



# The Pileated Post

VOLUME 11

NUMBER 7

OCTOBER 1987

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

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING, Flathead Bank of  
Bigfork meeting room. 7:30 Business meeting.  
8:00 Program: "Another Name for Mount  
Everest", a slide program presented by  
Carleen Gonder of Pumori Expeditions, Inc.  
Carleen leads trekking expeditions to Nepal.  
Her program shows the Himalayan beauty,  
while presenting the results and mitigation  
of visitor impacts on the Nepali cultures  
and environments.

DEADLINE FOR SUNFLOWER SEED ORDERS!!

SUNFLOWER SEED DELIVERY DAY!

1987		OCTOBER						1987	
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT			
 FM 6	 LQ 14	 NM 22	 FQ 29	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			

## EDITOR'S DESK

Leo Keane

Here we go again! It's newsletter season. Bare with me while I take a month to get back into the swing. As you know, in an average summer I don't spend much time around pens and papers. This summer was beyond average. June, July and August were the busiest three years of my life, which is a long story, but suffice to say that the culmination of our effort was the marriage of Gail, my associate editor, and I on August 22. It was wonderful, of course, especially now remembering the beauty of the day and all our fine company. We extend a heartfelt thanks to Robin for editing September's Pileated Post so that Gail and I could fly off to Switzerland for our honeymoon. (Dream on...)

But all good things must end my friend and autumn leaves must fall--so here we are, back in charge of the old "snipewriter". My impression is we will have lots of conservation news this year. I intend to pay close attention to the Montana Wilderness Bill (which is enroute through Congress) and also to the ever more controversial, and intriguing, gray wolf. This will be a pivotal year for these important issues. Nationally, the Audubon Society is sharpening the pencil and focusing on the most pressing issues, such as the Platte River in Nebraska and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Rod Ash, our Conservation Chairman, will keep us up to date. Beyond that we will surely squeeze in much bird lore, field reports, and your adventures, great or small, that any of our readers might like to share. See you at the meeting!





CONSERVATION COMMENTS

Rod Ash

The Audubon movement is vigorously alive and very well if the recent National Audubon Convention is any indicator. June and I had the pleasure of attending our first such convention in August at Bellingham, Washington.

We were impressed with the high caliber of both delegates and staff at the convention. We met and had good conversations with Audubon members from all over the country. They were all involved in trying to solve their local environmental problems as well as sharing the effort to deal with national and international problems. Although the accents and some of the problems were different, the concern and dedication were the same.

The Audubon staff is bright and obviously devoted to the Audubon cause. We met sanctuary managers, lobbyists, wildlife experts, and regional representatives. They conducted excellent sessions on a variety of conservation issues some of which will be more fully reported in later columns.

There was considerable emphasis placed on organizational problems at the convention. As many of you are aware financial concerns early this spring led to the cutting out of regional offices and representatives. A large outcry from Audubon chapters, including the Flathead, caused the Audubon board to rescind its action, at least in part. However, there were still strong feelings over this issue as the convention opened.

As a result of the demand for more chapter power in the management of Audubon, nine of the National Audubon Board of Directors will be elected by chapters in each Audubon Region. Montana chapters have nominated and supported Audubon activist Harriet Marble of Chester from the Rocky Mountain Region.

