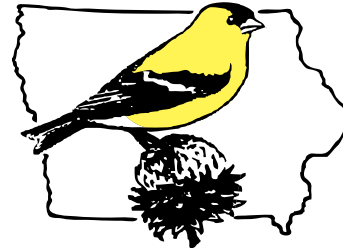


# IOU News

Fall 2013



Volume 29 - Number 3



## IOU Fall Meeting Clinton, October 11-13, 2013

The fall meeting of the IOU will be held in Clinton on October 11 - 13. It will be held at the Mississippi River Eco Tourist Center (3942 291st Street in Camanche (just south of Clinton). It is part of Rock Creek Marina & Campground, which is situated on Pool #13 of the Upper

Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuge. There is no shortage of birding areas, and with a 24-passenger pontoon made available to us by Clinton County Conservation, we will have the opportunity to explore the river itself. than the space shuttle.

## **IOU News**

is a quarterly publication of the Publications Committee of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union.

**IOU News** Editor:

John Bissell  
328 SE Cedarwood Dr  
Grimes, IA 50111-1142  
[john.annabissell@gmail.com](mailto:john.annabissell@gmail.com)

**IOU News** Layout:

Anna Bissell  
328 SE Cedarwood Dr  
Grimes, IA 50111-1142  
[john.annabissell@gmail.com](mailto:john.annabissell@gmail.com)

IOU Publications Committee:

Ann Johnson, Chair  
James J Dinsmore  
Stephen J Dinsmore  
Bill Scheible  
John Bissell

**IOU News** issues:

- (1) Spring: Published approximately mid-March, depending on date of annual spring meeting.
- (2) Summer: Published late June or early July.
- (3) Fall: Published late August or early September, depending on date of fall meeting.
- (4) Winter: Published late November.

**IOU Journal:**

***Iowa Bird Life***  
Stephen J. Dinsmore, Editor  
[cootjr@iastate.edu](mailto:cootjr@iastate.edu)

**Website:**

<http://www.iowabirds.org/>

IOU Membership / Subscriptions:

Doug Hunt  
1201 High Avenue W  
Oskaloosa, IA 52577  
<http://www.iowabirds.org/>

*this newsletter was mailed to 257 members.*

## **Keynote Speaker - Derek Lovitch**

### ***How To Be A Better Birder***

Using the Sandy Point (Yarmouth, Maine) Morning Flight phenomenon as a case study, Derek shares tips and takeaways for birders of all levels who want to learn how to bird like the experts. Together, we'll learn how geography, weather, and habitat combine to provide outstanding birding opportunities, maximize our time in the field, and challenge ourselves to improve our identification skills. This program takes an in-depth look at "Birding at Night" with an intro to birding by NEXRAD Radar, and showcases the bird photography of his wife, Jeannette.

Derek is a career biologist with a lifelong passion for birds, having worked on avian research and education projects in nine states from New Jersey to Hawaii and from Florida to Michigan. He also spent three summers as a tour guide on Alaska's Pribilof Islands; he served as tour director in 2003, and organized and conducted the first comprehensive Fall Avian Survey in the island's history. Derek and his wife Jeannette have settled down in Pownal, Maine, where they own and operate Freeport Wild Bird Supply, a retail store that caters to birders of all levels. The store serves as a vehicle for Derek to continue to share his enthusiasm for birding, birds, and bird conservation.

Derek serves on his town's Conservation Commission, and with Jeannette founded the Bradbury Mountain Raptor Research Project, and is active with many birding and conservation issues in Maine. He also works as a consultant, performing various bird surveys in the state. Yet somehow he still finds time to bird just about every day: whether as a Senior Leader for WINGS, guiding for private clients, organizing pelagic trips, or simply working on his local patch list, hardly a day goes by when he isn't in the field.

Derek's first book, titled *How To Be a Better Birder*, was published in March 2012 by Princeton University Press. He was also the "Tools of the Trade" Department Editor for *Birding Magazine* for 6 years, and his writing has also appeared in *Birder's World*, *Bird Observer*, *Bird Watcher's Digest*, *NJ Audubon*, and *Winging It*. He is the author of *A Birder's Guide to Whitefish Point (Michigan)* and wrote the text and designed the *Birds of the Maine Backyard* folding guide. Along with birding, Derek enjoys hiking, exploring new natural areas, developing his native plant garden, and eating.



