



COMPASS

Navigating the world of birds and nature

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 9

OCTOBER 2002

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED (1,800+) SPECIES AND COUNTING BIOBLITZ DESCENDS ON THE CALUMET REGION

By Gail Goldberger

Turning their focus on species and specimens close to home, some 130 scientists from The Field Museum descended on the Calumet Region for 24 hours to inventory its diverse array of plant, reptile, mammal, fish and bird life.

Dubbed a BioBlitz, and taking place August 23-24, this rapid assessment was not meant to catalog every species, but to identify enough to establish which plant and animal communities exist, confirming the fact of biodiversity and elevating the Calumet Region's profile for conservation and restoration efforts.

BioBlitz followed the protocol of The Field Museum's rapid biological inventories conducted in South America, where teams sent to survey little-known areas with high conservation potential have turned up thou-

sands of species, some new to science, that have led to the establishment of enormous new national parks.

"The information we gather from BioBlitz will help us be better stewards of nature as we implement Mayor Daley's and Governor Ryan's vision for an ecologically and economically renewed Calumet," said Chicago's Environment Commissioner N. Marcia Jimenez.

As of September 9, a conservative 1,815 species had been identified, as scientists continue to sort through specimens and data. The preliminary count includes:

- 650 species of vascular plants
- 150 species of fungi
- 111 species of birds
- 110 species of wasps
- 85 beetles

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A VICTORY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Plans for a Marina at
Lake Calumet
— CANCELLED —

City of Chicago officials stepped in and backed the effort of environmental groups to stop the Illinois Port Authority's plans to build a 1,000-boat marina in Lake Calumet. On Thursday, August 29, 2002, Port District Chairman William Braasch said the district would seek alternative ways to use the land.

The Lake Calumet Vision Committee, Lake Michigan Federation, Environmental Law and Policy Center, and many individuals have been urging

the port authority to drop the plan as it conflicts with using Lake Calumet in a way that preserves habitat for wildlife. City Environment Commissioner N. Marcia Jimenez supported this position.

The Lake Calumet Vision Committee has recommended that the barbed wire around Lake Calumet be taken down, and the area opened up for canoeing, picnicking, hiking, and restoring natural habitats.

Separate plans of the Chicago Park District to build a marina at 95th Street and Lake Michigan, which environmental groups do not oppose, were also said to play a role in the Port Authority's decision to call a halt to their marina proposal.

— G.G.



By Al Rothenbach
CAS Board Member

Place your order now for Chicago Audubon Society's 25th annual Bird Seed Sale, Saturday October 26th, and beat the deadline. Forty percent (40%) of your purchase is tax deductible. Proceeds finance education programs in Chicago schools and Research Committee projects such as the Breeding Bird Atlas and the nesting census.

I would like to thank all the Volunteers who have done such a great job in the past. We could not do this without you—your time and effort are much appreciated! Even if you don't feed birds, you can still help Chicago Audubon. Additional Volunteers are always needed to help distribute the seed between the hours of 8 a.m. and noon. Even an hour of your time will help.

We will be distributing seed at the same Hines Lumber stores as last year: 7820 Madison in River Forest and 1513 Church Street in Evanston. **Please specify the location on your order.**

We are offering premium and regular wild bird seed mixes. The **premium mix** is our own mix of Black Oil Sunflower, Safflower, Peanut Hearts, White Millet, and Cracked Corn.

Regular is a mix of Black Oil Sunflower, White and Red Millet, Wheat Seed, Cracked Corn and Milo.

Besides the mixes, CAS is also selling:

- White proso millet, favored by small birds;
- Sunflower hearts, which provide the same nutrition as the whole sunflower seed without the mess of shells;
- Safflower seeds, which are a favorite of cardinals but distasteful to squirrels;
- Black Oil Sunflower seeds, which provide more energy than striped sunflower seed; and
- Thistle, which is a favorite of goldfinches.
- Suet Cakes for birds like woodpeckers, and Fruit and Nut Bells for fruit eating birds will also be available.

