



The Pileated Post

VOLUME 9

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DEC. 1985

BOARD OF DIRECTORS dinner meeting 5:30 PM at Streeter's Korner Kitchen, Bigfork. Open to all interested members.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING, Flathead Bank of Bigfork meeting room. 7:30 PM, Business Meeting. 8:00 PM program- "Song Dog", by Bob Landus. An award winner at the 1985 Wildlife Film Festival about covotes and other wildlife in the Lamaar Valley of Yellowstone National Park.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT and potluck dinner at the Bigfork Senior Citizens Center around 5:30 PM. Bring a dish to share and your own utinsels. Baked ham will be provided

1985 DECEMBER 1985						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	☾ LQ 5	● NM 11	☾ FO 18	☼ FM 27

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FROM THE ONCE-BUT-NOT-FUTURE EDITOR

Robin Magaddino

A brave soul has stepped forward to undertake publication of our newsletter. He is Leo Keane (pronounced "Keen"). Leo has been an Audubon member for about 6 years, but only during the past couple of years has he been able to attend some of our meetings. Now in Whitefish, Leo lived in Missoula and Thompson Falls after migrating from Minnesota 15 years ago. This 37 year old builder began birding at age 12 when he recieved binoculars as a gift. Through birdwatching, Leo became aware of the environment and interested in conservation issues. Welcome Leo, and Thanks!

THE 1984 MONTANA AUDUBON COUNCIL JOURNALISM AWARDS

These two awards, one for news articles and the other for magazine articles, are awarded annually for the articles that best communicate the significance of the natural environment in our lives. One of the two recipients this year is Roger Clawson of the Billings Gazette for his three part series on the Yellowstone River, appearing during November, 1984 in the Billings Gazette. The other is David Warner, a freelance writer from West Yellowstone, for his "Where Have You Gone Whiskey Jack", appearing in the March/April 1984 issue of Montana Magazine. If you have nominations for 1985, send them to Lynn Kelly.

Over 16 tons of sunflower seeds were distributed to 307 individuals on November 9. Kalispell purchased the most at 258 sacks, Bigfork followed with 133 sacks, then Columbia Falls with 116, Whitefish 97 sacks and Polson 51 sacks. Orders were received from as far away as Plains, St. Ignatius, E. Glacier, Polebridge, Libby, Troy and Eureka. The small black oil seeds were purchased from a Montana grower near Denton. We made approximately \$4,030.00 profit. (Ed. Thanks to Tommie, Barbara, Jack W., Elmer, Jerry, Lynn, Bob B., Brent, Sue Cahill, Dan C. and Mike Aderhold and any others I may not know about for helping to distribute this mass of bird chow), (Also, thanks to Marie Sprunger for the hot cider!)



FROM THE BIRDS

CHEERY CHICKADEE

I sure was delighted to see that sunflower seed at the Magaddino's last week, finally. Following is a list of goodies we birds will gobble up during these cold winter months: sunflower seeds, millet, cracked corn, fruit, suet, old cookies, bread and muffins, peanut butter (sometimes smeared on a suspended pine cone or into holes bored into a small log). We will always come to water. Bowls of water can be placed outside daily, replacing when frozen or submersable water heaters are available. Send your favorite feeding tips to me so we can share them in the next newsletter. Hey, all you birds out there, visit Elly Jones' "Gourmet Birdie Diner" for a real treat!

WILDERNESS

According to Cary Lund, Pres. of Last Chance Audubon, Montana's proposed wilderness areas are not fairing well. Significant wild areas, including the Northern Swan, may see little protection. Out of 6,000,000 available undeveloped acres, about 6% of Montana's total acreage, only 1,000,000 acres may see a wilderness bill and the 800,000 acre Metcalf Wilderness Study Area would be released for certain types of development. That means that only 200,000 acres would be saved for us and future generations. Do you have a favorite proposed wilderness that you love to visit or dream of backpacking or hunting in someday? Call you representative and tell them why those areas are important to you. Three now have toll-free numbers. CALLING IS VERY EFFECTIVE.

Rep. Pat Williams	1-800-332-6177
Rep. Ron Marlane	1-800-332-5965
Sen. Max Baucus	1-800-332-6106
Sen. John Melcher	(202) 224-2644

Education is many things to many people. It means new discoveries, acquired maturity, triumphs and disappointments, achievements and effort. Truly, it is the foundation of an appreciation for the natural world around us. Education creates ideals and forms lifestyles. It can cause a child to look upon the natural environment as a thing to be exploited, or it can nurture a sense of appreciation and respect towards things natural, wild and free.

The Flathead Audubon Society has placed environmental education as our pinnacle goal. During 1985 we donated over \$400.00 in books on various subjects of natural history to Polson school libraries. FAS Education chairperson, Jean Robocker, visits many classrooms each year, providing programs about birds. Her home on Egan Slough is a regular field trip site for Kalispell school groups and youth clubs. The chapter has also provided Audubon Adventures to 12 different classrooms which contain a total of 379 children. Audubon Adventures is a mini-newspaper full of information, puzzles and activities designed to stimulate the interest of elementary school children. Teachers are enthusiastic about this publication and the Flathead Audubon Society feels that the activities in Adventures will create continuing interest in wildlife in the minds of the youngsters.

Much more could be said in favor of a strong environmental education program. However, nothing can speak as loud, nor as clear, as the words of a child who has experienced a new sense of wonder...and concern for wildlife. The following edited essay was written by Nadine Baker after a discussion about threatened and endangered animals. Nadine is a fourth grader at Linderman School in Polson. Jane Morton is her teacher.

"Taking Care of Animals"

"Some animals and reptiles are in danger. People are taking all the room. That makes it so there's no room for them...We should take care of all animals. There were some animals that were a lot, but people started to make cities and farms and then there wasn't a lot of room for the animals. Some wild animals need a lot of room to run. They need a lot of grass to eat and other things. So please take care of the animals."

In her own simple way, Nadine has expressed and summarized the concerns of the membership of the Flathead Audubon Society. We hope to "take care of the animals" by continuing our efforts to educate the people

Christmas Bird Count

December 14, 1985



For information attend the December meeting or call Jean Robocker at 755-2751

1985 FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY DIRECTORY

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

Membership Application

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society and of my local chapter. Please send Audubon magazine and my membership card to the address below.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

INTRODUCTORY MEMBERSHIP

FLATHEAD AUD. SOC.
\$20 N54

Please make checks payable to the National Audubon Society. **7XCH**

Mail to: Susan Cahill
6100 Montana Hwy 35
Bigfork, MT 59911

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FICERS

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Secretary	Sherry Jones, Box 984, Polson, MT 59860	887-2492
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1985	Robin Magaddino, 2100 Swan Hwy, Bigfork, MT 59911	837-4294
1986	David Hudak, 6100 MT Hwy 35, Bigfork, MT 59911	755-3752
1987	Brent Mitchell, 960 Kienas Rd., Kalispell, MT 59901	257-8130

AIRS

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	Bob Ballou, Box 118B1, Rte 1, Charlo, MT 59825	644-2365
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