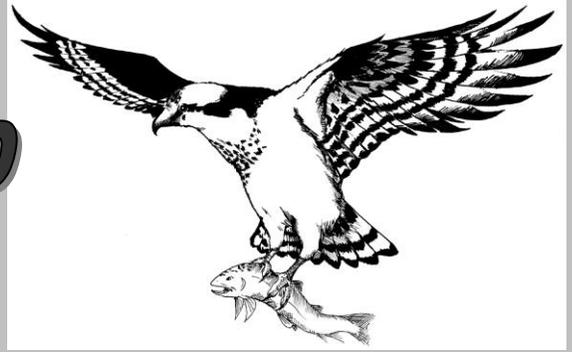


THE FISH HAWK HERALD

Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the National Audubon Society



September 2000

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1

THE GERTRUDE HANSON MEMORIAL VIEWING PLATFORM DEDICATION

DATE: September 16, Saturday

TIME: 5:00 p.m.

Place: Viewing Platform and BLM boater's campground in Mica Bay, Coeur d'Alene Lake.

PROGRAM: We will meet at the trail entrance to the viewing platform for the dedication.

After the dedication we will go the campground for a potluck and a star gazing program presented by Ed Buchler. Bring a dish to share at the potluck. Drinks, dishes and silverware will be provided. This event is on rain or shine so dress accordingly. There is a covered pavilion in the campground.

10TH ANNIVERSARY GALA! COEUR D'ALENE CHAPTER

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)

Raffle Tickets \$5.00 for set of 3 tickets

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Kris Buchler

Welcome to a new year with the Coeur d'Alene Audubon Society. We will begin our season's activities this month of September. There are a few minor changes in officers and board members which are listed on the back page of this newsletter. Feel free to call these representatives whenever you have questions or suggestions.

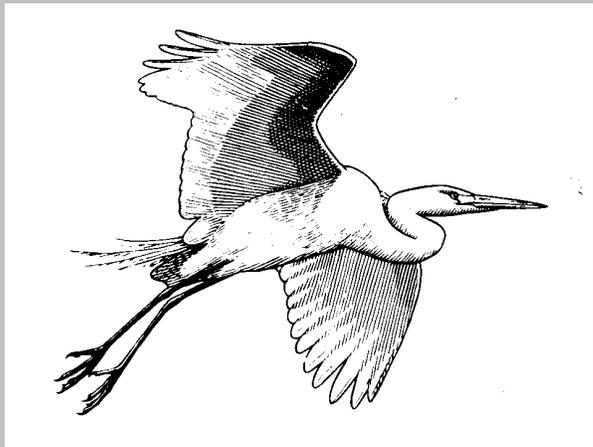


Our activities begin this year with the culmination of two large projects begun under the leadership of last year's president, Susan Weller. I'm sure she will be glad to see them successfully completed.

The first is the Gertrude Hanson Memorial Viewing Platform at Mica Bay. We are all grateful for the many hours of hard work and determination that members have put into this project. We are also thankful for friends and Kootenai Environmental Alliance who generously donated funds to make the platform a reality.

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COEUR D'ALENE AUDUBON CELEBRATES TENTH ANNIVERSARY



Susan Weller

Did you know that Coeur d'Alene Audubon started out as the Rose Lake Bird Club? When I first moved here from Montana in 1988 there were no organized birding groups in the immediate vicinity. Spokane Audubon was a thriving entity, and I knew Tom Rogers from my involvement with the birding community in Montana. Though I connected early on with Spokane Audubon, I certainly did not want to commute to Washington to satisfy my need for camaraderie with other birders.

I decided the best way to meet other birders would be to start a club or organization in Idaho. Because the Rose Lake Historical Society allows the community to utilize the old Rose Lake School House building for meetings, I thought I'd hold an organizational meeting there. A few newspaper articles were published on the endeavor and the Rose Lake Bird Club became official when we held our first meeting the winter of 1988.

Locals like Ellen Scriven became involved and our officers consisted of folks mostly from the Silver Valley. It wasn't long before people like Shirley Sturts and Gertie Hanson were driving over from Coeur d'Alene to attend programs. Ronn and Roberta Rich, Cathy Hurrell and others from Coeur d'Alene soon followed.