This year you can phone in your order using Visa or Master Card, or complete the form and mail it with a check to the CAS office. **All orders must be received by Oct. 15th.** Please indicate the location where you will pick up your order, and if you can help on Bird Seed Sales Day. **We will be distributing seed between 9 a.m. and noon.**

CHICAGO AUDUBON SOCIETY BIRD SEED SALE ORDER FORM

QTY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	TOTAL
_____	20 lb. Regular Wild Bird Feed	5.80	_____
_____	40 lb. Regular Wild Bird Feed	10.45	_____
_____	20 lb. Premium Wild Bird Feed	7.90	_____
_____	40 lb. Premium Wild Bird Feed	14.60	_____
_____	20 lb. Black Oil Sunflower Seed	7.25	_____
_____	40 lb. Black Oil Sunflower Seed	13.50	_____
_____	25 lb. Sunflower Hearts	16.00	_____
_____	25 lb. White Millet	9.00	_____
_____	25 lb. Safflower	13.25	_____
_____	25 lb. Cracked Corn	4.70	_____
_____	10 lb. Peanut Bits	8.50	_____
_____	10 lb. Thistle	9.00	_____
_____	25 lb. Thistle	21.40	_____
_____	13 oz. High Energy Suet Cake	1.25	_____
_____	15 oz. Fruit and Nut Bell Treats	2.75	_____
	TOTAL		_____

I will PICK UP my order between **9 A.M. and NOON on Saturday, Oct. 26th**, at

1613 Church, Evanston **7820 Madison, River Forest**

Please find my check for \$_____ enclosed or charge my credit card

Credit Card Type: Master Card VISA

Credit Card number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE (_____) _____

I will be able to **help** on BIRD SEED SALE DAY between the hours of _____ and _____.

Mail your order by **Oct. 12th** to:

Chicago Audubon Society, 5801-C N. Pulaski Road,
Chicago, IL 60646

Or phone in your order by **Oct 15th:** (773) 539-6793

Remember, 40 % of your purchase is tax deductible.

BIOBLITZ

continued from page 1

- 85 butterflies and moths
- 77 leaf hoppers
- 17 mammals (including a river otter) and so on.

Mind-boggling, really. And greatly affirming to those involved with the Calumet Initiative, a group of agencies, organizations, community groups, universities and museums seeking to assemble 4,800 acres into the Calumet Open Space Reserve.

Unlike other rapid assessments, this one was open to the public with tours, hikes, demonstrations and outdoor labs for observing scientists at work.

“We want people, especially those from nearby communities, to go home with a better understanding of Calumet’s diverse ecosystems—and what they could do to help revive and save these unique natural assets,” said Carol Fialkowski, conservation education director at The Field Museum.

BioBlitz partners included Chicago Department of Environment, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Natural History Survey, Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Chicago Park District, Field Museum and Chicago Wilderness.

Lincoln Park’s Late Summer Lineup

Photos courtesy of Kanae Hirabayashi



A state-threatened pied-billed grebe changing to winter plumage as it migrates south, seen at North Pond in Lincoln Park.



This immature state-endangered black-crowned night heron was sighted high up in a maple tree hiding from midday human traffic in Lincoln Park.



Above and right: Alder flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) seen at Montrose.



COMPASS

Chicago Audubon Society
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Editor: Gail Goldberger
Layout Artist: Noël Maguigad

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Audubon info hotline: (847) 299-3505
Report sightings to: (847) 265-2117
Rare bird alert: (847) 265-2118
Activity line: (773) 539-6793, press 1
Web page:
www.homepage.interaccess.com/~stephenc/index.html
Audubon office: Manager, Karen Andersen, (773) 539-6793, fax (773) 539-6830, chicago_audubon@juno.com. Office hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

