



# the Silent Post

Newsletter of the Flathead Audubon Society

VOLUME 36

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MAY 2012



## TERESA WENUM SPEAKS FOR THE TREES

By Linda deKort



It seems that everywhere conservation education is happening in this valley, we see a bright familiar face. Raptor Day, Frog Day, Forestry Expo, Celebration of Artist in the Wilderness, Summit Nature Center, Education Trunk Workshops.... If you have attended those events in the last 16 years, you will appreciate the energy of the auburn-haired dynamo helping to make these events happen: Teresa Wenum.

Teresa is the Conservation Education Specialist with the Flathead National Forest. Not all National Forest Districts have such a position; what a shame. But not every District has the unusual good fortune of having Teresa Wenum on its staff. Teresa has a keen ability to forge and sustain partnerships; her greatest joy is collaboration. In her typical modest manner, she credits partners such as Flathead Community of Resource Educators and Crown of the Continent Ecosystem Education Consortium for the sustainability and effectiveness of the programs she fosters. Teresa takes an idea, works out all the fine details, pores over documents, confers with financial advisors, emails numerous organizations, fine tunes the proposal, presents it again to the parties concerned and, almost magically, the idea becomes a program with much enthusiastic support from all the partners. A perfect example of this is the current "More Kids in the Woods" grant which involves eight partners including Flathead Audubon; it began as "another good idea" and Teresa has crafted it into a great reality.

When asked how she maintains this seemingly inexhaustible enthusiasm and energy, she re-



plies, "through the eyes of kids." Given the exposure and the information, Teresa has faith that "people will do the right thing." Teresa has been doing the right thing since she was a young girl. Family camping trips in Colorado got her hooked on the outdoors and working with Girl Scouts from second grade through college developed her skills to organize and collaborate. While with Girl Scouts, she organized and directed the scouting program for high school age children of migrant workers. She has been vitalizing non-profits ever since. Her family is also a source of inspiration and balance. She and her husband Eric have two children, Larissa and Kyle, who help them keep their eyes on the future.

Soon after this interview, I was invited to join our grandkids to a viewing of the film, "The Lorax." When the Lorax introduced itself as one who spoke for the trees and became the protagonist who continued to energize and inspire others to protect our complex ecosystems, I was reminded of Teresa. (Teresa, of course, is FAR more attractive than the scruffy Lorax!) But her positive energy, commitment and ability to inspire deserve another box office sensation.

But while we are waiting for such a production, we would like to take this opportunity to honor the sensational Teresa Wenum with Flathead Audubon's Conservation Achievement Recognition, which will be presented to Teresa at the May 14 Potluck in Whitefish. Thank you, Teresa, for your dedication to conservation and for the many successful nature-centered projects you foster!

### MAY FLATHEAD AUDUBON CALENDAR

**Saturday, April 28, 2012: Special Last-Minute Field Trip! HEAR THE CALL OF THE BARRED OWL.** Don't miss it! For details, turn to page 3.

**Monday, May 14, 2012: Flathead Audubon Annual Meeting and Potluck.** 7 PM at the Whitefish Community Center. Steve Gniadek presents "Birds of The Gambia, West Africa." See page 3 for full details.

**Monday, May 7, 2012: FAS Board of Directors Meeting.** 6 PM at 295 3rd Ave. EN. All are welcome.

**Friday-Sunday, June 8-10, 2012: Wings Over the Big Sky Bird Festival, Kalispell.** Details on page 10!



# BIRD OF THE MONTH

By Gail Cleveland

## Warbling Vireo

Although vireos are persistent singers during the breeding season, these rather plain birds seem to hide among the foliage of treetops and dense thickets, proving to be difficult to see. Consequently, they are one family that beginning bird watchers often overlook. Of this strictly New World family of birds, Northwest Montana has three fairly common species: the Red-eyed Vireo, Cassin's Vireo and Warbling Vireo. Taking a closer look at my favorite, the Warbling Vireo, should send birders in hot pursuit of this seemingly-elusive little gray bird.

From their wintering grounds in Mexico and Central America, Warbling Vireos typically arrive in Northwest Montana in mid-May. Males arrive before females, immediately beginning to establish a territory by singing from a tall tree or bush. Warbling Vireos are mainly found in deciduous and mixed woods close to water. They avoid unbroken mature forests, concentrating on forest edges, breeding in broad-leaved trees of mountains, canyons and prairie groves.

Because of this preferred habitat, the Warbling Vireo's range is widespread. The woodlands do not need to be extensive. They can be found in riparian corridors, tree-lined riverbanks, open city parks and cemeteries. In North America they breed in all states except the Southeast, and in western Canada their range extends to the Yukon and Northwest Territories. Their numbers are good, but there has been some decline in urban areas, possibly because of pesticide use.

Describing a Warbling Vireo is a drab task. In numerous field guides, they are described as pale, plain and muted. They have a dull, white eyebrow, no wing bars, tail spots or eye ring. In shape and behavior, they resemble a warbler, most closely resembling a Tennessee Warbler in coloration and habitat choice. The Tennessee's bill is finer, and it has a grayish line through the eye. However, the best way to tell them apart is by song.

The song of the Warbling Vireo is infective and persistent. Pete Dunne in his Essential Field Guide Companion describes it as "zesty" and "a rapid, conversational, saucy-sounding, highly variable warble. . . In tone and structure, sounds like a happy drunk

making a conversational point at a party." According to Smithsonian writer Winsor Marrett Tyler, "The most suggestive verbal rendering of the vireo's song, perhaps, is Wilson Flagg's (1890): "'*Brig-a-dier, Brig-a-dier, Brigate,*' which, pronounced slowly, brings out the rhythm admirably." The phrases of its song are often alternately inflected up and down, like a question and an answer. To listen to a local Warbling Vireo, Google [www.soundcloud.com](http://www.soundcloud.com), click on Search Tracks, search Tanneland, and the recording is at the end of the list.

One spring we had a rare look at the Warbling Vireo nest and nesting behavior outside our front window. The nest was a deep cup suspended by its rim from a forked twig in a serviceberry bush. This typical nest is built by both sexes. Both the male and the female sit on the nest. The male vireo sings from the



Chris Peterson Photo—"1000 Straight Days in Glacier"

nest, a fairly rare behavior for most birds, who do not want to draw attention to the eggs or young. Unfortunately, our nest was abandoned. The reason is unknown. Predation by other birds or a squirrel may be the answer. Warbling Vireos are also very susceptible to the parasitism of the Brown-headed Cowbird, who will destroy the vireo's four or five eggs and replace them with its own. Eggs are incubated for approximately 12 days and chicks leave the nest after an average of 16 days. Both adults will

feed the young.

