



the **Flatheaded Post**

Newsletter of the Flathead Audubon Society

VOLUME 31

NUMBER 5

JANUARY 2007

FLATHEAD AUDUBON TURNS 30!



There is nothing quite so much fun as celebrating a birthday. And Flathead Audubon has a big one coming up. The month of January in the year 1977 is when the Flathead Audubon Society was founded.

Our parent organization was the Bigfork Bird Club. This group traces its roots to the first Bigfork Bird Count in December, 1974. The enthusiasm generated by the Count inspired several of the Count participants to form the Lower Flathead Valley Bird Club, which later became known as the Bigfork Bird Club. After several years, the organization decided to take the next step and affiliate with National Audubon – and Flathead Audubon was born.

To secure its official charter as a local Audubon Society, the organization needed to have 35 members. As of March 1977, 23 people had joined up, and shortly after the goal of 35 was reached. One dramatic measure of the change Flathead Audubon has seen over the last 30 years is its growth in membership. From that beginning of 23, our membership has now grown to over 450.

Among the list of those 23 founding members are such familiar names as Barbara Baxter, W. A. (Lex) Blood, Kristin Bruninga, Dennis Hester, Elly Jones, Loren Kreck, Bob Lopp, Dan Paschke, Jean Robocker, David Shaner, Elmer Sprunger, and Jack Whitney.

The first newsletter of the young Audubon chapter lists 6 officers in its Directory: Dan Sullivan of Yellow Bay was President; Newton Reed of Bigfork was VP; Wanda Jamieson of Kalispell, Secretary; Nancy Paul, East Shore, Treasurer; Karen Sullivan, Yellow Bay, Membership; and Rick Trembath, East Shore, Program & Publicity. A quick look at the Chapter Directory on the back page of this newsletter shows another big change from then to now. Flathead Audubon now depends on the volunteer efforts of 17 officers and board members and 16 Committees. And just recently we've been able to add a paid position—Education Coordinator—which is sometimes shared by several people.

Some things haven't changed a lot, though. Thirty years ago, the young Audubon chapter met in March for a slide program on the proposed Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, and went on to submit comments supporting the passage of that Act. Today we work to keep up with what Congress has planned for the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge, and submit comments supporting the continued protection of that area.

And thirty years ago the new Flathead Audubon organized and provided the teacher for a class called "Bird Study" that met five Wednesday evenings beginning the last week in April. The course covered field identification, bird habitat and local distribution, and bird behavior and natural history. Sounds a lot like our Beauty of Birds class that we currently offer – which meets each Wednesday evening of April!

(More about FAS Birthday, see page 7)

SEE JANUARY FLATHEAD AUDUBON CALENDAR ON PAGE 3 THIS MONTH

BIRD OF THE MONTH

BY KAREN NICHOLS & BEN LONG

Big, raucous and handsome, the pileated woodpecker is a favorite of hard-core birding enthusiasts and casual nature-lovers alike. The pileated woodpecker is the classic "Woody Woodpecker." The word "pileated" refers to its bright red crest, its most distinguishing feature. The name may be pronounced either "PIE-leh-ated" or "PIL-eh-ated."

The pileated woodpecker is the source of that loud, wild "jungle bird" sound, which reminds one of the soundtrack of an old Tarzan movie. Often, one will hear a pileated before it reveals itself visually. One summer morning I took part in a Flathead Audubon field trip at Lawrence Park, when we heard that characteristic call. By following the sound, we found not only the woodpecker itself, but a pileated chick nearly overflowing from a cavity in a standing dead birch. The call of the northern flicker, another common woodpecker, is somewhat similar and is sometimes confused. The call of the pileated woodpecker is louder but lower-pitched and descending. We focused on that distinction that morning in Lawrence Park.

Pileated woodpeckers are particularly special to Flathead Audubon, as they have been the chapter's mascot for decades. Bigfork artist and cartoonist Elmer Sprunger put the pileated woodpecker on the chapter logo, featured on our newsletter, the Pileated Post.