OFFICERS

President: Christine Lee, (708) 485-8197, stephenc@interaccess.com
1st Vice President: Sholom Glikman, (708) 445-3783, sigcib@attbi.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Hotline: Doris Johanson, (847) 827-5930.
Awards: Alan Anderson (see Research below) and Sheryl DeVore, sdevore@voyager.net
Birdathon: Joe Lill, (773) 631-3154, trptjoe@aol.com
Bird Seed Savings Days: Al Rothenbach, (847) 816-6514, a_rothenbach@yahoo.com
Conservation: Carol Nelson, (773) 583-8616, blue2wings@aol.com
Field Trips: Stephen Lee, (708) 485-8197, stephenc@interaccess.com; and Doris Johanson, (847) 827-5930
Illinois Audubon Council: Al Rothenbach, see above.
Illinois Environmental Council: Gene Small, (773) 434-8328
Land Stewardship: Jerry Garden, (773) 545-4632, jerrygarden@sprynet.com
Nominating: Alan Anderson, (847) 390-7437, casresearch@attbi.com
Programs: Debra Fuller, (312) 744-5472, ddustin@ci.chi.il.us
Editorial/Advertising: Gail Goldberger, (773) 743-2457, gailgoldberger@earthlink.net
Noël Maguigad, (847) 563-3000 xt5259
compass@no-el.com
Publicity: Bill Schwaber, (847) 475-4986, formulae@mcs.net
Research: Alan Anderson, (847) 390-7437, casresearch@attbi.com; Judy Pollock, (847) 864-6393, bobolnk@ix.netcom.com



WEST NILE VIRUS TAKES TOLL ON BIRDS, TOO

Audubon-Chicago Region announced the results of a bird survey taken in September by trained monitors of the Bird Conservation Network census. Conducted by 35 bird monitors, the survey confirmed that crows are almost completely absent from some areas, and significantly reduced in others. Monitors reported an absence of other bird species as well.

Monitors were asked to spend 45 minutes looking for crows September 5-8, in places they would normally be found. Fourteen teams spent eleven hours searching for crows in northern suburbs and the north and northwest sides of Chicago, and turned up only three. None were found in Evanston, a town that has experienced hundreds of crows in recent years.

In west and northwest Cook and DuPage Counties, 16 survey routes

yielded 15 crow sightings. In other counties surveyed—Lake, McHenry and Kane, the west and near north sides of Chicago, and southern Cook County—17 observers sighted 75 crows.

Monitors also reported unusual numbers of dead or ill birds of many species. These include kestrels, great horned owls, red-tailed hawks, blue jays, chickadees, house sparrows, house finches and pigeons.

At this time of year, it is difficult to draw conclusions about trends in populations of many bird species. Birds are leaving their breeding grounds and searching for new sources of food, so it is not uncommon to find fluctuations in numbers of birds at a given location. Also, many birds stop singing and are harder to detect at this time.

This year's Christmas Bird Count

may give a better indication of the extent to which the numbers of some of our year-round residents such as chickadees, cardinals, woodpeckers and crows have declined. Not all the bird deaths may be attributable to the virus. In New York last year, a majority of bird deaths presumed to be from the virus were found upon closer investigation to be due to pesticides applied to fields.

Compounds such as Anvil, currently being used in the Chicago area, are toxic to fish and to beneficial insects, which are important food sources for birds. National Audubon Society recommends targeted spraying for mosquitoes only as a last resort for control of West Nile Virus.

They recommend integrated pest management instead, which calls for elimination of breeding habitat such as

stagnant water (including some drainage of dammed areas), sound pest control with the use of bacterial (not chemical) larvicides, and targeted, rather than aerial spraying. Bacterial larvicides are preferable to chemical larvicides because they kill mosquitoes but not beneficial insects, amphibians and fish, which feed upon and help control the populations of mosquitoes. Homeowners can help by cleaning out gutters and removing objects that collect water.

"The wholesale loss of birds, whether due to disease or chemicals, should be of concern to everyone," said Stephen Packard. "Birds are more than just symbols of freedom and beauty. They are also key components of the ecosystem on which we all depend."

G.G.

