



# the Flathead Post

Newsletter of the Flathead Audubon Society

VOLUME 27

NUMBER 7

MARCH, 2003

## FLATHEAD AUDUBON RECOGNIZES RAILS-TO-TRAILS

Flathead Audubon's second 2003 Recognition of Outstanding Conservation Achievement was presented to Helen Pilling at our February meeting. Helen is the President of Rails-to-Trails of Northwest Montana, the group that works to develop trails here in the Flathead.

Below is a history of the local rails-to-trails effort that was presented at the February meeting by FAS member Don Snow. Don is also a member of the local Rails-to-Trails group. Because Helen was not able to attend the meeting, Don was entrusted with a Flathead Audubon coffee mug to give to her.

The local Rails-to-Trails group is currently raising funds for trails in the Flathead. Donations can be sent to: Rails-to-Trails of NW Montana, PO Box 1103, Kalispell, MT 59903-1103.

A great way to donate is to buy a Rails-to-Trails brick for \$50, which will be mounted in a wall at the head of a local trail. Each brick you buy can be inscribed with your name, or the name of someone who you wish to honor by your donation. For each brick, send to the above address \$50, the name you wish to have inscribed, and where you want the brick mounted (the Meridian entrance to Ashley Creek Trail or the Somers entrance to the Somers Trail).

### A HISTORY OF RAILS-TO-TRAILS

The rail/trail movement came into being in the early 1980s. About 1984 a National Rail to Trail Conservancy was founded. A few years later a couple in Kalispell came to a Bicycle Club meeting with a proposal for looking into the possibility of making a trail on the former Great Northern Railroad bed to Marion. Several of the Bike Club members listened, liked the suggestion and agreed to meet for a discussion of the possibility. At that meeting it was decided that we should incorporate, get 501 C tax-exempt status, and see what we could accomplish.

That was in late 1988. From then until now, years were spent trying to learn what needed to be done, getting out the message about our goals, and raising funds to accomplish them. Our first success was in 1992 when the county decided to allow us to use the one mile of railroad bed that extended east from Dern Road. In October of that year the first section, which we called the Ashley Creek trail, was formally opened. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 5**

### FAS CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR MARCH 2003

**MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2003** The FAS General will feature a presentation by Dave Wallace. He will give a slide presentation about a badger relocation project he has been involved with this past year. Last summer he tracked and trapped badgers here in Montana and relocated them to British Columbia where habitat loss has made badgers scarce. Please join us at 7:30PM at the Fish, Wildlife & Parks building located at 490 N. Meridian in Kalispell. A FAS Board of Directors meeting will be held prior to the general meeting at 5:30PM. Everyone is welcome to attend both board and general meeting.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MARCH 29-30:** **FREEZEOUT LAKE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA FIELDTRIP.** Migrate over to Montana's premier migration stopover!

**SATURDAY, MARCH 29: LOWER VALLEY WATERFOWL TOUR.** Please join FAS for a 3-4 hour guided tour of the wetland areas in the Somers area and the north shore of Flathead Lake.

**FOR FIELD TRIP INFORMATION PLEASE SEE PAGE 2.**



## CHICKADEE CHATTER

I dreamed of spring the other day, a lovely dream of blue skies and green grass and warm breezes and in the sky the flash of green and white as a pair of swallows chased one another in a sky dance. The swallows were sleek and fleet and I enjoyed watching them fly high up in the air. The color of the grass was that emerald green that is nearly impossible to recall in the midst of February. The new leaves on the trees fluttered in a gentle breeze, the leaves so new that you could hear no sound as they moved. The sun shone down on my upturned face and it was warm and pleasant. It was a vivid dream of spring and with our beautiful Valley still in the grip of winter it was so very welcome. It was a good dream and I woke with a smile upon my face.

Spring is still nearly a month away if you look at the calendar. However, spring in Montana doesn't really occur according to the calendar. There are hints of spring by the 21<sup>st</sup> of March here in northern latitudes...we may see tiny green shoots of spring bulbs poking their noses out of the ground, the snow will melt and fall again and melt and fall once more...fortunately melting more quickly each time it falls. The sun takes on a little more warmth when it shines down on our faces. Some of the birds will start their spring songs. Best of all the sun rises earlier each morning and sets a bit later each evening and that to me is the true test of spring.

