



madison
AUDUBON



society



Welcome to our special
Annual Report edition of
the MAS Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Annual Signature Field Trip Calendar (removable)
- Year-in-review interviews with our Sanctuary and Education staff
- Fiscal year 2015 financials
- Board election ballot—*please vote!*
- *Evenings with Audubon* lecture series schedule

Madison Audubon is a proud member
of the following organizations:



Audubon

Friends working together

Just look at what we accomplished together in 2015:

- Madison Audubon continued to restore and enhance some of the state's most endangered habitats for wildlife, including prairie, savanna, oak woodland, and wetland habitats. The recent purchase of 96 acres at Faville Grove (see opposite page) enables us to protect and restore still more critical habitat.
- Several thousand individuals enjoyed learning about our relationship with the natural world. They included visitors and volunteers at our sanctuaries, interns in our ecological restoration and education programs, kids in our various classroom, after-school, and community-based education programs, field trip participants, attendees at our *Evenings With Audubon* series, and even visitors to our Facebook and web pages.
- Working together with our conservation partners, we've made some headway advocating for protection of the environment despite strong political headwinds. We saw a great example of this this year when you lobbied successfully for the reauthorization of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program, which helps to fund the purchase of natural lands around the state.

It is tremendously gratifying to see such progress in all three of Madison Audubon's mission areas—habitat, education and advocacy—all made possible by the hard work and generous financial support of many good friends, including lots of new ones and those we have been lucky to know for years.

We lost two longtime friends recently, Margaret Winston and Liz Middleton, who graciously remembered Madison Audubon in their estate plans (see p. 11). We are grateful that their love of nature, including special places like Goose Pond Sanctuary, will ensure a stronger future for birds and Wisconsin's natural heritage.

The land acquisition at Faville Grove also represents the culmination of another longtime friendship. Burkhard Laas, who always answered the phone with a hearty "Hello neighbor!" in his heavy German accent, passed away late in 2014. He cooperated for many years in the development of the sanctuary, beginning in 2000 when he and his wife, Helga, permitted Madison Audubon to plant six acres to prairie (named Helga's Prairie when she passed away) to resolve a problem with siltation into the adjacent high quality wetland. On three separate occasions when Madison Audubon needed to spend grant funds before they expired, Burkhard sold parcels of land for incorporation into the sanctuary. Following Burkhard's death, his son Jens and daughter Ingrid went to great lengths to assure that the remainder of the family farm would be returned to its natural state for future generations.

Working together, we are sure to accomplish even more in 2016 and beyond. Thank you!

Roger Packard, president
rpackard@uwalumni.com

Painting in a harrier's hues

As Faville Grove Sanctuary grows, color returns to the landscape

Looking west from the high recessional moraine at Faville Grove Sanctuary, a harrier floats low over the snow-covered prairie, tipping and turning effortlessly as it scours the tawny winter grasslands in search of an unwary individual among abundant small mammals and birds, which themselves are enjoying an abundance of seeds served up by the native vegetation.

The landscape here approaches a harrier's idea of paradise, and is getting closer all the time to that ideal. Due west lies more than a mile of unbroken habitat, mostly wetland, protected by neighboring landowners, including the University of Wisconsin Zoology Museum. South of that, we see an area the characteristic golden-russet of prairie, and beyond, the snow-white of agricultural fields stripped of vegetation for the winter. This area, one-half mile square, has been permanently protected by the neighboring landowner through the federal Wetland Reserve Program. The prairies we see were planted by Madison Audubon volunteers over the past two years. Unseen beneath the snow in the ag fields is a truckload (literally) of prairie and wetland seed hand-collected and broadcast this fall by Madison Audubon volunteers. This hidden treasure promises to turn the white areas tawny in future winters. Hidden behind rolling hills are wetlands restored this past summer by bulldozers that filled drainage ditches and excavated shallow depressions to hold water.

Immediately north of the Zoology Museum tract lies the 160-acre former Burkhard and Helga Laas farm. Sections of the farm have been incorporated into Faville Grove Sanctuary over many years. This past November, Madison Audubon acquired the remaining 96 acres of the farm from Burkhard's estate.

