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The Pileated Post

Volume 5. Number 4

The Flathead chapter of the Audubon Society meets on the second Monday of each month in the meeting room below the Flathead Bank of Bigfork. The business meeting begins at 7:30 pm and the program at 8:00 pm.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 13 - Board meeting - budget - 6:30 pm
- Monthly meeting - movie on the lower Flathead, "The River is Wider Than It Seems"
- April 25 - Birdathon
- and 26
- May 2-3 - Field trip to Freezeout Lake
- May 8-10 - State Council meeting, Helena
- May 11 - Monthly meeting - Jerry DeSanto slide presentation, "Bog Flowers and Plants of Glacier Park"

AUDUBON GRANT FOR EAGLES

The National Audubon Society has awarded a \$3500 research grant to Dr. Riley McClelland of the University of Montana Wildlife Research Unit for his eagles study on McDonald Creek. Dr. McClelland's outstanding eagle research and in-depth work on cavity nesting species are familiar to many of Flathead Audubon members who were fortunate enough to hear his presentation at last year's Council meeting and at Swan Lake in January.

RAFFLE TICKETS

Don't forget to bring your stubs and money for the Wildlife Federation raffle tickets distributed at last months meeting. The opposition to Wanigan is still active and legal fees are growing. To those of you who sent in contributions,

SPRING 1981 MONTANA AUDUBON COUNCIL MEETING

PROGRAM

May 8th, Fri. - 7:30 pm

RECEPTION - Home of Larry and Sue Thompson, 117 Pine St.
includes registration.

May 9th, Sat. - 8:00 - 9:30 am

BREAKFAST AND BUSINESS MEETING - No Host- 4 B's Cafeteria
minutes, financial report, President's message,
introduction of constitutional revisions.

(move to Public Library above Travelodge on Last Chance Gulch Mall - rides
available)

10:00 - 10:30 am

PRESENTATION, Jim Flynn, Director, Montana Fish, Wildlife and
Parks, "The Department and Conservation Organiz-
ations, Our Common Goals and Hopes"

10:45 - 11:20 am

REPORT, Gael Bissell and Janet Ellis, Audubon Legislative Rep-
resentatives.

11:20 - 11:30 am

PRESENTATION - Wilbur Rehmann, Exec. Sec'y., Montana Wildlife
Federation, "Greetings from the Federation"

(break for lunch of your choice. The Stonehouse, The Trolley, Travelodge,
Bullwhacker Saloon and Yat Sun are restaurants
within walking distance.)

1:15 - 2:15 pm

CHAPTER WORKSHOP - R.K. "Bob" Turner, Rocky Mt. Regional Rep.

2:15 - 2:45 pm - Coffee Break

2:45 - 3:45 pm

PRESENTATION - Cary Lund, Coordinator, "Where do We Go From Here"

- Review

- Directions

- Revisions in the Constitution

- Research and endowment goals

- Conclusion of business

3:45 - 4:45 pm

CHAPTER EXCHANGE - 5 to 8 minutes to each chapter to tell about
what your chapter is doing, exchange bird lists and
local guide sheets.

7:00 pm

COUNCIL BANQUET - Colonial Inn - speaker, Jim Posiwitz, Environ-
mental Affairs Div., Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
"Conservation in the Eighties"

Reservations required - Carla Cronholm, 1020 Floweree,
Helena, MT 59601, phone 406/442-9305 - \$6.25/person

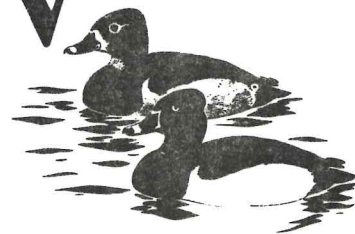
May 10th Sun - 7:00 am

FIELD TRIPS - Meet at 4 B's Downtown and depart at 8:00, several
leaders so parties will hopefully be fairly small.

(Inexpensive motels in Helena are Motel 6 (442-1311) and Motel 8 (443-2450).

If interested in staying at a private home write Pres., Last Chance Gulch
Audubon Chapter, 315 Hauser Blvd., Helena, MT 59601.

BIRDATHON



WHAT?

The Birdathon is Audubon's brand-new, flagship fund-raising program. Counters (participants) will seek sponsors who contribute money (5¢, 25¢, \$1, anything) for each bird species seen by the counter. Vitrally needed funds will be raised for (1) participating chapters or other groups, (2) Audubon's expanding regional programs in your region, and (3) the nationwide programs of Audubon—nature centers and sanctuaries, ornithological research, the Washington office, wildlife film-lectures, and endangered species programs.

