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JAN/FEB 2010

"Promoting appreciation and the understanding of nature and supporting the conservation of natural resources."

# Emiquon Audubon Society

A Chapter of the Illinois Audubon Society  
A Friends Group with the National Wildlife Refuge Association

## EAS JANUARY MEETING

7pm, Thursday, Jan 7, Havana Public Library

**"Meet Sugar Grove Nature Center"  
presented by Angela Smith, Director**

Located just south of Bloomington, Sugar Grove Nature Center offers programs and workshops designed to connect people of all ages to nature. Coming up shortly is the wonderful "Maple Sugar Experience," — already visited annually by students from Havana's New Central Elementary School. Angela will present the history of the facility located in Funk's Grove and describe how they have designed their programs to connect children with nature — developing future land stewards. We will also learn about many opportunities at the Center aimed at families and adults — including the maple syrup production, an important part of Funk's Grove heritage.



## 2010 Calendar of Events

Included in this newsletter is the 2010 Calendar of Events for Emiquon Audubon Society to keep you busy all year. We encourage everyone to take advantage of these great field trips and programs — and always, please bring a friend and introduce them to EAS.

### Other events around the state:

All of our events will also be posted to the Illinois Audubon Society's website along with events offered by the society and all 20 Chapters. Looking for something to do on a particular weekend? Logon to [www.illinoisaudubon.org](http://www.illinoisaudubon.org) and see what's happening around the state.

### At Dickson Mounds

EAS will be in charge of the Children's Activities in the Discovery Center from 10am to 1pm. Volunteers are needed to help the young visitors explore some nature make-and-take activities. We will need two volunteers to staff the room. There will be two shifts: 9:30 to 11:30 and 11:30 to 1:30 (half hour for set up and clean-up included)

### At the Riverfront

Help is needed at Riverfront Park in Havana to spot eagles and greet visitors that stop by to look for eagles. The station will be open from 8am to noon. If you can volunteer time or a scope we invite you to join us (hot beverages included !)

Contact Jo at 309.338.0070 or [jskoglund@illinoisaudubon.org](mailto:jskoglund@illinoisaudubon.org) to sign up.

## Volunteers Needed



## 2010 Eagle Day Festival

### IAS 2010 SPRING GATHERING

**April 30—May 2, hosted by Western Prairie Audubon in Nauvoo Illinois**

Join nature lovers from around the state for some great programs and field trips that will offer exciting opportunities to experience the Nauvoo area. If you enjoy watching nature or would like to improve your bird identification skills, these trips are fun and educational. We're hoping to round up a record number of EAS members at this gathering. Attending the entire event is not mandatory — you can attend as much of the weekend as your schedule allows.

Registration materials will be mailed with the Spring Cardinal News to IAS members and will also be available on the IAS website at [www.illinoisaudubon.org](http://www.illinoisaudubon.org). Event is open to IAS members and non-members.

A block of rooms is reserved at the Nauvoo Family Inn and Suites located at 1875 Mulholland in Nauvoo. 800.416.4470 or 217.453.6527. Rooms are being held under "Illinois Audubon" at a special rate of \$65/night.

## Letter from the President

Nancy I. Glick

I've been contemplating the past year this week during my drives to Christmas festivities & I've come to the conclusion that I need to concentrate on learning more. I'm sure that this is not very surprising to those who know me. . . education & its pursuit, research & books are obviously very important to me—an intrinsic part of my esoteric life.

Books are a gigantic part of my life—I am a librarian after all! That passionate quest, the challenge of reading, interpreting the ideas that shape us, gives us a chance to discuss, to argue, to learn, to grow. The pursuit of ideas & the exchange of information is a marvelous part of all of us. What could be more glorious than an afternoon with a good book, delving into a subject or intimately involving yourself in another's entire worldview—being on the inside, looking out.

