



THE NEWSLETTER

Dubuque County Conservation Society

“Organized in 1933 for Protection of Soil, Forests, Waters and Wildlife”

P.O. Box 645

Dubuque, IA 52004-0645

February meeting changed to the 14th

Due to a schedule conflict the date of our February meeting has been changed to Thursday February 14th from Tuesday February 23. Kirk Cremnerer, the DNR wildlife biologist for this region will be the guest speaker at the meeting. If you have comments or questions you wish to share with Kirk feel free to attend the meeting. It will be held at 6 p.m. upstairs at the Oky-Doky Dairy Queen Building at 1st and Locust.

Dubuque County Conservation Society

Unaudited Minutes – January 8, 2019

Present: Pat Hayes, Mark Kaufman, Paul Kaufman, Whitey Kemp, Tom Klinge, Bev Rettenmeier, Dan Simon, Bob Walton

Call to Order: Mark Kaufman @ 6 pm

Presenting Ryan Strauss with his scholarship check

Approval of minutes: Connie M – Whitey S – Bev

Treasurer's Report: Connie Kintzle M - Whitey S – Bob

Membership report: Pat Hayes/Connie Kintzle

Old Business

McLaughlin Wildlife Area:

Determine if there are grants for autumn olive and honeysuckle Check NRCS

Hafeman Wildlife Habitat Area:

Leifker Wildlife Area

Oxford Junction Property

Update to the booklet

Review changes to brochure

Website: <http://www.dbqccs.org/>

Add pictures

Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque

36- month variable rate CD at DuPaco. Will do Wednesday

New Business

Pat, Bob, Tom will work at Eagle watch.

Date to prepare birdseed coupon and renewal reminder app. Need a date.

February meeting changed to Thursday, Feb 14

New name for DCCS. Will discuss at the March meeting.

Pat and Bob bird feeding program at Hendricks Feed Store on Feb 16th at 8 am. Bob will put an article in the TH

Purchase of booth exhibit.

Did elections

Scouts meet the 1st of the month at Holy Trinity at 7pm. We could go and present them with projects

Adjournment @7:10

M - Bev

S – Bob

Dubuque County Conservation Society

Audited Minutes – December 11, 2018

Present: Pat Hayes, Mark Kaufman, Paul Kaufman, Tom Klinge, Bev Rettenmeier, Dan Simon, Bob Walton

Call to Order: Mark Kaufman @ 6:02 pm

Approval of minutes: Connie M - Tom S – Bev

Treasurer's Report: Connie Kintzle M - Paul S – Bev

Membership report: Pat Hayes/Connie Kintzle

Guest Speakers: Tim Fiedler – talked about properties
Let him know when his membership expires

Old Business

McLaughlin Wildlife Area:

Schedule Chris Heyer to cut autumn olive and honeysuckle

Hafeman Wildlife Habitat Area:

Leifker Wildlife Area \

Cut cottonwoods and spray with Milestone

Replant trees this spring including white spruce

Oxford Junction Property

Had \$ loss – had to write a check for additional expenses. Will get CRP and break even by Oct. 2019

Only expense will be insurance and tax filing

Baker addition.

Pat moved to donate \$5,000 for purchase, seconded by Paul.

Work days Jan 21 and Feb 8 around 9am. Bring a chain saw

Update to the booklet

Review changes to brochure

Website: <http://www.dbqccs.org/>

Add pictures Get new pictures

Scholarship – Ryan will be here at January meeting

Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque

Bill Strauss, a new DCCS member who works with the Boy Scouts, mentioned they need service projects in order to advance the ranks

Endowment fund

How to invest the CD money

New Business

Bluebird workshop Saturday, March 23rd work for this year? Approve \$.

Eagle watch -- Jan 19, 2019. Tom made a motion to approve \$500 for conference display, seconded by Pat. Will contact McCullough

Date to prepare birdseed coupon and renewal reminder app. No date set.

Elections. Nominees are: Pat – pres. Mark – VP, Bob – Secretary, Connie - Treasurer

Taking political stands

Motion by Pat to approve PO Box renewal - \$60, seconded by Paul.

Motion by Pat for bags of bird seed to each Swiss Valley and Mines of Spain, seconded by Paul

Adjournment @7:06 M - Paul S – Pat

Bald Eagle Watch

The day started out slow but after lunch the crowd got better with over 200 people attending the Raptor Resource Project at 1:45.

We passed out about 40 bluebird workshop flyers and 20-30 schedules for upcoming events. Also had a lot of interest in the bat house workshop.

