

Wisconsin Society for Ornithology -- 69th Annual Convention

“*Birding Southeast Wisconsin*”

May 15 - 18, 2008

Held at the PieperPower Education Center, 8200 W. County Line Road, Mequon, Wisconsin
Located between Wauwatosa and Swan Roads – A map will be included with your registration confirmation

Hosted by the Riveredge Bird Club
Newburg, Wisconsin



Our thanks to We Energies
for its generous financial support
of this convention.

GENERAL QUESTIONS? Contact Scott Baughman (920-459-9845 or baughman@charter.net)

REGISTRATION & BUS QUESTIONS? Contact Christine Reel (262-547-6128 or christinereel2@gmail.com)

All-Day Field Trips -- Thursday and Friday, May 15 and 16

Birders who choose to spend some time in this part of the state will be rewarded for their efforts. It is our goal to explore as many different habitats as we can to “show off” the region’s bird diversity and hopefully introduce newcomers to another set of Wisconsin’s favorite bird haunts. Habitats in this area consist of rich rolling farmland veined with creeks, rivers, marshes and wetlands. We’ll visit floodplain and upland oak woods as well as managed prairies, brushy fields, hardwood forests, ponds, lakes, and cedar and conifer plantings, and Lake Michigan.

At this time of year the passerine migration should be at its apex and the dawn chorus, involving migrants and resident species alike, could be mind boggling. The list of species birders should expect is quite impressive, with a few of Wisconsin’s more exceptional species present. Some of these specialties include both bitterns, Upland Sandpiper, Virginia Rail, Common Moorhen, Turkey Vulture, Red-shouldered Hawk, Barred Owl, Northern Bobwhite, Acadian and Willow Flycatchers, Tufted Titmouse, Bell’s Vireo, Blue-winged, Cerulean, Yellow-throated, Prothonotary, Hooded and Kentucky Warblers, and Louisiana Waterthrush, Orchard Oriole, Bobolink and Grasshopper, Henslow’s and Lark Sparrows, plus many other possibilities. There is potential for Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, King Rail, Whip-poor-will, Northern Mockingbird, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-breasted Chat, and Dickcissel (late migrant). The birding should be fabulous.

It is the aim of the 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 to only convention registrants*. WSO members have first priority on available spots with any remaining space open to non-members. Again this year we are glad 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. If you are planning to attend both or only one of the two days, *please indicate that on the registration form*. There is a **50-participant maximum** for this option, so register early.

Those wishing to car caravan, please volunteer to be a driver (on at least one of the two days). For convenience we will try to limit the number of passengers per vehicle to 4 (i.e., no one in the back of a van). If you are a passenger, we would again suggest that you donate a minimum of \$5 to the driver for gas reimbursement. If you are planning to attend both or only one of the two days, *please indicate that on the registration form*. For logistical purposes **there is a 10-vehicle maximum** (~40 participants), so please register early.

ROUTE PLANS

Each day’s field trip will **begin in Delavan** from the parking lot north of Walgreens, which is on the northeast corner of Hwy 50 and Wright Street, near the intersection of I-43 and Hwy 50 (a map will be included with your confirmation). We will return in the late afternoon. On **Day One** the *bus route* will travel east, visiting various locations toward Lake Michigan; the *car caravan* will journey west toward Browntown-Cadiz Springs State Recreation Area (west of Monroe). 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.

On each day, the “route east” (bus Thursday, cars Friday) group should meet at **5:00 a.m.** The trip will begin with an early morning visit to **Bong State Recreation Area**. From here we will visit other sites including **Petrifying Springs Park (Kenosha)**, **Colonial Park (Racine)**, **Wind Point (Racine)**, **Cliffside Park (Racine)**, and **Case Eagle Park (Rochester)**. The day will end with a late-afternoon visit to **Turtle Valley State Wildlife Area (Elkhorn)**. Depending on time and the possibility of “stake-out” birds we may stop at other sites along the route.

On each day, the “route west” (cars Thursday, bus Friday) group should meet at **5:15 a.m.** The trip will begin with an early morning visit to **Turtle Valley State Wildlife Area (Elkhorn)**. From here we will visit **Cook Arboretum (Janesville)**, **Browntown-Cadiz Springs State Recreation Area (west of Monroe)**, and **Sugar River-Avon Bottoms (Rock County)**.

PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES

Lodging is the participant’s responsibility. Be aware this year, the all-day trips will not be conducted close to the convention site so you will have to make separate lodging reservations. Please check the list below for Delavan-area motels and phone numbers (a map will be included with your registration confirmation). As of February 1 (our deadline for having this information ready), we have a limited number of blocked rooms at the Super 8 Motel only, but we are trying to do the same at other motels in the area. **Make your room reservations soon!**

Delavan-area Lodging (listed in order of proximity to the meeting location, with the first facilities being closest)

Super 8 – 262-728-1700

Comfort Suites – 262-740-1000

Evergreens Motel – 262-728-5454

Allyn Mansion Inn – 262-728-9090

Delavan Inn – 262-728-9143

Whisper Garden Inn – 262-728-9890

All meals are the participant’s responsibility, although this year a “Box Lunch” option will be 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 additional large coolers will be available for food and beverages on each trip; you may also bring a small cooler. 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, a long-sleeved shirt or a jacket, for over top, 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 and 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 and your favorite field guide, and your spotting scope and camera if you wish. A day-pack is a convenient way to store your field guides, snacks, insect repellent and sunscreen.

Silent Auction -- Friday and Saturday, May 16 and 17

There will be a Silent Auction of bird-related items at the convention. The auction will be open on Friday 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. and Saturday 10:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. **If you have an item you wish to donate to the Silent Auction, please bring it to the Convention.** The nonprofit cause that will receive the Silent Auction proceeds is the Mequon Nature Preserve, site of the convention.

Displays -- Friday and Saturday, May 16 and 17

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 17 and 18

Early Morning - 11:00 a.m. Field Trips will carpool from the PieperPower Education Center parking lot, **rain or shine!** Juice, coffee, and pastry will be available in the parking lot before the start of each trip. **Sign-up sheets in the Registration area at the convention will indicate the starting and ending times and destinations.** These half-day field trips will go to most of the very BEST birding locations in Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington and nearby counties. **POSSIBLE DESTINATIONS:**

- Milwaukee River Parks (Kletzsch, Lincoln, Estabrook)
- Schlitz Audubon Nature Center
- Lake Michigan from Port Washington north to ?
- UW-M Field Station/Cedarburg Bog/Mud Lake
- Six Mile/Jay Roads and possible shorebird locations
- Riveredge Nature Center
- Harrington Beach
- Milwaukee Coast Guard Impoundment and parks in southern Milwaukee Co.
- Big Cedar Lake/Wildlife Drive/Pike Lake/various Washington Co. farm fields and maybe Loew’s Lake area
- Horicon Marsh
- Mequon Nature Preserve
- Lion’s Den Gorge Nature Preserve
- Even more if some rarities show up in certain locations

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

ALL-DAY FIELD TRIPS May 15 and 16 (Thursday & Friday) RAIN OR SHINE!

Departing from and ending in Delavan, at the parking lot north of Walgreens, 445 S. Wright St.

ACTIVITIES MAY 16 - 18 (Friday evening - Sunday noon)

This is a tentative schedule and is subject to change.

FRIDAY, MAY 16 Silent Auction open 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Convention Registration at the PieperPower Education Center

-- **Sign up** for Saturday morning field trips.

Note: Most Field Trips will be limited to a maximum of 20 people.

-- **Sign up** for Saturday afternoon Outdoor/Indoor Workshops.

5:30 - 7:00 p.m. WSO Bookstore open

7:00 p.m. Presentation: *Craig Faanes* -- "Make County Bird Lists Count for Conservation"

As human populations expand, many of the birds we joined WSO to enjoy and protect are losing the land they need to maintain their own populations. This presentation will focus on how you can apply your county bird checklists and the knowledge you've gained in building them, along with other data sources, into a published paper that will aid resource managers and conservation planners in their efforts to protect a bit of still-wild Wisconsin.

