

# THE FISH HAWK HERALD



Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the National Audubon Society  
[www.cdaaudubon.org](http://www.cdaaudubon.org)

December 2019

Volume 30 Number 4

## December Program

**Date:** December 10, Tuesday

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

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Speaker:** Midge Marcy-Brennan

**Program:** June 2018 Audubon Field Trip



June of 2018, nine members of the Coeur d'Alene Audubon spent four days at the J Bar L Ranch adjacent to the Red Rocks Wildlife Refuge. Midge Marcy-Brennan will share a short pictorial overview of that field trip.

There will be plenty of time to mingle and eat cookies. Feel free to wear your favorite Holiday Sweater!!

## Holiday Party for Birders!!

Our December meeting will be a Holiday Party for Birders!! We will have our annual Cookie Exchange where each family brings two dozen cookies of their choice and at the end of the night can take home a dozen of an assortment of all kinds. Bring some extra cookies for eating at the meeting.



Also bring a book or two (new) for "Books for Tots" (ages 2-12) for the annual campaign to collect new books for underprivileged kids in Kootenai County. They are distributed through "Toys for Tots"



## President's Message

Now we're into December with winter officially a couple of weeks away. That means some special events with our Audubon Club. The CdA Christmas Bird count will be held on Saturday, Dec. 14th and the Indian Mountain Christmas Bird Count on Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. This CBC is part of a nationwide event by Audubon to record the birds seen on a particular day.

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## President's Message

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We select a center point, then draw a circle with a fifteen mile diameter and count all of the birds seen inside the circle on that day. Small teams will be assigned an area to drive around in and observe. The CDA count takes in the city of CDA, parts of Post Falls, Rathdrum and Hayden Lake (including the lake). The Indian Mountain CBC is being organized by Lisa Hardy. It takes in Heyburn State Park, St. Maries and Harrison. The total count results will be sent into a central data base where our information will become part of a nationwide count of bird populations.

I've participated in the CBC for many years and have enjoyed being a part of it. Sometimes it gets boring, but then there will be a particular exciting moment that you remember. Like the day when covering Hayden Lake we saw the Long-tailed Duck, a first for me. Or the time on the river where Bill Gundlach and I watched a Bald Eagle pursue and eventually seize an unfortunate Bufflehead. In addition to the regular suspects, I've seen Pygmy Owl, Northern Shrike, and a variety of hawks. And occasionally we'll see a song bird that is not supposed to be here at this time. One year a Black-and-White Warbler was found in City Park (not by me).

For the CDA CBC, we will come together at Theresa Potts house in the evening for a potluck dinner and to report our sightings. Shirley Sturts is putting together the teams now, so if you haven't signed up yet, give her a call at 206-678-6187 or email [shirley.sturts@gmail.com](mailto:shirley.sturts@gmail.com). For the Indian Mountain CBC call Lisa at 480-522-6056 or email [99bsasalt@gmail.com](mailto:99bsasalt@gmail.com)

Remember the general meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> will include the cookie exchange (bring two dozen cookies and take home two dozen minus what you ate at the meeting) and bring a book or two for "Books For Tots". Donated books will be distributed to economically disadvantage children and families in the area for Christmas.

See you on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Dick



## Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge

Oct. 26, 2019

Dick Cripe

We had every kind of weather except hot on our Audubon field trip to Turnbull on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Seven hearty souls perused the fields and ponds of the reserve looking for and finding bird life. Thirty-one species that were spotted by at least two of our party included: Green-winged Teal, American Widgeon, Ring-necked Duck, Common Goldeneye, Northern Pintail, Mallard, Gadwall, Northern Shoveler, Belted Kingfisher, Northern Flicker, Red-tailed Hawk, Varied Thrush, swan (species), and hawk (species). A particular treat was the three swans flying back and forth around us and over the pond checking everything out to see if it was suitable.

Apparently it wasn't. The half-hour train delay at Cheney didn't dampen the spirits of the participants - Darlene Carlton, Karen Williams, Jan Severtson, Dave Yake, Dick Cripe, Dave Moughmer, and Lois Lebowitz.



## Fall Bird Sightings

Ancient Murrelet - captured by hand by Bailey Brown after landing in a parking lot in St. Maries (probably mistaking it for water). After being examined by Pat Flack, Carrie Hugo,

and Wayne Melquist, it was released in suitable habitat. Wayne said it appeared to be in good shape.

Eurasian Wigeon - 1 - November 2 - Lake Chatcolet in Heyburn State Park - Carl Lundblad  
American White Pelican - 1 - November 2 - Lake Chatcolet in Heyburn State Park - Carl Lundblad  
Red-throated Loon - 1 - November 2 - Lake Chatcolet in Heyburn State Park - Carl Lundblad  
Northern Pygmy-Owl - 1 - November 2 - Harlow Point Road along Harrison Slough - Carl Lundblad  
Pacific Loon - 3 - November 2 - Lake Chatcolet in Heyburn State Park - Carl Lundblad  
Yellow-billed Loon - 1 - November 2 - Lake Chatcolet in Heyburn State Park - Carl Lundblad  
Vermilion Flycatcher - 1 (a State Record if accepted by the Idaho Bird Records Committee) - October 28 - Deer Park National Wildlife Refuge, Canyon County - Art and Sonja Wilson  
Swamp Sparrow - 1 - November 2 - Lake Chatcolet in Heyburn State Park (Plummer Marsh Boardwalk) - Carl Lundblad  
Common Yellowthroat - 1 very late- November 2 - Harlow Point Road along Harrison Slough - Carl Lundblad

## Field Trips and Activities

### Mica Bay Survey

**Date:** December 10, Tuesday (Held 2nd Tuesday of each month - times vary depending on the month)

**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.

### Coeur d'Alene Christmas Bird Count

**Date:** December 14, Saturday.

**How to participate:** We need to cover a circle with a 15 mile diameter, the center being CDA Memorial Gardens, 7315 N. Government Way. You can join a team of 2-4 to cover an area within the circle, count birds at your feeder (choose the amount of time you want to spend), carve out a neighborhood or area to do on your own or with a friend for any amount of time you want to spend. Team choices:

1. Spokane River from the Highway 95 Bridge to Post Falls including part of the town of Post Falls
2. Spokane River east of the Highway 95 bridge both sides (dike road and Cougar Bay to Kidd Island.
3. City Park and Beach to Silver Beach and Fernan Lake, covers McEuen Park and Sanders Beach plus neighborhoods
4. Hayden Lake - covering Dalton Gardens -
5. and 6 Rathdrum Prairie.

**Sign up:** Call or email Shirley Sturts (206) 678-6187 or [shirley.sturts@gmail.com](mailto:shirley.sturts@gmail.com)

### Potluck following the count

**Where:** home of Theresa Potts (directions will be handed out at the breakfast)

**Time:** 4:00-5:00 Drinks and Appetizers

5:00-6:00 Potluck - sign up (Let me know) to bring a hot dish, salad or dessert (We only want to have 2 people bringing dessert)

6:00 (about) compile results

### Indian Mountain Christmas Bird Count

**Date:** January 5, Sunday

**Leader:** Lisa Hardy

**Sign up** -call Lisa (480) 522-6056 email [99basalt@gmail.com](mailto:99basalt@gmail.com)

**Area covered** - Harrison, St. Maries, Heyburn State Park to Spokane Point

**New Member Application**

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George Saylor 208 664-2787  
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**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*
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Mail this form and your check payable to: **Coeur d'Alene Audubon Chapter c/o Membership P.O. Box 361 Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816**



