



## Montana Audubon Honors Flathead Audubon Leaders

Four leaders of Flathead Audubon were honored for their commitment to conservation and environmental education at the Montana Audubon Bird Festival earlier this year.

First off, Brent Mitchell was named the 2003 Conservationist of the Year for his "constant devotion to Montana's wildlife, wilderness, water and land."

In addition, Flathead Audubon education committee members Linda de Kort, Linda Winnie, and Sonja Hartmann, were honored for their commitment for connecting people with Nature.

About Brent Mitchell, Montana Audubon writes "Brent has understood that to fight for something you believe, you must understand the other side in order to achieve your objective. To be effective, one must have a learned grasp of not only the natural things around us, but also a keen understanding of people. Brent is thoughtful and considerate; an excellent communicator; and a natural-born teacher."

Specifically, Montana Audubon highlighted several components of Brent's work. These include raising awareness of the problem of unnatural erosion on Montana's rivers; holding several offices within the Flathead Audubon Board, including president from 1994-98; spearheading the effort to protect the Owen Sowerwine Natural Area; working with the Flathead Family Forestry Expo, Flathead Forestry Project, and bridging the gap between sportsmen and birdwatchers.

Everyone at Flathead Audubon appreciates Brent's hard work and applauds his dedication and sense of humor.

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The Flathead Audubon education committee were honored as the 2003 Environmental Educators of the Year, by Montana Audubon. It's unusual for this

award to go to a group, rather than an individual, but we all know how these women work together as a team.

Montana Audubon credits this trio with developing programs that helped connect young and old alike with the natural wonders of the Flathead Valley. Specifically, the group has provided teachers and volunteer naturalists with tools to help bring Nature to the classroom. These include a bird costume that helps kids recognize field marks for bird identification and an educational truck featuring common birds of the Flathead. The committee also provides binoculars, field guides, a bird feeder and other hands-on educational tools to teachers. Next, watch out for this dynamic trio's educational trunk about hummingbirds!

One of the greatest things we can do for conservation is helping kids understand and appreciate the wonders of the world around them. Thanks Linda, Linda and Sonja!

by Karen Nichols

### SEPTEMBER FLATHEAD AUDUBON MEETING PLACE AND PROGRAM

**Monday, September 8, 2003 FAS General Meeting**  
beginning at 7:30PM, program about 8PM. At  
\*\*\*Calvary Lutheran Church,\*\*\*  
Corner of Hwy 2 (LaSalle Rd.) and Evergreen Drive,  
Kalispell  
Chuck Haney Slide Show of the Lewis & Clark Trail  
and Glacier National Park

**(Full Calendar & Field Trip Info, page 3)**

# BIRD OF THE MONTH

## BLACK-BACKED WOODPECKERS DEPEND ON BURNED FORESTS

As I write this article, the summer fires in our area have consumed more than 120,000 acres of timber in the Flathead and Glacier Park areas. For more than three weeks now our skies have been choked with smoke and our news reports filled with the depressing reports of a 50-year fire event that shows no hint of abating. How will this catastrophic event affect the bird populations in our area?

Surprisingly, for at least one rather rare species and birders who want to see it, the news could be good!

Black-backed woodpeckers converge on forests after raging crown fires have created an abundance of charred trees and they are superbly adapted to life after a fire. Blending perfectly with the burned forests, these restless birds favor the trees left standing in growth stands such as those that have been old in Glacier Park.

The reason for this seemingly most before the smoke has cleared, woodpeckers find burned forests more than 100 areas. These insects quickly get down to eggs under the charred bark. When these inches into the dead trees and feast on The speared tongues of Black-backed grubs. A single woodpecker can consume



bizarre habitat preference is simple. Al-boring beetles who use infrared-like sen-miles away, make a beeline to the burned the business of mating and laying their eggs hatch, the larvae tunnel a couple of wood for a year until changing into adults. woodpeckers capture millions of these more than 13,000 grubs in a year.

The window for black-backed woodpecker activity in a burn area is narrow, because beetle numbers decline after 5 or 6 years. At that time the birds must either move on or rely on stands of insect-ridden trees for survival. However, during this interval of plenty, area birders will have a unique opportunity to view this uncommon bird in its preferred habitat and see the master exterminator hard at work.

