

KANE COUNTY AUDUBON PRESS RELEASE – FEBRUARY 2026

Saturday February 7, 8:00 a.m.

Bird Walk at Nelson Lake/ Dick Young Forest Preserve

Nelson Lake Road, Batavia. Meet in the parking lot by the silo.

Kane County Audubon invites you to their monthly bird walk around Nelson Lake, a leisurely walk to observe birds and nature in general. You don't have to be an expert to enjoy the outdoors in the company of fellow nature-lovers.

If you have questions, contact leader Tim Klimowski, at 630-802-1153.

Wednesday February 11, 7:00 p.m.

Kane County Audubon Monthly Meeting, Hickory Knolls Discovery Center, St. Charles

Birding Photography Panel Discussion

Jackie Bowman, Bill Ludemann, Eva Dorman, Andy Gibbs, Chuck Peterson

We've all admired the photographs shared each year at our September meeting. For something different, we'll have a panel of some of our very own birding shutterbugs. They will share some tips and answer your questions about their love for photography.

Hickory Knolls Discovery Center is located in James O. Breen Community Park, at the intersection of Campton Hills and Peck roads in St. Charles, with entrances off both roads. The building is at the far west end of the parking lot.

If you have questions, contact John Sprovieri, at 630-776-0924.

February 13 - 16

Great Backyard Bird Count

Launched in 1998 by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, the Great Backyard Bird Count was the first online citizen-science project to collect data on wild birds and to display results in near real-time.

Now, more than 160,000 people worldwide join the count to create an annual snapshot of the distribution and abundance of birds.

To participate, tally the numbers and species of birds at a specific location for at least 15 minutes. You can count from any location, anywhere in the world, for as long as you wish!

As part of the Great Backyard Bird Count, KCA members will be on hand at Hickory Knolls Discovery Center on Sunday, Feb.

15, from noon to 4 p.m. to count birds at the feeders.

For more information, <https://www.birdcount.org/>

Saturday February 14, 8:00 a.m.

Bird Walk at Carpentersville (former) Dam, Carpentersville

We'll meet in the lot at the former dam site and take a short walk along the river to see the changes now that the dam is no more. Afterwards, we'll move up to the river in Dundee.

If you have questions, contact leader, Lisa Pool, at 630-347-5991.

Sunday February 15, Gull Frolic, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Winthrop Harbor Yacht Club, Winthrop Harbor

Hosted by the Illinois Ornithological Society, the Gull Frolic is a unique winter event at Illinois' premier gull-watching hotspot:

North Point Marina. Bring your binoculars, scope and cold weather gear, and join birders outside the yacht club to enjoy close study of some of our harder-to-find winter species, such as Iceland and Glaucous Gulls. A variety of waterfowl typically make an appearance, too, including scoters and other diving ducks. There's also the occasional raptor, owl or winter finch. The \$40 ticket includes an educational presentation, breakfast and lunch buffets. For more information, www.illinoisbirds.org

Saturday February 21, 8:00 a.m.

Bird walk at Hannaford Woods Forest Preserve, Sugar Grove

Walk through rich meadows and wetland areas along Blackberry Creek. Over half of the preserve is woodland, containing trees that have been around since before the county started harvesting timber.

If you have questions, contact leader James Cain, at (815) 545-3713.

Saturday February 28, 8:00 a.m.

Bird Walk at Les Arends Forest Preserve, Batavia

Enjoy a walk along the Fox River in this beautiful preserve.

If you have questions, contact leader, Nancy Schnaitman at 630-822-5452.

KCA Texas Trip – February 28 – March 8 – FULL

Kane County Audubon is the local chapter of the Illinois Audubon Society and meets at 7:00 pm on the second Wednesday of each month September through May.

Field trips, bird walks, and nature hikes are scheduled on Saturdays throughout the year and in lieu of the meeting on the second Wednesday of June, July and August. Enjoy nature? Want to learn more about the birds you see in your backyard and elsewhere? Events are open to the public and newcomers and families are always welcome.

For more information on Kane County Audubon call John Sprovieri at 630-776-0924 or visit the website, www.kanecountyaudubon.com

For information on Illinois Audubon Society call IAS at 217-544-BIRD (2473) or visit the website at www.illinoisaudubon.org