

madison
AUDUBON



Annual Report Edition | February 2021

FLOCK & AWE

MATT REETZ, executive director

Madison Audubon
is your local
Audubon chapter

Together with our members, we work to protect and improve habitat for birds and other wildlife through land acquisition and management, education and advocacy.



COVER: Here's looking at you, 2020. *Photo by Monica Hall* | ABOVE: Many birds, one unit. Thank you for being part of our flock. *Photo by Tanya Hart*

What a year. Instead of rehashing all the upheaval, I want to express my gratitude to you and celebrate all of the good that happened in our organization during the past year. Your support has been truly incredible.

I recently enjoyed watching a video of a massive starling murmuration in their native northern Europe. Wow. Many of you know that a murmuration is one of nature's most exquisite shows. Birds gather in the thousands or even hundreds of thousands to perform a surreal choreography—an undulating, mesmerizing, living cloud that weaves its way across the sky. As I watched, it struck me that a murmuration of birds is kind of like the flock that is Madison Audubon and its members. And yes, I realize that not everything is tied to birds. But hear me out!

First, like Madison Audubon's flock, a murmuration is made up of many individuals, each naturally needing to attend to the demands of its own life. But each individual that joins the flock becomes part of a sort of unified organism acting together, and in doing so both derives benefits and gives them to others. The examples are endless, ranging from the restoration and research you helped advance at our sanctuaries (pg. 4-7), the

education programming you support for our community's youth (pg. 8-9), the questions you help study through our citizen science programs (pg. 10), and so much more.

Second, a murmuration is incredibly adaptive, changing shape in endless fluidity. When a murmuration encounters adversity, the birds do not scatter, but rather they act as a cohesive, powerful unit—morphing, splitting, rejoining, and responding in unison to oppose the threat. As the pandemic and everything else affected our daily lives, Madison Audubon continued to work hard, online and on the ground (safely). That arose from a lot of creativity, adaptation, hard work, and—most importantly—your support, care, and enthusiasm.

So, thank you for being a part of the flock—a powerful, adaptive, and awe-inspiring murmuration of bird enthusiasts, nature lovers, and community supporters. You made so much good possible for conservation in a year when good was greatly needed.



Matt Reetz

A YEAR FOR THE BOOKS

A glance at 2020 by the numbers



MEMBERSHIP

16.3% increase in local members
1,015 local members at end of 2020 (versus 873 in Dec. 2019)
1,795 National members (see page 11 for how National and Local memberships differ)



EDUCATION

30 kids at 3 community centers (pre-COVID)
400+ kids in 16 virtual classes
830 nature journal pages created by kids with our staff
71 summer camp participants
137 participants in 7 adult education classes
94 hours of staff professional development relating to diversity, equity, and inclusion in July-December



ONLINE OUTREACH

105 videos created and streamed
3,640% increase in video viewership from 2019
1,980 people (on average) reached by each video
106 blog articles
48 Friday Feathered Features



CITIZEN SCIENCE

796 volunteers in 14 programs donated 2,550 hours
633 eBird checklists completed at our sanctuaries



SANCTUARIES

107 additional acres acquired
50 acres planted to prairie
1,900+ pounds of seed collected from 320+ native species
4,470 field hours worked by sanctuary interns
225+ volunteers (non-citizen science) logged 1,089 hours

MADISON AUDUBON STAFF

CENTRAL OFFICE

Becky Abel, *director of philanthropy*
Carolyn Byers, *education director*
Brenna Marsicek, *director of communications and outreach*
John Minnich, *financial manager*
Matt Reetz, *executive director*

FAVILLE GROVE SANCTUARY

Drew Harry, *land steward*
David Musolf, *volunteer resident manager*

GOOSE POND SANCTUARY

Mark Martin (*volunteer*) and Susan Foote-Martin, *resident managers*
Graham Steinhauer, *land steward*

MADISON AUDUBON BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pat Clark
Olivia Dunn
Patrick Eagan
Matt Fortney
Galen Hasler, *vice president*
Joanne Jones, *treasurer*
Susan Knaack
Lisa Lepeak
Roger Packard, *president*
David Rihn
John Shillinglaw
Topf Wells, *secretary*
Mareda Weiss

TRACKING PROGRESS

DREW HARRY, Faville Grove Sanctuary land steward
DAVID MUSOLF, Faville Grove Sanctuary manager
ROGER PACKARD, Madison Audubon board president



The pandemic hasn't slowed us down at Faville Grove Sanctuary. If anything, we've seen increased volunteer turnout as people seek meaningful, safe activities outside.

On December 5, approximately 75 volunteers answered our call and planted the future Fat Goose Prairie, helping us hand-broadcast seed across nearly 32 acres of upland surrounding the north end of Faville Marsh. (Regretfully, we had to turn down offers of assistance from another 25 individuals to keep the event manageable and maintain social distancing.) With masks on, it was difficult to tell who was who, but we all worked together for a shared purpose. Before noon, the group had broadcast seed across the whole site, thoroughly spreading

three seed mixes containing 126 native plant species that was carefully hand-collected over the course of summer and fall. Just a week later, 4 to 5 inches of wet snow blanketed the newly seeded site, providing the moisture needed to help incorporate the seed into the bare soil.