Here are a few tips to help you locate the Black-backed woodpecker and distinguish it from its close relative the Three-toed woodpecker:

- \* Dress appropriately. You will get dirty!
- \* Before entering a burn area, always check with the proper officials to be sure that dangerous trees have been removed and then watch carefully for unstable trees.
- \* Once in the area, listen for long volleys of drumming and inspect the trees for large patches of missing bark.
- \* Look for nest holes 3 to 12 feet above the ground. There may be bark removal around the hole. Listen for chicks clamoring for a meal.
- \* Males of both species have a yellow crown patch.
- \* Three-toed woodpeckers have black-and-white barred backs while both male and female Black-backs have clear, glossy, black backs. By the way both species have only 3 toes!
- \* The Black-backed is also slightly larger—9 inches, compared to 8 for the Three -toed.

Happy Birding!

by Jeannie Marcure

**HELP US GET THE WORD OUT!**

You may have noticed that included in this month's newsletter is a flyer for our upcoming meeting. Since we now have a large new space that can accommodate nearly 200 people comfortably, we're hoping that each of you will take the time to post this flyer in some public place in your area. Of course, if you'd like to post more than one flyer, please feel free to make copies! Let's get the word out and fill that new space!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS SEPTEMBER, 2003

**MONDAY, Sept. 8.** Whitefish photographer Chuck Haney will present an illustrated tour of the Lewis and Clark Trail at Flathead Audubon's general meeting at 7:30 p.m. (see article below) **Flathead Audubon has changed its meeting place to Calvary Lutheran Church at 2200 Highway 2 East (LaSalle) in Kalispell.**

**SATURDAY, Sept. 20.** Neal and Patty Brown will lead a moderate, four-mile hike into the Lubec-Autumn Creek Trail near Marias Pass. They will be on the lookout for fall migrants and elk bugling. Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> is a full moon, giving the option of staying after dusk. Meet at Belton Train Station at 1 p.m. Contact the Browns at 837-5018 or [nealpat@cyberport.net](mailto:nealpat@cyberport.net).

**SUNDAY, Sept. 28.** Leslie Kehoe will lead a field trip towards Niarada to listen to the Meadowlarks. Contact Leslie for more information at 837-4467 or at [ljkehoe@digisys.net](mailto:ljkehoe@digisys.net)

### TRAVEL THE LEWIS AND CLARK TRAIL



### WITH WHITEFISH PHOTOGRAPHER CHUCK HANEY AND FLATHEAD AUDUBON

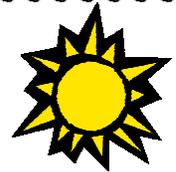
Join Whitefish photographer Chuck Haney on an illustrated tour of the Lewis and Clark trail from St. Louis to the coast at Flathead Audubon's meeting on Monday, September 8 at 7:30 p.m. **Flathead Audubon has changed its meeting place to Calvary Lutheran Church at 2200 Highway 2 East (LaSalle) in Kalispell.** The new meeting place will accommodate more people. The general meeting begins at 7:30 p.m., with the program starting around 8 p.m.

Haney, a professional landscape and sports action photographer for the past 15 years, will share his slide show of the Lewis and Clark trail and of recent images from the Glacier Park area. Haney has published six books, including three on Montana, two on North Dakota and one on the Theodore Roosevelt National Park. He will have books on hand to sell. Haney has also been published in many magazines, including Montana Magazine, National Geographic Adventurer, Backpacker and several bicycling magazines.

by Karen Nichols

### Montana Audubon's Belize Natural History Tour

January 4-15, 2004



A 12-day adventure to Belize and Guatemala has been organized as a broad-based natural history tour that will also serve as a fund-raiser for Montana Audubon. This tour features birding and wildlife watching in a wide variety of habitats including tropical rainforests, savannas, wetlands, coastal marshes, cayes and coral reefs. Toucans, parrots, motmots, howler monkeys, coatis, crocodiles, manatees, nurse sharks, and spotted eagle rays are but a few examples of the tremendous diversity of species we are likely to encounter during our journey. We will visit some of the most spectacular Mayan ruins in Central America including Tikal, Guatemala and 3 beautifully restored Mayan sites in Belize. We will also spend a few relaxing days on one of the most popular cayes in Belize to enjoy snorkeling and viewing marine life. For a complete itinerary and additional information about this tour, please contact tour organizer, professor Jack Kirkley at the University of Montana - Western ([j\\_kirkley@umwestern.edu](mailto:j_kirkley@umwestern.edu)) or (phone 406-683-7321). After September 14, (when Dr. Kirkley will be doing his hawk research in Mexico) please contact Dianna Mittleider ([dmittleider@audubon.org](mailto:dmittleider@audubon.org)) at the Montana Audubon office in Helena. Dianna will also be handling all the financial transactions for this tour. The tour will be filled on a first come basis. so don't delay!

