

THE FISH HAWK HERALD



Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the National Audubon **Society**
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In Memory of Kris Buchler

For Kris

They wait, watch, listen
Footsteps in forest no more
Now, she hears from afar

Still, they know they're heard
Songs are sung for her
And always shall be

Feathered ones will know
Earthly Gifts are now cherished
From Heaven above

SLynn '17



We in Audubon not only lost a good friend but someone who inspired us to be better birders, to love birds and all wildlife, and to protect natural spaces. Her positive attitude, love and hugs were contagious. As the year goes on, we will have to step up to the plate and try to fill all the

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rolls and jobs that Kris did: educational programs, bird surveys, CBC team leader, fieldtrip leader, helping with the Blue Bird Trail, newsletter proof reader, bird rehabilitator and other rolls she took on.

Ed, our hearts and thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time. We know you and Kris shared the love of birds and nature together with your family. We hope that our memories will be of some comfort to you.

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OCTOBER PROGRAM

DATE: October 10, Tuesday

PLACE: Lutheran Church of the Master, 4800 N. Ramsey, CDA

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

SPEAKERS: Brittany Morlin
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



PROGRAM: Morlin will discuss the annual waterfowl surveys during spring migration and how the data can be used to inform remediation and restoration

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"A Tribute

To bird outings, dog walks, dinners, movies and game nights; Mike and I and the creatures you cared for, loved and counted, we will all raise a glass, talon, paw and a song to Kris- a life well-lived!"

-Valerie Zagar-

"Some years ago I was driving on Lakeside Ave. when I came upon a cat that had just been hit by a car, sitting dazed in the road. I pulled over with the intent of getting him to a veterinarian but he kept ahead of me by steps. Kris happened to come along in her car at the same time, quickly assessed the situation and got out of her car and swept him up and into her car. No hesitation no thought to getting bitten by the injured animal. Sadly, the vet had to euthanize the cat but I have always admired Kris for this humane act.

"Kris was a world champion hugger - warm, sincere, followed by a quick kiss on the cheek. You couldn't help but feel happier having received a 'Kris Buchler' hug"

- Judy Waring-

"My memory of Kris is actually countless memories of her cheerful smile and welcoming demeanor in every meeting or outing of Audubon. She made me and everyone feel especially welcomed to any event of Audubon she made people feel so special and welcomed. She carried this on consistently over the 20 years I knew her, despite her serious health challenges in the last years.

"I also really looked forward to her birding slide show before every Christmas bird count. I am so very sad, and will miss her greatly. She did so much to educate others about birds and about Audubon. She was so passionate. She leaves very large shoes to fill. I am honored to have known Kris, and my heart goes out to Ed and her family at this sad time."

-Nancy Mertz-



"I joined Kris and fellow birder Lisa on many Century Counts. They started at 4:00 a.m. and I followed along for at least an hour while they identified warblers and flycatchers by song, always announcing what they heard. I retained some, but many slipped from memory. However I'll never forget Kris's identification of the call of the Olive Sided Flycatcher; 'Quick three beers'. Here's to you Kris, thanks, I won't forget."

- Janet Callen-

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"Better than she found it---

Kris presented the "Music of Spring" at the Presbyterian Church for a monthly Audubon meeting in the mid-2000s. That was my first introduction to Kris Buchler. Her presentation was a delight and her knowledge of birds and their sounds seemed endless. She never failed to encourage me to try out all things related to Audubon. Her welcoming nature is what kept me coming back and her indefatigable commitment to nature is what made me want to try a little harder. I suspect she affected everyone that way. She used her "vast pool of knowledge in a way that helped people find more in themselves. She will be impossible to duplicate but perhaps we can all attempt to emulate her welcoming and generous qualities.

"I feel confident that she has left Coeur d'Alene Audubon better than she found it."

-Peggy Albertson-

"Kris excelled in teaching birding skills. If she spotted a bird, she would ask questions to help bird watchers identify the birds instead of just naming the bird for us. 'Where is it perched? What kind of tree and location of the bird - top of tree, middle, low, inside next to the trunk, or outside. Is it just loafing, or is it eating berries, bugs, etc.? Then on to describe the bird - long tail? short with a band?, size, color, identifiable markings including feet color, beak color, size, shape, ?" Many more questions were asked and answers analyzed until the bird was correctly identified.

"We shall miss her Christmas Count Bird quizzes too!"

-Jan Severtson-



"Kris and I have done a lot of birding together over the years. One memory that really stands out is when I went on a birding trip to South Padre Island, Texas with Ed and Kris. The trip was led by our mutual friend John Shipley. It was spring and there was a fallout of birds that had just crossed the Gulf of Mexico and their way north. They were exhausted and hungry. Birds that we would normally be searching for in the trees were right at our feet. They were busy feeding on food provided by local bird lovers. (See photo below) This and the many Christmas Bird Counts and other outings we have done together are cherished memories



"Not only was Kris a bird watching buddy, but we are part of a dog walking group (with her Great Pyrenees). Kris loaned me mystery novels from her large collection and jig-saw puzzles. We enjoyed sharing our grandchildren's photos. Kris will always be with me in spirit. I will always remember the good times we shared."