Warbling Vireos dine almost exclusively on insects and larva, gleaning them off of leaves. With large prey items (such as caterpillars), the Warbling Vireo whacks its catch against its perch until the insect is subdued. Some early scientists were appalled to find a great many lady bugs in the stomachs of this species. In our area, my hope is that they have a taste for spruce budworms that are attacking the fir trees so voraciously. Like some warblers, they can also be seen darting out of a treetop to catch an insect and then returning. In the fall, they occasionally dine on fruits as well.

Starting at the end of May, in riparian woodlands, keep your ears tuned for this "zesty" songster, and then grab your binoculars to search for the Warbling Vireo among the leafy branches. If you are lucky, you may even find a male singing from a nest.



# May Program

## Birds of The Gambia, West Africa



Steve Gniadek had the good fortune to participate in a Montana Audubon-sponsored birding trip to The Gambia during November 2011. The trip was led by Jeff Marks, professional ornithologist and former Director of Bird Conservation for Montana Audubon, with assistance from local guides.

Over 500 species of birds are found in The Gambia, a country smaller than Flathead County, with a population of 1.7 million people. Despite thousands of years of human occupation and a growing population, this tiny country retains some of the best remaining bird habitat in the region, including savannas, mangrove swamps, and lush gallery forest along the River Gambia. Several small national parks and preserves protect remnants of habitat so important to maintaining avian biodiversity in West Africa.

The amazing variety of birds includes over 30



species of diurnal raptors, seven species of bee-eaters, five species of woodpeckers, 10 species of sunbirds, plus turacos, hornbills, woodhoopoes, rollers, kingfishers, doves, and weavers. Rarities include Egyptian Plover, Northern White-faced Owl, African

Finfoot, and Abyssinian Ground-Hornbill.

Steve was a wildlife biologist in Glacier National Park for 22 years. He retired in 2009 but continues conducting bird surveys in Montana, and serves on several state wildlife working groups, and on the Board of Directors of Flathead Audubon and other conservation organizations.

Join us at 7 PM on Monday, May 14, at the Whitefish Community Center for a vicarious journey to equatorial Africa, with a photographic sample of the rich variety of birds, bird habitats, and culture of this terra incognita.



## MAY FLATHEAD AUDUBON MEETING

POTLUCK

Bring Your Own Tableware!



**Date:** Monday, May 14, 2012

**Location:** Whitefish Community Center

**Address:** 121 Second Street, Whitefish



cityofgreer.org

**Directions:** In Whitefish, turn west on Highway 93, the Community Center is at the southwest corner of the bridge over the Whitefish River

**Times:** Doors Open 5:00 PM, Potluck Dinner 6:00 PM, Meeting Begins 7:00 PM

**Business Meeting:** We will elect officers and Board members (see page 10), vote on By-law changes (see pages 4 & 5), plus any other business that is brought up.

**Silent Auction Request:** Scour your closets, bookshelves, and CD racks for nature-related items to bring to Flathead Audubon's Silent Auction. This fun display and hot bidding are an important fund raiser for our chapter activities. We depend on members to generously donate items for the auction. Traditional favorites have been bird books, CDs, art work, guided field trips, raft trips, or dinners, spring bedding plants, home-made cookies, and outdoor gear. Use your imagination! Bring your loot to the May Potluck meeting. And remember to bring your wallet, so you can haul off someone else's former prized possessions!

**Program:** Our own Steve Gniadek will entertain us with tales of his bird trip to Gambia (see above).

**Gardener Special:** Rod McIver will bring his amazing variety of Flathead-hardy, bird-friendly, ready-for-your-yard trees and shrubs to help you finish off that empty space by the side fence.



wikipedia.org

### SPECIAL LAST-MINUTE FIELD TRIP!

**SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2012: HEAR THE CALL OF THE BARRED OWL.** If you haven't heard the Barred Owl call "Who Cooks For You," this is your opportunity. Join expert owl caller, Pete Smith, to hear the hoot of the only black-eyed owl in the Flathead Valley. Meet at 7:00 PM at the Silver Bullet Bar (off Hwy 206 about three miles north of Woody's). To sign up, contact Pete at 250-9624.



## CHIRPS & SQUAWKS

From  
From Paula Smith, FAS Presidenta



### FLATHEAD AUDUBON'S "BIG YEAR"

2011-12 has been a "Big Year" for Flathead Audubon...with help from great partners!

Since this time last year, we have been preparing to co-host the Montana Audubon *Wings Across the Big Sky* Bird Festival. Every member of the bird festival committee, board members and additional member volunteers, are contributing their knowledge, skills and time toward making it a wonderful fun and educational weekend that everyone will enjoy, as old and new birding friends gather to celebrate birds.

The FAS board also launched a fall appeal to selected businesses and a year-end appeal to the membership to help fund our Conservation Education Program. You generously responded, and the appeal successfully raised \$4,800 for the program. These donations and help from grantors support the work of FAS Conservation Educator Ashley Mason. For example, they allow the "Get Out" project for at-risk kids to be continued this May at Owen Sowerwine Natural Area. Ashley and FAS will also be partnering with the US Forest Service, local non-profits and schools to get "More Kids in the Woods" during the next year and a half.

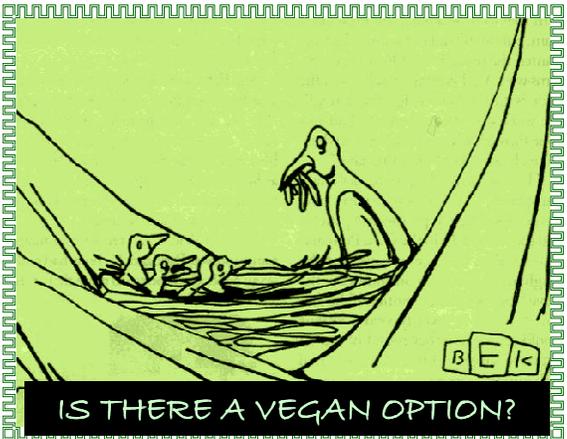
And speaking of Owen Sowerwine, at long last a handicap accessible trail is being built at the Treasure Lane entrance this month. This is being made possible through the meticulous planning and perseverance of the OSNA Committee, in partnership with neighbors, Flathead County, DNRC, MT Audubon, a Round-up-for-Safety Grant from Flathead Electric Coop and donations of materials and equipment by local companies. Stay tuned for the grand opening!

Time after time, the dynamic FAS directors and members have initiated, organized and implemented programs, field trips and events, often in partnership with other agencies and non-profits, which enhance our understanding and appreciation of our natural world. Thanks for the "Big Year," and we're not half done yet!