**Travel the Lewis and Clark Trail with  
Whitefish Photographer Chuck Haney  
and Flathead Audubon**

Flathead Audubon invites the public to join them at their first meeting of the 2003-2004 year as Whitefish photographer Chuck Haney presents his slide show of the Lewis and Clark trail and also some recent images from the Glacier Park area.

Haney, a professional landscape and sports action photographer for the past 15 years. has published six books, including three on Montana, two on North Dakota and one on the Theodore Roosevelt National Park and has also been published in many magazines, including Montana Magazine, National Geographic Adventurer, Backpacker and several bicycling magazines. He will have books on hand to sell at the program.



***Monday, September 8, 7:30 P.M.***

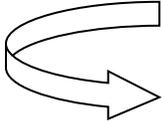
***\*\*\*Calvary Lutheran Church\*\*\****

***2200 Highway 2 East (LaSalle), Kalispell***

***(Corner of Hwy 2 & Evergreen Drive)***

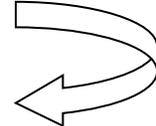
***\*\*\*note our new meeting place which will accommodate\*\*\*  
more people comfortably!***





## FROM THE BOARD

BRENT MITCHELL, Conservation Chairman



Three topics have been of recent interest to our conservation goals – the legislature, fires, and weeds, “hot topics” each one, and each with a tendency to be invasive.

**Legislators** and conservation don’t seem to mix well in the Flathead. Voting records provided by Montana Audubon, Montana Environmental Information Center, Northern Plains Resource Council, Montana Conservation Voters, and Montana Wildlife Federation showed miserable support for conservation and even for sportsmen’s issues by most Flathead legislators. If you have the opportunity, give Bob Lawson of Whitefish a pat on the back. He bucked his party to support his Whitefish constituents and got a 40% rating on bills and issues important to conservation groups such as ours. And Tim Dowell of Kalispell, the only local legislator from the Democratic party, had a 100% voting record on important conservation issues.

We have spent the summer with **fires** in and around the Flathead Valley. People are worried about losing their homes, if they live in forested areas, and the smoke does little for our normally clear air. Some of the media sensationalize the effects of fire in our ecosystem. They speak of the “destruction of thousands of acres of forest.” Sorry, but the forests have not been “destroyed,” but rather have gone through a natural process and will regenerate. It’s back to basic biology and an earlier successional stage, but it’s not destruction. We have painted ourselves into a corner by suppressing fires for the past 80-100 years. For the last century, it made economic sense to not burn any timber that could be made into lumber. Now we know that many western forests are overstocked, that one option is to actively manage the forest to help restore its natural structure. Walking away from a problem we created is not a great idea. If we walk, nature burns it and with far more intensity than man finds comfortable.

**Owen Sowerwine Natural Area:** In the planning stages right now are gates, some fencing, a kiosk, and making a final plan for attacking the weeds along the trails running through the mainland portion. The gates, fences, and kiosk are dependent on dollars from Montana Audubon. We were fortunate to receive some financial help from Prudential this past year and may be able to receive their additional assistance this year. Over the past year, we have surveyed the weed population of OSNA with concern. OSNA has quite a variety of noxious weeds, including spotted knapweed, hounds tongue, Canada thistle, burdock, oxeye daisy, and some noxious hawkweed species. There are many other weeds there, of course, but the ones designated as noxious are the most invasive, harmful, and undesirable to allow to grow. Flathead also has an ordinance/law which holds land owners/managers responsible for controlling or eradicating noxious weeds.

From the beginning, both Montana Audubon and Flathead Audubon have tried to steer clear of using chemical herbicides in OSNA, especially since we are dealing with a water-rich riparian area. I set up a test plot to study the possibility of controlling the weeds by mowing. In early spring, I mowed a strip of ground that showed good “potential” for producing lots of the weeds, especially hounds tongue and spotted knapweed. On a monthly schedule, I counted numbers of weed seedlings and compared to a control plot which had not been mowed. The results were interesting and enough to convince me that it would be very tough to control weeds by mowing. The mowing removes the snowberry canopy and disturbs the ground just enough to allow a proliferation of Canada thistle seedlings. Talk about adding insult to injury! It also did not eliminate either the hounds tongue or spotted knapweed. Those two species just adapted by growing and flowering at the mowed height.