RESULTS: COOK COUNTY SPRING BIRD COUNT 2002

By Duane Heaton

The Cook County Spring Bird Count (SBC) on May 4, 2002 was the poorest in years. This year's species count of 175 was the lowest since 1979, when 172 species were recorded. The average number reported over the last 10 years is 186.3, with a low of 175 and a high of 198. The average reported over the 31-year history of the SBC is 183.7, with a low of 157 and a high of 204. Some of the more unusual SBC species reported this year were eared grebe, long-billed dowitcher, Bell's vireo, Le Conte's sparrow, and a female blue grosbeak. Species usually reported but missed this year were semipalmated plover, greater yellowlegs, Bonaparte's gull, gray-cheeked thrush (first time missed in 31 years!), and blackpoll warbler.

Total No. of Birds	SPECIES
20	Pied-billed Grebe
1	Eared Grebe *
4175	Double-crested Cormorant
1	American Bittern
110	Great Blue Heron
159	Great Egret
3	Little Blue Heron
43	Green Heron
638	Black-crowned Night-Heron
37	Turkey Vulture
1586	Canada Goose
19	Mute Swan
175	Wood Duck
9	Gadwall
1	American Wigeon
4	American Black Duck *
723	Mallard
59	Blue-winged Teal
33	Northern Shoveler
2	Green-winged Teal
2	Redhead
2	Ring-necked Duck
10	Lesser Scaup
4	Bufflehead
9	Hooded Merganser
237	Red-breasted Merganser
67	Ruddy Duck
5	Osprey
2	Northern Harrier
2	Sharp-shinned Hawk
21	Cooper's Hawk
3	Red-shouldered Hawk
11	Broad-winged Hawk

Total No. of Birds	SPECIES
56	Red-tailed Hawk
15	American Kestrel
3	Peregrine Falcon *
7	Ring-necked Pheasant
13	Virginia Rail
48	Sora
2	Common Moorhen
184	American Coot
2	Sandhill Crane **
2	Black-bellied Plover
48	Killdeer
8	Lesser Yellowlegs
35	Solitary Sandpiper
5	Willet
31	Spotted Sandpiper
3	Least Sandpiper
10	Dunlin
1	Short-billed Dowitcher
2	Long-billed Dowitcher *
3	Common Snipe
10	American Woodcock
13171	Ring-billed Gull
116	Herring Gull gull, sp.
6	Caspian Tern
297	Common Tern
11	Forster's Tern
37	Rock Dove
715	Mourning Dove
319	Monk Parakeet**
63	Great Horned Owl
13	Barred Owl
1	Chimney Swift
162	Belted Kingfisher
22	Red-headed Woodpecker
45	Red-bellied Woodpecker
164	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
16	Downy Woodpecker
204	Hairy Woodpecker
49	Northern Flicker
166	Eastern Wood-Pewee
5	Least Flycatcher
18	Eastern Phoebe
32	Great Crested Flycatcher
39	Eastern Kingbird
7	White-eyed Vireo
6	Bell's Vireo
1	Yellow-throated Vireo
14	Blue-headed Vireo
27	Warbling Vireo
35	Red-eyed Vireo
9	Blue Jay
794	American Crow
840	Purple Martin
49	Tree Swallow
278	No. Rough-winged Swallow
150	Bank Swallow

