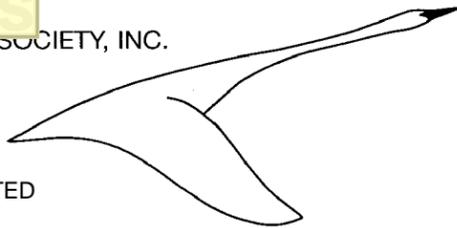


WINNEBAGO AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.
 P.O. BOX 184
 OSHKOSH, WI 54903



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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, you will receive renewal notices from National or you may renew by using the form 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**

YES, I want to become a member at the **chapter level** and receive the Winnebago Audubon newsletter. I've enclosed a \$20.00 check payable to Winnebago Audubon.

YES, I want to become a member of the National Audubon Society, and the Winnebago Audubon Chapter. My membership dues entitle me to *Audubon* magazine, and all chapter benefits. I am enclosing a \$20.00 check payable to National Audubon Society.

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

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____ Chapter Code: Z12 7XCH

Mail this form with payment to:
 Pat Nichols, Membership Chair
 P.O. Box 184, Oshkosh, WI 54903

*Welcome
New Audubon Members*

Kim Bednarowski
 William Carpenter
 Ken Friedman
 Taylor Kilde (Chapter)
 Michael Nowicki
 Doug Schmidt
 Bruce Stinemates (Chapter)
 Kevin Voss

Be sure to take part in the Winnebago Audubon Society events that appeal to you. As a member of National Audubon you receive membership in the local chapter. We are happy to have you and hope that you find new opportunities for supporting the environment through your membership.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding membership or interest in becoming more involved with the chapter.

Pat Nichols, VP, Membership Chair
 (email me at: jvnichols@earthlink.net)

The Lake Flyer

Winnebago Audubon Society, Inc.

SEPTEMBER 2007

All programs and activities are open to the public

VOL. 28, NO. 2

P.O. Box 184, Oshkosh, WI 54903 | Published eight times a year
 Editor: Janet Wissink, 7035 Mountain Rd., Pickett, WI 54964 | 920-589-2602 | wiss@centurytel.net

Check our website for up-to-date information: www.winaudubon.org

Catch and Tag a Migrating Monarch!



NEW Audubon Photo

**Saturday, September 8
1:00 p.m.**

Area children, parents and others can participate in the autumn migration of monarch butterflies on Saturday, September 8, 2007 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Field trip participants will first meet at the Pickett Community Center for a short orientation and a demonstration of the tagging process by monarch expert Randy Korb. Then participants will drive to local fields to net monarchs and attach numbered tags to their wings as part of a nationwide project by the University of Kansas.

This event is suitable for children 4 years and up. We recommend that children wear long pants, shoes and socks. It is free to Winnebago Audubon members. The non-member fee is \$5 per adult and \$3 per child 17 years and under. Pre-registration is not required. Non-members may join at the event. Butterfly nets will be available. The Pickett Community Center is located 9 miles southwest of Oshkosh at 6687 State Rd. 44 in Pickett on the south side of the road just past the Co-op. For more information contact Janet Wissink, (920) 589-2602 or wiss@centurytel.net.

Upcoming Audubon Events - Watch for more details in the next newsletter

Saturday, October 13: Falconry with Randy Stoeger. 1:00 p.m. After an orientation, the falcons will be released to hunt rabbits. Participants will need to follow Mr. Stoeger's instructions so that the birds do not become distracted. This will be a real hunt and you can expect to witness the falcons catch and kill their prey. These is an incredible experience, but we suggest children be at least 7 or 8 years of age.

Thursday, November 15: Owls - Mysterious and Magical. Owl rehabilitator, Ann Rosenberg, will bring her owls for us to see and tell us all about them. 7:00 p.m. Evergreen Retirement Community. Joint meeting with Wild Ones.

February: Great Backyard Bird Count and Birdwatching Workshop
 March: Bluebirds
 April: Crane Count, White River Marsh and Woodcocks, Earth Day
 May: Birdathon, Birds and Flowers at Waukau Creek

Totally Awesome!

The kids learned about the 11 turtle species found in Wisconsin and were able to hold and feed the turtles.



