



Jan Bonham Metzmaker Recognized for Outstanding Conservation Achievements

Flathead Audubon is excited to honor **Jan Bonham Metzmaker** of Whitefish, Montana, with our Conservation Achievement Recognition, for Jan's lifetime of dedicated community service and inspiring conservation work in the Flathead. Join us as we present this recognition to Jan on **Monday, May 12, at Flathead Audubon's annual potluck meeting at the Whitefish Community Center.**

Jan is no stranger to folks in the Flathead Valley. Since her first college summer in Glacier National Park in the early 1970s, Jan has made Montana her home and has compiled an impressive legacy of community service and conservation work spanning over four decades. Jan has been an ingenious leader in her field and has accomplished more "firsts" than anyone else I know.

Hailing originally from Connecticut, Jan graduated from the University of Missouri in 1973, majoring in Sociology. After her first summer job at Lake McDonald Lodge, she quickly found her place on Glacier National Park's first all-women's trail crew. Soon after that, she became an operator with Glacier's water treatment plant and, not much later, one of the owners of Glacier Wilderness Guides, the first company to provide outstanding local guides for hikers in Glacier National Park.

After eight years working in and around Glacier National Park, Jan continued her interest in water quality by becoming a water quality specialist with the Lolo National Forest, investigating the impacts of tim-



ber management on water quality, while also obtaining her graduate degree at the University of Montana in Environmental Studies. Her Master's created a significant uproar in Missoula in the early 1980s. Her choice for her Master's project was to determine if *Giardia*, a water-borne micro-organism that can cause major human health issues, occurred in the Rattlesnake Creek watershed above Missoula's surface water supply for the city. Yes, not surprisingly, given the presence of beaver colonies upstream, Missoula did have a *Giardia* outbreak in the Rattlesnake watershed; once her results were published, the private water company issued a boil-water alert and immediately shut down Missoula's water system. Not long after this, Mountain Water developed additional wells to serve Missoula.

After Jan met and married Pete Metzmaker (Whitefish HS science teacher, coach, and multi-talented referee), they settled back in Whitefish where they raised twin sons. During the next decade, Jan became the first (again) staff person for Citizens for a Better Flathead, served as Senator Baucus's campaign director for the Flathead's Democratic Party, and substitute taught and worked and coached volleyball at local schools. In summers, she and Pete worked for the Glacier Guides, leading and educating hundreds of clients throughout Glacier National Park. In May 1995, Jan was selected to complete a 3-year term on the Whitefish City Council, due to a vacancy. She was...

(Jan Metzmaker receives FAS Recognition, page 4)

MAY FLATHEAD AUDUBON CALENDAR

Monday, May 12, 2014: Flathead Audubon Annual Meeting and Potluck. See page 3 for full details!

Monday, May 5, 2014: FAS Board of Directors Meeting. 6 PM at 295 3rd Ave. EN. All welcome.

Friday through Sunday, June 6—8, 2014: Montana Audubon Wings Over the Big Sky. See page 10!

Sunday, June 15, 2014: Flathead Audubon Birdathon. Pledge early and often! Full details on page 5!

Saturday, September 6, 2014: Raptor Day! Full details in your early September *Pileated Post*!

Summer Field Trips, pages 7, 8 and 9!

BIRD OF THE MONTH

Pictures and text by Steve Gniadek

THE TIMBERLINE SPARROW: EVOLUTION IN PROGRESS

The Timberline Sparrow (*Spizella breweri taverneri*) is a subspecies of the Brewer's Sparrow, but it's in the process of becoming a separate species. Some scientists have argued it already is a species. As the name implies, the Timberline Sparrow is found near tree line, where it nests in stunted conifers. In contrast, sagebrush habitat is preferred by the Sagebrush Brewer's Sparrow (*S. b. breweri*). The two are very similar in appearance – small (5.5 inches in length), slim, long-tailed sparrows with subtle brown and gray plumage with a finely-streaked brown crown and a complete white eye-ring.



The Sagebrush Brewer's Sparrow is a common breeding bird wherever large tracts of sagebrush are found in the state. Specimens were collected from Montana as early as the 1870s, but it was not reported in Montana west of the divide until the 1950s, mostly near Niarada and in the Blackfoot Valley near Ovando. The Timberline

Sparrow was first described as a separate species in 1925 from northwestern British Columbia, but the American Ornithologists Union has never recognized it as a full species. More recently, ornithologists using genetic information have revived the argument that the Timberline Sparrow is a full species, although others using similar methods disagree.

Until recently, the Timberline Sparrow was not considered to occur south of the Canadian border. However, there have been sight records in Glacier NP for decades. Lloyd Parratt's book *The Birds of Glacier National Park* from 1964 included the Brewer's Sparrow, and Dave Shea's first checklist of the birds of Glacier NP in 1971 included it. These were likely Timberline Sparrows, although Brewer's Sparrows from Big Prairie on the west side of the park may be Sagebrush Brewer's Sparrows. Beginning in 1988, I documented Timberline Sparrows at several locations on the east side of the park. During 1998 to 2000, more intensive surveys found over 200 territorial males in Glacier NP and extended the known breeding range south along the Rocky Mountain Front.

Male Timberline Sparrows arrive on breeding territories in late May, 3-4 weeks later than Brewer's



Sparrows return to sagebrush habitats in eastern Montana. Timberline Sparrows typically leave by late August. Among the most accessible places to find them are the krummholz clumps of subalpine fir along the trail switchbacks to Scenic Point in the Two Medicine Valley, or the cirque basin east of Firebrand Pass, in Glacier NP.

Typical windy conditions along the east slope can make it difficult to hear them, but listen for the buzzy yet musical trills, ascending and descending, from the territorial males. Early in the nesting season, males sing long songs that can last up to 30 seconds or more. Later in the season they sing shorter songs. They sing from perches at the tops of the stunted conifers, but they forage and nest deep within the foliage. Look for the birds flying low over the krummholz.

Range-wide surveys since the 1960s indicate the Sagebrush Brewer's Sparrow is declining because of the loss of sagebrush habitat. Nothing is known about the status of the Timberline Sparrow, owing to the lack of long-term monitoring efforts. Uncertain impacts from

climate change may imperil Timberline Sparrows if their tree-line habitats decline. Unless climate-induced changes bring Timberline and Brewer's sparrows closer together, continued geographic separation may lead to greater differentiation. There seems to be agreement among ornithologists that, with separation and time, the Timberline Sparrow will eventually become a separate species. Stay tuned.