Included in the new acquisition is an isolated wetland with open water and floating bog, oak woods, savanna, and about 70 acres of tillable land. We plan to paint the cropland in more harrier-friendly hues in the coming years, and to control invasive vegetation in the woodlands and wetlands on the property. The purchase brings the north-south extent of protected land at the sanctuary's west end to an uninterrupted 1¾ miles—harrier paradise indeed, and a sublime panorama from atop the Faville Grove moraine. At Faville Grove Sanctuary alone, Madison Audubon now holds title or easements to 673 acres that is open to the public, and is managing about 400 acres more in cooperation with neighboring landowners.

Thanks to generous contributions from nature lovers like you, we have raised about two-thirds of the \$670,000 needed for acquisition and ongoing management of the site. The resident harriers, and myriad other inhabitants of this diverse landscape, will definitely appreciate any contribution you can make in support of the project. We hope you will visit Faville Grove in 2016!

Upcoming opportunities to enjoy Faville Grove Sanctuary include our Mid-winter Snowshoe field trip on Feb. 13, as well as regularly scheduled brush-cutting work parties. To learn more, visit madisonaudubon.org/calendar

2015 MADISON AUDUBON BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Roger Packard, President
Marcia MacKenzie, Vice President
Topf Wells, Secretary
John Aeschlimann, Treasurer*
Marenda Weiss, Interim Treasurer
Galen Hasler
Arlyne Johnson
Joanne Jones
Susan Knaack
Jim Shurts

2015 MADISON AUDUBON STAFF

CENTRAL OFFICE

Matt Reetz, PhD, Executive Director
John Minnich, Financial Manager and Membership Director
Carolyn Byers, Director of Education
Emily Meier, Director of Communications & Outreach
Rebecca Ressler, Director of Education*

FAVILLE GROVE SANCTUARY

David Musolf, Volunteer Resident Manager
Drew Harry, Land Steward

GOOSE POND SANCTUARY

Mark Martin and Sue Foote-Martin
Volunteer Resident Managers
Madeline Van Cleve, Land Steward
Tony Abate, Land Steward*
Tony del Valle, Interim Land Steward*

**Former staff/board member*

A YEAR WITH THE LAND

Madison Audubon Sanctuary staff reflect on 2015

"Good work will make people feel that way"—happiness abounds at Faville Grove

Drew Harry joined the Faville Grove team early this year as resident land steward. His incredible work ethic, reflective and observant nature, and gracious demeanor make him a welcome asset to the sanctuary. Drew's overview of the year at Faville Grove paints a wonderful picture for those who love the landscape of Jefferson County.

Looking back on 2015, what were the highlights of your year at Faville Grove Sanctuary?

With the helping hands of dozens of volunteers, we assisted a neighboring landowner in restoring nearly 40 acres to high-quality native habitat. Over the past three years, we have collected seed and restored about 80 acres of this neighbor's Wetlands Reserve Program land, with the rest of the acreage consisting of wetland, woodland, and wildlife scrapes. With the acquisition of 96 acres on the Laas property, Madison Audubon Society has created a north-south protected corridor 1.75 miles long, stretching into perpetuity.

What was your favorite bird/wildlife sighting?

My favorite birds were the hundreds of great egrets who visited the pond along Highway 89. Seeing gray fox kits in the ledge savanna was incredible, too.

Was there a particular plant that captured your attention this year?

Reed canary grass *swallowed* my attention while the interns and I fought it to reclaim wetland areas for native plants. The good news is that we've made excellent progress on this invasive plant throughout the sanctuary! The prairie phlox at Snapper Prairie was hard to miss during early summer. The pink flowers of this plant lit up the landscape after a prescribed burn this spring.

Do you have a favorite memory from 2015?

