



Chequamegon Chirps

Newsletter of the Chequamegon Bird Club

Medford, Wisconsin

November 2009

Volume 28 Number 11

NEXT MEETING:

Date: Monday, November 16, 2009

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Medford Public Library
400 N Main St
Medford

Program: Make a Suet Feeder
See article on right.

Refreshments: Gordy Ruesch & Cathy Mauer

Please bring your own mug for beverages.



November Meeting ~ Make A Feeder ~

The November meeting will feature a hands-on activity. The club will furnish logs and pine cones, which can be stuffed with suet mix or peanut butter. Needed supplies will be furnished. This will be a fun evening, and you can take a treat home for the birds for Thanksgiving. The feeders would also make a nice holiday gift.



Wear appropriate clothes, and you may want to use rubber gloves.

If you would like, bring a grandchild or invite a neighbor.

Field Trip to REGI and Birds in Art



Marge Gibson of REGI with a Great Horned Owl
Loretta Kuse Photo

A beautiful sunny Saturday was enjoyed by members of the CBC who traveled to the Raptor Education Group (REGI) near Antigo and stopped at the Birds in Art Exhibit at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum in Wausau on the way home. REGI, founded by Marge and Don Gibson in 1990, is one of the premier raptor rehabilitation facilities in the country. Other major focuses of their work are

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Field Trip (cont.)

education and research. Although specializing in rehabilitation of raptors and swans, REGI takes in other bird species, as well. Many of you will remember the baby Chickadee that Kuses rescued this summer. It was sent to REGI until old enough to survive on its own.



Marge Gibson talks about a rescued Bald Eagle Loretta Kuse Photo

Birds in Art is an internationally respected yearly exhibit of artwork featuring birds. Artists from throughout the world are represented. The exhibit runs from the second Saturday in September into the middle of November. The artworks are done using a wide variety of media and include both paintings and sculpture. Each year a Master Wildlife Artist is selected, and ten to twelve of his or her works are featured in addition to the approximately 100 works of other artists. The first Master Wildlife Artist was Owen Gromme, well known for his work in illustrating Wisconsin birds.

The museum also has a beautiful sculpture garden featuring many different bird and wildlife sculptures. It also hosts other exhibitions and programs for adults and children throughout the year.

There is no charge to visit the museum. Sunday, November 15 will be the final day for this year's *Birds in Art*.

DEER HEARTS NEEDED

REGI needs deer hearts, which are high in protein, to feed to the raptors that they are under their care. Hearts can be dropped off at several sites in central Wisconsin, only during the gun deer season from November 21-29. The sites closest to this area are in Wausau:

Zillman's Meat Market, 1910 6th St. or

Wildbirds Unlimited Store, 4121 Rib Mountain Dr

If you have hearts to donate but will not be traveling to Wausau or one of the other sites, contact Cathy Mauer, 748-3160.



Club members enjoy the beautiful grounds and sculpture garden at the LYWAM before going inside to view the Birds in Art exhibit. Loretta Kuse Photos



Aluminum Collection for Bird Club



Please bring your aluminum cans and other recyclable aluminum to the November meeting. Cam Scott will be taking aluminum in for recycling this month.

This is an on-going club fundraiser so remember to save your aluminum and bring it along to meetings.



Bird Reports (September – October 2009)

Checklist observers: Rhoda Barber , Gayle Davis , Connie Decker , Hildegard and Loretta Kuse , Ken Luepke , Cathy Mauer , Doug and Willa Pledger , Claire Romanak , and Cam Scott.

Number of Species Observed this month is: 119

- Cackling Goose (Luepke), Snow Goose, Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Gadwall, American Wigeon , American Black Duck, Mallard, Northern Shoveler , Green-winged Teal , Canvasback , Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Ruddy Duck
- Ring-necked Pheasant, Ruffed Grouse, Wild Turkey
- Common Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, American Bittern, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron
- Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Merlin (Decker/Luepke)
- Sora, American Coot, Sandhill Crane, Whooping Crane (Decker/Luepke), American Golden Plover (Decker/Luepke), Killdeer, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Spotted Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Dunlin, Long-billed Dowitcher (Luepke), Wilson's Snipe
- Bonaparte's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull
- Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove
- Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird
- Belted Kingfisher
- Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker
- Eastern Wood-Pewee, Eastern Phoebe, Red-eyed Vireo
- Blue Jay, American Crow, Common Raven
- Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow
- Black-capped Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper
- House Wren, Winter Wren, Marsh Wren (Pledger (late))
- Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet
- Eastern Bluebird, Hermit Thrush, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird
- European Starling, American Pipit, Cedar Waxwing
- Yellow-rumped Warbler, Palm Warbler, American Redstart, Common Yellowthroat
- American Tree Sparrow (Davis/Scott), Savannah Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow (Luepke/Mauer), Swamp Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco
- Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak
- Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Brewer's Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird
- Purple Finch, House Finch, White-winged Crossbill (Davis), Common Redpoll (Scott), Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch, House Sparrow

SUNFLOWER SEED SALE

\$14.00 for 50# (tax exempt)

Compare & save – remember that most stores are now selling sunflower seed in 40# bags

- locally grown
- order for friends & relatives
- pick up at November Bird Club meeting



**Call Connie by Monday noon to order.
654- 5819**

F u n d r a i s e r - *Bird Club makes \$2/bag.*

Editor, Chequamegon Chirps
N4416 Crane Dr
Medford WI 54451-9376



«FIRST_NAME» «LAST_NAME» «ADDITIONAL_NAME»
«STREET_ADDRESS»
«CITY» «STATE» «ZIP_CODE»

Club Officers 2009-2010

President – Claire Romanak

Vice-president – Connie Decker

Secretary – Hildegard Kuse

Treasurer – Cam Scott

Other Club Contacts

Web site: www.chequamegonbirdclub.org

Email: info@chequamegonbirdclub.org

Newsletter Email: newsletter@chequamegonbirdclub.org

Bird sightings: Connie Decker

November - December Outdoors

- December 2 – Full (Cold) moon
- Look for animal tracks and sign:
 - Bird wing and tail marks as well as footprints
 - Beaver prints and tail tracks
 - Mink and otter slides, especially near waterways
 - Coyote, fox, snowshoe hares, deer, mice
- Watch for snow fleas hopping on snow
- Christmas bird counts – December 14 through January 5
- Keep feeders clean
- Supplying a clean source of water is a help to your winter visitors
- December 31 – Full (Blue) Moon



Birder's Bookshelf

Identify Yourself: The 50 Most Common Birding Identification Challenges by Bill Thompson III and the editors of *Bird Watcher's Digest*.

Although it contains, some nice color illustrations, this book relies mostly on descriptions of field marks, shape, behavior, habitat, and other characteristics to help you figure out which flycatcher you just saw or if that was a young bald eagle or a golden eagle that soared by. The book covers the total range of birds, from waterfowl to finches. The writing is easy and enjoyable to read and contains lots of hints that should simplify solving some of your bird identification problems.

Published by Houghton Mifflin Company. List price \$19.95.