THE FISH HAWK HERALD

Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the National Audubon Society www.cdaaudubon.org September 2022 / Volume 31 Number 10



Upcoming Events

Mica Bay Survey, Board Meeting/Chapter Meetings Set for September 13

The regular monthly Mica Bay Bird Survey will be held September 13. Members are requested to meet at 8 a.m. in the parking area off Fairmont Loop where it connects with Highway 95 to begin the survey.

The September Board meeting will be held in person at 4:40 p.m. that day at the Lutheran Church of the Master, 4800 N. Ramsey Road in Coeur d'Alene.

The September Chapter meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. September 13 at the Lutheran Church. All members are encouraged to attend!

Bird Signage to be Installed at East Entrance To Tubbs Hill Trail

The CDA Chapter's bird signage, entitled "Birds Through the Seasons on Tubbs Hill, " will feature 8 species commonly seen on Tubbs Hill. Installation is expected to take place this fall.

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Highway 95 Cleanup Set for Oct 15

Submitted by Elinor Preiss

The Coeur d'Alene Audubon Society Chapter will hold its fall highway cleanup on October 15, continuing its semi-annual public service work to remove debris from along the roadside. Members who would like to participate should meet at the Mica Grange, 7465 W. Kidd Island Road, at 8 a.m. that day to get treats, safety bests, bags, grippers and assignments.

Clean-up crews generally work in twos, and if 16 or so members participate the work should be successfully completed in a few hours.

Signup sheets for the cleanup will be available at the September and October chapter meetings, or call or text Elinor Preiss at 970-440-0104.

Weasel Takes up Residence Bluebird Box



Peggy Albertson took this August 3 photo of a weasel in a bluebird box on Obrien's Road. The birds had left, but it apparently suited this new tenant just fine. Nobody dared try to evict him-- his teeth looked too sharp!

President's Message

Greetings to all of you from behind the binoculars of your Audubon President! I hope all of you have had great birding adventures as a cool, wet spring slid into summer. Please share these with the club as we resume our regular meetings on Sept. 13.

As of July 1, 2022 our Audubon Chapter has a new treasurer. Elli Emm agreed to step into that office after Janet Callan retired as of June 30. We appreciate the years of service Janet provided and once again extend our thanks to her, and wish her good birding going forward. I look forward to working with Elli as she takes over that responsibility.

My personal best birding experience this summer occurred in my own back yard. One hot day I was working in my office when I heard what I thought was a bird hitting our sliding glass door. It was a juvenile Cooper's Hawk standing on the deck looking at its reflection in the glass and pecking at it. I hurried to get my camera and when I edged outside the subject had flown to the railing of our deck. Fortunately, I was able to snap a few frames and am happy a couple of them turned out. A picture of the hawk is on page 3 of this newsletter.

Part of the Audubon focus is conservation and its impact on bird life. I am hoping our September program will focus on the impact of plastics in the environment.

As we begin a new Audubon year, my wish is that you continue to enjoy bird watching and find a surprise addition to your life list. If you are new to birding, just get out there and enjoy the hunt. Surprises await you.

Good Birding!