May Program

LOOKING FORWARD AT GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

Superintendent Jeff Mow of Glacier National Park will be our featured guest at Flathead Audubon's annual meeting on May 12. Jeff would like to share a little about his background and what he has learned about the challenges and opportunities he will face at Glacier's helm. Budget, aging infrastructure and climate change are some of the primary themes.

In August 2013, Jeff became the Superintendent of Glacier National Park. As a student at Carleton College in Minnesota, Jeff first came to Montana in 1979 for a summer job with the US Geological Survey. It was his first of four summers in Montana doing geologic mapping in the Flint Creek, Anaconda Pintler, and Sapphire Ranges. Ten years later, as a seasonal ranger at Glacier Bay National Park, Jeff returned to Montana where he spent two weeks cutting fire line on the Red Bench Fire in the North Fork of the Flathead. Jeff returned again to Montana in 2010, when he helped facilitate a scenario planning workshop for the Crown Manager's Partnership.

Most of Jeff's 26-year career with the Nation-



al Park Service has been in Alaska. He has had eight duty stations with the NPS over the course of 22 years. Most recently, he had assignments as Superintendent of Kenai Fjords National Park and Acting Superintendent of Denali National Park and Preserve. Jeff has served on the US Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and with the NPS Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs. His additional experiences have included:

1) Department of Interior Incident Commander on the Gulf of Mexico Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, 2) Investigator on the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill in Alaska, and 3) Policy Advisor to the fledgling NPS Climate Change Response Program.

Jeff lives in Whitefish with his family and they are all passionate about winter sports, including all types of skiing and skating. In the "off-season," they enjoy biking, hiking, camping, and paddling.

Join the fun at our annual meeting, potluck and silent auction on Monday, May 12, at the Whitefish Community Center. Doors open at 5 PM, potluck at 6 PM and meeting at 7 PM.

Plant your garden in alphabetical order. That way, the weeds will always be in the back.



MAY FLATHEAD AUDUBON MEETING

POTLUCK



Date: Monday, May 12, 2014

Location: Whitefish Community Center

Address: 121 Second Street, Whitefish

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

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

Business Meeting: We will elect officers and Board members (see page 11), 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 fundraiser 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, homemade 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!



Bring Your Own Tableware!

Jan Metzmaker Receives FAS Conservation Achievement Recognition, continued from page 1

... then elected as councilwoman for another 4-year term. It was during her terms on the city council that Whitefish launched the highly successful Resort Tax, created the sign ordinance, implemented policies to maintain dark skies, addressed annexation, required architectural reviews, banned the spread of downtown casinos, required retail on Central Avenue, and passed an ordinance banning gated communities. The Resort Tax has funded repair of most the city's infrastructure, the creation of boulevards, and helped with costs of tree-planting, parks, and property tax reduction.

In 2000, Jan became the first Executive Director of The Glacier Fund, the newly created official nonprofit fundraising partner of Glacier National Park. As head of this new organization, she welcomed many dignitaries to Glacier National Park, such as Laura Bush, and worked with many philanthropists including Glacier Fund founder, Louie Hill, living descendant of James J. Hill of Great Northern Railway fame. With help from past Senator and business owner, Bob Dupratu, Jan set up the first Glacier National Park specialty license plate, one of the most successful sources of nonprofit funding in Montana. Today there are hundreds of such license plates in Montana. The Glacier Fund dispersed over \$1 million during her directorship. Some of the Glacier Fund's early accomplishments included establishing the park's first Citizen Science program, funding restoration of dozens of trails and historic cabins, and bringing back the historic red tour buses.

For the last seven years, Jan has served as Director of the Whitefish Convention and Visitor's Bureau, where she astutely marketed Whitefish's outstanding community with its clean water, open spaces, and amazing recreational opportunities to other cities and towns across the globe. Under her guidance, the numbers of visitors to the Whitefish area has steadily grown. During this time, Jan was again re-appointed to the Whitefish City Council in 2007-2008.

Jan has not only worked for the benefit of her local community and our region's natural resources, she has volunteered hundreds of hours doing the same. In addition to volunteering in schools and with youth activities, Jan has served the last 25 years on the Whitefish Sewer Board and has helped Whitefish secure many grants to study water quality in Whitefish Lake. She is still on the Sewer Board and participating on the local subcommittee responsible for making recommendations to the City, based on the results of the



septic leachate contamination study. She is chair of Whitefish's Weed Committee and established an ad hoc business/residential committee working with the state, Burlington Northern, and local businesses to finalize the remediation plan for cleaning up the diesel contamination plume near downtown Whitefish.

Recently, Jan, along with Diane Medler, her counterpart with the Kalispell Convention and Visitor's Bureau, asked Flathead Audubon if we would help

develop a Birding Guide to encourage self-guided activities throughout the Flathead. The Convention and Visitor's Bureaus proposed to provide funding for the layout and publishing if we could provide the content. Flathead Audubon worked closely with Jan and Diane to complete that project in 2013. You can find the "Birding Guide to the Flathead Valley of Northwest Montana" at area motels, Visitor Centers, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Headquarters,

and by contacting Flathead Audubon. We think the Guide is a great reflection of the habitat and conservation efforts that make the Flathead such a good area for birding, and highlights the important contribution that birding and wildlife watching have on the local economy.

When asked what she thought was her crowning achievement of her extensive career, Jan said it was probably the volunteer role she played in helping organize Glacier National Park's Centennial Celebration in 2010. With fellow volunteer, Alicia Thompson, and Centennial coordinator, Kass Hardy, she received the coveted national Volunteer of the Year Award from the National Park Service in Washington D.C.

Jan retired from the Whitefish Convention and Visitor's Bureau in January. She isn't sure what will be next on her "to do" list, but she is sure that whatever it is, she will continue to pursue things that are useful and helpful to the local community and the environment. If you can keep up, you may find Jan counting mountain goats up in the alpine of Glacier National Park and/or working in the park's Native Plant nursery next summer.

