



# MORE FROM LOESS

The Newsletter of the  
**LOESS HILLS AUDUBON  
SOCIETY**     Volume 45: No. 4, March/April 2019

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The **Loess Hills Audubon Society** meets on the **first Thursday** of the month at the  
**Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center**  
4500 Sioux River Road (Highway 12 North)  
Sioux City, IA 51109  
Website <http://lhas.tripod.com/>  
Like us on Facebook: Loess Hills Audubon Society

Mission Statement—The Loess Hills Audubon Society exists to educate individuals and the general public, to enjoy and promote birding, and to support ornithology, and to be an advocate for wild areas and environmental issues.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Dave Hoferer

As I write this letter, I am looking out on a cold day in northwest Iowa. Snow covers my yard. The juncos are eating seeds and the squirrels seem to have made a track in the snow through my backyard along the fence. It is a great day, made more so by the fact that today, February 26, is the 100 year anniversary of the Grand Canyon being designated a national park. It is possible that our largest bird, the California Condor, once soared over the canyon. Through historic conservation effort, there were 82 condors in Arizona and Utah in 2017. Perhaps if you are able to take a trip to the Grand Canyon, you may see one soaring majestically above.

Bird conservation is perhaps what the National Audubon Society is best known for. As a chapter of the National Audubon Society, the Loess Hills Audubon Society celebrates birds, their conservation, and the preservation of the environment in general. The Golden Eagle, also a resident of the Grand Canyon, has been sited in the Sioux City area this winter. Want to see one? Please contact us and consider joining Jerry Von Ehwegen on our monthly outings. While Jerry cannot guarantee that a particular species will show itself for us, he can show us where they

should be. Soon some of our spring favorites will return. Once the cold relents, the trumpeting of the Sandhill Crane will be heard. The amazing mating flight of the American Woodcock will take place on our prairies, perhaps even our own Sioux City Prairie. The little Northern Saw-Whet Owl has been roosting in our pine trees this winter, while the Snowy Owl has once again come south to our area. Soon they will leave us for more northerly climes. Birds are amazing! If you join our outings, you can celebrate with us the wonders of our avian neighbors.

You can help us out in other ways. As part of my professional duties, I am studying 5 endangered and threatened species of raptors in Iowa to learn why their numbers have declined. Would you like to see the Society do similar studies? Members already help track birds by participating in the Christmas Bird Count, Great Backyard Bird Count, and other citizen science efforts. What conservation efforts would you like to see the Loess Hills Audubon Society get involved with? We do fund some conservation and environmental education efforts in Siouxland. What else would you like us to do? What efforts do you know of that we could help? We have a conservation committee that not only wants to help, but that you could potentially volunteer with. Please help us make Siouxland a more bird- and environmentally- friendly place through your suggestions, ideas, and energy.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### LOESS HILLS AUDUBON SOCIETY

**March and April Audubon meetings will be held in the Parish Hall of Redeemer Lutheran Church, 3204 S. Lakeport Road at 7:30 pm. Board meetings at 6:15 pm. All are welcome to attend.**

**Thursday, March 7—LHAS meeting.** Program: “Avian Predators, Terrestrial Prey” Tyler Flammang, Resource Naturalist with Woodbury County Conservation Board will teach us about the relationship between local birds of prey and the food sources they seek throughout the Midwest seasons. He will bring some live animals to help illustrate his program.

**Saturday, March 23—Show and Go Outing.** We will meet at the Northwest corner of the Super Walmart parking lot on Singing Hills Blvd. At 7:30 am. An email will be sent shortly before the 23<sup>rd</sup> to advise you of the probable destination and lunch plans. Our web site Outings Page will also be updated at that time. Contact Jerry Von Ehwegen at: [jerryvon@cableone.net](mailto:jerryvon@cableone.net) or 276-1546 for more information.

**Thursday, April 4—LHAS meeting** Program: Mike Greiner “Siouxland Critters” Birds and wildlife photographed right here where we live and the surrounding area. We may not have the variety found on the coasts, in the mountains, or the big timber states, but there are plenty of subjects to test your photography skills.

**Saturday, April 27—Show and Go Outing** We will meet at the Norwest corner of the Super Walmart parking lot on Singing Hills Blvd. At 7:30 am. An email will be sent shortly before the 27<sup>th</sup> to advise you of the probable destination and lunch plans. Our web site Outings Page will also be updated at that time. Contact Jerry Von Ehwegen at [jerryvon@cableone.net](mailto:jerryvon@cableone.net) or 276-1546 for more information.