We have had so very few days of winter this year, so little snow and really very few brutally cold days. It hasn't been so very bad. I miss the snow most of all. I love snowy days, it is with pleasure I look out of the window on stormy days and watch the snowflakes fall. On especially snowy days there is a quiet into which the snow falls and on days such as these you can very nearly hear every tiny snowflake as it hits the ground or a tree branch. Snow in itself is fascinating stuff, tiny delicate crystalline shapes when it is very cold, fluffy oddly shaped flakes when it is nearly 32F and an endless variety of sparkling lacy shapes when it is the perfect temperature. I have missed the wintry days this year and yet it is with great anticipation that I look forward to spring.

We all seem to look for spring this time of the year. We are tired of muddy streets and barren trees and brown grass. Our ears long for the bright songs of sparrows and chickadees and finches and warblers. I am guilty, too. I have looked for signs of the spring that will be, as well.



Just two days ago I heard the first songs of the year for the neighborhood Song Sparrows. What a pleasure to hear that song. Several of the Black-capped Chickadees have been singing as well and have begun chasing one another about the yard.

One morning in the third week of February I went outside in the early morning to a yard full of bird song. A large flock of Pine Siskins showed up and ate sunflower seeds with abandon. It was good to see them as I have had nary a siskin in my yard for many months. A large flock of House Finches has been hanging around most of the winter but I think that they have been recruiting and the large flock is now very large indeed. The finches seem to be getting brighter plumage but that may only be wishful thinking. They were so pretty sitting in the lilac bushes with the morning sun shining on them.

The usual groups of birds come to visit the sunflower seeds, too, some Red-breasted Nuthatches, a dozen or so Pygmy Nuthatches and an equal number of Black-capped and Mountain Chickadees. A small flock of Bohemian Waxwings (for waxwings) have been here off and on for the past month, as well. They wander the yard in search of snow berries and the few left over service berries, they have almost finished the last of the apples on the old tree. If spring is on its way the Bohemians will soon be gone. I truly enjoy hearing their trills in the trees.

That morning too, I heard the first songs of spring thinking Red-winged Blackbirds, an entire flock showed up and sang from the tops of the ancient cottonwood trees that overlook the River. I wonder how many times over the years those cottonwood trees have had blackbirds in their branches singing the songs of spring.

The River has been full of waterfowl this winter but nothing unusual. There have been more gulls present this year and very large flocks of Canada Geese have filled the water and the skies. There are already several geese vying for the coveted spot on one of the old bridge piers. Lots of ducks have been swimming around as pairs, as well, mostly Mallards, but there are several pairs of Common Goldeneye and a large group of Hooded Mergansers. The merganser males are strutting their stuff with their beautiful hoods raised...they are such a striking duck, quite nice to take a few moments to watch.

I can see the flash of green and white in my mind's eye and I look forward to that spring morning when I wake up and there over my yard is a pair of Violet-green Swallows spring dancing. Until then I hope to have more dreams of warm days and green grass and birdsong. Leslie Kehoe



## MARCH FAS PROGRAM: BADGER TRANSPLANT

Dave Wallace, longtime trapper and owner of Critter Ridder Wildlife Services will talk about his role in helping restore badgers to northern British Columbia at the March 10 meeting of Flathead Audubon. Wallace worked for about three months last summer to track and live-trap five northwest Montana badgers that were then moved across the border to their new home. Badgers were not faring well in northern British Columbia due to habitat loss, flooding from dams, shootings and road mortality.

Badgers, which are low-density carnivores, feed primarily on ground squirrels and are found throughout Montana. During a slide show, Wallace will discuss how he baited and trapped the badgers and how a local veterinarian surgically implanted a tracking device into the animal's belly. The animals are now being radio-tracked in Canada, to determine how far they range.

