

## 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Birdathon for Wildlife Recovery Association

Believe it or not, this is the 20<sup>th</sup> year ... and Macomb Audubon's support is still going strong. Back in 1998, Macomb Audubon sponsored its first Birdathon to help the Wildlife Recovery Association (WRA). Over the years, we have raised more than \$11,000. And every dollar has been put to good use! The Birdathon will be held again to coincide with the North American Migration Count on the weekend of May 12-14, 2017. And this is close to the prime migration time.

A Birdathon is like a Walkathon, but it is much more fun to do. During the weekend of the North American Migration Count, birders will share their lists to the Birdathon in hopes of amassing as many species as possible. Virtually any area in the "MOO" (Michigan, Ontario and Ohio) is included. In years past, more than 175 species have been recorded. Spread out; go to a hotspot; bird your area. Every species counts!

Your pledges of either cents-per-species or flat donations help WRA. If you pledge 10 cents a species, you would owe somewhere around \$17.50. But this year, we are all pushing it even more.

In past years, we have raised more than \$600 annually for this worthy cause. In the 19 years we've had the fund-raisers, MAS has raised an astounding total of more than \$11,200 for WRA.

The WRA is an organization devoted to helping injured raptors, in hopes of releasing them in the wild. Also, Joe Rogers, WRA's director, had devoted much of his life to educating in his unique, high-energy way many students of all ages. Further, his program has evolved to something different, and it still has impact of those attending.

As with many nonprofit organizations, the WRA is not enjoying the bounty it used to. School budgets and many grants have all but dried up. Much of its operating money comes from fundraisers like this. Joe does about 10% of the number of programs he used to do a few years ago, so our Birdathon is all the more vital. The WRA needs your help to keep the programs going. Please pledge either by mail or at the monthly membership meeting.

Your pledge is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of pledge. \_\_\_\_\_ per species, or a flat donation of \_\_\_\_\_

Make your checks payable to Wildlife Recovery Association, and mail c/o  
Mike Mencotti, 25378 Wykeshire, Farmington Hills, MI 48336