Tom, Julie, & I went on the annual Christmas Bird Count this past Saturday. Every time we go I realize that I have a lot to learn about bird calls & that I do know more than I did last year! I got out of the car & heard what I thought was someone learning to use a goose call (there were a lot of hunters out that day), but in reality it was 3 tundra swans who flew up out of the closest field. What a thrill. The immature bald eagle in the cornfield about 20 feet from us was a surprise, too.

Thank you to everyone for making this year one to remember—the hard, but fun work involved in planning (& executing) great programs & fieldtrips. The planning team has worked hard on the programs for the next year—please join me in thanking them for doing the time consuming work of putting a great calendar together.

"From every book invisible threads reach out to other books; and as the mind comes to use and control those threads the whole panorama of the world's life, past and present, becomes constantly more varied and interesting, while at the same time the mind's own powers of reflection and judgment are exercised and strengthened."

--Helen E. Haines, *Living with books*, 1935.

I hope that you're enjoying the holidays—the festiveness of celebrating—may you share the true blessings of Christmas & look forward to the new year with hope & great expectations.

*(What is it with the birds & this feeder? Is it the feed or the society, or the lurking cats?)*

*Nancy I.*

Eagle in Corn Stubble  
Submitted by Julie Lerczak



**Emiquon Audubon Society**  
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<http://sciencespot.net/eas/>

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Sara Mathis, Vice President  
Ken Kedzior, Treasurer  
Rebecca Janus, Secretary  
Cindy McGrew, Education/Programming  
Jo Skoglund, Membership & Newsletter  
Sara Mathis IAS Representative  
Tracy Trimpe, Website Coordinator  
Dawn Kedzior, Hospitality Chair

Members at Large: Bill Branson, Jayne Miller,  
Jim Miller

The **EAS Newsletter** is published six times a year. Comments, suggestions and articles for submission may be sent to [jskoglund@illinoisaudubon.org](mailto:jskoglund@illinoisaudubon.org). The EAS executive board reserves the right to submit or reject information submitted based on content and timeliness.

## Minutes from the November EAS Meeting

The Emiquon Audubon Society met in October at Dickson Mounds Museum.

There were 18 members present. President Nancy Glick presided over the meeting. Nancy opened the meeting in saying that we have had a great year and then proceeded to introduce our speaker for the evening, Jim Miller, who shared some his amazing photographs of Bald Eagles and their friends.

Ken Kedzior then gave the Treasurers Report of \$2,945.98. It was then stated that Eagle Days will be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Rebecca Janus, Secretary*

## Local Population Grows

Submitted by Sara Mathis

There is a new eagle nest in Mason County! One juvenile and two mature eagles have been observed nearby. The nest is located approximately three miles south of Havana on Lake Matanzas, just east of the river. EAS members Ann and Deane Doolen have a perfect view of the nest out their picture window - it is a little less than 1/2 mile across the lake. If you would like to take pictures or watch the eagles come and go, feel free to call Deane or Ann at 309.543.6848. They would be happy to show you their new friends!

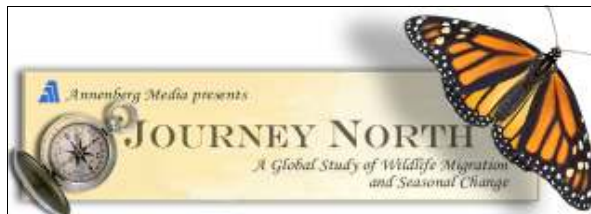
## Focus on Education: Journey North

by Cindy McGrew

One of the greatest things about being a formal educator is the abundance of valuable learning resources that can be found on the internet. One of my favorites, and the one I used while doing research for my thesis, is the Journey North website <http://www.learner.org/jnorth/>.

Journey North engages students in a global study of wildlife migration and seasonal change. K-12 students share their own field observations with classmates across North America. They track the coming of spring through the migration patterns of monarch butterflies, robins, hummingbirds, whooping cranes, gray whales, bald eagles and other birds and mammals; the budding of plants; changing of sunlight and other natural events.

