

JAN - FEB 2020

Volume 34, Issue 1

COMPASS

Navigating the world of birds and nature

Visit our Website: Chicagoaudubon.org



**CHICAGO AUDUBON
SOCIETY**

5801-C N. Pulaski Road | Chicago, IL 60646-6057

Letter from the President



@JasonWardNY is a birder and social activist who grew up in the Bronx and now lives in Atlanta, Georgia.

Jason Ward, host of the show “Birds of North America”, recently shared a great message after a birding trip with high school age students of color. We’re reprinting it here for those who haven’t seen it.

Spent about an hour outdoors w/ a group of amazing HS students today.

After an hour of flyover vultures, hawks, jays, bluebirds & mockingbirds, I kept overhearing about how much fun birding was.

How binoculars & scopes were items they wanted to buy.

How waking up in the morning & listening to the neighborhood birds would be tomorrow’s goal.

These students were engaging & full of questions. Not because their teacher demanded it from them, it was because they were comfortable.

I spoke their language, their guards dropped, defenses lowered. Because they recognized me as one of them.

Conservationists/educators... if you want to expand your reach to communities of color, hire people who are from these communities. Period.

Or else you run the risk of coming across as disingenuous.

We are not photo ops.

We are not charity work.

We demand consistent and intentional effort.

You are not our saviors.

What’s Inside?

From the President p. 2

CAS Advocacy Task Force p. 3

Calendar of Events p. 4

Camping with the Birds p. 6

Birding America p. 6

Chicago Bird Collision Monitors p. 8

Plover Day p. 8

New Staff p. 9

Thank You p. 9

CAS Membership Form p. 10



Cover, Fox Sparrows by Lisa Musgrave. Above, Dark-eyed Junco by Lisa Musgrave.



Chicago Audubon Society is proud to have many talented people of color in leadership positions on our board and, now, on our staff. We’re all dedicated to the Audubon mission and looking forward to welcoming people to activities that express our collective love of nature.

— Good birding, Judy

CAS ADVOCACY TASK FORCE

By and Leslie Shad and Tamima Itani

Two new CAS Advocacy Campaigns held their first meetings in October. The teams are focused on two goals: enhancing efforts to protect natural areas and making bird-friendly shopping recommendations.

The Campaign for Natural Areas outlined key elements of an advocacy toolkit to be used in efforts to protect natural areas such as Jackson Park, the South Shore Nature Center, Montrose Dunes and River Parkland.

This group has initiated drafts of talking points on several topics:

- Why are natural areas important and what do we lose when we lose them?
- How do humans benefit from green spaces?
- What is the impact of removing mature trees in natural areas?
- What is the impact of having dogs off leash in natural areas?

Other advocacy resources the group is creating:

- A list of people who have successfully protected natural areas to serve as mentors to new efforts.
- A bird literacy document: key facts to share on every bird walk.
- Policy statements on each natural area CAS is connected with.

The Campaign for Bird-Friendly Buying arose from a desire to support bird habitat in Central and South America through shade-grown coffee purchases, paired with a realization that finding shade grown coffee at cafes or local roasters is close to impossible. This group plans to encourage local coffee roasters to increase market demand for shade grown coffee by selling bird-friendly grinds, and perhaps to create a product benefiting Chicago Audubon Society.

Next steps for this group:

- Create lists of local roasters, distributors, cafes and grocers to reach out to.
- Maintain a list online of where to purchase bird friendly coffee locally, found at <https://www.chicagoaudubon.org/issues-advocacy-all/2019/2/13/bird-friendly-coffee>
- A letter to explain why we are inviting them to carry shade grown beans, begin their own bird-friendly roast, etc.



Great Blue Heron by Leo Estrada



- Criteria for shade grown coffee, and other general resources.

Although coffee is our pilot effort, this group is also considering creating bird-friendly shopping guidance on other topics, such as toilet paper that could reduce deforestation.

