Your \$20.00 stays in our chapter and you receive the Winnebago Audubon chapter newsletter and all chapter benefits. Make \$20.00 check payable to **Winnebago Audubon**.

OR

**National Audubon Membership:** Your \$20.00 includes chapter membership and all chapter benefits, PLUS *Audubon* magazine and all national benefits. Make \$20.00 check payable to **National Audubon Society**.

I do not wish to receive solicitations from National Audubon Society.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Code: **C1ZZ12GT**

Mail this form with payment to:  
Pat Nichols, Membership, PO Box 184, Oshkosh, WI 54903

**Silent Auction Items needed for  
*Spring Banquet***

If you would like to donate to the Silent Auction, please contact Janet at wiss@centurytel.net or 920-589-2602.

**Time to make your reservation!**

*Welcome to Winnebago Audubon*

Akey Family  
Theresa Becker  
Mark Benson  
Susan Boyce  
Lynn Drueck  
Ray Gray

Christine Johnson  
Margaret Kettenhofen  
Janice Mueller  
Katherine Mulvey  
Paulette Thebert  
Mary Voga

A special thank you to all those who are renewing again this year as well. You are invited to participate in activities of your local Winnebago Audubon chapter. It's a great way to meet like-minded people and to enjoy what nature has to offer.

*If you are a new member of National or the Chapter and haven't seen your name here in the last couple of issues, please contact*

**Pat Nichols, Membership Chair**  
**(email me at: patnichols@earthlink.net)**