To aid in coordinating so many volunteers, and with the assistance of two other volunteers, we created a video tutorial to explain the planting process. It includes an introduction to the site, an explanation of the planting process, and some 2019 footage of the seed mixture preparation process and drone flyover during a previous Faville Grove planting. You can still view it online at madisonaudubon.org/fgs-planting-prep. We hope you

ABOVE: Criss-crossing patterns in the snow show clear lines of progress in prairie planting. *Photo by David Musolf* |
OPPOSITE BOTTOM: Our three new Storymaps give visitors a chance to access the sanctuaries online.

will find it interesting.

Then, on a cold December 13, another volunteer work party helped seed 4.5 acres at Honey Bear Hollow on a pure blanket of newly fallen snow. That site was given its name by the 2019 summer interns after a young male black bear visited Faville Grove and feasted on a number of beehives. Fresh snow on the ground was a huge help to the volunteers as they crisscrossed the half-acre sections, enabling them to see where they had walked and where they had already thrown the contents of their buckets. The volunteers' footprints transformed the field into a patchwork design in the snow. It was a magical morning.

Before and after these two large plantings, even more seed was scattered throughout the sanctuary, primarily in areas where invasives had been herbicided during the growing season and in our savanna and woodland restorations. Seed from 320 native species was collected, cleaned, and spread during 2020.

With all the seed distributed, we have turned to another labor-intensive activity: removal of woody

invasive species. We're focusing on overgrown brushy areas in our two of our 2019 sanctuary acquisitions, along the northern rim of the Kettle Pond, and in some other scattered locations. Most days in December and January have been spent cutting, piling and burning honeysuckle, box-elder, and elm, among others. Some brush piles will remain as habitat for wildlife.

The rolling landscape is opening up and the properties are being integrated into the rest of the sanctuary, where we hope grassland birds will make use of newly expanded habitat. We hope you'll visit too!



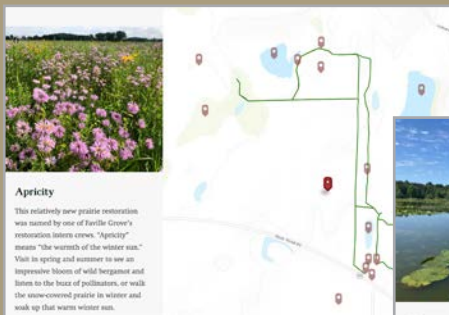
Explore the new Faville Grove Storymap! See below.



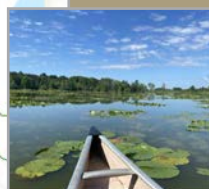
Faville Grove Sanctuary caretakers: Drew Harry, David Musolf, and Roger Packard

Three new interactive Storymaps to guide your visits

Find trails, photographs, and more at madisonaudubon.org/storymaps



FAVILLE GROVE



Canoe and Kayak Access

Canoeing and kayaking are permitted at Otsego Marsh from May 1 through September 15. You can park in the parking lot and carry your craft to the water's edge on the east side of Old County Road F.

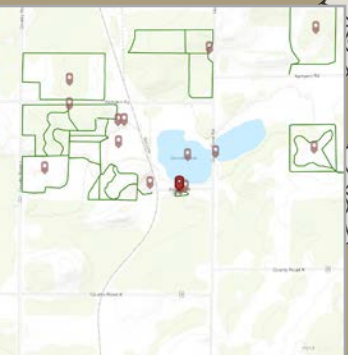
OTSEGO MARSH



Prairie Lane and Kiosk

Prairie Lane is a dead-end road that runs along the south edge of the pond. It's a great first-stop on your visit because it is where you'll find our welcome block and Wingspan pavilion, plus benches and a spotting scope for enjoying the expansive view of Goose Pond.

Parking is available along the shoulder of Prairie Lane. The Goose Pond Land Steward lives at the Prairie Lane residence at the end of Prairie Lane.



GOOSE POND

SIT & STAY A WHILE

MARK MARTIN & SUSAN FOOTE-MARTIN, Goose Pond Sanctuary resident managers
GRAHAM STEINHAUER, Goose Pond Sanctuary land steward



Goose Pond has been a well-known waterfowl migration hotspot for many years, even well before Madison Audubon made its first land purchase in 1969. Thousands of wildlife enthusiasts visit the pond each year to enjoy the varied wildlife, water, wetland, and prairie habitats. This fall and winter, we have been working on more ways for folks to enjoy their time at the pond, and to make it possible to visit Goose Pond Sanctuary online.