To learn more or join either effort, please email cas@chicagoaudubon.org



Volunteers restoring bird habitat at Camp Pine Woods by John Elliott

Calendar of Events — Walks, Workdays, Programs

Unless otherwise noted, our activities are free and open to the public. You do not need to be a Chicago Audubon Society member to participate. For updates or more information, visit chicagoaudubon.org or call the CAS office, 773-539-6793.



Jerry Goldner captured this image of a Snowy Owl from very far away with a 600mm lens and a 1.5 extender.

Bird Walks

Wooded Island Bird Walks, Jackson Park —

Saturday, January 4 - 8:00 a.m. And every Saturday, all year.
Wooded Island, Jackson Park
Museum of Science and Industry South Parking Lot

These wonderful walks continue throughout the year, weather permitting. Bring binoculars and field guides and dress for the weather. Meet at the east side of the Clarence

Darrow Bridge, just south of the Museum of Science and Industry. For more information contact Pat Durkin, pat.durkin@comcast.net

Camp Pine Bird Walk, Camp Pine Woods —

Saturday, February 1 - 8:00 a.m.
Camp Pine Woods Picnic Grove #1, Mt. Prospect, IL

Come enjoy the growing results of restoration work being done along the Des Plaines River. Meet at the farthest parking lot at Camp Pine Woods on Euclid/Lake Avenue between Des Plaines and Glenview, just east of the Des Plaines River. Enter on the south side of Lake Avenue, eastbound ONLY from Des Plaines River Rd. (there's no left turn westbound on Lake). For more information contact John Elliott, johnelliott4@gmail.com

Woodcock Walk at Wolf Road Prairie —

Friday, March 27 - 7:00 p.m.
2901 Park Ave, Westchester, IL

It's time! One of the most dazzling displays in the animal kingdom will be happening at this wonderful prairie. Follow John Elliott as you listen for the peent of the male Woodcock that precedes his magical spiral 300 feet up in the sky! There is no cost, but registration is required for this walk. Call Trailside Museum at (708) 366-6530 or email them at trailside.museum@cookcountyl.gov

Bird Walk at Orland South Forest Preserve —

Sunday, April 5 - 7:30 a.m.

Orland Grassland South, Tinley Park, IL

John Elliott will guide us to search for grassland birds of concern, such as the Henslow's Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark and others that are found at Orland. Northern Harriers and Cooper's hawks circle in the sky, and migrating waterfowl and sandhill cranes have stopped over in good numbers at this grassland habitat restoration. For more information contact John Elliott, johnelliott4@gmail.com

Migration Walk at Trailside Museum —

Sunday, May 3 - 7:30 a.m.

738 Thatcher Ave, River Forest, IL

Flycatchers, Vireos and Wrens oh my! Spring migration is in full effect. Doesn't it just make you want to sing? Miles of unpaved walking trails at Trailside Museum wind through Thatcher Woods' beautiful oak woodlands and floodplain forest. The perfect setting to witness the magical spectacle that is migration — and the birds agree! Almost 200 species use this rich area as they make their way to their breeding grounds. John Elliott will lead this walk. For more information contact John Elliott, johnelliott4@gmail.com

Nesting Osprey and More at Duffy Preserve —

Saturday, June 20 - 7:30 a.m.

Tampier Slough Woods, Lemont, IL

This site is known for rare grassland and shrubland species. Follow John Elliott as he leads us to a spot where we hope to see nesting Osprey. If everyone crosses their fingers tightly enough, we might get lucky enough to see some Yellow-breasted Chats, or even a Blue-winged Warbler. For more information contact John Elliott, johnelliott4@gmail.com

Programs and Workdays

Camp Pine Woods Workday —

Saturday, January 4 - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Workdays occur every first Saturday of the month.