Pulling weeds is a good plan, if we could get 50 people together during a 1-2 week “window,” when the ground is damp enough to pull the plants up by the roots. The downside of pulling is that some mature weed seeds would be disturbed and stomped into the mud by folks doing the pulling. As you can see, our options are being narrowed down. From a practical standpoint, it seems that chemicals will have to be a part of the weed control plan for OSNA. Jed Fisher, head of the Flathead County Weed Department, has said that a chemical called Curtail could be used at Owen Sowerwine. The directions say that it can be applied down to the high water mark, but Jed advised to stay at least 10 feet away from the high water mark and apply the herbicide with our backs to the wet area. If we elect to use this method, the Flathead County Weed Department will donate the use of 4-gallon backpack sprayers and we will provide the herbicide and labor.

I have used Curtail on my property (shock, I’m not a total purist!), mostly along the main road, to control knapweed, hounds tongue, hawkweed, oxeye daisy, C. thistle, and wormwood. It is largely ineffective against common toadflax, however. I use a 1-quart spray bottle of diluted mix and spot spray individual plants. It is best to spray in the mornings before mid-July or after October first, and when the breezes are less than 2 miles per hour.

I believe that spot spraying with Curtail along the main trails and many game trails will reduce the weed problem, as well as show that we are trying to be good neighbors. The fencing and gates that are planned will also reduce weed seed transportation by trespassing livestock (mostly horses) and the OHV riders that frequent portions of Owen Sowerwine Natural Area.

# REPORTS

## HELICOPTERS AND LOONS

Spoon Lake sounded like a “war-zone” one smoky day in July as three helicopters hovered over the turbulent water preparing to dip their 1,000 gal red buckets into the lake for deposit on the Robert Fire. Sue and I were concerned for the two resident loons swimming on the lake with their newly born chick. While one helicopter laid its bucket on the water, two other copters waited their turn. That had been the routine for the past three hours as the fire raged a mile and a half north of Spoon Lake. However, now the pilot of the second aircraft, calculating there was enough room over the lake for two helicopters to dip water at the same time, began to move over the lake. Suddenly, he stopped and withdrew towards the shoreline. Sue and I scanned the lake and discovered the reason the pilot had reversed his helicopter. He had spotted the three loons swimming in the exact spot where he had intended to set down his bucket. Within a half-minute, the first helicopter left the area and this considerate pilot found a spot free of waterfowl and completed his mission. As we woke up every morning to smoke and the sound of aircraft fighting the Robert Fire, the loons were still floating around the lake, oblivious to their near deathly fate. The number of wildlife that has been killed by the many fires in and around Glacier is immeasurable. But due to the thoughtfulness of one helicopter pilot on one smoke-filled July day, three loons survived this summer. It was a bright moment during this most dismal summer of fire and smoke.

by Jim Swab



## MAY 4 FIELD TRIP: HARLEQUIN DUCKS

A “wild” time! Ten people hiked the GTTS Road in search of Harlequin Ducks. We viewed three males, no females. Saw five American Avocets standing in McDonald Creek, all facing east for over an hour. Deer walked across the road, three goats watched the birdwatchers from the cliffs, two black bears were seen, one on an avalanche chute, the other walking on a service road towards the GTTS Road. In all, a fun Audubon fieldtrip.

from Jim Swab



The Flathead Audubon newsletter committee is happy to consider any contributions for this newsletter. Please contact Kay Mitchell or Karen Nichols with any questions, ideas or contributions. Reach Kay at [pileatedpost@hotmail.com](mailto:pileatedpost@hotmail.com) or 756.8130 or Karen at 756.5763 or [karenben@montanasky.net](mailto:karenben@montanasky.net). The Pileated Post is published monthly, September through May. Please submit contributions by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. We are also looking for volunteers who can help publicize Audubon events. Please contact Karen if you are interested.