In October, we assisted Don Schmidt in installing a new bench in Browne Prairie, which was created in the same style as our Wingspan structure south of the pond. The bench provides a wonderful place to view the wetland scrapes, surrounding

prairies, and Goose Pond. Among the first to take in the view from the new bench was one of Madison Audubon's longest-standing members, Dorothy Haines, who recently celebrated her 99th birthday. We hope everyone can enjoy a similarly lovely (and socially-distanced) visit to the bench, so we invite you to come, sit, and stay a while. Access the trails and bench through the Browne Prairie trailhead on Kampen Road, and be sure to bring your masks and binoculars.

We recognize that some people are not able to get to Goose Pond in person because of distance, a challenging schedule, access to transportation, or health issues. We are proud to share that as of December

TOP: A spot with a view. Mark Martin and Dorothy Haines chat about how far the sanctuary has come. *Madison Audubon photo* | OPPOSITE TOP: Images captured by the Goose Pond webcam are breathtaking. | BOTTOM: Sightings of White-Winged Crossbills gave this year's bird count an extra adrenaline rush. *Photo by Aaron Maizlish*



12, anyone can visit the pond from just about anywhere through the Goose Pond webcam! Now, you can look in on Goose Pond as often as you wish from the comfort of your home at no cost. You can check out the webcam livestream from your smart device or computer by visiting madisonaudubon.org/pond-cam.

Though Goose Pond froze over and all waterfowl left on December 14, the webcam still provides excellent shots of sunrises, the landscape, and winter wildlife. This winter, we've seen 21 bird species on the webcam—not bad for mid-winter birding. Its strong zoom capabilities and high resolution allow you to observe critters as though you're 40 feet from them!

In addition, we have good news about "Columbia," the Snowy Owl we tagged with a GPS unit at Goose Pond last January. She spent the summer on the Prince of Wales Island in the high arctic and is spending the

winter in northwest Iowa.

Learn more about her travels at projectsnowstorm.org.

We're excited for spring migration when the webcam will capture thousands of waterfowl as they swirl around the pond, and the trails will again be explored by visitors from all over. Until the pandemic is over, we urge birdwatchers to follow standard precautions when visiting, and enjoy the wonderful experiences of being in nature!



Explore the new Goose Pond Storymap! See page 5.



Goose Pond Sanctuary crew: Graham Steinhauer, Mark Martin, Susan Foote-Martin

Did you know:

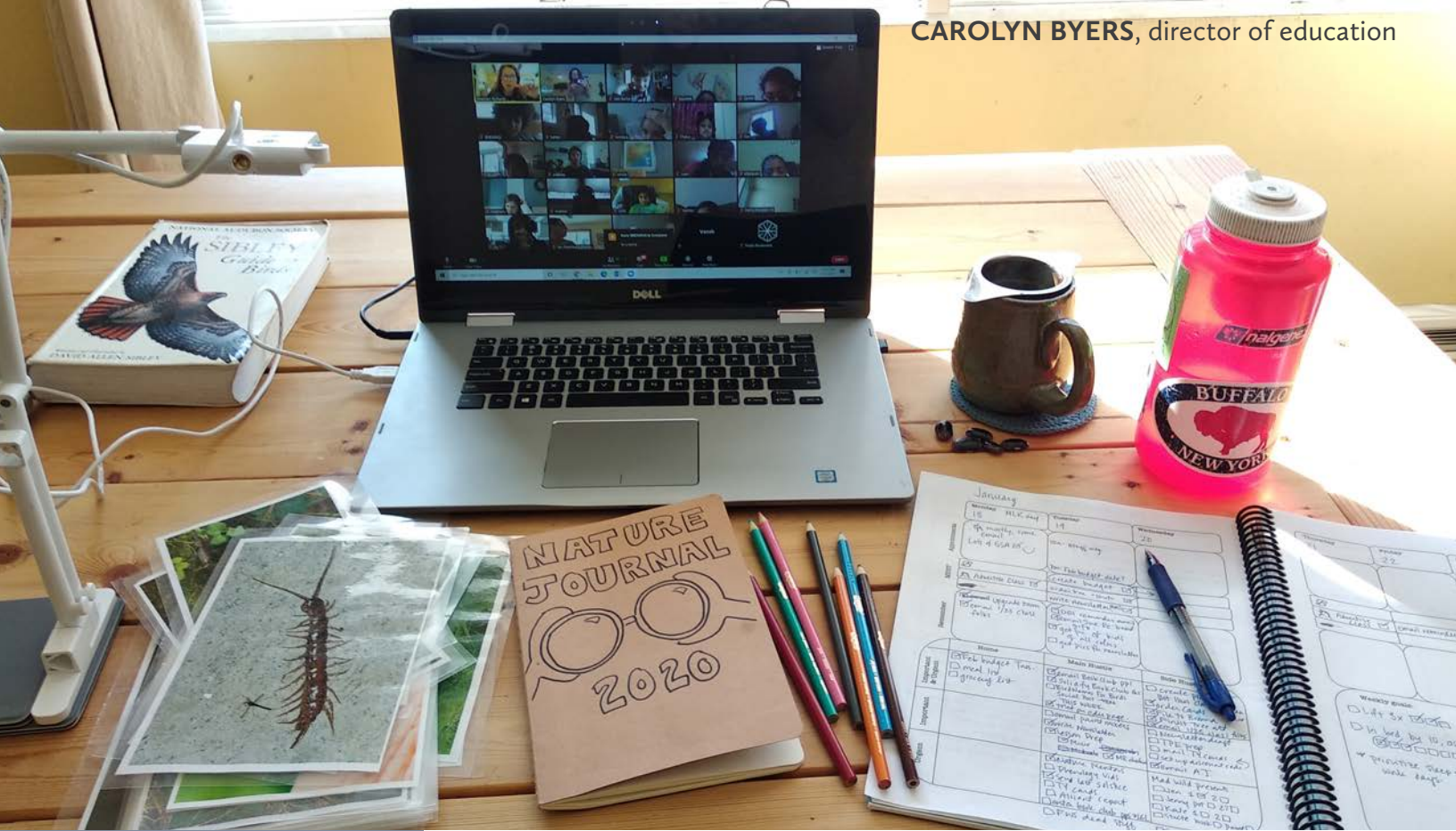
First-time observations of White-Winged Scoters, Crossbills, and a Winter Wren this year brought to the Goose Pond bird list to 266 species.

