



## Chequamegon Bay Birding & Nature Festival

P.O. Box 746 • Ashland, WI 54806

[www.birdandnaturefest.com](http://www.birdandnaturefest.com) • 1-800-284-9484

*Keynote Speaker;*  
*Al Batt,*

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# Birding & Nature Festival Highlights Beauty of Lake Superior's South Shore

**Third Annual Chequamegon Bay Birding & Nature Festival May 15-17, 2009**

**For more information, contact: Mary McPhetridge Ashland County Tourism 800-284-9484**

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Ashland County, WI**—The third annual Chequamegon Bay Birding & Nature Festival will draw casual and avid birders as well as nature lovers to the south shore of Lake Superior to enjoy some of the best birding hot spots and the most breathtaking scenery the Midwest has to offer, May 15-17, 2009.

The Chequamegon Bay Area is among the best birding destinations in the Midwest, with a wide variety of habitats hosting nearly 300 bird species. Abundant public lands and extraordinary natural beauty provide visitors with unparalleled nature watching opportunities in this exceptional area of northern Wisconsin.

With over 110 activities to choose from, birders and nature lovers of all skills and ages will find a wealth of choices at this year's festival.

Al Batt of rural Hartland, Minnesota will be the keynote speaker for the 2009 Chequamegon Birding and Nature Fest. You will *not* want to miss this presentation. Al is a delightful humorist who will appeal to everyone – no matter how avid a birder you are or how new you are to birding. *His stories will tickle your funny bone.* He has a “down home” style that will bring back memories of your childhood and those wonderful times gone by. **His talks will make you feel so good, you'll want to crow!**

Participants in guided field trips will take in the birds, wildlife, and natural beauty of the area through hiking, walking along the beach and kayaking. Workshops will provide information on everything from birdhouse construction and bird banding, to building a backyard habitat. Other activities include exhibits, educational programs, self-guided field trip opportunities, activities for children, and numerous expert speakers. Nationally renowned educator and humorist David Stokes will offer special hands-on programs featuring songs, stories and live critters for audiences of all ages.

Late May is the peak of spring migration and therefore the ideal time to visit the Chequamegon Bay Area. Migrating and resident birds mingle during this time of year, some setting up their summer homes and others just passing through the area. The warming temperatures also keep birds active, so there is a greater chance to view a wide variety of bird species.

The Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center, located at the intersection of U.S. Highway 2 and County Highway G in Ashland, WI, will serve as the home base for the event. Ashland is located three hours from Minneapolis, MN, four hours from Green Bay, and five hours from Madison. For more information call (800) 284-9484 or visit [www.birdandnaturefest.com](http://www.birdandnaturefest.com)