7:30 p.m. Presentation: *Bill Mueller* -- "MCAMMP (the Milwaukee County Avian Migration Monitoring Partnership): Citizen Science and Monitoring Migrants in Wisconsin's Largest Urban Area"

8:15 p.m. Field Trip to the Cedarburg Bog area: "Night Sounds: How many species will we hear?"

SATURDAY, MAY 17 Silent Auction open 10:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Early A.M. - 11:00 a.m. Field Trips (carpool from PieperPower Educ. Center parking lot) (*rain or shine!*) Juice/Coffee/Pastry
(*Sign-up Sheets in the Registration area indicate the starting and ending times and destinations.*)

10:30 - 12:00 Convention Registration continues at the PieperPower Education Center

-- **Sign up** for Sunday morning field trips

Note: Most Field Trips will be limited to a maximum of 20 people.

-- **Sign up** for Saturday afternoon Outdoor/Indoor Workshops.

10:30 - 12:00 WSO Bookstore open

11:00 - 12:00 Hamburger/Bratwurst/Veggie Wrap Lunch at the PieperPower Education Center, catered by Haus of Prime Meats, Thiensville (*This lunch is included in the registration fee.*)

12:00 noon WSO Annual Meeting for WSO members

1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Outdoor/Indoor Workshops:

-- *Kent Uttech* -- "Learning to Think Like a Bluebird"

Workshop for attracting bluebirds and other cavity-nesting songbirds to your back yard (limit: 20).

Participants will see a functioning bluebird trail at the Mee-Kwon Golf Course near the Mequon Nature Preserve. Nests, eggs and chicks of bluebirds and Tree Swallows will be featured. Participants will learn the management techniques used to make Wisconsin the #1 bluebird-producing state in the nation (measured by production from artificial nest boxes). Displays of nest box types, mounting posts and pertinent literature will be available.

-- *Tom Uttech* -- "Landscaping for Wildlife"

This workshop will explore Tom's farm to examine the twenty years of projects that have been carried out to enhance its value to bird life. Some of the results have been quite unexpected.

-- *Carrol Henderson* (Banquet Speaker) -- "Landscaping for Wildlife"

-- *Andy Paulios* -- "Bird Monitoring"

-- *Anita Carpenter* -- "Beautiful Butterflies"

When bird activity slows in midday, it's time to look at butterflies. Join Anita Carpenter on an afternoon stroll and discover Wisconsin's spring-flying butterflies. We'll take time to study and to learn how to identify these fascinating insects.

-- *Kristin Gies* -- "Ecological Restoration at the Mequon Nature Preserve"

5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Social Hour

To enter your name in a drawing for the Door Prize, fill out the "Convention Evaluation" sheet according to the directions.

6:00 p.m. Silent Auction closes

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Convention Banquet (buffet; \$17.50/person)

- 7:00 - 7:30 p.m. Presentation of Awards and Door Prize
 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Banquet Speaker *Carrol Henderson* -- "Ralph's Talking Eggs"
 Carrol Henderson is Nongame Wildlife Program Supervisor for the Minnesota DNR and the author/coauthor of six books, including *Landscaping for Wildlife* (topic of Saturday afternoon's workshop), *Wild About Birds: The DNR Bird Feeding Guide*, *Lakescaping for Wildlife and Water Quality*, *Traveler's Guide to Wildlife in Minnesota*, and *Field Guide to the Wildlife of Costa Rica*. Carrol and his wife lead birding and wildlife tours to Latin America, Kenya, and New Zealand. His "Ralph's Talking Eggs" program describes an avian odyssey that covers how an egg collection reveals past birds, the history of oology, and the birth of bird conservation.

8:30 p.m. *Pick up and pay for Silent Auction items. Drop off plastic name tag holders in the box provided.*

SUNDAY, MAY 18

Early A.M. - 11:00 a.m. Field Trips (carpool from PieperPower Educ. Center parking lot) (*rain or shine!*) Juice/Coffee/Pastry
(Sign-up Sheets in the Registration area indicate the starting and ending times and destinations.)

11:00 a.m. Convention ends

Convention Cost, Registration Deadline, & 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 Keynote 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** featuring artwork designed by Tom Uttech are available **by pre-order only**. If you want a shirt, be sure to order one on the registration form. Cost (including sales tax): \$15 each. Pick up your shirt in the registration area at convention.

