

Wisconsin Society for Ornithology – 71st Annual Convention

“Birding Door County”

May 20 – 23, 2010

Held at Crossroads at Big Creek, 2041 Michigan St., Sturgeon Bay

Phone: 920-746-5895

www.CrossroadsAtBigCreek.org

Located on the east side of Sturgeon Bay

The main entrance is just east of the intersection of Michigan St. and Highways 42/57, on CTH TT

A map will be included with your registration confirmation

GENERAL QUESTIONS? *Contact Scott Baughman (920-457-5574 or baughman@charter.net)*

REGISTRATION & BUS QUESTIONS? *Contact Christine Reel (262-844-8187 or christinereel2@gmail.com)*

Door County Birding

This year’s WSO Convention is being held in Door County, a land of striking natural beauty with great ecological diversity including upland areas, boreal forests, bogs, swamps, riparian woodlands, open fields, and rock and sand beaches, as well as shoreline habitats. Door County has five state parks, many county parks, and 300+ miles of shoreline. Most visitors know the quaint villages along Lake Michigan and Green Bay, but there are also many quiet inland roads where birds of fields and woodlands can be found. In addition to the wide variety of available habitats, Door County is located on one of the major north/south migratory routes and thus is a geographical magnet for bird life. More than 300 species of birds have been recorded here.

Shoreline habitats exist in all state parks and will produce a variety of waterfowl including ducks, mergansers, herons, white pelicans, Caspian Terns, Osprey, Bald Eagles, and Great Egrets. Spotted Sandpiper is a nesting species and migrant shorebirds include both yellowlegs, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Dunlin, and Ruddy Turnstone. Merlins nest in the county as do accipiters like Cooper’s Hawk and Sharp-shinned Hawk. Red-tailed Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Northern Harrier, American Kestrel, and the rarer Red-shouldered Hawk also nest here.

Woodlands and wetlands vary from cedar, tamarack, and pines to upland hardwoods. Seven species of woodpeckers nest here, and Pileated Woodpecker appears to be increasing in population. Seven species of flycatchers may also nest here including Eastern Wood Pewee, Least Flycatcher, Alder Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, and Eastern Kingbird. Red-eyed and Warbling Vireos also nest here. Migrants include Yellow-throated, Blue-headed, and Philadelphia Vireo. Nesting thrushes are less frequent and include Hermit Thrush, Wood Thrush, and Veery. Perhaps as many as 18 warbler species nest here with seven more being migrants. Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Baltimore Oriole, and Bobolink also nest here.

Some of the really rare species that have appeared in Door County in spring are Painted Bunting, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Summer Tanager, Northern Mockingbird, Loggerhead Shrike, and Mississippi Kite.

All-Day Field Trips – Thursday and Friday, May 20 and 21

It is the aim of WSO and the Convention Planning Committee to offer quality all-day field trips to experience the birdlife farther afield than the convention half-day trips. These all-day trips are considered part of the annual convention itself and are ***open only to convention registrants***. WSO members have first priority on available spots (until March 23) with any remaining space open to non-members. Again this year we are pleased to offer participants two transportation options: a coach bus and a carpooling caravan.

Those participants choosing the coach bus option will be charged a flat fee of \$50 to cover the cost of the bus. The fee is the same whether you plan to participate on one or both days. *Please indicate whether you are planning to attend one or both days on the registration form.* There is a **50-participant maximum per day** for this option, so register early.

Those wishing to car caravan, please consider being a driver on at least one of the two days. Drivers will be determined at the gathering place – there is no need to indicate your willingness when you register this year. For convenience we will try to limit the number of people per vehicle to four. If you are a passenger, we would again suggest that you donate a minimum of \$5 to the driver for gas reimbursement. *Please indicate whether you are planning to attend one or both days on the registration form.* For logistical purposes **there is a 10-vehicle maximum per day** (~40 participants), so please register early.

ROUTE PLANS

Each day's field trip will **begin in Sturgeon Bay** from the parking lot of the abandoned building behind the Pick 'n Save, on the bypass, off Business Hwy 42 (Egg Harbor Rd.). A map will be included with your confirmation. **Both the bus and car groups should meet at 4:30 a.m.**; we will return in the late afternoon. On **Day One** the *bus route* will travel north, visiting various locations toward northern Door County; the *car caravan* will journey south along Lake Michigan, into Manitowoc County. On **Day Two** each group will *switch routes*. These two routes should give us the best chances of finding most of the specialty species listed above as well as any migrant and resident species in this bird-rich area of Wisconsin.

The "**north route**" (bus Thursday, cars Friday) group will begin with an early morning visit to **Whitefish Dunes State Park**. From here we will visit other sites including **Cave Point, The Ridges Sanctuary, Mud Lake Wildlife Area, Peninsula State Park**, and possibly **Newport Beach State Park**. Depending on time and the possibility of "stake-out" birds we may stop at other sites along the route.