My favorite memory was finding 108 bird species in the sanctuary...in one day! During the Great Wisconsin Birdathon, the Faville Grove Sanctuary team broke its previous record of 107 species. Around 8 p.m. on the night of the Birdathon, the devoted team of 15 that had been birding since 4 a.m. was

stuck at 107 species. We listened for owls, but started to pack it up after half an hour of silence. An odd sound came from the hill to our west, and I wearily wondered what exotic bird made such a call. Turns out it wasn't a bird at all, but MAS President Roger Packard in his car, alerting us to a great horned owl perched in a nearby tamarack. The still bird stuck out against the waning light, then slowly receded into the night sky.

What was the biggest challenge you faced?

Our biggest challenge was an exciting one—organizing and coordinating the planting of 40 acres of prairie, preceded by the collection of over 100 native species from within our restorations. Thanks to the organizational skills and experience of David Musolf and Roger Packard, the day went incredibly well. Thanks to the hands of 62 volunteers over two Saturdays, the planting went quickly. I'll remember how beautiful a day it was, and how happy everyone was. Good work will make people feel that way.

Tell us a funny story from your year at Faville Grove.

Working with our intern crew was always a lot of fun. This year, a terrible pun from one of our interns sticks out in my mind: when asked how old he thought a bur oak tree was, he responded "It's from the baroque [bur-oak] period."

What was the most joyful moment you had at Faville Grove Sanctuary?

The interns and I were cutting brush at the Arboretum's Faville Prairie State Natural Area. We had spent a lot of time there throughout the summer, and our goal was to clear a section of brush from the prairie. On a Friday we cut through the final wall of brush, connecting two pieces of formerly disjointed prairie. The sudden uninterrupted view was awesome, and we all raised our hands over our heads and cheered.

What project was particularly satisfying this year?

Most satisfying was seeing the seed barn loaded with native seed, almost all collected from Faville



Drew saw his efforts come full-circle as he helped to plant new prairie with seeds he and MAS volunteers collected in 2015.

Grove Sanctuary. I almost felt like a Byzantine merchant, loaded with purses of riches from around the globe.

What are you most looking forward to in 2016?

Initiating restoration on the newly acquired 96 acres at Faville Grove, especially the area around the pond. Surrounding the pond are huge, open-grown oaks. Once cleared of invasive brush, the transition from pond to wetland to savanna will look terrifically pre-settlement.

What do members need to know about what's happening at Faville Grove Sanctuary in 2016?

There are plenty of upcoming events and field trips on our calendar! We always appreciate help with prescribed burns, invasive species control, and seed collecting. We welcome visitors and if you'd like a companion to go birding, or to take a walk to enjoy the landscape, email me at faville@madisonaudubon.org. Come visit us!



Rattlesnake master at Hopkins Road Prairie, Madison Audubon's Goose Pond Sanctuary. All feature photos by Emily Meier

From snowy owls to Silphium borers: a banner year at Goose Pond Sanctuary

Goose Pond is a sparkling gem on a sunny day. Light reflects brilliantly off the water, which holds hundreds of waterfowl afloat. Behind the Pond's rich history and beautiful scenery are two dedicated sanctuary managers: Mark Martin and Sue Foote-Martin, who live and breathe conservation. If you've been lucky enough to meet Mark and Sue, you understand this dedication. If you haven't yet met, join us at the Sanctuary for an event, to volunteer, or to hear the incredible stories they have from their years of service to the land. Mark and Sue recently reflected on 2015 and all it brought for the birds, wildlife, and people who love Goose Pond.

Looking back on 2015, what were the highlights of your year at Goose Pond?

The relocation of a snowy owl named "Goose Pond" in mid-February was a big highlight. It was exciting to be able to fit him with a transmitter that enabled us to follow his movements through March. The other highlight was entomologist Kyle Johnson's official confirmation of state-endangered Silphium borer moths at Goose Pond. Goose Pond Sanctuary may contain the

highest population of Silphium borer moths in Illinois, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin. The work of our members to support Madison Audubon's sanctuaries is helping ensure this habitat is available for this important, rare species, and many others.

What was your favorite bird sighting? What kinds of rare birds did you spot at the Sanctuary?