Convention Lodging

To get our special rates for the facilities that are indicated as holding rooms for Friday and Saturday nights, May 16 and 17, 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 these rates is **April 15**, and after that date the rooms will be released. Note that all rates are plus tax. We recommend that you make your reservation early because Concordia University's graduation takes place the weekend of convention.

HOTELS/MOTELS

Rooms are being held for Friday and Saturday nights, May 16 and 17:

Super 8 – Germantown

N96 W17490 County Line Road, Germantown 53022
 262-255-0880
 Special rates: queen bed, \$59.50; 2 queen beds, \$68
 About 6 miles from convention, approximately 11 minutes
<http://www.super8germantown.com/>

Chalet Motel of Mequon

10401 N. Port Washington Road, Mequon 53092
 800-343-4510 or 262-241-4510
 Special rate: \$84
 About 8 miles from convention, approximately 13 minutes
<http://www.chaletmotelmequon.com/>

Courtyard by Marriott Milwaukee North/Brown Deer

5200 W. Brown Deer Road, Brown Deer 53223
 800-321-2211 or 414-355-7500
 Special rate: \$85
 About 3 miles from convention, approximately 6 minutes
<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/mkebd-courtyard-milwaukee-north-brown-deer/>

Holiday Inn Express Milwaukee North – Brown Deer/Mequon

4443 W. Schroeder Drive, Brown Deer 53223
 800-HOLIDAY or 414-355-1300
 Special rates: king bed, \$90; 2 double beds, \$100 (these rates do not include breakfast)
 About 3 miles from convention, approximately 7 minutes
<http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/>

Four Points Sheraton Milwaukee North

8900 Brown Deer Road, Milwaukee 53209
 800-325-3535 or 414-355-8585
 Special rate: \$99
 About 2 miles from convention, approximately 4 minutes
<http://www.fpsmn.com/>

Best Western Quiet House & Suites

10330 N. Port Washington Road, Mequon 53092
 262-241-3677
 Special rate: \$104
 About 8 miles from convention, approximately 13 minutes
<http://www.bestwesternwisconsin.com/hotels/best-western-quiet-house-and-suites-mequon/>

No rooms are being held:

Port Zedler Motel

10036 N. Port Washington Road, Mequon 53092

262-241-5850

Standard rate: \$79.99

About 8 miles from convention, approximately 14 minutes

Super 8 – Saukville

180 S. Foster Road, Saukville 53080

262-284-9399

Standard rates (subject to change): queen bed, \$85; 2 double beds, \$95

About 18 miles from convention, approximately 25 minutes

<http://www.super8.com/>

BED & BREAKFASTS

No rooms are being held:

Stagecoach Inn Bed & Breakfast

W61 N520 Washington Avenue, Cedarburg 53012

888-375-0208 or 262-375-0208

Standard rate: \$85

Willing to provide alternate/early breakfast

About 8 miles from convention, approximately 15 minutes

<http://www.stagecoach-inn-wi.com/>

Washington House Inn

W62 N573 Washington Avenue, Cedarburg 53012

262-375-3550

Standard rate: \$95, \$115, \$165

Willing to provide alternate/early breakfast

About 8 miles from convention, approximately 16 minutes

<http://www.washingtonhouseinn.com/>

CAMPING

No sites are being held:

Lazy Days Campground

1475 Lakeview Road, West Bend 53090

262-675-6511

No special rates

About 25 miles from convention, approximately 40 minutes

<http://www.wisvacations.com/LazyDays/>

Kohler-Andrae State Park

1020 Beach Park Lane, Sheboygan 53081

Use internet reservation system or call DNR Call Center,

888-936-7463

No special rates

About 44 miles from convention, approximately 48 minutes

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/specific/ka/>

Wal-Mart Supercenter

W190 N9855 Appleton Avenue, Germantown 53022

262-255-1285

Park to the left as you face the building (near lawn and garden area), as far from the building as possible

About 7 miles from convention, approximately 13 minutes

Registration Form – WSO 69th Annual Convention

May 15 – 18, 2008 -- PieperPower Education Center, Mequon

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) _____

<u>Convention Registration Fee</u>	<u># of People</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$20/person (after May 1, \$30 walk-in registrations only)	x.....	=\$ _____ (1)

Offer for NON -WSO Members

WSO members have priority in signing up for the Thursday/Friday All-Day Field Trips until March 23.