Pileateds are found throughout the forested regions of northwestern Montana. During the nesting season, they are most often found along major rivers that host galleries of large black cottonwood trees. In the winter, they venture more broadly, seeking food. They are also found in the forests of the Pacific coastal mountains, the boreal forests of Canada and the upper Midwest and the hardwood forests of the eastern and southern states.

The largest common woodpecker in North America, with a length of 16 inches and a wingspan of 30 inches, pileated woodpeckers live up to 10 years in the wild. Their bodies are mostly black, but they have a white underwing that quickly distinguishes them from crows. But most telling is the bird's head. Its neck and cheeks are white, with a white stripe over the eye. The jaunty red cap starts in the forehead, for the male, and continues through

the crest. On females, only the rear half of the crest is scarlet. A careful eye can also distinguish males by a red "mustache" on the cheek. On both sexes, the beak is like a chisel. The birds use that beak to tear apart rotten trees, logs and stumps, seeking out their favorite morsel, the carpenter ant. Pileated woodpeckers also are fond of suet in backyard feeders, and also eat fruit such as crabapples in winter.

The pileated woodpecker excavates large, oblong holes unlike any other woodpecker, typically three inches wide by seven to nine inches long.



Karen Nichols Photo

Look for such holes in the trunks of black cottonwood and western larch, often the largest dead trees available. Pileateds excavate large cavities for nests. They are monogamous and share the work of building the nest and feeding young. Smaller birds, from chickadees and nuthatches, to larger saw-whet owls, wood ducks and goldeneyes, along with mammals

such as northern flying squirrels, exploit the efforts of the industrious pileated woodpecker by using the nests and holes. Ecologists sometimes use the presence of pileated woodpeckers to gauge the health of a forest ecosystem.

Pileated woodpeckers are always a special treat to watch, but are relatively common in the Flathead Valley all year long. Local birders have seen them each of the 32 years of the annual Bigfork Christmas Bird Count.

These days, discussions of the pileated woodpecker often mention its larger cousin, the ivory-billed woodpecker. The ivory-billed is native to the Big Woods of the American Southeast and had been considered extinct by most experts, until one was allegedly captured on film in 2004. That ignited a debate between birders who believe the ivory-billed woodpecker is not extinct after all, and skeptics who believe the bird in the images is, in fact, a common pileated woodpecker. This debate will continue until there is more definitive evidence. In Montana, however, there is no doubt - if you see a big, beautiful, noisy, black woodpecker with a vivid red crest, it's a pileated. Grab your binoculars and enjoy.

KAREN



January 2007 Program

COLUMBIAN SHARP-TAILED GROUSE IN THE TOBACCO VALLEY

Flathead Audubon's Conservation Committee Chair, Lewis Young, keeps the membership well-informed about important current environmental and wildlife issues. At our January meeting, Lewis will talk about the Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse, which he believes would be listed as an endangered species if it only had the glamour of that poster bird for natural resources--the Bald Eagle.

Sharp-tailed grouse that historically occurred west of the Continental Divide in Montana are considered to be the Columbian sub-species. This sub-species formerly ranged across the western parts of Montana, Wyoming and Colorado; Idaho; parts of Oregon, Nevada, Utah, California, and Washington; and over large parts of British Columbia. Their populations have declined dramatically over the years. The Tobacco Valley appeared to have been a stronghold until fairly recent times.

Lewis will use many photos of Sharp-tailed Grouse in his presentation, which will cover:

- * Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse natural history and biology,
- * early records of Sharp-tailed Grouse from the Tobacco Valley, which go back as far as 1861,
- * what 40+ years of lek surveys show for numbers and trends,
- * transplants of Sharp-tailed Grouse made into the Tobacco Valley in the 1980s and 1990s, and
- * a review of factors that influence habitat and population size.

Lewis was born and raised in southwestern Missouri. He has a Bachelor's degree in Wildlife Management from Southwest Missouri State University, and a Master's degree in Wildlife Biology from Colorado State University. Lewis retired from a career with the U.S. Forest Service spanning 30 years as a wildlife biologist. He has lived in Eureka for 20 years and has also lived and worked in Choteau, New Mexico, North Dakota and California.