Find migration maps, pictures, standards-based lesson plans, activities and information to help students make local observations and fit them into a global context. Widely considered a best-practices model for education, Journey North is the nation's premiere "citizen science" project for children. The general public is welcome to participate.



## Meet John Muir



As a Chapter of the Illinois Audubon Society, EAS is part of a wider circle of opportunities to that enable us to learn about and enjoy our natural world. On Sunday, January 31, our friends at the Springfield Audubon Society (SAS) are offering everyone a chance to meet John Muir during their annual chapter meeting. John (a.k.a. John Wallace for the Shawnee Chapter) will bring John Muir to life during a first-person portrayal of this historic character. The event will be held at the new IAS headquarters in Springfield and is open to the public.

The event begins at 2pm with a potluck dinner — just bring a dish to pass because SAS is providing the meat and drinks.

**Also happening at the Adams Wildlife Sanctuary—** on January 10, Wade Kammin from Wild Birds Unlimited will be offering a winter workshop on backyard bird feeding and bird identification skills. The presentation starts at 1:30. Adams Wildlife Sanctuary is located at 2315 E. Clear Lake Avenue in Springfield. For more information on either of these events, just contact Jo at 309.338.0070 or [jskoglund@illinoisaudubon.org](mailto:jskoglund@illinoisaudubon.org).

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## 2010 EAS Calendar of Events

- January 7           **EAS Meeting, Havana Public Library, 7pm**  
Program: *Meet Sugar Grove Nature Center*, presented by Angela Smith, Director
- February 6           **Eagle Day Festival**  
Eagle watching at the riverfront in Havana and programs at Dickson Mounds Museum
- February 12-15      **Great Backyard Bird Count (see [www.birdsource.org](http://www.birdsource.org))**
- February 20         **Family SuperSaturday, 9am—1pm**
- March 4             **EAS Meeting, Havana Public Library, 7pm**  
Program: *The Illinois Chorus Frog*, presented Jim Wiker and Vern LaGesse
- April                **Field Trip** to the Kedzior Wildlife Sanctuary in Smithfield (date will be set closer to Spring to take in the best wildflower viewing)
- April 30 & May 1-2   **IAS Spring Gathering & Celebration at Nauvoo**
- May 6               **EAS Special Meeting, Dickson Mounds Museum, 7pm**  
*Natural Resource Opportunities in our Area*, presented by representatives from The Nature Conservancy, US Fish and Wildlife Service, UIS Emiquon Field Station and Dickson Mounds Museum
- May 10             **International Migratory Bird Day**  
Tundra to Tropics: Connecting Birds, Habitats and People
- June 5              **Field Trip**, The Nature Conservancy's Emiquon Preserve
- July 15             **Summer Potluck** and Field Trip to Emiquon Preserve
- September 2       **EAS Meeting, Dickson Mounds Museum, 7pm**  
Program: *Open Mic & Pie Night*, presented by members and friends of EAS
- October 10-16      **National Wildlife Refuge Week**  
Events at Chautauqua NWR and Emiquon NWR
- October (TBA)      **Field Trip**, Volunteer Workday at Adams Wildlife Sanctuary
- November 4         **EAS Annual Members Meeting, Havana Public Library, 7pm**  
Program: *Ten Years at a Mason County Feederwatch Station*, presented by Tom Lerczak
- December 14-  
January 5          **110th Christmas Bird Count: Citizen Science in Action**

**Photos submitted by Dawn Kedzior**



Kestral at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park



Turkeys in the backyard



Red-headed woodpeckers at Kedzior sanctuary



Merganser chicks from Katmai National Park



Gray Jay from Rocky Mountain National Park

***Share your photographs with the EAS membership. If you have photographs of local wildlife or recent nature hikes, please submit them to the EAS Newsletter. Send them to [joskog@gmail.com](mailto:joskog@gmail.com)***