Flathead Audubon developed this recognition to celebrate people like Jan who clearly go above and beyond to help make our lives, environment, and our community better. We are happy to highlight her achievements and her lifetime commitment, and we can't thank her enough for her time, generosity, and energy. We also hope this Recognition inspires other people, particularly those from the next generations, to see that it really can take only one person to make a difference. Thank you, Jan, from all of us!

(Interview and article by Gael Bissell)

IT'S THE ANNUAL FLATHEAD AUDUBON BIRDATHON!

Who will have the most fun?



birds.audubon.org

For the second consecutive year, the **Tannehill Tanagers**, headed by Bruce Tannehill, and **John's Jays**, with John Hughes as their leader, will face off and search mountains, meadows, streams and backyard bird feeders for migrant and resident bird species. John's Jays are feeling rather hawkish this year after their close, but second place, finish in 2013. On the other side, the Tanagers are feeling peckish for another win. Which team will have the most fun? Of course, it is the one finding the most species of birds on **June 15**. Will you join us in supporting the teams in Flathead Audubon's annual Birdathon?

Each team must complete the count within 24 hours, with participants in the field from early morning to the evening hours. The fierce competition will end in a tallying of species, a declaration of a winning team, as well as discussion of favorite sightings.

The Birdathon works like any other "athon," where teams seek donations, either per bird species seen or as a pre-determined amount. Last year, our team members told contributors to expect their team to find from 75 to 100+ species. Much to our surprise, we had an exceptional day for birding, with teams seeing 150-160 species on a bluebird day, after several days of inclement weather. We hope to repeat these high numbers, but weather is always an issue that we can't control.

Funds from pledges received go to our education efforts: our education trunks, workshops and Beauty of Birds classes, as well as our conservation efforts: the licensing and maintenance of the Owen Sowerwine Natural Area.

To join a Birdathon team or support a team with a donation, email Bruce Tannehill at tanneland239@gmail.com



And Speaking of Contests, ...

Cash Rewards Offered for Loon Reports



Stuart Oikawa

The Montana Loon Society is offering cash prizes for the greatest number of 2014 observations of banded and unbanded confirmed breeding Common Loons in Montana. The contest is generously funded by Plum Creek Timber Company. One \$200 prize is for the most observations reported by May 31. A second \$200 prize is for the most observations (cumulatively) reported by July 22. And a \$100 prize is decided by a random drawing from the names of all individuals who submitted at least one observation. Federal and State employees are not eligible for a cash reward if they observe loons as part of their job.

Send band observations to Chris Hammond, chammond@mt.gov before these dates. The most useful band reports are the ones that get to Chris early, so send them in as soon as you observe a loon, even if you are not 100% sure of your observation or have trouble reading the bands. A trained loon spotter can then be sent out to make accurate observations. Qualified observations are determined and counted solely by Chris. Winners will be announced at the summer meeting of the Montana Common Loon Working Group on July 23-24, and Chris will notify winners soon after.

Further details about the contest, including how to write a report and tips for spotting and reading loon bands, can be found on www.montanaloons.org.



JM Kosciw

AN IMPORTANT PART OF FLATHEAD AUDUBON'S MISSION

During the rest of 2014, in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of passage of The Wilderness Act, we will offer quotes honoring our wilderness heritage, like the following:

"It is the expansion of transport without a corresponding growth of perception that threatens us with qualitative bankruptcy of the recreational process. Recreational development is a job, not of building roads into lovely country, but of building receptivity into the still unlovely human mind." - from the final passage in *A Sand County Almanac with Essays on Conservation from Round River*, by Aldo Leopold.



CHIRPS & SQUAWKS

From Flathead Audubon President
Bob Lopp



Birding it Forward!

Last December, a 1942 edition of The Birds of America by John James Audubon was donated to Flathead Audubon by Sukey Pfirman of Whitefish and it will be on the Silent Auction table at the May meeting. That brought back wonderful memories from my childhood. My copy was new and I spent hours searching it for the birds I saw around our neighborhood on the West Shore of Flathead Lake. Soon I graduated to Roger Tory Peterson guides. I still have two well-worn copies. The Stokes Field Guide to Birds Western Region and later Eastern Region led to a flood of books on birding, including the Sibley Guides. I was hooked!

The books were great, but it was adults who got me past "it's a Chickadee." A weekend field trip to Rogers Lake with our church youth group and leader, Ernie Birnel, provided the hands-on field experience bringing sight, sound, and habitat together. It was suddenly OK to watch birds (teenagers sometimes need permission to be different). And that is why Flathead Audubon is very important!

More than 60% of our budget is spent on our education program aimed at getting young people outdoors exploring and learning about birds, nature and

the environment. Our Education Coordinator, Ashley Mason, touched the lives of several thousand young people in the Flathead in 2013. Native plant gardens to attract birds were created at Glacier High School, Helena Flats, West Valley and Somers. "Students Mentoring Students" brought high school students to elementary schools to help prepare and plant the gardens. The Roads Scholar program in Glacier National Park paired grandparents and grandchildren with experienced birders on trail hikes in the park. That is "paying it forward" for the next generation!

Most active birders are adults and many are retired with time to observe and enjoy the outdoors. So, what's in it for us? Fascinating programs such as Denver Holt, a long list of field trips such as Freezeout Lake, Christmas Bird Count, Beauty of Birds classes, Warbler Weekend, the Birdathon, Owen Sowerwine Natural Area, and much more! Share your experience and expertise by including kids, teenagers, and younger adults in these activities! It will also enrich your life!

See you at the May potluck and program at the Whitefish Community Center, starting at 6 PM. Remember, the 1942 Audubon Birds of America will be on the Silent Auction Table!

Highlights from April 2014 Board Meeting:

- ◇ Heard and discussed progress reports from committee chairs
- ◇ Voted for a \$200 grant to MT Wilderness Association, to assist with September Wilderness Celebration
- ◇ Learned that Conservation Educator Ashley Mason has obtained 2 grants for expenses of Raptor Day
- ◇ Voted to publish 1000 copies of the new FAS calendar
- ◇ Approved updated Flathead Audubon logo, which combines original Elmer Sprunger artwork with new colors and fonts
- ◇ Discussed details of migration to new website
- ◇ Started initial planning for June Birdathon

Full minutes of every Flathead Audubon Board meeting are printed on Flathead Audubon's website, www.flatheadaudubon.org, after they are officially accepted at the following month's meeting. Click on "About Us," then "Board Meeting Minute Archives." Take a look!

