



# COMPASS

*Navigating the world of birds and nature*

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 5

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2004

## ANNUAL BIRD SEED SALE Saturday, October 30th We Sell Better Seed at Lower Prices!

**Beat the deadline (October 20th)** and place your order now for the Chicago Audubon Society's Annual Bird Seed Sale on Saturday, October 30th. The seed we sell is of much higher quality than that found in grocery stores, pet stores or discount stores. And you can target the type of seed you buy to the types of birds you feed. Forty percent (40%) of your purchase is tax deductible, and proceeds are used to support the work of Chicago Audubon.

**So how does this work?**

We are distributing bird seed at the same locations as last year. You have a choice of picking-up your bird seed in **Evanston** at Hines Lumber at 1613 Church Street, or in **River Forest** at Hines Lumber at 7820 W. Madison Street. Pick-up times are between 9:00 am and 12:00 Noon. **When you fill out your order form, it is very important to specify your pick-up location.**

You must fill out the order form provided below, or print the form off of our website ([www.chicagoaudubon.org](http://www.chicagoaudubon.org)), and make payment before the deadline. Multiply the quantities of seed you want by the purchase price, and put the total price in the last column on the order form. Remember to total all items on the Grand Total line. You can mail your payment in or call your order in to our office at 773-539-6793 between the hours of 10 and 3.

**What are we selling?**

We sell 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. The regular mix consists of Black Oil Sunflower, White and Red Millet, Wheat Seed, Cracked Corn and Milo.

In addition to the mixes, we sell:

- Black Oil Sunflower seeds which provide more energy than striped sunflower seeds;
- Sunflower hearts, which the provide the same nutrition as sunflower seed without the mess of shells;
- Safflower seeds, which are a favorite of cardinals but distasteful to squirrels;
- White millet, favored by small birds;
- Thistle, a favorite of finches;
- Suet cakes for birds like woodpeckers; and
- Fruit and Nut Bells for birds that also like to eat fruit.

Listed on the order form are the types of bird seed we sell, the quantities and the prices. We have made every effort to keep the prices the same or lower than last year. Please fill out the form and either mail it with your check or credit card information to Chicago Audubon Society at the address on the form, or call our office and place your order with a Master Card or Visa between the hours of 10:00 am and 3:00 pm at 773-539-6793. All orders must be received by Wednesday, October 20th

**Thank you in advance for your purchase!**

We could not do this without volunteers to help organize and distribute seed between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and Noon. You are welcome to volunteer all morning, but just an hour-and-a-half or two of your time will make a big difference. You can indicate your hours and location on the order form we provide, or you can call your hours and location in (without making a purchase) by October 20th to our office at 773-539-6793. Someone will contact you to confirm your times.

— Kathleen Radcliffe

## BIRDATHON! 2004 SETS RECORD FOR NUMBER OF SPECIES SIGHTED *181 species surpasses last years record of 161*

The 5th Annual Dr. William S. Beecher Birdathon Cup Challenge was a record-setting event. A record number of birders and birds showed up during a long week of good weather. The winning team from Lake Forest identified 149 species, followed by the second place team (Bud Birders) with 146.

A total of 181 species were sighted this year, and you can view the entire list on our website: [www.chicagoaudubon.org](http://www.chicagoaudubon.org).

On July 15, 2004 the CAS Board held its monthly meeting at Lou Malnati's restaurant in Lincolnwood. The occasion? The presentation of the Beecher Cup, which goes to the winning Birdathon team. For the third straight year, the birders from Lake Forest College—Caleb Gordon, Ben Goluboff, Jeff Sundberg and Kris Sundberg—took the trophy home.



Board and Birdathon participants mix at Beecher Cup celebration.

In the past, the Board would invite the winning team to a meeting, where they'd pick up the trophy and then, they and the Board would adjourn for a celebration.

This year we expanded the party by inviting all the participants from the six teams, making for a group of over twenty. A fine celebration!

Thanks again to all who stuffed envelopes, birded or pledged funds in support of the programs of CAS.

To all of you who contributed to Birdathon! 2004, we extend our heartfelt thanks. We could not continue to run our programs, bird walks, and field trips without your continuing support. Next year, come join us for BIRDATHON! 2005.