Find the full list on our website!



DRIVER OF INVENTION

CAROLYN BYERS, director of education



Thank you to our major education program donors:



Theda & Tamblin Clark Smith
FAMILY FOUNDATION



This past year was different and challenging. Almost everything about the way our education programming interacts with kids shifted. We now use new tools: microscopes that plug into a computer, document cameras to demonstrate nature journaling virtually, and more types of educational platforms than birds at a feeder. There have been new rules about how everyone behaves on Zoom and new classroom routines. We planned lessons, and then scrapped and re-planned lessons as districts changed their goals and responded to evolving situations.

But we have also created new games: metamorphosis yoga and virtual predator-prey “tag.” Kids joined in

Friday morning sing-alongs (our favorite being “Let’s Go Outdoors”) and pass-the-gratitude sessions. They did SO much good nature journaling. Students created imaginary monsters with adaptations to help them survive in their imaginary habitats. They discovered that if they hold a magnifying glass up to the camera on their laptop it makes their face look silly. Like, hilariously silly.

This school year, we still visit with the same 10 classrooms each week, which equates to about 170 kids. Our lessons typically start with kids sharing nature stories that they collected over the last week. We introduce our topic for the day, and then split into

breakout sessions. We play games, learn new science words, and sometimes do experiments. We come back together as a group so kids can share observations and stories of what they discovered, ask and answer questions, discuss the lesson, and draw and write in our nature journals. We say goodbye until next week, and remind kids to search for nature stories to share next time. Usually at least three more kids try to sneak in one last question at the end.

While we wish we could teach in person, we're so happy to be able to

support kids and teachers virtually. We don't know what this summer or the next school year will bring, but we know we'll be connecting with kids about nature. One story, one nature journaling session, one "check out this cool leaf" at a time.



Carolyn Byers

COME LEARN WITH US!

Madison Audubon's virtual learning brings inspiring topics to adults too this winter and spring. Information and registration status can be found at madisonaudubon.org/book-club or [/naturalists](http://madisonaudubon.org/naturalists) if denoted with ^N. Or, you can leave a message at 608-255-2473 and our staff will call you back. Each class or discussion is online and 1 or 2 hours long.

February Nature Up Book Club:
Black Faces, White Spaces by Carolyn Finney. Feb. 26 or 27

Nature Sketchbook 5-part Series^N with Carolyn Byers. Feb. 16, Mar. 30, Apr. 13, May 4, and May 25

March Nature Up Book Club:
Trace by Lauret Savoy. Mar. 24 or 25

Learning the Ropes of eBird Mobile^N with Caitlyn Schuchhardt. Mar. 25

Foraging Safely & Sustainably^N with John Newman. Apr. 3

Birding 101 3-part Series^N with Chuck Henrikson and Abe Lenoach. Apr. 17, Apr. 24, and May 1

April Nature Up Book Club: *The Home Place* by J. Drew Lanham. Apr. 20 or 21

Birding by Ear 2-part Series^N with Kerry Wilcox and Wisconsin Council of the Blind and Visually Impaired. Part 1: Apr. 29 or May 1; Part 2: May 6 or 8

May Nature Up Book Club:
Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer. May 18 or 19



Madison Audubon is a proud member of the following organizations:



OPPOSITE: Just a typical day of teaching during a pandemic! Though it's different, it is no less creative. *Madison Audubon photo* | LEFT: A Golden-Crowned Kinglet is just one of the species you might learn about in some of our spring classes. *Photo by Kelly Colgan Azar*

SPREAD YOUR WINGS

BRENNA MARSICEK, director of communications and outreach



ABOVE: An eagle's impressive wingspan is a delight for Bald Eagle Nest Watch volunteers to witness. *Photo by Jerry Davis* | OPPOSITE: Great Egrets are symbol of the shared work of the Audubon network. *Photo by USFWS Midwest*

In just one whirlwind year, Madison Audubon's citizen science programs have gone from great to gangbusters.