#### 2012 E-WASTE COLLECTION EVENT SATURDAY, MAY 19, 9 AM-2 PM

Gather up all of your old, unused, in-the-way electronic gear from days past and head over to Valley Recycling, 1410 Highway 2 West, Kalispell. Valley and Citizens for a Better Flathead Waste Not program are teaming up to accept TVs, cell phones, computers and peripherals, microwaves, even alarm clocks. For some items, there is a small fee, just to cover transporting them to a facility in Oregon where they will be disassembled and the parts recycled. Not only does this save space in our landfill, but much more importantly, the toxic metals and plastics in the gadgets will be re-used and not end up in our landfill or groundwater. A full list of what's accepted is listed at [www.valleyrecycling.com](http://www.valleyrecycling.com). So, do the right thing—be part of the solution!



### FAS BYLAW CHANGES TO BE VOTED ON

*From time to time, the Board reviews the FAS Bylaws with the goal of updating them or correcting internal inconsistencies. The current Bylaws do not provide for the Board to conduct official business by email. Several times each year, a question arises that needs to be voted upon outside of the regular Board meeting, usually because the deadline for a decision is too short and will have passed before the Board can convene in person. Proposals 1, 4 and 5 address this situation and giving notice of Special Board meetings and the General Meeting by email in The Pileated Post. Proposals 2 and 3 correct internal inconsistencies in the Bylaws.*

#### RE: Proposals to Amend FAS Bylaws regarding:

- ◆ Method of voting by the Board
- ◆ Amending Article II, Section 5 to be consistent with Article I, Section 5;
- ◆ Amending Article X to correct an incorrect reference; and
- ◆ Amending Article IV, Section 6.
- ◆ Amending the last sentence of Article III, Section 4.

Date: December 15, 2011

By: Dennis Hester



clker.com

(Full details on next page)

**1. Method of voting by the Board.**

Explanation: The current Bylaws do not provide for the Board to conduct official business by email. Several times each year a question arises that needs to be voted upon outside of the regular Board meeting, usually because the deadline for a decision is too short and will have passed before the Board can convene in person. This proposal provides the Board with the ability to vote on a question by email.

**Proposal - New**

*Article IV, Section 9. At the discretion of the President, official business of the Board may be conducted by telephone and/or email, provided that each Director on the Board is informed of the matters to be considered and is provided an opportunity to vote on any item of business requiring a vote of the Board. Notice to each Director by email informing the Director of the matters to be considered and sent not less than seven (7) days prior to the tabulation of votes by the Chair shall constitute proper notice and an opportunity to vote. The quorum necessary for such vote is as set forth in Article IV, Section 7.*

**2. Amending Article II, Section 5 to be consistent with Article I, Section 5.**

Explanation: Article I, Section 5 consists of two sentences. The second sentence addresses voting by Members in the Family Class of Membership. Article II, Section 5 does not contain this second sentence.

**Proposal – Amendment**

*Article II, Section 5. Each Local Chapter Member shall have the right to cast one vote at the annual meeting and at any regular or special meeting of members on any motion that may properly be brought before such meeting, including the election of officers and directors. Members of the Family Class of Membership shall be entitled to two votes per family, provided that at least two members of the family are present in person at the time of voting.*

**3. Amending Article X to correct an incorrect reference.**

Explanation: Article X – Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws, incorrectly refers to Article II, Section 4, regarding calling meetings. Article X should refer to Article III, Section 4.

**Proposal – Amendment**

*Article X – Amendments. The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of members present in person or by proxy at any regular or special meeting duly called pursuant to the provisions of Article ~~II~~ III, Section 4 hereinabove. The notice of such meeting shall recite the wording of each proposed amendment.*

**5. Amending Article IV, Section 6, to provide for giving notice of a special meeting of the Board by email.**

Explanation: Article IV, Section 6 provides for the giving of notice of a special meeting of the Board in person, by telephone or by mail. This amendment would add email to the methods available for calling a special meeting.

**Proposal - Amendment**

*Article IV, Section 6. Special meetings of the Board shall be called by the President or by the Secretary upon request of the majority of the Board. Notice of a special meeting may be given in person, by email, or by telephone not less than three nor more than ten days prior to the date of the meeting, or if by mail, not less than ten nor more than 20 days prior to the date of the meeting. The date of mailing or the date an email is sent shall constitute the date of notice.*

**6. Amending the last sentence of Article III, Section 4, to provide for giving notice of the annual meeting, special meetings and regular meetings of the general membership by email to those members who receive the newsletter by electronic means.**

Explanation: Article III, Section 4 provides for giving notice of the annual meeting, special meetings and regular meetings of the general membership by regular mail. The last sentence of this Article provides that notice may be published in the newsletter, provided it is mailed to the members. The amendment would allow notice to be given and valid if published in the newsletter and sent by email to those members who receive the newsletter by electronic means.

**The last sentence of Article III, Section 4 would be amended as follows:**

*Notice of such meetings ~~may be~~ shall be deemed sufficient if published in the SOCIETY'S newsletter or other regular publication, provided such publication is mailed according to the provisions stated hereinabove or is sent by email to those members who regularly receive the newsletter electronically.*

**Bigfork**

*Saturdays*, 9 AM--1 PM, May 5--Oct. 20; Bigfork High School, 600 Commerce Street; 755-0650  
*Wednesdays*, 4--7 PM, May 9--Oct. 17; Swan River Community Hall, Hwy 83 & Swan River Rd.; 755-0650

**Columbia Falls**

*Thursdays*, 5--7:30 PM, June 14--Sept. 20; Discovery Square, 540 Nucleus Ave.; 892-0318  
*Fridays*, 5--9 PM & *Saturdays*, 10 AM--2 PM, June 29--August 31 (includes a swap meet); old drive-in, US Hwy 2 & MT Hwy 40; 863-9741

**Kalispell**

*Saturday*, 9 AM--12:30 PM, April 21--Oct. 20; W. end of Kspl Ctr Mall, Center St. & 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.; 881-4078

**Whitefish**

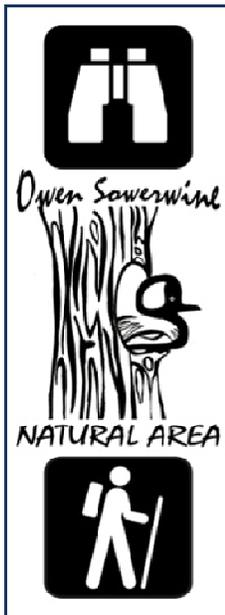
*Tuesday*, 5--7:30 pm, May 29--Sept. 25; Depot Park, N. end of Central Ave.; 862-2043  
*Thursdays*, 4--6 pm May 3--TBA; Pin & Cue Parking Lot, US 93 South; 862-3451



For other Montana Farmers Markets, see [www.aeromt.org/food-ag/farmers-market/](http://www.aeromt.org/food-ag/farmers-market/).

# COMING SOON!

## TRAIL CLOSURE AT OWEN SOWERWINE FROM LINDA WINNIE, OSNA CO-CHAIR



The Treasure Lane entrance to Owen Sowerwine (OSNA) and the first approximately 700 ft. of the Mainland Trail will be closed for about two weeks in early May. Signs will be posted to mark both ends of the closed portion. During the closure period, you are encouraged to use the Greenridge Drive entrance to visit Owen Sowerwine.