## **DOROTHY PECAUT NATURE CENTER**

Exit 151 I-29, Take State Road 12 North for 4 miles to the Nature Center. To register for events or for more information call 712-258-0838 Or check our website – [www.woodburyparks.org](http://www.woodburyparks.org)

### **March 1—Stiub Gray Shooting Range opens**

**Friday, March 1—March Into the Woods** 10:00 – 11:00 am. DPNC. Learn about animals that live in this area and the different tracks that they leave behind. We will first learn how to identify different tracks and then go on a hike on the trails at DPNC to see if we can find any tracks of animals that live here. After the hike, kids will then be encouraged to create their own snowy masterpiece by painting the snow and creating their own track or animal painting. Be sure to dress warmly as this program will be outdoors if temperature allows. The program is open to all ages and is free of charge. Please wear sturdy walking boots or snow boots.

**Saturday, March 2—Zen in Nature** 7:00-9:00 am. DPNC. we'll gather early in the morning. We'll sit. We'll walk in the woods (called "kinhin") We'll do qigong. We'll sit some more. Fabulous way to start the day with a full dose of Zen in nature! No experience required. For more information, contact Dan Pecaut at 712-252-3268 or [dpecaut@gmail.com](mailto:dpecaut@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, March 12—Nature Tales** 10:00 am. DPNC. Pre-schoolers, join us with an adult for this special story time on wild cats like bobcats and mountain lions. We'll hike, too, weather permitting. Please pre-register by calling 712-258-0838 or email [tkruid@woodburyparks.org](mailto:tkruid@woodburyparks.org).

**Tuesday, April 9—Nature Tales** 10:00 am. DPNC Pre-schoolers, join us with an adult for this special story time on songbirds. We'll hike, too, weather permitting. Please pre-register by calling 712-258-0838 or email [tkruid@woodburyparks.org](mailto:tkruid@woodburyparks.org).

**Saturday, April 20—Roadside Cleanup Friends of Stone Park** DPNC lower parking lot. Join the Friends of Stone Park to pick up litter along Highway 12. Wear old clothes and sturdy shoes that can get dirty. Bring gloves if you have them. Safety vests and trash bags provided. For more information, call 712-255-4698 or [friendsofstornepark@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofstornepark@gmail.com)

**Saturday, April 27—Volunteer Work Day** 9:00 am – noon. DPNC. Help us spruce up the trails, gardens, Nature Playscape and grounds this spring. Wear sturdy shoes and bring work gloves. Pre-registration is appreciated so we can plan our volunteer tasks.

**Sunday, April 28—Siouxland Earth Day** 1:00 – 5:00 pm. Delta Hotel Convention Center, South Sioux City. Speakers and exhibitors, indoor and outdoor activities, food vendors, free admission. Learn about recycling, renewable energy, litter control, sustainable agriculture and natural resources in this fun family event. For more information and to become involved contact Pam Miller at [pam.miller@siouxlandethanol.com](mailto:pam.miller@siouxlandethanol.com).

## **ADAMS HOMESTEAD AND NATURE PRESERVE**

Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve is located 1 mile west and ½ mile south of I-29, Exit 4 in South Dakota. For information and pre-registration, call (605) 232-0873 or e-mail [jody.moats@state.sd.us](mailto:jody.moats@state.sd.us)

**Little Naturalist Program—Fridays, March 15 and April 12.** The Little Naturalist program is for toddlers ages 2-4 years old and their parent or guardian. Kids learn about the outdoors through games, crafts, activities, and stories. Classes start at 10:00 am.

**PLYMOUTH COUNTY PARKS** Hillview Park is located west of Hinton, Iowa at 25601 C60. For information and registration call Victoria at 712-947-4270 or e-mail [ddowhower@plymouthcountyparks.com](mailto:ddowhower@plymouthcountyparks.com) or visit us on Facebook at Plymouth County Conservation or our website at [plymouthcountyparks.com](http://plymouthcountyparks.com)

**Knee High Naturalists—March 16—Animal Adaptations** Knee High Naturalists is a program for 2-5 year old children and their caretakers. Each program is held at Hillview Park in the Center for Outdoor Learning at 10:00 am. Cost is \$3 per child. Please register by the prior to the program. Outdoor activities will be modified if weather conditions are not favorable. Please dress for the weather.

### **LHAS OUTINGS**

By Jerry Von Ehwegen

**Saturday, 19 January, 2019** This outing was cancelled due to a snow storm.

**Saturday, 23 February, 2019** This outing was cancelled due to bad weather. Thanks to the weather, this is a very short report for this newsletter! Hope to see you in March.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

July 26-28, 2019. National Audubon Society 2019 biennial convention will take place in Milwaukee, WI. The event will feature jam-packed days of networking events, distinguished keynote speakers at the forefront of conservation science and policy, hand-on workshop sessions, and discussion groups, as well as exciting bird field trips and adventures—plus great views of the lake. Don't miss this opportunity for learning, networking, and collaborating—and birding with fellow Audubon chapter, state, national, and international leaders.

