

NUMBER

JANÚARY 1984

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1984 1984 FRI SAT 12 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

- Regular meeting of Flathead Audubon Society will be held in the downstaire meeting room of the Flathead Bank of Bigfork. The business meeting is at 7:30 P.M. The program begins at 8:00 P.M. and promises to be of special interest.

NEW OFFICERS

At the December meeting, chapter offices were filled as President Lynn Kelly 883-5797 Vice President. . . . Craig Hess 257-6645 Secretary Barbara Baxter . . .857-3738 Education Jean Robocker 755-2751 Field Trip. David Hudak755-3752 Hospitality Mae Sudan 837-6626 Library Nancy Trembath . . .837-6298 Membership. Thea Darwall 837-4284 Newsletter. Thea Darwall 837-4284 . . John Gatchell. . . .892-3543 Program . . . Publicity Edith Efraimson. . .755-6520 . . . Elly Jones 886-2244 Refuge. Board of Directors: 3 yr term (vacated by Elly Jones): Stan Bones (837-6022) 1 yr term (Joe Loos' resignation): Robin Magadino (837 - 4294)

PLEASE NOTE: The nominating committee had a problem filling the hospitality chair. Members are reminded that this chairperson must depend on membership cooperation in providing hot drinks and cookies at each meeting. The membership agreed that it wants this function to continue, but the assistance of all attendees is needed to make it "go". Contributions toward the purchase of coffee etc. are also encouraged. Thankyou!

CHRISTMAS COUNT RESULTS

The temperature on December 17th in the Flathead Valley started out at about -10 and failed to climb above zero, and the wind chill in some areas was pretty bitter. These adverse conditions did not deter our intrepid birders, but the birds, on the other hand, were difinitely reluctant to venture out on such a day. The result for us was a count of only 58 species seen during the count day this year. That's one fewer than last year. and quite a bit worse than in 1981, when Bigfork was Montana's best Christmas birding spot. There were some conspicuous absences: no great blue herons, no killdeers, and fewer of the more familiar waterfowl species. Numbers of birds were down among the species that have stayed, and the usual large flocks of seed- and berry-eating birds like finches and waxwings weren't to be found. Unfortunately for us, some of those birds may have migrated about 100 miles south; Vissoula came up with 65 species this year, including several great blue herons.

This was the 84th annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count. Last year some 35,000 people in 1500 locations tallied 37,726,729 birds.

NEW FIELD GUIDE

A rare opportunity is available to our organization. The National Geographic Society is publishing a new field guide to the birds of North America. It is the most up-to-date field guide available, and represents the most complete guide to North American birds produced since 1966. Every person with an interest in birds will want at least one copy. Through special arrangements made by the American Birding Association, eligible non-profit organizations such as ours may obtain the new field guide at a 25% discount when ordering in quantities of 10 or more. To order your copy, contact one of the club officers on or before the January meeting. (Retail price, \$15.95)

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