Wallace, a former logger and lifelong trapper, spends most of his time assisting people and agencies remove "problem" wildlife.

of raptors and early songbirds. This is a great time to bone up on your ducks and get into the spirit of spring. Join us for a morning of early spring bird watching. We will meet at the Somers Recreation Area (the boat ramp) at 8:30 a.m. For more information please contact Bruce Tannehill, 862-4548 or [tanne@digisy.net](mailto:tanne@digisy.net)

### SUNDAY, APRIL 27 SMITH LAKE BIRDING.

The Smith Lake Waterfowl Production Area this time of the year will have many varieties of ducks, including grebes, buffleheads, and ruddy ducks. We will search for sandhill cranes, marsh harriers, eagles, and osprey. We will certainly see and hear western meadowlarks and bluebirds. It will be an enjoyable morning of bird watching. Meet at the Fish, Wildlife & Parks building in Kalispell at 8:00 a.m. Sunday morning. For more information please contact Leslie Kehoe at 837-4467 or [likehoe@digisys.net](mailto:likehoe@digisys.net)



## BEAUTY OF BIRDS, A SERIES OF WORKSHOPS

Learn about local birds through a series of four workshops in March. Topics will include general bird anatomy, habitats, behavior and identification. We will concentrate on learning to identify the common birds of the Flathead through a series of slides and recordings. This is especially designed for beginning birders but if you are looking for a quick review before the spring, please feel welcome. The series will be led by local Audubon volunteers and the money earned will be returned to the Chapter.

The classes will be held every Wednesday evening in March (5, 12, 19, and 26<sup>th</sup>) from 6:30-8:30 pm. They will all take place at Flathead High School (644 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. West, Kalispell) in the Large Lecture Room on the first floor. The cost for the entire series is \$10 for School District #5 residents and \$20 for others. You can pre-register and pay at the Flathead High School main office from 8am-4pm on school days.

By Linda deKort

## FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY: 2003 EARLY SPRING FIELDTRIPS

The Public Is Invited



**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MARCH 29-30: FREEZEOUT LAKE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA FIELDTRIP.** Migrate over to Montana's premier migration stopover! In past years, more than 40 bird species, including thousands of Snow Geese have been counted. Call leader to arrange carpool. Leave at 10:30 a.m. Saturday from the Tidyman's parking lot in time to watch geese arrive at Freezeout Lake that evening. Stay overnight at the Bella Vista Motel in Choteau. After watching the geese leave the lake Sunday morning, head for home in time to arrive in Kalispell by 5 p.m. Contact person: Dan Casey, 857-3143 or [caseys4@centurytel.net](mailto:caseys4@centurytel.net)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 29: LOWER VALLEY WATERFOWL TOUR.** Please join FAS for a 3-4 hour guided tour of the wetland areas in the Somers area and the north shore of Flathead Lake. We will search for resident and migrating waterfowl mostly but we should see a wide variety



## FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT: SONJA HARTMANN

### El Nino; A Bird's Friend or Foe?



As I walked past my bird feeder the other day, the sound of chickadees singing "Spring's here" met my ears, and began a chain of questions in my mind. Is this normal for them to be so optimistic about the coming of spring in mid-February? Do they know something I don't? Upon further research, I found that it is not unusual for them to be optimistically singing their mating calls at this time of year. If the Chickadees are right, then this mild, dry El Nino (pronounced El Ninyo) winter may continue.

So, what is this El Nino all about? Translated from Spanish, it means "The Boy", referring to Christ. Peruvian fisherman dubbed it so, due to the fact that the effects of El Nino are felt in Peru around Christmas time. The warmer, drier winters we experience are caused by a poorly understood change in the warm Pacific Ocean currents, which shifts ocean temperatures and atmospheric conditions around the globe. These changes are known for wreaking havoc, with extremes in weather, and more storm activity. The effect of an average El Nino is felt for eight to ten months.

So, how does this affect birds that we hold dear to our hearts, here in Montana and elsewhere? It seems that there is no clear-cut answer. Depending on where birds are during an El Nino, effects can range from catastrophically bad, to a generally neutral effect. And some birds may be positively affected. I just have not come upon much research that suggests this.

Let's take a look first at birds down in the tropical Pacific where these ocean currents originate. The first hint of the phenomenon of El Nino in Peru was thousands of ocean birds washing up dead on their shores. This was caused by a shift in trade winds, which normally blow to the west, pushing warm surface water away from the South American coast towards Australia and the Philippines. During an El Nino, these trade winds drop off in the Central and Western Pacific. This allows warm water to accumulate on the surface, causing a decrease in the cold, nutrient rich waters that usually, through upwelling, reach the surface. If you are a bird, or any other fish-eating critter, this is bad news. You depend on these waters to attract the large schools of fish and other marine life you subsist on. The end result is a die-off of plankton, which sends a shock through the food web, to the fish, and then the birds.