Non-WSO members who wish to join WSO may pay the WSO Membership Fee now and have priority as well.

Optional WSO Membership Fee for Non-Members: \$30/person OR \$35/family\$ _____ (2)

Convention All-Day Field Trips -- Thursday, May 15, and Friday, May 16

<u>Bus Transportation:</u>	<u># of People</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$ 50/person	x.....	=\$ _____ (3)

Day(s) you plan to come: Thursday _____ Friday _____

OR Carpool Caravan: (Suggested: \$5/passenger to the driver) **# of People** **Willing to Drive?**

Day(s) you plan to come: Thursday _____ Friday _____

If you want a box lunch for Thursday and/or Friday, you must include a BOX LUNCH OPTION form for each person.

<u>Box Lunch for Thursday, May 15:</u>	<u># of People</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$ 10/person	x.....	=\$ _____ (4)

<u>Box Lunch for Friday, May 16:</u>	<u># of People</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$ 10/person	x.....	=\$ _____ (5)

Convention Lunch -- Saturday, May 17

The Convention Registration Fee includes the Saturday noon Buffet Lunch at the PieperPower Education Center

Lunch Menu: *Hamburger/bratwurst/veggie wrap, salads, beans, cookies, beverage – catered by Haus of Prime Meats, Thiensville*

Number of People who will be having this lunch _____

Convention Banquet -- Saturday, May 17

Buffet Menu: *Chicken tips in mushroom cream sauce, spanakopita (phyllo dough with spinach and feta cheese), pepper steak, Greek salad, fresh fruit, Greek potatoes, rice, California blend vegetables, dessert (baklava, strawberry shortcake), and beverage (soda, milk, coffee, tea) – catered by Prime Minister, Thiensville*

<u>Banquet:</u>	<u># of People</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$17.50/person	x.....	=\$ _____ (6)

Convention T-Shirt -- By Pre-Order Only

Artwork by Tom Uttech

<u>T-Shirt:</u>	<u># of Shirts</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$15/shirt (includes sales tax)	x.....	=\$ _____ (7)

Please indicate the number of shirts you want in each size:

Small: _____ Medium: _____ Large: _____ XL: _____ XXL: _____

Convention Display -- Friday and Saturday, May 16 and 17

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

Name of Group/Organization _____ Contact Person _____

GRAND TOTAL (ADD LINES 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 as applicable)\$ _____ (8)

Please send payment (payable to *WSO Convention Fund*) for the GRAND TOTAL amount (#8)

with this form (and BOX LUNCH OPTION form[s] if needed) **on or before MAY 1 to:**

Christine Reel -- 2022 Sherryl Lane -- Waukesha, WI 53188

BOX LUNCH OPTION

Convention All-Day Field Trips -- Thursday, May 15, and Friday, May 16

If you want a box lunch for Thursday and/or Friday, you must include one food choice form per participant with your registration.

NAME _____ BUS _____ CAR _____
THURSDAY FRIDAY

Choose one: Roasted veggie sandwich on ciabatta bread
 With Swiss cheese
 With cheddar cheese
Ham and cheese sandwich with tomato and lettuce
 Cheese choice: Swiss
 Cheddar
Herb-roasted organic turkey sandwich w/tomato and lettuce

Choose one: Chips
Fresh Veggie Sticks

Choose one: Brownie
Fruit
Cookie

Choose one: Coke
Diet Coke
Sprite
Iced Tea
Water

Special food needs: _____

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 With Swiss cheese
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Ham and cheese sandwich with tomato and lettuce
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 Cheddar
Herb-roasted organic turkey sandwich w/tomato and lettuce

Choose one: Chips
Fresh Veggie Sticks

Choose one: Brownie
Fruit
Cookie

Choose one: Coke
Diet Coke
Sprite
Iced Tea
Water

Special food needs: _____