The best bird sighting at Goose Pond was a little gull that was new to our sanctuary bird list. Our favorite sighting was the male Eurasian wigeon at Erstad's Prairie. Other rare and interesting bird sightings at Goose Pond in 2015 were Ross's geese, red-necked grebe, cattle egret, white-faced ibis, merlin, a color-banded peregrine falcon, and northern mockingbird. We were pleased to also see two collared trumpeter swans on the pond late last year.

Was there a particular plant that captured your attention this year?

Meadow blazing star not only captured our attention, but also the attention of thousands of monarch butterflies! They are incredibly drawn to this beautiful purple prairie flower, and we tagged over 150 monarchs this season on these plants alone.

Do you have a favorite memory from the year?

Our favorite memories were seeing the excitement of those who joined us to help tag monarchs as part of a nationwide citizen science research project this fall. Susan Siman, one of Madison's favorite personalities from Channel 3's *Live at Five*, joined us one afternoon (at left) to tag butterflies and share the story with her viewers. Overall, we had 155 volunteers who helped us tag a record 639 monarch butterflies at the sanctuary!

What was the most challenging project you had at Goose Pond this year?

Coordinating the Breeding Bird Atlas II in Columbia County is challenging—but important. Our goal is to find birders to confirm nesting species in the county over a five-year period.

What was the most joyful moment of 2015?

Mark, along with long-time volunteers Jim Hess and Bill Walters, had a record-setting day counting birds within the Goose Pond area of the Poyette Christmas Bird Count. The late open water at Goose Pond meant that we saw more species than we ever have in our 16 years of doing the count. You can read all about what we saw in the "News Updates" of the MAS website.

What projects were particularly satisfying this year?

We loved learning from our nest box coordinator, Brand Smith, that a total of 110 kestrels fledged this year. Additionally, we had many black terns fledge from our nest platforms in four wetland areas, and we all benefitted from Nathan Hill's Eagle Scout project fencing shrubs at the sanctuary.

What are you most looking forward to in 2016?

We are looking forward to planting a wildlife food plot, beginning a research project on Silphium borer moths, and continuing our work with the Breeding Bird Atlas. We are thrilled to have Maddie Van Cleve, who has worked with us as an intern for two years, join us full time as our land steward in May. Last but certainly not least, we're excited to announce that we are in the early stages of the design and construction of a viewing platform on Prairie Lane! Donations toward the platform will be matched up to \$25,000 thanks to the John Kaiser family, which has visited and supported Goose Pond through five generations. Stay tuned for more ways to help with this exciting project that will improve the experience of visitors to Goose Pond for many years to come.

Mark and Sue are always willing to answer questions about Goose Pond Sanctuary. Contact them at goosep@madisonaudubon.org.



Mark Martin helps Susan Siman train for her next career as a butterfly ecologist.



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

Cash.....	\$160,385
Accounts receivable.....	7,212
Prepaid expenses.....	5,053
Investments.....	934,708
Beneficial interest in remainder trust.....	204,303
Property & equipment (net).....	5,462,172

TOTAL ASSETS \$6,773,833

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable.....	\$3,250
Accrued expenses.....	20,346
Notes payable.....	17,109

TOTAL LIABILITIES \$40,704

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted.....	\$5,740,324
Temporarily restricted.....	939,826
Permanently restricted.....	52,978

TOTAL NET ASSETS* \$6,733,128

**TOTAL LIABILITIES
& NET ASSETS** \$6,773,833

*Mostly comprises value
of Sanctuary land

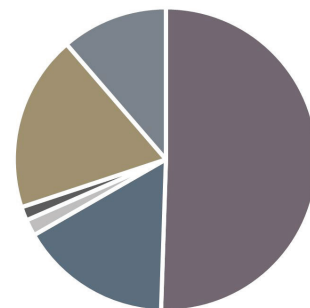
Fiscal Year 2015 Financials

INCOME

Contributions.....	\$218,466
Grants.....	69,978
Memberships.....	7,550
Special Events.....	6,336
Investments.....	81,157
Other.....	48,975