Camp Pine Woods Picnic Grove #1, Mt. Prospect, IL

Help us restore important shrubland bird habitat with a focus on brush cutting and burning. Waterproof shoes/boots are recommended. Gloves and eyewear will be provided for those who need them. Meet at the farthest parking lot at Camp Pine Woods on Euclid/Lake Avenue between Des Plaines and Glenview, just east of the Des Plaines River. Enter on the south side of Lake Avenue, eastbound ONLY from Des Plaines River Rd. (there's no

left turn westbound on Lake). For questions contact: Alex Landberg, al.landberg@gmail.com

Shedd Stewardship Volunteer Days —

Saturday, January 4 - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 1 - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 15 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 19 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Skokie Lagoons: 1748-1726 Tower Rd, Winnetka, IL

Volunteers are encouraged to sign up at GreatLakesActionDays@sheddaquarium.org Bring work boots, work gloves, and eye protection. Help Shedd Stewardship renew the conservation efforts at Skokie Lagoons to clear invasive buckthorn. Workdays occur every first Saturday and third Wednesdays of the month.



Adult Bald Eagle. Photo: Leo Estrada.

Annual Meeting and Members Reception —

February 6 - 6:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Alarmist Brewing: 4055 W Peterson Ave, Chicago, IL

Please join us! We can vote together, drink together, eat together, and just have a great time together. If you've never come to one of these events, here is a message for you: we want you to come! These parties are just like our bird walks — new people are warmly welcomed! Good food, good drinks, good people. You'll see us to the right when you come in the door. Cash bar. We will provide snacks. Alarmist Brewing has a great selection of drinks — including nonalcoholic. There is a big parking lot with about 40 spots. Not only is it a Chicago Audubon event, but it's at Alarmist Brewing, of course you want to go! Please rsvp with antonio@chicagoaudubon.org



Abby Sterling with an American Oystercatcher.

Shorebird Conservation on Monty and Rose's Wintering Grounds —

Wednesday, April 1 - 6:00 p.m.
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum:
2430 N Cannon Dr, Chicago, IL

Abby Sterling, Shorebird Biologist with Manomet will share photos and stories of shorebirds in the southeastern United States, and explain how conservation actions there impact birds throughout the hemisphere. Her work with the Georgia Bight Shorebird Conservation Initiative focuses on local actions and partnerships that lead to habitat protection. This program is the first in the 2020 Compelling Voices in Birding and Conservation series, sponsored by Chicago Audubon, Chicago Ornithological Society, and the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum. Held at the Nature Museum, includes a cash bar. Free, but registration is required — watch for details.

The View from Hawk Mountain —

Thursday, July 30 - 6:00 p.m.
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum:
2430 N Cannon Dr, Chicago, IL

Laurie Goodrich, Director of Conservation Science at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association will share experience and knowledge gleaned from years of monitoring and analyzing raptor migration. This program is the second in the 2020 Compelling Voices in Birding and Conservation series, sponsored by Chicago Audubon, Chicago Ornithological Society, and the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum. Held at the Nature Museum, includes a cash bar. Free, but registration is required — watch for details.



A pair of Hooded Mergansers. Photo: Leo Estrada.



Photos: top, Cape May Warbler by Lisa Musgrave; bottom, Blackburnian Warbler by Lisa Musgrave

SAVE THE DATE - Camping with the Birds

May 8 – May 9, 2020 at Camp Reinberg

It's never too early to plan for spring migration! Mark your calendar for the second annual Camping with the Birds overnight camping and birding event, sponsored by Chicago Audubon Society and The Forest Preserves of Cook County. The dates are Friday, May 8 – Saturday, May 9, 2020 and the location is Camp Reinberg at the beautiful Deer Grove Forest Preserve in Palatine.

Both cabin and tent camping options will be available. On Friday night we'll enjoy a campfire with s'mores and sing-along with ukuleles and guitars (bring your instruments!), and on Saturday morning, we'll witness the spring migration spectacle together on guided bird walks.

Stay tuned for more details. It was great fun last year. We hope you will join us!

“Birds Can Save the World” Keynote by John W. Fitzpatrick at Birding America 2020

Chicago Audubon Society invites you to join us at the 2020 Birding America conference on March 14 at North Park University.

Right before spring migration picks up, an awesome gathering of the local birding community will take place. Birding America is a one-day conference about birding travel to local, national and international spots, birding skills, bird research, and bird conservation. In other words, it's about birds.

With four breakout sessions in each time slot, beginners and experts alike will find topics of interest. Exhibit tables showcase local groups and products.