Lewis remains involved in wildlife activities and professional organizations in retirement. He is newsletter editor for the Northwest Section of The Wildlife Society and has actively served on the FAS Board of Directors for the past four years. Lewis and wife Lynda enjoy outdoor activities—hiking, fishing, hunting and skiing in winter. They compile Eureka's Christmas Bird Count statistics, which averages 50 species. Lynda is also the chairperson for the organization that operates Eureka's historical village. They have one grown son who lives in Wyoming.

Please join us on Monday, January 8, at The Summit to learn about the fascinating Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse. Also at the meeting, we will be celebrating the 30th birthday of Flathead Audubon. Come join the fun!

From Paula Smith, Publicity Chair

THANK YOU to all who bought tickets for Flathead Audubon's 2006 Christmas Raffle! A final flurry of ticket-buying at the start of December's meeting pushed the total amount raised to just over \$200 – a welcome boost to the Flathead Audubon treasury.

Flathead Audubon members David Mosby and Beverly Boe were the lucky winners of the raffle prize -- a beautiful, framed, color photograph of a

Broad-tailed Hummingbird by local nature photographer Mike O'Dale.

CONGRATULATIONS to David Mosby and Beverly Boe on their good fortune! And to Mike O'Dale, **MANY THANKS** for generously donating to Flathead Audubon this large-scale version of his photograph, complete with double mat and wooden frame, for this fund-raising event.

Linda Winnie

JANUARY FLATHEAD AUDUBON CALENDAR

Sunday, December 31, 2006: Kalispell Christmas Bird Count Meet at Finnegan's Restaurant, 7:30 AM; for information, call Dan Casey, 857-3143 or 756-2681.

Monday, January 8, 2007: Flathead Audubon General Meeting begins at 7PM at The Summit, conference room #3. Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse program by Lewis Young.

Tuesday, January 2, 2007: Flathead Audubon Board of Directors meeting. 6PM at 295 Third Avenue East North, Kalispell (Jane Lopp & Associates Building) All are welcome.

Saturday, January 13, 2007: Field Trip, West Valley Winter Birds (details on next page)

Sunday, February 18, 2007: Field Trip to the Mission Valley (details on next page)

Friday - Monday, June 1-4, 2007: Montana Audubon Bird Festival, Ennis, MT



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

The Kalispell Christmas Bird Count on December 31 was a great success. It is always great to spend time with friends in the field and to look for new birds for your winter list. Susannah Casey's enjoyable December program, "Tales of Christmas Past: Adventures in Bird Counting," included practical tips and practice on counting the number of birds in a flock.

Now it is time to look forward to 2007 and make some "New Year's Resolutions" for the birds and birders! These are somewhat random, so order them according to your own birding experiences!

- ◆ Check and fill the bird feeders at least once a week! No starving birds!
- ◆ Clean and fill the water dish every other day! Ugh! How dirty the water can get! Why can't the birds turn around and do it over the side?!
- ◆ Fill the suet feeders as well. How can Downies and Flickers hang upside down and eat?
- ◆ Take a child or teenager to every Flathead Audubon monthly program. The pictures will get them "hooked on birds."
- ◆ Learn to identify 10 birds (mostly warblers) by song before May.
- ◆ Read up on at least those 10 in Sibley's Guide to Birds or Guide to Bird Life & Behavior, The Birder's Handbook, Stokes Field Guide to Birds, or other resources in your library (or the Flathead County Library.)
- ◆ Add a birding resource book or field guide to your library.
- ◆ Check and clean your bird boxes before the spring migration. Where could I put another? Is the box in a location safe from predators and near food?
- ◆ Clean your binoculars, scopes, etc. Don't I need to replace one or buy a different, more powerful one? Of course! Where can I hide it until I can use it without getting caught?
- ◆ Take a child bird watching! Get outdoors where they can learn to love nature and you can share your love and fascination with birds!