Birdathon Tops \$1,000

Thanks to the generosity of Marilyn Shubat, Frank Zuern and Don and Carol Meton, the 2007 Winnebago Audubon Birdathon garnered \$ 1,016.00. Thanks again to all of the generous contributors and to those who went out to spot birds for the list.

We will still be delighted to receive a contribution from you if you haven't yet contributed. Just send your contribution to Carla Hansen, 4556 Island View Drive, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

Audubon Calendars

Great stocking stuffer or hostess gift
Pre-order - Pay later

- 5 **NEW! Audubon Birding Trails:** 12 fantastic birding trails from all over the country. Each spread includes a map and detailed text. 12 x 12 \$11.00
- 5 **Walking America:** Get off the road and discover America's hidden-away hiking trails. From the Tongass National Forest in Alaska to the fiery sandstone of Zion National Park, it's an unforgettable year of wilderness beauty. Includes maps and commentary. 12 x 12 \$11.00
- 5 **Nature Calendar:** Panoramic vistas, drama, and astounding beauty—it's a year of North America's most spectacular natural wonders, up close and in vivid color. 12 x 12 \$11.00
- 5 **Wildflowers:** Flourishing in forests, mountain meadows, deserts, and ocean-side dunes, these vibrant North American wildflowers are hardy in spirit and a treasure to behold. 12 x 12 \$11.00
- 5 **365 Songbirds and Other Backyard Birds:** This picture a day wall calendar is packed with the world's most captivating birds. Each month features one species in depth with a large photo and detailed text. 12 x 14 \$12.00

Mark the quantity in the box in front of the calendar(s) that you would like to purchase. Then simply mail this form to: Winnebago Audubon, PO Box 184, Oshkosh, WI 54903.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone/e-mail _____

ATTENTION TEACHERS! Audubon Adventures FREE For Your Classroom

Winnebago Audubon would like to provide your 4th or 5th grade classroom with an Audubon Adventures subscription. This classroom kit includes a teacher's resource manual and four sets of publications for each student. The title of this year's kit is "Back from the Brink - Success Stories from the Endangered Species Act." Students will learn about the successful recovery of the bald eagle, American alligator, grizzly bear, and grey whale and other species that have been brought back from the brink by the ESA. Each issue contains fun activities, high interest content, and hopeful messages. We are introducing new features like "Good News for Planet Earth," and "Heroes of the Planet," which profiles people who are working to protect wild creatures and places.

If you are a 4th or 5th grade teacher in our area and would like to receive Audubon Adventures in your classroom **FREE** this school year, please contact Zaiga at 920-233-5914 or zaigam@charter.net.

Do you have a child or grandchild in an area 4th or 5th grade classroom that would enjoy Audubon Adventures? You could sponsor this year's subscription for their class for only \$46.00. We welcome all sponsorships. Or just mail a check for \$46.00 made payable to Winnebago Audubon to PO Box 184, Oshkosh, WI 54903. Please specify that it is for Audubon Adventures and let us know if there is a specific school or classroom that you want to sponsor.

Declining Species, Declining Habitat: Reversing the Trend

Anyone and everyone who cares about birds—Auduboners, other conservationists, birders, naturalists and nature lovers, etc.—is invited to attend this informative Upper Midwest Regional Audubon Conference to be held October 12-14 in Bloomington, MN at the Embassy Suites. The conference, sponsored by Audubon Minnesota, is open to the general public and will feature researchers, authors and policy-makers discussing the good, the bad and the ugly in our region's ecosystem.

Join experts as they discuss the latest information on grassland, forest, wetland and neighborhood birds. Learn about how changes in the environment affect birds and current efforts to preserve them. Hear keynote speaker Dr. Bridget Stutchbury, noted scientist and author, probe whether migratory songbirds are "canaries in the coal mine." A full day devoted to the Mississippi River spotlights the importance of this major flyway, culminating in an excursion on a Mississippi River sternwheeler. Kenny Salway, a true "river rat," will be on hand and humorist Al Batt entertains luncheon guests.

Field trips and a special presentation on global warming, featuring John Flicker, president of the National Audubon Society, and Dr. Mark Seeley, University of Minnesota climatologist and Minnesota Public Radio weather commentator, round out the weekend's events. Find out more and get registration materials at <http://mn.audubon.org/> or call 651-739-9332 for information about registering. This is a "don't miss" event so mark your calendars now.



