



HOY NATURE CLUB NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 1998. RACINE-KENOSHA, WISCONSIN

HOY COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 3, THURSDAY, HOY ANNUAL CHRISTMAS POTLUCK; HO-HO-HO!!!

PLACE: Riverbend Nature Center, 3600 N. Green Bay Rd., Racine.

TIME: 5:30 to 9:00 PM - **5:30 PM** - Arrive and set-up food. Bring a food item to share, your own dishes, silverware and beverage. Eric Howe will provide hot cider. **6:00 PM** - Dinner and socializing. **6:45 PM** - Program will begin with Christmas carols led by Helen Norman, and signup for Winter Bird Count. Dave White of Riverbend will describe the programs that were available this year as a result of our February donation. Then the fascinating history of Dr. Philo Hoy, our club namesake and Racine historical figure, will be presented by Christopher Paulson of the Racine Heritage Museum. Cancel all your other plans and join us for this annual event.

DECEMBER 19, SATURDAY. ANNUAL WINTER BIRD COUNT IN RACINE AREA.

Every Hoy member is asked to participate in their own yards, nearby parks, or in an assigned county area. We will drive or walk around small areas to identify and count as many birds as possible. These yearly counts are extremely important to track bird population trends. It's a busy time of year, but please set aside the morning, afternoon or whole day to help in this fun outdoor event. Less experienced birders can be paired with those more experienced, if desired. Call count chairman, Eric Howe at 633-0086 by December 12 for your assigned area, instructions and checklist. There will be a COUNT-IN PARTY for all participants 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM at Carol and Husam Rasoul's, 2721 Bunting Ct., Racine. Snacks, desserts etc. will be provided. For directions call 639-1695.

DUES. CLUB DUES WILL BE DUE JANUARY 1. If all goes as planned, we will be paying our dues directly to the National Audubon Society, rather than Hoy Nature Club. *Please watch for a special Hoy mailing in December* concerning dues payment. Meanwhile, **DO NOT** pay any dues to join Audubon until we get our membership form with our own chapter number.



"CATS INDOORS CAMPAIGN"

In Sept. the Hoy Board voted to fund the printing of 1000 Cats Indoors brochures. This project is a joint effort by the American Bird Conservancy, American Humane Assoc. & the Humane Society of the US. Its purpose is to inform the public about the harm outdoor cats can have on wildlife and ground nesting birds. The brochures will be distributed by Countryside Humane Society to cat adopters. Hoy's name will be stamped on the back.

EAGLE WATCHING DAYS

Jan. 16, begins Eagle Watching Days in Sauk City and Prairie du Sac. Bald Eagles gather here on the Wisconsin River because the strong current below the dam keeps the river from freezing, allowing the eagles access to fish. A group field trip is planned leaving Racine at 8 AM and returning by 5 or 6 PM. Viewing will be from within vehicles or outside, so dress appropriately. More info will be in the Jan. newsletter.

GOOD NEWS FOR PEREGRINES??

The US Fish & Wildlife Service is considered removing the Peregrine Falcon from the Federal List of Endangered Species. Our Wisconsin Peregrine Society is against this move for several reasons, including: more time is needed for birds in the Eastern US to prove their ability to nest in natural areas, currently they rely mainly on man-made structures for nesting; there is no emergency that warrants immediate de-listing nor scientific evidence demanding such an action. Public comments will be accepted until Nov. 24th. Send them to: Diane Noda, Field Supervisor, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Ventura Fish & Wildlife Office, 2493 Portola Rd. Suite B., Ventura, Ca. 93033. 1-805-644-1766. Also write- The Hon. Russ Feingold, 716 Hart Senate Office Bldg, Wash, DC. 20510 For further information contact: Greg Septon, 414-529-4611 Tim Ellestad, 608-233-3305 Jim Marks, 414-332-3892

1998 HOY CLUB OFFICERS:

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NEXT BOARD MEETING FRIDAY,

DECEMBER 11, 10:00 AM.

LOCATION: JOAN ROHAN'S, 1612 S. MAIN ST. RACINE.

PHONE: 634-5245

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2721 BUNTING CT.
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