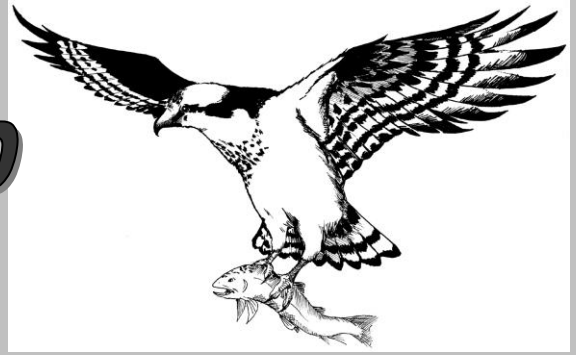


THE FISH HAWK HERALD

Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the National Audubon Society



OCTOBER 2000

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 2

10TH ANNIVERSARY GALA! COEUR D'ALENE CHAPTER

OCTOBER 14 SATURDAY

Banquet – Awards Ceremony – Raffle
Silent Auction - Door Prizes

DATE: October 14, Saturday

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Hayden Lake Country Club

BANQUET TICKETS: \$25.00 per person (must be purchased before the banquet – tickets will not be available at the door. Call a board member to get your tickets.

SPEAKER: Dan Beard, National Audubon's Senior Vice President of Public Policy.

AWARDS: Scott Reed will be awarded the National Audubon Society Presidential Award.

The community is invited to come help us celebrate our 10th anniversary.

RAFFLE TICKETS \$5.00 for set of 3 tickets . You need not be present to win in the raffle. For those in attendance there will be a door prize, an auction and a silent auction.

For more information or to buy tickets call any board member – see the back page of this newsletter for names and phone numbers.



We will be holding an auction and silent auction as well as a REALLY HUGE raffle at our Tenth Anniversary Banquet. We wish to thank area merchants and Audubon members for their generosity and donations. Anyone wishing to donate auction/raffle items can contact any board member (See back page for names and phone numbers). Some of the items donated so far are:

- Two rounds of golf and one night stay at the Coeur d'Alene Resort
- A ride in Brook's Seaplane on Lake Coeur d'Alene
- Two season tickets to the Coeur d'Alene Summer Theater 2001 season of Broadway Musicals
- Two dinner-cruises on the St Joe River from the Coeur d'Alene Press
- Autographed leather-bound limited edition Roger Tory Peterson Field Guide - Bookery
- Hand beaded hummingbird necklace by Nancy Aley
- Hand-crafted Amish bird feeder
- Bird feeder from Wild Bird's Unlimited
- 48-quart ice chest set from Black Sheep Sporting Goods
- Inlaid silver earrings from Journey's
- Two rounds of golf from Avondale Golf Course

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RAFFLE AND AUCTION ITEMS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



- Binoculars from Camera Corral
- 25 lbs. of black-oil sunflower seeds from Janet Callen
- 3 wildlife prints by Jacquie Vaux
- Hummingbird Ceramic Figurine from Clark's Jewelry
- Cord of wood

from David and Theresa Potts

- A framed picture of a Wren from Country Porch
- 2 bird prints by Charles Schwartz, Illustrator of The Sand County Almanac from Libby Schwartz
- 1 Bluebird print by Charles Schwartz from Keith and Shirley Sturts
- A Black-capped Chickadee art print by local artist Dianne Munkittrick from Riverbend Gallery)
- 2 wildlife art prints (a swan and a wolf) by local artist Donald D. Smith from Riverbend Gallery
- Original artwork by Wes Hanson
- Framing for art work from Frugal Framer, Frame of Mind, Devon Gallery, Flaherty's, World of Art Gallery, Frame and Easel; River City Gallery
- Greeting Cards by Sharon Gould, Toad Hall Studio
- One ounce silver collector's round from Sunshine Mining and Refining Co
- Food-filled basket from The Flour Mill
- An acupuncture treatment from Dr. Barbara Boss
- Two dresses with original bird art work by Mary Dee from Local Color
- A box of apples from Shields Produce
- A candle from the "Cats Eye" collection and a \$10 gift certificate from The Long Ear
- Two 8" round cakes from Dairy Queen
- 25 lb. Bag of bird seed from Ace Hardware
- Basic Bicycle Tune from Vertical Earth
- Book: Birder's Journal – National Geographic form Book and Games
- 2 quarts of Ice Cream from Baskin's Robbins
- 1 Perm or 3 haircuts from Avant-Garde