Total No. of Birds	SPECIES
14	Cliff Swallow
345	Barn Swallow
510	Black-capped Chickadee **
41	Tufted Titmouse
15	Red-breasted Nuthatch
80	White-breasted Nuthatch
14	Brown Creeper
2	Carolina Wren
153	House Wren
1	Winter Wren *
8	Sedge Wren
9	Marsh Wren
540	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
167	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
33	Eastern Bluebird
3	Veery
2	Swainson's Thrush
71	Hermit Thrush
35	Wood Thrush
1627	American Robin
213	Gray Catbird
1	Northern Mockingbird
59	Brown Thrasher
1469	European Starling
5	American Pipit
24	Cedar Waxwing
35	Blue-winged Warbler
9	Golden-winged Warbler
9	Tennessee Warbler
23	Orange-crowned Warbler
116	Nashville Warbler
8	Northern Parula
132	Yellow Warbler
8	Chestnut-sided Warbler
11	Magnolia Warbler
6	Cape May Warbler
5	Black-throated Blue Warbler **
632	Yellow-rumped Warbler
94	Black-throated Green Warbler
5	Blackburnian Warbler
10	Pine Warbler
365	Palm Warbler
3	Bay-breasted Warbler
1	Cerulean Warbler
93	Black-and-white Warbler
13	American Redstart
3	Prothonotary Warbler
46	Ovenbird
67	Northern Waterthrush
4	Louisiana Waterthrush
92	Common Yellowthroat
4	Hooded Warbler
2	Wilson's Warbler
1	Yellow-breasted Chat
1	Summer Tanager

Total No. of Birds	SPECIES
22	Scarlet Tanager
59	Eastern Towhee
93	Chipping Sparrow
9	Clay-colored Sparrow *
107	Field Sparrow
63	Savannah Sparrow
8	Grasshopper Sparrow
2	Henslow's Sparrow **
1	Le Conte's Sparrow *
248	Song Sparrow
18	Lincoln's Sparrow
188	Swamp Sparrow
867	White-throated Sparrow
105	White-crowned Sparrow
3	Dark-eyed Junco *
548	Northern Cardinal
99	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
1	Blue Grosbeak *
14	Indigo Bunting
8	Bobolink
1577	Red-winged Blackbird
36	Eastern Meadowlark
7	Yellow-headed Blackbird **
1289	Common Grackle
449	Brown-headed Cowbird
9	Orchard Oriole
103	Baltimore Oriole
12	Purple Finch
178	House Finch
773	American Goldfinch
1215	House Sparrow
175	Number of Species
41920	Total Number of Birds
4:40 am	Earliest Birding Time
8:30 pm	Latest Birding Time
294.75	Total party hours
261.50	Daylight party hours walked (hr:min)
29.25	Daylight party hours driven (hr:min)
4.00	Other party hours
577.50	Total party miles
193.50	Daylight party miles walked
379.50	Daylight party miles driven
4.50	Other party miles
52	Number of parties
113	Number participants
1.00	Total Owling Hours (hr:min)
1.00	Owling hours (am)
0.00	Owling hours (pm)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Stewardship Workdays

At the Skokie Lagoons: October 12 and November 9 at 10:00 a.m.

Chicago Audubon conducts regular monthly workdays at the Skokie Lagoons on the second Saturday of every month. Activities include buck-thorn cutting, animal and plant monitoring, cleanup and debris removal, planting, and other management activities. Meet at the Tower Road parking lot, east of the lagoon bridge. If you arrive late, look for a CAS sign near the parking lot directing you to the work site.

For further information call Jerry Garden at (773) 545-4632, or e-mail him at jerrygarden@sprynet.com

Member Programs

At the North Park Village Nature Center, 5801 N. Pulaski, in Chicago. 7-7:30 p.m. Refreshments 7:30 p.m. Program

Friday, October 11

To Be Announced. Call (773) 539-6793 for program details.

Friday, November 8

Remembering the Prairie

Illinois originally had 22,000 miles of prairie. Only one-tenth of one percent remains of this fragrant, flower-filled grassy landscape that supported Native Americans and the buffalo they hunted. These days, finding prairies to visit is a challenge.

Come hear the authors of *Prairie Directory of North America*, Charlotte Adelman and Bernard L. Schwartz, discuss Illinois prairies. Dr. Evelyn Pease Tyner shows slides of a local, never-plowed 8,000 year-old prairie she helped save from development.

Field Trips

Saturday, October 19 at 8:00 a.m. The Grove/River Trails Walk

Join us at the Grove, an 82-acre site with natural ponds and an oak-hickory forest, to look for late fall migrants. We will visit an interpretive center with a collection of reptiles, amphibians and fish.

