



The Chat

March 2025

CHAPTER MEETING

Tuesday, March 25

7:00 PM

Lions Field House - 270 Elkhorn Road (Hwy 67), Williams Bay, WI

Free and open to the public!

Featuring the following educational talk:

Wesley and Friends – Live Owl Presentation

By Dianne Moller

During this one-hour educational program you will meet a Snowy Owl named Wesley along with two other owls that are different species. Owls, which are considered raptors are some of the most unique and specially adapted birds in the world. You will learn about their natural history, breeding, habitat and behaviors. This presentation will leave you spellbound and anxious to learn more.

About the Speaker

Dianne Moller is a native of Southern Wisconsin and founded Hoo's Woods Raptor Center in 1998. She is a licensed educator, falconer, rehabilitator and eagle handler through state and federal agencies.

Dianne has served as Great Lakes Director and Public Relations Officer for the North American Falconer's Association and was also a founder of the International Women's Working Group for the International Association of Falconry. She represented the U.S. at the International Falconry Festival in the Middle East and past recipient of the Wildlife Conservationist of the Year by the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation.



Wesley the Snowy Owl. Photo provided by Hoo's Woods Raptor Center.

Bird Migration – an amazing journey – and how we can help

When: Tuesday@2, Tuesday, April 1, 2025. 2 pm

Where: Geneva Lake Museum, 255 Mill St. Lake Geneva, WI

Bird migration season is now underway, as millions of birds travel thousands of miles from their winter feeding grounds to their breeding and summer locations. It's a tough trip for these mighty aviators – and we can all help them through this long journey.

Join the City of Lake Geneva's Avian Committee on Tuesday, April 1 for a **Tuesday@2** program on bird migration at the Geneva Lake Museum. Three experts will help us understand how we can help birds survive this rigorous journey.

Beth Goeppinger served as a DNR naturalist at Richard Bong State Recreation Area for 28 years. She is an avid outdoor enthusiast with a special interest in botany, bugs and birds. Currently living in the Lake Geneva area, she is often found roaming Wisconsin with binoculars and a camera.

Carol Elkins is a Conservation@Home consultant for the Geneva Lake Conservancy and a University of Wisconsin Master Naturalist. She is passionate about habitat conservation and advocates for healthy land, water and wildlife and is thrilled to share her knowledge about native plants for wild birds.

Adam McCulloch is the Education and Outreach Manager at the Geneva Lake Astrophysics and STEAM Society (GLAS). Adam manages GLAS's Dark Skies program, which encourages local communities to adopt best practices for maintaining dark night-time skies in Walworth County. He will help us understand light pollution and how the night sky is threatened by careless use of artificial light.

Our migrating birds are just beginning their long trek back from wintering grounds in the Gulf of Mexico, Central and South America. It is estimated that more than 3.5 BILLION birds make this round trip every year. The Mississippi Flyway is one of four major paths that birds follow on their way north or south every year, and Wisconsin plays an important role in this long trek. Around here, migration usually begins in early March and reaches its peak in late April through mid-May, as hundreds of species wend their way to breeding grounds further north. They mostly fly at night, starting shortly after sunset and stop over to rest and feed during daylight hours. But humans may be hindering this process with our carefully mown lawns, our brightly illuminated night skies and clear windows.

Come join us for **Tuesday@2** on April 1, at 2 p.m. at the Geneva Lake Museum, 255 Mill St., Lake Geneva. Please note: Reservations are required for **Tuesday@2** programs, as they have a maximum of 100 attendees. Museum members free, non-members \$8. Email your reservations to staff@genevalakemuseum.org or call 262-248-6060.

Climate Watch 2025

Citizen science project now in it's tenth year.



Grab your binoculars—Birds need your help!

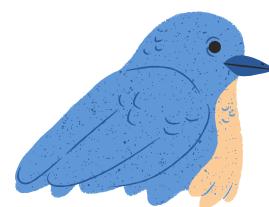
What's even better than watching birds? Knowing you've done something meaningful to protect them. Sign up now for [Climate Watch](#), and you'll be doing both!

As the impacts of climate change continue to unfold, nearly two-thirds of all North American bird species could struggle to adapt. When you participate in Audubon's newest community science project, you'll give Audubon scientists vital data on how birds are faring now—which guides our most effective conservation work to help them adapt.

Join the next survey, May 15- June 15, 2025. Get ready to count the bluebirds, nuthatches, goldfinches, towhees, or Painted Buntings you see. And know that you're an important part of protecting birds and the places they need.

Click or tap the link below for more information on how to participate.

[More Info](#)



Upcoming Event

Kettle Moraine Bird Festival

Saturday, May 17, 2025
Bromley Woods
LaGrange, WI



Participating Organizations



Geneva Lake
Conservancy



Come out to Bromley Woods this spring for a walk and enjoy bird migration at one of the Geneva Lake Conservancy's most beautiful and biodiverse preserves. Lakeland Audubon members will be leading tours of the property and will lend their expertise about the birdlife that resides and also passes through the southern Kettle Moraine area.

Please check the GLC website in the coming weeks to learn more about this event. (Registration is Required)

Click or tap the link below to go to the Geneva Lake Conservancy's Website.

[More Info](#)



Field Trip

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Noon)

Turtle Valley State Wildlife Area – 5830 County Road O, Elkhorn, WI

Free and open to the public!

Go birding with Lakeland Audubon members at Turtle Valley SWA. This property is located northwest of Elkhorn in western Walworth County. 131 different species of birds have been reported through ebird at this location. We will walk the gravel road that leads to the pond and watch for spring waterfowl. Meet in the parking lot right off County Road O, prior to 9:00 AM.

Learn more: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Lands/WildlifeAreas/turtlevalley>

Locate this birding hotspot by clicking/taping the following link. [Turtle Valley SWA](#)

Please contact us and let us know if you are interested in attending this field trip.

<https://lakelandaudubon.com/contact> Call or Text: +1 (262) 729-9702

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Bird Walks

Saturdays

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Big Foot Beach State Park

N1550 S Lakeshore Drive, Lake Geneva, WI

Meet in the main parking area to the right of the entrance station a little before 11:00 AM. A state park sticker (\$28, \$13 if age 65 or older) or daily pass (\$8, \$3 if age 65 or older) is required to enter Big Foot Beach State Park.

Sundays

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

White River County Park

6503 Sheridan Springs Road, Lyons, WI

Get out and enjoy one of the best parks Walworth County has to offer. We'll walk the trails and be on the lookout for birds and other critters. We'll also watch for plant blooms and other interesting elements of nature. Meet at the kiosk by the parking lot a little before 11:00 AM.

Please contact us and let us know that you are interested in attending a walk.

<https://lakelandaudubon.com/contact>

Call or Text: +1 (262) 729-9702

The Chat is the newsletter of the Lakeland Audubon Chapter of the National Audubon Society, P.O. Box 473, Elkhorn, WI 53121. Subscription is \$15 per year for printed copies sent by US mail.