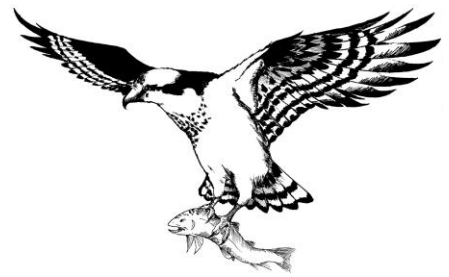


THE FISH HAWK HERALD



Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the National Audubon Society

www.cdaaudubon.org

February 2019

Volume 29 Number 6

February Program

Date: February 12, Tuesday

Time: 7:00 p.m.

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

Speaker: George Saylor

Program: "Tubbs Hill, a beloved local
landmark"



George will present a brief history of the geology of the hill, how it became public property, current issues facing the hill and what is being done about them, and a review of plant and animal life found on the hill. The program will also briefly review the Tubbs Hill Foundation and the work it has been doing to protect Tubbs Hill. There will be photos taken by Art Manley, as well as photos from three other sources that will present images from Tubbs' past and present, and finally, a pictorial review of a year in the life of Tubbs Hill is included.

President's Letter



Let's talk about Citizen Science - in particular the citizen science in which our Audubon chapter is engaged. By citizen science I mean research projects in which ordinary citizens participate by reporting their observations to some central research organization. Such projects lack precision because the skill of the reporters can vary widely as well as participant's discipline in carrying out observations. However, these studies are helpful in recording large scale events such as fluctuations in bird populations and the migration of bird species. It would be very expensive to collect such data with trained, paid professional scientists. While the results general and inexact, they are useful to scientists in generating hypotheses which can then be followed up in more closely controlled field work. *Continued on page 2*

President's Letter

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Trumpeter Swan – Photo by Lisa Hardy Taken on December 14, 2008 - Hayden Lake

CdA Audubon has just completed two Christmas Bird Counts in which we specified a day and counted all of the birds we saw during that day within a circle with a 15 mile diameter. Our two areas were the town of Coeur d'Alene and Indian Mountain at the south end of CdA Lake. In the last newsletter Shirley discussed these efforts and the resulting count is reported elsewhere on the website. CdA Audubon has done these studies for the past 29 years. The Christmas Bird Count is a project of The National Audubon Society so our results are incorporated into data from all over North America.

For the past 29 years on the second Tuesday of each month, Janet Callen and others have surveyed bird activity in Mica Bay, including the area along Mica creek from the highway to the lake. This information has been reported to eBird, a project of Cornell Lab of Ornithology. eBird is the world's largest biodiversity-related citizen science project. This data is incorporated into other studies for a broad record of changes in bird populations.

The Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology conducts several other citizen science projects in which we participate. In the summer, they conduct Project Nest Watch in which participants follow nesting activity both in nest boxes and natural nests in a delineated area. The Hoodoo Valley Bluebird Trail is a Project Nest Watch activity which has been going on several years. Also, a number of our members participate in Project Feeder Watch during the winter. This involves reporting weekly activity at their feeders. The spread of eye disease in house finches was first reported by citizen scientists participating in Project Feeder Watch. Cornell has noted the expanding range of many song birds due to an increase in the number of backyard bird feeders.



Photo by George Saylor of birds at his feeder

Participating in such studies is an alternative way to experience birding besides field trip identification. It is both personally rewarding and contributes to the overall body of ornithology knowledge. Our club should be proud of the extent to which we are taking part in such projects.

- *Dick Cripe* -

Field Trip To Home Feeders January 19, 2019

Judy Waring

Saturday morning dawned bleak with rain threatening to put a stop to our second annual feeder field trip. But much to our mutual surprise, we totaled 11 members involved in the hunt one way or another. Five people had agreed to open their homes to a gang of friends with wet boots and coats, hoping to see interesting birds looking for breakfast. The feeders had been well stocked a week in advance to establish a target for hungry birds.



**Pygmy Nuthatch at the feeder of Doug Ward
Photo by Ernest Ewing**

Our first stop was at Doug and Karen Ward's home where we listed ten species, including the Anna's Hummingbird that had arrived before we did but had moved on. Ten species here (and some great donuts).

From here we went to Janet Callen's home. She had a nice variety awaiting us. The California Quail is always a treat, followed by a Eurasian Collared Dove. I am sorry to report that her Anna's Hummingbird has not returned this year. (Also, chocolate cupcakes).

Continued on page 4



Recent Donations Received

Four hundred forty-two dollars and twenty cents! That is the amount of the check Coeur d Alene Audubon recently received from our local Pilgrims Market. A wonderful surprise. The donations our organization received were from their "Enviro Token Dime at a Time" program. Coeur d Alene Audubon has now cycled out of the program, but I was informed that we may someday recycle back in. If you shop there, please say thank you.

Meanwhile if you shop at Fred Meyer you can link your Rewards card to Coeur d Alene Audubon Society. Our organization Code number is MG846.

- 1) Fred Meyer Community Rewards enrollment.
- 2) www.fredmeyer.com/account/community-rewards
- 3) You can sign in, or if new, create an account.

Janet Callen (treasurer).



Field Trip To Home Feeders

Continued from page 3

Then on to Theresa Pott's home. Her American Goldfinch was camera shy too and was gone when we arrived but there were five species flitting in her shrubbery - Song Sparrow, Mt. Chickadee, plus.