— Joe Lill

### CHICAGO AUDUBON SOCIETY BIRD SEED SALE ORDER FORM

QTY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	TOTAL
_____	40 lb. Premium Wild Bird Seed	\$12.00	_____
_____	20 lb. Premium Wild Bird Seed	6.25	_____
_____	40 lb. Regular Wild Bird Seed	8.50	_____
_____	20 lb. Regular Wild Bird Seed	4.75	_____
_____	40 lb. Black Oil Sunflower Seed	11.75	_____
_____	20 lb. Black Oil Sunflower Seed	6.25	_____
_____	25 lb. Sunflower Hearts	15.00	_____
_____	25 lb. Safflower Seed	12.25	_____
_____	25 lb. Thistle	19.50	_____
_____	25 lb. White Millet	5.75	_____
_____	10 lb. Thistle	8.25	_____
_____	Case of 5 (10 lb. Thistle)	40.00	_____
_____	10 lb. Peanut Bits	8.50	_____
_____	25 lb. Cracked Corn	4.25	_____
_____	13 oz. High Energy Suet Cake	1.00	_____
_____	Case of Suet Cakes (12 cakes)	10.50	_____
_____	5 cases of suet cakes (12 cakes each)	42.00	_____
_____	15 oz. Fruit and Nut Bell	2.75	_____

**GRAND TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

**I WILL PICK UP MY ORDER AT:** [ ] 1613 Church Street, Evanston IL [ ] 7820 Madison Ave., River Forest IL

**I WILL VOLUNTEER AT:** [ ] 1613 Church Street, Evanston IL [ ] 7820 Madison Ave., River Forest IL

Please find my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ enclosed, or charge my credit card:

Credit Card Type: [ ] Master Card [ ] VISA

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY STATE ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your order to: Chicago Audubon Society - 5801-C N. Pulaski Road - Chicago, IL 60646 - (773) 539-6793

**Orders must be received by October 20th.  
Forty (40) percent of your purchase is tax deductible.**

# Field Trip to Lost Mound National Wildlife Area, the Mississippi River, Lowden-Miller State Forest, and the Nachusa Grasslands, July 17th and 18th

by Alan Anderson

On Saturday, July 17th, there was a Chicago Audubon/IOS field trip to the Lost Mound Unit (formerly the Savanna Army Depot) of the Upper Mississippi River Refuge. There were ten people on this part of the trip, not including our expert leader at Lost Mound, Ed Anderson of IDNR.

Those who participated included Ed Anderson of IDNR, Dan and Barb Williams, Walter Marcisz, Jill Anderson, Carol Nelson, Anne Straight, Char Knudten, and Tom and Mary Jo Mulcahy.

All ten birded on Saturday, and six others stayed for more birding on Sunday. The definite top highlight of the weekend was birding at Lost Mound National Wildlife Area. We all were able to fit into a government-owned van, and Ed took us through a large part of the back-country (non-restricted and restricted) areas of the preserve. This is an amazing area with grasslands, sand prairie and savanna, bottomland wetlands and woods.

We tallied at least 69 species at Lost Mound. Highlights included amazing numbers of grasshopper sparrows (115+), meadowlarks (92+, [8 Western, 24 Eastern]), and American kestrels (22 birds including family groups).

Other highlights included a flock of 24 white pelicans above the river, 37 turkey vultures, 2 Cooper's hawks, 3 lesser yellowlegs, 2 upland sandpipers, an Eastern kingbird nest (14+ kingbirds total), a flock of horned larks, 35+ cliff swallows, 16 or so Eastern bluebirds, 6 Northern mockingbirds, 3 loggerhead shrikes (a pair plus a single bird elsewhere), one prothonotary warbler (heard by Walter M. along the river), 1 male blue grosbeak (non-restricted area along the eastern fence), 5 dickcissel, at least 3 vesper sparrows, 13+ lark sparrows, including juveniles (at least 8 were seen on the roads and everyone got to view them through scopes; life-birds for many), a few bobolinks and one Henslow's sparrow (heard by a few).

We finished up with a young Baltimore oriole that sounded like a chat, but finally showed itself.

We had lunch (an Eastern phoebe was in and out of the picnic shelter), and did a little birding at Mississippi Palisades State Park. Due to mid-day heat, however, we missed a lot of the warblers that Eric Walters (another birder) had seen the week previous. We did hear a couple of Acadian



At Lost Mound, Illinois endangered James' Clammyweed.

flycatchers, and after we moved on to the riverfront, Dan and Barb Williams heard a yellow-throated warbler near the shelter/parking lot.