WHO?

Anyone—as an individual or as part of a chapter or group. Even nonmembers can participate. If you aren't a birder, an experienced partner or group can help you, but locate your own sponsors. Organizations wishing to take part should contact Birdathon Headquarters in New York City.

WHEN?

Suggested dates are April 25 and 26, 1981. April 25th is John James Audubon's birthday and a good time for birding in most areas. A different date can be substituted, however, if advisable because of local conditions. But to be considered in the 1981 Birdathon, results must reach Birdathon Headquarters by June 1, 1981.

WHERE?

Anywhere. There probably are many good birding sites near your home.

HOW?

Prior to the date of your Birdathon, visit potential sponsors—friends, family, neighbors, fellow-workers. Give them an estimate of how many birds you expect to see (beginners usually spot 25 to 50 birds, advanced birders as many as 150) and ask for their pledge. A sponsor may also stipulate a maximum contribution.

On the Birdathon weekend, select a 24-hour period and carefully count the bird species you identify during that time. As soon as possible, return to each sponsor and collect the amount pledged, thanking each individual. Contributions are tax-deductible. Checks should be made out to National Audubon Society.

If your chapter or group is a cosponsor of the Birdathon, give your form and money to the designated person. Individual participants can mail the form and money to Birdathon Headquarters. Do not send cash; use a check or money order.

National and Regional Prizes

GRAND PRIZE: The participant who raises the most money will choose any of the outstanding National Audubon Society Tours within the lower 48 states. The tour will be for two persons inclusive of travel costs from their home. Popular tours include California, Texas, Florida, Washington, Arizona, New England, the Rocky Mountains, Yellowstone, and the Snake River.

Best Birder: The participant who identifies the most species in the Birdathon will receive a specially inscribed, deluxe leather-bound limited edition of Peterson's new *FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS*.

Outstanding Chapter: The top chapter or organization in contributions (per member) will receive a unique multimedia program on Audubon's sanctuaries personally narrated by Sanctuaries Director Frosty Anderson.

Regional Award: The participant in each region who raises the most money will receive a pair of Bushnell "Explorer" 7 x 35 wide-angle binoculars.

Regional Best Birder: In each region, the person seeing the most bird species will receive an inscribed copy of *THE AUDUBON ENCYCLOPEDIA OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS*.

Regional Outstanding Chapter: The top chapter in each region will receive a beautiful specially designed Egret sculpture with inscription.

All award winners will receive engraved plaques, and the Grand Prize winner will be given an expenses-paid trip to the biennial convention on July 3-5, 1981, in Estes Park, Colorado. Awards are not cumulative.

Each participant will receive an attractive Certificate of Appreciation.

Sponsor Roger Tory Peterson

Dr. Roger Tory Peterson, one of America's foremost bird painters and naturalists, is National Chairman of the 1981 Birdathon. On Birdathon weekend he will participate at a location in Texas. Although he will not be eligible for prizes, you can participate by sponsoring him. He will probably see 150 to 200 species, so a pledge of 10¢ per species will result in a contribution of approximately \$20, and a pledge of 25¢ will yield about \$50. Just fill out the lower portion of the entry form; you will be billed for the exact amount. You may avoid being billed by enclosing a contribution with your entry form.

All participants must exercise caution in the protection of fragile habitat, particularly that of colonial nesting birds, raptors, and waterfowl. Trampling, crowding, and unnecessary proximity are to be avoided at all costs.

National Audubon Society BIRDATHON ENTRY FORM

Counter's name _____	Participating: _____ as an individual _____ in sponsoring chapter or group	Chapter (if sponsor) or group _____	Date of birding _____	Amount pledged _____	Maximum _____	Amount Due _____	Received _____
Address _____	City _____	State _____	Zip _____	Advance contribution (send receipt) _____			
Number of species seen _____	If your chapter is a cosponsor, return this form to the designated person or the Birdathon Chairperson.						
Sponsor's name _____	Address _____						
*Use back of page as needed.							
Check here if you wish to sponsor Roger Tory Peterson. He will probably see 150 to 200 species.							
Amount pledged per species (bill me); or _____							
Individual Participants							
Mail to:							
BIRDATHON Headquarters							
National Audubon Society							
950 Third Avenue							
New York, N.Y. 10022							

For further information, call or write: Birdathon Headquarters, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022/Telephone (212) 546-9208.