During the closure, the initial 700 feet of the Mainland Trail will be widened and hard surfaced with compacted gravel to make it handicapped accessible. An accessible gate will replace the current gate, and a 10x10 foot accessible viewing area will be constructed at the far end, which will overlook a waterfowl hangout and a stand of old cottonwoods with nesting holes.

The trail and viewing area work will be done by the local Montana Made Trails. A crew of FAS volunteers led by Lewis Young will build the gate.

Many thanks to the Owen Sowerwine Committee; they have been working more than 7 months to plan and put together this project. Thanks also to Flathead Electric Coop for a Round-up-for-Safety Grant that will partially fund the project. And Thank You to the local companies who are donating materials: LHC,

Inc. is donating the gravel (4-5 truckloads); Sliters Lumber and Building Supply is contributing the lumber for the gate and the viewing area edging, and Murdoch's has provided a discount on gate materials. Partial funding will also come from Montana Audubon and Flathead Audubon.

Please stop by after mid-May to see the completed project! And watch for a final report on the project, including pictures, in the September Post!

Y Y Y Y Y

**Please remember to take an OSNA Volunteer Monitoring Checklist with you when you visit Owen Sowerwine this summer.** Use the checklist to tell us what parts of Owen Sowerwine you visited, and what you saw and heard while you were there. The information provided by our Monitors helps Flathead Audubon manage Owen Sowerwine.

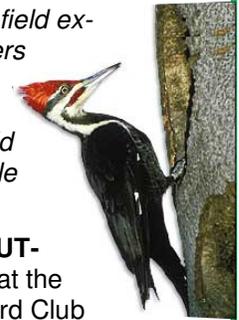
The checklist and a map of the OSNA trails can be downloaded from [www.flatheadaudubon.org](http://www.flatheadaudubon.org) or obtained by email from Linda Winnie ([lindawin@centurytel.net](mailto:lindawin@centurytel.net)).

And – **we still need 3 people to sign up for scheduled monitoring visits for these periods: July 1-15; July 16-31; and August 1-16.** If the mosquitoes are thick when you go for a monitoring visit, don't try to do a full check – just let us know what you were able to do and tell us HOW BIG they were! If you can volunteer for one of these periods, please contact Linda Winnie (above email or 755-1406).

**THANKS TO ALL who have helped with OSNA Monitoring!**

## SUMMER FIELD TRIPS

All FAS field trips are free and open to the public and are geared for all ages and levels of field experience. They are led by area biologists, retired professionals, and some of the best birders in the region. For all Field Trips, dress for the weather, bring binoculars or spotting scope if you have them, wear sturdy footwear, and drive and pull off the road safely. For more information, contact Kathy Ross, 837-3738, or Gael Bissell, 261-2255, or the individual field trip leader listed below. Also, a free brochure, "Birding Hotspots of the Flathead" is available at the FAS May meeting (see page 3) and on [www.FlatheadAudubon.org](http://www.FlatheadAudubon.org).



**SUNDAYS, APRIL 29 and MAY 6, 13, 20, 27, 8 AM to 10 AM: BIGFORK BIRD CLUB OUTINGS.** Join Neal Brown for a morning of birding with emphasis on nesting waterfowl. Park at the east entrance of the Bigfork Nature Trail. (Swan River Road) Follow signs to the Bigfork Bird Club Blind (approximately 400 meters). A spotting scope will be provided. Bring binoculars, water and snacks. Arrive and leave as you please.

**SUNDAY, MAY 6, 8 AM to 1 PM: FIELD TRIP TO SWAN LAKE AREA AND THE SWAN LAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY.** Meet at 8 AM at Swan River School, east end of main parking area and then carpool from there to Swan Lake and the refuge. Please bring binoculars, warm clothes if needed, and a snack or lunch. Boots are appropriate in case it is muddy. It is a good time to see and hear American Bitterns, Sandhill Cranes, and Bald Eagles, along with returning warblers, sparrows, swallows, and occasionally flocks of snow geese and swans. Please contact Kathy Ross at 837-3837 to sign up and for more information.

**SATURDAY, MAY 12: INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY AT THE NATIONAL BISON RANGE.** The main event is the opening of the splendid Red Sheep Mountain Drive for the summer season, weather and road conditions permitting. This is a wonderful drive through the range which travels through a variety of habitats, a great place to see a broad range of birds. Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day with many activities for all ages. For more information and to sign up for a beginner's bird walk as well as other events, call the National Bison Range at 406-644-2211.

**SATURDAY, MAY 12: SPRING LOON CENSUS DAY and JULY 14th (JULY LOON DAY).** Montana Loon Society and the Montana Common Loon Working Group need volunteers to help observe and count loons on lakes throughout northwest Montana on or close to this date. Contact one of the following folks for survey forms and information. For areas west of Kalispell, call Gael Bissell at 751-4580; for Tally/Stillwater, call Laura Holmquist at 758-3501; for southern Flathead Lake and Mission Valley, call Janene Lichtenberg at 883-2888; for the Swan Valley, call Mark Ruby at office 837-7531 or cell (207-7015); for Troy, call Mandy Rockwell (295-7463); for Libby, call Jenny Holifield (293-6211); for West Valley and Upper Whitefish Lake, call Chris Forestall (751-2258); for the Eureka area, call Christie Ferruzzi at 882-4451; and for Glacier National Park, call Jamie Belt at 888-7986.

**SATURDAY, MAY 12: SPRING LOONS IN GLACIER NATIONAL PARK.** Here is a chance to volunteer in one of Montana's most beautiful places. Volunteers with some bird experience or previous training are needed to look for and count loons in Glacier National Park. Call Jamie Belt at 888-7986 to sign up.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 7 PM: TIPS, TRICKS, AND INEXPENSIVE WAYS TO ADD NATIVE PLANTS TO YOUR LANDSCAPE, AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER IN COLUMBIA FALLS.** Flathead Chapter of MT Native Plant Society presents a talk by Laura Law. After a thirty minute presentation, participants are invited to walk a short distance to her house to view the work she has done incorporating native plants into her own small yard. Share the joy of the spring bloomers!

**SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 9:30 AM: NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY WALK AT JOHNSON MOUNTAIN TERRACES.** A 2-3 mile, easy, hike along moist, mossy rock terraces with a variety of diminutive plants. Meet at the rest area near the soccer fields across from Grouse Mountain Lodge in Whitefish. Bring lunch, water, and your favorite plant ID book. Call Betty Kuropat (892-0129) for details and to sign up.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM: NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY FIELD TRIP ON COLUMBIA MOUNTAIN.** Join Glacier National Park Biologist Tara Carolin on a slow two-hour 2-3 mile evening walk up Columbia Mountain. Enjoy spring and early summer blooms along the forested trail that also offers lovely rock outcrops in the sunshine. We could potentially find nearly 100 plant species. Meet at the Columbia Mountain parking lot and trailhead. Bring a sack supper if you like. Info: Tara at 888-7863, [taraywc@yahoo.com](mailto:taraywc@yahoo.com).