In 2021, our Bald Eagle Nest Watch program nearly doubled in size, going from 47 nests and 83 volunteers, to 73 nests and 203 volunteers. Part of that expansion is due to a partnership with 1000 Islands Environmental Center in the Fox Valley, which opens up a new audience of eagle enthusiasts to participate. We continue to enjoy partnering with WDNR, public land managers, and private property owners to gain access to safe nest viewing locations, and share nesting results.

Bird Collision Corps, our program that monitors bird-window strikes in Madison, expanded from one site to three and helped advance Madison's city ordinance for bird-friendly glass last year. We hope to deepen our relationships with current site hosts

and expand the important work to new partners in 2021.

Christmas Bird Counts, Kestrel Nest Box Monitoring, butterfly counts, orchid surveys, and our other amazing programs also contribute to important studies and bird conservation, all because of the power of volunteers. (Thank you, all!)

It's incredibly rewarding to hear over and over from volunteers that their participation in citizen science programs is important to them. They value the chance to get outside, be part of valuable research, and know they're contributing to something good in the world. And as I keep telling my kids, it feels good to do good. Especially in these times.

We invite you to spread your wings and join in a citizen science program this year. Meet new people. Visit new territory. See what you'll learn. We'd love to get to know you!



Brenna Marsicek

TWO FEATHERS

BECKY ABEL, director of philanthropy

You value birds. That's clear from your Audubon membership. We do too! A frequent question we hear at Madison Audubon is: **How are we linked with and how do we differ from National Audubon?** Let's shed some light.

Madison Audubon is an official chapter of the National Audubon Society and one of the most active of more than 450 local chapters in the nation. Our mission aligns with National Audubon's, but **people are often surprised to learn that we are separate, distinct non-profit organizations** in almost every aspect. Here's how the two organizations relate:

- Our staffing, programming, sanctuaries, fundraising, outreach, events, field trips—pretty much everything—is created, implemented, and funded separately. That allows us to tailor absolutely everything to the needs and concerns of southern Wisconsin's birds and bird-lovers.
- 100% of your donations made directly to Madison Audubon are put to work in the TEN southern Wisconsin counties we serve.
- If you're a member of National Audubon, you automatically receive a local chapter membership too. About \$3 of each National membership comes to us as your local chapter. Any additional donations made to National go to support their important national and international work.
- You can also choose to be a member of Madison Audubon without joining National. Simply go to madisonaudubon.org/join or mail in the form on page 19.
- Our membership drives and mailings are separate and unconnected. To manage your National Audubon membership, magazine, and mailing preferences, visit National's website (audubon.org) or respond to one of their renewal notices.

That is a lot to process! If you have more questions, we'd be glad to answer them. Give us a call or send an email to info@madisonaudubon.org.

Whether you support National Audubon, Madison Audubon, or both, we are so grateful for your love of birds. If you are a National member and enjoy Madison Audubon's work, we invite your local involvement and support. Regardless, you'll keep getting this fabulous newsletter with updates on what Madison Audubon is doing in southern Wisconsin.

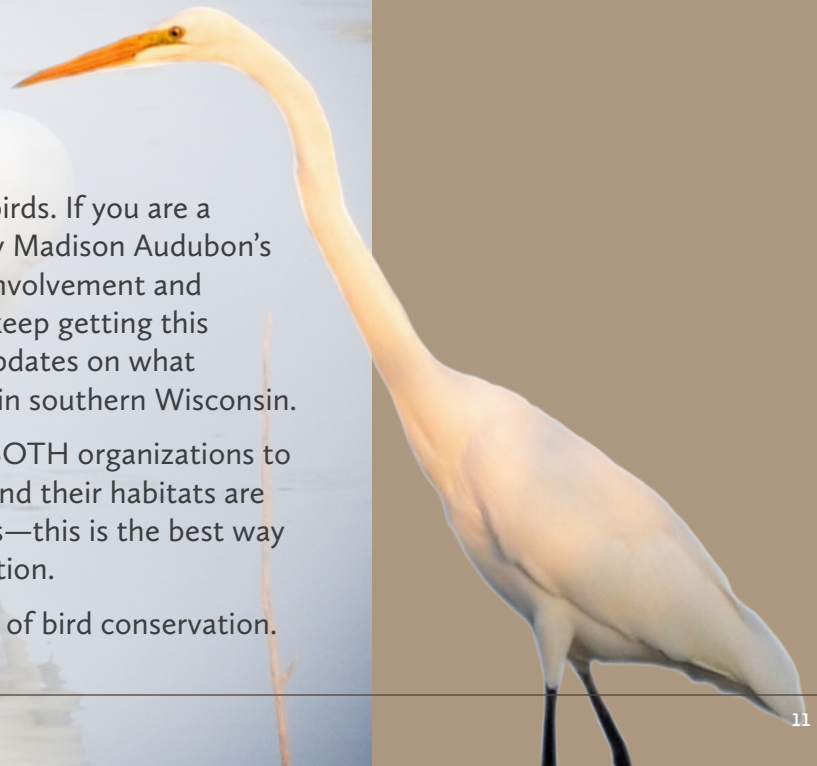
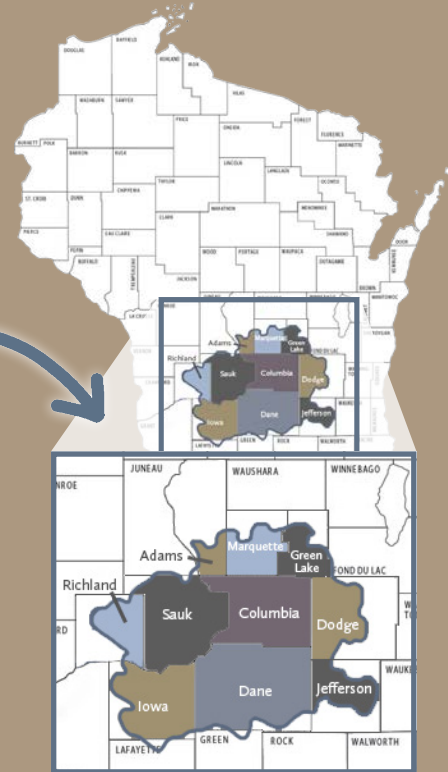
We hope you will support BOTH organizations to ensure that valuable birds and their habitats are protected at multiple scales—this is the best way to ensure long-term protection.