<u>Test Your Avian Movie</u> <u>Awareness: "The Birds"</u>

- 1. Alfred Hitchcock's 1963 movie, "The Birds," was based on a story by:
 - A. Agatha Christie B. Daphne Du Maurier
 - C. Stephen King D. Shirley Jackson
- 2. A live bird "extra" named Archie so disliked one of the people on the movie set that he routinely attacked him/her. Who was Archie's victim?
 - A. Rod Taylor B. Jessica Tandy C. Alfred Hitchcock D. Angela Cartwright
- 3. Hitchcock kept seagulls from flying off the set by feeding them:
 - A. French Fries B. Donuts C. Wheat soaked in whiskey
- 4. The first foreshadowing of coming bird attacks is: A. In the opening scene in San Francisco B. The seagull strike on Tippi Hedren C. A gull smashing into Suzanne Pleshette's screen door.
- 5. Who was considered for the leading role in the film? A. Troy Donahue B. Cary Grant C. Gregory Peck D. Anthony Perkins
- 6. Tippi Hedren's real-life daughter is:
 - A. Meg Ryan B. Laura Linney C. Jamie Lee Curtis D. Melanie Griffith
- 7. The owner of the café in Bodega Bay let Hitchcock film in his place on the condition that:
 - A. The lead male character was named "Mitch."
 - B. He could have a drink with Tippi Hedren.
 - C. His wife could be in the movie.
- 8, Hitchcock weaponized the seagulls attacking Cathy's birthday party guests by:
 - A. Having the crew throw live birds at the children.
 - B. Attaching fish hooks to gulls' feet.
 - C. Putting pins in their beaks and taping them shut.
- 9. Some critics thought the film symbolized:
 - A. The Polio pandemic B. Nuclear war C. Nature's revenge for pollution D. The spoiling of beachfront towns by hordes of tourists.
- 10. After finishing the harrowing scene where Hedren is trapped in a room of attacking birds, she
 - A. Flew into a rage at Hitchcock and slapped him
 - B. Spent several days in the hospital C. Reported Hitchcock to the ASPCA for animal cruelty (Answers on Page 3)

Extreme Birding Event Makes Prime Time TV

Bryant Gumbel's "Real Sports" recently aired a segment called "Bird Brains," an in-depth look at the World Series of Birding. Reporter Ariel Helwani worked on the piece for months, preparing himself and his film crew to follow enthusiastic (some might say fanatic) birder teams around New Jersey in their frenzied race to see or hear the most bird species in 24 hours.

Sixteen teams—with names like "Avian Avarice," "1000 Birds," and woman's group called "The Raven Lunachicks"—meticulously mapped out their strategies and schedules weeks before, then descended on the Garden State, racing down backroads and across beaches to find the most birds. Avian Avarice set a goal of 200 species, up 30 birds from its former record in a World Series.

The Real Sports program (Season 28, Episode 7) included photos of birds, but Helwani's real focus was on the birders themselves and their obsession with the "sport." Two college teams, one from Cornell, famous for its ornithology programs, the other from Princeton, were bitter birding rivals. Last year Princeton pirated away one of Cornell's top birder students—an outrage!

From midnight to midnight the teams scurried around New Jersey—a good place to hold the event, since state is in the middle of migratory routes for millions of birds.

In the end, it was the "Princeton Tiger Shrikes" (those thieves!) who won, reporting 205 species. Avian Avarice members were disappointed, but defiant. For World Series birders, just like in baseball, there's always another year.

This segment can be streamed on Hulu, HBO Max, and HBO NOW.

Answers to Quiz: 1-B, 2-A, 3-C, 4-A, 5-C, 6-D. 7-A. 8-C, 9-B, 10-B

Local Bird Sightings

Doug Ward reports that on July 20 he saw a pair of Lewis's Woodpeckers on Cape Horn Road just east of Bayview in Kootenai County. The birds were up the hill on the north and "cruising around some burned out snags from the 2015 fire about 1/4 mile east of "the Slide." These are the first Lewis's Woodpeckers Doug has seen here in 22 years.

Shauneen Terrell reports a sighting of a golden eagle across the field in front of their house in the Wolf Lodge area on July 7. She believes she may have seen others before, but thought they were ospreys.

(Note: Please send all Big Year Sightings to Shirley Sturts at shirleysturts@gmail.com for publication on the Audubon Chapter Webpage.)

Eagle in BC adopts hawk chick

A bald eagle in British Columbia brought back a red-tailed hawk chick to its nest—as dinner—and then decided to raise it. The nest, on Gabriola Island, is monitored by a wildlife camera and the amazing scene was caught on video. This apparently isn't the first such "adoption" of a hawk by eagles. One was reported in 2017 and another in 2019. You can find a video of this blended family at https://www.arowls.ca.

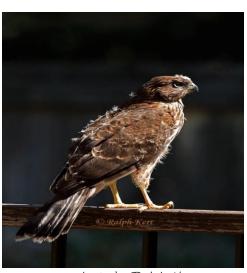


Photo by Ralph Kerr

CDA Audubon Chapter Officers

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Local Membership Dues

- ☐ Individual \$10.00
- ☐ Family \$15.00
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National Audubon New Member Application

Join Online at: http://www.audubon.org

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