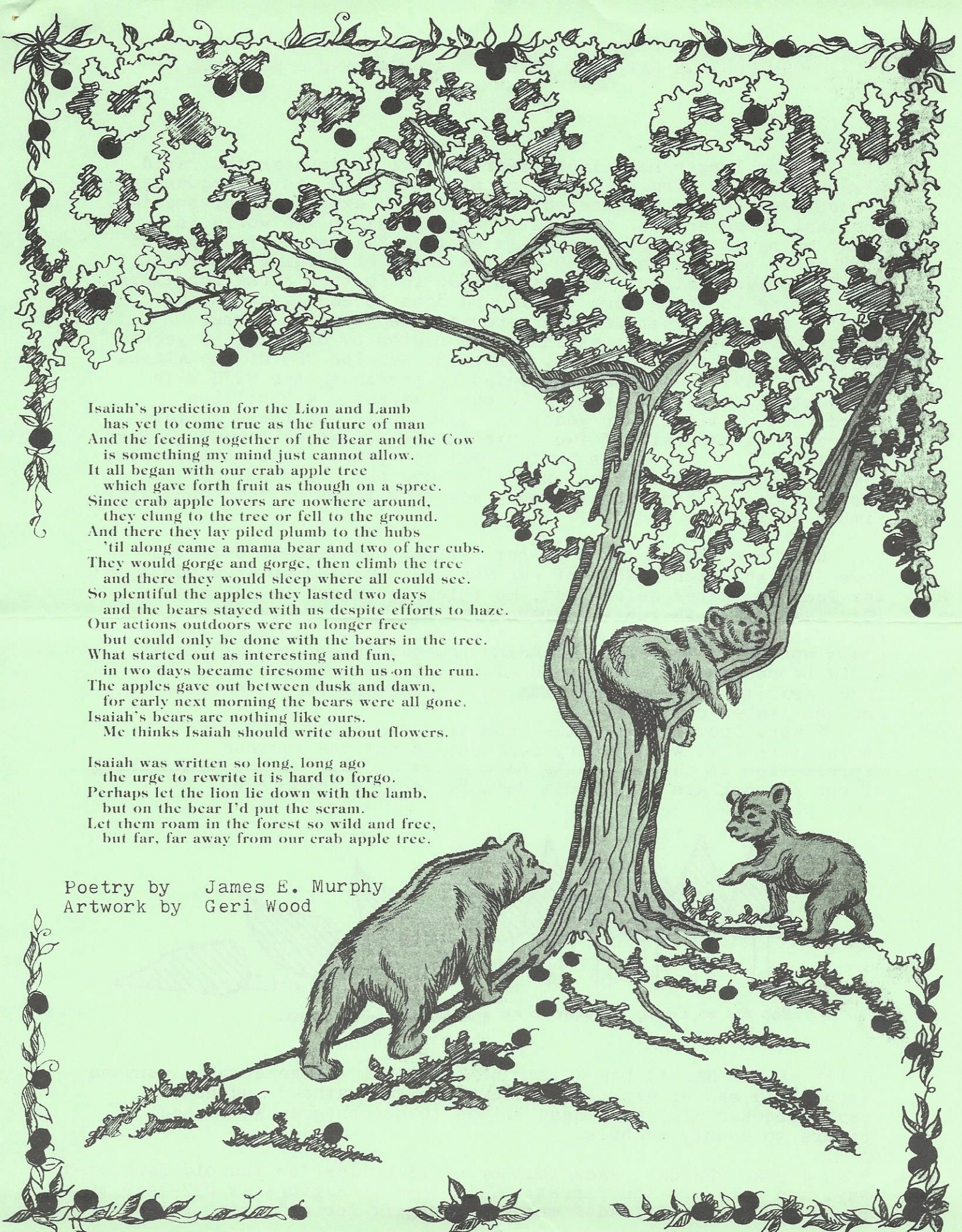
Some delegates proposed that chapters support candidates for even more of the board. However, the majority seemed to feel that the new system should be given a chance to work.

It was the impression of June and I that the officers and board members we heard from had gotten the message that chapters wanted to be fully involved in the decision process of the society.

President Peter Berle described Audubon's financial situation as healthy but imbalanced. Large sources of revenue used for operating costs have been curtailed yet overall income is high. Much income is committed to specific long range projects and is not available for the operating budget. The new Audubon board with nine regional chapter representatives will have to address the problem of increasing income or cutting some costs in the operating budget.

