



Graphic by James Landenberger

nature trails

Chapter H55 of the
National Audubon Society

VOL XXVI No 1

Winter 2009-2010

PROGRAMS

Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist
600 Third Avenue SE, Cedar Rapids
Social 7:00 PM, Program 7:30 PM
unless otherwise indicated

Remember to come equipped with your own drink mug. We'll have some for guests and those who forget.

PROGRAMS

Watch the Cedar Rapids Audubon web site: www.cedarrapidsaudubon.org and for newspaper announcements on upcoming programs.

An email will be sent to all on the email distribution list announcing the program. Send your email address to Jim Durbin to be included on the email distribution list: durbinjames@imonmail.com

December 7, 2009 — **Jon Stravers** brings a program from the water and the forests along the Mississippi River. Jon currently serves as the Driftless Area Coordinator for National Audubon's Mississippi River Initiative, and has been working on inventory and monitoring projects involving Red-shouldered Hawks and other birds along the Upper Mississippi River for the past 30 years in cooperation with various state and federal agencies as well as other conservation organizations along the river.

Jon has co-authored "Sylvan T. Runkel, Citizen of the Natural World" a biography of one of Iowa's most influential conservationists. Jon and Larry Stone are currently working on a similar publication on Gladys Black — "the Bird Lady of Iowa" which will be available in

January of 2010.

In the program for Cedar Rapids Audubon, Jon will provide updates on Red-shouldered Hawk and Cerulean Warblers surveys and other Audubon efforts in the Effigy Mounds/Yellow River Bird Conservation Area in northeast Iowa, and also discuss future similar efforts in the Iowa River BCA.

Jon will also share some musical insights that speak to the emotional and spiritual connections birding on the Mississippi River. With his late son, Jon Jr, and various other musicians, Jon has recorded five CDs of original music which reflect the connections to the water and the earth.

January 2010.—no meeting

February 1, 2010—Potluck.: Bring table service and a dish to share. We will start eating at 6 PM. Also bring any stories, books and slides or photos you want to share.

March 1, 2010—TBA

Christmas Bird Counts

Cedar Rapids Audubon sponsors two Christmas Bird Counts. One is in the Cedar Rapids area and the other is in Central City. The counts are held each year between Dec 14 and Jan 4.

The Cedar Rapids count is centered on the current federal courthouse in downtown Cedar Rapids and includes a 15 mile diameter circle. Counters record all species of birds seen and keep count of the number of each species seen for a 24 hour period.

The North Linn count is centered near Central City and

includes a 15 mile diameter circle. Counters record all species of birds seen and keep count of the number of each species seen for a 24 hour period.

The counts will be held on **December 19 (Cedar Rapids)** and **January 2 (North Linn)** this year. Anyone interested in participating can contact Jim Durbin at 319-721-1593, Dale Fye at 319-364-1638, Diana Pesek at keesiemom@yahoo.com or Bill Scheible at drbeel@mchsi.com .

To download a PDF of the last ten years of the counts, go to www.cedarrapidsaudubon.org and go to the Christmas Counts page. — Jim Durbin

Field Trips

Field trips will be announced on the web site and in the email distribution list. Please RSVP when you plan to attend a trip.

Nov 21, 2009 Harper’s Ferry area

We will meet at Hardee’s on the east side of Marion at 8 AM. Dress for the weather and bring an extra sweater or coat. It gets chilly on the dike while looking at the swans. We will check out the swans at Harper’s Ferry and then continue to Lansing for lunch. After lunch we will continue to the Upper Iowa River valley and look for Golden Eagles along with the Bald Eagles. Call Bobbie Shaffer or Jim Durbin with questions.

Bald Eagle Celebrations

Information is available by searching online for these and other upcoming eagle events.

January 8-10, 2010—Rock Island, Illinois

January 9, 2010—Clinton, Iowa

January 9, 2010— Muscatine, Iowa

January 16-17, 2010—Keokuk, Iowa

January 23, 2010—Dubuque, Iowa

January 30-31, 2010—LeClaire, Iowa

From a national Audubon news release:

November 11, 2009, Washington, D.C....

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service says the species has sufficiently recovered from the impact of DDT contamination compounded by continuing habitat loss to be taken off the list in areas where it is not already delisted. Populations along the Atlantic Coast, in Florida and Alabama were delisted in 1985...

“This is an Endangered Species Act victory that demonstrates the great success we can achieve when we work together,” echoes NWF’s John Kostyack. “Maintaining that success will require confronting climate change and its relationship to coastal restoration and the species that depend on these important ecosystems.”

According to Audubon’s annual Christmas Bird Count, Brown Pelican population trends have risen in Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas and California for the past 40-50 years. Hurricane Katrina took a toll on the Gulf Coast populations that has not been thoroughly erased, but the prospects remain good, provided coastal recovery stays on track.

2008—2009 OFFICERS

President	open	
Vice Pres	Nora Becker	
Corres.Secy	Sherry Brewer	319-378-4474
Treasurer	Jim Durbin	319-721-1593
	Ruth Balster	319- 362-7078
Board	Peggy Rutten	319-393-9279
	Bobbie Shaffer	319-393-8772
	Elaine Burke	

address service requested

344 Forest Drive SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

NATURE TRAILS