Flathead Audubon President, Bob Lopp

If you receive your Pileated Post before the end of December, remember the Kalispell Christmas Bird Count on December 31st!



Because of our unusually early deadline for publishing the Pileated Post this month, results of the Bigfork Christmas Bird Count were not available and will be included in our wrap-up report of all CBCs next month.



AUDUBON FIELD TRIPS!



J. Marcure Photo

Saturday, January 13, 2007. Field trip to the West Valley in search of winter birds of the Flathead Valley. We will be wandering the back roads north of Kalispell to search for winter migrants and those hardy souls who call the Flathead Valley home all year. Hawks, eagles, shrikes and, possibly, an owl or two might be found. This half day trip will leave from the Fish, Wildlife & Parks building in Kalispell at 8:30AM. Please contact Leslie Kehoe in the evenings at 837-4467, to sign up for the trip.

Sunday, February 18, 2007. A Field trip to the Mission Valley. This full day trip will follow the west shore of Flathead Lake to the Mission Valley. We will bird as we go, wandering the byways of the Mission Valley as we search for several hawk species, eagles, falcons, waterfowl and maybe even an owl. We will end up at the National Bison Range near Moiese where in years past we have found Townsend's Solitaires and American Robins. This trip will focus on raptor identification. We will meet at the Park 'n Ride at the intersection of Hwy 93 and Hwy 82 near Somers at 8:00 AM. Bring a lunch and winter weather gear. Please contact Leslie Kehoe in the evenings at 837-4467 to sign up for

FROM THE BOARD: **BARBARA GROVE**

FAS BOARD MEMBER



USGS photo

BIRDING DELIGHTS OF TEXAS' RIO GRANDE VALLEY

As our Montana weather turns colder and the snow begins to pile up, allow us to share some of our favorite places for warm, easy, comfortable viewing of spectacular bird, flower and animal life. The Texas coast, Rio Grande Valley, Big Bend National Park and New Mexico's Bosque Del Apache NWR form a trail: a winter/spring world-class paradise of birds and blossoms.

The Rio Grande Valley ("the Valley") of Texas is a special place where the Mississippi and Central flyways converge and the Gulf Coast and Tamaulipan thorn scrub meet on the fertile alluvial plain. Reportedly, half of the bird species recorded in the U.S. have been spotted in the Valley.

Hundreds of species of wildly-colored birds and wildflowers are waiting for you. Hold on to your binoculars, field guides and cameras—here we go!

High Island and the Texas Coast in the spring host the legendary "fallout." Jillions of rainbow-colored warblers, wearing their Sunday go-to-breeding plumage, along with scads of other feathered migrants, plop at your feet after they've crossed the Gulf of Mexico nonstop. Like watching a wolf or bear "jam" in Glacier or Yellowstone National Park, half of the fun is seeing the reactions of the observers and their overwhelmed, stunned delight.

At Aransas NWR, winter unfolds a celebration of whooping cranes, tall white relics which almost joined the passenger pigeons. Tour boats let you share their dancing courtship display and thrill to their nearly-lost wild, rollicking calls.

Driving toward the Valley, watch for white-tailed hawks, white-tailed kites, white-tailed deer, and the bizarre feral nilgai, an antelope native to India—big as a jackass, wild as a roadrunner and striped like a zebra. Nilgai were brought to Texas in the 1930's to be hunted on exotic game ranches.

Local tours can show you the resident ferruginous pygmy owls peering at you from the shadows. Harris's hawks and crested caracaras (Mexican eagles) abound, and maybe you will get nose-to-nose with an armadillo. Please remember not to pet the huge, fat, seven-foot long black indigo snakes; gentle giants (prized for eating rattle snakes) stretched harmlessly along the trails. Huge kettles of thousands of hawks—broad-winged and others—make this a famous raptor-watching bonanza. Enjoy the greater roadrunners, maybe carrying a big lizard, dashing like the wind only to stop and "coo" at you. Brown, noisy, chicken-like plain chachalacas can make your hair stand up, calling unseen from behind a nearby cactus. This is an area in Texas where everything seems to bite, sting or poke, so watch the trails carefully.