Located at 1421 Milwaukee Ave (north of Glenview Rd, and south of Euclid/Lake Ave). Meet in the parking lot next to the Nature Center. Bring binoculars and dress for the weather. We will also bird at River Trails which is just a few minutes down the road from the Grove.

Questions? Call Doris Johanson at (847) 827-5930.

Saturday, Oct. 19, 10:00 am-8:00 pm The Return of the Sandhills — Trip to Indiana Dunes National Seashore and Jasper-Pulaski Nature Preserve

Cosponsored by CAS and the Field Museum. In the morning we'll visit 2-4 areas at the dunes to look for waterfowl and late migrants. After lunch, we'll view feeder birds at the Park's Nature Center. In the afternoon, we'll go to Jasper-Pulaski Preserve to see migrating sandhill cranes.

Cost is \$50 for members of the Museum or CAS, \$60 for non-members. Round-trip bus fare included in cost. To register and for more info call the Field Museum at (312) 665-7526.

Sunday, November 3 at 8:00 a.m. Indiana Lakeshore

We will bird the Indiana shoreline in the Gary area. Birds seen in earlier years include jaegers, black-legged kittiwakes, all three scoters, red-throated loons, red phalarope and Sabine's gull.

Our trip leaders are Ken Brock, author of *Birds of the Indiana Dunes*, John Cassaday and Jeff McCoy.

We will meet at the concession stand parking lot at Marquette Park. Take I-80/94 east to I-65 North. From there, take US 12 east about 4 miles to Lake St. and turn right on Hemlock. From Hemlock, turn left at the first stoplight, enter Marquette Park and follow the road to the lake. Dress for the weather, and bring a scope if you have one. Call Stephen Lee at (708) 485-8197 for more information, or email him at stephenc@interaccess.com.

Bird Walks

North Park Village Nature Center Saturdays, Oct. 5, 12, 19 and 26 At 8:00 a.m.

Meet in front of the Nature center at 5801 N. Pulaski Rd. Don Klimovich (773) 878-4421

Wooded Island

Wednesdays, October 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, November 6, 13, 20 and 27 Saturdays, October 5, 12, 19 and 26, November 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 Wednesday walks begin at 7:00 a.m., Saturday's at 8:00 a.m.

Meet at the Darrow Bridge, south of the Museum of Science and Industry. Doug Anderson (773) 493-7058

Other Events

Harvest Festival at North Park Village, Saturday and Sunday, October 19&20, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Enjoy the season's bounty at a Farmer's Market. CAS will have a scope set up at the bridge for birdwatching. Lots of fun for the whole family.

CHICAGO AUDUBON BIRD SEED SALE DAY, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 9 A.M. – NOON (Details on page 1)

Brains and Beauty at the Field Museum, Saturday, November 2, 10 am -4:30 pm (See description below)

Third Annual Wild Bird, Wildlife and Backyard Habitat Expo—Fri, Sat and Sun—November 1, 2 and 3 in West Bend, Wisconsin.

Held in Washington County Fair Park, a three-day extravaganza, with speakers, seminars, habitat demos, etc. Call 1-800-324-3337 or www.backyard-birds.com. (See below for more info.)

SAVE THE DATE!

Eagle Optics Demo Day

North Park Village Nature Center April 12, 2003—9 am - 4 pm

CAS will host a demonstration day with Eagle Optics. You will be able to try out the newest binoculars and scopes. Experts on hand to answer questions. Five percent of the proceeds will go to CAS and the Center for New Birders. Details to follow.

**Richard Swanson
Birdathon! 2002 Contributor
Thank you!**

Brains and Beauty At the Field Museum

This year, the theme of the Chicago Humanities Festival is *Brains and Beauty*. In conjunction with the Festival, The Field Museum is presenting a day-long potpourri of programs about birds.