In the summer of 1989, I noticed that a wetland where I birded daily had begun to shrink! The decking yard of the adjacent saw mill began to grow larger as the wetland got smaller. I contacted the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers who issued an order, under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, for the saw mill owner to remove the fill material and restore the wetland. My involvement would have ended there if a State Representative from the Silver Valley had not given my name to the saw mill owner.

Needless to say, I came under a barrage of personal attacks and threats that were both frightening and upsetting. Bob Turner, then regional vice president of Audubon's Rocky Mountain Region, whom I had first met in Montana, told me about Scott Reed and suggested I call him. Scott Reed, vice chairman of the board for National Audubon, and an attorney in Coeur d'Alene, gave me counsel and advice that was very much appreciated. Mary Summerville of the Spokane chapter took over my role in talking to the press. Her attempt to deflect heat from me was also very much appreciated.

It took a lot of soul searching to come to the decision that any birding organization in northern Idaho had to be involved in activism as well as education. In Rose Lake, we had founded our existence on education only. By this time, more people were driving over the pass to attend meetings than were coming from the Silver Valley. Ellen Scriven and the folks from Coeur d'Alene stood firm with me in the conviction that in order to preserve and protect birds and their habitat in Idaho, we had to have our roots firmly planted in the soil of environmental activism.

In the winter of 1990, Coeur d'Alene Audubon held its first organization meeting in the basement of Ronn Rich's bank in Hayden. Scott Reed, Judy and Phil Waring, Mike Mihelich, Herb and Jan Severtson, Shirley Sturts, Gertie Hanson, Dick Hoskins, and many others attended that first meeting.

From that day, we have grown to over 300 members strong. We have become leaders in conservation and education. We have not shied

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SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIPS



MICA BAY SURVEY

DATES: September 8 and 25, Friday, Wednesday

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

MEET: Fairmont Loop and Highway 95

LEADERS: 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: September 12, Tuesday

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

MEET: NIC Dike Road –corner of Rosenberry and River.

LEADER: Lynn Sheridan

ACTIVITY: We will walk along the beach from the north end of Rosenberry Drive to the West end of City Beach and back. Pygmy Nuthatch can be found in the Ponderosa Pine trees. We will be looking for migrating shorebirds and waterfowl along the beach.

ROCHET / CRYSTAL LAKE

DATE: September 9, Saturday

TIME: 7:30 a.m.

MEET: Cove Bowl Parking Lot (car pool)

Kris Buchler (carpool coordinator) 664-4739

LEADER: : Lisa Hardy 682-4808

basalt@earthlink.net

ACTIVITY: We will travel the unpaved road over the Coeur d'Alene – St. Joe divide, stopping at the top for the two-mile hike into Crystal Lake. The road does not require 4WD but vehicles must have high clearance. Bring a lunch and water. We will be looking for lingering high elevation species, and migrants following the ridges on their way south.

WEED IDENTIFICATION

DATE: September 23, Saturday

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

MEET: Rosauer's parking lot, east side

LEADER: Cynthia Langlitz 762-0890

ACTIVITY: Learn your weeds! We will stop at several points in the Coeur d'Alene area to identify noxious weeds, learn about their history and ecology, and find out what we can be doing in our own backyards. The trip will finish up by noon.

THE BIRDS AND THE BEES AND ...

Janet Callen

...**BUTTERFLIES DAY** was Saturday, August 26, at the Farmer's Market. Lynn Sheridan, Lisa Hardy, Ken Eppler and Janet Callen represented Audubon with a table at the market. We gave away free small bags of black-oil sunflower seed along with birdly wisdom and information about our chapter and all that we do. We also sold birdseed, posters, birdhouses and decorative items. We raffled a 25-lb. bag of birdseed. Denice Leonard of Hayden Lake was the winner. Thanks Lynn, Lisa and Ken.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our first meeting will fittingly begin with a dedication ceremony at Mica Bay. We encourage and welcome all members of our chapter, Kootenai Environmental Alliance, other organizations and friends of Gertie Hanson to attend this ceremony. The details are in the Calendar. All are welcome to attend the potluck and "Night Sky" program following the dedication.