- Avon Product from Linda Stark, Avon Representative
- 2 tickets to the Interplayers in Spokane for any one of their 2000-2001 season plays from Keith and Shirley Sturts
- 4 tickets to any of the Coeur d'Alene Symphony Orchestra concerts from the Symphony Board of Directors
- A Sonic Jewelry Cleaner from Everson's Jewelry
- 1 Do It Yourself Dog Wash from Laundramutt
- A free pet examination and a set of vaccinations for a dog or cat from Alpine Animal Hospital
- Wheeled Carry-on Day Pack from the Army Navy Store
- A print of Tubbs Hill and the Board Walk from The Coeur d'Alene Galleries
- 10 coupons for a free pizza from Papa Murphey's Take and Bake Pizza
- A ride in a Kootenai County Sheriff's patrol car
- 1 Month Membership from 24 hr. Fitness
- A 2000 Calendar from Insty-Prints
- Bird Feeder from Roger Young
- \$500 gift certificate toward any of their Sea Kayak Camping Trips next year from Sea Kayak Adventures –Terry and Nancy Prichard
- Tool box from Simon's Do It Center
- A vasectomy from Dr. Charles Gates
- Fishing rod and reel from Fins and Feathers
- An item from Mountain West Bank
- 5 coupons for 2 games of bowling-Cove Bowl
- Skin exam from Dr. Steven Craig
- Hearing test from Dr Stout and Dr. Farr
- Poster wildlife print from Sunshine Mining and Refining Co.
- Natural Food Basket from Pilgrim's Health Foods
- 3 coupons for a complimentary luxury car wash from Lett's Downtown Car Wash
- Corner locking gun rack from Alpine Indoor Shooting Gallery
- Gift basket from Granny's Wild Geranium
- 2 mugs and a t-shirt from Idaho Fish and Game
- Gift Certificates from: Killarney Farms, Coldwater Creek, Boller's Automotive, Sherman IGA, Coeur d'Grain Bakery, Java Coffee and Café, Sports Cellar, French Cleaners, Lumber Jack Lodge, Life Touch Therapy,

MORE TO COME!!!!!!!

CALL ANY BOARD MEMBER FOR DINNER OR RAFFLE TICKETS – COME JOIN THE FUN AND WIN SOME GREAT PRIZES-----YOU NEED NOT

OCTOBER FIELD TRIPS

MICA BAY SURVEY

DATES: October 9 Monday / October 27 Friday

TIME: 8:00 a.m.

MEET: Fairmont Loop and Highway 95

LEADER: Shirley Sturts, 664-5318

ACTIVITY: We spend about 3 hours twice a month counting birds in the Mica Bay area.

Beginner birders are welcome to join us.

BROWN BAG BIRDING TRIP

DATE: October 10, Tuesday

TIME: 12:00 Noon to 1:00 p.m.

MEET: West end of Fernan Lake at the public boat dock

LEADER: Lynn Sheridan

ACTIVITY: We will look for birds at both the west and east end of the lake as time permits. Migrants are moving through our area now.

WHITE PINE ECOLOGY TRIP

DATE: Oct. 21, Saturday

TIME: 7:00 a.m.

MEET: Cove Bowl, east end of Sherman

LEADER: Lisa Hardy 682-4808

ACTIVITY: We will drive over Fernan Saddle birding along the way. We will take a 1 or 2 mile hike in the Deception Creek area, with a discussion of White Pine Ecology at the start of the hike.

