Notice:  April Meeting is Cancelled

50th Anniversary of Earth Day  
April 22nd
Earth Day is a world-wide event to educate ourselves about our world and our environment. The theme for this year is “Climate Action”. Locally, our usual education display at the CDA Public Library has been cancelled, as are many other planned events. What can we do while we shelter in place? Go to www.earthday.org to educate ourselves on the issues, plant a tree in our yard, or take part in a citizen science project such as nest watch are a few ideas. 
Take care - Stay healthy - Shirley

President’s Message

What’s that old wise saying - “If you want to make God laugh, make a plan”. Well, as I write this in the middle of March, all of our plans are on hold. Most of the events that Antje and I have scheduled for the next couple of weeks have been cancelled. We’re waiting to decide if we want to risk traveling to Bend to visit our son, daughter-in-law, and grandchildren and bring risk to them and to us. So, what to do.

The Audubon Board will be considering whether to cancel the next two general meetings. As I understand, we’ll all know a lot more in the next 6-8 weeks what this pandemic is going to look like in North Idaho. But, I fear that this season of Audubon birding is going to be different than any other year.

I’ve just cancelled a birding trip to the CdA River for the second weekend because of bad weather which is a shame because I was out there a couple of days ago and there are a huge, HUGE, number of waterfowl in the flooded fields. Also, there were many v-g swallows flying over the flooded fields. So, I hope many of you were able to get out there on a decent day to see them. And the other migratory species will start showing up soon.

It looks like we might get a resolution on a project that we’ve been struggling with for nearly two years, a public memorial to Kris Buckler. State Park officials have indicated they would be fine with putting up a sign, or signs, at Farragut and Heyburn State Parks. Also, City Parks and Rec has finally responded regarding a proposed hiking trail in the hill above Fernan Lake. We don’t know how quickly they will be willing to move. But we hope to have signs at Farragut and/or Heyburn before long.

In the meantime, keep calm and carry on - and wash your hands.

Dick
March is normally the month when my wife Molly and I head to central Florida where, every year since 1972, I have studied Florida Scrub-Jays. Things are quite different this year, with the entire world hunkering down for an extended fight against the spread of COVID-19.

Even though I’m sticking close to home for now, I am comforted to know the scrub-jays are there, pairing up under the bright Florida sun, lining new nests with palmetto fibers, unperturbed by the tremendous human ordeal around them.

I often talk about the power of birds, but this year they take on an even more powerful meaning. They enliven our days, brighten the trees, serenade in our backyards and city parks, and bestow us with so much joy and hope, all bundled together in feathers and lively personalities.

Like everyone around the world, we at the Cornell Lab are adjusting to new routines. We’ve also spent recent days scouring our brains and our servers for ways to help—in some small way—people who find their daily lives upended.

If you’re a teacher prepping for a new kind of remote class, we’ll send you ideas. A parent or grandparent whose kids are on an unexpected “spring vacation”? They can play our games and learn. Are you a bird watcher with extra time on your hands—or an inveterate traveler now homebound? We can bring birds and bird song into your home—or let you explore the farthest reaches of the world in sounds and images.

A core part of our mission is to help people celebrate the wonder of birds. We do it because you (and we) love birds, are amazed by their powers, and even gain solace from them and a deep, clean breath of hope.

Together we’ll all get through this. In the meantime, whenever you may need a moment of respite, we invite you to explore, enjoy, wonder, replenish, and spark hope with the resources we have to share. go to https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/how-to-make-these-next-few-weeks-a-little-easier-courtesy-of-birds/