TOTAL INCOME \$432,462

CONTRIBUTIONS—51%
GRANTS—16%
MEMBERSHIPS—1.5%
SPECIAL EVENTS—1.5%
INVESTMENTS—19%
OTHER—11%

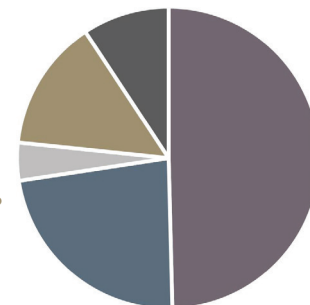


EXPENSES

Sanctuaries.....	\$228,741
Education.....	106,002
Advocacy.....	18,676
Administration.....	64,930
Fundraising.....	42,744

TOTAL EXPENSES \$461,093

SANCTUARIES—50%
EDUCATION—23%
ADMINISTRATION—14%
FUNDRAISING—9%
ADVOCACY—4%



*A final financial audit will be available by April 1, 2016

Established in 1935 as a birding club, Madison Audubon Society has grown to be south-central Wisconsin's leading bird conservation organization. Thank you for being part of a proud community dedicated to a better future for the birds, land, and people of Wisconsin.

Sharing birds and nature with our communities

MAS education programs focus on getting kids outside

Carolyn Byers, former MAS education and operations specialist, recently took over the role of education director for all of Madison Audubon's youth programming. Carolyn brings not only expert knowledge of birds to her students, but an enthusiasm for teaching about nature that is unmatched!

Was there a particular program that really defined MAS education efforts this year?

Our Climate Initiative, which included a partnership with a 4th grade class at Lincoln Elementary, was one huge constant for me this year. This curriculum teaches climate change using birds, and empowers students to become scientists through a year-long phenology project. Watching the class grow in their knowledge of both birds and climate, and seeing them become more comfortable out in nature as weeks went by, was truly a wonderful experience.

Do you have a favorite memory from the year?

A field trip to Goose Pond got completely rained out—the kids were soaked despite their make-shift trash bag raincoats. I wasn't certain that they would remember the trip very fondly, until I caught up with one of the students this year. He asked if we had any trips planned "like that awesome one where we got rained on—that was the BEST TRIP EVER!"

What was the biggest challenge you faced?

I work with a lot of students who have challenging home lives. One of the things I struggled with this year was pushing through all of the issues that might arise because of this, and engaging them in nature. With each new kid, you need to find the "hook" that draws them out and interests them.

What was the most joyful moment you had at while teaching this year?

This summer we brought some kindergarteners from Vera Court Community Center on a birding walk at Cherokee Marsh. Some of them had never used binoculars, and they LOVED it. There was so

much laughter that day, simply because the kids were seeing the world in an entirely new way.

What was the most satisfying part of your year?

Watching kids that were once uncomfortable spending time in nature transform into bug-collecting, bird-observing, plant-identifying mini-scientists.

“There was so much laughter that day, because the kids were seeing the world in an entirely new way.”

— Carolyn Byers
MAS EDUCATION DIRECTOR

What are you most looking forward to in 2016?

Continuing—and expanding!—our partnership with Lincoln Elementary. The school has such a wonderfully supportive staff that has a close bond with their students. The students trust their teachers, and because of that are ready to learn anything I throw at them—whether it be identifying hawk scat or learning about the carbon cycle. I also want to emphasize that this is all possible because of the support of MAS members. Together, we will be able to help our local kids realize that nature is all around them, and help them feel more connected to their environment. I'm looking forward to making lots of new memories, and sharing them with our members!

Carolyn would love to answer your bird- and education-related questions—email her at carolyn.byers@madisonaudubon.org or attend one of her field trips!

Our thanks to the foundations, organizations, and individuals listed on pages 10-11 whose generosity brought meaningful (and fun!) nature education to thousands of kids and young adults in 2015.



JOIN BOTH
MADISON AUDUBON &
NATIONAL AUDUBON

New Membership

Renewal

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email _____

\$40 Individual Membership

\$60 Family Membership

\$25 Student Membership

\$ _____

Additional Gift to Madison Audubon

Gift in Honor of:

Gift in Memory of:

Gift Membership for:

Name(s) _____

Address _____

email _____

Check to Madison Audubon enclosed

Pay by Visa MasterCard

Name on card _____

Card # _____

Expiration Date _____

Three-digit code on card back _____

Yes, I would like to find out more about Madison Audubon's Legacy Society. Please contact me!