Boundary Wildlife Management Area

DATE: Nov. 5, Sunday

TIME: 7:00 a.m.

MEET: Rosauer's Parking Lot, east side

LEADER: Shirley Sturts, 664-5318

ACTIVITY: Morning - Birding the Kootenai NWR
Afternoon - Touring the newly established Boundary Creek WMA with Pat Cole from Idaho Fish and Game. Return home 5:00 p.m. Bring lunch and water

PALOUSE AUDUBON SOCIETY FIELD TRIP AND WE ARE INVITED

DATE: October 7, Saturday

Charles Swift will lead an all day field trip to St. Maries, Harrison, and the Chain of Lakes at the south end of Lake Coeur d'Alene.

If interested in going call Shirley Sturts for details.

664-5318

SEA KAYAK ADVENTURES, INC. ANNOUNCES A JAN TRIP TO BELIZE AND SEVERAL FEB TRIPS TO BAJA'S MAGDALENA BAY GRAY WHALE LAGOON (PACIFIC SIDE OF THE BAJA PENINSULA).

BELIZE: Terry and Nancy Prichard of Sea Kayak Adventures will host a trip to Glover's Reef & Atoll operated by Slickrock Adventures, followed by an optional extension to some birding sites to inland Belize. One start date only: Jan 12, 2001: 6-day Glover's Reef Friday-Wednesday \$1250; 10-day Glover's Reef \$1750

BAJA PACIFIC LAGOON: Feb 2001 7-day sea kayak tours from a tent basecamp, including 2 nights hotel, birding, sea kayaking, whale watching, all equipment/ guides/ instruction - \$940 (several departures available)

For details, contact:

Sea Kayak Adventures, Inc

1315 Indiana Ave

Coeur d'Alene ID 83814

800-616-1943 or 208-765-3116

Email: <skadvent@iea.com>

www.seakayakadventures.com

finally safe and has found someone to care for his needs.

With him still dozing inside my shirt I arrange branches, perching sites, and a water dish inside the cat's carrier. I snicker at the irony as I work. He awakens and eats more night crawlers. I notice that he has good manners and has not pooped inside my shirt. He soon makes up for it though. He enters the carrier willingly and flaps up to perch on a ponderosa pine branch of modest height.

It is in the mid-fifties outside tonight—too cool yet to leave a young bird outside. He seems to approve of the guest bedroom. He eats three more night crawlers and about eight pine nuts before settling in for the night. I leave a window open so he can hear the birds in the morning and then drape a towel over the crate. His poops are watery, tomorrow I will have to find him something to eat with an exoskeleton.

12 July

Baby birds are very sensible. They hate to stir when it is still chilly, so I get to sleep in until 6:30. The first night is the most critical for rescued birds, if they survive the first night it is a good sign. Because I hear no sounds coming from the guest bedroom, I open the door with bated breath. The sound prods the jay into frantic squawking. Ah, he lives!

He's robust this morning and has a healthy appetite. I add raw sunflower seeds to his meal. His poop is becoming more solid, which is another good sign. He begins shivering during his feeding and climbs inside my shirt for warmth. We humans mistake this sort of act as affection. While he is merely seeking warmth I am also convinced young birds need this close contact, this resonance of another heart beating. I warm his body he warms my heart.

We start an exercise program today. I make him balance on my fingers and test his wing flapping abilities. I "groom" him with my index finger nail and it makes him fluff his feathers and shake his tail and commence preening. My assessment: good appetite, good stamina, and good grooming. Wonderful!

I wish I had been able to rescue jay's other siblings as well. Jays are highly social birds and depend upon conspecifics (those related by blood or brood,) in daily life. Corvids have a highly evolved social structure and associated behaviors. I simply cannot teach him all he knows to get along in jay society. He'll be like a human raised by wolves, no? I'll just have to do my best at affecting the rituals of jay interaction, and hope no one else is watching.