Similar to Montana, the Caribbean experiences a drier winter, which researchers have found to cause thinner, less fertile birds. Dartmouth researchers have seen these results with Black-throated Blue Warblers, which are seen migrating between both New Hampshire and Jamaica. During El Nino years, they have also seen similar lower reproductive success rates in seabird, raptor, primate and rodent populations. These results, researchers note, may not just be attributed to El Nino, but to the additional climate changes associated with global warming.

In the Galapagos, Dark-rumped Petrels have been studied to determine effects of El Nino years. During these warmer years, chick growth was slower, and fledging was later. This probably reflected a decrease in energy available for growth, due to lower ocean productivity and fewer food resources.

For people of the South Pacific, this spells economic disaster. What do Montanans, Ecuadorians and Peruvians all have in common? We all have economies that are tied to the land. With the loss of seabirds in the Pacific, so goes the important guano producing birds, such as pelicans and cormorants. This guano is collected and sold for fertilizer, an industry that supports many locals in these areas. So, the effects of El Nino in the South Pacific is a negative one for both birds and people.

On our own US coasts, specifically Washington state's outer coast, the annual number of nesting Double-crested Cormorants, Brandt's Cormorants and Common Murres have been studied. Researchers found that the El Nino's of 1982-1983, and 1987 caused decreased sea temperatures. They also found that there was a significant negative correlation between the intensity and occurrence of these warm water events and the number of nesting birds. Similar studies have been done on the Oregon coast, with similar findings.

One of the more interesting accounts inland in the United States has been noted from Downtown Pittsburgh. Every year, spring is heralded in on April 1 by the arrival of the Peregrine Falcons that nest in the Gulf Tower. In 1998, an El Nino year, the peregrines incubated their eggs a month early. This could be seen as a neutral result of the warmer year. However, there was concern that they would be caught in a cold storm nesting that early in the season that might jeopardize their chicks' well-being.

So, what have folks been noticing this winter in the Flathead? There have been a few reports of early birds! A Turkey Vulture has been seen in the Red Lodge area, and several Blue-winged Teal have shown up near Polson, which is a bit early to see either bird. Apparently, it is common to be able to see the occasional Western Meadowlark in the Flathead and Mission Valleys during the winter, with this winter being no exception, but this year meadowlarks have been seen and heard singing their lovely spring songs. Red-winged Blackbirds have also been spotted over wintering, which happens on occasion. What have you noticed? Have there been sightings that are truly unusual for the season? Let us know! Our birds continue to be a great gauge of the health of our environment, and subtle (or not so subtle) changes over the years.





## SPRING BIRD SEED SALE

Need birdseed for your feeders?

FAS is selling 50-pound sacks of black, oil sunflower seed. Sale of this birdseed is Flathead Audubon's primary fund raising project. Your purchase will help fund local conservation and educational programs.

Sacks will be available at the FAS meeting. Or you may call one of the following: Bigfork – Neal Brown, 837-5018; Columbia Falls – Jim Swab, 387-4299; Kalispell – Karen Nichols, 756-5763; Whitefish – Jill Fanning, 862-8070; Condon – June and Rod Ash, 754-2289.



## FLATHEAD AUDUBON RECOGNIZES RAILS-TO- TRAILS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Then came several years of frustration due to not knowing how to get cooperation from Burlington Northern Railroad to allow a rail with trail. Someone who lives just off Highway 2 and used the trail joined our group. She was determined to find a way to get the Railroad to respond and did. After many delays, stalling and setbacks, Burlington Northern finally caved in and agreed it was possible. Upon getting the agreement with Burlington Northern we then had to set about raising the matching funds to get federal CTEP funds to build it. Permits and engineering and design took what seemed like forever, but eventually things were in place. In October 2001 a paved mile of 10-foot wide trail going west from Meridian Road to our first (unpaved) section was formally opened.