We made a number of stops along the Mississippi (thanks much to Anne Straight's leadership). At Spring Lake, we had 4 common moorhens, 6 American coots, a family of 3 young Eastern wood-pewees on a branch with one adult (seen through a scope), and as we headed back to our cars, a pileated woodpecker flew by quickly into the woods. At the Fulton Dam area, we had 3 dickcissels, 2 more moorhens, large numbers of wood ducks, 40+ bank swallows, 34 white pelicans, 51 double-crested cormorants, 18 killdeer (including young), and an osprey flew over head while we were on a platform.

At the Wildlife Area's headquarters, we had a number of purple martins, and a great crested flycatcher carrying food. At all three locations we heard at least 4-5 marsh wrens per stop.

On Sunday morning, Tom, Mary Jo, Anne, Char, Carol and I met at Lowden-Miller State Forest. On the

Logger's Trail, from parking lot # 1, we heard and saw a male Kentucky warbler, four male and one female hooded warblers, American redstarts, a yellow-billed cuckoo, a veery and one wood thrush. The Kentucky and hooded warblers (we all saw at least one of each) were lifers for some. We had 28 species on this trail, including a number of red-eyed vireos and Eastern wood-pewees.

Carol Nelson wowed us with the wide variety of fungi/mushrooms that she found along this trail.

From parking lot #3 at Lowden-Miller, we heard another hooded warbler, and Tom found a yellow-throated warbler at the edge of the pine area. After listening to it for a long time, eventually all of us got good looks at it. Along this area and elsewhere, we spent time looking at (and identifying, thanks to Carol, Char, Anne and others) the many butterflies in the area.

We finished at Nachusa Grasslands, where we didn't hear as many grassland birds singing as Eric Walters did the previous week. There were still a number of sedge wrens, dickcissels (at least 12 males singing/seen, plus some females and even young birds observed), and bobolinks in various stage of plumage and molt (males, females and young). I found only one savannah and one Henslow's sparrow, and neither was singing (late in season and mid-day contributing). I saw a couple of field sparrows and Eastern meadowlarks. The flowers and grasses of the prairie were sparkling and beautiful, and even if we didn't see or hear as many birds as we could have earlier in the summer, it still was a worthwhile stop.

This is one trip I will be certain to plan again for next year, and I hope more Chicago Audubon members and other bird lovers will join us. See you next year.



Lost Mound 'blowout' where Illinois endangered False (Beach)Heather and Illinois threatened Umbrella sedge are also found.

## COMPASS

Chicago Audubon Society  
North Park Village  
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**Report sightings to:** (847) 265-2117

**Rare bird alert:** (847) 265-2118

**Activity line:** (773) 539-6793, press 1

**Web page:** www.chicagoaudubon.org

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Printed with soy ink

# Best Nest

## Wins Design Competition for the Ford Calumet Environmental Center



Porch. Photo courtesy Jeanne Gang, STUDIO/GANG ARCHITECTS

by Gail Goldberger

In an international green building design competition that drew 108 submissions from seven countries, a design team headed up by Jeanne Gang from our local Studio Gang Architects won the contract to build the Ford Calumet Environmental Center on the Southeast side of Chicago.

The architects named their design "Best Nest" which refers to both their design process and the building's construction. Using 'nest-making' as a metaphor for the sustainable principle of re-use, their structure will be composed of discarded steel from the Calumet industrial region. "We're weaving discarded materials into something more refined, like a basket," says Jeanne Gang.

After studying animal architecture, Jeanne Gang considered what went into bird nest building. **Good nesting materials are abundant, available and nearby.** The 29,000-square-foot center will showcase the use of reclaimed, salvaged and recycled materials—all to be found within four miles of the site. The building's structural bracing will consist of salvaged bundles of steel columns. Slag



Auditorium. Photo courtesy Jeanne Gang, STUDIO/GANG ARCHITECTS

will be used as terrazzo for the interior floors and surface material in the exterior garden.

**A good nest is well placed.** The long side of this building, which includes the porch designed for public space, will face south for good sun exposure, providing a bright, well-lit area. Ventilation will take advantage of southwest breezes that come from a clearing in the marshy area.