The Pileated Post is going on vacation! This will be your last issue until early September. We sincerely thank the many folks who have written fascinating articles and sent exceptional photos for our 9 issues this year. Special thanks to John Hughes for his excellent work on The Post this season. (Did you know that your Bird of the Month features have all been put together and formatted by John from the enviable sunshine of Arizona this winter? And that he contacts and organizes material from all of the groups that submit Christmas Bird Counts to the Post, both pre- and post-count, in that 80° AZ weather?) Beginning next season, Lewis Young will come on board to help with other parts of our Post.

And did you also know that, after the Post is sent to the printer, Bruce Tannehill and Gail Cleveland pick it up from the printer, fold, tab and address-label each copy, and take all 200+ to the Post Office. And that Linda Winnie maintains the emailing list and sends those out at the proper time. Yep, it's a team effort to get it to you each month. We all hope you have a wonderful summer!

Editors Linda and Kay

FLATHEAD AUDUBON 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 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.



SATURDAY, APRIL 26: EIGHTH ANNUAL COHEN STROLL. Celebrate our beautiful quality of life in the Flathead as Ferne and Marty Cohen have taught us...by getting outdoors and leaving a small carbon footprint. Meet at 9 AM at the pond northeast of the North Valley Hospital in Whitefish. This is just north of the soccer fields on the south edge of Whitefish. In the past, we have seen waterfowl on the pond and riparian species in the wetland. We will stroll along the Whitefish River on the bike path. This two-hour trip is accessible for wheelchairs and strollers. Bruce Tannehill, leader. Call 862-4548 for information.

TUESDAY MORNINGS, MAY AND JUNE: WILD MILE WILDFLOWER AND BIRD WALKS-BIGFORK.

Please join Anne Morley of Montana Native Plant Society and Neal Brown of Flathead Audubon to see our local **spring wildflowers** and listen to our **neotropical migrants** and other birds along the Swan River Wild Mile. These are easy two-mile (total) walks along level trails, accessible to all. Meet at **Bigfork Summer Playhouse in downtown Bigfork at 10 AM**. We will try to be back by noon. Questions? Call Neal Brown 837-5018 or Anne Morley 886-2242.

SATURDAY, MAY 24: BIRDING IN GLACIER NATIONAL PARK. Join Flathead Audubon on this field trip to search for returning **neotropical migrants** and other birds in the Apgar-Lower McDonald Creek area. We'll look for songbirds such as Townsend's Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, McGillivray's Warbler, Black-headed Grosbeak, and White-crowned Sparrow. This field trip will last about 3 hours, but for those wishing to stay longer, we will look for more elusive species like the Harlequin Duck, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Black-backed Woodpecker, and Northern Hawk Owl. Meet at the **Alberta Visitor Center in West Glacier at 8 AM**. **Sign up for this trip with Steve Gniadek at 892-7406**; limited to 20 participants. Please note: a Glacier National Park entrance fee or pass is required.

**THE WARBLER WEEKEND AT TALLY LAKE
FRIDAY AFTERNOON THROUGH SUNDAY, MAY 30—JUNE 1**

Join FAS at the Tally Lake Campground for an extraordinary weekend of birding and relaxing. The group campsite at the campground has been reserved for the weekend. Throughout the weekend, we will be focusing on warbler identification, birding by ear, and photography. This is an ideal time of year to find a wide variety of migrant and resident birds; most notable is that all of the warbler species which can be found in NW Montana are found here. Plenty of other activities can be enjoyed as well: canoe and kayak, play volleyball or horseshoes, go hiking on one of the numerous trails found close to the campground, or bring board games. There is a covered pavilion for rainy weather.



Jeannie Marcure Photo

We like to have a potluck meal Saturday evening around 6 PM. Please bring something to share. All other meals are up to you. Dan and Susannah Casey usually come Friday afternoon, and Dan has already created a bird list by Friday evening. He also keeps a campfire going all the time, even in the rain! Bring camp chairs for sitting around the fire. Jill brings coffee at 6:30 AM both Saturday and Sunday.

Cost is FREE this year, courtesy of FAS. Just tell them at the gate that you are with Flathead Audubon at the pavilion. Call Jill or Mike Fanning at 862-8070 if you have questions.

Attention Birders! Help Flathead National Forest by submitting your bird checklists to eBird. The Flathead Forest Plan is undergoing major revision, and by improving information on bird species distribution, we can help the Forest better manage and protect habitat for birds and other wildlife. As you recreate on the Forest, keep lists of birds you encounter along the roads and trails, especially trails in the Whitefish Range, but anywhere on the Forest. Submit your lists to eBird, the more area-specific the better – lists for a particular trail segment are far more valuable than a general list for the Whitefish Range, for example. Info: Steve Gniadek at 892-7406.

FLATHEAD AUDUBON SUMMER FIELD TRIPS


SATURDAY, JUNE 7: SONGBIRDS OF THE LAZY CREEK AREA NORTH OF WHITEFISH. Listen, watch, and learn about our incredible **treasure of local songbirds**, such as the American Redstart, Northern Water-thrush, Black-headed Grosbeak, Red-eyed Vireo, and Willow Flycatcher, with Bruce Tannehill and Gail Cleveland in the Lazy Creek area north of Whitefish. Bruce has recorded over 100 bird songs from the Flathead and has an excellent ear for each and every local song. There will be easy walking along existing roads. This is a great opportunity to sort out or just enjoy all those wonderful spring sounds. Meet at the **Whitefish McDonalds restaurant on Highway 93 at 8 AM**, with a return around 11AM. Bruce's CDs will be available. For more information, call Bruce or Gail at 862-4548.