## Schedule

### Friday, Oct 11

*Riverview Eco Tourism Center*

**5:00 - 8:30 p.m.** Registration, cash bar, snacks, field trip sign up, author tables

### Saturday, Oct 12

*Riverview Eco Tourism Center*

**6:00 a.m.** Hot Breakfast (eggs, cheesy hash browns, bacon, sausage, biscuits & gravy, pastries, coffee, orange juice)

**7:00 a.m.** Field trips leave

**12:00 a.m.** Field trips return/Lunch (soup, sandwiches, veggie tray, salad, chips, lemonade, iced tea)

**1:45 p.m.** Eagle Eyes: Working together for the Conservation of Vulnerable Birds  
Stephanie Shepherd  
Wildlife Diversity Biologist - DNR

**2:30 p.m.** The Russian Far East: In Search of the Spoon-billed Sandpiper  
Derek Lovitch

**3:15 p.m.** Christmas Bird Count Marathon  
Kelly McKay

**4:00 p.m.** IOU Membership Meeting

**6:30 p.m.** Banquet (two meat entrees, salads, two vegetables, potato, rolls & butter, coffee, lemonade, iced tea)

**7:30 p.m.** Keynote Address - Derek Lovitch  
How To Be A Better Birder

### Sunday, Oct 13

*Riverview Eco Tourism Center*

**6:00 a.m.** Hot Breakfast (Same as Saturday)

**7:00 a.m.** Field trips leave

**2:00 Noon** All field trips end at Mississippi River Eco Tourism Center for the compilation of species and lunch of soup and sandwiches.

**1:00 p.m.** Have a safe trip home!

## Lodging Options

Blocks of rooms at a reduced price are being held at the following motels until two weeks prior to the meeting. Mention that you are with the Iowa Ornithologists' Union to get this special rate.

### Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites

2800 S 25th St.

563-242-9300

(\$99, \$109 +tax)

### Wild Rose Casino

777 Wild Rose Drive

563-243-9000

(\$99, \$109 + tax. Includes hot continental breakfast)

### Super 8

1711 Lincoln Way

563-242-8870

(\$45 +tax)

## Other Lodging (NO IOU discount)

### Country Inn and Suites

2224 Lincoln Way

563-244-9922

### Oak Tree Inn

2300 Valley W Ct.

563-243-1000

### Hampton Inn

2781 Wild Rose Circle S

563-243-5555

## Camping

### Rock Creek Campground

6 small cabins sleep 4 \$35 (\$100 deposit)

1 large cabin sleep 6-8 \$50

15 electric sites

10 non-electric sites

## Possible Field Trips

Lock & Dam 13 / Rock Creek Park

Lost Mound Unit - Upper Mississippi NWR

Princeton WMA

Goose Lake WMA / Manikowski Prairie

Eagle Point Park

## Directions to Meeting Locations

Go southwest of Camanche on Highway 67, turn south on 291st Street (at Wending Quarry) and follow the road to the park.

## Registration Information

### Online registration:

If possible, please register through the IOU website at:

<http://www.iowabirds.org>

Make checks payable to

Iowa Ornithologists' Union

Mail to: **Dennis Thompson**

**7503 Wildflower Ct.**

**Johnston, IA 50131**

### Registering by mail:

Copy, fill out, and mail - don't forget your check!

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

(please include first and last names of all persons registering)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a new attendee

			<b>No. of People</b>		<b>Total Cost</b>
Registration Fee	\$20.00	x	_____	= \$	_____
Sat. Breakfast	\$5.50	x	_____	= \$	_____
Sat. Lunch	\$6.00	x	_____	= \$	_____
Sat. Banquet	\$8.25	x	_____	= \$	_____
Sun. Breakfast	\$5.50	x	_____	= \$	_____
Sun. Lunch	\$6.00	x	_____	= \$	_____
Meatless option?	check here		_____	Total \$	_____



## Bird(list)athon

Fundraising can be fun. We in the IOU don't seem to do much of it. Many IOU members keep an annual bird list, ranging from traversing the state to keeping a tally of yard birds.

Hence a proposal, prompted in part by my recent experience serving on the IOU Projects Committee:

- Step 1:** After the first of the year, compile your 2013 list.  
**Step 2:** Pledge to contribute one dime (\$0.10) per species you found during the year.  
**Step 3:** Make a donation in said amount to IOU, specifying the Projects Committee ([www.iowabirds.org/IOU/donate](http://www.iowabirds.org/IOU/donate)).

This is about as straightforward as a fundraiser can be – no need to solicit pledges from friends and colleagues, for example. You are simply transferring the fun you had birding into a positive “feel good” experience that will benefit Iowa's birds.

