



IOS IORC &lt;iorcommittee@gmail.com&gt;

---

**RE: Purple Gallinule rescue in Chicago this past weekend**

1 message

---

**Denise Verret** <[REDACTED]>  
To: IORC <iorcommittee@gmail.com>

Sun, Apr 10, 2016 at 5:49 PM

Hi Geoff,

I am sorry I missed your phone call. The woman who sent the photograph must be Yvonne LaGrone ([REDACTED]). I've talked with and texted her a couple of times since the rescue. She initially sent a photo to my phone, but I could not open it because of the size and I have a Luddite cell phone. Because I couldn't see the photo, I really had no idea what bird I was going to rescue, except that it had been described as "exotic." Yvonne's husband and son are the ones who spotted the Gallinule at a vacant home for sale in Beverly:

<https://www.dnainfo.com/chicago/20160408/brainerd/how-did-exotic-bird-with-broken-leg-end-up-chicagos-south-side>

I shared this rescue with my cousin in Louisiana because when I visit he takes me on marsh tours to see the birds nesting there. He knows this bird well and was surprised to hear one had made it up to Chicago. I feel privileged to have rescued it and my sister and I are thrilled to have seen it firsthand. I am curious about its eventual release, so should you be privy to any information about that in the future, I would appreciate it.

Thank you, and let me know if I can be of any more help.

Kind regards,

Denise

**From:** IORC [mailto:[iorcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:iorcommittee@gmail.com)]

**Sent:** Sunday, April 10, 2016 4:47 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Fwd: Purple Gallinule rescue in Chicago this past weekend

Dear Denise:

I am writing with the hope that you will be able to provide me with one piece of information for the record for the

Purple Gallinule that you helped rescue. I am the secretary of the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee (IORC -- <http://www.illinoisbirds.org/illinois-ornithological-records-committee/>), and Purple Gallinule occurs rarely enough in Illinois that we like to have in our archives details of each observation. We've been sent by Annette Prince a bunch of information regarding this one's occurrence, including photographs that confirm the identification to species. One missing piece that I would like to add to the record is the name of the person who found and sent the initial photograph to CBCM. Would you have have that and be able to share it with me?

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Geoff Williamson

IORC Secretary

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Geoffrey Williamson** [REDACTED]  
Date: Tue, Apr 5, 2016 at 8:54 AM  
Subject: Fwd: Purple Gallinule rescue in Chicago this past weekend  
To: [iorcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:iorcommittee@gmail.com)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]  
Date: Apr 4, 2016 8:19 PM  
Subject: Fwd: Purple Gallinule rescue in Chicago this past weekend  
To: "Williamson, Geoff" [REDACTED]  
Cc:

FYI

---

Hi Matthew-

Thanks for contacting me. This surely was an amazing bird. I wonder if the high winds and severe storms of the past week brought the bird into this area.

I sent this information to Josh Engel too.

The bird was reported at 3:30 pm on Saturday April 2 at 93rd and Loomis which comes up as a Chicago address in Cook County.

I received a call on our CBCM hotline reporting a bird injured and hiding under a bush at a vacant house. I've attached the photo the caller sent to us. I don't know the name but have a phone number for

that person. She said it was an exotic bird with a turquoise head and a red beak. The picture isn't clear but I thought it could be a purple gallinule.

Our volunteer Denise Verret picked up the bird. You can reach her by email or phone for other information on the rescue:

[REDACTED] (She's from Louisiana and we've joked that after the bird recovers - she might be able to take it back down south!)

The photo of the bird in the box and in hand were taken by me. I have lots of other shots - it was too beautiful not to try to get some pictures!

Let me know if there is any other information you need.

Annette Prince

Director

Chicago Bird Collision Monitors (CBCM)

[www.birdmonitors.net](http://www.birdmonitors.net)

Cell: [REDACTED]

--

Illinois Ornithological Records Committee

e-mail: [iorcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:iorcommittee@gmail.com)