Dick and Antje Cripe have made friends with 32 Turkeys who visit daily but they refused to show themselves, too.

George and Katie Saylor's birds that they watch daily from their comfortable chairs overlooking their yard with glimpses of the lake, failed to appear yet again! They must be a highly intelligent bunch that know that something is afoot when we arrive.

We will try again next year!



January Bird Sightings

Barrow's Goldeneye -
January 1 - Bennet Bay -
Doug Ward and Wolf Lodge

Bay - Bill Gundlach - January 19 - pond on Ponderosa Golf Course - a male and 3 females - Shirley Sturts and Judy Waring

Ruffed Grouse - January 15 - Killarney Farm - Ellen Scriven

Pacific Loon - January 3 Gotham Bay - Jacob Elonen - January 8 - Mica Bay Survey - Janet Callen, Vera Taggert, Ernie Ewing

Virginia Rail - January 12-Thompson Lake Wildlife Viewing area - Jon Isacoff

Mew Gull - January 1 - Independence Point - Doug Ward

Lesser Black-backed Gull - January 2 - NIC Dike Road - Jacob Elonen

Northern Shrike - January 2 - Indian Mt. CBC (west side) - Doug Ward and Dan Ratza

Blue Jay - January 5 - Fernan Hill - David Yake

Chestnut-backed Chickadee - January 2 - Mineral Ridge - David Yake - January 8 - Mica Bay Survey - Janet Callen, Vera Taggert, Ernie Ewing

White-breasted Nuthatch - January 2 - Mineral Ridge - David Yake

Brown Creeper - January 1 - Fernan Lake yard - Shirley Sturts

Bewick's Wren - January 12-Thompson Lake Wildlife Viewing area - Jon Isacoff

Pacific Wren - January 15 - Killarney Farm - Ellen Scriven

Marsh Wren - January 12-Thompson Lake Wildlife Viewing area - Jon Isacoff

American Dipper - January 1 - Along the shore of CDA Lake - Mark Stromberg - January 16 - Falls Park - David Yake

Varied Thrush - January 7 - Cooper's Bay, Hayden Lake - Carol Ogle

Red-winged Blackbird - January 2 - Indian Mt. CBC (west side) - Doug Ward and Dan Ratza

2018 Photo Contest Winners!

From the Great Backyard Bird Count GBBC eNewsletter

Drumroll please: the 2018 GBBC Photo Contest winners have been chosen! As always, there were so many wonderful images and our judges from Audubon, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and Bird Studies Canada had some difficult choices to make. Congratulations to Thomas Anderson of Florida for his first place finish in the Overall category with his image of an elegant Tricolored Heron. He and the top winners in the six contest categories will all receive prizes from GBBC sponsor Wild Birds Unlimited and from the Cornell Lab. [See all the winners and honorable mentions.](#)



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 make suggestions

Heyburn State Park:

Date: February 9, Saturday

Time: 9:00

Meet: Lowes Parking Lot, west side.

Leader: Dick Cripe - 208-665-0010. Trip is dependent on weather.

Activity: This is a $\frac{3}{4}$ day trip to tour the waters around Plummer, Heyburn Park, and Benewah Lake. Maybe lunch at the Casino

Mica Bay Survey

Date: February 12, Tuesday

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Meet: Fairmont Loop and Highway 95

Leaders: Janet Callen, 208 664-1085

Shirley Sturts 208 664-5318

Call leader: if you are coming

Activity: We spend about 3 hours once a month counting birds at Mica Bay. Beginner birders are welcome.

Lincoln County, WA.

Date: Mid-March

Time and Meet: TBA

Leader: TBA. Dependent on weather

Activity: This is a popular annual trip. Check on early waterfowl as well as owls and other predators. Reardon, WA including Reardon Ponds, Davenport, WA including cemetery, rural roads and Mill canyon.

Chain O' Lakes, CdA River

Date: Mid-April.

Time: TBA

Meet: Sherman Ave. Forest Service Office.

Leader: TBA

Activity: Observe the early arriving waterfowl along the chain of lakes from Killarney Lake to Harrison. Look for swans, ducks of all kinds, early migrants.

Bitterroot Valley/Lee Metcalf

Wildlife Refuge - Hamilton,

Montana

Date: TBA - May 17-19

Time and Meeting: TBA

Leader: George Saylor

Activity: This will be a three day/two night trip to the area around Hamilton MT. This area provides a variety of habitats - forested area, riparian, shallow ponds, and dry uplands. We will stay in lodging in Hamilton. Several of us made this trip in 2010

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Vice President:
Midge Marcy-Brennan 208 661-0206
Recording Secretary:
Valerie Zagar 208 819-5115
Treasurer:
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Board Members: all officers +
Barbara Christofferson, Darlene
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Publicity: open
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George Saylor 208 664-2787
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Membership: Peggy Albertson 208 664-1616
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Mailing: Peggy Albertson 208 664-1616
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Historian: Open

National Audubon
New Member Application

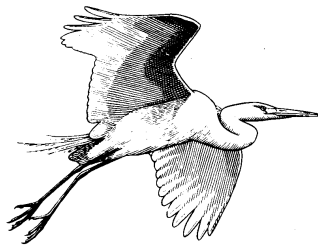
Join Online at:
http://www.audubon.org

Or

Join by Phone – call:
1-844-428-3826

Reference our Chapter

Code G06



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*
- Additional donation _____*

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**Mail this form and your check payable to: Coeur d'Alene Audubon Chapter
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