Wild flowers explode with all colors in this greenhouse tropical climate, traveled by brilliantly-hued flying, noisy jewels: green jays, great kiskadees calling their name, various species of incandescent orioles shining like burning gems in the chaparral. Do not miss the legends: Santa Ana NWR, Bentsen S.P. and the Audubon Sanctuary with resident buff-bellied hummingbirds. Watch for hook-billed kites patrolling the Rio Grande River. Enjoy the bird, butterfly and flower displays at the various showcases in Weslaco, Edinburg, McAllen, and the wild parrots and parakeets flocking and calling in Brownsville.

For more than one hundred years, people of all birding skill levels have participated in the Laguna Atascosa NWR Christmas Bird Count. This National Audubon Society annual Christmas Bird Count is one of the largest citizen science events in the world. The winter census data is used by researchers studying long-term trends bird populations throughout North America.

Down the road a piece is the huge Big Bend National Park with desert, river and Chisos Mountains. Several special birds can be seen here; legendary as the only place in the USA to see the colima warbler. To the north is the Bosque Del Apache NWR near Socorro, N.M., a winter haven for thousands of sandhill cranes, snowgeese, eagles, hawks and high desert birds. A full moon in November brightens the morning, and evening flights explosively fill the sky; an unforgettable wildlife experience.

These vignettes simply brush the surface of this terrific area, where you can add some real goodies to your flower, butterfly and bird lists, along with more snow birds than you can count!

By Barbara and Gene Grove

If you have any color photos of birds on your old 2006 calendar, please bring them to the next FAS meeting. The Education Committee makes use of these pictures in classroom materials. Thank You, birders!



MONTANA AUDUBON IN 2007

New Executive Director Hired

Montana Audubon has a new Executive Director – Steve Hoffman. Steve comes to Audubon with 27 years of wildlife conservation and administrative experience. He began his career as a wildlife biologist for the U.S. Bureau of Land Management in Arizona, and later worked as an Endangered Species Specialist for the US Fish & Wildlife Service in Albuquerque, NM. In 1987, after nine years of government service, Steve left to create *HawkWatch International* (HWI), a not-for-profit organization dedicated to monitoring and conserving hawks, eagles and other birds of prey. After 12 years with HWI, Steve returned to his home state of Pennsylvania to become the State Director of Bird Conservation for *Audubon Pennsylvania*. In this position Steve spent much of his time strengthening Pennsylvania's Important Bird Area program. In 2005 Steve moved to Bozeman, Montana, to serve as the Executive Director of *Predator Conservation Alliance*. Steve earned a M.S. in Wildlife Ecology from Utah State University in 1979, and a Bachelor's in Psycho-Biology in 1973. He currently makes his home in Bozeman with his wife, Lisa Daly, and their 13-year old son, Merlin.

Janet Ellis, who has been the acting director for more than two and a half years, is remaining with *Montana Audubon* as the Program Director. She will now focus her time on policy—including representing Audubon before the 2007 Montana Legislature. And she will continue to work with Flathead Audubon on management and protection of the Owen Sowerwine Natural Area.



Montana Audubon Bird Festival

June 1-4, at Ennis



SIGN UP FOR 2007 LEGISLATIVE ALERTS!

An important role that local Audubon members play during the Montana Legislature is to participate in statewide legislative alerts. When crucial issues are at stake, Montana Audubon will contact interested members by phone or email, explain the issue and why we need to take action on it, and then ask members to contact their legislators. Alerts will be sent out only a few times during the session, but they provide a powerful way to lobby legislators on crucial bills and issues. Signup sheets will be available at your local chapter meeting or email (jellis@mtaudubon.org) or call (443-3949) Montana Audubon, with your signup information. Please provide your name, home address, phone number, and email address. Even if you were signed up for the 2005 session alerts, you should sign up again for this session so that Montana Audubon lists can be updated.