Wanda Jamieson
165 River Bend Rd.
Bigfork, MT 59911

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*Attach extra pages as needed.

NATIONAL CONVENTION IN JULY

Every two years, the Audubon people get together to hear presentations on a wide range of interests, share ideas and experiences during workshops, go on field trips, make new friends, and get renewed enthusiasm about the happenings of the world around us. This is our Biennial Convention.

Not only is this an important Audubon event, but it's a fascination one, too. Where else could you spend time with all of Audubon - its administrative offices from New York, its legal and legislative Washington crew, representatives from the science division, sanctuaries and research branch, the education people and nature center folks, and above all, the membership - the people who make it all possible.

While you are making summer plans, why not set aside time to attend the Audubon Biennial Convention in Estes Park, Colorado, the weekend of July 3-5. It's a beautiful setting to relax in and enjoy all the great activities planned for this year. At the same time, you can see how well the Audubon Society works, how the pieces fit together, and most importantly, how your efforts fit in.

If you would like further details, please feel free to contact the Audubon Regional Office at P.O. Box 3557, Boulder, CO 80307.

FIELD TRIPS

After two "no-go's" the Swan River "rock hop" on March 21st. was a success worthy of the wait. Although the cold wind caused some members to turn back, there were still several intrepid souls who went on to a more pleasant morning. The group was able to cover the loop from the old bridge to the lake and back in $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours, and, because some of the birders were quite familiar with the area, they reached some fine birding spots. Murphy's Pond was the highlight of the walk. With a high bank for cover the hikers saw swan, loon and Barrows golden eyes, among others.

A tentative date of May 2nd has been set for an overnight trip to Freezeout Lake. If you are interested and are unable to come to the meeting this month, please call Elly Jones so that she can make arrangements with the rangers there and give you more details.

BLUE BIRD HOUSES

The Dept. of Fish, Wildlife and Parks is preparing a report on the success of their mountain bluebird nesting efforts. If you received a bluebird house from Newton Reed or Audubon within the last two years, please contact Newton at 837-4494 or Elly Jones at 886-2244 by May 1st. Our cooperation could help with future projects as well as aid our lovely blue native.

NOTES ON THE BIRDATHON

You don't have to be a member of Audubon to participate in the Birdathon, and are not limited to any area. In addition to the prizes awarded nationally, we are offering prizes for the most species seen and the most money raised through this chapter. The prizes will be a choice of one of the new Audubon field guides. Please send your results with the pledged, a complete list of species counted and the locations you covered to our chairman by May 2nd. If you can't be a counter, please sponsor a fellow member. Send your pledge to chairman, Wanda Jamieson, 165 River Bend Rd., Bigfork, MT 59911.

1981 FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY DIRECTORY

President - Dave Hudak, 3100 Hwy 35, Bigfork MT 59911.....755-3752
Vice President - Jack White, 1235 Swan River Rd, Bigfork MT 59911.....837-6157
Secretary - Barbara Baxter, 255 Oldenburg Rd, Somers, MT 59932.....857-3738
Treasurer - Guidotta Bourne, Box 415a, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-4745
Past-President - Wanda Jamieson, 165 River Bend Rd, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-5303
Director - Jack Whitney, Box 236, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-4459
Director - Elmer Sprunger, Box 145, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-6613
Director - Rob Seli, Box 151, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-6916
Membership - Dorothea Darwall, 265 Lakehills Dr, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-4284
Conservation - Lee Clark, 4870 Hwy 93 S, Whitefish, MT 59937.....862-5485
Hospitality - Janet Bonas, Box 372, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-6022
Program - Rick Trembath, 6065 Hwy 35, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-6298
Field Trips - Elly Jones, Swan Lake Rt, Bigfork, MT 59911.....886-2244
Publicity - Lynn Kelly, Box 2289, Polson, MT 59860.....883-5797
Librarian - Helen Dresden, Box 90, Lakeside, MT 59922.....884-3559
Newsletter Editor - Billie Firpo, 4980 Hwy 35, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-5115



FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY

BIGFORK, MONTANA 59911

P. O. Box 715

Dave Hudak, president

**Non-Profit
Organization
Postage Paid
Permit No. 3
Bigfork, Montana
59911**

886-3244 by May 1st Our cooperation com
and our lovely blue native