October is an important month for the chapter. The "10th Anniversary Gala" will be held at the Hayden Lake Country Club on October 14. Details are in the flier and Calendar section. It's hard to believe that the "Rose Lake Bird Club" became the Coeur d'Alene Audubon Society over ten years ago. Susan Weller is responsible for the existence of these two organizations, resulting in the enjoyment, education and conservation awareness of a great many people in our community. We appreciate all the years of hardwork and dedication she has given us and our natural world. She has also brought together people who share common interests and ethics. We always learn something new from Susan and I hope we'll continue to do so.

Jump right in! Join us for meetings that hope to inform or entertain. Accompany us on field trips that may take you on roads you've never traveled before. Join us on many service projects that we hope make a little bit of difference in this world.

COEUR D'ALENE AUDUBON CELEBRATES TENTH ANNIVERSARY

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away from controversial issues concerning the well being of Idaho's birds and their habitat. We also have made it our mission to include endangered and threatened species within the sphere of Audubon's concern. We have become--and are still in the process of becoming--the organization that the founding members and officers envisioned as

far back as 1988. Even if you weren't there at the inception of Coeur d'Alene Audubon, you are an important part of keeping the dream alive. If you are a new member, you are absolutely necessary to Audubon's future and to the future of environmental education and activism in northern Idaho. Come celebrate our past victories and toast the success of our future!

SCOTT REED TO BE HONORED AT BANQUET

Scott Reed has been involved with Coeur d'Alene Audubon since day one. He did the paperwork to officially make us a nonprofit organization in the state of Idaho, our Articles of Incorporation, and helped us to write our by-laws.

Scott has represented us a number of times—pro bono I might add—in a number of conservation issues. His efforts have allowed us to insure that some logging projects were done sensitively—or not at all—if bird habitat was at stake.

Scott has spent countless hours counseling Coeur d'Alene Audubon's conservation chairs and committees about state and federal laws, on precedent setting cases in other states, on ways to effect change in laws and attitudes through the system. He has been invaluable in helping Coeur d'Alene Audubon shape our conservation policies.

Scott taught us that changes might be forged through education as well as activism. He has funded our Audubon Adventures program in area schools since 1990. Because of the cost, our chapter would not even be involved in Audubon Adventures if not for Scott.

Scott donated nearly every video in our library—videos available for loan to any Audubon member.

Scott served on the board of Coeur d'Alene Audubon during my first tenure as president. His input was invaluable, not just because Scott is such a great person, but because of his involvement on the National Audubon's board of directors.

Scott has also been very active in the Idaho Audubon Council, the entity that represents over 2,000 Audubon members and their chapters in the

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COEUR D'ALENE AUDUBON CELEBRATES TENTH ANNIVERSARY

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state. He helped us protect Bald Eagle habitat along the St. Joe River. He helped us to mount a resistance against hunting Sandhill Crane in the state of Idaho.

Nationally, Scott served on Audubon's board of directors for 18 years. He was chair of national's Public Policy Committee, and served as vice-chairman of the board. Current chairman of the board Donal O'Brien said Scott is "one of the most respected members of the board." Donal calls Scott "Audubon's Will Rogers." He said Scott "has this fantastic way about him. He makes his point so smoothly that people aren't even aware of what he's said or done."

Donal credits Scott with leading Audubon through some serious difficulties. "Scott understood we needed to make changes, the president was under fire, chapters were in revolt. Scott knew our strategic planning had to involve those at a grass roots level from the field—instead of corporate headquarters. He had one rule: we could not interview anyone for the president's position 'who was a current, past, or aspiring politician.' Scott is a natural leader."

Cecil Andrus--then secretary of the Interior—filled Scott's position on the board at one point. When Cecil left to become Idaho's governor, Scott stepped back in. Donal O'Brien wanted to make it clear how much everyone at national Audubon thinks of Scott. "He's well-liked and respected personally and professionally, and I think the guy hung the moon."

Coeur d'Alene Audubon would add the stars to that statement! Come join us in thanking and recognizing Scott Reed with a special award from the office of Audubon's President John Flicker.

A REALLY HUGE RAFFLE and SILENT AUCTION

Audubon's board members have been hard at work soliciting area businesses for donations for our banquet. While our main purpose is to celebrate our anniversary and honor Scott Reed, we hope you won't mind if we add a little fund raising to the evening's agenda.

