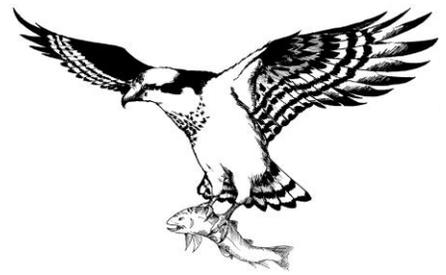


# THE FISH HAWK HERALD



Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the National Audubon Society

[www.cdaaudubon.org](http://www.cdaaudubon.org)

November 2018

Volume 29 Number 3

## November Program

**Date:** November 13, Tuesday

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

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

**Speaker:** George and Katie Sayler

**Program:** Panama, Beautiful Birds and More



In March, 2018, George and Katie Sayler spent ten days traveling and bird-watching in Panama. For the first five days they stayed with good friends in the highlands of northwestern Panama, hiking, sightseeing and birding. The last five they traveled to the Panama City area for more birding. The program features highlights of their trip, including photos of nearly 50 species of birds, as well as scenes from their travels and information about the nation of Panama and its people

## President's Letter



I'm here at my desk looking out at our birch tree full of bright yellow-green leaves sparkling in the sun. We're now in full fall glory. I love this season, both for the color and for the cool crisp air. The wave of migration is now largely over except for ducks and geese, and hunting season on them is underway. The songbirds are mostly gone until next spring. The Cornell Ornithology Lab magazine *Living Bird* reports that 4 billion birds will have crossed into the US from Canada this fall and 4.7 billion will have left the US moving south. While we are appalled at the destruction to communities in the southeast by hurricanes Florence and Michael, it also occurs to me that millions of migrating birds must have perished as well. I know they can sense approaching storms, but where do they hide from storms that broad and violent?

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## President's Letter

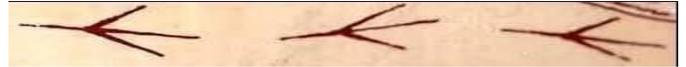
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Most of us don't stop to think about what an amazing feat the birds' migration is. I recently read "Are We Smart Enough to Know How Smart Animals Are?" By Frans DeWaal. In it he criticizes psychologists who conduct experiments on animals that do not relate to the animals nature and how the animal lives. It occurred to me to devise some experiments to be administered to humans that don't fit in any way with our capabilities and how we live. So, suppose we take a group of high school students, blindfold them, and deposit them on an open field at dusk. We take off their blindfolds and present them with an ultra-lite flying machine full of gas that will take them 100 miles. Then we instruct them to fly south to Moscow 90 miles away where they are to land. If they make it they are judged to have migrated successfully. If they don't they are judged to be lost and condemned to spend the winter in the frozen north. I've been assured by the few folks to whom I've mentioned this idea that no one would make it.

It is a ridiculous idea, of course, but it makes that point that birds as they migrate a thousand miles to return to their home tree on their home mountainside are doing something remarkable which we cannot begin to do and have trouble comprehending how they do them.

With that thought, enjoy the beautiful fall weather and keep looking for our amazing feathered friends as they make their remarkable journey back south.

- Dick Cripe -



### Bird Sightings October 2018



**Surf Scoter** - 2 - October 6 - Priest Lake - Sherry Lee

**Western and Red-necked Grebe** - 2 each - October 9 - Mica Bay Survey - Janet Callen and Darlene Carlton

**Wood Duck** - 2 - October 9 - Mica Bay Survey - Janet Callen and Darlene Carlton

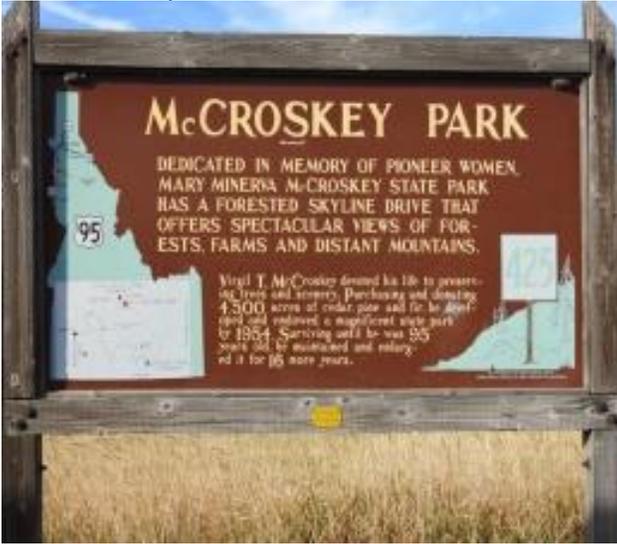
**Mew Gull** - 1<sup>st</sup> winter - October 20 - just west of Independence Point - Carl Lundblad

**Common Tern** - 1 - October 14, Rocky Point, Heyburn State Park - Carl Lundblad

**Pileated Woodpecker** - 1 - October 5 - Priest Lake - Sherry Lee

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## Mary Minerva McCrosky State Park, September 29, 2018.



