

# Chappee Rapids Reporter

[www.chappeerapidsaudubonsociety.org](http://www.chappeerapidsaudubonsociety.org)

A Publication of the Chappee Rapids Audubon Society

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## Raptor Rehab

Our April 17 meeting will feature raptor rehabilitator, Kay Blazek. Kay will discuss her experiences with raptor rehabilitation. She is will be bringing live birds, so bring the kids!

Election of officers for 2008-09 will also be held. The meeting will be held on **Thursday, April 17** at 7:00 p.m. in Room M-110 at the UW-Marinette. □

## Girl Scout Outings

### May 10 Hike

The Girl Scouts have asked us back to lead them on an educational hike at **Harmony Hardwoods** again this spring. We need volunteers to lead small groups and introduce them to birds and/or plants that are out in the spring. Hike will be from **9-11 am**. □

### May 18 Work Day

The Girl Scouts have asked to help put up bird houses, help with trail maintenance and to help put up bird houses at **Harmony Hardwoods**.

We need volunteers to help the girls with these activities. The work day will be from **9 am-noon**. □

*- If you are not a nature expert, we can still use volunteers to round up stragglers, etc. To volunteer, call Paul Lata, 735-5961*

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## Tuesday Bird Walks

### TUESDAY MORNING BIRD WALKS

**May 6** - 7:30 am- **Taylor Farm, Wallace** -Denise Taylor -906-863-7397

**May 13** - 7:00 am.-**DNR property at end of Pond Road**- Joan Campbell-715-732-1277

**May 20** - 7:00 am- **Marinette Nature Trail, Bayshore St.** -Joan Campbell-715-732-1277

**May 27** - 7:00 am-**Seagull Bar at Red Arrow Park** - Joan Campbell -715-732-1277

Joan's bird walks last approx. 3 hours. Wear layered clothing if it's cold out and shoes that can take getting wet, and bring binoculars and drinking water. A scope will be provided.

### TUESDAY EVENING BIRD WALKS

**May 6** -6:30 pm-**Henes Park**. Meet by the arch at the entrance on Henes Park Dr- Dale Leitzke-906-863-3163

**May 13**- 6:30 pm- **Menominee Cemetery**. Meet at the 14th St entrance-Bob Brisson- 906-863-6850

**May 20** -6:30 pm-**Harmony Hardwoods**. Meet at entrance past the bridge -Howard Lorenz-715-582-4311

**May 27**- 6:30 pm - **DNR Property at Peshtigo Point**-Meet on Pond Rd-Joan Campbell- 715-732-1277

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## **The Chappee Rapids Reporter**

The Chappee Rapids Reporter is the newsletter of the Chappee Rapids Audubon Society. The Chappee Rapids Reporter is published four times per year.

Readers are encouraged to submit artwork, press releases, articles, expressions of opinion, letters and any information which may be interesting to Chappee Rapids Audubon members.

Articles may be submitted on paper (handwritten or typed) or by email. Send submissions to Laurie Lata, N2946 Shore Drive, Marinette, WI 54143. [plata@new.rr.com](mailto:plata@new.rr.com)

The opinions expressed in the Chappee Rapids Reporter are not necessarily those of the Chappee Rapids Audubon Society or the Editor. The contents of the Chappee Rapids Reporter may be used without permission in other publications if acknowledgment of the source is noted.

The Chappee Rapids Reporter is mailed to all members of Chappee Rapids Audubon and available at

[chappeerapidsaudubonsociety.org](http://chappeerapidsaudubonsociety.org).

Notice of latest newsletter posting is e-mailed to members who have elected to receive the newsletter electronically.