MISTER STELLER COMES TO STAY

(And grants me an honorary place within the jay clan)

by Susan Weller

11 July 2000

Brandi at the Rose Lake Store called to say there is a baby "blue jay" outside on the asphalt near the gas pumps. When I arrived she had moved the bird to an area cordoned



Photo by Wayne Tree

off by Zanetti blocks. The Stellar's jay was squawking enthusiastically and flapping his wings frantically. My initial assessment was no problem with the pipes and his wings appear to be intact.

As kids Brandi and her brother Josh made spending money one summer providing me with insects for another bird, a fledgling swallow. Now young adults with a love for wild creatures, Brandi and Josh explain the fate of the jay's two siblings: one killed by their cat, one killed by slamming into the window and plummeting to the pavement. Normally, I tend to leave baby birds where I find them. Most often the mother bird is well aware of her fledgling's location and is caring for it on the sly. Josh and Brandi have not seen the parents of the bird for several days—a notable event since they usually visit their bird feeders frequently.

Under the circumstances I feel the jay needs to be taken in hand if he is to survive. The bird calms down a little after I tuck him into the safety of my shirt. I'm convinced they can feel or hear the beating of your heart and interpret your intentions by its cadence. Brandi cracks open a fresh container of fat night crawlers and I dangle a piece in front of the jay's open gape. He gobbles two or three pieces and then promptly falls asleep, his little head nodding drunkenly to one side. Poor little fella, I think he knows he's

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MISTER STELLER COMES TO STAY

COTINUED FROM PAGE 4

I estimate jay's age at about fifteen days or younger. His tail is very stubby and his entire body sports pin feathers and sheathed feathers. His wings are well developed

He is beginning to use his crest to indicate mood and expression. He raises it to indicate interest as well as irritation. He folds it back to indicate submissiveness and sleepiness. The inside of his gape is pinkish. His parents would have continued to feed him for about 40 more days and then would have supplemented his meals for another month. I have quite a lengthy chore here but I don't mind.

Jay doesn't want to go back into the carrier after feedings, I believe he enjoys the social contact and is lonely for attention. I set his carrier outside so he can hear the baby house wrens cheeping. Close by young Cordilleran flycatchers vocalize from a nest, as do violet-green and tree swallows, warbling vireos, gray catbirds, spotted towhees, and robins. Jay seems content to perch and watch the action of the bird world whizzing by his crate. Now I'll have to find food for him.

On my morning walk down to the Cataldo Slough I learn that mullein has some sort of weevil on its buds. They aren't big but there's a lot of mullein and a lot of weevils. The tiny bugs will make nice filler to round out what ever other insects I can find. I discover hawkweed also has its own host insect--a beetle—and it's larger than the weevils. I find five bald-faced hornet larvae under a rock I scrounge the few ripe service berries I can find and head back to feed the jay. Slim pickings to be sure.

You learn something new every day, and today the jay continues my education by casting a pellet. It contains the remains of night crawlers and crushed sunflower seeds. Here is evidence I need to find him something with an exoskeleton to aid with food digestion. The insects are a good start but we need something more substantial. I'll call the Happy Hooker bait shop and see if they have mealworms. They do, and he likes them though I have to cut them in half because they are to big for him to swallow.

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He casts two more pellets similar in composition to the first. I find no more after I add mealworms to his diet.

BOARD MEETING

September 5

Lynn Sheridan

- ◆ Present: Kris Buchler, Shirley Sturts, Susan Weller, Janet Allen, Mick Mihelich, George Saylor, Janet Callen, Jan Severtson, Lisa Harding, Ronn Rich, Lynn Sheridan
- ◆ Final details were arranged for the September 16th Dedication Ceremony for the Gertie Hansen Memorial Platform.
- ◆ Plans for the Banquet were discussed. A final meeting will be held at the home of Janet Allen on October 10th to review raffle items and to choose the door prize, auction items and silent auction items. All of us are encouraged to sell raffle and dinner tickets. We all got our assignments for the big evening. Ed Buchler will be out auctioneer.