Montana Audubon 2007 Legislative Priorities

Stream and River Setbacks – As Montana continues to grow, it makes sense to protect its clean water, rivers and streams. Legislation for a streamside setback of 150 feet from streams, and 250 feet from rivers for any new structures will be brought to the 2007 Legislature.

Protecting Public Health and Safety, Fish and Wildlife – In 2001, the Montana Legislature passed a bill that tied the hands of state agencies to place protective conditions on state permits or other activities to safeguard public health and safety, and fish and wildlife under the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). Legislation to reinstate provisions to protect public health and safety and fish and wildlife under MEPA will be introduced in 2007.

Allowing conservation easements on any and all school trust land – Legislation passed in 2001 restricts where conservation easements can be placed on school trust lands. This legislation would allow conservation easements on all school trust land, regardless of location (and manager) of the property.

RAVENWOOD PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEENS

Each first Saturday in January (6), February (3), and March (3), from 9am to 3pm, Ravenwood Natural Science Center will host Mountain Mentors, an outdoor adventure series for middle school youth, in the Swan Foothills near Strawberry Lake Road just north and east of Bigfork. Young teens will learn important backcountry travel, safety, and survival skills, participate in the second annual Wilderness Winter Olympics, and learn about the natural history of the Swan Range. Cost per person is \$95 for the remainder of the series or \$45 for each individual session. Partial scholarships are available. Siblings receive a 10% discount. To register, call Brett at 837-7279.





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Proposal To Take Nestling Peregrine Falcons For Falconry Use

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is requesting public comment on a proposal to take up to 5% of nestling peregrine falcons for falconry purposes. Under state law, the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission has the authority to regulate the take of raptors for falconry purposes. Peregrine falcons were removed from the Federal endangered species list in 1999 and from the Montana list in 2005. A 2006 survey documented approximately 65 active nests that fledged 147 young in Montana. Although 65 pairs is better than it used to be, that is still a small population and they do not yet fully occupy suitable habitat across the state. Captive bred peregrines have been and continue to be available to falconers, so it would seem that taking wild falcons might be unnecessary. This proposal also has the appearance of privatizing a public wildlife resource.

MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks has produced a scoping letter describing the issue and giving background information. That letter is available at: http://fwp.mt.gov/publicnotices/notice_1263.aspx

FAS will be submitting comments. Please contact Lewis Young (889-3492 in Eureka) for more information or to voice your thoughts. Your comments may also be submitted by January 15, 2007, to:

MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Attn. Wildlife-Peregrines
PO Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620-0701



Lewis Young, FAS Conservation Chair



RECYCLING NEWS (AND OLDS)

Space in the last 2 newsletters has not allowed for the recycling report, but we now want you to know that, in the last 2 months, Flathead Audubon members have recycled over half a ton of materials! November's load was 620 pounds, December's was 440 pounds, and some members have taken recyclables to the center individually. Could this be one form of "Greenhouse Gas Offsets," a method of giving back, in return for resources we use?

We were very happy to welcome 4 new contributors to the Recycling Wagon prior to the December FAS meeting. We even had a person who is not an Audubon member but who had heard that there

would be a recycling pickup Monday night and showed up with her bags of goodies!

The Recycling Wagon will be at the west side of The Summit north parking lot at 6:30PM prior to the January 8 FAS meeting. It has recently received a complete new wiring and lights system, thanks to the electrical skills of Tony Anderson and Brent Mitchell and to some hand-me-down materials from the late Matt Bowie's workshop. Drop off your recyclables on your way to the Audubon meeting!

Within the next couple of months, we expect to have information for you on a new method of recycling the most difficult of all items - electronics!



(FAS Celebrates 30 Years....)

A 30th birthday is a great time to celebrate our beginning, to recognize and thank those people who fostered the birth and growth of our organization, and to look back at the origins of traditions that have shaped the projects and concerns that define Flathead Audubon today. Watch upcoming issues of the Pileated Post for features on the activities of the young Flathead Audubon, and on the people who made that early version of our organization tick. The Post will also give you a window into our past by including articles from early issues of the Flathead Audubon newsletter.