Thanks to Tom, Bob, Pat, and Connie for “manning” the booth.

Birdhouse Maintenance

Submitted by Pat Hayes

I want to remind everybody to clean out their birdhouses. Studies have shown that adding fresh layer of wood chips in Wood Duck and Kestrel houses increase the chances of being used. It also provides a good opportunity to discard any unhatched eggs and rid the houses of any possible parasites.

If your bluebird houses are empty it's a good idea to keep them shut as any overwintering bluebirds, downy woodpeckers or chickadees might use the house for shelter in the winter. If you have mice in your bluebird house you will have to leave it open for several weeks otherwise they will move right back in again.

Deer Disease Monitoring in Iowa

From the website www.iowadnr.gov

The Iowa DNR actively monitors diseases affecting deer in the state. The primary diseases that are monitored include Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), Hemorrhagic Disease/Bluetongue (HD), and Bovine Tuberculosis (TB). The pathology and disease ecology of each have vastly different consequences for deer management.

For this article I will concentrate on CWD. CWD is a neurological disease affecting primarily deer and elk. An abnormal protein, called a prion, attacks the brains of infected animals causing them to lose weight, display abnormal behavior and lose bodily functions. Signs of CWD in deer include excessive salivation, thirst and urination, loss of appetite, weight loss, listlessness and drooping ears and head. It is **always fatal** to the infected animal. Anyone seeing a deer exhibiting these symptoms should immediately contact the DNR.

Testing for the CWD protein is not a food safety test. Currently it is not believed that humans can contract CWD by eating venison; however, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends, when hunting in areas with CWD, strongly consider having the deer tested for CWD before you eat the meat. If your animal tests positive for CWD, do not eat that animal.

Contact your local DNR office for testing procedures.

*We cannot fight this battle alone, **we need your help.***

Do not use feed or salt-mineral licks to attract deer. These baited sites increase the concentration of deer, which spreads the disease.

Do not leave a carcass or bones to decay on the land. Disposal with residential waste is permissible. Contact your local waste hauler for requirements. Make absolutely sure not to transport and dump carcasses outside of the area where the deer were shot as this will spread the disease to new areas.

Dubuque and Army Corps of Engineers Sign Waterfront Plan Agreement

Idea submitted by Connie Kintzle from www.cityofdubuque.org/

DUBUQUE, Iowa – The City of Dubuque and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Mississippi Valley Division met on Thursday, Dec. 19, to formalize an agreement for assistance in the preparation of a comprehensive waterfront master plan for the city.

The agreement was signed by Dubuque Mayor Roy D. Buol and USACE Rock Island District Engineer Colonel Steven Sattinger. Following the signing ceremony, City of Dubuque staff gave USACE staff a tour of project sites along Dubuque's riverfront.

The Planning Assistance to States program was authorized in the Water Resources Development Act of 1974 and details a 50/50 cost-sharing agreement between cities and USACE to work on mutually beneficial projects. The agreement between the City of Dubuque and the USACE will focus on the development of a comprehensive waterfront plan, projected to cost a total of \$196,300. The City and USACE would each be responsible for \$98,150. The cost born by the City can be paid entirely or in part through in-kind contributions to the work of developing the plan.

The project scope is specific to Dubuque and is divided into three main tasks:

1. Identify ecosystem restoration opportunities in the Dubuque area.

- Resiliency to climate change and its effects
 - Assess storm water runoff rates over a period of time
 - Assess Mississippi River levels over a designated period of time
 - Increase pervious surface
- Increase ecosystem education and outreach within the Dubuque region
 - Create more communal sites to increase public synergy with the ecosystem

- Sustain and create native habitats in the Dubuque region
 - Greater mussel habitat development
 - Sediment traps or other best management practices to improve water quality
- 2. Identify recreational enhancement opportunities in the Dubuque area.**
 - Promote recreational development in the planning area
 - Assess Maus Lake for recreational enhancement opportunities
 - Increase non-motorized boating in the water resources within the area
 - Evaluate potential kayak and canoe launch points
 - Create more transitional and viewing sites
 - Create more beach/park areas and connect significant environmental sites with tour routes for the purposes of Ecotourism
- 3. Identify beneficial use of dredged material opportunities in the Dubuque area**
 - Infrastructure enhancement
 - Identify potential material stockpile sites for various future uses

Events Calendar

Swiss Valley Nature Center/EB Lyons/Audubon Society/Hurstville Calendars

All programs are subject to weather conditions. To check for changes to this schedule, check the websites in the list of organizations below. The programs are open to the public and are designed for people of all ages unless otherwise described. For additional info or preregistration contact one of the following depending on the program's location:

Swiss Valley Nature Center, 13606 Swiss Valley Road Peosta, IA 52068, 563-556-6745. www.dubuqucounty.org or you can search for "Swiss Valley Nature Center Facebook".

