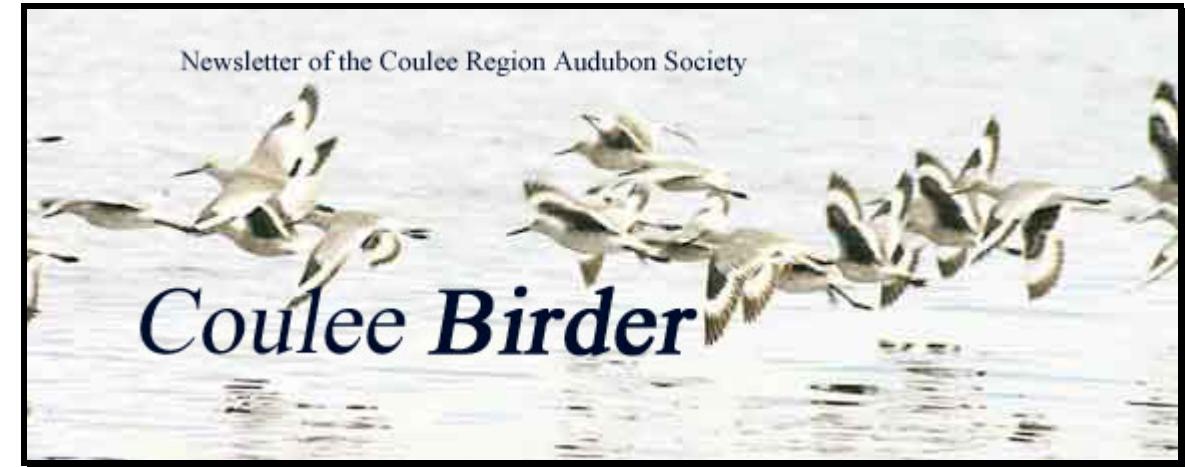


Newsletter of the Coulee Region Audubon Society

# Coulee Birder



September/October 2018

## Meetings

Monthly meetings are held the third Wednesday at the Ho-Chunk Nation building, 724 Main St., LaCrosse. They are free and open to the public. They start at 7PM.

September 19

### **Andrea Frisch, WisCorps**

Andrea is the Inclusive Program Coordinator for WisCorps. She is dedicated to creating greater accessibility to nature and outdoor recreation for people of all abilities and will share her perspective on bringing the outdoors to everyone.

October 17

### **Abbie Krumrie, River City**

#### **Raptors**

This is one you won't want to miss. Why? Abbie will have A live bird with her when she comes.

Your newsletter editor, Gwyn Calvetti, is always happy to receive your submissions.



## President's Message

Greetings birding family,

Please, let me introduce myself. My name is Jonathan Ringdahl. I have been the Coulee Region Audubon Society's vice-president over the last few years. I am stepping into the role as president this year. It is a challenge I am eager to take on and to continue to grow our chapter. Our goal is to make our chapter as vibrant as the birds we love to look at. We cannot do that without you, our great members. Thank you for your support. We have great speakers and events lined-up for you. If you have not attended a meeting or field trip, please, accept our personal invitation to join us. We would love to meet you. We welcome your feedback on how to provide the best possible experience for you. Watch for our survey on how we can accomplish our mission coming soon.

As summer gives way to fall, please take time to reflect on what a great season it was and look forward to the fall migration. Nature's intricate dance provided thrilling moments. I watched geese grow up in-front of my house. It was not always easy for the parents to keep their little ones safe. One adult had to fend off an attack from two bald eagles nesting nearby. It left me speechless watching the events unfold.

The morning I wrote this passage, sandhill cranes were elegantly calling outside of my house. Nature is offering her special gifts for those willing to venture forth. Please, take time  
*Con't p. 2*

this fall to come on an adventure with this. We never know what magical event will happen. We would love to share it with you. We hope to see you soon. Happy birding, Jonathan

Happy birding,  
Jonathan

#### **Jaegerfest: Wisconsin Point Weekend Sept. 21-23**

The Wisconsin Society of Ornithology hosts this event each fall in Superior, when the migration of these northern hunters passes through. Apparently, the nastier the weather, the better the birding! Check it out!

**Contact** Tom Schultz (920) 960-1796 and Jeff Baughman (920) 960-4732

Meet: 7:00 am each morning (Sept. 21-23) at the first beach parking area along Moccasin Mike Road, which leads to Wisconsin Point.

Weather plays such an integral part in birding this area, in fact the worse the weather the more incredible the birding could be. So prepare for the possibility of wet, cold weather as well as typical cool fall temperatures along lake Superior.

Participants may want to bring old bread, popcorn, beef suet, etc. for "chumming" for gulls. If you are staying in a motel, make sure you book your reservation early!

