

THE FISH HAWK HERALD



Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the National Audubon Society
www.cdaudubon.org

January 2021

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Zoom Meeting January 12 - 7:00 pm



I will be sending out a zoom link and information to those on the Audubon Chapter email list. If you are not on the list, I will have the information and link on our Website in the meeting section. Or send a request to me to get on the list at shirley.sturts@gmail.com Dick has more information about our meeting in his "President's Message".

Spring is only 90 days away! And the vaccine is being distributed! So much to look forward to! The Christmas Bird Count for Coeur d'Alene has been completed. I haven't seen any final numbers yet, but we had good weather and a high level of participation. I walked around my hillside for a few hours, but most of my birds reported came from the area feeders. I had an enjoyable walk and good exercise.

Indian Mountain bird count around Harrison and Heyburn SP is scheduled for January 2nd. I've always enjoyed that event in the past, diverse habitat and usually a good number of birds. So, if you're interested look elsewhere on this newsletter for the specifics and sign up.

Last month I mentioned the 1000-piece jigsaw puzzle that Antje and I have started on which consists of 12 pictures of owl faces. It is now three weeks later and we're almost done! We expect to finish by Christmas. I now can identify several owls, but only if they fly up close and stare me in the face.

We haven't met together as a club for almost a year and we all miss the contact. We might be able to meet in person later this spring depending on how fast the vaccine is distributed and how many of us get priority.

Continued on page 2

President's Message January



Waa-Hoo! As I write this it is one day after the winter solstice which means that daylight today is longer!

President's Message

Continued from page 1

In the meantime, I'd like to try a ZOOM meeting in January at our regular meeting time - Tuesday, January 12 at 7:00. It will be a short meeting of about an hour. Ralph Kerr said he would prepare some photos of his trips to Yellowstone this past year. To participate is easy and doesn't require you to download an app or buy any program. We'll send the link and some simple instructions a couple of days before the 12th. You do have to provide your own coffee and cookies, however. In the meantime, have a - MERRY CHRISTMAS

Dick Cripe



Coeur d'Alene CBC

Doug Ward

We held our annual Coeur d'Alene Christmas Bird Count on Saturday, December 19th, 2020. As with everything 2020, this year's count was different in that it was different. Normally the day begins with a pre-count breakfast down at Michael D's to get organized and consume enough coffee that it takes a good half hour after breakfast waiting in line (you get the picture) to actually get out there and start

counting. Then we break out into teams to cover our traditional six (6) areas before reconvening in the evening for a hearty potluck and beverages while we all tell lies about what we saw with the ultimate goal of compiling the results of the day.

Well, this was 2020 after all, so none of the fun extracurriculars were possible due to social distancing necessitated by the virus. Nor was it possible to bird in teams for the same reason. So the solution was to break up the six (6) main areas into fourteen (14) sub-areas, each covered by individuals or groups of two or three that were comfortable spending the day together. Even though this limited the social aspect so many look forward to every year, and a general angst about being out in the first place, we still had thirty-three (33) total participants, including feeder watchers, which was right at the average number of folks over the past ten (10) years.

The day was a decent one with forecast poor weather holding out and reasonable access and open water available for a good count. We collectively found 67 species (right on the twenty-nine (29) year average) and 8,407 total individuals (~20% above average) during the day. While nothing too rare was found, notables include Gadwall, "Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawk, Merlin (5 total by 3 groups!!), and both Blue and Canada Jays (aka Grey Jay). Count week additions (+/- 3 days from count day) include Green-winged Teal, Greater Scaup, and Ruddy Duck. What was impressive, however, were the record numbers for several species including

Continued on page 3

Coeur d'Alene CBC

Continued from page 2

Barrow's Goldeneye, Western Grebe, European Starling, and most notably Pine Siskins where we counted a total of 688 individuals, almost double the previous record!! On the flip side, we missed Pied-billed Grebe and Herring Gull, both of which had been almost automatic having been seen on at least 27 of the past 29 counts. With the exception of Canada Geese, Mallards, and Buffleheads, we also had a relative paucity of waterfowl numbers and diversity which was surprising as most groups reported mostly open water.

Wild Turkey 2
 Ring-necked Pheasant 1
 Belted Kingfisher 1
 Mallard 30
 Bufflehead 6
 Common Goldeneye 1
 American Wigeon 2
 Canada Geese 250
 Red-necked Grebe 2
 Ring-necked Duck 40
 Bald Eagle, immature 1
 Common Merganser 1
 Gull Sp 2
 Double-crested Cormorant 4
 Common Loon 1

Recent Bird Sighting

Snow Goose – 1 – (with 100 Canada Goose)
 Bonner County – in his yard - December 21 –
 Rich Del Carlo

Red-breasted Merganser – 2 – North Idaho
 Collage Beach – December 20 – David Yake
American White Pelican – 1 – Killarney Lake
 – December 25-28+ – Ellen Scriven – (first
 winter sighting north of Lewiston where 1 was
 seen there during the winter in 2017)

Barred Owl – 1 Sandpoint Wetland Trail –
 December 16 – Jethro Runco

Horned Lark – 85 – Benewah County –
 December 12 – Kas Dumroese

Bohemian Waxwing – 20 - Bonner County –
 in his yard – Fred Forsell

White-winged Crossbill – 10 – Cabinet
 Mountain Foothills – December 13 –
 Diana Roberts

Mica Bay December 8th The weather was
 perfect for December – Observers: Darlene
 Carlton, Karen Williams, Bill Gundlach

Song Sparrow 1
 Black-capped Chickadee 10

Field Trips



Indian Mountain CBC

The Indian Mtn count will be held on Sat., Jan 2. Anyone interested in participating please contact Bob Kemp either by phone or email. Phone-208 292 7228. [Email--rmackemp@hotmail.com](mailto:rmackemp@hotmail.com). The Covid situation makes car pooling impractical so we will plan accordingly.
 Thanks

Mica Bay Survey

Date: January 12, 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

Call her if you plan on coming - she may cancel if the roads are bad.

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

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_____*

Total \$ _____

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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*

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National Audubon New Member Application

Join Online at:
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Join by Phone – call:
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Reference our Chapter
Code G06

