



The Fish Hawk Herald
Vol. 3 #3

September 1993

Calendar: September Meeting of the Coeur d'Alene Chapter will be at the Iron Horse in Coeur d'Alene, 7 P.M. September 21.

Guest speaker will be Chip Corsi from Idaho Fish & Game. Subject will be habitat improvement projects.

The Conservation Committee will meet at 5:30 P.M. on September 21 at the Iron Horse.

Tentative guest speaker for October meeting will be Beth Paragamian. She will have slides and discuss the Watchable Wildlife program in North Idaho.

A message from the new President.

This past May 18th, elections were held for officers and committee chairs of the Coeur d'Alene Chapter. I was elected the new President. Phil Waring continues as Vice President, Ronn Rich continues as Treasurer. At the upcoming September meeting members are encouraged to express ideas about possible future programs. Mike Mihelich.

Selected environmental notes from Audubon Activist

Wetlands: Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) recently introduced legislation to strengthen wetlands protection under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. This bill (S. 1195) is strongly supported by Audubon and letters in support of this bill to our Senators are welcome.

Ancient Forests: The Clinton Administration has selected Option 9 as the preferred choice for protection of the remaining ancient forests in Washington, Oregon and Northern California. Option 9 has a number of shortcomings but with are a number of modifications it could be acceptable. Some modifications include; a limit of 730 million board feet for allowable sale quantity (ASQ), the plan should be based strictly on science, and protection for forests east of the Cascades, and no logging in reserves including salvaging and thinning.

DREAMS REALLY DO COME TRUE . . .

[Pam Gontz]

As some of you already know my summer was like a dream come true for me. My summer started with me heading off to the Yellowstone Institute to take classes as I normally do each summer. By the end of June I was working part time for the Yellowstone Institute and, by the end of July, I had applied for and received a full time position as the Assistant Director of the Yellowstone Institute.

During that time I had been listening to a Cree morning chant on one of my Indian tapes. One phrase particularly caught my attention ... "Dance awake the dream your seeking." That's what I feel I've been doing the last couple months. Each time I came back from Yellowstone the last four or five summers I would say . . . one day I'm going to live and work in the park. That was a dream I wasn't sure would ever come true. Well, June and July appeared to be like a hazy dream, almost awake but not quite. I would have pinched myself but did I really want to wake up?

During my time of deciding on whether or not to apply for this position, I ran across a saying that stayed with me during that tough decision-making process. It is . . .

Follow the Heart

It was the custom of ancient travellers to carve their clan signs onto marker stones to show that they had passed by.



Even today, we leave our own special marks, whether a story, a smile, or a hug, as we follow the heart on our journey through life.



I felt like I have been truly following the heart on my journey through life but found myself at a crossroads. I have left my special marks in many ways . . . was I ready to move on my journey? The destination in front of me is exciting and scary all in the same heartbeat. The destination I would leave behind me is one of great friends and memorable moments: ones I will carry with me always! I pondered long and hard on the great changes my taking a job in Yellowstone would have on my life. I have concluded, though, that it is time to carve more signs in my life, but that I would certainly hold onto those past ones dearly.

As my heart leads me down that journey through life I am reminded that I would not be where I am now had I not retained the special marks left me by other individuals. Those special marks are the key to my growth and I know they will continue to steer me in the right direction.

Even though I had resigned earlier this year as newsletter editor, I had every intention of continuing on with our Audubon chapter. I will miss the friends I've made in Audubon. And, who knows, maybe one of these days I'll show up at a field trip or a meeting!

My new address will be: Pam Gontz
P.O. Box 248
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

As yet I don't have a home phone but I can be reached at my office number [starting August 30th] -- (307) 344-2294.

I am sorry that I will be unable to see everyone before I leave -- it would have been nice to have been able to attend one more "farewell" meeting but time just doesn't permit that. Thank you for these past couple years in allowing me to be part of the Coeur d'Alene Audubon Chapter and obtaining such wonderful friends in the process.

I would also like to thank those of you who gave me a going away party. It was a great barbecue -- **THANKS, Susan**, for a wonderful evening! And **thanks to all of you** for the microwave -- it will be used often and, in turn, will make me think of you often. I am thankful to Audubon for these past couple years in allowing me to be your newsletter editor and obtaining such wonderful friends in the process.

Some summer bird sightings

Common Loon: 6/25/93 1 calling Chatcolet Lake (Dan and Ila Svingen.
7/2/93 1 pr McArthur Lake WMA (Pat Cole) no sign of nesting.

Western Grebes: July at least 15 + 5 pairs had built floating nests at Denton slew near Hope. (Pat Cole)

Great Egret: 7/22/93 1 Thompson lake (John W. Nigh)
7/14/93 1 St. Joe River (Canyon Birders)

Black-Crowned Night-Heron: 7/28/93 Thompson Lake (John W. Nigh)

American Bittern: 1+ seen off and on all summer in the St. Maries area. (Dan Svingen)

White Pelicans: 7/29/93 returned to McArthur Lake and remained into August. Last year a similar group of 18 arrived on 7/22/92 and left on 8/14/92. (Pat Cole)

Harlequin Duck: 6/20/93 adult male Avery (Dan Svingen)

Northern Shoveler: female with brood, St. Maries area. (Dan Svingen)

Osprey: 5 adults and 93 nestlings were banded on CDA lake and the St. Joe River and 38 nestlings were banded on Pend Oreille River and Lake. (Don Johnson)

Red tailed Hawk: a nest with 2 young was reported on rathdrum prairie. (Jan Berchtold)

Sora Rail: 1 spent the summer in the meadows on Blackwell Hill (Gertie Hanson)

Blue Grouse: 1 female with 3 young 8/11/93. Navigation camp ground on Upper Priest Lake. (Shirley and Keith Sturts, Judy and Phil Waring)

Bonararte's Gull: 1 immature, 7/18/93, St. Maries Sewage Lagoons. (Dan and Ila Svingen)

American Redstart: 7/19/93 and 7/25/93, Mica Bay, CDA lake. (Shirley Sturts, Dan Svingen and Ester Stewart)

Pine Grosbeak: 7/9/93, 1 on the Avery breeding survey. 1 near Stevens Peak. (Shirley Sturts)

Thanks to Shirley Sturts for sightings information.

SEP 1993

Upcoming Field Trips

It is important to register with the field trip leader so that if plans change you can be informed. I am looking for people who would like to lead a field trip. If you have an interesting place you want to bird and want company, you can lead a trip. Don't feel you need to know every bird. The group can figure them out together. Shirley Sturts

Oct. 3 - Sunday - Sandpoint- Clarkfork

Meet at Wards parking lot at 7 am. We will travel to Sandpoint and if possible meet with Earl Chapin, a well known birder from Sandpoint who knows where the interesting birds can be found. Bring a lunch, I hope to be back in Coeur d'Alene by 2 or 3 pm. We will be looking for late migrating shorebirds and unusual wintering gulls along with an array of waterfowl. Please register in case plans change. Shirley Sturts 664-5318.

Oct. 17 - Sunday - Heyburn State Park

Leaving time 8 am from Wards parking lot. We will check out the birds along the lake and possibly hike some easy trails depending on the wishes of the group. Bring a lunch and plan to come back early afternoon. Please call Shirley Sturts and register, plans could change. 664-5318.