**Good nests protect.** To be located at Hegewisch Marsh, *Best Nest* is sited close to the road to reduce disturbance. A nest-like woven screen designed to keep birds from crashing into the 300-foot-long south-facing glass wall will

be created from reclaimed steel sections and rebar, and will wrap around the outdoor porch, also facing south. This basket-like mesh will act as bracing for the structure and will double as a sunshade

*Best Nest* will achieve LEED status—Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. The LEED rating system is a national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings.

It is within the 3,000-acre Calumet Open Space Reserve that the environmental center will be located. The area is comprised of areas well-known to birders for nesting habitats and migratory feeding stops for rare and endangered species:

- Indian Ridge Marsh where the endangered black-crowned night heron has nested for many years;
- Dead-Stick Pond where large numbers of shorebirds can be seen in both spring and fall;
- Hegewisch Marsh and Eggers Woods, where the yellow-headed blackbird nests.
- Powderhorn Lake, Wolf Lake and Lake Calumet where little blue heron and yellow-crowned night heron nest.

The Ford Calumet Environmental Center is scheduled to be completed and opened in 2006. It will be the centerpiece for the Calumet Open Space Reserve, and will educate the public about the industrial, cultural and ecological heritage of the Calumet area.

### 2004 BOARD ELECTIONS

The 2004 elections resulted in the following:

**Officers (Elected for two-year terms)**

President: Joe Lill

Vice-President: Alan Anderson

Treasurer: Jerry Garden

Secretary: Barbara Kratochvil

**Members**

**(Term expires March 2005)**

Doug Anderson

Jeffrey Sanders

Linda Cames

Chris van Wassenhove

**(Term expires March 2006)**

Don Darnell

Karen Mansfield

Carol Nelson

Kathleen Radcliffe

**(Term expires March 2007)**

Christine Lee

Roger Shamley

Stephen Lee

Joe Lukascyk

Sharon Parmet

## Lights Out After 11 PM During Migration

Tall buildings can save birds by extinguishing decorative lighting on the upper stories after 11 P.M. each evening and leaving lights off until daylight from August 20 to October 25. Birds migrate throughout these months. Tenants on the upper floors are encouraged to turn out lights or draw blinds after 11 P.M. These recommendations apply to all buildings of 40 or more stories, and to buildings of 20 or more stories that are isolated from other buildings.

Short buildings along the lakefront with extensive glass exteriors can save birds by extinguishing exterior lighting and extinguishing interior lighting or drawing blinds from August 20 to November 15 each evening after 1

A.M. and leaving the lights off until daylight.

Buildings with lighted atria can save birds' lives by reducing atrium lighting in the early morning hours.

**Why are tall buildings a trap for migrant birds?**

It is thought that the lights on tall buildings confuse the navigation systems of birds unlucky enough to have these buildings in their flight path. They circle the buildings repeatedly and die of exhaustion or by colliding with the building.

**What kind of birds are they?**

Over 250 species migrate through Chicago, about 5 million individuals in all. Many small songbirds such as warblers, thrushes, and tanagers

migrate at night. Many birds killed at Loop buildings are small migrants from the tropics – some of which are declining steeply in numbers.

**What other hazards do Loop buildings pose for birds?**

Reflective windows and lighted atria are significant sources of bird mortality. Birds may be attracted to reflected trees or sky, or try to fly through glass to indoor vegetation.

To review research used to make these recommendations, visit [www.flap.org](http://www.flap.org).

For more information about the Lights Out program, contact Audubon Chicago Region at (847) 965-1150.

### Thank You Chris Lee

We all say a very fond thank you and farewell to Christine Lee as President of the Board. Chris ably served as President for several years, and also served as Vice-President and Secretary when there was no one else to fill those slots. Thank you Chris for all your years of hard work and dedication, chairing our monthly meetings, leading bird walks, participating in volunteer programs, recruiting new Board members, and for continuing to serve on our Board of Directors.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Stewardship Workdays

**At the Skokie Lagoons: September 11 and October 9 at 10:00 a.m.**

Chicago Audubon conducts regular monthly workdays at the Skokie Lagoons on the second Saturday of each month. Activities include buckthorn cutting, planting and other management activities. Meet at the Tower Road parking lot, east of the bridge.

For further information, contact Jerry Garden at 773.545.4632 or email him at [jerrygarden@sprynet.com](mailto:jerrygarden@sprynet.com).