Each year in the Spring issue of this newsletter, Paul Hertzell publishes annual list totals of those members who choose to submit them. In 2012, had the 21 birders on this list sent in a dime per species, \$558.60 would have been raised. Birders, this would be enough money to fund a typical request by a deserving bird-focused organization.

I hope that many readers will join me next January. (My \$22.70 contribution last year would have been equivalent to half a tank of gas).

Respectfully,  
Bill Scheible

## IOU News Goes All Electronic (Almost)

In an effort to mitigate rising costs as well as provide a better product, the Publications Committee has provided the membership with the option to view the newsletter exclusively on-line rather than receive a print copy via USPS. Those of you who have taken advantage of this option have seen the advantage of full color photos and the vibrancy that provides to the publication.

Beginning with the 2014 membership year IOU News becomes strictly an on-line publication which readers may print on their home printer if desired. We recognize, however, that for a few members this is not a viable option and a printed copy will be mailed to you upon request. This year's membership renewal form will have a checkbox to make this request so pay special attention! You will also be able to make this change yourself by updating your on-line profile after the final issue for 2013 has been published.

At the current time we believe we can fulfill these requests through our regular budget, but that may necessarily change in the future. We are hopeful that this small reallocation of resources will allow the IOU to expand or maintain other critical organizational activities.

Ann Johnson,  
Chair, IOU Publications Committee

## Support the IOU Through Your Purchases

Did you know you can financially support the activities of the IOU through your purchases from Eagle Optics and Amazon? Our partnerships with these two sales organizations can generate revenue to help cover the cost of the website and listserv. If you deal with Eagle Optics by phone, please mention that they should credit the Iowa Ornithologists' Union with your purchase. For both entities enter the storefront through the links on our site – <http://iowabirds.org/Extras/Shopping.aspx>. Thanks for your support.



## **Passing of former IOU President Ed Kozicky**

Edward Kozicky, President of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union from 1953-1954 died on 21 Jul 2012 in East Alton, Illinois. Born in New Jersey in 1918, Ed had a long and distinguished career in the wildlife profession. He was the leader of the Iowa Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit at Iowa State College from 1948-1956. While there he directed numerous research projects including studies of Ring-necked Pheasants and Northern Bobwhite. He spent 26 years working for Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation where he was in charge of their conservation program. In that work, he wrote extensively on conservation issues and hunter education, and received numerous awards in recognition of that work. After his November 2007 visit to Iowa, a short note describing his work and two photos were published in the Winter 2007 issue of the IOU News.

Jim Dinsmore



---

---

## IOU Projects Committee Dollars at Work

*The following is a letter from Pat Schlarbaum, Wildlife Diversity Technician for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to Mary Beth Hunt, Treasurer of the IOU.*

Dear Mary Beth,

I would like to express my appreciation to the Iowa Ornithologists' Union for the financial support provided to the 2013 Falcon River Trip. Youth and family members numbering 150 in the Allamakee County school system enjoyed their day in the Harper's Ferry Community Center. Although a freak Spring snow storm grounded the boat trip, assembled speakers provided a diverse learning experience. Topics covered were life on the river by Captain Robert Vavra, Ho-Chunk Nation teachings by Bill Goodbear, Allamakee County wildlife by Jim Janett, and especially appreciated were the live falcon,

kestrel, and merlin program by Dianne Moller with Woos Woods Raptor Center.

The evening's fish fry was enjoyed by 300 guests. And indeed, anytime a river community provides a fish fry, no one will go away hungry! Everyone in the community and those that traveled great distances appreciated your contribution making this event a success. Thanks again for your support and thanks for much for all you do for conservation.

Sincerely,  
Pat Schlarbaum  
DNR Wildlife Diversity Techniciaan

*Your membership and support in the IOU helps provide the financial backing to assist in the funding of these worthwhile events and many other projects throughout Iowa. It is much appreciated.*



**Iowa Ornithologists' Union**  
**1201 High Avenue West**  
**Oskaloosa, IA 52577**

*[Address Service Requested]*

**Iowa Ornithologists' Union**

# **IOU News**

## **CONTENTS**

2013 IOU FALL MEETING .....	1-4
<i>Dennis Thompson</i>	
BIRDLISTATHON .....	5
<i>Bill Scheible</i>	
ED KOZICKY OBITUARY .....	6
<i>James Dinsmore</i>	
IOU PROJECTS COMMITTEE DOLLARS AT WORK .....	7
<i>John Bissell and Pat Schlarbaum</i>	