With my best wishes
John W. Fitzpatrick, Director
Cornell Lab of Ornithology

March Birds

**Greater White-fronted Goose** - March 22 - Killarney Farms - George Sayler

**Trumpeter Swan** - March 1 - pond along River Road near Rose Lake - Bill Gundlach

**Wood Duck** - March 6 - pond along River Road at Ridge Road - Bill and Sally Gundlach

**Northern Shoveler** - March 6 - pond at Canyon and Dredge Roads - Bill and Sally Gundlach

**Green-winged Teal** - March 1 - Medicine Lake - Bill Gundlach

**Redhead** - March 6 - pond at Canyon and Dredge Roads - Bill and Sally Gundlach

**Lesser Scaup** - March 6 - Schlepp Ranch Bill and Sally Gundlach

Continued on page 3
March Birds  Continued from page 2

Norther Harrier - March 11 - Rathdrum
Prairie - Terri Farr
Black-backed Woodpecker - March 16 -
Farragut State Park - Jim Tietz
Tree Swallow - March 1 - north side of
Mission Slough - Bill Gundlach
Violet-Green Swallow - March 8 - Spokane
River across from Le Peep - Terri Farr
White-crowned Sparrow - March 15 -
Hayden feeder - Valerie Zagar
Snow Bunting - February 22 - 100+ in two
flocks - junction of Conkling Park and Belle
Vista Roads - Del and BernaDeane Blackburn

Field Trips

Note: with the arrival of the coronaviris all of the below could be cancelled. keep in touch with the leader, and don't participate if you feel a little sick.

Mica Bay Survey

Date: April 14, Tuesday (Held 2nd Tuesday of each month - times vary
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Meet: Fairmont Loop and Highway 95
Leader: Janet Callen (208) 664-1085
Activity: We spend about 3 hours once a month counting birds at Mica Bay.

Farragut State Park

Date: April 18, Saturday
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Meet: K-Mart Parking Lot - now “At Home” store
Leader: Janet Callen
Activity: For several years CdA Audubon has been working with the city to place interpretive signs on Fernan Hill. This is a project funded by donations in Kris Buchler’s name. But the Fernan Hill project is at a standstill and we are going to branch out. So, this trip is an invite to the Fernan Hill gang and everyone else who wants to come along. Identify birds, trees and flowers appropriate for signs. And enjoy the day and hopefully the sun. This will be a partial day trip, bring lunch or snacks.

Highway Pickup

Date: April 25, Saturday
All volunteer highway pickup was cancelled by the Highway Department
Leader: Any questions please call Ellie at (970) 744-0104 or Susie at (208)818-1881.

Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival

When: June 4-7
Where: Sisters OR
Activity: This three day festival, sponsored by East Cascades Audubon Society, involves a number of small group tours with local guides. This is a popular event, but the tour groups are small. Registration opens on Wednesday, April 1, at 8:00 so register early at their website: ecaudubon.org/dean-hale-woodpecker-festival. There are a large choice of tours each day which you select when you register. Most tours are all day and cost $35.
Leader: Richard Cripe - 208-665-0010). Let me know immediately if you are interested and we will coordinate on places to stay.

Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary

Where: near Vancouver, BC.
Leader: Janet Callen. (208) 664-1085
Activity: More information will be provided as plans are developed.
New Member Application

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Become a member of the National Audubon Society, Join Online at:
https://secure.audubon.org/site/Donation2?df_id=8080&8080.donation=nform1

Pick Chapter Code G06
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You may also call National Audubon at 1-844-428-3826
And remember to reference our Chapter Code G06

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Vice President: Midge Marcy-Brennan 208 661-0206
Recording Secretary: Valerie Zagar 208 619-5115
Treasurer: Janet Callen 208 664-1085
Board Members:
all officers and Darlene Carlton, Ralph Kerr, Suzanne Marshall

COMMITTEE CHAIRS
Publicity: open
Field Trips: Dick Cripe 208 665-0010
Janet Callen 208 664-1085
George Sayler 208 664-2787
Education: Barbara Christofferson 208 667-3931
Conservation: Midge Marcy-Brennan
Membership: Peggy Albertson 208 664-1616
Hospitality: Elli Emm
Newsletter: Shirley Sturts 206 678-6187
Programs: Midge Marcy-Brennan
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Local Membership Dues

- Individual $10.00
- Family $15.00
- Individual $25.00 - with hard copy of the newsletter
- Family $30.00 - with hard copy of the newsletter
- Additional donation____

Total $_______

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