THE CELEBRATION BEGINS on JANUARY 8!!

Please join with your fellow FAS members to celebrate Flathead during the pre-program portion of our January meeting. We'll sing Happy see if President Bob can blow out all the candles on the cake.



Audubon's 30th birthday
Birthday to ourselves, and
By Linda Winnie



THIRTY YEARS AGO IN FLATHEAD AUDUBON

The following article appeared in the first issue of the Flathead Audubon newsletter, March 1977. **BIRD HOUSE & FEEDER PROJECT:** The Bird House Building Committee chaired by Newton Reed is setting up a booth in the Kalispell B&B Variety Store to sell bird houses and feeders built by chapter members. Several types of houses will be built, each type to certain specifications that will best attract the desired birds. Types of houses to be built are bluebird, swallow, wren, chickadee, nuthatch and Robin. Houses made from hollow logs are also planned to be built. Information explaining care, maintenance and placement will accompany the houses. The project will provide nest sites for birds as well as funds for chapter operation. Anyone interested in building houses or feeders should contact Newton Reed, Bigfork.



Newsletter of the Flathead Audubon Society

P.O. Box 9173
Kalispell, MT 59904-9173

JANUARY 2007



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The Flathead Audubon Society is affiliated with Montana Audubon and the National Audubon Society. Flathead Audubon meets on the second Monday of each month from September through May. The meeting starts at 7:00PM and includes a featured guest who presents a conservation or nature program. The Board of Directors meet the Monday preceding the general meeting, at 6PM at 295 3rd Ave. EN, in Kalispell. Both meetings are open to all those interested.

THE PILEATED POST is published September through May and is sent to members of Flathead Audubon Society as a membership benefit. For membership information or address change, please call Mike Fanning at 862-8070. To receive this newsletter electronically, email your request to: lindawin@centurytel.net. **Deadline for newsletter copy is the 18th of each month. Contact newsletter editor at 755-1406; email submissions to: piledatedpost@flatheadaudubon.org**

FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY DIRECTORY

Website: www.flatheadaudubon.org

John Kyle: Flockmaster@flatheadaudubon.org

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President	Bob Lopp	52 West View Drive, Kalispell 59901	257-6886
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2004-2007	Bob Lee	(rml3@centurytel.net)	257-0363
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2006-2007	Linda Winnie	(lindawin@centurytel.net)	755-1406
2006-2007	Brent Mitchell	(bkmitch@centurytel.net)	756-8130
2006-2007	Lisa Discoe	(ldiscoe@hotmail.com)	837-1456

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Birdseed Sales	Mike Fanning	862-8070
Christmas Bird Count	Dan Casey	857-3143
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Education Coordinator	Lisa Discoe	837-1456
Field Trips	Leslie Kehoe	837-4467
	Bob Rost	837-2255
Hospitality	Lois Drobish	756-7405
Membership	Mike Fanning	862-8070
Owen Sowerwine	Brent Mitchell	756-8130
Natural Area	Linda Winnie	755-1406
Newsletter	Linda Winnie	755-1406
	Kay Mitchell	756-8130
Nominations	Linda deKort	755-3704
Program	Leo Keane	862-5807
	Rob Ford	857-6788
Publicity	Paula Smith	837-0181
Refuge Projects	Leslie Kehoe	837-4467
Sales	Jill Fanning	862-8070
Website	Paula Smith	837-0181
Wetlands/Waterfowl	Neal Brown	837-5018

MONTANA AUDUBON

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FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY

Support local programs
and receive the Pileated Post.

Flathead Audubon Membership . . . \$15
(Individual or Family)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ - _____

Email _____

How do you wish to receive the Pileated Post?

Paper copy/U.S. mail Electronic copy/email

Mail this form with your check to:

Flathead Audubon Society Membership
380 Tally Lake Road
Whitefish, MT 59937