### Business Sponsors of FAS Conservation Education Program

**Tyler Bebee, Senior Financial Consultant**  
[TBebee@dadco.com](mailto:TBebee@dadco.com)  
**D.A. Davidson & Co.**  
**200 First Ave. E., K-M Building**  
**Kalispell, MT (406) 752-6212**  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Whitefish Credit Union**  
[www.whitefishcu.com](http://www.whitefishcu.com)  
**Box 37**  
**Whitefish, MT (406) 862-3525**  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Valley Bank**  
**41 Third Street West**  
**Kalispell, MT (406) 752-7123**  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Great Northern Printing & Sign Inc.**  
[gnpsignco@gmail.com](mailto:gnpsignco@gmail.com)  
**11 S. Meridian Rd., Ste. C**  
**Kalispell, MT (406) 752-8729**  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Third Street Market**  
**244 Spokane Ave.**  
**Whitefish, MT (406) (406) 862-5054**

### Thanks!

*...to those below who have made special donations to Flathead Audubon from March 18 through April 18, 2012*

**Merlin \$100+**  
 Marty Cohen  
*In Memory of Ferne Cohen*



merlin-os.co.uk

**Supporting Member + donation**  
 Ms. Dorothy A. Jorgensen



granderie.ca

### SPECIAL GIFTS

I wish to help make Flathead Audubon's vision a reality. Here is my contribution to the continued success of our chapter.



Dave Menke, USFWS

- Eagle Donation, \$1000+
  - Osprey Donation, \$500+
  - Snowy Owl Donation, \$250+
  - Merlin Donation, \$100+
  - Kestrel Donation, \$50+
  - My Own Vision, amount of my choice
- \* \* \* \*

*The FAS activity which most interests me is:*

- Education Programs
  - Owen Sowerwine Natural Area
  - Scholarships and Grants
  - Field Trips and Outdoor Events
- \* \* \* \*

*I want my gift to recognize another:*

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

*Please send a notification of this gift to:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

\* \* \* \*

Donor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

- Please do not acknowledge my gift in the Pileated Post
- \* \* \* \*

*Please make checks payable to:*  
 Flathead Audubon Society  
 P.O. Box 9173  
 Kalispell, MT 59904

**Your gift is tax deductible.**

### SAVE THESE DATES! MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

- ◆ **September 8 (Saturday): RAPTOR DAY in MEMORY of ROD ASH.** A great family event with nature hikes, educational stations and interesting short talks about birds. Details in local media and in your September *Pileated Post*.
- ◆ **September 22 (Saturday): OWEN SOWERWINE WORK DAY.** Meet at Montessori School at 9 AM. Finish by noon. See the new trail and help clean up, re-seed and get OSNA ready for fall visitors!



## FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY TREASURER'S REPORT

(Calendar Year 2011)

From Bruce Tannehill, Flathead Audubon Treasurer



The Flathead Audubon Society has significantly expanded its program in the last five years. The expansion of our Conservation Education program by funding an Education Coordinator has increased our total expenditures about 63%. Fortunately, the organization's income has also increased almost enough to cover this new program. This has been made possible by the generosity of local members, business sponsors and number of foundations and funds.

The expenditures of FAS fall into one of three categories: Operations, Owen Sowerwine Natural Area, and Education.

EXPENDITURES FOR YEAR	2010	2011
Operating (Newsletter, Office, etc.)	\$8,111	\$9,186
Owen Sowerwine	\$393	\$723
Education	\$24,664	\$23,049
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$33,148</b>	<b>\$32,958</b>

The chart below does not give all sources of income but does illustrate how hard the board members have worked to fund our programs. It is important to realize that many of the following are onetime donations.

INCOME FOR THE YEAR	2010	2011
Local Dues	\$5,514	\$5,040
Local Membership and Sponsorships donations	\$1,425	\$3,075
Amount Withdrawn From Investments	\$1,160	\$2,520
Other Income (Sales, Interest)	\$3,735	\$2,009
Sustainability Fund	\$10,000	\$7,500
Rotary		\$1,000
Prudential Foundation	\$1,000	\$1,000
Whitefish Community Foundation	\$1,500	\$500
Soroptimists		\$1,000
Art Ortenberg	\$5,000	\$2,742
Tom and Teresa Quinn Fund	\$1,000	\$1,000
End of Year Fund Drive (through December 31)		\$4,288
Cinnabar Foundation	\$1,000	\$1,000
National Audubon	\$1,255	\$2,784
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$32,589</b>	<b>\$35,458</b>

It is the goal of the Board of Directors of FAS to continue to fund the Education Program at the \$20,000+ level for years to come. We have been very fortunate to receive generous donations. However, large proportions of these donations are "startup" funds, which we will lose in the near future. **The only way that our educational program can continue is with the help of new sponsors and with strong support from our membership.**

To fund the future of Flathead Audubon's programs, we have instituted three funds dedicated to generating income. Capital monies for these funds were bequests left to Flathead Audubon by FAS members.

FUND	AMOUNT IN FUND 12/31/11
EDUCATION INCOME FUND	\$65,988
OWEN SOWERWINE INCOME FUND	\$10,760
CONSERVATION INCOME FUND	\$34,930



# Slate of Nominees for FAS Board Positions 2012

By Linda DeKort, FAS Nominations Chair



The Nominations Committee is delighted to present a rich slate of nominees. The election of officers and board members will take place at the Annual Meeting following the Potluck on May 14. We are grateful that many current board members and officers have agreed to continue on the board if elected; these names should be familiar to you.

**Bruce Tannehill** has served as Treasurer of the FAS Board for twelve years. He has established sound financial procedures, oversees our investments, helps prepare the budget and ensures that we stick with it. He distributes a monthly treasurer's report to the Board and writes up a financial statement for the newsletter and annual report. Bruce and his wife Gail Cleveland also lead very popular field trips for Flathead Audubon and frequently contribute articles and snippets to *The Pileated Post*. Bruce has accepted the nomination for Treasurer for a two-year term.

We are also pleased to announce that **Lewis Young** has agreed to a nomination for another 3-year board term as a Flathead Audubon Director. Lewis has served on the Audubon board for 9 years and is the strong chairman of our active Conservation Committee. He keeps our membership abreast of local and national conservation issues and writes letters and submits comments on our behalf. Lewis and his wife Lynda also organize and compile for the Eureka Bird Count. Thanks, Lewis, for making the trek from up north to serve the Flathead Chapter so effectively.