EB Lyons Interpretive Center, 8991 Bellevue Heights, Dubuque, IA at 563-556-0620. www.minesofspain.org

Hurstville Interpretive Center, 18670 63rd Street, Maquoketa, IA at 563- 652-3783. www.jacksonccb.com

Dubuque Audubon Society, P.O. Box 3174, Dubuque, IA 52004-3174, 563-582-215. www.audubondubuque.org/

Nature Wanderers Club Saturday, Feb 9, 10-11am Swiss Valley Nature Center

The "club" is a time set aside for play at Swiss Valley Nature Center where you meet other families to play and socialize with. There is no formal program, but a naturalist will bring around a critter or two to meet while you are here. You can play inside the Nature Center or outside on the trails or maybe around a campfire. Free, No registration required

Wild Game Tasting Saturday, Feb 9, 3:30-4:30pm Swiss Valley Nature Center

Go wild! Come out and taste wild game prepared by Dubuque County Conservation staff! The chefs will share their tips and tricks for preparing their amazing dishes as well as their recipes. Vote for your favorite and see who will be crowned Top Chef. Donations welcome, no registration required

Coffee & Conservation Sunday, Feb 10, 9:30-10:30am Swiss Valley Nature Center

Join us for coffee and conservation to learn about the latest happenings with the Dubuque County Conservation areas. This is a social hour meant for meeting staff and other outdoor enthusiasts.

Grow Something: Wolf & Lion Elective Night Tuesday, Feb 12, 5-6pm Swiss Valley Nature Center

We will cover growing zones, plant a seed and care for it as well as journal about it for 30 days. Participants will see examples of community gardens and learn the importance of growing their own food. Cost \$3/scout. Registration required, call 563-556-6745 for registration info

February Audubon Program February 14, 6 pm, EB Lyons Interpretive Center

Program: Outlook Not So Good: The Plight of the Black Tern

Join the Dubuque Audubon in welcoming Loras College Professor of Biology David Shealer, who will talk to us about the plight of the Black Tern. He will discuss population trends and questions that remain to be answered.

KinderNature: Natural Resources, Friday, Feb 15, 10-11am Hurstville Interpretive Center

This month we will be learning about natural resources such as soil, water, and air.

Bird Feeding at Hendricks Feed Feb 16th from 8:00 am until noon.

Get your bird feeding questions answered and receive a free bag of bird feed.

Cabin Fever Days: Animal Signs, Monday, Feb 18, 10am-12pm Hurstville Interpretive Center

Get out of the house on this no-school day for a morning of discovery!

Habitat improvement with the local Pheasant Forever group Feb 18th at White Water Lake Area. We will be cutting invasive species and creating brush piles for wildlife.

Kids in Nature: What's Wild? Thursday, Feb 21, 9-10am Swiss Valley Nature Center

Non-school age kiddos are invited for a morning of fun in nature! We will have a wild time learning all about what makes an animal or wild or not. Free, register by calling 563-556-6745

Nature Trivia Bee Thursday, Feb 21, 7-9pm Swiss Valley Nature Center

Create a team and participate in the Nature Trivia Bee Fundraiser! This friendly group competition will pit you against other teams to test your knowledge of the natural world. Businesses, organizations, educators, community groups, and the public are all encouraged to form a team (up to 4 people)! \$40/team Register on getmeregistered.com by Feb 14th

Owl Prowl, Friday, Feb 22, 6pm Prairie Creek Recreation Area

Learn more about Iowa's owl species and their amazing nighttime adaptations.

Discover Your Park Sunday, Feb 24, 1pm Proving Grounds Recreation Area (10616 W John Deere Rd)

Join other outdoor enthusiasts and explore Dubuque County Conservation parks and preserves as part of our Discover Your Parks series. Hikes will begin at 1:00 and are expected to last no more than two hours and vary in difficulty. Hikes will end with snacks and beverages (bring your own). Dress for the weather and bring a water bottle. Free, no registration required

Storytelling in Wildlife Photography Sunday Feb. 24, 1-2pm E.B. Lyons Interpretive Center

You are invited to attend a presentation on Storytelling in Wildlife Photography presented by the Dubuque Camera Club member Andreas Exner. He will share a slideshow of his images and discuss these questions: How do I get started with wildlife photography, even with a small camera and lens? What are good locations to photograph wildlife in and around the Mississippi Valley. How can we become better storytellers with our photos? What about safety and ethics?