We will be holding a silent auction as well as a REALLY HUGE raffle at our Tenth Anniversary Banquet Bash. We wish to thank area merchants and Audubon members for their generosity and donations. Here are some of the items to be auctioned or raffled:

- 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 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
- Binoculars from Camera Corral
- 25 lbs.of black-oil sunflower seeds from Janet Callen
- 3 wildlife prints by Jacquie Vaux
- Original artwork by Wes Hanson
- One ounce silver collector's round from Sunshine . Mining and Refining Co
- Natural food-filled basket from The Flour Mill Natural Foods
- Free acupuncture treatment from Dr. Barbara Boss
- A dress with original bird art work by Mary Dee . . . from Local Color
- Gift Certificates to: Killarney Farms, Coldwater Creek, Boller's Automotive, and Pilgrim's Health Food.

Call a board member to add an item from you or your business to our Raffle . An final list will be published in a future Newsletter.

IDAHO AUDUBON COUNCIL NEWS

Mike Mihelich

The Spring Idaho Audubon Council meeting was held at Redfish Lake Lodge on May 20th. It was held in conjunction with the Idaho Conservation League's annual meeting. Chapters in attendance were CDA, Golden Eagle, and Portneuf Valley.

We discussed several issues and voted to support Alternative 4 as described in the Draft EIS Roadless Initiative. Alternative 4 would prevent both logging and road building in roadless areas that are presently classified as inventoried roadless areas. An IAC letter was sent to the Forest Service during the comment period requesting that Alternative 4 be selected in the Final EIS.

Call Mike (664-4741) for further information regarding the meeting.

BOARD MEETING JULY 25, 2000

Lynn Sheridan

- ◆ Further arrangements and decisions made for our 10th Anniversary and Awards Banquet on October 14th. Topics covered: menu, ticket price, raffle prizes, printing of tickets and posters, programs.
- ◆ Banquet tickets and raffle tickets are to be ready by August 26, so we can start selling them at the Farmer's Market.
- ◆ Plans for a dedication ceremony were discussed. The date is to be September 16 and will take the place of our September general meeting usually held on the 3rd Monday of each month. Ronn Rich has ordered the plaque
- ◆ Field trips are being organized by Lisa Hardy. Lisa is planning an all day birding field trip and a half-day educational field trip each month. Volunteers are needed for the monthly Brown Bag lunch hour birding trips. Lynn Sheridan offered to do one September 12th on the NIC dike road.

THE FISH HAWK HERALD

RUMMAGE SALE HUGE SUCCESS!!

Jan Severtson

On a beautiful, sunny Saturday, June 3rd, promptly at 9 a.m., the sale officially opened to a patiently waiting crowd of buyers. Theresa and David Potts graciously allowed us to use their yard and garage. We sold everything from a snowblower to kitchenware, clothing to Oriental rugs!

Our thanks to all who participated by their donations and/or presence in helping: Antje Cripe, Theresa & David Potts and daughter, Vickie, Kris Buchler, Shirley Sturts, Lisa Hardy, Janet Callen, Susan Weller, Mike Mihelich, Roger Young, Kristen Philbrook, Herb & Jan Severtson, and Elaine Coddling.

The grand total for the one-day sale was \$803.00!!! With such a huge success for our first-ever event, we of course will repeat it next year! Please save your goodies for us. Reminders will occasionally be published in the newsletters. Thank you all!!!

BIRD SEED FOR SALE



Black Oil Sunflower

50LB \$14.00

25LB \$ 7.50

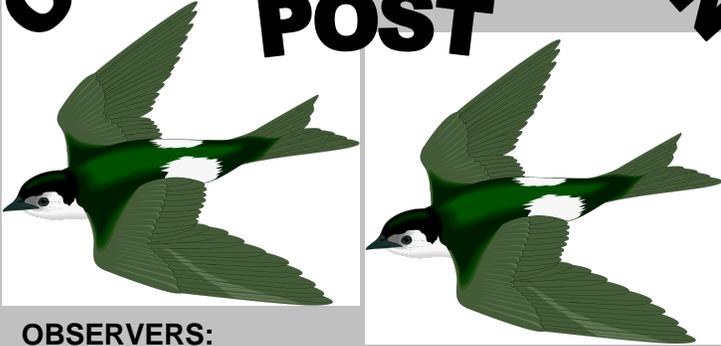
Niger (Thistle) \$1.25 LB

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:

Wendy Aeschliman (WAES), Nancy Aley (NALE), Kris Buchler (KBUC), Corinne Cameron (CCAM), Ken Eppler (KEPP), Jerry Hanson (JHAN), Lisa Hardy (LHAR), Theresa Potts (TPOT), Jan Severtson (JSEV), Shirley Sturts (SSTU), Charles Swift (CSWI), Judy Waring (JWAR), Susan Weller (SWEL), Roger Young (RYOU)

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>

Common Loon 1 Spokane River from Cedars Restaurant Aug. 5 (SWEL)

Pied-billed Grebe 2 females – 1 w/4 young and 1 w/2 young July 26 in ponds at the west of the Gertie Hanson Bluebird Trail in the Hoo Doo Valley (SSTU,KEPP,TPOT)

Red-necked Grebe 1 adult with 1 hatched young and adult still sitting on eggs June 9 Shepherd Lake (WAES); 1 pr w/4 tiny young jumping on and off the backs of their parents June 21 Mica Bay, Coeur d'Alene (SSTU,KBUC,KEPP)

Ruddy Duck 20+ June 24 St. Maries Sewage Ponds (KBUC,JWAR,SSTU)

Hooded Merganser 2 immature July 28 Mica Bay Survey (KBUC,TPOT,KEPP,JSEV, SSTU)

Turkey Vulture 3 June 13 Gold Hill s. shore of Pend Oreille Lake (SSTU); 1 June 16 and 20 4th of July Pass (SWEL,SSTU), 3 Lane (near Killarney Lake) June 24 (KBUC,SSTU,JWAR); 1 Cataldo area Aug. 15 and 21 (SWEL)

Bald Eagle 1 pr w/1 young in nest July 10 Blanchard Lake (JSEV,TPOT,SSTU)

Swainson's Hawk 1 Mica Bay, Coeur d'Alene Lake Aug. 25 (KBUC,KEPP)

Sora 2 We heard one and another 1 was feeding in Some water over the road on the Gertie Hanson Blue Bird Trail on 3 different visits (SSTU,KEPP,JSEV,NALE,TPOT,KBUC,CCAM)

Wilson's Phalarope 1 feeding in the same area as the Sora – see above

Caspian Tern 1 July 1 Harrison (CSWI); 1 July 14 Mica Bay Survey (NALE, KEPP, KBUC,TPOT,SSTU)

Band-tailed Pigeon 1 June 23 east end of Hayden Lake, Chicken Pt. Road (Terri Beliveau) Rare for our area – nests west of the Cascades

Common Nighthawk 2 June 26 Gertie Hanson Bluebird Trail near Clagstone (KEPP, NALE, SSTU)

Red-naped Sapsucker 1 adult feeding a young bird Mica Bay Survey (KBUC,KEPP,NALE,SSTU,TPOT,JSEV)

Olive-sided Flycatcher 1 June 3 Armstrong Hill, CDA (KBUC)

Western Bluebird 1 pr nested in his yard for the 1st time Fernan Hill (RYOU)

Hermit Thrush 1+ heard July 9 Crystal Lake Rochat Peak area south of Cataldo elevation 5000-6000 feet (SSTU,LHAR)

Rose-breasted Grosbeak 1 June 7-8 at feeder of Ed Haglund in Cougar Bay, CDA Lake – a rare vagrant in the west

Lazuli Bunting 25 Aug. 7 River Road – between I-90 and the CDA River Aug. 7 (SWEL)

Bullock's Oriole 1 June 5 Mica Bay, Coeur d'Alene Lake (JHAN)

Baltimore Oriole 1 June 3 (Dr. Bob Bond of Priest Lake) and June 11 (Jerry Converse from Eastern Wa) near Coolin, Priest Lake 3rd State Record for This eastern species – 1st record for North Idaho.

White-crowned Sparrow 1 July 9 Crystal Lake Rochat Peak area south of Cataldo (LHAR,SSTU)