Thank you for your support of bird conservation.



Becky Abel

WE SERVE YOU AND BIRDS IN ALL 10 OF THESE COUNTIES!



HOW FAR WE'VE COME

ROGER PACKARD, outgoing board president



Longtime readers of this newsletter may recall the times that I've sung the praises of the young men and women who participate in Madison Audubon's internship programs: their energy and intelligence, their optimism and their drive to make the world a better place. And so, it is with great pride that I report that Madison Audubon's budget for 2021, for the first time, includes more than \$100,000 to be spent directly supporting internships for college students and recent graduates. That's a big number with big benefits.

Student interns support our sanctuaries program, our education program, and our communications program. Simultaneously, interns gain invaluable experience that benefits them in their future efforts to protect the environment, in whatever form those efforts may take, both professionally and as informed citizens. One of the best aspects of the program is that interns are mentored every day by

members of our amazing staff: Drew Harry and Graham Steinhauer, land stewards at our Faville Grove and Goose Pond sanctuaries, respectively; Carolyn Byers, our education director; and Brenna Marsicek, our communications and outreach director. The internships open many doors for students and shape their (and our) lives for the better. Certainly former interns Drew, Graham, and Brenna can attest to that, having participated in the internship program early in their careers.

The growth of our internship program mirrors the overall organizational growth that I've seen over the time I've served as president of the board of Madison Audubon. Our board has gone out on a few limbs along the way, notably approving five full-time staff positions, including Matt Reetz's position as executive director, three of the four positions noted above, and most recently,

Becky Abel's position as director of philanthropy. The board also approved adding hundreds of acres to our land holdings and worked hard to achieve accreditation as a land trust. But every step of the way, you, as Madison Audubon's supporting members, were there to back the moves. And this, in turn, has enabled Madison Audubon to significantly advance its goals of protecting land, improving habitat, demonstrating best management practices for natural areas, and educating our neighbors, from youngsters to college students to seniors, about the wonders and the critical importance of the natural world.

When I joined the board nine years ago, one of the first changes we made was to institute a nine-year term-limit for board members. The board thought that this was a healthy change for the organization, assuring fresh thinking and new, more diverse

viewpoints on the board over time. The strength of the current board and the strength of the slate of candidates on this year's ballot (see pg. 20, and please vote!) attest to the wisdom of this approach.

I've had the pleasure of working with two board members for my entire nine years: Sue Knaack and Mareda Weiss, whose contributions in educational (Sue) and financial (Mareda) matters have been particularly valuable. As the three of us step down from the board and move on to other volunteer roles, we see an organization that is stronger, more productive and with greater promise than ever. We've come a long way, and that's something that all Madison Audubon members can take pride in.



From all of us at Madison Audubon: Thank you to Roger, Sue, and Mareda for your leadership on the board these last nine years!



LOOKING FOR FIELD TRIPS?

Normally, our February newsletter includes info about all the field trips scheduled for the year. To ensure safety, we are not yet scheduling any 2021 field trips, but hope you will enjoy the wildlife, trails, and views at our sanctuaries this year. Thank you for understanding.

SAVE THE DATE!

Your donations during last year's BIG SHARE (Community Shares of Wisconsin's online giving day) helped Madison Audubon raise nearly \$5,000. Watch your email for more information, and please...

