



# *The* **HERON**

Quarterly Newsletter of the Fond du Lac County Audubon Society

## WINTER EVENTS

**There are room changes for our programs at MPTC due to construction.**

The room for the January program will be O215. Park in lot O at the west side of MPTC and proceed to the second floor. February's program will be in E120. Enter door C2 from parking lot C and follow the signs to Building E.



**Community Shopping at Just Fare Market**

Thursday, December 7, 10 am–6 pm

**Winter Wonderland at Kay's Ledge**

Saturday, December 9, 1 pm

**Bees and Beneficial Pollinator Species (Presentation)**

Wednesday, January 10, 7 pm, MPTC Room O215

**Snowshoe Saturday at Kiekhaefer Park**

Saturday, January 20, 1 pm



**Let a Tree be a Tree –  
The Case for Tree Preservation (Presentation)**

Wednesday, February 14, 7 pm, MPTC Room E120

**Great Backyard Bird Count**

February 16–19

**Bird Seed Sale at Haentze Floral**

Orders due March 1.

**Exploring Trails and Tracks  
at Kay's Ledge**

Saturday, March 2

Look for details in the spring newsletter.



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

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*More information on programs and activities is on page 3.*

### **Conservation Camp Scholarships**

Fond du Lac County Audubon, through the Dave Stetter Environmental Education funds, provided four camp scholarships for the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Camp at Upham Woods near Wisconsin Dells. These funds are offered in the name of Dave Stetter, Goodrich High School science teacher and long-time Audubon member, to promote hands-on outdoor education experiences for Fond du Lac County youth. The camp from June 14–17, 2023, offered outdoor education experiences that fostered an understanding and appreciation of nature consistent with the goals of our Environmental Education funds.

The four middle school students who received scholarships are:

**Jude Bonzelet** is a seventh grade student at Treffert Way School in North Fond du Lac. Jude describes himself as an inquisitive animal lover. Like Audubon members, he likes birding. He would like to join or start an environmental club at his school.

**Jacob S. Chamberlain** is a sixth grade student also at Treffert Way School in North Fond du Lac. Jacob loves the outdoors and birdwatching is one of his favorite things. His teachers describe him as a very comfortable and experienced public speaker, and we hope he talks about the camp to other students.

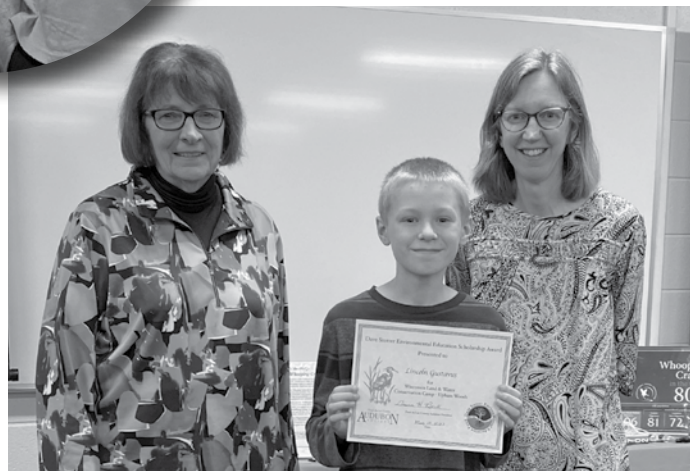
**Lincoln Gustavus** is a sixth grade student at Woodworth Middle School where he participates in the following clubs: Rocket, Science, Robotic, and Coding. Lincoln has successfully caught and raised Monarch caterpillars for release. He hopes to one day have a career in a science-related field.

**Hollis McDermott** is a sixth grade student at STEM academy in Fond du Lac. Hollis loves nature, especially aquatic life including fish, frogs, and plants. Recently he has been studying the amphibian axolotls. Hollis wants to become a marine biologist. The students received awards at the May Audubon meeting.

Those willing to contribute to the fund may send checks to Mike Sweney, Fond du Lac Audubon, N5545 Winnvue Ct., Fond du Lac, WI 54937. Make checks payable to Dave Stetter EE Fund. Audubon is a 501c(3) nonprofit tax-exempt organization.

### **Donation of Wildlife Prints to Stetter Environmental Education Fund**

Thanks to Pat and Anne Guy, formally of Pat Guy Paint and Glass, for donating 11 wildlife prints to Fond du Lac County Audubon with proceeds intended for the Dave Stetter Environmental Education Fund. Prints include eight Tom Schultz circa 1979 prints of blue jays, chickadees, and rose-breasted grosbeaks, a Ron Van Gilder print of Canada geese, a Harry Tollas print of a black Labrador puppy, and a Robert Timm rabbit print. Tom Schultz is a native of Fond du Lac who now lives near Green Lake. His illustrations have appeared in several editions of National Geographic's Field Guide to Birds of North America, and in the Smithsonian Institution's Warblers field guide. The Fond du Lac Audubon Board has yet to decide how to market these lovely prints that capture the beauty of birds in their natural setting. Anyone interested in making a donation to the EE Fund and receive a print should email [fondyadubon@gmail.com](mailto:fondyadubon@gmail.com).



## AUDUBON PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

### ***Community Shopping Event with Just Fare Market***

***Thursday, December 7, 10 am–6 pm***

***N7645 N. Peebles Lane and also online***

Audubon's annual shopping event at Just Fare Market is at their store and also online. To shop online, go to justfare.org, and click on "Shop now." Browse through an amazing array of items and place your order. Type Audubon in the order memo line, so that we receive credit for your purchase. Pick up your order Thursday or Friday 10–4 or Saturday 10–2.

Just Fare Market, a Fair Trade store, benefits from your support. Fair Trade is a direct and cooperative business approach helping farmers and artisans in developing countries. It uses environmentally sustainable practices, which helps preserve the world's birds and natural resources. Fond du Lac County Audubon benefits, as we receive 15% of total sales during event hours which help support our programs.

