

NOVEMBER MEETING

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2014

The Owls of the Houston Nature Center

On Wednesday, November 19th, we will hold our November meeting. Karla Bloem will be our presenter and she will be bringing Alice the Great Horned Owl with her. Here is her program description:

"The town of Houston, Minnesota become known for owls thanks to Alice the Great Horned Owl, the Houston Nature Center's only live animal. Her popularity led to the creation of the only full-weekend, all-owl festival in North America, where the World Owl Hall of Fame awards are presented annually. The Festival's worldwide coverage is leading to the creation of an International Owl Center in Houston, since there is currently no center dedicated to teaching people about owls in North America. Humans present the greatest threat to owls, but they also hold the greatest hope. The goal of the Center is to teach people how to live more owl-friendly lives to make the world a better place for owls (and people too.)

Karla Bloem is the Center's Executive Director. She has a degree in Biology from Luther College and is the foremost authority on Great Horned Owl vocalizations. She has given presentations in The Netherlands, Germany, Italy, and Argentina about her work. She received a Bush Leadership Fellowship in 2008 for a self-directed study program to better help her create an owl center in Houston.

Karla's presentation will cover some of her research on Great Horned Owl vocalizations, plans for the International Owl Center, some things you can do to help owls, and one of her feathered ambassador owls."



This event will begin at 7:00 PM at the Myrick / Hixon Ecopark, is free and is open to the

public.

We have worked out our meeting arrangements with the La Crosse Parks & Rec Department and we will continue to meet in the main room of what has been known as the EcoPark building at Myrick Park for the entire program year. Our meetings are free and open to the public, and held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM from September through June (with the exception of December when we do not hold a meeting).

OCTOBER MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2014

Spring Birding in Spain

On Wednesday, October 15th, we will hold our October meeting. Pat Wilson will be our presenter and he will be doing a presentation called "Spring Birding in Spain". Here is his program description:

"Spain is a popular birding destination in Europe, especially in spring when the birds migrating from Africa across the Strait of Gibraltar and up the Iberian Peninsula join the local birds settling in for the nesting season. Pat & Bobbie Wilson went on a three week guided birding trip in Spain in April & May, from the marshes of the southern Atlantic coast through the arid central grasslands and cork-oak savannahs to the northern coast on the Bay of Biscay and the Pyrénées Mountains on the border with France. Along the way they sampled the history and culture of small town Spain, from 1,000 year old monasteries and Roman roads to the great food in local restaurants.

Enjoy photos of many of the 216 bird species seen, along with the scenery of a beautiful county."

This event will begin at 7:00 PM at the Myrick / Hixon Ecopark, is free and is open to the public.

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SEPTEMBER MEETING

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2014

Damsels and Dragons of Wisconsin and Minnesota

Coulee Region Audubon President Dan Jackson will be sharing his knowledge and enthusiasm with us while showing his excellent photos of the damselflies and dragonflies that are seen here in the Coulee Region.

This event will begin at 7:00 PM at the Myrick / Hixon Ecopark, is free and is open to the public.

At this point, we are not sure what the impact will be of the recent announcement that the EcoPark Organization will be ending operations at the end of September. If that decision eventually does have an impact, we will let everyone know as soon as we can via e-mails and the newsletters.

MAY MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2014

Birds in Legend and Lore

Just a reminder, as of the January meeting, our meeting location is now changing and we will meet at the Myrick / Hixon Ecopark.

What can I say? Storyteller Gwyn Calvetti will be telling a few tales, sharing her program "Birds in Legend and Lore." Relax and enjoy as she tells stories drawn from folklore and an original story or two, told in the time honored oral tradition. These birds might talk, but the stories all reflect true avian behaviors and characteristics.

This event will begin at 7:00 PM, is free and open to the public.

APRIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2014

Cerulean Warbler Research

Just a reminder, as of the January meeting, our meeting location is now changing and we will meet at the Myrick / Hixon Ecopark.

Jon Stravers will be giving a presentation on his ongoing research on Cerulean Warblers.

Jon W. Stravers is the Driftless Area Coordinator for the National Audubon Society's Mississippi River Initiative, founder of the Big Blue Sky Music Project, co-author of "The Raptors Of Iowa", and co-author of "Gladys Black: The Legacy of Iowa's Bird Lady" and "Sylvan T. Runkel: Citizen of the Natural World".

This event will begin at 7:00 PM, is free and open to the public.

MARCH MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2014

Warbler Identification

Just a reminder, as of the January meeting, our meeting location is now changing and we will meet at the Myrick / Hixon Ecopark.

This month's speakers are well known to Coulee Audubon. Dan Jackson and Scott Puchalski will be helping us all sharpen our Warbler identification skills in hopes that spring, and the migration, will indeed arrive.

This event will begin at 7:00 PM, is free and open to the public.

FEBRUARY MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2014

Birds of the Tropics

Just a reminder, as of the January meeting, our meeting location is now changing and we will meet at the Myrick / Hixon Ecopark.

Our speaker this month may be well known to many area birders. Chris West of Richland Center has been on the birding scene before he was of legal age to drive!

He has worked as a naturalist for the Mississippi Explorer Cruises, and travels extensively in search of anything with feathers.

While we might be shivering in Wisconsin's February air, Chris will warm us all up with tales of his travels in search of "Birds of the Tropics."

This event will begin at 7:00 PM, is free and open to the public.

JANUARY MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2014

Pot Luck and Annual Meeting

Just a reminder, as of the January meeting, our meeting location is now changing and we will meet at the Myrick / Hixon Ecopark.

This month's meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 15th. This will be a potluck and the annual meeting. The potluck will start at 6:00 pm and the annual meeting will start at 7:00. The annual meeting include a short business meeting including an election of board members which will be followed by a photo sharing session featuring member's outdoor and bird-related photos. This is always a great program since we have quite a few great photographers in the group.

For those taking part in the potluck, please bring plates and silverware. We will have some on hand, but would like to make this a green event by not using disposables. Coulee Audubon will provide a gallon of milk and a gallon of juice. If you would like something else to drink, please plan accordingly.

If anyone would rather not take part in the potluck, you are still welcome to come to the meeting. The meeting part of the event will start at 7:00. This will include a short business meeting that will include an election of board members and a recap of our current finances. After the business meeting, the program for the evening will feature an opportunity for participants to share their outdoor and wildlife photos. I will have a laptop computer and projector set up and ready to go. Please bring your photos on a USB device or on a CD/DVD so that they can be shown from that machine.

The three board positions that will be voted on include President, Vice-President, and a board position. If anyone is interested in putting their name in the hat for any of these positions please let me know. It would be fun to have a real election!! I would be especially excited to see someone interested in taking over the President position!!

The program is free and open to the public.

Stay warm,

**Dan Jackson, President
Coulee Region Audubon Society
La Crosse, Wisconsin**