BIRDING WITH A BROWN BAG SEPTEMBER 12

Lynn Sheridan

One participant: Peggy Schnell!!! Peggy works at NIC in administration, and walks along the river often. Summer Osprey were gone, and there were no unusual waterfowl. The familiar Canada Goose, Mallard, Ring Billed Gull, European Starling and American Crow were all that greeted our eyes and ears. Further along the road the conifers were alive with "peeps" – more than 20 Pygmy Nuthatch were seen pecking for insects in the bark and cones. Red-breasted Nuthatch, about 10, were busy too. Peggy and I enjoyed the spectacle, then said "adieu". She would like to do another lunch walk, when a better variety of ducks are present, and she'll bring a group of co-workers from the college. On the way home I saw several Barn Swallow still around the Hagadone

office building where they nest under the pilings. We also had plenty of Rock Dove.

BLUEBIRD TRAILS

Theresa Potts

One late afternoon in the winter of '99 in an RV park in Arizona, I was waiting for my laundry to finish. I picked up an edition of "Birder's Digest" to occupy my time, and found a very interesting article about pairing or not pairing nesting boxes for Bluebirds.

The article discussed what the Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin, or BRAW, had decided to do about increasing the Bluebird population in Wisconsin. Their decision, after doing some studies, was not to pair boxes.

I reported this article to some of the people who have worked on the Gertie Hanson Bluebird Trail and was informed about the annual meeting of the National American Bluebird Society meeting in Great Falls. I decided that I would attend and try to get more information about increasing Bluebird populations.

It was there that I met Ellen Scriven's (a member of our Audubon chapter) mother, Dorene Scriven. She has been extremely active in the effort to increase the Bluebird population in Minnesota. Her belief is that paired boxes work best because this arrangement gives the Bluebird and the Swallow each a box next to each other rather than having them compete over one box.

Upon returning home and reading a book on this subject edited by Dorene, I thought we ought to give this method a try. Our Bluebird group was willing. In the very early spring of 2000, Roger Young, Shirley Sturts, Kris Buchler, Jan Severtson, Dell Cameron, Lynn Sheridan, Ken Eppler and I toured the trail. We paired the boxes that were usable by placing two boxes 10 feet apart and then spacing the next pair 300 feet from the previous pair. We then made plans to build more boxes and pair these up in a similar manner. Roger and Ken completed this job and everything was in place when the Bluebirds and Swallows arrived.

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We monitored these boxes from mid-April to the first part of August. In another article I will share the results of our efforts and compare 2000 with the results of 1998 and 1999.

ROCHAT/CRYSTAL LAKE SEPTEMBER 9

Lisa Hardy

On a cool, cloudy Saturday morning four enthusiastic birders traveled up Latour Creek to the St. Joe River Divide. We parked at the Sheep Springs Trailhead, an elevation of about 5000 feet. We hiked the two miles into Crystal Lake admiring a few late blooming flowers along the way.

We found a flock of several dozen adult and immature White-crowned Sparrow. We also had a surprise Townsend's Warbler and a Fox Sparrow. We saw a number of raptors including Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk and an American Kestrel. Other species we especially enjoyed watching were Golden and Ruby Crowned Kinglet, a Townsend's Solitaire, a Yellow-rumped Warbler and a flock of Cedar Waxwing.

We came up with a grand total of 19 species. Trip participants were Kris and Ed Buchler, Ken Eppler and Lisa Hardy.