**Steve Gniadek** has also accepted a nomination for another three-year board position. Steve, as the "Bird Man of Glacier National Park," has led many Flathead Audubon forays into the Park and also helps coordinate the Christmas Bird Count in Glacier National Park. Steve has numerous and strong connections with other conservation organizations in the valley. His ability to network and keep bird conservation at the center is a great attribute to our board meetings.

**Dennis Hester** has also agreed to serve another term on the Flathead Audubon Board if elected. Dennis has been a member of National Audubon since 1972 and is one of the charter members of Flathead Audubon. His legal expertise and quiet sense of humor have been invaluable assets to our board and various committees. Dennis has also inadvertently taken on the role of Co-Chair of

this year's Bird Festival. Thanks, Dennis, for accepting this nomination for another three-year term; we promise no bird festivals during this next term!

**Ben Young** works at Glacier High School where he teaches biology and anatomy. He, his wife Chau, and three children live in Kalispell. Despite his extremely busy schedule, Ben has accepted a nomination for another one-year position on the FAS board. We are grateful for his continued contribution of fresh ideas and energy.

Two names do NOT appear on this roster. One is Gail Sullivan, who has been our secretary for 12 years. As secretary, Gail kept us on track and reminded us from month to month where we had been and what we had done. She is precise, thoughtful and always jolly. We will miss her in that capacity very much. Thank you Gail; we look forward to seeing you on the hiking and kayak trails. Another name that is missing is that of Ansley Ford, who has been a valuable board member for almost a decade. Ansley and husband Rob are the proud parents of Rose Alice, born March 4. As a teacher at Somers/Lakeside and coordinator of Beauty of Birds, Ansley has hooked many of us, young and old, on the wonders of the natural world. Now it is Rose Alice's turn. Congratulations, Ansley and Rob!

Please note that the nomination for Secretary is "open," which means that we are hoping nominees will come forward. If you or someone else you admire are interested in filling this position for a two-year term, please contact Linda DeKort (755-3704) or any board member. You will find that the position is great fun (just ask Gail Sullivan!) and not too strenuous. The defined task of the secretary is to record and write up minutes for each board meeting. The board meets 9 times per year. We hope to hear from you!

A hearty thanks to those who have accepted nominations to serve on the Flathead Audubon Board:

- ◆ Steve Gniadek: Board Director 2012-2015
- ◆ Dennis Hester: Board Director 2012-2015
- ◆ Bruce Tannehill: Treasurer 2012-2014
- ◆ Ben Young: Board Director 2012-2013
- ◆ Lewis Young: Board Director 2012-2015
- ◆ Open: Secretary 2012-2014

Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor at the Annual Meeting, May 14. See you there!



*The Pileated Post is going on vacation! This will be your last issue until early September. Editors Linda and Kay hope you enjoy the Bird Festival and have a fun and birdful summer!*





***Wings Across the Big Sky***  
**June 8–10, 2012, Kalispell, Montana**  
**Have you registered yet?**



Now is the time to register for *Wings Across the Big Sky* in Kalispell (June 8–10) before field trips fill up. See [www.mtaudubon.org/birdwatching/festival.html](http://www.mtaudubon.org/birdwatching/festival.html) for the bird-fest lowdown, including the link to register online or to download the mail-in form. Remember: This is a family-friendly event, so bring your children or grandchildren—no cost for their registration! Contact Larissa at 406-443-3949 if you have any questions.

**Why Yes, We Gladly Welcome Bird Festival Volunteers ...**

If you are interested in volunteering at the festival, please contact Kay Mitchell at 756-8130 or [kbmitch@centurytel.net](mailto:kbmitch@centurytel.net). We offer volunteers wishing to go on field trips a discount on registration. We appreciate everyone's part in making this a fun and meaningful experience for all!

**Call for Montana Audubon Award Nominations!**

We are now seeking nominations for 4 awards to be given at the annual meeting in Kalispell. Conservationist of the Year, Environmental Educator of the Year, Special Achievement, and Lifetime Achievement awards acknowledge individuals who exemplify a commitment to conserving birds, other wildlife, and their habitat.

To nominate your candidate, call the Montana Audubon office to request an award nomination form or download the form from [www.mtaudubon.org/about/awards.html](http://www.mtaudubon.org/about/awards.html). To be considered for this year's award, nominations and all supporting material must be postmarked no later than May 23, 2012, and sent to Montana Audubon, PO Box 595, Helena, MT 59624, or by fax: (406) 443-7144. The award ceremony takes place on June 9 at the Bird Festival in Kalispell. Questions? Contact Janet Ellis (406-443-3949 or [jel-lis@mtaudubon.org](mailto:jel-lis@mtaudubon.org)).

**NEWS FLASH: Marina Skumanich—National Audubon's Regional Representative for Montana—is coming to the Bird Festival!**

Marina Skumanich, National Audubon Society's "Regional Representative" on the National Audubon Board for the region that includes Montana, will attend the Bird Festival in Kalispell June 7–8 (Thursday & Friday). Marina has signed up for one of the pre-festival conservation workshops on Friday, and she will also lead the discussion at the Chapter Forum on Friday afternoon. Discussion topics for the Forum will likely include: 1) New NAS strategic direction with flyway structure and one-Audubon commitment; 2) Chapter issues in relation to NAS— some of the things the Regional Directors (who are tasked to represent the chapters on the Board) are working on; and 3) NAS efforts on conservation issues of particular interest to MT chapters and MT Audubon (e.g., IBAs, climate change, etc.). EVERYONE is welcome to join us for the Chapter Forum and the discussion with Marina, scheduled to start at 2:45 PM on Friday, June 8.

**Bird Festival Carpooling - Greening the Festival, One Less Vehicle at a Time**

In the spirit of making this a more carbon-neutral Bird Festival, if you have a van, bus or SUV that can be used to transport 5-7 participants around the valley for field trips, please contact Kathy Ross, at [mtkat@montanaport.net](mailto:mtkat@montanaport.net). We encourage participants to carpool as much as possible for the field trips. This can also happen at the time of field trips without advance notice. Carpooling makes field trips more enjoyable for all participants if we can have 4 vehicles or less per trip, and it also helps the "greening" of the festival. Of course, we understand that it may not always work out and some will need their own vehicles, especially for Sunday's field trips, but we extend the idea for your consideration.

**Would You Dessert Us in Our Time of Need? Please?**

Can you help by donating a dessert? At each banquet table, everyone at the table will contribute to the table's bid for a dessert. The table with the highest bid gets first choice of a dessert, the second highest gets second choice, etc. Proceeds of the Dessert Auction are split between Montana Audubon and Flathead Audubon, with Flathead Audubon supplying the desserts. We need to supply 30 desserts.

Your dessert, enough for 8 people, may be homemade (show off your favorite recipe!) or purchased from your favorite bakery. You can team up with a friend to produce a special dessert. Or you can ask your favorite bakery to donate a dessert – great publicity for the bakery! Desserts should be delivered to the Hilton sometime between 1 and 5 PM on Saturday, June 9. There are facilities for keeping desserts refrigerated or frozen if they need it.

