

# Bird's-Eye View

December  
1999  
January  
2000



## The Newsletter of The Peoria Audubon Society...

A Chapter of National Audubon since 1981

Ornithological-Audubon Chapter of The Peoria Academy of Science since 1930

### Welcome New Members

If and when you receive the first issue of this newsletter of the Peoria Audubon Society, it means that the National Audubon Society has notified us of your national membership and has asked us to include you also in the local chapter at no additional cost. Therefore, welcome to the club. We hope that you will become active in local activities. We meet at Forest Park Nature Center at 7:00 PM on the second Wednesday evening of each month between September and May. We also have field trips, bird counts and other activities, and we would love to see you involved. Thanks again for joining the Audubon Society.

### Thank You for Birdseed Sale

Our birdseed sale was again a big success. We sold 9480 pounds of seed for \$2872.25 and a net profit of \$970.00, so, both Friends of the Rock Island Trail and The Peoria Audubon Society each received their share of \$395 for their worthy causes and programs. Bert Princen thanks all of those who helped dispense the seed during the Saturday morning pick-up at Kelly's Seed Store in downtown and all those who ordered generously. We are all thankful for the assistance we have received for many years from Harold and Steve Church of Kelly's Seed and Hardware for their generous participation in this annual fundraising effort.

### Bald Eagle Days lead off the Eagle Count

Our Eagle Days in Conjunction with Forest Park Nature Center will get us in the spirit for the Annual Bald Eagle Count that will be held in late January or early February. Peoria Audubon is responsible for the Illinois River from Henry to Havana. Join us on Eagle Day (see info on back page) to hear more about this important count

### Recent Sightings

There have been several reports of winter finches including many from Dr. Bjorklund at Sand Ridge – Purple Finch, Evening Grosbeak, and Pine Siskin. Dick Shepard reported a Pine Grosbeak at his feeders.

Gary and Brenda Garman reported seeing several Snow Buntings at Evergreen Lake. Dr Bjorklund also saw Snow Buntings at the north end of Lake Chautauqua.

Virginia Humphrey reported seeing Short-eared Owls at Banner Marsh.

Also earlier in November, Dr Bjorklund reported a Golden Eagle at Chautauqua.

Bob Easton reported Western Grebes at Lake Chautauqua.

Tom Pucilick saw one of the Jaeger species on the Illinois River.

There have been several Bald Eagle Sightings by several members.



### Christmas Count Turns 100!

This is the 100th year for National Audubon's Christmas Bird Count. This tradition started back at the turn of the century by birding enthusiasts interested in protecting bird species. The tradition continues into the next millennium with Peoria Audubon's involvement in three area counts. For more details, see the back page, with dates and contact persons. If you can't make the count, join us at our January Potluck, where we will be sharing all of the sightings.

## Upcoming Meetings...

Wednesday, Dec 8, 7:00 PM, Forest Park Nature Center –  
**Members Night...** Bring slides, videos or other info about  
your birding adventures.

Wednesday, Jan 12, 6:30 PM, Forest Park Nature Center –  
**Members Potluck**, bring a dish to share and table service.

Wednesday, Feb 9, 7:00 PM, Forest Park Nature Center –  
Program to be announced.

## Upcoming Events...

### Eagle Day

Each year many bald eagles use the Illinois River valley as wintering, feeding and roosting grounds. Come to Forest Park and receive information from FPNC Naturalists and the Peoria Audubon Society about our wintering bald eagle populations as well as the increasing numbers of nesting eagles along the Illinois River. If a viewing station can be located within a short drive, a glimpse of the national symbol will be possible. Call (309)686-3360 for more information.

Saturday, January 22

10:00 am

Free

## Upcoming Counts...

**Peoria Count, Saturday, Dec 18**

Dr. Bert Princen, (309)691-0519

**Chautauqua Count, Thursday, Dec 23**

Dr. Richard Bjorklund, (309)968-6502

**Chillicothe Count, Sunday, Jan 2**

Tracy Fox, (309)579-3264

## 2000 Election...

The Nominations Committee submits the following list of proposed Officers and Board Members for your consideration. Greet Princen was out of town and unavailable to accept the nomination as we went to print. Membership will vote at the December 8 meeting.

### Officers

Mike Miller – President

Gary Garman – Vice President

Greg Brown – Secretary

Greet Princen – Treasurer

Tracy Fox – Conservation

### Board

Rick Fox 00/01

Brenda Garman 00/01

Marj Tatterstall 00/01

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### Peoria Audubon Board

#### **Officers**

Rick Fox – President

Mike Miller – Vice President

Greg Brown – Secretary

Greet Princen – Treasurer

Tracy Fox – Conservation

#### **Board**

Gary Garman 99/00

Emiko Yang 99/00

Luann Elwood 99/00

Jane Grzanich 98/99

Maury Brucker 98/99

Brenda Onken 98/99