

## **BENJAMIN F. GOSS BIRD CLUB – FIELD TRIPS SPRING 2023**

**April 16<sup>th</sup>, Sunday: Area Lakes and Ducks** Meet at 8:00 AM at Brewers Two Coffee Shop on Wisconsin Ave. in Pewaukee across the street from Pewaukee Lake. We will begin by checking Pewaukee Lake and then proceed to scope other area lakes for ducks and early migrants. Tim Hahn will be the leader for this field trip.

**April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Saturday: Vernon Marsh** Meet at 7:00 AM in the parking lot at the end of Frog Alley Rd. (& maybe later to Benson Rd.). We will be hiking a fair way for this one, and keep in mind, there are no bathrooms in the area. This is the largest marsh in Waukesha County and a migratory hotspot with a vast variety of waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors and much more.

**May 6<sup>th</sup>, Saturday: Waukesha Retzer Nature Center Community Spring Bird Count: 7AM – Noon**  
Recommended for ages 8+, registration not required. Open to anyone. (Coordinated by Spence Stehno. Goss Members please contact him if you can join in for a few hours that morning.) Join us to scout all areas at Retzer Nature Center for year-round and migrating bird species during the Annual Retzer Spring Bird Count. All skill levels are welcome. Bring your own binoculars or use Retzer's. Meet at 7:00 AM in the parking lot area nearest the learning Nature Center building.

**May 7<sup>th</sup>, Sunday: Whip-poor-will Walk** Meet at 7:30 PM at Horse Trails crossing on Piper Rd. 1.3 miles east of Hwy 67. Anne Moretti will lead us in our quest to find Henslow's and Grasshopper Sparrows along with a couple others species. The chances to hear the Eastern Whip-poor-will is a special treat.

**May 9<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday: Fox River Sanctuary / E.B. Shurts Nature Center** Meet at 8:00 AM at E.B Shurts Building. This city park is a great place to find miscellaneous spring birds including warblers, vireos, thrushes and others along the Fox River. Colleen Resendiz will be the leader for this field trip.

**May 13<sup>th</sup>: Saturday: Ben Goss Bird Club Waukesha May Count** Jasonn Weber is the coordinator of this annual event covering a 15-mile diameter circle divided into several sections with leaders for each. This a great way for less experienced birders to learn from the veterans and share in our common joy of birding. This event technically starts at midnight for those birders that seek owls, and goes until 11:59 that night, but come for whatever part you want. Most birders begin in the morning and bird until they have covered the area or run out of steam, so come for whatever part you want.

**May 19-21<sup>st</sup>: WSO Convention** – No club events this weekend, but we encourage anyone who is interested to attend the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology Convention being held in Waukesha. For details visit [www.wsobirds.org](http://www.wsobirds.org).

**May 27<sup>th</sup>, Saturday: Paradise Valley SWA** Meet at 7:00 AM in the parking area located at the end of Kincaid Lane, two miles west of Dousman. We will gather at the viewing platform and scope for waterfowl, raptors, and early migrants before walking hiking 0.6 miles or so on level terrain out into the wetlands along old farm lanes. Spence Stehno will be our lead person for this fun and exciting location. We hope to see a different suite of birds a couple months after our initial spring visit with full migration occurring.

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Saturday: Where the Birds Are** TBD - Time and location will be announced as much in advance as we can once we find out “Where the BIRDS Are”, hence the name.

**June 10<sup>th</sup>, Saturday: Horicon Marsh** TBD – To Be Determined as we see what kind of activities are occurring in the Horicon Marsh area with this year’s migration and water levels.

**June 17<sup>th</sup>, Saturday: Kettle Moraine State Forest - Mukwonago River Unit** (old Rainbow Springs property) Meet at 7:30 AM in the parking lot on Hwy LO east of Hwy E in Eagle. This large piece of land has a river, streams, several ponds, 2 lakes and much more. Birds of all sorts call this place home or migrate through it. Over 160 species have been spotted on this this land which lies in both Waukesha and Walworth Counties. Nick Mimmier will be the field trip leader.

**June 24<sup>th</sup>, Saturday: Retzer Nature Center** Back to our home base for a nice stroll around the property. Meet in the parking lot at 7:00 AM. Goss Members will be waiting to lead you on a morning of birding that is always fun. The Bobolinks could be holding flight school for their young around that time, preparing them for their long migration south. See you there!

**2023 Spring – Summer Midweek Events** For those who cannot make the weekend events or for those spots hopefully less crowded than weekends, we will be offering 3 or 4 scheduled or pop-up events.

**Pop-up Possibilities:**

1. Along the Ice Age Trail in Hartland for spring warblers
2. Fox River Sanctuary
3. Lulu Lake
4. Wind Lake Sod Farms
5. Pennsylvania St./McMahon Wetlands
6. Other Surprises...