Editor .....Laurie Lata

Web Site

[www.chappeerapidsaudubonsociety.org](http://www.chappeerapidsaudubonsociety.org)

### **Chappee Rapids Audubon Officers**

President - Paul Lata

Vice President - Trygve Rhude

Secretary - Joan Campbell

Treasurer - Marlene Nelson

Programs - Vacant

Librarian/Historian -

Georgia Jensen

Conservation - Wendel Johnson

Field Trips - Vacant

MI Audubon Delegate - Vacant

WI Audubon Delegate -

Ethyle Block

Newsletter -Laurie Lata

Legislative - Trygve Rhude

Education - John Helfert

Chappee Rapids Site -

Denise Taylor

Website -Vacant

## **Message from the President**

After a long winter, we are finally seeing signs of spring. After our next (and last) meeting of the year, featuring Kay Blazek, our Chappee Rapids Audubon activities will change to the outdoor variety. We have a number of bird walks scheduled along with the Crane Count. Don't forget that we still need volunteers for our Girl Scout outings May 10 and 18 at Harmony Hardwoods and probably some trail building at the Lake Noquebay trail. Hopefully we will get some good news for the Carney Fen this year, and the fight against motorized recreation in the Harmony Arboretum continues.

Lots going on and things look good for the fall. We already have two speakers lined up and our board will come back nearly intact. We are still looking for two board members, a social chair (refreshments) and a programs chair. Most board members will tell you that serving on the board is satisfying because we have an active board and things happen because of this. Don't worry about inexperience, we will help you through it.

Enjoy the spring/summer! It's been a long time coming.

*Paul*

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## **Rare Bird Alert**

Call one of the following people for a local rare bird sighting

Joan Campbell 715-732-1277

Dale Lietzke 906-863-3163

Bob Brisson 906-863-6850

Gregg Cleereman 715-732-7510

Marlene Nelson 906-864-3040

Denise Taylor 906-863-7397

Ken Wingender 715-735-6101

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## **E-Newsletter**

If you have computer access, consider the advantages of having your newsletter delivered electronically - save paper, save Chappee Rapids Audubon money, more pictures (and in color). When the newsletter is ready, you receive an e-mail message with a link.

Clicking on the link takes you directly to our website where you view the newsletter and print it (in color) if you wish.

If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically, let us know by e-mailing [info@chappeerapidsaudubonsociety.org](mailto:info@chappeerapidsaudubonsociety.org).

# Calendar of Events

## April

- 17- April Meeting**  
**Raptor Rehab**  
**Speaker: Kay Blazek**  
Details on page one.

**19 - International Crane  
Foundation Sandhill  
Crane Count**

**Saturday, April 19 from 5:30 –  
7:30 A.M.** will offer bird  
enthusiasts the chance to trek to  
area wetlands in Marinette County  
and enjoy a springtime sunrise  
while on the lookout during the  
33rd Annual Midwest Sandhill  
Crane Count.

In addition to cranes, counters  
enjoy the early morning activities of  
songbirds, waterfowl and mammals.

Interested volunteers should  
contact Laurie Lata at 735-5961.



## May

- 10- Harmony Hardwoods  
Girl Scout Hike**  
Details on page one

**12 - Frog Bicycle Ride** 

Wendel Johnson, UW-  
Marinette biology professor, will  
lead a bicycle ride “hunt” for spring  
peepers. The ride, sponsored by  
Spokes & Folks Bicycle Club, will  
be approximately 12 miles. Helmets  
are required. Lights are  
recommended. Meet at the  
greenhouse at UW-Marquette at  
6:30 P.M. For more information,  
call Laurie at 735-5961.

Take time to ride and stop  
and listen to the (frog) music.

- 18- Harmony Hardwoods  
Girl Scout Workday**  
Details on page one

## May (cont'd)

- 6 - Tuesday Morning Bird Walk**  
**Denise Taylor Farm**

- **Tuesday Evening Bird Walk**  
**Henes Park**  
Details on page one.

- 13- Tuesday Morning Bird Walk**  
**DNR Property-Pond Rd**

- **Tuesday Evening Bird Walk**  
**Menominee Cemetery**  
Details on page one.

