

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Feb. 27, 2025

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Robert Ridgway: When Amateur Bird Watching Became a Rigorous Science

GENEVA, IL — Join us for “Robert Ridgway: When Amateur Bird Watching Became a Rigorous Science” on Sunday, April 27, from 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., at the Barbara Belding Lodge.

Connect with Illinois’ most preeminent bird man as he recalls the history of the Audubon Society and the evolution of bird watching, as it grew from a hobby to a scientific discipline. Internationally-acclaimed storyteller Brian “Fox” Ellis recounts Robert Ridgway in this one-man, first-person performance.

The dynamic indoor presentation will focus on birds, preserving habitat, and becoming a birding citizen scientist. Ellis will describe Ridgway’s wilderness travels, his life-long work at the Smithsonian Institution, his birding trips into Central America, and his journey across Alaska. The second half of the program involves caravanning to Tekakwitha Woods Forest Preserve to join Ridgway and a District naturalist for a storytelling bird walk.

Learn from the Experts (LFE) programs are classes about local ecology, sponsored by the Forest Preserve District of Kane County, the St. Charles Park District and the Geneva Park District. LFEs offer insightful information about topics that impact Kane County.

This free program is for ages 18 and above. Advance registration is required. To register, visit www.kaneforest.com/register, call 630-444-3190 or email programs@kaneforest.com.

The Barbara Belding Lodge is located within Brewster Creek Forest Preserve at 6N921 IL Rte. 25, in St. Charles. For more information, visit www.kaneforest.com or find us on social by searching @forestpreserve.

— **ADD ONE** —

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Illinois Humanities is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities: Democracy Demands Wisdom and the Illinois General Assembly [through the Illinois Arts Council Agency], as well as by contributions from individuals, foundations, and corporations.

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