

THE FISH HAWK HERALD



Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the National Audubon Society
www.cdaaudubon.org

April 2020

Volume 30 Number 8

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



Birds Can Be Beacons of Hope

A Message from Cornell Lab of
Ornithology

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 Saylor

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

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March Birds

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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 coronavirus 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: eaudubon.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.

Time: Mid-September, 2020.

Leader: **Janet Callen.** (208) 664-1085

Activity: More information will be provided as plans are developed.

New Member Application

Join Online

Become a member of the
National Audubon Society, Join

Online at:

https://secure.audubon.org/site/Donation2?df_id=8080&8080.donation=form1

Pick Chapter Code G06

From the dropdown list

Join by Phone

You may also call National
Audubon at **1-844-428-3826**
And remember to reference our

Chapter Code G06

**CDA Audubon Chapter
Officers**

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Dick Cripe 208 665-0010

Vice President:

Midge Marcy-Brennan 208 661-0206

Recording Secretary:

Valerie Zagar 208 819-5115

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 Saylor 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

Mailing: Peggy Albertson 208 664-1616

Webmaster: Shirley Sturts 206-678-6187

Historian: Open

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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**Mail this form and your check payable to: Coeur d'Alene Audubon Chapter
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