- 20- Tuesday Morning Bird Walk**  
**Marinette Nature Trail-  
Bayshore St**

- **Tuesday Evening Bird Walk**  
**Harmony Hardwoods**  
Details on page one.

- 27- Tuesday Morning Bird Walk**  
**Seagull Bar at Red Arrow  
Park**

- **Tuesday Evening Bird Walk**  
**DNR Property -  
Peshtigo Point**  
Details on page one.

## 2008 Banquet a Success

Over 70 people enjoyed the nineteenth annual Environmental Achievement Awards Banquet held on March 28 at Schussler's. Sam Crowley, co-owner of Sea Kayak Specialists, Marquette, entertained with a slide show program entitled, "Circumnavigation of Ireland by Kayak."

The Marinette/Menominee County Bird Life List Awards were presented to Dale Leitzke and Denise Taylor.

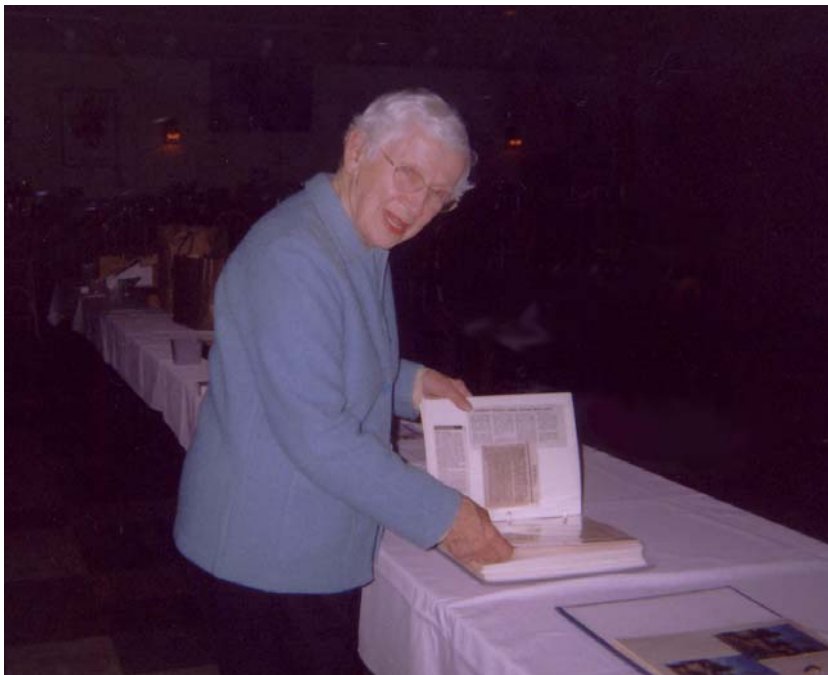
The Organization/Group Environmental Achievement Award went to The Front 40, a local environmental group whose principle objective is to ensure through education and awareness that mining operations are not allowed to adversely impact our rivers, lakes, groundwater or lands.

The raffle netted \$375. Proceeds will be used for the Chappee Rapids Audubon Society Special Projects Fund. □

### Special Thanks to the Following for Door Prizes and Raffle Items for the Banquet

A J Floral  
Aurora Books  
Marge Bjork  
Rich and Joan Campbell  
Randy Crozier  
Kristine Danielson  
James Hammett  
Harper's Furniture  
Georgia Jensen  
John's Taxidermy  
Kuber's Feed Mill  
Lloyd-Flanders Industries, Inc.

Marinette Camera Fair  
Marinette Farm & Garden  
Wayne & Marlene Nelson  
Peshtigo Feed Mill  
Peshtigo Pharmacy  
Trygve Rhude  
Schussler's Supper Club  
Sentinel Structures, Inc.  
Denise Taylor  
UW Marinette  
Ross Wolfe



*At the banquet Marion Bergstrom, first president of Chappee Rapids Audubon in 1982, admires the scrapbooks and photo albums of 26 years of Chappee Rapids History. (photo by Georgia Jensen)*

## Did You Know?

*by John Helfert*

The glistening white Bonneville Salt Flats of Utah are practically void of birds.