Help us SHARE BIG for
birds on **MARCH 2!**

[madisonaudubon.org/
big-share](https://madisonaudubon.org/big-share)



THE
BIG
SHARE

COMMUNITY SHARES OF WISCONSIN

OPPOSITE: A restored prairie sparkles in the winter sun. Photo by Brenna Marsicek | LEFT: A female cardinal is a sight to see, on a field trip or not! Photo by Monica Hall

FROM GOOSE TO GANDER & BEYOND

JOHN MINNICH, financial manager



Back in 2002, when I started helping with Madison Audubon's finances, we were mostly volunteer-run and we operated on a significantly smaller budget. I'm really proud of how far we've come since then, organizationally as well as financially. Our budget has grown by leaps and bounds, as have our endowment and invested funds, so we are able to sustainably support a great diversity of impactful programs, respond to land acquisition opportunities, and securely think long-term. As always, we operate extremely efficiently, maximizing the impact of every dollar we receive from donors like you.

Thanks to the generosity of our many members and supporters, Madison Audubon had a good financial year. Using donor-restricted funds already on-hand and new gifts received in 2020, we added 107 acres to our sanctuaries. A federal Paycheck Protection Program loan provided crucial funds to maintain staffing through the economic downturn. Foundation support enabled the excellent work of our education program to reach kids and families at home. And we received gifts from more than 1,200 unique donors! The generosity of donors like you

remains our most important source of support—we are so grateful for it.

The graphics on the opposite page summarize our income, expenses, and financial position.

- **Program Expenses** include expenses directly related to the education, advocacy, outreach, and land protection branches of our mission. We achieved a lot this year thanks to you!
- **Administration** is core mission support including finance, HR, communications, and board support. Our programs simply cannot function without it.
- **Fundraising** is core mission support involving communication with existing donors and researching and pursuing new funding opportunities to support new and continuing programming.

Our board and financial committee continue to manage our assets strategically and thoughtfully to provide for long-term financial stability while supporting our annual needs. Invested and endowed funds to support our

continued on next page

sanctuaries continue to grow thanks to bequests (learn more about the Kestrel Legacy Circle on page 19) and your direct gifts. Together, we are making important progress protecting and improving habitat for birds and other wildlife—now and in perpetuity.

The global pandemic caused a great deal of uncertainty in everyone's lives. So, we are especially grateful to

our members, friends, and partners for their involvement, for being such a stabilizing force, and helping us fulfill our mission during this past year.



John Minnich

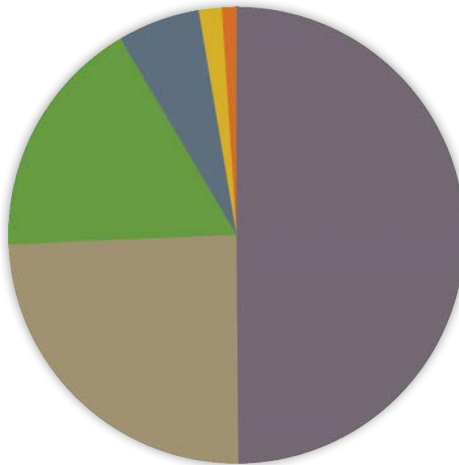
Our financial policies are available on our website at madisonaudubon.org/financial-reports. To view the details of our financial health, check out financial tax returns from recent years on our website. A final financial audit will be available in summer 2021.

2020 INCOME

Contributions from Individuals.....	\$337,530
Grants & Government Contracts.....	\$165,742
Investment Distributions.....	\$116,187
Sales, Land Rent & Other.....	\$39,429
Community Shares of Wisconsin.....	\$11,004
National Audubon.....	\$6,967

TOTAL OPERATING INCOME \$676,859

Grants & Gifts for Land Purchase \$359,345

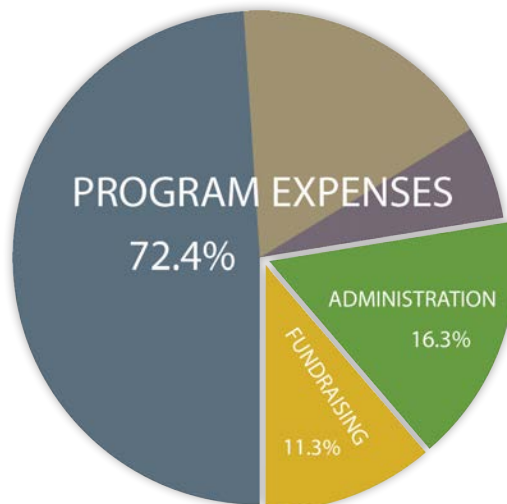


2020 EXPENSES

Sanctuaries.....	\$325,417
Education.....	\$115,183
Advocacy.....	\$40,977
Administration.....	\$108,550
Fundraising.....	\$74,793

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES \$664,920

Land & Easement Purchase.....\$645,715



Madison Audubon encourages planned gifts and honors donor intent. Bequests are typically placed into long-term investments that protect gift principal, or are used for land or other capital acquisitions.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

Cash.....	\$400,178
Accounts receivable.....	\$64,031
Prepaid expenses.....	\$10,558
Investments.....	\$5,234,509
Property & equipment (net).....	\$6,776,711