## BIGFORK BIRD FESTIVAL A SUCCESS!

The first Bigfork Bird Festival was wonderful. There were over 20 participants, along with 4 travel writers who freelance for various newspapers and magazines in the U.S. and Canada. We will be getting some nice press from them as time goes on, I’m sure. I have gotten very positive feedback from those that came to the festival and know that we are on to something good for Bigfork and, hopefully, for Flathead Audubon. Many people added birds to their life lists and thought that all of the guides were very knowledgeable and enjoyable. The Bigfork Area Chamber of Commerce is looking forward to partnering with Flathead Audubon again. Thanks to all who helped to put this excellent event together.

by new board member, Andrea Goff



**FINANCES OF FLATHEAD AUDUBON 2002-2003**



**INCOME**

DUES FROM NATIONAL AUDUBON	\$1,596
LOCAL DUES	\$774
BEAUTY OF BIRDS	\$185
RAFFLE	\$590
BIGFORK FESTIVAL	\$1,000
SALES	\$362
SEED SALES	\$5,716
HOT SPOTS BROCHURE	\$1,472
CBC	\$265
COFFEE TRADERS	\$150
RECYCLE	\$63
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,173</b>
<b>DONATIONS IN</b>	
PRUDENTIAL	\$1,000
EDUCATION	\$2,425
OWEN SOWERWINE	\$445
OTHER	\$266
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,136</b>
<b>INCOME FROM OPERATING FUND</b>	

<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$16,309</b>
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**EXPENSES**

<b>DONATIONS OUT</b>	
GRANTS	\$750
MT AUDUBON	\$1,000
SCHOLARSHIPS	\$150
CBC	\$350
EDUCATION	\$429
BROCHURE	\$1,895
<b>TOTAL DONATIONS</b>	<b>\$4,573</b>
<b>FEES</b>	
PERMITS	\$165
OWEN SOWERWINE LICENSE	\$1,121
SPEAKER	\$250
<b>TOTAL FEES</b>	<b>\$1,536</b>
<b>OFFICE</b>	
ADVERTISING	\$248
COPIES AND POSTAGE	\$167
OFFICE - OTHER (MAILBOX AND 2002 INSURANCE)	\$164
<b>TOTAL OFFICE</b>	<b>\$578</b>
<b>NEWSLETTER</b>	
POSTAGE	\$615
PRINTING	\$2,603
<b>TOTAL NEWSLETTER</b>	<b>\$3,219</b>
<b>TRAVEL</b>	<b>\$116</b>
<b>INVENTORY</b>	<b>\$226</b>
<b>BIRD SEED</b>	<b>\$3,800</b>
<b>GIFTS</b>	

*(this report submitted by Treasurer Bruce Tannehill)*

<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$14,108</b>
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# Flathead Audubon's Annual Sunflower Seed Sale



**50 lb. Sack of Black Oil Sunflower Seeds—\$17**

(Half of purchase price is tax deductible as charitable donation)

**Highest Quality — Montana Grown**

*Feed your feathered friends and support Audubon projects, too!*

This is Flathead Audubon's primary fund raising project.

Proceeds support local conservation and education programs, such as:

- \* Educational materials about birds, for use by local teachers and Audubon naturalists
- \* Workshops for local teachers on bird units for the classroom
- \* "Beauty of Birds" class for adults each spring, partnered with Kalispell District #5
- \* Scholarships for environmental education
- \* Funds for support and management of the Owen Sowerwine Natural Area
- \* Financial assistance for the care and monitoring of local wildlife refuges, including the new Lost Trail National Wildlife Refuge
- \* Research grants for field studies of birds and bird habitat

Please mark your calendar to pick up your order at the distribution site for your community.

**Pick Up Date is: Saturday, October 18**

**Pick up Locations are as follows:**

**Bigfork: IGA Parking Lot, 10am-12 noon**  
Coordinator: None—Call 754-2289

**Condon: Call to arrange to pick up**  
Coordinator: June Ash (754-2289)

**Columbia Falls: Glacier Bank 10am-12 noon**  
Coordinator: Sonja Hartmann (387-4150)

**Kalispell: Fairgrounds North Lot,**  
12:30pm—2:30pm  
Coordinator: Linda Winnie (755-1406)

**Whitefish: Train Depot Parking Lot,**  
12:30pm—2:30pm  
Coordinator: Mike Fanning (862-8070)

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**ORDER FORM - SUBMIT BY OCTOBER 10**

Number of Sacks: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$17 = Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I will pick up my order Saturday, October 18 at (check one)

Bigfork \_\_\_ Columbia Falls \_\_\_ Condon \_\_\_ Kalispell \_\_\_ Whitefish \_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Send order and check to: Flathead Audubon, c/o June Ash

PO Box 1129

Condon, MT 59826



Are you a member of Flathead Audubon? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If you are not a member, you can join for only \$15. Use the form on the back of this page.

AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP FORM

**FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY**

Support local programs and receive the Pileated Post

Flathead Audubon Member \$15   
(Individual or Family)

**NATIONAL AUDUBON**

Support nationwide programs, receive the Audubon magazine and the Pileated Post

First Time Member \$20   
Senior/Student \$15   
Individual Renewal \$35   
Family Renewal \$38

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you do NOT want your name shared with other organizations.

**Mail this form with your check to:**  
Flathead Audubon Society Membership  
380 Tally Lake Road  
Whitefish, MT 59937



**Non-Profit Org.**  
**Postage Paid**  
**Permit No. 115**  
**Kalispell, MT**  
**59901-9173**

**FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY DIRECTORY**

**OFFICERS**

<b>President</b>	Search in progress	
<b>Vice-President</b>	Sonja Hartmann, P.O. Box 316, West Glacier, MT 59936	387-4150
<b>Secretary</b>	Gail Sullivan, 932 Columbia Ave., Whitefish, MT 59937	862-5775
<b>Treasurer</b>	Bruce Tannehill, 239 Deer Trail, Whitefish, MT 59937	862-4548
<b>Past-President</b>	Linda Winnie, P.O. Box 220, Kila, MT 59920	755-1406

**DIRECTORS**

2001-2004	Dan Casey, P.O. Box 355, Somers, MT 59932	857-3143
2001-2004	Jane Adams, 229 Edgewood Dr., Kalispell, MT 59901	257-4527
2002-2003	Leo Keane, 514 Pine Place, Whitefish, MT 59937	862-5807
2002-2003	Brent Mitchell, 960 Kienas Rd., Kalispell, MT 59901	756-8130
2002-2003	Ferne Cohen, P.O. Box 1782, Whitefish, MT 59937	862-2028
2002-2003	Mike Fanning, 380 Tally Lk Rd., Whitefish, MT 59937	862-8070
2002-2005	Linda deKort, 1290 Lost Creek Dr., Kalispell, MT 59901	755-3704
2002-2005	Leslie Kehoe, 1020 Holt Dr., Bigfork, MT 59911	837-4467
2002-2005	Karen Nichols, 580 Fifth Ave. EN, Kalispell, MT 59901	756-5763
2003-2006	Lisa Discoe, P.O. Box 1677, Bigfork, MT 59911	837-1456
2003-2006	Lewis Young, 50 Garrison Dr., Eureka, MT 59917	889-3492
2003-2006	Andrea Goff, 1050 Labrant Rd., Bigfork, MT 59911	837-1530

**CHAIRS**

Audubon Adventures	Kim Davis	755-1311	Membership	Jill & Mike Fanning	862-8070
Birdseed Sales	June & Rod Ash	754-2289	Owen Sowerwine NA	Brent Mitchell	756-8130
Christmas Bird Count	Dan Casey	857-3143		Neal Brown	837-5018
Community Naturalist Program	Sonja Hartmann	387-4150	Newsletter	(Editor) Karen Nichols	756-5763
Conservation	Brent Mitchell	756-8130		(Layout) Kay Mitchell	756-8130
Education	Linda deKort	755-3704		(Graphics) Jeannie Marcure	755-1808
Field Trips	Jim Swab	387-4299	Program	Leo Keane	862-5807
Hospitality	Lois Drobish	756-7405	Publicity	Karen Nichols	756-5763
	Judy Spence	857-2599	Refuge Projects	Leslie Kehoe	837-4467
Librarian	Gail Leonard	862-5807	Wetlands/Waterfowl	Neal Brown	837-5018

**MONTANA AUDUBON**

State Office	Ray Johnson, P.O. Box 595, Helena, MT 59624	443-3949
Western Montana Office	Bob Petty, P.O. Box 831, Stevensville, MT 59870	777-0780
Board President	Jim Brown, 1504 Woods Gulch Rd., Missoula, MT 59802	549-8052



**SEPTEMBER, 2003**

The Flathead Audubon Society is affiliated with the National Audubon Society and meets on the second Monday of each month from September through May. The regular meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. and includes a featured guest who presents a conservation or nature program. The regular monthly meeting is preceded by the Executive Board meeting. Both meetings are open to all those interested.

*THE PILEATED POST* is published September through May and is sent to members of the Flathead Audubon Society as a membership benefit. Subscriptions for non-members are \$10.00 per year. For address change, please call 862-8070.

**Deadline for newsletter copy is the 20th of each month. Contact newsletter editor at 756-5763; email submissions to pileatedpost@hotmail.com**