Are you interested in helping out? For more information or to sign up to donate a dessert, contact Linda Winnie, [lindawin@centurytel.net](mailto:lindawin@centurytel.net) or 755-1406.

Dear Flathead Audubon Members,

As Co-Chair of The Sam Bibler Commemorative Trails Project, I thank you for your past and ongoing support of our efforts to build trails providing safe access to public facilities throughout the Flathead Valley, particularly on the east side of Kalispell. Your local Audubon chapter is in the process of improving the first 700 feet of the Treasure Lane entrance to the Owen Sowerwine Natural Area for handicap access. In an effort to make this access truly useable and accessible to parking, we are asking you to write letters of support for The Willow Glen North segment of The Sam Bibler Commemorative Trails Project. Completion of this segment will include safe access from the Kalispell Montessori School parking lot to the head of Treasure Lane. Since there is less than adequate parking at the Treasure Lane entrance, the Montessori parking lot is our closest and safest option. Please address your support and additional thoughts to:

Alex Hogel, Flathead County Planning and Zoning Office  
1035 First Avenue West  
Kalispell, Montana 59901

Your letters of support and concern really do have an influence on public policy. If you have any questions or need a little help with phrasing of your letter, call me at 257-7783, and I will get back to you by the evening of the same day.

Sincerely, Terry Welder

## FIELD NOTES

Montana Loon Society is offering cash prizes, generously funded by Plum Creek Timber Company, for timely observations of Montana's breeding Common Loons. \$200 will go for the most observations reported by May 21, \$200 for the most observations (cumulatively) reported by July 16, and \$100 will be awarded by a random drawing of all who submit at least one observation. Visit <http://www.montanaloons.org> for details about how to read, record, and report observations to Chris Hammond of Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks ([chammond@mt.gov](mailto:chammond@mt.gov)).

Swan Ecosystem Center seeks help conducting annual breeding waterfowl surveys, to assess populations and understand landscape characteristics important to breeding waterfowl in the Swan. The survey is conducted from May 1 - May 15, and May 20 - June 5. Volunteers can select which days they wish to participate. Field gear, excluding binoculars and personal outdoor clothing, will be provided. Volunteers receive a stipend to cover mileage to and from survey wetlands. To volunteer, contact Scott Eggeman, 754-3137, 531-6759 or [scott1.eggeman@umconnect.umt.edu](mailto:scott1.eggeman@umconnect.umt.edu).



Please report banded trumpeter swan information to Janene Lichtenberg, Wildlife Biologist, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes. Any observation reports of trumpeter swans are welcome, although collar and band reading are most useful. We also need whether swans are white or gray, detailed locations (GPS coordinates if possible), and total number of swans. Send reports to Janene Lichtenberg, Wildlife Biologist, CSK Tribes, Wildlife Management Program, P.O. Box 278, Pablo, MT 59855, 406-675-2700 ext. 7291, 406-270-3643 or [janene@cskt.org](mailto:janene@cskt.org).



## FOR WATERFRONT LANDOWNERS

### How to Enhance Bird Habitat and Protect Water Quality



Two new publications are available for waterfront landowners who want to "do the right thing" for birds and wildlife and for water quality.

***Our Birds Call This Home*** is an 8-page brochure produced by Montana Audubon offering guidelines and suggestions for how to maintain or develop healthy bird habitat on your waterfront property. Using colorful pictures, diagrams and maps, and clear and direct language, the brochure explains how waterfront habitat sustains bird populations, shows what healthy bird habitat looks like and how to achieve it, and offers advice on solving some of the most common bird-related problems. ***Our Birds Call This Home*** can be viewed at [www.mtaudubon.org/birds/riverine.html](http://www.mtaudubon.org/birds/riverine.html). For a printed version, send name and address to Amy Cilimburg, Director of Bird Conservation at Montana Audubon: [amy@mtaudubon.org](mailto:amy@mtaudubon.org) or 406-465-1141.

***Waterfront Landscapes: Keep the View - Plus a Whole Lot More***, a colorful tri-fold produced by the Flathead Lakers Critical Lands Project, has a slightly different focus. It shows waterfront landowners how to create beautiful landscapes with native plants, while also protecting clean water and wildlife habitat, and adding value to their property. It offers suggestions on what native plants to use where, what sort of path surface and dock to install, and how to protect from erosion. ***Waterfront Landscapes*** can be viewed at <http://www.flatheadrivertolake.org> under Land Owner Resources/Publications & Maps. Printed copies are available at the Flathead Conservation District Office, 133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell, or call the Conservation District Office (752-4220) or the Flathead Lakers (883-1341) to have one mailed to you. By Linda Winnie

# KIDZ

## Impressions from the Great Backyard Bird Count

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In February, Linda DeKort led a group of Whitefish families on the Great Backyard Bird Count. Here is what some of the kids had to say:

- ◆ "I liked when we dressed Henry up as a bird."
  - ◆ "My favorite part of the trip was the 57 ducks."
  - ◆ "We got to see the ducks and got to play with them for awhile."
  - ◆ "My favorite part of today was seeing ducks so close and hearing the sparrows in the bush. Also liked going to the park to learn about birds."
  - ◆ "My favorite part was when we went close to them."
  - ◆ "I really liked when we saw animal tracks because I like animals."
  - ◆ "My favorite thing was playing in the snow and seeing the ducks."
  - ◆ "My favorite part was seeing the pictures of all the pretty birds."
  - ◆ "Linda did a great job with the kids - they loved it!" Niki Scott, Whitefish mom
- Thank you, Linda!



### May Unplugged

*"Teaching children about the natural world should be treated as one of the most important events of their lives."* Thomas Berry

Here are some things you can do to get outside and make the most of spring!

#### Nature's Scavenger Hunt

Take a child you know to the woods (Owen Sowerwine is a great place!) and send them on a scavenger hunt to observe and collect natural items. Have them collect as many as possible and bring them to you. Sit on a log and discuss what they found and observed. If you are doing this with younger children, you will have to go with them on their search. Try not to guide them too much, just be there for safety. Make sure they only collect things that can be collected and returned safely. Here are some ideas for scavenger hunt items (adapted from "Sharing Nature with Children," by Joseph Cornell):

- ◆ Feather
- ◆ Seed dispersed by the wind
- ◆ Exactly 100 of something
- ◆ A leaf
- ◆ A thorn
- ◆ A bone
- ◆ Three different kinds of seeds



- ◆ A camouflaged animal/insect
- ◆ Something round
- ◆ Part of an egg
- ◆ Something fuzzy
- ◆ Something sharp
- ◆ A piece of fur
- ◆ A man-made object



- ◆ Something perfectly straight
- ◆ Something beautiful
- ◆ Evidence of an animal
- ◆ Something that reminds you of yourself
- ◆ A big smile



If you are looking for more ideas of ways to get out this summer and activities to do with kids, here are two wonderful books that are loaded with ideas and activities:

☺ *Sharing Nature with Children*, by Joseph Cornell

☺ *Nature's Playground*, by Fiona Danks and Jo Schofield

Happy Discovering!