Location Wisconsin Point - Superior

#### **It's Annual Renewal Time**

This is the start of 2018-2019 program year of the Coulee Region Audubon Society and a great time to renew your membership and support our chapter.

The Coulee Region Audubon Society is a local chapter of the National Audubon Society. Therefore, if you are a current member of the National Audubon Society from the Coulee Region area, you are already a member of this local chapter.

Being a member at the national level supports both national and local efforts and entitles you to receive the Audubon Magazine as well as the Coulee Birder – the newsletter of our chapter. An easy way to join/renew your national membership is to go to the membership page of the Audubon website at: <http://www.audubon.org/membership>.

It is also possible to be a local member of our chapter. Local members do not receive any of the membership benefits associated with national membership, but all of your membership dues are used to support our local chapter and its activities.

We encourage you to help out by joining / renewing at either or both of these levels to help support this chapter.

If you would like to have a local membership, please use the form on the back page of the newsletter to complete your renewal for the new program year. Simply complete the form and send it along with your check made out to the Coulee Region Audubon Society to:

Dan Jackson, Treasurer : Coulee Audubon Society. P.O. Box 2573 LaCrosse WI 54602-2573

## **Things are happening at the International Owl Center!**

There are a lot of fun events coming up this fall at the International Owl Center in Houston Minnesota. If you haven't been there lately, stop in for a visit. They have a new owl ambassador in residence. JR is an Eastern Screech Owl. They acquired him through a special program, which you can learn all about if you ask.

Here's an event slated for the coming weeks.

**Owl Prowl to call in wild owls**  
**Saturday, September 29 at 6:30 PM**  
**Saturday, October 27 at 6:30 PM**  
**International Owl Center, Houston, MN**

Fall is a great time to hear owls! They live all around us but are very good at evading detection. Come learn how to identify our local owls by size, shape, silhouette and sound with the Owl Center's human and owl staff. Following the indoor portion of the program participants will carpool to known owl territories in and around Houston to call for Eastern Screech-Owls, Barred Owls, and Great Horned Owls.

Dress for the weather, and try to wear clothes that don't make noise when you move. Calling will be done from the side of the road, so very little walking is required. Children are welcome, but must be able to stand quietly for at least 10 minutes at a time. Meet at the International Owl Center at the listed time and expect to return roughly 2.5 - 3 hours later.

Thank You, Mr. President

Astute readers may have noticed that Scott Puchalski is not writing the president's message any longer. Scott has been president of the Coulee Audubon for several years, but felt that due to his work schedule...two full time jobs, one of which is his own business....he hasn't been able to serve the organization as he'd like. Scott has been president, vice-president and a long standing member of CRAS. He has led many bird outings, given presentations on bird identification with many of his own beautiful photos, coordinated the Christmas Bird Count and helped set up our website and Facebook page. At a special board meeting held August 20, the Board regretfully accepted Scott's resignation and Jonathan Ringdahl as Vice President has graciously stepped into this role until our next general meeting in January. The entire Board has been working to fill the duties of the empty vice president's office. Thank you Scott for all you've done and we know you'll continue to do on behalf of birds and birding in our region!

## **Coming Soon!**

The CRAS Board has been burning up brain cells as we try to look at ways to invigorate our chapter. Conversations have been held with leaders at the national organization, lots of ideas have been put out for field trips, activities and meeting ideas a little different than what we've typically done. We have been working on developing a member survey, which should be coming soon. In the meantime, if you have ideas for speakers, field trips, activities or anything you think would encourage engagement, let any one of the Board members know.

**Coulee Region Audubon Society**

**P. O. Box 2573**

**LaCrosse WI 54602**

**Contact**

President

Jonathan Ringdahl

[jonringdahl@gmail.com](mailto:jonringdahl@gmail.com)

Vice President

Position vacant

Treasurer

Dan Jackson

[DanJackson@lbwhite.com](mailto:DanJackson@lbwhite.com)

Secretary

MaryJo Clark

[clarx01@centurylink.net](mailto:clarx01@centurylink.net)

Board Member

Gwyn Calvetti

[gwyntells@gmail.com](mailto:gwyntells@gmail.com)

Board Member

Roger Hanson

[nosnohrd@gmail.com](mailto:nosnohrd@gmail.com)

Board Member

Paul Hayes

[pjhayes@mwt.net](mailto:pjhayes@mwt.net)

Newsletter

Gwyn Calvetti

[gwyntells@gmail.com](mailto:gwyntells@gmail.com)

Facebook

[www.facebook.com/Coulee](http://www.facebook.com/Coulee)

RegionAudubon

Web

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

**Coulee Region Audubon  
Society Local Membership**

\$10 Student

\$20 Household

\$30 Supporting

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