-Shirley Sturts-

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Will be continued in the November newsletter

President's Note



Hello All --

At this moment (as you read this), if all goes as planned, I am having a grand time in Massachusetts/Maine visiting a daughter and grandson. I will be a "Leaf Peeper", the name given to people who go to look at the fall colors in the Appalachian area and Berkshires; I, however, will also be a "Bird Peeper" because I hope to see as many birds as I do colorful leaves. Sigh...no, I know that is not a possibility, but I will be seeing East Birds, many may be life-birds.

I hope to return with many pictures of these life birds, but I have a feeling there will be more of pictures of unknown shorebirds of unknown age in unknown plumages than any others!!!



On a more serious note, birds are definitely taking a hit from nature's calamities. Quoting from Audubon Florida Website, many birds were displaced by Hurricane Irma, with not-yet-fledged birds drowning. Many areas of habitat that usually serve as a crucial food source for the Atlantic Flyway migrants are stripped bare. Polluted waters are being

discharged to the coastal estuaries. On Barbuda which had 95% of structures damaged and nearly all "people-residents" evacuated, scientists are concerned that it may have been an extinction-level event for the Barbuda Warbler, an endemic species that numbered less than 2000 birds BEFORE Irma. Thousands of Magnificent Frigatebirds in the region perished. The fate of the Bahama Oriole which numbered 140-260 birds BEFORE the storm is unknown. In Cuba, thousands of flamingos were killed at Cayo Coco Cays, one of the largest nesting habitats for the American Flamingo.

Habitats and feeding stopovers on many Islands of the Caribbean and on our southeastern states have been destroyed, and Hurricane Maria is coming up quickly, now giving an additional dose of destruction to the areas. How birds, animals and people will adapt remains to be seen. What we can do, however, as conservationists, is let our voices be heard LOUDLY to protect the other areas so important to birds for food and habitat that are now being threatened by non-natural causes.

Grand birding to each of you -- Midge



Round Lake and Morton Slough

Audubon Field Trip: 9/16|

Dick Cripe

It was a fine day for a field trip - cool and clear with relatively little smoke in the air. Six birders visited Round Lake State Park and made the 1.8 walk around the lake. We were surprised there were no waterfowl on the lake and we had trouble identifying the small birds flitting silently among the bushes. We were rewarded by the loud pecking of three woodpeckers on a large snag - a male and female Black-backed Woodpecker and a male Hairy Woodpecker .

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Round Lake and Morton Slough

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Other birds identified at Round Lake were: Common Yellowthroat; Black-capped Chickadee, Robin, Crow, numerous Junco, Townsend Solitaire, Turkey Vulture, Song Sparrow, Raven, Ruffed Grouse, Belted Kingfisher, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Spotted Towhee, as well as 3 Wood Duck, 3 Mallard, and 17 Wild Turkey.

Next we stopped at Morton Slough Boat Launch where we saw House Finch, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Northern Flicker, and Red-breasted Nuthatch. At Morton Slough we found the waterfowl: over 100 America Widgeon at the far side of the pond, a raft of Double-crested Cormorant, 2 Ring-billed Gull, Wood Duck, Red-necked Grebe, and several Canada Goose.

We moved on Lakeshore Drive loop to Springy Point Recreation Area boat launch, but saw nothing there. So on to the Fish Hatchery where we saw 2 Mallard, and a Northern Flicker.

Again, there were no waterfowl on the lake itself.

In total we saw 29 species. The Black-backed Woodpeckers were a rare treat for everyone. Participants were: Theresa Potts, Valerie Zagar, Mike Blackbird, Judy Waring, Bill Gundlach, and Dick



Black-backed Woodpecker –
photo by Wayne Tree

Cripe

Field Trips

Our field trips are also posted on our Website
<http://cdaudubon.org/fieldtrips.html>

Please contact Dick Cripe 208-665-0010 to volunteer to lead a trip or to suggest places to go.

Highway cleanup

Date: October 7, Saturday

Time: 8:30 a.m. - sign-up required

Place: Mica Grange - Highway 95

Contact: Val or Mike Zagar: [208/819-5115](tel:2088195115)

Mica Bay Survey

Date: October 10, Tuesday (held 2nd Tuesday of each month - times vary depending on month)

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Meet: Fairmont Loop and Highway 95

Leader: Janet Callen 664-1085

Activity: We spend about 3 hours once a month counting birds at Mica Bay. Beginner birders are welcome to come and learn bird identification skills.

Heyburn State Park

Date: October 14, Saturday. Half Day

Time: 8 a.m.

Meet: K-Mart parking lot, south side

Activity: Heyburn State Park is a gathering place for migrating waterfowl and good song bird species as well. We will start at the new visitor center and follow a trail along the lake. A nice boardwalk has been built with information about the birds that visit the lake, a must see. As time permits, there are other spots that we can check out. Bring snacks and water.

Leader: Judy Waring [208-765-5378](tel:2087655378)

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**

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