That actually was the third mile of trail. About four years before, the Flathead County Parks Department planned to purchase the Burlington Northern right-of-way from Somers north to Highway 82 and keep it available for a trail. The amount they set aside for the purchase was far more than the appraised value of the right-of-way. So the Parks Department decided to use the excess to build the trail right then. The opening was in fall 1998. That was a one and one-quarter mile paved trail, and a very nice one at that.

That brings us to the present. If all goes as expected (and hoped), the trail we called Ashley will be completed this spring, and likely also, a non-railroad section from Dern road along Highway 2 to Whalebone. Also probable this spring is the opening of a non-paved portion west from Whalebone Drive to where the trail first crosses Ashley Creek, near Julie's Restaurant.

The goal is to have the trail into Kila finished as soon as matching funds can be raised. Each \$13.40 we can raise will be matched with \$86.60 of federal funds to give a full \$100 for the project. The folks in Kila are very anxious to see the trail there to protect children going to and from school. The Kila people have contributed immensely in time, effort, and money to help this project on its way. Last summer and fall with a grant from Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and contributions of time, labor, and equipment from several generous excavating companies, nine culverts were put in place to make the trail useable. But at this point it is still unpaved. Because the trail crosses Ashley Creek twice, it may be a few years before a paved trail will be completed to Kila. The delay is due to the cost of bridges over Ashley Creek. The Montana Department of Transportation plans to rebuild Highway 2 west of Kalispell and the first thing they must do is replace the Ashley Creek bridges, which are in deplorable shape. The Department of Transportation has told us they will add a sidewalk/bicycle path on the outside of the bridges when they are replaced, which will spare our group from having to raise a very large sum of money for the two bridges.

Anyone interested in learning more about the National Rails to Trails Conservancy can visit their web site, [www.Trailink.com](http://www.Trailink.com). This site provides information about which states have how much trail. I believe there are 11,313 miles in 1,109 trails in the whole United States. Minnesota, Michigan and Wisconsin have 3,769 miles together. As of now, Montana has 11 trails with a total of 42 miles.

By Don Snow

## Bravo Flathead Audubon Recycles!

You earned \$63 for our chapter by taking your recyclables to Valley Recycling in Kalispell. Keep on recycling, and remember taking a tote bag shopping is reducing waste you can accomplish each time you shop. Thank you!

From Ferne Cohen



## BIRDING HOTSPOTS BROCHURE AVAILABLE

Looking for a good place to go birding? Need to know how to get there? Want to know what birds frequent the Flathead Valley in your favorite season? Which birds breed here? Which just visit for the winter?

You can get the answers to these questions – and more – in Flathead Audubon's new "Birding Hotspots in the Flathead Basin". This 6-panel, multi-colored brochure contains descriptions of 13 different birding hotspots in and around the Flathead Valley, along with a map to show you how to get to them. It also lists all the birds that have been sighted in the Flathead, along with information on their abundance, breeding status and season of occurrence. And on the front, it sports a full color picture of a male Harlequin Duck.

Flathead Audubon is currently distributing the Hotspots brochure – free! – at our monthly meetings. This is the easiest (and cheapest) way for you to get a copy.

