



Chequamegon Chirps

Newsletter of the Chequamegon Bird Club

Medford, Wisconsin

June 2009

Volume 28 Number 6

NEXT MEETING:

Date: Monday, June 15, 2009

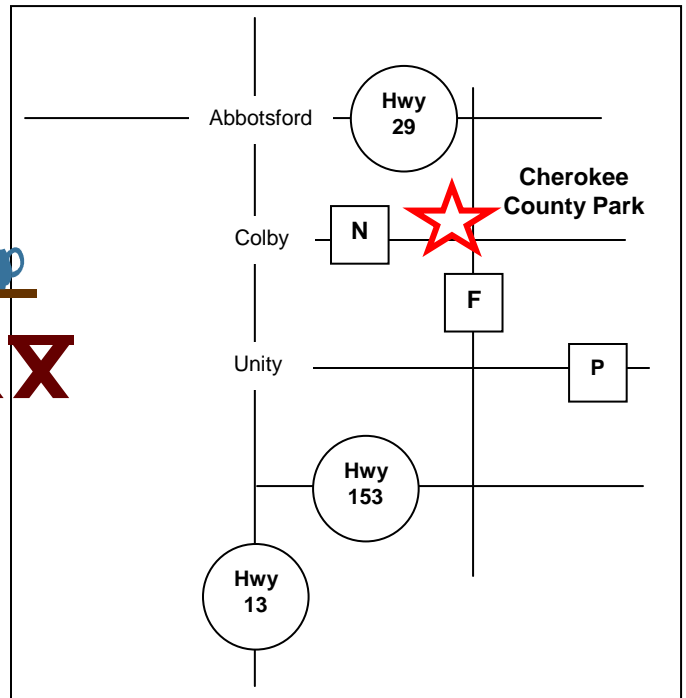
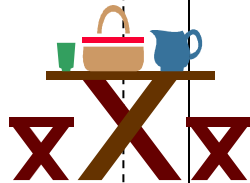
Time: 4:30 p.m. Meet at Cherokee Park to carpool for pre-picnic field trip.

6:30 p.m. Dinner

Location: Cherokee County Park
See map at right.

Program: Picnic

Food: Bring a dish to share
Also bring beverage, plate, cup, utensils, and a chair if you wish to have seating other than the picnic tables.



Nesting Time at Three Oaks *by Cathy Mauer*

Nesting season is in full swing here, as well as everywhere else. The Broad-winged Hawk has moved to a new area this year but is again in a tall oak. Every Broad-winged nest we've found here has been in an oak, though some years we don't spot the nest until autumn or winter. We are assuming this is the same hawk as last year but have no way of knowing that for sure. She has been sitting for two weeks or so. The nest is rather compact and dense looking and includes some conifer boughs.

This year the Broad-wingeds have other hawk neighbors. Cooper's hawks, at least as far as I can tell from two very brief glimpses, have built their nest in an aspen about 100' to 150' away. In contrast to the Broad-winged nest, the Cooper's nest appears to be a somewhat loose affair of sticks with no decorations.

The phoebe is sitting on her barn nest. If the young haven't hatched yet, they should be soon.

Our birdhouses have quite a variety this year. House Wrens are in one box and Tree Swallows in another. For the first time Great-crested Flycatchers are in one of the East Hill boxes. They've nested in the Lower Lawn and Marsh boxes in the past, and I suspect another pair may be using the Marsh box again. Because of our bear problems, I'm minimizing my monitoring of nest boxes so I'm not sure.

Bluebirds are busy at two boxes. One of the boxes started out this spring with a moss nest that appeared to be owned by Chickadees. However, bluebirds took over that box and built on top of the Chickadee nest.

A pair of Song Sparrows is nesting in the raspberry patch. They prevented me from doing a thorough weeding job, but they are in the skimpy part of the patch, and the young should be fledged by raspberry time. Several years in a row Indigo

Continued on back page.

Chequamegon Bird Club Membership List 2009-2010

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2009-2010 REFRESHMENTS

MAY Hildegard & Loretta Kuse

JUNE ANNUAL PICNIC

JULY

AUGUST Claire Romanak & Gayle Davis

SEPTEMBER Joan Rickert & Chris Finkler

OCTOBER ANNUAL BANQUET

NOVEMBER Cathy Mauer & Gordy Ruesch

DECEMBER WINTER PARTY

JANUARY Connie Decker

FEBRUARY Cam Scott & Willa Pledger

MARCH Marion Brager

APRIL Susie Koffarnus, Pam Stange, Rhoda Barber & Annabelle Neitzel

Please contact Cathy Mauer if you find any errors in the Membership List. I apologize if there are any omissions or misspellings.