Our own conclusion, based on our convention experience, is that we all belong to a strong, effective, aggressive organization with a core of highly involved, good people, both members and staff. We also concluded after hearing from delegates of the terrible problems caused by too rapid growth in places like Florida and California that we are fortunate to be from Montana where our environmental problems are difficult, but still potentially manageable.





Isaiah's prediction for the Lion and Lamb  
has yet to come true as the future of man  
And the feeding together of the Bear and the Cow  
is something my mind just cannot allow.  
It all began with our crab apple tree  
which gave forth fruit as though on a spree.  
Since crab apple lovers are nowhere around,  
they clung to the tree or fell to the ground.  
And there they lay piled plumb to the hubs  
'til along came a mama bear and two of her cubs.  
They would gorge and gorge, then climb the tree  
and there they would sleep where all could see.  
So plentiful the apples they lasted two days  
and the bears stayed with us despite efforts to haze.  
Our actions outdoors were no longer free  
but could only be done with the bears in the tree.  
What started out as interesting and fun,  
in two days became tiresome with us on the run.  
The apples gave out between dusk and dawn,  
for early next morning the bears were all gone.  
Isaiah's bears are nothing like ours.  
Me thinks Isaiah should write about flowers.

Isaiah was written so long, long ago  
the urge to rewrite it is hard to forgo.  
Perhaps let the lion lie down with the lamb,  
but on the bear I'd put the scam.  
Let them roam in the forest so wild and free,  
but far, far away from our crab apple tree.

Poetry by James E. Murphy  
Artwork by Geri Wood



# THE TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST--AN UNRENEWABLE RESOURCE

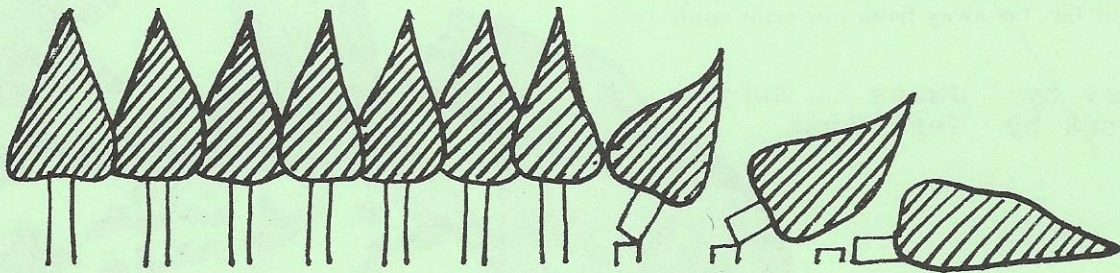
Robin Magaddino

One no longer need look toward Brazil to condemn the rapid clearcutting of virgin, fragil rainforests with its consequences of depleted soils, devastated fisheries and extinction of species. The last large area of temperate rain forest in the world is today being extensively logged in southeast Alaska. The loss of 99.8 cents per dollar on \$50 million worth of logging contracts by the Tongass National Forest in 1986 is further cause for alarm.

Hoping to bring more people and jobs to SE Alaska in the 1950's, the US Forest Service persuaded two outside timber companies to build pulp mills in the region by offering 50 year contracts and other benefits. In 1980, Section 705 of the Alaska Lands Act gave additional subsidies by providing the USFS with at least \$40 million annually to cut a mandated 4.5 billion board feet of timber per year. A continuation of these deficit contracts at the rate of two cents on the dollar will mean a loss of half a billion dollars in the next ten years. The sustainable family logging and fishing operations are being put out of business and tourist related jobs are threatened by this subsidized timber mining.

What can you do short of not paying your taxes? Call the boys in Washington! None of our Montana Congressman have supported the Tongass Timber Reform Act, HB 1516, sponsored by Bob Mrazek (D. Idaho) and SB 708 (no sponsor yet). These would repeal Sec. 705 (a) (d) of the Alaska Lands Act of 1980 so that timber goals would be set by forest planning procedures and annual budgets would be consistent with national fiscal priorities. It would also facilitate better planning and management for both timber and non-timber resources.

