

## Sharon “Birdchick” Stiteler

is this year’s

### Jack Smith Outstanding Speaker



This year's Jack Smith Outstanding Speaker will feature popular writer, blogger and speaker Sharon "Birdchick" Stiteler. Her entertaining program, "Today's Office" is scheduled for Saturday, November 18, 2017, at 2:30 pm at Carlisle Reservation Visitor Center, 12882 Diagonal Road, LaGrange. As a special treat, the morning of the talk, Sharon will also lead the Black River Audubon Society's monthly field trip at Sandy Ridge Reservation (meet in the parking lot at 9:00 am).

Sharon Stiteler has taken on many an odd job to maintain her goal to get paid for teaching people about her passion, birding. She has gone birding while flying 100 feet above the Mississippi River to count ducks, has gotten thrown up on by pelicans, and has searched for birds at a nude beach. Her outdoor jobs are mostly full of beauty and adventure but sometimes the food is strange and the bathrooms are difficult to come by. Be prepared to laugh and learn about birds, field work and she'll also share an important tip for surviving a plane crash over water.

Sharon Stiteler was given a *Peterson Field Guide to Birds* when she was seven years old and snapped, she loves birds, it's just the way she's wired. Since 1997, she has made it her goal to get paid to go birding. She runs the popular birding blog, Birdchick.com and has been in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *All Things Considered* and on *NBC Nightly News* as well as making regular appearances on Twin Cities' TV and radio stations. She's an international speaker and her writing has been found in several publications and online including *WildBird Magazine*, *Outdoor News*, *Birds & Blooms*, *Minnesota Public Radio* and *National Audubon*. She wrote the books *Disapproving Rabbits*, *City Birds/Country Birds* and *1001 Secrets Every Birder Should Know*, is #32 in the Geek A Week Trading Card set and works as a National Park Ranger. When she's not digiscoping or banding birds, she's a blue ribbon beekeeper. You can find her on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and Instagram under Birdchick.