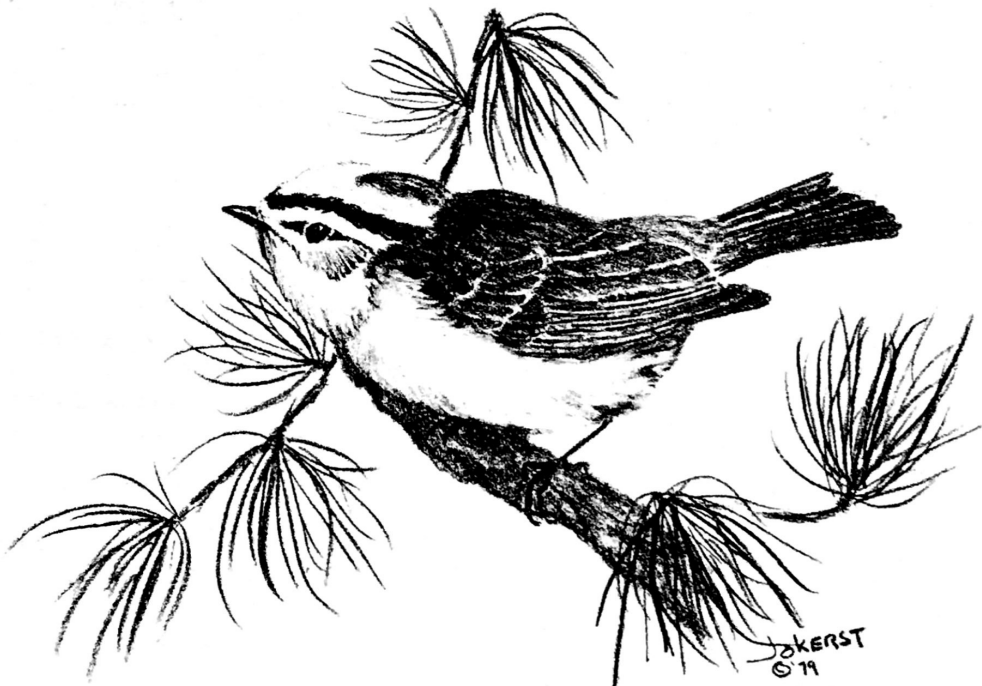
You may also request that a copy of the brochure be mailed to you. Send your request along with \$1 for shipping costs to Dan Casey, 33 Second St. East, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Flathead Audubon will also provide copies of the brochure for distribution by local businesses that sell bird-related items (e.g. photo stores) or serve tourists who might be interested in birding (e.g. bed-and-breakfasts). Up to 30 brochures may be obtained free of charge for this purpose. Contact Dan Casey, 756-2681, to make arrangements.

Funding assistance for the brochure has been provided by: Montana Audubon; Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Region One; the Flathead National Forest; and Glacier National Park.

## LOOK WHAT FLEW IN!

This beautiful sketch is one of many that artist Jim Jockerst of West Glacier has created. Flathead Audubon would like to thank Jim for the donation of many boxes of his beautiful cards. You can be the lucky raffle winner of a box of these cards at our monthly meetings, or choose to purchase a box. Money raised will help support our educational programs, give scholarships and grants, and fund other conservation activities around the valley. Thanks, Jim!



GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET, PENCIL DRAWING BY B. JAMES JOKERST



## NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

The newly formed newsletter committee has had its first meeting and we are still in search of a few good volunteers to help us. The committee has been formed to write and research articles to be included in the Pileated Post and to assist the editor as needed. We are still looking for an editor/coordinator. This person will be responsible for editing articles that are submitted for length and content, layout and formatting of the newsletter, chairing the newsletter committee and coordinating the newsletter monthly. The time involved monthly is somewhere between 4 and 6 hours. The newsletter is published 9 times per year September through May. Please contact Leslie Kehoe at 837-4467 if you are interested in volunteering for the committee.

## JOIN OUR LOCAL CHAPTER! MEMBERSHIP POLICY CHANGE



Historically, to join Audubon, you would simply join the National organization. You would then automatically become a Flathead Audubon Society chapter member, and receive the Flathead Audubon newsletter as well as the National organization's Audubon magazine. National Audubon supported our chapter by sharing the membership dues with us.

This is no longer the case. National Audubon has been gradually reducing its financial support to the local chapters and is encouraging them to become self-supporting. We currently receive from National less than \$4 from the membership dues of each member, which is less than half the cost of printing and postage for the newsletter for each member. So we (along with many other chapters nation-wide) are instituting a new Chapter Membership.

For \$15 you can join Flathead Audubon, receive the newsletter, be part of the action here, and support all of our local programs: monthly meetings, field trips, management of Owen Sowerwine Natural Area, school and adult education programs. Newsletter-only subscribers should now take advantage of this new chapter membership to receive the newsletter.

You still have the option becoming a member of Flathead Audubon by joining National Audubon, of course. Your National membership fee will support National's many excellent nation-wide education and conservation programs. But your National membership fee will not fund Audubon programs here in the Flathead. With a National membership you receive both the Audubon magazine and Flathead Audubon's monthly newsletter. National Audubon's fee is \$20 for first-time members (\$15 for Seniors and Students), then \$35 to renew in following years.

You can support both local and nationwide Audubon programs by joining both Audubon organizations – Flathead and National.

Over the years, Flathead Audubon has been well supported by valley residents through donations and activities such as our annual seed sale and birdathon. We hope this support will continue in the future and be supplemented by a large group of local chapter members.