The "**south route**" (cars Thursday, bus Friday) group will begin with an early morning visit to **Potawatomi State Park**. From here we will visit sites near **Algoma** and **Kewaunee**, then to **Two Creeks Town Park, Point Beach State Park**, and lakeshore sites in **Two Rivers** and **Manitowoc**. This southern route will include more driving but should be well worth the distance.

ALL-DAY FIELD TRIP PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES

Lodging is the participant's responsibility. Make your room reservation soon!

All meals are the participant's responsibility, although a "Bag Lunch" option is available. *Please indicate your preference for each day on the registration form.* We will break for lunch while out in the field at a park, boat launch, or wayside. A couple of large coolers will be available for food and beverages on the bus trip each day; car caravan participants should bring their own "small" cooler for food and beverages. WSO will provide bottled water for all participants. There may be long stretches of time between meals; therefore we suggest you bring along energy snacks, granola bars, trail mix, etc.

The weather at this time of year can be somewhat unpredictable, so plan on it being cool in the mornings and possibly warm in the afternoons. This means you need to bring "layered" clothing. For example 1) a short-sleeved shirt or T-shirt and a sweatshirt, long-sleeved shirt, or jacket, and 2) a pair of long pants or shorts along with a lined pair of wind pants (rain gear can often provide for this as well). There will be some hiking involved, and even though the walking will be leisurely on fairly good trails, bring a comfortable pair of shoes. Some habitats may be wet so having boots that you can slip over your shoes will be to your advantage, or bring an extra pair of socks. A hat is often a good idea, especially if it's sunny or if it rains. By all means prepare for the possibility of rain, because each field trip will continue as planned, rain or shine.

Insects at this time of year can be nasty, so be prepared. Consider bringing along insect repellent, long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, and sunscreen. Also, remember to bring your binoculars, favorite field guide, spotting scope, and camera if you wish. A day-pack is a convenient way to store your field guides, snacks, insect repellent, and sunscreen.

Displays – Friday and Saturday, May 21 and 22

All **bird-related groups and organizations** are welcome to set up a display at the convention. Please indicate on the Convention Registration Form how many tables you will need for your display.

Half-Day Field Trips – Saturday and Sunday, May 22 and 23

Early morning – 11:00 a.m. Field trips will carpool from various locations, **so check the sign-up sheet**. These trips will go, *rain or shine!* **Sign-up sheets in the registration area at the convention will indicate starting time, destination, and meeting location.** These half-day field trips will go to most of the very BEST birding locations in the Door County area.

POSSIBLE DESTINATIONS:

- **The Crossroads at Big Creek**
- **Potawatomi State Park**
- **Whitefish Dunes State Park and Cave Point County Park**
- **The Ridges Sanctuary**
- **Peninsula State Park**
- **Bay Beach Sanctuary and Ken Euers Natural Area (Green Bay)**

Convention Schedule

ALL-DAY FIELD TRIPS May 20 and 21 (Thursday & Friday) RAIN OR SHINE!

Departing from and ending in Sturgeon Bay, at the old Shopko parking lot

ACTIVITIES MAY 21 – 23 (Friday evening – Sunday noon)

This is a tentative schedule and is subject to change.

FRIDAY, MAY 21

- 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. **Convention Registration** at the Crossroads at Big Creek
Sign up for Saturday morning field trips
Note: Most field trips will be limited to a maximum of 20 people
- 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. WSO Bookstore open – Please remember that the Bookstore accepts **cash and checks only** – no credit cards
- 7:00 p.m. **Presentation:** *Bill Mueller* – “Changing Distribution and Abundance of Wisconsin Bird Species”

SATURDAY, MAY 22

- Early a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Field Trips** (*rain or shine!*)
(Sign-up sheets in the registration area indicate starting time, destination, and meeting location.)
- 10:30 – 12:00 **Convention Registration** continues at Crossroads
Sign up for Sunday morning field trips
Note: Most field trips will be limited to a maximum of 20 people
- 10:30 – 12:00 **WSO Bookstore** open
- 11:00 – 12:00 **Lunch:** Catered by Scaturo’s Baking Company and Cafe. (*This lunch is included in the registration fee.*)
Buffet: *Sandwich or wrap, pasta salad, dessert, and drink*
- 12:00 noon **WSO Annual Meeting** for WSO members
- 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. **Presentations:**
1:00 – *Alex Stark* – “Open Ground Foraging of Horned Larks, Snow Buntings, and Lapland Longspurs on Wintering Grounds in Southwest Wisconsin”
1:45 – *Coggin Heeringa* – “Birds Through the Curriculum” – how Crossroads introduces birds to students through art, music, and other types of media
2:30 – *Mike Grimm* – “The Mink River: Where the Niagara Escarpment and the Great Lakes Meet”
3:15 – to be announced
- 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. **Social Hour** (*at Ladder House Sports Bar and Restaurant*)
Door Prize: *To enter your name in a drawing for the door prize, fill out the Convention Evaluation form and deposit it in the designated box by 6:00 p.m.*
- 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. **Convention Banquet** (\$20/person, *at Ladder House Sports Bar and Restaurant*)
Buffet: *Broasted chicken, beef tips with noodles, vegetable lasagna, mashed potatoes, vegetable blend, dessert, milk, coffee, and tea*
- 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. **Presentation of Awards**
- 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. **Banquet Speakers** – *Roy and Charlotte Lukes* – “Wings over Door County”
- 8:30 p.m. *Drop off plastic nametag holders in the box provided*