PLEASE RETURN THIS
FORM TO THE ADDRESS ON
PAGE 12, OR GIVE ONLINE AT
madisonaudubon.org

Madison Audubon Society and National Audubon Society are tax-exempt, not-for-profit organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. When you join, you will receive subscriptions to both the Madison Audubon newsletter, published four times per year, and to AUDUBON magazine, published six times per year.



Education director Carolyn Byers shares a smile and a moment of wonder with a young butterfly enthusiast.
Photo by Emily Meier

Young birders find a place to land

Wisconsin now has an active club for fledgling bird enthusiasts

When Ryan Treves started birding, he was only six years old. Thanks to some inspiration from his mother, a wildlife biologist, and family travels around the world that allowed him to spot birds that most Wisconsinites only see in copies of National Geographic, Ryan's interest wasn't just a passing fancy. Now, he's spearheading the effort to get more of his peers involved in birding and bird conservation efforts across the state. We recently quizzed Ryan about his own personal interest in birds, as well as his motivations for forming a more cohesive community of young enthusiasts across the state.

What about birds captivated you at such a young age?

What most captured my attention in birds was their brilliant variety in color, shape and size. From the iridescent blue of the woodland kingfisher to the fiery orange of the male Blackburnian warbler, I have always loved finding flecks of color high in the trees. I hope this diversity will be visible for generations to come.

Why did you start the Wisconsin Young Birder's Club?

Recently, I really began to appreciate the incredible birding community here in Wisconsin. I felt distinctly alone as a teenage birder, however. Yet I believed that there must be more enthusiasts out there like me. I founded the WYBC for the purpose of connecting young birders in Wisconsin and to build a

stronger community and encourage others that they are not alone. I hope that, through peer interaction, those teens interested in birds will continue to pursue a passion in birds. In addition, I envision an established club drawing more kids into the realm of bird-watching as an activity for all ages, not just adults. In short, I believe the WYBC has the potential to establish a stronger framework for Wisconsin's next generation of birders.

What role do young birders play within the larger birding community?

Birdwatching isn't just counting species, it's protecting the birds. Dozens and dozens of birders are working to preserve habitat, monitor populations and conserve bird diversity in Wisconsin. We must ensure that there will always be people to do this. The young birders of today with passion for nature will be those who fight for its preservation in the future. Young bird lovers aren't merely the birders of tomorrow, but the defenders of tomorrow.

Madison Audubon Society is proud to sponsor the WYBC. The Club's first official field trip will be at Goose Pond Sanctuary on March 20. If you'd like to help with the WYBC, or if you know someone who would be interested in joining the group, contact Ryan at ryantreves@gmail.com, and follow the Wisconsin Young Birders Club online at their website, wisconsinyoungbirdersclub.wordpress.com, and on Facebook!



Ryan Treves is a 15 year-old birder from Madison who is working to connect young birders across the state. MAS is proud to support Ryan and his efforts to build community within a new generation of birders. Way to go, Ryan!

Donations in Memory

In Memory of George Austin
Shirley Austin
John and Joanne Powles

In Memory of Susan Connell-Magee
Kevin Magee

In Memory of Leigh Couch
Lesleigh Luttrell

In Memory of Amy Fissel
Louise and Robert Coates
Pat Ready
Andrea Rolich

In Memory of Bill Grogan
Ellen Connolly

In Memory of Jenni and Kyle Geurkink
Sally Wilmeth and Terry Geurkink

In Memory of Betty Hawkins
Bruce Blandsness
Julie Blandsness and Ricky Griese
E. Ann and Robert Djupstrom
Don and Anne Hiefner
David Musolf and Roger Packard
Maria Pierz
Ed and Seliesa Pemberton
David Tillotson