John Fitzpatrick will deliver the Keynote Address. “I will emphasize the vital roles that birds now play in fostering conservation of worldwide biological diversity...because birds capture both our hearts and our minds, they provide enjoyable, accessible, and sensitive indicators of environmental health, ecological change, and our own successes and failures in ecosystem management,” says Fitzpatrick.



Keynote Speaker John Fitzpatrick. Photo: Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology.

He explains that, “Birders are generating unprecedented data on avian distributions, movements, and population trends at global scales, and highlight the newest results from the Cornell Lab’s ongoing analyses of eBird, the world’s largest and most rapidly growing citizen-science project on biodiversity.”

John Fitzpatrick’s biography is impressive. (This is the short version!) Since 1995 he has been Executive Director of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and professor in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Cornell University.

A native of St. Paul, Minnesota, he graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University in 1974, and received his Ph.D. from Princeton University in 1978. He served as Curator of Birds and Chairman of Zoology at the Field Museum

in Chicago from 1978 through 1989, and taught at the University of Chicago.

At Cornell, Fitzpatrick has led the dramatic growth of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology into a world-renowned center for ornithology and conservation biology. With his colleagues, he pioneered the development of citizen science, most recently including eBird, an internet-based platform that has become the world’s largest citizen-science project and a revolutionary, global standard for ecological monitoring.

Don’t miss this opportunity to learn first-hand from Dr. Fitzpatrick and other inspiring leaders in bird conservation. Stay tuned to our events page at www.chicagoaudubon.org for upcoming registration information

Compass Chicago Audubon Society

5801-C North Pulaski Road Chicago, Illinois 60646-6057 | chicagoaudubon.org | 773-539-6793
facebook.com/chicagoaudubon | facebook.com/groups/1467626873474886

Program and Communications Manager Antonio Flores | antonio@chicagoaudubon.org

Office hours: MWF 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. T TH 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. | **Please call before stopping by.**

Compass Layout Design

Sarah Sommers
sarahsommersdesign.com

CAS Officers:

President

Judy Pollock
jpbobolink@gmail.com

Treasurer

Sayan Duttachoudhury
sayanduttachoudhury@gmail.com

Secretary

Annette Prince
aprincebcm2@msn.com

CAS Committee Chairs:

Advocacy Task Force

Tamina Itani
tamimaitani@hotmail.com

Leslie Shad

leslieshad@gmail.com

Birding America

Alan Anderson
casresearch@comcast.net

Pat Miller

patmiller@me.com

Field Trips and Programs

John Elliott
johnelliott4@gmail.com

Forrest Cortes

Urbantarzann@gmail.com

Membership

Pat Miller
patmiller@me.com

Report Injured Birds

Chicago Bird Collision
Monitors (CBCM)
CBCM Hotline phone
(773) 988-1867

Director CBCM

Annette Prince
info@birdmonitors.net

Communications

Judy Cheske, Chair
judycheske@gmail.com

Judy Pollock, Facebook
jpbobolink@gmail.com

Colleen Fehrenbach
namastecolleen@yahoo.com

Jessica Johnson, ENews
towerlobbyfloor@gmail.com

The Compass is the official publication of the Chicago Audubon Society, a chapter of the National Audubon Society. The Chicago Audubon Society, an Illinois non-profit corporation, has been granted tax-exempt status by the federal government. The Compass and the Chicago Audubon Society are not responsible for the accuracy of all information published or for opinions expressed in this publication.



Judy Pollock, Chris Monaghan, Melissa Foster, Bob Dolgan

Plover Day!

By Judy Cheske

Governor J.B. Pritzker declared November 18, 2019 Piping Plover Day in Illinois, to honor the historic nesting of two Great Lakes Piping Plovers, Monty and Rose, this past summer at Montrose Beach.

This coincided with release of the documentary film, “Monty and Rose” at the Music Box Theatre. Directed by Bob Dolgan with guest appearances by many Chicago area bird conservation luminaries the film has sold out several screenings.