Running from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 2, the programs include:

- Kenn Kaufman discussing **Beauty and Imagination in the Dual Appeal of Birds** at 10:00 a.m. in the James Simpson Theater. The author of *Birds of North America* and *Peterson Field Guide to Advanced Birding*, Kaufman will talk about our natural attraction to birds.
- David Allen Sibley discussing the tra-

dition of bird representation in field guides. The lecture **Picturing Birds** will begin at noon in the James Simpson Theater.

- **The Zoology of Birds** looks at the Museum's vast collection of bird specimens. Scientists discuss the latest bird research at the Field at 11:00 a.m. in Montgomery Ward Hall.
- **Mozart and Messiaen: As the Bird Sings** at 4 p.m. in James Simpson Theater. Dr. Meredith West, professor of psychology and biology at Indiana University, explores the connection between Mozart's work and the songs of his pet birds. The melodies of 20th century composer Oliver Messiaen

will also be heard.

- **Bird Walk at the Field** will take you on a guided tour of the bird exhibition halls, the largest collection of North American birds in the Midwest. Begins at 1 p.m. in the North American Birds Hall.
- **Audubon's Beautiful Birds** explores John James Audubon's famous paintings found in his masterpiece *Birds of America*, which contains 435 full-size prints. The Field owns a rare copy. Two programs are scheduled beginning at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the Museum Library on the third floor. Participants should meet at the north elevator 15 minutes

before each lecture.

- **Description and Meaning in Seventeenth-Century Dutch Paintings**, a lecture at 3 p.m. in Montgomery Ward Hall, examines bird representation by 17th century Dutch painters. Dennis Weller will provide interpretation of the paintings.

Cost for each lecture is \$5 in addition to basic admission. Museum admission is \$8 for adults, \$4 for students, seniors and children 3-11. For more information call (312) 665-7400.

Wild Bird Expo Expands

New Birding Tours

Two new tours have been added:

Saturday, November 2, 7:00 a.m. to Noon

Lake Michigan/Port Washington Harbor to see waterfowl, gulls, grebes, loons and other water birds. Led by birding expert Noel Cutright, president of the Riveredge Bird Club, past president of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, and co-editor of the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas.

Meet at the south end of the Port Washington marina near the boat launch. Questions? Call Noel Cutright at (414) 221-2179 or e-mail at noel.cutright@we-energies.com.

Sunday, November 3, 7:00 a.m. to Noon

Horicon Marsh to see huge flocks of geese, swans, plus many other water birds, marsh and dry land birds. Led by Bill Volkert, naturalist/educator with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Meet at the DNR Horicon station on Highway 28 two miles north-east of Horicon.

Questions? Contact him at (920) 387-7877 or e-mail william.volkert@dnr.state.wi.us.

Eyes on Wildlife Optics Center

A hands-on learning opportunity to practice using and understanding binoc-

ulars and spotting scopes. There will be an identification contest, and instructional sessions. You can check out wildlife photography blinds and tripods for cameras and scopes. Seminars every day on the selection, evaluation and proper use of binoculars and scopes will help you see better, more clearly and without headaches (caused by low binocular quality). Bird and nature photography seminars are also scheduled. Eyes on Wildlife Optics Center is sponsored by OUTDOOR WISCONSIN television program.

Other features of the Expo include: A dozen topics on bird and wildlife watching; Kenn Kaufman presenting on birds and butterflies; 100 booths of product displays; backyard habitat

demonstrations; bird banding demonstrations; and more.

Hours are Friday, 2-8 p.m., Saturday, 10-7, Sunday 10-5. Tickets are \$6 adult (age 16+), \$3 youth (ages 6-15), 5 & under free. There is a \$1 Senior Citizen (62 or older) discount Friday only.

Directions: Washington County Fair Park is about 25 minutes northwest of Milwaukee on Highway 45. Exit Highway 45 at PV Pleasant Valley Road and drive east one-quarter mile to the Fair Park entrance. That exit is two miles north of Highway 60 and 5.5 miles south of Highway 33.

For more info call 1-800-324-3337 or go to the website: www.backyard-birds.com.