SUNDAY, JUNE 8: BIRDING AT LOST TRAIL NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE. Join refuge wildlife biologist, Beverly Skinner, to see nesting **Trumpeter Swans, Black Terns and an abundance of waterfowl on Dahl Lake**, as well as many bird species associated with Palouse prairie, riparian/wetland, and larch/pine forest habitats of the 9,000+ acre **Lost Trail National Wildlife Refuge** northwest of Marion, MT. The trip will include seeing one of the Refuge's rarest plant, the threatened Spalding's catchfly, listening/viewing boreal toads, and seeing up to four **hummingbird** species at Beverly's feeders. We will drive and walk along some of the refuge's closed roads with short hikes to the best viewing sites. Meet at **MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks**, 490 North Meridian Road in Kalispell at **6 AM**, to carpool to the Refuge Headquarters, about an hour west of Kalispell. We will return to Kalispell around noon. Bring snacks, foul weather gear, and binoculars. **To sign up or for more information, contact Beverly at 406-858-2286.**

MONDAY, JUNE 16: FIELD TRIP TO MONTANA WILD WINGS RECOVERY CENTER. See **eagles, hawks, owls**, and other injured or recovering birds at the only federally-permitted rehabilitation facility in the Flathead, **Montana Wild Wings Recovery Center**. We will tour the recently remodeled facility and visit with "ambassador" raptors commonly used for education, as well as other birds and species recovering from various injuries. You will see how these birds are fed, exercised, cared for, and eventually released if possible, and learn how this organization serves the wildlife of the Flathead Valley. Trip is limited to 25 individuals and will take about 2 hours. Families and all ages are welcome. Time will be published in local media and on www.FlatheadAudubon.org. To sign up, **contact Doug MacCarter** at dsmaccarter@gmail.com, or 602-663-8611. Due to parking limitations onsite, we will meet at the **Shopko parking lot** and carpool from there.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21: COMMON LOONS AND LOON CHICKS. Meet Hilary Syvertson, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Kalispell West Loon Ranger, at **8:30 AM at MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks**, 490 North Meridian Road in Kalispell to see recently hatched common loon chicks and adults on several local nesting lakes. Actual destinations will depend on the timing and success of this year's loon hatching. Trip is ideal for people of all ages and young families. Walking may be necessary for short distances and down hills or trails to observation points. Hilary will provide an excellent spotting scope and tons of information about our northwest Montana loons, loon behaviors, and loon interactions with each other and humans, the results of years of banding efforts, and other little known facts about our local loons. Return time is between 12:30 and 2:30 PM, depending on selected lakes. Bring lunch, binoculars, warm clothes, boots, and rain gear (just in case). **To sign up or for more information, contact Hilary (406-314-1630).** Field trip limited to about 20 people.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15: GOING BATTY WITH THE BIRDERS. Flathead Audubon's Lewis Young and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks' Chris Hammond will lead our first-ever late evening public **bat viewing/listening/capturing field trip**. Location will be determined after field surveys this summer. Details will be announced later this summer through the media and on www.FlatheadAudubon.org. Meet at **8 PM**, to first learn about bats, put out capture nets and bat detectors, and then wait until dark to capture both bats and bat noises. Bat detectors that can record and process bat sounds in real time will be available. Trained biologists will work the nets and process the bats. You will not handle any bats. Field trip ends around 11 PM. This is a great chance to see the latest research and technology related to bat inventory work. Participation **limited to the first 20-25 people**. **For more information and to sign up, contact Lewis Young at 889-3492.**

Feisty and elegant, hummingbirds are amazing creatures. To live their high energy lifestyles, hummingbirds must sync their migration and nesting times with the flowering of nectar-bearing plants, but climate change threatens to throw off this delicate balance. With today's technology, we can all spend a few minutes each week to collect data that will be invaluable for researchers. Join Audubon's Hummingbirds at Home to help crowdsource rigorous data that can uncover how hummingbirds are affected by climate change and provide information necessary to help them. How does it work? Submit sightings. Record feedings. Explore data. Ctrl-Click here: <http://www.audubonaction.org/site/R?i=uY7urA5F3rd0HJ4lsUyCFw> 

AUDUBON CO-SPONSORED FIELD TRIPS and OTHER

SATURDAY, MAY 3: WEST VALLEY NATURALISTS GEOLOGY FIELD TRIP. Lex Blood leads this trip and Sonja Hartman will join us. Meet at West Valley School Library, 2290 Farm to Market Road, at 9 AM sharp. After a brief introduction, we will car-pool and end our field trip around noon. Lex explains the “story behind the landscape,” as we travel through the West Valley area. For more than 40 years, Lex Blood has served as Flathead Valley geologist, geographer, educator, conservationist. He has been a major force in building the FAS Conservation Education program. Background info at: http://www.flatheadwatershed.org/natural_history/geology.shtml. Field trip also includes a brief visit to Spring Creek Cemetery, which contains unique native plants. For more information, please call Linda de Kort at 755-3704.

SATURDAY, MAY 10: FAMILY FORESTRY EXPO. The 25th Family Forestry Expo takes place at Stoltze Lumber's Trumbull Creek Educational Forest north of Kalispell, from 9 AM—3 PM. The FFE is a family event that offers hands-on experiences of the role that forests perform in our everyday lives. Expo visitors 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. There is a free “loggers lunch,” demonstrations, exhibits, and forest walk with many different educational stops, including one by Flathead Audubon. Flathead Audubon has had a booth at the Expo for many years. We are looking for volunteers to help. If you enjoy being outdoors on a spring day talking to people about forests and ecosystems, please contact Ashley Mason, FAS Conservation Educator, at AudubonAshley@gmail.net. And whether you are a volunteer, participant or just want to see what it is all about, everyone is welcome to come on out.

SATURDAY, MAY 17: BIKE AND BIRD IN LOWER VALLEY. Join Flathead Land Trust and the *Flathead River to Lake Initiative*, in cooperation with the new “Bike Saturday” program. We bike and bird about 10 miles, from 9 AM – Noon, beginning at Fun Beverage, moving along Lower Valley Road, including Church Slough, south to Wiley Dike Road, ending at Somers Bay Cafe for lunch. Conservation easements along the way will be highlighted. For information, contact Laura Katzman at 752-8293 or lkatzman@bigsky.net.