TOTAL ASSETS \$12,485,987

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable.....	\$17,035
Accrued expenses.....	\$2,025
Notes payable (PPP loan).....	\$62,812

TOTAL LIABILITIES \$81,872

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted.....	\$7,553,184
Assets with donor restrictions.....	\$4,470,941
Board designated.....	\$379,990

TOTAL NET ASSETS* \$12,404,115

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS \$12,485,987

**Most of Madison Audubon's assets are Sanctuary lands.*

OPPOSITE: A Sandhill Crane makes its presence known in a flock of geese. Photo by Arlene Koziol

2020 DONOR ROLL

Your commitment to birds and conservation is incredible. We are grateful to all of our supporters at all levels, but due to space constraints, only donors who gave \$100 or more are listed here in the printed edition of this newsletter. To see the full list of 2020 donors, visit madisonaudubon.org/2020-donors. Thank you!

\$25,000 & UP

Anonymous
Jerry Martin^K
David Musolf and
Roger Packard^K
Arlette Siekmeier
Phoebe R. and John D. Lewis
Foundation
Theda and Tamblin Clark Smith
Family Foundation
Ken Wood Trust

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Dorothy Haines^K
Roma Lenehan
John Shillinglaw
Tom Wolfe and Pat Powers
Levi and Janet Wood

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Doug and Sherry Caves
Terry Geurkink and
Sally Wilmeth
Alice Jungemann and
Dave Wilken
Mareda Weiss

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Birgit and Tom Bach
Caroline Beckett and
Frank Sandner
Robert and Gerry Bennicoff
Tom and Kathie Brock^K
Ann and Dick Burgess
Curt and Arlys Caslavka^K
Pat and Angel Clark
Dick and Jane Dana
Susan Denholm
Neal Deunk
Kay Gabriel and
Fiona McTavish^K
Robert and Nancy Greenler
Jay and Kimberly Handy
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Donate on a regular basis without having to lift a finger! The Frequent Flyers Club allows for automated contributions, tailored to your schedule and amount. Sign up at madisonaudubon.org/give.

You can leave a legacy. Members of the Kestrel Legacy Circle have named Madison Audubon in their will or estate, thereby strengthening our organization and mission well beyond their lifetimes. Learn more at madisonaudubon.org/legacy.

A GRAND EXPERIENCE



A couple of years ago, I was looking for an organization that I believe in to include in my planned giving, and Madison Audubon made perfect sense. I am concerned about our planet, environment, and the ever-increasing extinction of wildlife. This great organization does crucial work toward saving the places important for birds and other wildlife to exist.

Becoming a member of Madison Audubon provided opportunities for me to become involved in their mission by becoming a citizen scientist. In January 2020, I signed up to be involved in Madison Audubon's Bald Eagle Nest Watch and the Kestrel Nest Box Monitoring programs. Each week, I thoroughly enjoyed my experiences observing and photographing these magnificent creatures. I felt like I belonged to a secret club that allowed me free pass to learn about these birds, behind the scenes. I witnessed the whole nesting process of an American Kestrel from mauve speckled eggs that hatched into white fluff balls, then developed dark feathers on their backs and wings, and finally morphed into a beautiful kestrel.

What a grand experience!

Written by Terri Bleck

Madison Audubon volunteer, member, and part of the Kestrel Legacy Circle



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PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE ADDRESS ON PAGE 20, OR GIVE ONLINE AT madisonaudubon.org

ABOVE: American Kestrel fluffball. *Photo by Mick Thompson* | LEFT: Terri, alongside her photos from citizen science experiences. *Photos by Terri Bleck*



YOUR VOTE COUNTS

Madison Audubon members, we need your votes for the new slate of board members. Leakhena Au, Jeff Galligan, and Darcy Kind generously offer their talents and knowledge to Madison Audubon as candidates for the board of directors. You can read about these board members by visiting the link below.

We hope you will take a moment to exercise your voting right as a member. Please return this ballot by mail or vote online. Ballots are due by Monday, March 8, 11:59 p.m. Thank you!

madisonaudubon.org/2021-ballot

Your name: _____

Vote for all candidates

OR

By candidate:

Leakhena Au

Jeff Galligan

Darcy Kind



ABOVE RIGHT: Each seed, suet block, and bird counts—please vote! Artwork by Brenna Marsicek

EXTRA EXTRA, READ ALL ABOUT IT



No computer? No problem!

We know not everyone has a computer or wants to spend time on one to get updates from their favorite bird organization (ahem!). However, we care about all of our members, and want you to be as informed as your tweeting and typing counterparts.

Madison Audubon is now offering limited, monthly paper updates mailed to your home. These updates provide all the good information that comes to email-receiving members in print, so you can stay in the loop on the good things that happen in between these quarterly newsletters. *Note: active membership is required to opt-in to monthly mailed updates.*

To enroll, check the box below, cut out this entire page, and mail it to the address at the top of the page. You can complete your ballot, while you're at it!

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