

GNAS Agenda
August 26, 2014
Baldwin Public Library at 6:30-8:00 PM

Location of Baldwin Public Library:
400 Cedar Street
Baldwin WI 54002
715-684-3813
Google: "Baldwin Public Library Baldwin WI"

Members present: Michelle Carlisle, Katelin Holm, Cindy Collins, Kathy Fredrickson, Robin Maercklein, Steve Betchkal, and Bill Hogseth.

Introductions

- Steve's ideas from last month's agenda ... (see below)

WAC website & facebook page

website: <http://www.wisconsinaudubon.org/> and the all-new WAC Facebook page!

This is your website and Facebook page. *"They're intended to increase the capacity of all Wisconsin Audubon chapters and centers to tell our stories, reach areas of Wisconsin that are under-served, and open up a statewide dialog on Audubon priorities and projects."*

Check it out and "like it"

Audubon Collaborative funding: Wisconsin chapters will receive \$2389. Decided by WAC.

—application due by Oct 31, 2014.

Application Guidelines

Application Form

I have list of those requests already sent in to WAC (lead fishing tackle, canopy for events, IBA work, signs, Bird City work) (see email dated 8/01/2014).

WAC on Oct 4th—we host

- Email sent to Irene on 6/27 asking if she is interested in providing food for this event. She is unable to assist us.
- There is a small fridge in the meeting room at SCF Library.
- Field trip—Brian. Where? When?
- Expense cap per person = \$8.00
- Food—what, who, how

Brian will have a local field trip like Interstate Park

Creative and cheap food ideas

We will meet again before and work out the details

Nominating Committee—need committee by Sept 1st

- Steve Betchkal volunteered to be on this committee—idea for treasurer?
- Others interested in being on committee?

Bill H. will also help recruit the next treasurer and president. According to the Bylaws of GNAS, Article VIII, Section 2: *"At least one month before elections, names of the candidates nominated for election shall be announced to the membership."*

Annexation of additional zip codes

- Steve had offered to contact persons in Eau Claire County, Chippewa County, and Dunn County—what progress has been made?

501c3

- 90 day notice would arrive around 8/17/14—has it arrived? No.
- 180 day notice would arrive around 11/17/2014—must we wait longer? Yes.

Still waiting!

Annual Report—due November 30th—on-line. **Calendar year= July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.**

- Eau Claire birding day—need numbers of attendees and help with classifying where it fits on report.
Bill H. to email Kathy specific info from the birding day
- Toni Dougherty's presentation on Purple Martins—request to include in report (sent email on 06/27/2014 with question).
- Begin to compile all events/activities/hours worked, etc.
- Questionnaire, Financial, and Annual Plan for up-coming year.
- **Recertification:** In order to be recertified as an Audubon Chapter, every Chapter is required to submit an Annual Report each year, as described in the [Audubon Chapter Policy](#).
- **Baseline Funding:** Once the Chapter's report has been submitted and reviewed your [Baseline payment](#) will be directly deposited to the Chapter checking account. Please let us know right away if your Chapter's bank information has recently changed.

Chapter Branding- **We still need to settle on a logo and also compile built-in annual events**

Google Docs—was discussed at April meeting **Brian started one and sent to committee members**

Speaker's Bureau List—was discussed at April meeting **Each of us come up with 5 speakers and send to Steve to compile a list to go over**

From Steve B on 06/14/2014 to group:

These items were discussed briefly at the June 25th meeting—more to add?

1. New webpage productions
2. MartinMart- **Gather info to put on website**
3. Using emailing to disperse information or collect information
4. Illuminatura- **Gather maps of "hotspots" to put on website**
5. Annual themes-**see built in events**
6. Blue Ribbon Stewards
7. The Classroom Connection
8. Big Built in Events: **Plan these events at our annual summit meeting**
 - Feb Annual Meeting;-**Always held in St. Croix Falls?**
 - April/March—Cavity Nesting Birds Workshop (Lowell Peterson)?
 - May migration bird hikes—Interstate Park
 - May –Eau Claire "Welcome Back Bird Day"
 - December Christmas Bird Counts; Robin, will you head up connections with other leaders? Is there already a CBC website for leaders/interested persons?
 - **Birds, Bugs and Blooms in Chippewa Valley June 5-7th 2015.**
9. Tiger Hunt-**Gather info to put on website next year**

10. Audubon Christmas Bird Counts-unified force on website, our area on our website

In order to share more effectively, I would like to explain briefly here/below...

1. I would like to start creating more website pages; each of which are dedicated to specific initiatives. Some of these are listed below, but it seems obvious that could be many more ideas and examples to come!
2. Now that the spring migration madness is done, I am shifting into full MartionMart gear. I will be visiting each site that I have learned of, seeking a physical address, GPS coordinate, "name" and further details on the colony as approved by the landowner/manager. I would like to create a page on our website that lists every site possible. Anyone else interested in doing this with me? (article in Audubon out very soon???)
3. It seems to me we can be more strategic about how we use our email...are we using it to get the word out? Can we use it to poll our members? I think we should have a discussion about the possibilities!
4. Illuminatura is a name I came up for for "habitat mapping" the region. I have begun collecting info for natural sites in the "south" -- the goal being dedicated GNAS website address/map warehousing all of the best places to go and enjoy nature. Beaver Creek Reserve has volunteered an intern to help produce maps. Can we cover the entire region? Make it "one-stop shopping" for where to go to connect with nature?
5. Michelle made an intriguing comment...we could dedicate each calendar year to some kind of theme...Migrant birds? Tiger beetles? My Favorite Tree? A River Runs Through it? The possibilities are endless!
6. Could we as an agency recognize landowners in a formal way for taking care of their properties? A great example: the farmer who owns the "Highway 12 Ponds" in EC county. No less than 22 species of shorebirds have been identified on his field! We need to discuss the positives, side effects, and possible effectiveness of such an initiative!
7. Brian also mentioned this...but I'd like to see us become THE go-to resource for information and outreach on birds! What better way to get kids interested in birds than us serving as classroom resources!?! (You guys heard of "Bird TV?")
8. I believe we -- as a chapter -- should build trademark events into our annual schedule -- things that the members can anticipate and expect and look forward to/plan for. Not too many, but enough to call our own. I have some ideas..you?
9. I'm on a mission to personally see all of Wisconsin's Tiger Beetle species...can we make this a promotional and cooperative thing? Kind of like MartinMart, but more playful?
10. I think we should be the "umbrella" organizer for every Xmas Bird Count in the chapter region...all the info you need, found right here, with us...

Michelle C. to email Rebecca Richter at National Audubon to update map for website.
Bill H. to help with updating website information.

Next meeting-Thursday September 25th 6-7:30 @ St. Croix Falls Library.
The room is reserved!