## Educational Programs

**Friday, September 10  
CAS Early Birds Program:  
Skill-building for beginning to intermediate birders**

At North Park Village Nature Center 5801 N. Pulaski Refreshments at 7:00 pm. Program at 7:30 pm

## Weekly Bird Walks

**Wednesdays in September and October at 7:00 a.m. & Saturdays in September and October at 8:00 a.m.**

**At the Paul H. Douglas Nature Sanctuary (Wooded Island)**

Meet at the Darrow Bridge, just south of the Museum of Science and Industry. Audubon guide: Doug Anderson 773.493.7058.

**Saturdays in September and October at 8:00 a.m.**

**At North Park Village Nature Center 5801 N. Pulaski, Chicago**

Meet in front of the Nature Center. Bring binoculars and field guide. Audubon guide: Don Klimovich 773.878.4421.

## Other Bird Walks

**Saturday, September 11, 8-11:00 a.m.  
Thatcher Woods**

See the arriving fall migrants along the Des Plaines River Valley. Meet at the Trailside Museum parking lot west of the intersection of Thatcher Rd. and Chicago Ave. (south side) in River Forest, IL. Audubon guides: Christine and Stephen Lee 708.485.8197.

**Saturday, October 16, 2004, 8-10 a.m.  
Late Fall Migrants, Palos Forest Preserves**

Meet at Swallow's Cliff Forest Preserve. Take the Stevenson to LaGrange Road South. Stay on LaGrange Road for about four miles. You will cross the Cal-Sag Channel, and then the Cal-Sag Rd (Rte 83).

The entrance to Swallow's Cliff is on the right hand side of the road at the top of the hill just after crossing Rte. 83. We will meet and start birding at the far end of the parking lot. Questions? Call Chris or Stephen Lee at (708) 485-8197.

**Saturday & Sunday, Oct 16 & 17  
"Early Birds" Special Bird Walks for Families at North Park Village Nature Center's Harvest Fest, 5801 N. Pulaski Road, Chicago**

At 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM each day, Chicago Audubon Society guides will lead introductory "mini-walks" for new birders of all ages during North Park Village Nature Center's Harvest Festival.

Kid-friendly, easy-to-use CAS binoculars, and field guides may be checked out, at no charge, before the walks. Kids will receive a free CAS temporary tattoo, featuring a colorful hummingbird.

Contact Marci Buettgen, (773) 878-4421, [mbdchgo@aol.com](mailto:mbdchgo@aol.com).

## Field Trips

**Saturday, October 16, 2004, 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**

**The Great Hawk Migration**

Investigate the migration of diurnal hawks at Illinois Beach State Park, one of Illinois' top hawk-watching sites and an important area for biological preservation. Learn what's involved in observing and keeping records at a hawk-watch site. Conditions permitting, you'll see hawks, falcons, accipiters, vultures and more. You'll also visit Middlefork Savanna Forest Preserve, which features a mix of oak savanna and woodlands, wet and mesic prairies, and sedge meadows—excellent places to view ducks, shorebirds and grassland birds.

Cosponsored with the Field Museum. Fee is \$60 (\$50 for members). Registration is required. Call 312.665.7400.

**Saturday, November 6, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Indiana Dunes and Jasper-Pulaski**

Journey to the Indiana Dunes, and the Jasper Pulaski State Fish and Wildlife Area in the wetlands of Indiana, famous for the thousands of sandhill cranes and Canada geese that stop to rest each autumn. Take a close look at these beautiful birds and other fall migrants during a full day of bird watching. In the morning we'll visit three places in the Dunes: Long Lake for spotting waterfowl like ducks, geese coots and also passerines; Bailly/Chelsburg to look for sparrows, blackbirds, bluebirds, hawks, robins, and woodpeckers; and the Indiana Dunes State Park Nature Center for feeder birds like titmice, woodpeckers, nuthatch, sparrows, goldfinch, etc.

In the afternoon, we'll observe the thousands of sandhill cranes that stop at Jasper-Pulaski in the fall. As evening approaches, they return from feeding in surrounding farmlands to congregate on this land.

Cosponsored by CAS and Chicago Botanic Garden. Bring a lunch and snacks, binoculars, scopes, field guides and dress for the weather (layered clothes are best). Transportation is by coach bus.