From Ashley Mason, FAS Education Coordinator



### Family Forestry Expo

The Family Forestry Expo is almost here! It is a fun-filled weekend event for families, giving hands-on experiences to the role forests play in our everyday lives. Expo participants explore how the different parts of a forest are connected to make up a dynamic living system, how people and all parts of the environment are dependent on one another and how each affects the other.

On Saturday, 12 May, there is a free "loggers lunch," demonstrations, exhibits, FVCC's Logger Sports Team demonstration and forest walk with many educational stops, including one by Flathead Audubon. The Expo takes place at Stoltze Lumber's Trumbull Creek Educational Forest on Tamarack Lane behind the Blue Moon just north of Kalispell.

Flathead Audubon has had a booth and activities at the Expo for many years. We are always looking for fun volunteers to help. So if you enjoy being outdoors on a spring day interacting with people about the forests and birds, contact Ashley Mason, FAS Conservation Educator, at [AudubonAshley@gmail.net](mailto:AudubonAshley@gmail.net).

Volunteer, participant or if you just want to see what Expo is all about, everyone is encouraged to come on out on Saturday, 12 May, from 9 AM until about 4 PM.

From Bob Lee



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



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59904-9173

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. Meetings start at 7:00PM and include 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](mailto:lindawin@centurytel.net). **Deadline for newsletter copy is the 18th of each month. Contact newsletter editor at 755-1406; email submissions to: [lindawin@centurytel.net](mailto:lindawin@centurytel.net)**

Website: [www.FlatheadAudubon.org](http://www.FlatheadAudubon.org)

FlockMaster - John Kyle: [jkyle@fastmail.us](mailto:jkyle@fastmail.us)

Conservation Educator - Ashley Mason: [AudubonAshley@gmail.com](mailto:AudubonAshley@gmail.com)

**FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY DIRECTORY**

**OFFICERS**

President	Paula Smith	<a href="mailto:paulabobsmith@centurytel.net">paulabobsmith@centurytel.net</a>	837-0181
Vice-President	Bob Lopp	<a href="mailto:boblopp@bresnan.net">boblopp@bresnan.net</a>	752-7026
Secretary	Gail Sullivan	932 Columbia Ave., Whitefish 59937	862-5775
Treasurer	Bruce Tannehill	<a href="mailto:tanneland@bresnan.net">tanneland@bresnan.net</a>	862-4548
Past-President	Bob Lee	<a href="mailto:rml3@centurytel.net">rml3@centurytel.net</a>	837-4467

**DIRECTORS**

2009-2012	Dennis Hester	<a href="mailto:kivotee@bresnan.net">kivotee@bresnan.net</a>	755-4964
2009-2012	Steve Gniadek	<a href="mailto:grayjavbro@yahoo.com">grayjavbro@yahoo.com</a>	892-7406
2009-2012	Lewis Young	68 Garrison Dr., Eureka 59917	889-3492
2011-2012	Ben Young	<a href="mailto:youngb@sd5.k12.mt.us">youngb@sd5.k12.mt.us</a>	257-2286
2010-2013	Ansley Ford	<a href="mailto:aew333@yahoo.com">aew333@yahoo.com</a>	857-6788
2010-2013	Jan Wassink	<a href="mailto:janwassink51@gmail.com">janwassink51@gmail.com</a>	249-6590
2011-2014	Richard Kuhl	867 North Main, Kalispell 59901	257-5793
2011-2014	John Hughes	<a href="mailto:johnhughes@bresnan.net">johnhughes@bresnan.net</a>	261-2506
2011-2014	Gael Bissell	<a href="mailto:rickandgael@montanasky.us">rickandgael@montanasky.us</a>	755-8709
2011-2014	Denny Olson	<a href="mailto:docwild@centurytel.net">docwild@centurytel.net</a>	249-3987
2011-2012	Linda Winnie	<a href="mailto:lindawin@centurytel.net">lindawin@centurytel.net</a>	755-1406
2011-2012	Linda DeKort	<a href="mailto:dekort@montanasky.com">dekort@montanasky.com</a>	755-3704
2011-2012	Mike Fanning	<a href="mailto:shrdlu@centurytel.net">shrdlu@centurytel.net</a>	862-8070
2011-2012	Kathy Ross	<a href="mailto:mtkat@montanaport.net">mtkat@montanaport.net</a>	837-3837
2011-2012	Kay Mitchell	<a href="mailto:kbmitch@centurytel.net">kbmitch@centurytel.net</a>	756-8130
2011-2012	Jill Fanning	<a href="mailto:shrdlu@centurytel.net">shrdlu@centurytel.net</a>	862-8070

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Christmas Bird Count	Dan Casey	857-3143	Publicity	Paula Smith	837-0181
Conservation	Lewis Young	889-3492	Sales	Jill Fanning	862-8070
	Steve Gniadek	892-7406	Refuges	Kathy Ross	837-3837
Education	Denny Olson	249-3987	Website	Jan Wassink	249-6590
Field Trips	Kathy Ross	837-3837	Wetlands	Donna Pridmore	<a href="mailto:dipridmore@gmail.com">dipridmore@gmail.com</a>
	Gael Bissell	755-8709			
Finance	Mike Fanning	862-8070			
Donations	Mary Nelesen	755-7678			
Hospitality	Lois Drobish	756-7405			
Membership	Mike Fanning	862-8070			
	Jill Fanning	862-8070			
Owen Sowerwine	Richard Kuhl	257-5793			
Natural Area	Linda Winnie	755-1406			
Newsletter	Linda Winnie	755-1406			
	Kay Mitchell	756-8130			
Nominations	Linda deKort	755-3704			
Program	Richard Kuhl	257-5793			



**MONTANA AUDUBON**

P.O. Box 595, Helena, MT 59624  
443-3949

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

Executive Director: Steve Hoffman

[shoffman@mtaudubon.org](mailto:shoffman@mtaudubon.org)

Board President: Dan Sullivan

443-4229



**FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY**

**Membership**  
Individual or Family

Basic Membership ..... \$20  
(Pays for newsletter and operating costs)

Supporting Membership ..... \$35  
(Extra \$15 funds local projects such as grants, scholarships, meetings, and Christmas Bird Count )

Additional Donation of ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
to Education Fund   
Owen Sowerwine Fund   
Wherever needed

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**How do you wish to receive the Pileated Post?**  
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Flathead Audubon Society Membership  
20 Hanson Doyle Lane  
Whitefish, MT 59937