Local conservation groups, including Chicago Audubon Society, collaborated on making this day special, organizing a beach clean-up at Waukegan Beach where Monty and Rose first nested in 2018, and at Montrose Beach where Monty and Rose successfully fledged 2 chicks.

A bird walk was held at South Shore Nature Sanctuary, which is currently under threat of development.

A Monty and Rose guestbook on the Chicago Audubon website has collected several beautiful memories and tributes to the pair. A happy hour was held at Spiteful Brewing, including a special toast to Monty and Rose with 25% of happy hour proceeds donated to conservation efforts.

These four little birds, Monty Rose and the two irresistible chicks have captured the hearts of Chicagoans, and are helping to bring attention to the importance of efforts to make our beaches and city safer for plovers and all birds.

The 23 minute film is being shown throughout the city with wider distribution planned in 2020. Further conservation advocacy is planned, including requesting that the Chicago Park District develop a policy for large events at Montrose Beach.



Bright lights from buildings, along with reflective or transparent window and lobby glass, are hazards for birds migrating through Chicago.

Each year Chicago Bird Collision Monitors recover more than 5000 birds that have suffered collisions in the downtown area.

With your participation our rescue and prevention efforts can be expanded and more birds can be saved.

YOU CAN HELP:

Join a **morning rescue team**.

Monitor a building where you live or work.

Transport birds to wildlife rehabilitation centers.

Support **collision prevention** work.

Assist in **public outreach** and awareness programs.

For more information:

www.birdmonitors.net

773-988-1867



Rose walking the beach at Montrose. Photo: Tamima Itani.



New Staff

We are pleased to report that we have hired a Program and Communications Manager, Antonio Flores, a new birder and former small business owner.

As our sole staff member, he'll be handling our membership and communications, providing support to volunteer efforts, and helping us to launch new birding programs in Chicago neighborhoods.

"Ever since starting at CAS, I have been surrounded by wonderful people. I have honestly been amazed at the sheer amount and quality of work that everyone does here. I love being part of this group, and contributing to the mission."

We have a lot of exciting things lined up for this year, and I can't wait to see you out there and meet you in person. I'm grateful to be here working with you on the things that matter so much to us all."

Antonio and his daughter Maya examine a Red-eyed Vireo at the Chicago Bird Collision Monitors Christmas Party.



CAS Annual Appeal

Our annual appeal probably came to you in a deluge of mail at the end of the year — that's when we and many others solicit donations to help with our operating expenses.

This year we've taken on a full time staff person and are growing our donor base accordingly. In addition to the mailed letter that we normally send out, this year we added a Giving Tuesday appeal on Facebook and Instagram. New board member Judy Cheske developed some wonderful graphics for us to use. We had a healthy response to all of these appeals and we thank each of you that generously gave.

Thank you for prioritizing local birds and conservation and for showing your support for our efforts. In a small organization like ours, every donation is seen and appreciated, and every donation works hard.

Patient heron and happy observer

Chicago Audubon Membership Form

If you wish to become a new member or renew an existing membership, you may:

- 1) Mail in this form with a check or credit card information, or
- 2) Charge your membership online (at chicagoaudubon.org), or
- 3) Call the office with your credit card information at 773-539-6793.

Below is a summary of CAS membership levels and associated benefits:

Level	Price	Family Included*	CAS Hat	Recognition in Compass**	Free admission to CAS annual major event***	Exclusive Benefactor field trip
Student (25 and younger)	\$10					
Individual	\$25					
Family	\$40	•				
Supporter	\$75	•	•			
Steward	\$100	•	•	•		
Sponsor	\$500	•	•	•	•	
Benefactor	\$1,000+	•	•	•	•	•

* Family is defined as immediate family residing at member's address

** With member's permission

*** Birding America or Awards Banquet depending on timing of new membership / renewal

Your name _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone number _____

Email (required to receive *Compass* newsletter) _____

Check (payable to Chicago Audubon Society) Visa MasterCard Discover

Exact name on card _____

Card number _____ Exp. date _____

Mail your completed form with check or credit card information to:

Chicago Audubon Society • 5801-C North Pulaski Rd. • Chicago, IL 60646