BROOD THIRTEEN

The low warbling sound seemed imperceptible at first, almost like subliminal background noise. As I strained to hear it, the sound reminded me of the pleasant, soothing tremolo call of a screech owl, only lower in pitch. We were slowly traveling along wooded roads toward Big Foot Beach State Park in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, on this sunny, warm, early June day. As we neared the park, the sound grew louder and surrounded us. That's when I realized this was the music I had come to hear—the chorus of the seventeen year cicadas. Little did I realize that this chorus would be the welcoming prelude to a wonderful day of discovery.

Seeing the first of anything always boosts my excitement level. My first periodical cicada was no exception. The adults are huge—two inches long with flattened black bodies, bright orange legs and red eyes. Oh those red eyes! The transparent wings, highlighted with orange veins, are held tent-like over its body. This individual walked up and down my arm—its tiny claws grasping my skin. I looked at it through my hand lens. It finally had enough of that, spread its fragile-looking wings and flew surprisingly well to a nearby tree.

I had come today to witness the emergence of the seventeen year cicada, *Magicicada septemdecim*. This species belongs to the group of cicadas called periodical cicadas. These insects have an amazing synchronized development in which all individuals of a particular brood emerge in the same year and at seventeen year intervals. Entomologists called this particular group of cicadas brood thirteen.

The insects spend most of their 17 years hidden underground sucking on plant roots. In the appropriate year, when the soil temperature reaches 64 degrees, the nymphs crawl out of the ground at night and up onto plant stems or tree trunks. I wish I had seen the "coming out" party. The ground must have been moving. I could see the remnant 3/8 to 1/2 inch diameter holes left in the ground. After escaping the confines of 17 years underground, each nymph splits its "skin" one last time, revealing a white adult with white wings. Then it must dry. The wings lengthen and harden, the body darkens and those intriguing red eyes achieve their color. As I look around, shed nymphal skins numbering in the thousands cling to tree trunks, branches and leaves, milkweed plants and shrub stems. They are everywhere. After hardening, adult cicadas need a few days to reach maturity. Then it's time to fly to the tree tops, sing and mate. Time is of the

essence for the life span of an adult cicada is only four to six weeks.

Singing is important to cicadas as it attracts mates. Cicada sound is produced in an unique way. Very simply stated, the sound is produced by a pair of tymbals, which are sclerotized (hardened) plates with ribs located on the sides of the abdomen near the thorax. A large air sac in the abdomen functions as a resonance chamber. A large pair of muscles runs through the air sac from above the tympanum to the large plate of the tymbals. Muscle contractions cause the ribs to bend suddenly which produces the sound which is then amplified in the air chamber.



As I stood under a very large basswood tree alive with unbelievable numbers of flying and singing cicadas, an individual lit upon my shoulder and serenaded me. I watched as his abdomen rose slightly and vibrated. The song sounded like a drawn-out "phaaaaarrrrr-oooooooh" with the second syllable on a lower pitch. A singing cicada just six inches from my ear was loud but neither piercing nor offensive. I enjoyed the moment. I listened to a singing cicada which was four feet away and the sound was muffled. However, with hundreds of thousands of cicadas singing at the same time, the noise level definitely elevates. Even so, I never found the chorus as grating or as penetrating as the whining of the dog day cicadas of August.

After mating, females insert thousands of eggs into twigs and branches of trees. The eggs hatch in about two months. The tiny nymphs drop from the trees, burrow into the ground and begin feeding on roots. They won't see the light of day for another 17 years.

Imagine feeding and waiting for 17 years, only to fly free for just a few weeks. But those few weeks are a frenzy of activity. The unique cicada chorus announces their return, beckoning us to come and see and hear this entomological marvel. Then all too quickly the chorus fades and quiet returns to the woods. We must wait another 17 years to see the offspring of brood thirteen.



FOR SALE: Sturdy, Cedar Leopold Benches

Assembled: \$75.00 or Kits: \$65.00 (Pre-drilled, hardware & instructions included.)
To purchase your bench, just contact Dave at 920-235-4429 or djmoon@northnet.net