A word from their Montana constituents would show our legislators that we are very concerned about the further exploitation of the SE Alaska rainforest as well as the squandering of our tax dollars to support deficit logging contracts.



800 YRS OF LIVING BROUGHT TO AN END FOR AN IGNORLE CAUSE

A TIP OF THE HAT to Lee Kaiser of Kalispell who generously donated a complete set of his bird photographs to Flathead Audubon. Jean Robocker will add these slides to her program which she offers to county schools.

NEED A BIRD FEEDER? Jack Whitney still builds 'em the old fashioned way, and they are the finest. Call Jack in Bigfork at 837-4459 to place an order. A feeder makes a fun gift for a "birdy" friend!



## LAKE COUNTY MASTER PLAN Impacts On Wildlife

Concern for wildlife habitat and healthy lakes is reflected in the draft Lake County Master Plan which is presently being circulated for public comment. Lake County Audubon members have until October 15 to make written comments on the plan. Following the October 15 deadline a final public meeting will be held on the plan before action by the Lake County Commissioners.

Both the general goals established in the plan and guidelines for specific planning areas include statements advocating protection of wildlife habitat and watersheds.

Audubon members in Lake County who value wildlife should be aware of habitat features of the plan and urge that strong protection guidelines be established in the final plan.

Rod Ash

## BALD EAGLE NESTING RESULTS

Statewide it was a very good year for bald eagles. The annual nesting survey conducted by the Montana Bald Eagle Working Group and cooperators checked 71 territories, found 60 occupied nests with 41 known successful which fledged 77 young eagles.

Northwest Montana has 43 territories of which 41 were checked. Twenty-seven nests were successful and 45 young were fledged. (One nest was down)

The number of territories has increased steadily over the past eight years since the survey began.

Robin Magaddino

# AUDUBON

### Membership in the National Audubon Society will bring you...

- A one-year subscription to AUDUBON Magazine (six magnificent issues)
- Membership in one of our local Audubon chapters
- Admission to many Audubon Centers and Sanctuaries throughout the country. (Most are free, but there is a small fee for a few)
- AUDUBON ACTION, our informative national newsletter
- A chance to take exciting trips with Audubon Wildcountry Tours
- The opportunity to attend Audubon ecology camps and study with the experts

*Plus the satisfaction of adding your voice to the voice of the Audubon cause*

## National Audubon Society

### CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yes, I'd like to join. Local Chapter:

FLATHEAD AUDUBON N 54

Mail to: NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY,  
Chapter Membership Data Center  
P.O. Box 2664, Boulder, CO 80321

## INTRODUCTORY MEMBERSHIP \$20

Name

Address

City

State  Zip

Please allow 4 - 8 weeks for delivery of your first issue.

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# 1987 FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY DIRECTORY

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Barb Baxter, 255 Oldenburg Road, Somers, MT 59932  
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Jean Robocker, 1655 Montford Road, Kalispell, MT 59911 755-2751

THE FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY meets on the second Monday of each month from September through May. Regular monthly meetings are preceded by an Executive Board meeting, the time and location of which are published in the preceeding newsletter. The business meeting (7:30) and program (8:00) are held in the downstairs meeting room of the Flathead Bank of Bigfork. These are all open meetings and all interested people are invited to attend. THE PILEATED POST is published nine times a year, September through May, and is sent to all members of the Flathead Audubon Society as one benefit of National dues. For others who would like to receive the newsletter, the cost is \$4.00 per year.

## INTRODUCTORY MEMBERSHIP \$20

☐ My check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

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LOCAL CHAPTER

FLATHEAD AUDUBON

Please make checks payable to the National Audubon Society  
National Audubon Society, Chapter Membership Data Center,  
P.O. Box 2664, Boulder, Colorado, 80321

*\* Sunflower Orders Due  
October 15!*



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