SATURDAY, MAY 17: MONTANA WILD WINGS RECOVERY CENTER presents an opportunity for the public to get up close and personal with **live birds of prey** and to support the only federally-permitted wildlife rehabilitation center in the Flathead Valley, where hundreds of injured, orphaned, or displaced birds are taken for rehabilitation and, hopefully, returned to the wild. This “baby shower” event to commemorate the remodeled facility is being held at **MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 490 North Meridian Road in Kalispell, from noon to 3 PM.** People of all ages will learn about these magnificent birds of prey, other native wildlife, and the wildlife rehabilitation process, while also enjoying children's activities and a silent auction. To participate, just make a donation at the door or bring an item from their wish list at www.wildwingsrecovery.org; to get more information, contact montanabirdlady@outlook.com or call 249-7800.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4: GUIDED HIKES ON THE WHITEFISH TRAIL – BIRDING AT SWIFT CREEK. Whitefish Legacy Partners and Flathead Audubon Society offer a guided bird watching outing on the Whitefish Trail at Swift Creek. Bruce Tannehill leads a walk through sections of old growth forest overlooking Swift Creek, followed by a visit to Lazy Creek, a known birding hotspot. Walk is appropriate for all hiking and bird watching levels and families are welcome. Bring binoculars and enjoy the songs of spring in Montana. Meet at 6 PM at the Woods Lake Trailhead or at 5:30 PM at Whitefish Depot Park (by the library) to carpool. Contact Kim Corette, 406.862.3880 or Kim@whitefishlegacy.org with any questions or to sign up for this hike.

MONDAY, JULY 14: THOMA LOOKOUT BIRDING/HIKE WITH MONTANA WILDERNESS ASSOCIATION AND FLATHEAD AUDUBON. Come bird and hike to one of the most **historic lookouts in the North Fork** with retired wildlife biologist Steve Gniadek. The trail gains about 2,000 feet of elevation in about 3.5 miles, but we pause often to identify birds and other wildlife. Trail starts along old Frozen Lake Road and goes up a shady creek through mature spruce, lodgepole and spruce-fir forests to the saddle between Thoma and Mount Hefty. The trail then traverses a subalpine ridge into alpine larch and open slopes at the lookout. We have lunch at the lookout with a discussion of birds, wilderness values and experiences. Views of Glacier National Park are spectacular. You may see and hear many forest, riparian, and subalpine songbirds including Pacific Wren, Varied Thrush, Townsend's Solitaire, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Townsend's Warbler, Western Tanager, Pine Grosbeak and White-crowned Sparrow. Other possibilities include Spruce Grouse, Clark's Nutcracker, and Boreal Chickadee. **Meet at 8:30 AM at the North Fork Road and Trail Creek Road junction, located about 15 miles north of Polebridge** to carpool. Camping the night before at USFS Tuchuck Campground about 7 miles up the Trail Creek Road is recommended. Group size is limited to 12, and reservations are required by July 11. To preregister for this walk, please visit www.wildmontana.org/walks.



Wings Across the Big Sky June 6-8, 2014, Bozeman, Montana



IT IS NOT TOO LATE to register for **Montana Audubon's Wings Across the Big Sky Festival** in Bozeman, Montana, on June 6-8, 2014. Please send in your print registration form, go online to

www.mtaudubon.org and sign up, or call the Helena office (406.443.3949) and register! Checks made out to 'Montana Audubon' can be mailed with registrations to: Montana Audubon, PO Box 595, Helena, MT 59624. You may also email any questions to cerickson@mtaudubon.org or mtaudubon@mtaudubon.org.

We will be meeting at the **Best Western GranTree Inn** in Bozeman. We have available rooms blocked until May 20, 2014. Please call 1-800-624-5965 to reserve your room and be sure to mention that you are part of the Montana Audubon *Wings Across the Big Sky Festival*.

Sacajawea Audubon has planned a fun Friday night kickoff, including an ever-popular bird identification event; then at the Saturday social hour prior to the banquet, you can hone your bird call skills while trying to stump fellow birders!

If you're a camper, consider staying in one of the many campgrounds near Bozeman. Check out <http://www.allstays.com/Campgrounds/mt-bozeman-campgrounds.htm> for camping sites, both private and public. There is also camping at the Gallatin County Fairgrounds. Check them out at http://www.gallatin.mt.gov/Public_Documents/GallatinCoMT_Fairgrounds/FacilityRental/OpenCamping. Right across the main street from the hotel is a WalMart and they allow free camping in their parking lot (no hook-up.)

We still have room for you on the **Field Trips**

Saturday and Sunday, even though some of them have been filled. Call the Helena office and someone will be happy to help you choose an available fun trip.

We have a great variety of speakers for Saturday afternoon presentations. We'll have talks that focus on our local forests -- researcher Vicki Saab will talk about birds, beetles and burns, and talks that take us around the world -- Forrest Rowland will share his knowledge and images of bird migration in the Middle East. We'll also share conservation stories and highlights, and you can learn more about how we at Montana Audubon think Greater Sage-Grouse and other sage associated species will be around for our grandkids, and what Montana bird species might be moving north as the climate changes. And given that the Bridger Mountains are just outside Bozeman, Steve Hoffman will share the latest golden eagle migration stories from that long-term study site. There will be six great talks - the challenge will be choosing which ones to attend!

Each year Montana Audubon recognizes individuals who work for the conservation and protection of birds and other wildlife by presenting **Awards** at the Saturday evening banquet. We are currently seeking nominations in the following categories: Lifetime Achievement Award, Educator of the Year, Conservationist of the Year, Citizen Scientist of the Year, and Special Achievement Award. To make a nomination, download a nomination form from www.mtaudubon.org/about/awards.html. Nominations are due at the office by May 23, 2014. Mail completed forms to *Montana Audubon, PO Box 595, Helena, MT 59624*.



SPRING INTO YELLOWSTONE BIRDING AND WILDLIFE FESTIVAL

Join us May 14-18 for the second annual Spring into Yellowstone Birding and Wildlife Festival! This one-of-a-kind event will take place in beautiful Cody, Wyoming, located near the east entrance to Yellowstone National Park. Explore one of the most iconic ecosystems in the world by immersing yourself in the abundant wildlife and vegetation during the five-day festival! We offer tours into Yellowstone National Park and in and around the greater Yellowstone area. Wildlife and birding aficionados can take advantage of guided field trips and interactive seminars led by some of the biggest names in birding and nature photography as well as top regional biologists.

The festival will feature a special dinner at Wapiti Lodge, conveniently located halfway between Cody and Yellowstone National Park. The festival will also feature a tradeshow held at the world famous Buffalo Bill Center of the West. Please visit www.springintoyellowstone.com for more information or contact Tia Brown, Events Coordinator, 307-587-2777/events@codychamber.org. Tours fill up fast, so call and register now!



