February Program

Date: February 11, Tuesday  
Place: Lutheran Church of the Master,  
4800 N. Ramsey, CDA  
Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Speaker: David Leptich, Regional Wildlife  
Habitat Biologist Idaho Department of Fish and Game  
Program: Dave will give a talk covering a  
brief history of the Restoration Partnership  
and an update on IDFG's Gray's Meadow  
(formally Black Lake Ranch) restoration project that is being funded by the Partnership and EPA.

President’s Message

Take heart! Spring is coming! The sun is making its annual migration from the southern skies (that's how it works, isn't it?) and the days are getting longer. The swans and geese are beginning their migration north and should be passing through here now. So, it is time to step up your birding activity. You’ll want to sign up for the Great Backyard Bird Watch the weekend of Feb. 14-17 and report what you see to ebird.org.

We hope to get a field trip scheduled for that weekend. The weather is guaranteed to be wonderful.

I have to confess I haven’t been getting out much recently to look for birds. It’s not the snow and the cold; I enjoy walking in the snow and I’m used to the gray days. I think it is more of an attitude that winter is the time to do indoor things that I don’t want to do in warm weather - reorganize my workspace, clean out files, pay the taxes, work on Genealogy, and read big books (currently I'm reading *Middlemarch* by George Elliot; It’s 800 pages and I’m on pg. 480).
President Message
Continued from page 1

Barred Owl – photo by Larry Krumpelman
June 2016 CDA River

However, spring gets busy for our Audubon Chapter. Earth Day is scheduled for April 22, and Migratory Bird Day is scheduled for May 16. Mark these days on your calendar; they are significant events for our club. We’ll be scheduling more field trips including a three day trip to the George C. Reifel Park outside of Vancouver, BC. as well as other nearby sites. This trip is tentatively scheduled for the weekend of May 30.

So, get ready for spring!
Dick

CDA Christmas Bird Count
Shirley Sturts

On December 14 twenty-four birders set off at 7:30 in six teams to cover an area within a 15 mile diameter circle with the center at the CDA Memorial Gardens. Total party hours by car was 45.5 hours covering 358.4 miles and 11.7 hours by foot covering 13.2 miles. Nine feeder watchers put in 20.5 hours checking their feeders and yards.

One dedicated birder did an hour of nocturnal birding hoping to pick up an owl. Together we came up with a total of 71 species and 6740 individuals. You can see how this compares with past years by going to Projects” on our Website at http://cdaaudubon.org/Projects/cdacbcchart2.html

Some of the best bird:
1 Long-tailed Duck on Hayden Lake, sighted on only 8 of 29 past counts
4 Wilson’s Snipe, sighted on only one other CBC
8 Eared Grebe (rare), Spokane River/Cougar Bay, 1st time reported on the count
17 Brewer’s Blackbird in Highland Golf Course area, a high count and only sighted on 3 out of 29 past counts

Our list is reviewed by a CBC editor. The above birds (accept for the Wilson’s Snipe) need some documentation. The Eared Grebe and Long-tailed Duck are rare for our area and the Brewer’s Blackbird is on the rare side for winter months.

Continued on page 3
CDA Christmas Bird Count
Continued from page 2

We ended the day relaxing with a potluck dinner at the home of Theresa Potts. After talking over our day while enjoying the food and drink, we compiled the bird count. A big thank you too all those who participated and a special thank you to Doug Ward who did the job of compiling and to Theresa Potts for hosting the potluck.

Winter Bird Sightings

As of January 2- we have 70 species on our Kootenai County Big Year

Red-breasted Merganser - 1 - January 1 - Spokane River, NIC Dike Road - Bill Gundlach
Sharp-shinned Hawk - 1 - January 9 - Northwest area CDA - Kathy Kraus
American Kestrel - 1 - January 5 - Conkling Park Road during the Indian Mt. CBC - Sally Gundlach, Dick Cripe, Janet Callem, Shirley Sturts
Mew Gull - 1 - January 14 - Spokane River, NIC Dike Road - TY Shaum
Lesser Black-backed Gull - 1 - January 3 - Harrison area (Anderson Lake) - Terry Little
Barred Owl - 2 - January 13 - Loch Haven (Hayden) - Doug Ward
Northern Shrike - 1 - January 3 and 5 - Harrison area (Thompson Lake) and Rolling Hills Road - Indian Mt. CBC - Janet Callen, Dick Cripe, Sally Gundlach, Shirley Sturts
Blue Jay - 1 - January 1 - a continuing bird - Fernan Hill home - David Yake
Chestnut-backed Chickadee - January 2 - Yard feeder - CDA - Bill Gundlach

Trips and Activities

Mica Bay Survey
Date: February 11 Tuesday (Held 2nd Tuesday of each month - times vary
Time: 9:00 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. Beginner birders are welcome.

Rathdrum Prairie Hawk Survey
Date: Done once a month November through March-Day/time vary-it takes about 3 hours
Leader: Doug Ward
Activity: a specific route is followed on roads covering Rathdrum Prairie. For safety reasons only one car is used for the survey. If interested in going, call Doug to reserve a space. 208 762-7107 Or his cell 208 699-9327
New Member Application

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Recording Secretary: Valerie Zagar 208 819-5115
Treasurer: Janet Callen 208 664-1085
Board Members: all officers and Darlene Carlton, Ralph Kerr, Lisa Clark, Suzanne Marshal

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Education: Barbara Christofferson 208 667-3931
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