### ***Winter Wonderland at Kay's Ledge***

***Saturday, December 9, 1 pm, N7836 Cty Road WH***

Explore this private property along the Niagara Escarpment during the early winter. David Kuckuk, long time environmental educator and former director of Sheboygan's Maywood Environmental Park, will lead a hike that focuses on trees in the winter and if possible, animal tracks in the snow. The hike will last about two hours. Afterward, the group is invited to gather around a bonfire for some hot chocolate. No dogs will be allowed.

Dress warmly (warm boots, etc). Snowshoes or Yaktrax are helpful if there is snow or ice, and ski poles help with balance. Drive east on Cty WH .9 miles from the 151 bypass to the entrance on the west side of Cty WH. Watch for an Audubon sign. Canceled if raining.

### ***Bees and Beneficial Pollinator Species***

***Wednesday, January 10, 7 pm, MPTC, Room O215***

Joel Clary, Pegasus Farm's beekeeper and Keith Bancroft of Kele Alpacas, will present on bees and beneficial pollinator species in Northeast Wisconsin. Both men are affiliated with Furrows to Fences, Inc., a 501c3 nonprofit that provides educational events on small-scale farming using draft horses, specifically Percheron horses, and provides chemical-free garden plots to the community.

### ***Snowshoe Saturday at Kiekhaefer Park***

***Saturday, January 20, 1 pm, 4235 Kiekhaefer Parkway***

Enjoy a guided winter exploration of the hilly trails at beautiful Kiekhaefer Park. If there is good snow, we will snowshoe; otherwise we will hike. If too muddy or if it's raining, the event will be canceled.

If you don't have snowshoes, a limited number will be available by reservation at no charge, courtesy of Attitude Sports. For trail conditions or to reserve snowshoes, call Diana at 920-922-7931 or email dianahbeck@gmail.com.

### ***Let a Tree be a Tree –***

### ***The Case for Tree Preservation***

***Wednesday, February 14, 7 pm, MPTC Room E120***

Long time tree enthusiast, Fran Paul, shares her observations, research, and select best practices in how we care for trees. Learn how *less is more* when it comes to pruning, tree health and longevity. Join us for the love of trees on this special Valentine's Day presentation.

### ***Great Backyard Bird Count***

***February 16–19, your own backyard***

Contribute to one of the most successful bird counts. More than 173,000 people of all ages and walks of life worldwide join the four-day count annually to create a snapshot of the distribution and abundance of birds. Observations can be made from the comfort of your home and only involve a minimum of 15 minutes. Even beginners can help. The website has wonderful aids for identifying the birds in our area. Enter the results online. Final totals and results are available later to all participants. Details are on the website: [gbbc.birdcount.org](http://gbbc.birdcount.org)

### ***Audubon Bird Seed Sale***

***Saturday, March 16, 9–11 am***

***Haentze Floral Company, 658 Fond du Lac Avenue***

Pre-order bird seed by March 1. See our flyer or the order form on our website. We offer high quality seed to attract a variety of birds to your feeders. There is limited seed available if not pre-ordered.

How to get information mid-February:

- 1) email [fondyaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:fondyaudubon@gmail.com) and we'll email or snail mail a flyer, or
- 2) check our website: [fdlaudubon.org](http://fdlaudubon.org), or
- 3) call Lori at 920-960-7930

Fond du Lac County  
**AUDUBON**  
S O C I E T Y

P.O. Box 84  
Fond du Lac, WI 54936-0084

Submit articles for the Audubon newsletter  
via e-mail to [mcleancowan@gmail.com](mailto:mcleancowan@gmail.com)

## THE HERON

Fond du Lac County  
**AUDUBON**  
S O C I E T Y  
M E M B E R S H I P

- Yes!** I want to become a member or renew my membership to the National Audubon Society, and the Fond du Lac County Chapter. The annual membership dues of \$40 entitle me to six issues of the Audubon magazine, and all local chapter benefits. I am enclosing a check payable to Fond du Lac County Audubon.
- I am only interested in being a member and supporting the programs of the Fond du Lac County Audubon. The annual local membership dues of \$20 entitle me to receive the chapter newsletter and all chapter benefits. I am enclosing a check payable to Fond du Lac County Audubon.
- I am a new member.  I am a renewing member.

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Name

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Address

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City

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State

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Zip

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Phone

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Email

Mail this form with payment to:  
Fond du Lac County Audubon, Membership Services  
N5545 Winnvue Court, Fond du Lac, WI 54937

### ***Landscape Pesticide Registry Signup***

Protect your pets, your family, and yourself from neighbors' lawn chemicals. Be informed whenever your neighbors have pesticides applied to their property by a professional yard service. You will receive a call the day before, alerting you to the time and types of pesticides that will be used.

Sign up for 2024 by February 1. Visit the website at <https://mydatcp.wi.gov/Account/LogOn>.

### ***2024 Middle School Conservation Camp Scholarships***

Fond du Lac County Audubon, through the Dave Stetter Environmental Education funds, anticipates offering two to four scholarships to the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Camp in 2024. Typically, the camps are held in mid-June with applications due in late April. Fond du Lac County Middle School students entering Grades 6–8 in the Fall of 2024 are eligible for scholarships. Applications will be posted on the Audubon web page. Please help us locate deserving students who would benefit from this experience. For a description of the camp see: <https://wisconsinlandwater.org/our-work/youth-education/conservation-camp>. Email [fondyaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:fondyaudubon@gmail.com) with questions or to be placed on a contact list for 2024 scholarships. The Education Committee will also consider offering scholarships to other camps that have a primary focus of conservation or environmental education.