The adults of a few species of birds, such as the Brown Pelican and Frigate, are virtually mute.

Among some crows, herons and storks, the male does most of the material collecting while the female weaves the nest.



Nighthawks and Whip-Poor-Wills make no nests but simply place their eggs in some spot they consider suitable.

During the postnuptial, most birds shed their flight feathers synchronously one or two at a time from each wing and new feathers quickly replace the lost ones so the birds at all times can fly. This is essential in most cases to prevent the birds from starving or falling prey to predators. However, ducks, rails and coots shed all their flight feathers at one time, making them flightless for a month or more. They become very secretive at this time.



## Field Notes

*by Denise Taylor*

A homogenous light gray sky, cold dampness filtering down and moderate northeaster winds-sure seems a lot like spring in the North! With all the snow that we still have in banks and the coniferous woodlands I might think it was still March but the returning birds, all be they a bit late, are harkening of the coming of warmer days. As of the second week of April we have no frost in the ground, no spring blooms except one crocus in a VERY protected spot next to the house, most all rivers and creeks are flowing and the ice has not yet moved out of the lower part of Green Bay. We also have all of our snow shovels at the ready, the snow blower still handy and yes even the snowshoes and skis are not yet in storage; must stay prepared you know!

Spring bird migrations are about a week behind average but most are arriving in large flocks when they do move in. Beginning back in March: horned larks on the 12<sup>th</sup>, robins the 14<sup>th</sup>, sandhill cranes the 21<sup>st</sup>, white pelicans the 22<sup>nd</sup> at

Escanaba, and the 26<sup>th</sup> brought kestrels, marsh hawks and great blue herons in as well as started the barred owls hooting out here. The 30<sup>th</sup> came with bluebirds, killdeer and a red shouldered hawk. Woodcock were also heard on the 30<sup>th</sup> by Bill (he won again this year). Since this date I have seen several but very few are peenting or displaying in any way for breeding season. Fox and song sparrows came the 1<sup>st</sup> of April.

At present we are just finishing up a week of tundra swan migration and oh was it a good one! Wood ducks and cormorants are moving about the rivers and lakes, and mallards are on the small waters. Wild turkeys are right into their season and I heard my first ruffed grouse drumming this past weekend. We still have many redpolls at our feeder and moving in the woods as well as goldfinches. No grosbeaks and very few siskins. The fields and roadsides are alive with tree sparrows and juncos.

We have so much to look

forward to in the near future! The insect world has barely begun to fly and so all of the swallows are to be anticipated as well as frogs...my latest date up here is April 14<sup>th</sup> so I'll have to see if we break that 24 year record. I am really anxious to see butterflies, beetles and new leaves. I'm less anxious for the ticks, mosquitoes and gnats but it's a package deal- no substitutions allowed I guess.

A quick glance out the window and I have noticed heavy wet snow falling. Needed moisture and a not uncommon occurrence up here, as my mother-in-law has reminded me, the UP has recorded snow in all twelve months of the year! Another glance at an old chipping sparrow's nest that blew out of the pines last week reveals intertwined roots and grasses with an inner lining of soft woven animal hair. Yes, a warm and cozy and gentle reminder- get out there and start your plans but keep the blankets handy! ☐

## Chappee Rapids Audubon Society Membership Form

This is a  
**NEW**   **RENEWAL**  
Membership (circle one)

### Membership

#### Category:

- Individual \$4.00
- Family \$5.00
- Supporting \$10.00
- Contributing \$25.00
- Other Donation

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to receive my newsletter by  Mail  Email (check one)

Mail to:  
Chappee Rapids Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 1133  
Marinette WI 54143

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