Bird Reports (April – May 2009)

Checklist observers: *Rhoda Barber, Gayle Davis, Connie Decker, Ken Luepke, Hildegard and Loretta Kuse, Cathy Mauer, Gordy Ruesch, Doug and Willa Pledger, Joan and Joe Rickert, Claire Romanak, and Greg and Cam Scott*

Total Number of Species Observed this month is: 199

- Cackling Goose (Luepke), Canada Goose, Brant Goose ** (Luepke), Trumpeter Swan (Luepke), Wood Duck, Gadwall, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Canvasback, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Greater Scaup (Davis), Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser, Ruddy Duck
- Ring-necked Pheasant, Ruffed Grouse, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Wild Turkey, Common Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Horned Grebe, Red-necked Grebe (Mauer/Ruesch), Western Grebe * (Decke /Luepke/Mauer/Ruesch)
- American White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant
- American Bittern, Least Bittern, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Cattle Egret (Romanak), Green Heron, Black-Crowned Night Heron (Romanak)
- Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk (Scott), Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, American Kestrel, Merlin (Ruhde), Peregrine! Falcon (Luepke)
- Virginia Rail, Sora, American Coot, Sandhill Crane, Whooping Crane (Luepke/Ruhde), Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Black-necked Stilt ** (Romanak), Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Solitary Sandpiper, Spotted Sandpiper, Upland Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit (Luepke/Decker Ruhde), Least Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Dunlin, Short-billed Dowitcher, Wilson's Snipe, American Woodcock, Wilson's Phalarope
- Bonaparte's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Caspian Tern, Forster's Tern, Black Tern
- Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove
- Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Short-eared Owl
- Common Nighthawk, Whip-poor-will, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher
- Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker
- Eastern Wood-Pewee, Least Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird
- Yellow-throated Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo
- Gray Jay! (Romanak), Blue Jay, American Crow, Common Raven, Horned Lark
- Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Bank Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow
- Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper
- House Wren, Winter Wren, Sedge Wren, Marsh Wren
- Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
- Eastern Bluebird, Veery, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Wood Thrush, American Robin
- Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing
- Blue-winged Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler (Pledger), Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Pine Warbler, Palm Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Black and White Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Common Yellowthroat, Wilson's Warbler, Canada Warbler
- Scarlet Tanager
- Eastern Towhee, American Tree Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow (Decker/Luepke/Mauer/Ruesch), Le Conte's Sparrow (Luepke), Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Harris's Sparrow (Davis/Luepke), White-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco
- Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Bobolink
- Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Rusty Blackbird, Brewer's Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Northern Oriole
- Purple Finch, House Finch, Common Redpoll, Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch, Evening Grosbeak (Scott/Pledger), House Sparrow



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«NAME» «OTHER»
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 «CITY_STATE_ZIP»

Club Officers 2009-2010

- President* – Claire Romanak
- Vice-president* – Connie Decker
- Secretary* – Hildegard Kuse
- Treasurer* – Cam Scott

Other Club Contacts

- Web site: www.chequamegonbirdclub.org
- Email: info@chequamegonbirdclub.org
- Newsletter Email: newsletter@chequamegonbirdclub.org
- Bird sightings: Connie Decker

June - July Outdoors

- June 21 – Summer solstice
- Blue-winged Teal young hatching
- Marsh milkweed blossoming
- July 4 – Aphelion (earth farthest from sun)
- July 7 – Full (Buck) moon
- Fall shorebird migration begins
- Painted turtles begin to hatch
- Turkey hens begin molting
- Sandhill Crane chicks learn to fly

Nesting *continued from front page.*

Buntings nested in the patch and limited my raspberry harvest.

A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker is nesting in an aspen that has a dead top. It first excavated one hole, then, for some reason – perhaps it hit a hard spot, it started a new hole about a foot from the first. That evidently proved more satisfactory.

Of course, most nests are hidden rather well – in conifers, high in trees, on the ground in leaves or grass – or right in front of me! Every year I am surprised at the number of nests that show up when the leaves fall. Although it is a treat to see an active nest, I make little effort to find them. Studies have shown that human visits to nests make predation more likely, by raccoons and other predators as well as bears. But maybe this year, I'll see the oriole nest that must be here somewhere!