In Memory of Anna Marie Huset
Sharon and Warren Gaskill
David Huset

Mark Martin and
Sue Foote-Martin

In Memory of Charles Loufek Kimport
Nancy Hylbert

In Memory of Leonard Verhasselt
Sue and Terrill Knaack

In Memory of Donna Kraft
Group Health Cooperative of
South Central Wisconsin

In Memory of Bob Lazars
Mark Martin and Sue Foote-Martin

In Memory of Frankie Locke
Dorothy Haines

In Memory of James J. Lottes
Joanne Lottes

In Memory of Grace Martin
Mark Martin and
Sue Foote-Martin

In Memory of Amy Mendel-Clemens
Hope Oostdik

In Memory of Liz Middleton

Patricia Becker
Martha Christensen
Frances Johnson
Charlotte Kalish
Mark Martin and Sue Foote-Martin

In Memory of Patricia Jean Raymond
Rita Loving

In Memory of Gene Roark
Mark Martin and Sue Foote-Martin

In Memory of Robby
Louise Robbins

In Memory of John and Nancy Schunk
Jim and Sally Meier

In Memory of Neil Skinner
Margaret Skinner

In Memory of Joe Sloup
Karen and Mike Austad
Curt and Arlys Caslavka

In Memory of Jim and Laura Tyndall
Marilyn Meade

In Memory of Carol Jean Warner
Janice and Richard Paynter

In Memory of Ben Washburn

Catherine Ahrens
Alice Baird
Janet Bauman
Barbara Besadny
William and Catherine Charboneau
Florence Cole
Robert and Mary Cole
Ted Crabb
Frances Erney
Timothy and Renee Farley

Claire Gervais and David Blouin
Donald and Mary Harkness
Fannie Frazier Hicklin
Murray and Susan Katcher
Susan Kau and Randall Zirk
Susan and Bradley Manning
Fred and Judy Middleton
David Musolf and Roger Packard
June Muzzi
B. Ann Neviasser

Frederic and Janelle Robinson
Nancy Schaefer
John and Linda Schilling
Allan Shands

In Memory of Ben Washburn

(continued)...
Carl and Elizabeth Silverman
Floyd and Ellen Stautz
David Tillotson
Barbara Washburn
Mary Washburn
Nancy Washburn and
Mark Spring
Sally Washburn
Oliver and Marilyn Williams

In Memory of E. Preston and Jane H. Wood, Amy Wood, and Ken Wood
Tom Wolfe and Pat Powers

In Memory of Ken Wood
Helen Baldwin
Gary and Lynn Johnson
Levi and Janet Wood

Bequests

Elizabeth Middleton
Margaret Winston

BALLOT FOR BOARD ELECTION

Four members of the Madison Audubon board of directors have terms that expire in March 2016. The board of directors has unanimously nominated all four to stand for re-election.

Each Madison Audubon Society Member may vote for up to four candidates to serve three-year terms on the nine-member MAS board of directors. For family memberships, two members of the family may vote.

Please indicate your vote(s) by checking the boxes at right, or vote on online at:

madisonaudubon.org/ballot

Arlyne Johnson

Susan Knaack

Topf Wells

Joanne Jones

You may vote electronically or cut out this ballot and mail it to the Madison Audubon Society office.

ADVOCACY ALERT

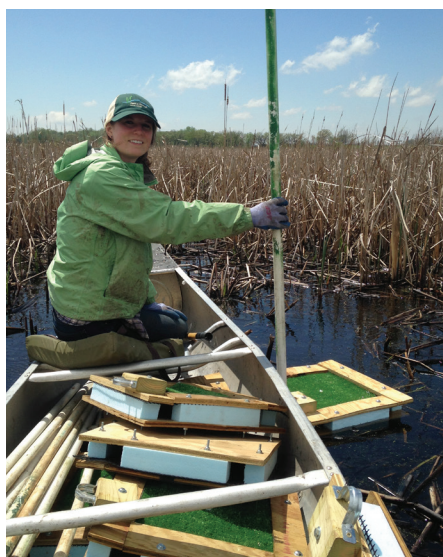
Make your voice heard at the Spring Conservation Congress hearings

Madison Audubon would like to encourage members to participate in this year's Wisconsin Conservation Congress Spring Hearings.

