

September 3, 2009

Dear IBBA Member,

I am pleased to invite you to the 2009 IBBA Conference, being held in St. Louis, MO, on the weekend of November 6 - 8. The World Bird Sanctuary will host the conference this year, and it promises to be interesting for all who attend!

Here are some of the highlights of this year's event:

- Welcome Reception featuring Brad Jacobs of the Missouri Department of Conservation, who will address the topic: "Building Partnerships for Bird Conservation in Latin America and the Caribbean".
- Early-morning Driving Tour of Lone Elk Park, home to many resident birds as well as migrants, and numerous mammals such as bison, elk, and white-tailed deer, plus lots of history!
- Behind-the-scenes Tour of the World Bird Sanctuary, featuring breeding areas, nature and visitor centers, and hospital facilities, where guests will encounter raptors and other birds, reptiles, and mammals from all over the world.
- Paper Presentations on a variety of interesting topics.
- Fascinating Instructional Workshops.
- Afternoon Social, where you will get an opportunity to visit with IBBA members and other guests.
- The Annual IBBA Business Meeting and Silent Auction will be held on Saturday afternoon.

Please consider donating items for the auction.

- A delicious Italian Dinner, complete with beverages and dessert.
- Walter Crawford, Founder and Executive Director of the World Bird Sanctuary, along with his staff, will present a Live Bird Program. Walter is sure to entertain you with stories from his vast experiences with birds.
- Optional Sunday morning Field Trips in the St. Louis area will be offered, including a tour of the St. Louis Zoo Bird House.

The IBBA Conference committee and I are very excited about hosting the event this year, and we eagerly look forward to seeing everyone! We sincerely hope that you will make plans to attend.

**** Please remember that Paper Submissions must be received by October 1, and Conference Reservations are due by October 9. ****

If you have any questions or suggestions for this year's conference, please contact me at stlvaniilla@aol.com or (636) 458-1554.

Valerie Geile
2009 IBBA Conference Committee
New IBBA web site: <http://ibbainfo.org/>