BIRD SEED FOR SALE



Black Oil Sunflower

50LB \$14.00

25LB \$ 7.50

Niger (Thistle) \$1.25 LB

Available at Regular Meetings

or call Janet Callen at
664-1085

Price includes sales tax
All proceeds benefit
Coeur d' Alene Audubon

OBSERVATION POST



OBSERVERS:

Dr. Robert Bond (RBON), Kris Buchler (KBUC), Earl Chapin (ECHA), Rich DelCarlo (RDEL), Ken Eppler (KEPP), Ed Haglund (EHAG), Steve Lindsay (SLIN), Theresa Potts (TPOT), Scott Rea (SREA), Shirley Sturts (SSTU)

RBA Rare Bird Alert for Northern Idaho-Eastern Washington-Northeastern Oregon
Phone (208) 882-6195 or Internet-Web Site:
<http://pimacc.pima.edu/~cwilliamson/index.html>

Pied-billed Grebe 2 and 4 Mica Bay Survey Sept. 8 and 27 (KEPP, KBUC, TPOT, SSTU)

Red-necked Grebe 1 Mica Bay, Coeur d'Alene Sept. 8 and 27 (SSTU, KBUC, TPOT, KEPP)

Wood Duck 1 Mica Bay Survey Sept. 8 (KEPP, KBUC, SSTU)

Lesser Scaup 4 Mica Bay Survey Sept.. 8 (SSTU, KEPP, KBUC)

Hooded Merganser 2 Blanchard Lake (KEPP, TPOT, SSTU)

Northern Harrier 1 Blanchard L. (SSTU, TPOT, KEPP)

Osprey Last seen 2 Cougar Bay Sep. 26 (EHAG) (does any one have a later date seen); 1 Fernan Lake Sept. 22 (SSTU); 2 Mica Bay Survey Sept. 8 (KBUC, SSTU, KEPP) 1 Dismal Lake St. Joe National Forest first part of August (KBUC)

American Kestrel 1 Middle Sister Lookout, St. Joe National Forest around Aug. 5 (KBUC); 1 near Silverwood Sept. 26 (KEPP)

Merlin 1 Spirit Lake Oct. 1 (TPOT, KEPP, SSTU)

Pomarine Jaeger 1 being chased by a Herring Gull at Sandpoint City Beach Sept. 11 (ECHA) One would
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expect the aggressive Jaeger to be chasing the Herring Gull. First sighting in North Idaho
Long-tailed Jaeger 1 juv. Found dead near Coolin, Priest Lake Sept. 8 (RBON) 1 was also seen at Lake Lowell near Nampa on Sept. 1, These were the 3rd and 4th state sightings

Common Tern 1 Mica Bay Survey Sept. 27 (TPOT, SSTU, KEPP)

Blue Grouse 1 adult 6 young Middle Sister Lookout, St. Joe National Forest – everyday for a week Aug. 5 (KBUC)

Great Horned Owl 1 Middle Sister Lookout week of Aug. 5 (KBUC)

Lewis' Woodpecker 2 adults 4 juv. Pack River near his home Aug. 9 and still there as of Sept. 4 (RDEL)

Least Flycatcher 1 female feeding three young and 1 incubating eggs in a nest Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge in June (SREA) (this is a first nesting record in Northern Idaho)

Northern Shrike 1 (possible-seen without binoculars) Rathdrum Prairie Sept. 22 (KEPP)

Violet-Green and Barn Swallow 30+ and 4+ Mica Bay Survey Sept. 8 (KEPP, SSTU, KBUC)

Western Bluebird 7 Mica Bay Survey Sept. 8 (SSTU, KBUC, KEPP), 1 Silverwood Sept. 26 (KEPP)

American Pipit several seen migrating through on the Rathdrum Prairie in Sept. (SLIN)

Yellow-rumped Warbler 6+ Rathdrum Prairie Oct. 1 (TPOT, SSTU)

Nashville Warbler 1 possible (ould like to have a better look) Mica Bay Survey (SSTU, KEPP, TPOT)

Chipping Sparrow 50+ migrating through Mica Bay Survey (KBUC, SSTU, KEPP)

Savannah Sparrow several seen on the Rathdrum Prairie in Sept. (SLIN)

Rusty Blackbird 4 adults and 2 imm. In his yard, Sandpoint Sept. 9 (ECHA) this is rare species for North Idaho.

American Goldfinch 3-5 near Silverwood Sept. 22-26 (KEPP)