The WCC is a group of elected delegates who advise the Natural Resources Board of Wisconsin. Each year at spring hearing sessions held in all Wisconsin counties, delegates are elected and advisory questions are introduced.

Madison Audubon Members may find several advisory questions of interest, including the proposal to ban lead ammunition and fishing tackle.

To participate in the WCC spring hearings, visit the Wisconsin DNR website to determine the location of your county's hearing. The 2016 Spring Hearings will take place on April 11.



Welcome to the flock, Maddie!

We are excited to welcome Maddie Van Cleve as our full-time Goose Pond land steward this May, after she completes her M.S. in landscape architecture at UW-Madison. Maddie is currently studying seeding times for early blooming prairie forbs such as pasqueflower, bird foot violet, prairie smoke, and others.

Maddie is already a familiar face around Goose Pond, having worked as an intern for the past two summers and as part-time land steward this fall and winter.

LEFT: Maddie is already making an impact: this spring, she helped install black tern nest platforms around Columbia County, which led to the success of many breeding pairs. *Photo by Mark Martin*

In-Kind Donations

Brigitte Thomson
Tom and Kathie Brock
Stephen and Mary Burrell
Dorothy Haines
Galen and Grace Hasler
Susan and Terrill Knaack
Arlene and Jeff Koziol
Marcia MacKenzie
Jan and Del Pigg
Patricia Saltz
Allie Schmitz
Topf Wells and Sally Probasco
Blue Moon Restaurant
Capitol Lakes
City of Fitchburg
Dane County Parks
Dutch Designs
Great Dane Pub & Brewing
Hanson & Leja Lumber Co.
Lakeland Cold Storage
Mounds Pet Food Warehouse
Next Door Brewing Co.
Passion Planner LLC
Vern's Appliance of Lodi
Wild Birds Unlimited



LEFT: A new pollinator-specific prairie planted at Goose Pond Sanctuary in December will create a haven for bees and more. *Photo by Carolyn Byers*



Donations in Honor

- In Honor of Caroline Beckett*
 Carla Wright
- In Honor of Pat Boyden*
 Phyllis Boyden
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Your love of birds can shape the future!

Remembering MAS in your will or estate plan honors a commitment to our natural world and provides support that will protect Wisconsin's amazing birds and share nature with our kids and grandkids forever. We invite you to become a part of our planned giving recognition group, the Legacy Society.

There are many ways to create a legacy gift. Give Matt a call at (608) 210-1441 and we will help find the perfect solution for you.

If you have already named MAS in your estate plans, we'd love to thank you and invite you to join the Legacy Society!

A warm welcome to our newest Legacy Society member, Sandy Stark!

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EVENINGS WITH AUDUBON SPRING 2016 SCHEDULE

THE AMAZING ECOLOGY OF AFRICAN BIRDS

From the diminutive crombec to the enormous ostrich...join The Field Museum's Josh Engel to explore the ecology of some of the world's most incredible birds.
Presented in partnership with the UW-Madison Undergraduate Zoological Society

FEBRUARY 16 | 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
UW Arboretum Visitor Center | 1207 Seminole Highway | Madison, WI

NEBRASKA'S RIVER OF CRANES & THE GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGN THAT SAVED IT

Each spring, a half million sandhill cranes converge on Nebraska's Platte River. Author Doreen Pfof will share the story behind the conservation of the region.

MARCH 15 | 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Capitol Lakes Main Ballroom | 333 W. Main Street | Madison, WI

CELEBRATING EARTH DAY WITH TIA NELSON

Join us to hear the daughter of Earth Day founder Gaylord Nelson tell the story behind how the first Earth Day launched the environmental decade, and what it teaches us today about the challenge of addressing climate change. This program is also our annual meeting.
Presented in partnership with the UW-Madison Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies

APRIL 19 | 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery | 330 N. Orchard Street | Madison, WI



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Help us SHARE BIG
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