Landowner Workshop Thursday, Feb 28, 6:30-9pm Swiss Valley Nature Center

Private landowners are invited to learn more about how to maintain habitat on their property for various types of wildlife. Knowledgeable speakers will cover a variety of topics about implementing management practices on your land. Free, Register by calling 563-556-6745

Becoming an Outdoor Woman Winter Workshop Saturday, March 2, 9:30-2pm Swiss Valley Nature Center

Join experts in the conservation/outdoor world for a day of excitement and education. Sessions will include back-packing 101, wild edibles, snowshoeing and maple syruping! Have a great day with like-minded women. Call 563-556-6745 for more info and to register.

Coffee & Conservation Saturday, March 2, 9:30-10:30am Swiss Valley Nature Center

Join us for coffee and conservation to learn about the latest happenings with the Dubuque County Conservation areas. This is a social hour meant for meeting staff and other outdoor enthusiasts. Free, no registration required

Friends Annual Meeting: The Centennial Storm and Flood at Rockdale, Iowa Sunday March 3, 1pm Swiss Valley Nature Center

The centennial storm ripped its way across Madison and Warren Counties in Iowa on its way east, leaving dozens

dead in its wake. When the storm reached Rockdale, a small town nestled in the Catfish Creek Valley, it unleashed its full fury. When it was all over, nothing but death and destruction was left in its wake. The storm had claimed 39 lives in Rockdale; entire families were killed, children were left orphaned. This speaker will be part of the Friends of DCCB's Annual Meeting.

March Audubon Program March 14, 6 pm, EB Lyons Interpretive Center

Program: National Parks and Their Wildlife

KinderNature: Reptile Riot, Friday, Mar 15, 10-11am Hurstville Interpretive Center

Children from Kdg-3rd grade will have fun and learn about Iowa's reptiles!

Kids in Nature: Lunch for a Bear Thursday, March 21, 9am Swiss Valley Nature Center

Learn what type of foods a bear needs in its habitat by making a plate full of bear food! Non-school age kiddos will discover fun bear facts as we go on a bear hunt! Call 563-556-6745 to register

Bluebird Workshop Saturday, March 23, 10am Swiss Valley Nature Center

Learn about the plight of the Eastern Bluebird. We will discuss their habitat and what struggles this beautiful bird faces in its nesting attempts. Help the bluebird out by building your very own bluebird house to take home. Dubuque County Conservation Society will provide all materials needed. Participants must bring a hammer and drill. The workshop will be followed by a free chili lunch. Free. Must pre-register, call 563-556-6745

Discover Your Park Sun., March 24, 1pm Whitewater Canyon (29912 9th Ave. Bernard, LA)

Join other outdoor enthusiasts and explore Dubuque County Conservation parks and preserves as part of our Discover Your Parks series. Hikes will begin at 1 :00 and are expected to last no more than two hours and vary in difficulty. Hikes will end with snacks and beverages (bring your own). Dress for the weather and bring a water bottle. Free, no registration required

Woodcock Walk and Owl Prowl Friday, Apr 5, 7:30pm Whitewater Canyon Wildlife Area

Bat House Workshop. May 4th 10:00 am Swiss Valley Nature Center,

Come learn about bats and build a bat house. Please preregister by calling 563-556-6745.

Other Events Calendar

Winter Farmer's Market Saturday, 9am-noon Colts Center, 1101 Central

Board Members 2018

Name	Title	563 except as noted	Name	563 except as noted
Mark Kaufman	President	879-3452	Gerda Preston Hartman	588-0649
Pat Hayes	Vice President/ Membership	542-2960	Whitey Kemp	582-7752
Connie Kintzle	Treasurer	583-3907	Punky Birkel	
Tom Klinge	Secretary/Newsletter	815-747-7786	Dan Simon	583-0514
			Paul Kaufman	583-5030
			Bob Walton	
Bev Rettenmeier		563-552-1009		