Members/Non-members Fee is \$79 (\$99). Meet at the Gateway Visitor Center, Botanic Garden. Registration is required, call 847-835-8362.

## Shoreline Birds Need Your Help

### Join the Annual Beach Cleanup

The Lake Michigan Federation takes part in the worldwide shoreline cleanup sponsored by the Ocean Conservancy. This year, the beach cleanup takes place on Saturday, September 18th, 9 a.m. until Noon.

Since 1991, The Lake Michigan Federation has encouraged volunteers to spend a morning collecting trash along Lake Michigan's beaches and record what they find on datacards. Volunteers remove unsightly and potentially dangerous debris from beaches in the metropolitan area.

The cleanup encourages responsible behavior through education and public outreach. The data collected has also been used to advocate for clean water legislation and raise awareness among manufacturers of potential debris. For example, a company that produced the six-pack plastic rings, now makes the rings from materials that break down after a few weeks when exposed to sunlight.

Lake Michigan Federation is looking for Beach Captains and volunteers.

### Beach Captain Responsibilities:

- Recruit and mobilize volunteers. The Federation does a mailing to all previous volunteers. However, it is essential that Beach Captains reach out to the local community for volunteers.
- Distribute flyers/posters (provided by LMF) in windows of local businesses.
- Seek contributions such as food/beverages for volunteers. LMF provides a sample letter and tax-exempt status for contributors.
- Arrive at the beach around 8 a.m. and expect to stay until 1 p.m. to complete tasks. Hand out supplies to volunteers and provide instructions on filling out the datacards. A Beach Captain meeting will be held to train captains on the appropriate processes.



Semipalmated Sandpiper (Calidris pusilla) Montrose 9-14-04 KH  
Photo by Kanae Hirabayashi

### Beach Sites in Need of Captains:

North Chicago, North Shore area  
Park Avenue Beach, Highland Park  
Tower Road, Winnetka  
Gilson Park, Wilmette  
South Boulevard, Evanston,  
Pratt Beach, Chicago  
Hollywood/Oster, Chicago  
12th Street, Chicago  
57th Street, Chicago

To become involved in this important yearly event as a Beach Captain or to assist in the beach cleanup at many other locations, please contact Gina Lettiere, Co-Coordinator, September Adopt-a-Beach 2004 at [glettieri@lakemichigan.org](mailto:glettieri@lakemichigan.org) or 312-939-0838, ext. 7. Check out the website:

<http://www.lakemichigan.org/jobs/beach.asp>



Black-bellied Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) Montrose 9-12-04 KH  
Photo by Kanae Hirabayashi

## Illinois Beach State Park Hawk Migration Monitoring August 28-November 28, 2004

The hawk migration monitoring program at Illinois Beach State Park (IBSP) in Lake County just north of Waukegan will begin its fifth consecutive year on August 28th and continue through November 28th. We hope to better last year's record-breaking count, and would like to have more volunteers. We plan to expand our coverage with more detailed coverage this year.

To see last year's results, go to [www.hawkcount.org](http://www.hawkcount.org), then go to Month (or Day) Summaries (you don't need to Log In), and select Illinois Beach State Park. The last three years of the watch (2001, 2002, 2003) are recorded there. For a really great website with info on hawk watches in our region, go to [www.hawksinthesky.com](http://www.hawksinthesky.com).

Migration monitoring is very rewarding, at times exciting and very beneficial to hawk conservation. Illinois Beach State Park has become an established monitoring site for the Hawk Migration Association of North America (HMANA), which records data from over a hundred monitoring programs.

To become a volunteer at the Hawk Watch you will need to:

- 1) Be available for 4-6 hours a week (weekdays or weekends) from August 28th to November 28th;
- 2) Have a pair of binoculars 7-10X, a scope is not required but helpful at times;
- 3) Be familiar with basic bird identification (we will teach you how to identify hawks if you are new to hawk in-flight identification);
- 4) Although not required, it would be helpful to have at least a Sibley's Guide to Birds and/or any of Brian Wheeler/Bill Clark's hawk identification guides.

Please consider helping out for a good cause and joining our monitoring program with a bunch of really great dedicated people!

Please contact Vic Berardi at 847-680-5281 or at [VBirdman@aol.com](mailto:VBirdman@aol.com) for information.

Website: [www.hawksinthesky.com](http://www.hawksinthesky.com)