SUNDAY, MAY 23

- Early a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Field Trips** (*rain or shine!*)
(Sign-up sheets in the registration area indicate starting time, destination, and meeting location.)
- 11:00 a.m. **Convention Ends**

Convention Cost, Registration Deadline, and Other Information

Registration fee: \$20/person if postmarked on or before May 1

- **After May 1, no registrations by mail will be accepted; the registration fee at the door will be \$30/person.** Those who register at the door may inquire about convention banquet availability, but space is not guaranteed. Those who do not attend the banquet are welcome to attend the awards ceremony and speaker that follow.
- **Full refunds will be issued only for requests postmarked by May 1.** Once the number of convention participants has been finalized, we are obligated to pay for every person registered. Contact Christine Reel with your refund request by May 1.
- **WSO members have priority** on the Thursday-Friday all-day bus trips **until March 23.** To claim this priority, be sure your registration form is postmarked by March 23.
- **Convention T-shirts** designed by noted wildlife artist Tom Schultz are available **by pre-order only.** This year’s shirt features a **Pileated Woodpecker** design. If you want a T-shirt, be sure to order one on the registration form. Cost (including sales tax): \$15 each. Pick up your T-shirt in the registration area at the convention.

- **Door Prize!** The Door Prize this year is **birdJam**, a bird identification software program, graciously **donated by MightyJams**. This software package (retail value \$175.00) includes **birdJam Maker** as well as the **Stokes Field Guide to Bird Songs CDs** (Western and Eastern North America) and is designed to be installed on an Apple iPod or iPhone. To enter your name in a drawing for the door prize, fill out the Convention Evaluation form and deposit it in the designated box **by 6:00 p.m. Saturday evening** (before the banquet).

Convention Lodging

No matter what type of accommodations you prefer, we recommend that you make your reservation early because Door County is a popular destination. For more lodging options, contact the Door County Visitors Bureau at 800-527-3529, or visit www.doorcounty.com.

HOTELS/MOTELS

Rooms are being held for Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights, May 19–22. To get our special rates, contact the facility at the number(s) listed below (do not use other toll-free numbers or the internet) and refer to **WSO** when making a reservation. Deadline for making reservations at this rate is **April 15**, and after that date the rooms will be released. If you would like an early breakfast, be sure to inquire regarding that when you make your reservation. Note that all rates are plus tax.

Best Western Maritime Inn

1001 N. 14th Avenue, Sturgeon Bay
920-743-7231
\$62 per night
About 1.4 miles from convention site (3 minutes)
Breakfast: cold foods available
More information: bestwestern.com

Super 8

409 Green Bay Road, Sturgeon Bay
920-743-9211
\$59.95 per night
About 3.2 miles from convention site (7 minutes)
Breakfast: continental breakfast available by 4 a.m.
More information: www.super8.com

AmericInn Lodge and Suites

622 South Ashland Avenue, Sturgeon Bay
920-743-5898
Wed/Thur: \$65; Fri/Sat: \$78
About 3.8 miles from convention site (8 minutes)
Breakfast: cold foods available, or ask for a to-go bag with fruit and granola bar
More information: www.americinn.com

BED & BREAKFASTS

No rooms are being held. Locate additional B&Bs by visiting www.bedandbreakfast.com or www.bbonline.com.

White Lace Inn

16 N. 5th Avenue, Sturgeon Bay
877-948-5223 or 920-743-1105
\$70–\$160 per night (rates depend on room and day of week)
About 1.4 miles from convention site (3 minutes)
More information: www.whitelaceinn.com

Inn at Cedar Crossing

336 Louisiana Street, Sturgeon Bay
920-743-4200
\$75–\$185 per night (rates depend on room and day of week)
About 1.6 miles from convention site (4 minutes)
More information: www.innatcedarcrossing.com

CAMPGROUNDS

Locate additional campgrounds by visiting www.door-county-camping.com.