Scholarships to help with cost of travel, accommodation, and registration will be available soon.

Flock to the Audubon Convention, Milwaukee, WI July 26-28, 2019.

## **Houston, we have a problem!! National Audubon Society Membership concerns**

### **No worries, The Loess Hills Audubon Society has the solutions!!**

Section A—RENEWALS only—Minimum renewal is \$20.00..

I. There appears to be concern and confusion by numerous National Audubon Society (NAS) members when it comes to renewals. Some end up with two different memberships (occasionally three). Dates for renewal and amount due are confusing. Members receive too many notices and mail which leads to further confusion. It is not clear when, where, or how to pay. Below is accurate information on renewals and payment options. Pay particular attention to paragraphs V and IX.

II. Memberships are for a one (1) year period only for all members--no more long-term renewals.

III. Renewals may be mailed, done online, or by calling Chapter Services 800-542-2748 (RENEWALS ONLY).

IV. Renewal cost is \$20 per year. You can make the donation for more. If the amount you wish to give is not listed, there is a box where you can type in the amount.

V. CRUCIAL—If you send money more than 6 months PRIOR to your due date It will go as a DONATION and not a renewal. ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR EXPIRATION DATE, PLEASE CALL US (see paragraph Viii).

Some helpful ideas.

VI. You may request that Audubon limit your notices for donations and mails to ONE (1) per year. Call Chapter Services.

VII. You may request to NOT receive the magazine. Call Chapter Services.

VIII. Please feel free to contact Donna Popp at: [dpopp@cableone.net](mailto:dpopp@cableone.net) or Paul Roisen: at 712-301-2817 or [roisenp1950@gmail.com](mailto:roisenp1950@gmail.com) for member ID number or advice. Include your member number if at all possible.

IX. You may additionally send a donation to our LOCAL Loess Hills Audubon Society (LHAS) by sending a check made out to LHAS at the SIOUX CITY address listed towards the bottom of this article.

RENEWALS only— Mailing Address: Make the check out to National Audubon Society—write “renewal” in the memo line. National Audubon Society P.O. Box 97194 Washington, DC 20090-7194

Online connections Current Members: Minimum renewal is \$20.00 dollars. You may safely click on this link as it will take you directly to the NAS online payment system RENEWAL LINK-- Renewal Link

Chapter Services-- 800-542-2748 It is important that you have your Member ID. If not make sure that they do not give you a new ID. If necessary, contact Donna Popp or Paul Roisen.

Section B—NEW MEMBERS only

First-Time Membership

Minimum is \$20.00 dollars. It is crucial that you indicate you were “recruited” by the Loess Hills Audubon Society (H52) since ALL of your First-time membership dollars comes directly to LHAS. This happens ONLY for brand new memberships (never for membership renewal even if membership has expired).\*\*\*This is a one-time opportunity to give a larger amount that will be returned IN FULL to the LHAS , for our use, to provide funding for local projects.

Mailing Address: Make Check out to National Audubon Society—write H52 in the memo line—and mail it to us. Loess Hills Audubon Society P.O. Box 5133 Sioux City, IA 51102

Online connection: You may safely click on this link as it will take you directly to the NAS online payment system. ONLINE LINK: First Time Online Membership

Chapter Services: 800-542-2748 This phone number is for help only. Use either the mailing address or the Online Connection to sign up

### MEMBERSHIP PAYMENT PROCEDURE

By Donna Popp

**For Renewals**, send your dues to: National Audubon Society, PO Box 97194, Washington, DC 20090-7194. Be sure to put on the check which should be made out to National Audubon Society, our chapter identification H52. **For new memberships**, send them to me with a check made out to National Audubon Society and the H52 identification. Membership cost is \$20.00 Anything above the \$20 is, of course, much appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 712-274-1979 or [dpopp@cableone.net](mailto:dpopp@cableone.net).

**Loess Hills Audubon Society**  
Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
email \_\_\_\_\_

Introductory 1 year membership \$25  
Make check payable to National Audubon Society and send to:  
Donna Popp, 630 Surrey Lane, Sioux City, IA 51106

### LHAS CHAPTER Executives

President	David Hoferer	847-660-0650	dhoferer@uwalumni.com
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Newsletter	Anne Shaner	712-252-2182	shanerga@msn.com
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Education	Jody Moats	712-490-5570	jody.moats@state.sd.us
Outings	Jerry VonEhwegen	712-276-1546	jerryvon@cableone.net
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Social Committee	Carol Blair	712-948-3350	penguina@wiatel.net
Publicity	Dawn Snyder	258-0838 or 898-9168	dsnyder@woodburyparks.org
Birdathon Czar	Paul Roisen	712-301-2817	roisenp1950@gmail.com
Audubon Adventures	Gary Heineman	712-428-6443	heineman@longlines.com
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