



April Racine & Kenosha, WI 1997

Hoy Nature Club Newsletter



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NEWSLETTER MAILING

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COMING EVENTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 3rd, 7:00pm at Gateway Racine Bldg, Superior Room, Room 102.

"BIRDS OF PREY SOAR AGAIN"

Joanne Dean of the local "Wildlife Horizons" will relate her experiences with treating, rehabilitating, and releasing an injured Bald Eagle and a Perigrine Falcon. Hear what it is like to spend hours with injured creatures, then to finally see them able to soar freely again! Refreshments will be served, and we'll learn from the shorebird identification video that was postponed in March. (Refreshments by Esther Kasperek & Lil Neumann)



Apr. 10, Thu. 7:00 pm Monthly board meeting of Hoy Club. All members are welcome. Your input is needed and appreciated. Gateway Superior Rm.

Apr. 19, Sat. 10am - 4pm EARTHFEST at the Kenosha Gateway campus, 3520 30th Ave. (couple miles south of UW-Parkside). Park in the lot behind the building, and go to the cafeteria. Hoy Club will have an information display & nature game to play. You can still volunteer to work at our table, talking to people and recruiting members. Then spend an hour or two enjoying the food, music, nature crafts, environmental displays, recycling info, gardening tips, and children's special activities. Call Elda Vail 639-3715 for info.

Apr. 24, Thu. 7:00 pm EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED at the Golden Rondelle Theater, 1525 Howe St, Racine. Dr. Robert Wolff will bring his live tarantulas and explain how all creatures and plants are interrelated. Explore the world of spiders and the clever adaptations they have made. Call now (260-2154) for your FREE reservations.

Apr. 26, Sat. TREE PLANTING AT SALLER WOODS for ARBOR DAY/EARTH DAY. Racine County Naturalist John Bielefeldt is heading this project for adults & children to work 1 or 2 hours planting small trees. After work, he will lead us on a short hike through this new 90-acre County Park, which is on the Fox River between Rochester and Burlington. We will see many birds & creatures in the diverse habitats -- marsh, pond, river, prairie, forest. To form a group and carpool, please call Muffy Petrick at 639-2760 (8am to 8pm)



Apr. 26, Sat. 9am to noon "MARCH FOR PARKS" FUNDRAISER AT BONG RECREATION AREA, KENOSHA. Celebrate Earth Day by walking 2 or 4.2 miles and raising pledge money. Funds will be used to build an observation platform overlooking the beautiful wild-life refuge, a sorely needed item! Refreshments & door prizes will be given out, as well as a free tree seedling for each marcher. Get your friends, families, & co-workers to form a group! Call Bong Area at 878-5600 or 652-0377 for more information.

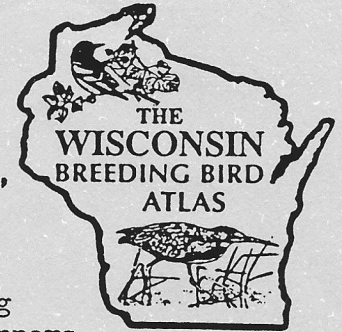




Nominations

The nominating committee announces that the President (Elda Vail), Vice President (Joan Rohan), Secretary (Muffy Petrick), and Treasurer (Joyce VandeBunt) have all agreed to run for re-election. An Officer At Large and various committee chairpersons are needed. Further nominations will be taken at the April 3rd club meeting. Elections will be held at the May 1st meeting at Hawthorn Hollow Nature Center.

Attention all birdwatchers, novice to expert! Your help is greatly needed to survey Racine & Kenosha counties for evidence of breeding birds. This project is organized by the Wis. DNR and the Society for Ornithology. Some Hoy Club members have already been assigned their areas (a 3 mile by 3 mile "block") and have collected data on mating, nesting, and evidence of baby birds. Assistants to these people are needed, or start your own small group! You will need to go out for seven to ten field trips of about 4 - 5 hours length between April and August. Your information will be included in a Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas that will be used by scientists, industries, land-use planners, and nature lovers. Please call the local project coordinator, Jerry DeBoer at 835-4642 from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Also call him if you see any evidence of nesting behavior, especially in our less common birds.



HOY CLUB YEARBOOK - update - please keep your 1995 Yearbook for now. You will soon be mailed a 1 or 2-page insert of our updated membership list.

ANNUAL SPRING BIRD COUNT - get ready for the big one! We will go out all day Saturday, either May 10 or 17. Please save both dates on your calendar for now!!

SHOULD HOY NATURE CLUB BECOME AN AUDUBON SOCIETY CHAPTER? That was the topic of our March 6 meeting, as presented by regional representative Bill Hallstrom from Beloit. Hoy Club members enjoyed a lively discussion that highlighted the pros & cons. The Hoy Board of Directors would like input from every member, as this will eventually be put to a vote. If you have any comments or want to be part of the study committee, call President Vail. Here's a brief summary of facts: BENEFITS. Increase in membership, as 200 Audubon members live east of I-94 in Racine & Kenosha. They would be potential members, but we would have to call & recruit them. Some Hoy members are already included in this number, which would be determined by surveying each member. Further benefits: more influence with elected officials, networking with other chapters for programs & field trips, discounted entrance to some reserves & sanctuaries. Hoy Club would keep its name, goals, & types of activities. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS. Current Hoy dues are \$10 and up. Audubon dues of \$20 (\$15 senior) would be required of each member, though some of us are already paid for 1997. We would be required to recruit 35 new people to start up the chapter. A lot of work for first 2 yrs.

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