Potawatomi State Park

3740 County PD, Sturgeon Bay
920-746-2890
About 6.9 miles from convention site (14 minutes)
For more information: www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/specific/Potawatomi

Bay Shore Park Campground

5635 Sturgeon Bay Road, New Franken
920-866-2414
About 28 miles from convention site (48 minutes)
More information: www.co.brown.wi.us/departments/page_fe2f0b71389c/?department=cb643ee48c55&subdepartment=dadc284c6c54

Peninsula State Park

9462 Shore Road, Fish Creek
920-868-3258
About 27 miles from convention site (45 minutes)
For more information: www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/specific/peninsula

Registration Form – WSO 71st Annual Convention

May 20 – 23, 2010 – Crossroads at Big Creek, Sturgeon Bay

Please NOTE: This form must be postmarked by May 1; after that date, you must register at the door.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email Address _____

Special food needs for Saturday lunch or banquet (vegetarian options are already offered): _____

OPTIONS AND FEES

Item	Cost per person	Number of persons	Total amount
Convention Registration Fee <i>Includes Saturday noon buffet lunch at the Crossroads, catered by Scaturro's Baking Co.: Sandwich or wrap, pasta salad, dessert, and drink</i>	\$20 (by May 1 – after May 1, fee of \$30, walk-in registrations only)		\$
Indicate number of people who will be having this lunch at right	Saturday buffet lunch \$0/person		
WSO Membership Fee for Non-Members <i>Optional – non-WSO members may join WSO now and have priority on the all-day field trips until March 23</i>	\$30 /person or \$35/family		\$
Convention All-Day Field Trips – Thursday, May 20, and Friday, May 21 <i>Day(s) you plan to come:</i> _____ Thursday _____ Friday	Bus transportation – \$50/person (indicate days you plan to come at left)		\$
	Car caravan – \$0/person (indicate days you plan to come at left)		
Bag Lunch for Thursday, May 20 <i>Include a BAG LUNCH order form for each person</i>	\$10/person		\$
Bag Lunch for Friday, May 21 <i>Include a BAG LUNCH order form for each person</i>	\$10/person		\$
Convention Banquet – Saturday, May 22 <i>Buffet: Broasted chicken, beef tips with noodles, vegetable lasagna, mashed potatoes, vegetable blend, dessert, coffee, tea, and milk; at Ladder House Sports Bar and Restaurant, upper level</i>	\$20/person		\$
Convention T-Shirt – Pre-Order Only <i>Artwork by Tom Schultz featuring Pileated Woodpecker</i> Indicate the number of shirts you want in each size: Small: _____ Med: _____ Large: _____ XL: _____ XXL: _____	\$15/shirt (includes tax) (indicate size[s] at left)	Total number of shirts:	\$
		GRAND TOTAL:	\$

CONVENTION DISPLAY – FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, MAY 21 AND 22

All bird-related organizations are welcome to set up a display at the convention. Number of 8-foot tables needed: _____

Name of Group/Organization _____ Contact Person _____

Please send payment (payable to *WSO Convention Fund*) for the GRAND TOTAL amount with this form (and BAG LUNCH order form[s] if needed) on or before MAY 1 to:

Christine Reel – 2022 Sherryl Lane – Waukesha, WI 53188

Bag Lunch Order Form

All-Day Field Trips – Thursday, May 20, and Friday, May 21

Bag lunches for the Thursday/Friday all-day trips will be provided by Scaturo's Baking Company and Cafe, Sturgeon Bay. Each lunch contains your choice of a sandwich or wrap, your choice of a banana or an apple, and a cherry granola cookie. Bottled water is included.

If you want a bag lunch, you must include a separate Bag Lunch Order Form for each participant with your registration.

Name: _____ Bus: _____ Car: _____

	Thursday	Friday
Sandwich/wrap (choose one):		
Roasted Vegetable Wrap – seasoned roasted vegetables on spinach wrap with feta cheese and vinaigrette dressing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Turkey Bacon Wrap – turkey and bacon on spinach wrap with cheddar cheese, lettuce, and tomato (ranch dressing on the side)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ham and Provolone Sandwich – ham on parmesan pesto bread with provolone cheese, roasted peppers, lettuce, and tomato (mayo on the side)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Fruit (choose one):		
Apple	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Banana	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Special dietary needs: _____

Name: _____ Bus: _____ Car: _____

	Thursday	Friday
Sandwich/wrap (choose one):		
Roasted Vegetable Wrap – seasoned roasted vegetables on spinach wrap with feta cheese and vinaigrette dressing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Turkey Bacon Wrap – turkey and bacon on spinach wrap with cheddar cheese, lettuce, and tomato (ranch dressing on the side)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ham and Provolone Sandwich – ham on parmesan pesto bread with provolone cheese, roasted peppers, lettuce, and tomato (mayo on the side)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Fruit (choose one):		
Apple	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Banana	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Special dietary needs: _____