West Valley Naturalists

Maarten Fischer from the Netherlands and Les Keller, fourth generation West Valley resident, will present the evening program May 1 at 7 PM in West Valley School Library at 2290 Farm to Market Road. The program will focus on "multifunctional agriculture," which uses responsible and profitable practices that are sustainable and benefit the community. Les will also talk about his community garden at Centennial Farms. For more information call Linda de Kort at 755-3704.



Slate of Nominees for FAS Board Positions 2014

By Bob Lee, FAS Nominations Chair

The Nominations Committee is delighted to present a rich slate of nominees. Election of officers and board members takes place at the Annual Meeting following the Potluck on May 12. We elect half of our officers in one year and half the next year. This year, we are electing our Treasurer and Secretary of the Board.

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. Bruce has accepted the nomination for Treasurer for a two-year term.

Marylane Pannell will be entering her second full term as Board Secretary. The Board depends on Marylane to record and promptly publish minutes of our 9 board meetings each year. She has been our quiet "rock" during sometimes-tumultuous board meetings. We are very pleased that Marylane has accepted the nomination for Board Secretary for a two-year term.

Jim Rychwalski heads up our slate of nominees for Flathead Audubon's Board of Directors. Although he hails originally from the east coast, Jim has travelled extensively internationally and in the US. After receiving a B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries and completing master's work in Marine Environmental Sciences, he then began working as a Pro-

cess Engineer in the field of semiconductor/electronics, retiring from Semitool in 2012. He is currently Development/Lab Engineer for Kettle Care Organics, in the production of health care products with emphasis on organic non-GMO components and GMP. Jim's lifelong personal interests include reading, hiking, wildlife and bird watching, marine life exploration, photography, travel/eco touring, deep sea fishing and cooking. He is a certified scuba diver and an Eagle Scout with advanced awards. A member of numerous conservation and outdoors organizations, Jim and his wife Barbara, are familiar faces at Flathead Audubon meetings. We are pleased that Jim has accepted the nomination to be part of the FAS Board!

Gael Bissell and **Denny Olson** joined the Board three years ago. Both jumped in feet-first and have become leaders of some of our most important projects. Gael has co-chaired the Field Trips committee with Kathy Ross, worked hard with the WRHC group, helped out with OSNA and been an active participant and advisor on many other projects. Denny heads up the Education committee and has been the driving force behind the new Flathead Audubon Calendar, which will soon be sold in locations all around the Flathead Valley. With his strong education and nature background, Denny has been the Board's link to all of the Education Coordinator's activities.

A hearty thanks to those who have accepted nominations to serve on the Flathead Audubon Board. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor at the Annual Meeting, May 12.

Thank You!

Many of our members have been very generous with Flathead Audubon over the last year. We are quite proud to be an organization that is fully supported by our diverse membership, not just by one or two big donors. Members have stepped up their membership status to become Supporting Members, have made cash donations in our year-end funding appeal, have bought items at the sales table and silent auction, have made pledges in the June Birdathon, have donated silent auction items, named Flathead Audubon on their United Way pledges and have donated treats for general meetings. Some have even named Flathead Audubon in their wills.

And in the same spirit of giving, a very large number of our members have donated hundreds of hours of their time, to work on Audubon projects, help with the Conservation Education program, pull weeds, clip branches and visit Owen Sowerwine Natural Area as a Volunteer Monitor. Some of you have provided helping hands at our newsletter mailing parties, assisted kids and seniors during field trips and stacked chairs after general meetings. Our Board Members do give a lot of their time and energy, which shows in the outstanding projects we produce, balanced budget we keep and exceptional programs we offer. But certainly the feature that makes Flathead Audubon one of the most highly regarded organizations in the Flathead Valley is the high percent of our entire membership who contribute money, time and energy to our chapter's activities. Thank you each so much for your generosity!



TAKE ALONG AN OSNA MONITORING FORM when you go to Owen Sowerwine this summer.

Use the form to tell us what parts of Owen Sowerwine you visited and what you saw and heard there. Feedback from Volunteer Monitors helps Flathead Audubon do a better job of managing Owen Sowerwine.

Get the form and a trail map from www.flatheadaudubon.org or ask Linda Winnie to email it to you lindawin@centurytel.net.

Soon you will be able to fill out the monitoring form online – on the new FAS website. Your filled out form will be emailed to us automatically.

THANK YOU to ALL who are helping with OSNA Monitoring!

Linda Winnie, OSNA Co-Chair

Bird Notes from American Bird Conservancy



A movie has been made about them, but that doesn't protect the Red-tailed Hawks of New York City from rat poison. Two chicks, offspring of the celebrity Red-tail Hawks, Pale Male and Zena, are recovering from ingested rat poison. They were removed from their nest by a rehab group. A third chick is believed to have died after ingesting rat poison. There have been repeated incidents of hawks being poisoned in NYC. Pale Male's former mate, Lima, died last February, from—you guessed it—rat poison ingestion. NYC has a rat problem but ABC is hoping there can be a safer control since the rat poisons pose a danger not just to the hawks, but to other birds, wildlife, pets and humans.

For more about bird conservation activities and news, visit www.abc.org.



MT Audubon.org

GOING TO BAT



FOR BATS

Last month's newsletter included a short clip about bats needing elevation to take off flying. Our resident bat expert, Lewis Young, weighs in on the accuracy of that clip.

"I just read the little insert on bats in the P. Post. While it's generally true that most bats struggle if they're on the ground and crawl up to an elevated spot to take off, it's not true for all. I've seen bats of various species take off from the ground after they escaped our holding bags, or made a crash landing when they tried to take off before they were fully warmed up after being held in captivity. Also, one bat in Montana, the pallid bat, typically feeds by landing on the ground and catching large insects there. Also, it is probably not true that it is painful for bats to crawl along the ground. It is true that most bats are not adapted to being on the ground. It just seemed that the article tried to generalize too much and be somewhat anthropomorphic."

SPECIAL GIFTS

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

- ☐ 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:

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* * * *

Donor's Name _____

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Please make checks payable to:

Flathead Audubon Society

P.O. Box 9173

Kalispell, MT 59904

Your gift is tax deductible.



Dave Menke USFWS



Another Great Beauty of Birds Course!

