



The **Sioux Falls Bird Club** was founded in 1922, and was present on and off till WW2. It was restarted in 1947 when, for a decade, the club, combined with The National Audubon Society, brought in high profile speakers, including the best birders, authors, and photographers in the nation. H. Wayne Trimm, world famous wildlife artist was president. He painted the Lark Bunting, a bird, which was still present in Eastern SD at that time, for the group. At one time attendance at a meeting was 800. This great interest in wild birds encouraged the formation of the SDOU in 1949, which adopted the Lark Bunting as their club bird, and utilized Trimm's painting for a logo. The club continued to associate with Audubon during the next decade, until the local Audubon society folded. In 1970 the club was resurrected by Jon Little, Rosemary Draeger, and Gil Blankespoor. It continued to gain members, hold meetings and sponsor field trips, all of which continue today. The group manages their blind at Dewey Gevik nature area, and the bird feeding complex at Good Earth State Park. The club has a 180 member e-mail closed list-serv, with about half as paid members. It maintains a website, and Facebook page, with 340 followers. The club manages two CBC's, has two evening meetings yearly, with speakers, and monthly field trips. The club bird is the Blue Grosbeak. New members get a club logo shoulder patch. Dues are still only \$5 per year.