Company Sponsors

Please support our local sponsors

<i>All Seasons Heating</i> 798 Cedar Cross Rd	<i>Floorshow Corporation</i> 1475 Associates Dr.	<i>O'Meara Custom Products</i> 8915 N. Badger Rd.	<i>Therapeutic Massage</i> 2255 JFK Road
<i>American Trust Bank</i> 895 Town Clock Plaza	<i>The Friedman Group</i> 880 Locust St. P. O. Box 1780	<i>Organic Valley</i> Dickeyville WI	<i>U.S. Bank</i> 270 West 7th
<i>Artistic Cleaners</i> 107 Locust St.	<i>Freuhleo Consulting and Forester</i> 2230 Chippewa Dr.	<i>Pfohl's Blinds, Drapes Inc.</i> 335 West 1st Street	<i>Wahlert High School</i> 2005 Kane Street
<i>Bait Shack Inc.</i> 2095 Kerper Blvd.	<i>Hendricks Feed Co.</i> 880 Central	<i>Pheasants Forever</i> Holy Cross, IA	<i>Weber Paper Co.</i> 4300 Chevenelle Dr.
<i>Brennan Baumhover Ins.</i> 2615 Dodge St.	<i>Herbst Upholstery & Auto</i> 76 Main St	<i>Pregler Electric</i> 216th Ave LaMotte IA	<i>White Front Feed & Seed</i> 4290 Dodge St.
<i>Dennis Baumhover Ins.</i> 2615 Dodge St.	<i>Hurstville Interpretive Center</i> Maquoketa, IA	<i>Premier Bank</i> 1975 JFK Rd.	<i>White Water Native Seeds</i> Epworth, IA
<i>Behr's Funeral Home</i> 1491 Main St.	<i>IIW Engineers & Surveyors P.C.</i> 4155 Pennsylvania	<i>Schuster Heating & Pump</i> 15674 Key City Lane	<i>Zuccaro Dental</i> 895 Main St Suite 900
<i>Breitbach's Country Dining</i> 563 Balltown Rd.	<i>Iowa DNR</i> Maquoketa, IA	<i>Schuster Tree Service</i> 7273 Schueller Heights Rd	
<i>Cedar Cross Overhead Door</i> 1040 Cedar Cross Rd	<i>Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation</i> Elizabeth, IL	<i>Schwartz Plumbing</i> 4904 Asbury	
<i>Citizens State Bank</i> P.O. Box 50 New Vienna	<i>Kaufmann Painting</i> 17368 S John Deere Rd.	<i>Sisters of Saint Francis</i> 3390 Windsor Ave.	
<i>Copper Kettle</i> 2987 JACKSON ST	<i>Klauer Optical</i> 1705 Delhi St.	<i>Skip Breithbach Feed</i> Balltown, IA	
<i>DNR Forester</i> Anamosa, IA	<i>Miller Flooring</i> Box 125 New Vienna	<i>Spahn & Rose Lumber Co.</i> 1101 Jackson St.	
<i>Dubuque Soil & Water Cons. Dist</i> Epworth, IA	<i>Mines of Spain Rec. Area</i> 8991 Bellevue Heights	<i>St. Mark Community Center</i> 1201 Locust Street	
<i>Dupaco Credit Union</i> P.O. Box 179	<i>Nature's Way Lawn Care</i> 440 Burch St.	<i>Stephen Hempstead High School</i> 3715 Pennsylvania Ave	
<i>DuTrac Credit Union</i> 3465 Asbury	<i>NICC Outdoor Learning Lab</i> Peosta, IA	<i>Steve's Ace Home and Garden</i> 3350 JFK 200 South Locust	
<i>Environmental Management Services</i> 5170 Wolff Rd	<i>Oky Doky Food Mart</i> P.O. Box 300	<i>Swiss Valley Nature Center</i> Peosta, IA	
<i>Sherry Horsfield Farm Bureau Insurance</i> 20214 E Pleasant Grove Rd		<i>TFM Co.</i> 2040 Kerper Blvd.	

Dubuque Co. Conservation Society
P. O. Box 645
Dubuque, IA 52004-0645

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Reminders:

The next meetings will be held **Thursday, February 14, 2019 6:00 pm** and **Tuesday March 12, 2019** on the second floor of the Oky-Doky at 250 West 1st street. All Members are invited and everyone is encouraged to attend.

Check the event calendars for some exciting things to do.

Support your local Farmer's Markets. Support our local Sponsors.

This months insert - None

This month's focus - None

Change your furnace filter.

Recycle whenever possible.

Visit our web page at www.dbqccs.org

- OR -

Visit our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dubuque-County-Conservation-Society/421655257997596>

or you can search for "Dubuque County Conservation Society Facebook".