Thirty-five people gathered every Wednesday night in April to learn about the wonders of the bird world. We were mesmerized with Lisa Bate's presentation on cavity-nesters and spell-bound by Wild Wings Recovery Center's beautiful live education birds. Then we learned all about identifying birds in the field and wrapped up with a field trip to Smith Lake.

This is truly a great class and a good primer for spring birding. If you have never taken our Beauty of Birds class or if it's been a while, we hope to see you in 2015! For more information about this class, you can contact Ashley Mason at AudubonAshley@gmail.com.

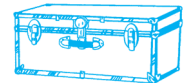


Educational Trunks Ready for Checkout!

This is the time of year that everyone starts thinking about getting outside! It is also a great time to check out one of Flathead Audubon Society's many educational trunks - there are 11 to choose from! Whether you are an individual, family, homeschooler or classroom teacher, you can check out a trunk with curricula, information and activities about everything from owls to wetlands to common birds of the Flathead. We also have binoculars and field guides that can be checked out. See our website at www.flatheadaudubon.org for a full list of our educational trunks. You can also contact FAS Conservation Educator Ashley Mason at AudubonAshley@gmail.com for information on how to check out a trunk.

Other great resources for spring field trips and great information include:

- - **Educational Trunks Available in Northwest Montana**
<http://flatheadcore.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Education-Trunks.pdf>
- - **A Teacher's Guide to Outdoor Education Sites and Programs in the Flathead Region**
<http://flatheadcore.org/local-resources-links/outdoor-education-guide>
- - **The Flathead Watershed Source Book**
<http://www.flatheadwatershed.org/>



SAVE THE DATE! MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

Summer is fast and furious around the Flathead, so don't forget to mark your calendars now for our annual Raptor Day Celebration at Lone Pine State Park on Saturday, September 6. This year's Raptor Day will have a wilderness theme to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Wilderness Act. There will be wonderful presentations, live raptors and activities for the entire family! For more information, watch our website or contact Ashley at AudubonAshley@gmail.com.

FROM CORNELL LAB OF ORNITHOLOGY

Who? Who? Two New Owl Cams Join Hawks, Herons, Albatrosses

We can scarcely keep up with all the developments at Bird Cams—especially our TWO new owl cams: a [Barn Owl](#) in Texas and a Wild Birds Unlimited [Barred Owl cam](#) in Indiana. Plus, the [Cornell hawks](#) are incubating three eggs, a [Great Blue Heron](#) has returned to the pond, and Kaloakulua, the young [Laysan Albatross](#), is starting to show her first white feathers. [Watch all the cams.](#)



If Spring Is Here, Can Warblers Be Far Behind?

We're on the verge of perhaps the most glorious birding season. As spring blooms around us, dozens of warbler species are on their way back to North America. These birds are small and frenetic, but they reward your patience with brilliant colors, patterns, and songs. Here are a few ways to make the most of them:

- ◆ [Merlin Bird ID app](#), now featuring 350 species, including many spring warblers. For iOS7 devices—Android version coming in June
- ◆ [How to Watch Warblers video](#) explains how to look, listen, and pish for warblers in just 6 minutes
- ◆ [Map of arrival dates for Yellow Warblers](#), one of our earliest, prettiest, and most common returnees
- ◆ [A simple tip for spring mornings](#): to find more birds, pause for a moment before you dive into the deep woods
- ◆ [More pointers from the authors of The Warbler Guide](#), in this video archive of a seminar packed with fresh tips



OF ALL THE PATHS YOU TAKE IN LIFE, MAKE SURE A FEW OF THEM ARE DIRT.



Pileated the Post

Newsletter of the Flathead Audubon Society

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

MAY 2014



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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. Meetings start at 7 PM and include a featured guest who presents a conservation or nature program. The Board of Directors meet the Monday preceding the general meeting, at 6 PM 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: lindawin@centurytel.net**

Website: www.FlatheadAudubon.org

Conservation Educator - Ashley Mason: AudubonAshley@gmail.com

FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY DIRECTORY

OFFICERS

President	Bob Lopp	boblopp@bresnan.net	752-7026
Vice-President	Kay Mitchell	kbmitch@centurytel.net	756-8130
Secretary	Marylane Pannell	kuhlpan@cyberport.net	257-5793
Treasurer	Bruce Tannehill	tanneland239@gmail.com	862-4548
Past-President	Paula Smith	paulabobsmith@centurytel.net	837-0181

DIRECTORS

2013-2016	Jan Wassink	janwassink51@gmail.com	249-6590
2012-2015	Steve Gniadek	grayjavbro@yahoo.com	892-7406
2012-2015	Lewis Young	68 Garrison Dr., Eureka 59917	889-3492
2011-2014	Richard Kuhl	kuhlpan@cyberport.net	257-5793
2011-2014	John Hughes	birdwatcher.hughes@gmail.com	261-2506
2011-2014	Gael Bissell	gbissell535@gmail.com	755-8709
2011-2014	Denny Olson	docwild.mt@gmail.com	249-3987
2013-2014	Ben Young	youngb@sd5.k12.mt.us	257-2286
2013-2014	Kathy Ross	mtkat@montanaport.net	837-3837
2013-2014	Bob Lee	rml3@centurytel.net	837-4467

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Christmas Bird Count	Dan Casey	857-3143	Website	Jan Wassink	249-6590
Conservation	Lewis Young	889-3492			
	Steve Gniadek	892-7406			
Education	Denny Olson	249-3987			
Field Trips	Kathy Ross	837-3837			
	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	Bob Lee	837-4467			
Program	Richard Kuhl	257-5793			
Publicity	Paula Smith	837-0181			
Sales	Jill Fanning	862-8070			
Refuges	Kathy Ross	837-3837			



MONTANA AUDUBON

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

www.MTAudubon.org

Executive Director: Steve Hoffman

shoffman@mtaudubon.org

Board President: Fred Weisbecker



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 Conservation Education and Owen Sowerwine Natural Area)

Additional Donation of \$ _____

to Education Fund ☐

Owen Sowerwine Fund ☐

Wherever needed ☐

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Phone _____ - _____

Email _____

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Mail this form with your check to:

Flathead Audubon Society Membership
20 Hanson Doyle Lane
Whitefish, MT 59937