Janet Callen-leader. Earnie Ewing-Photographer Vera Taggart-Author and Valarie Zagar and Sally Gundlach.

Two cars headed south to Mary Minerva McCroskey State Park on a gorgeous fall morning. After a brief stop at the rest area we headed up to Skyline Drive. Driving into the forest, there wasn't much bird action. The views were spectacular, with lots of color on the surrounding hills. We had a picnic lunch after hiking a short dirt-bike trail. Finally we began to spot some bird action as we got into open areas. We had a good look at several species: Hairy Woodpecker, Red-breasted Nuthatch and best of all an American Kestrel.

We could view the settling ponds in Tensed from the mountain. After making our way to the ponds, we saw only Canada Geese and Mallards! It was a perfect day for a drive to a place I had always wanted to visit. McCroskey Park is a treasure we are lucky to have. (Vera)

For the day, we identified 18 species including a Steller's Jay, several raptors, American Crow, Common Raven and Black-billed Magpie. We had spectacular views of Washington and Idaho.



### Audubon Fall litter pick-up

Thanks to the 13 members who showed up to clean litter from Highway 95 on Saturday, October 6. The day got off to a grey start but the drizzle eventually stopped and we accomplished our goal - 21 bags of junk cleaned from one small segment of Idaho's highways! - Mike and Valarie Zagar -

## Sightings October 2018

Continued from Page 2

**Cedar Waxwing** - 30 - October 9 - Mica Bay Survey - Janet Callen and Darlene Carlton

**Black-capped (4), Mountain (4), Chestnut-backed (2) Chickadee** - October 4 - his yard in Hayden - Doug Ward



**White-throated Sparrow** - 1 - October 14 - Bonner County - at his home - Fred Forsselol

**American Tree Sparrow** - 2 - October 21 - Kerr Lake, Boundary County - Carl Lundblad

**Gray Jay** - 1 or more - October 5-7 - Priest Lake

**Black-throated Gray Warbler** - 1 - October 4 - Loch Haven, Hayden- Doug Ward

**Yellow-Rumped Warbler** - 1 - October 20 - City Park - Carl Lundblad



Sneed Collard

Author of Children's Nature Books

Come hear Sneed Collard, author of children's nature books speak at the Well-Read Moose on Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6-7:30 p.m.

He will be sharing tales from his book, "Warblers and Woodpeckers, a Father & Son Big Year of Birding". Call the Well-Read Moose for details - 208 215-2205



### Field Trips and Activities

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

### Mica Bay Survey Changes

*Shirley Sturts*

We have been doing the Mica Bay Surveys once a month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month for several years. We spend 2-3 hours checking out the birds and reporting them on eBird. There are always interesting birds to find. We want these surveys to continue but there are changes that need to be made. For some time now Janet Callen has faithfully been there to lead the trip; rain, snow or sunshine. The problem is she never knows who will be there. What if she is not able to be there?

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## Mica Bay Surveys Changes

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Two changes need to be made. FIRST, call Janet 208 664-1085 or Shirley 208 664-5318 if you plan on coming. If we know you are coming, we will make sure there is a leader for the trip. If no one calls to sign up for the trip to Mica Bay, a leader may not show up either.

SECOND, we would like to have TWO substitute leaders that she can call on in case she is unavailable. Let Janet or myself know if you would help out as a substitute.

### Mica Bay Survey

**Date:** November 13, Tuesday

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Meet:** Fairmont Loop and Highway 95

**Leaders:** Janet Callen, Shirley Sturts

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

### Little Spokane River Nature Area

**Date:** Wednesday, Nov. 14

**Time:** 8:00 am

**Meet:** Former K-Mart shopping lot

**Leader:** TBA

**Activity:** This is a 3/4 day trip to Little Spokane River area. It will involve a 2-mile walk on level ground along the river. Bring lunch and water. Details to follow.

### Audubon Ladies Christmas Luncheon

Save the date December 5th on your calendars for the Christmas Ladies' Luncheon. Invitation and details to follow at a later time. Valerie Zagar, organizer

## Coeur d'Alene Christmas Bird Count

**Date:** December 15, 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 McEwen Park and Sanders Beach plus neighborhoods
4. Fernan, Stanley and Cherry Hill to Hayden Lake - covering Dalton Gardens - and Hayden Lake
5. Going around Hayden Lake
6. and 7. Rathdrum Prairie.

**Sign up:** Call or email Shirley Sturts with your choice - team (which area), feeder, neighborhood or other 664-5318 or shirley.sturts@gmail.com

**Time (teams):** 6:30 breakfast at Michael D's or be there by 7:30 to join your team. We bird to dark. We meet afterward for a potluck and to compile the results (details will be in the December newsletter)

**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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**Treasurer:**  
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George Sayler 208 664-2787

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**Programs:** Midge Marcy-Brennan

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