Use the form below to join now!



### Flathead Audubon Society Membership Form

I would like to join the Flathead Audubon Society.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send \$15 (check payable to "Flathead Audubon") along with this form to:

Flathead Audubon Society Membership, 380 Tally Lake Rd., Whitefish, MT 59937

When you use this form, your name will NOT be shared with other organizations.



## FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY DIRECTORY

## OFFICERS

President	Linda Winnie, P.O. Box 220, Kila, MT 59920	755-1406
Vice-President	Sonja Hartmann, P.O. Box 316, West Glacier, MT 59936	387-4150
Secretary	Gail Sullivan, 932 Columbia Ave., Whitefish, MT 59937	862-5775
Treasurer	Bruce Tannehill, 239 Deer Trail, Whitefish, MT 59937	862-4548
Past-President	Neal Brown, 670 Wolf Creek Dr., Bigfork, MT 59911	837-5018

## DIRECTORS

2000-2003	John Ashley, 3151 Columbia Falls Stage Rd., Col. Falls MT 59912	892-3825
2001-2003	Bob Lopp, 52 West View Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901	257-6886
2001-2004	Dan Casey, P.O. Box 355, Somers MT 59932	857-3143
2001-2004	Jane Adams, 229 Edgewood Dr., Kalispell MT 59901	257-4527
2002-2003	Leo Keane, 514 Pine Place, Whitefish MT 59937	862-5807
2002-2003	Brent Mitchell, 960 Kienas Rd., Kalispell, MT 59901	756-8130
2002-2003	Ferne Cohen, P.O. Box 1782, Whitefish, MT 59937	862-2028
2002-2003	Mike Fanning, 380 Tally Lake Rd., Whitefish, 59937	862-8070
2002-2005	Linda deKort, 1290 Lost Creek Dr., Kalispell, MT 59901	755-3704
2002-2005	Leslie Kehoe, 1020 Holt Dr., Bigfork, MT 59911	837-4467
2002-2005	Karen Nichols, 920 6 <sup>th</sup> Ave. E, Kalispell, MT 59901	756-5763

## CHAIRS

Audubon Adventures	Kim Davis, 1230 Rhodes Draw, Kalispell, MT 59901	755-1311
Birdseed Sales	June and Rod Ash, P.O. Box 1129, Condon MT 59826	754-2289
Christmas Bird Count	Dan Casey, P.O. Box 355, Somers MT 59932	857-3143
Community Naturalist Program	Sonja Hartmann P.O. Box 316, West Glacier, MT 59936	387-4150
Conservation	Brent Mitchell, 960 Kienas Rd., Kalispell, MT 59901	756-8130
Education	Linda deKort, 1290 Lost Creek Dr., Kalispell, MT 59901	755-3704
Field Trips	Jim Swab, 988 Lake Drive, Columbia Falls, MT 59912	387-4299
Hospitality	Lois Drobish, 324 Helena Flats Rd. Kalispell, MT 59901	756-7405
	Judy Spence, Box 239, Lakeside MT 59922	857-2599
Librarian	Gail Leonard, 514 Pine Place, Whitefish, MT 59937	862-5807
Membership	Jill and Mike Fanning, 380 Tally Lake Rd., Whitefish, 59937	862-8070
Owen Sowerwine NA	Brent Mitchell, 960 Kienas Rd., Kalispell, MT 59901	756-8130
	Neal Brown, 670 Wolf Creek Dr., Bigfork, MT 59911	837-5018
Newsletter	Leslie Kehoe, 1020 Holt Dr., Bigfork, MT 59911	837-4467
Program	Leo Keane, 514 Pine Place, Whitefish, MT 59937	862-5807
Publicity	Jeanne Marcure, 300 Shelter Valley Dr., Kalispell, MT 59901	755-1808
	Karen Nichols, 920 6 <sup>th</sup> Ave E, Kalispell, MT 59901	756-5763
Refuge Projects	Leslie Kehoe, 1020 Holt Dr., Bigfork MT 59911	837-4467
Wetland/Waterfowl	Neal Brown, 670 Wolf Creek Rd., Bigfork, MT 59911	867-5018

## MONTANA AUDUBON

State Office	Ray Johnson, P.O. Box 595 Helena, MT 59624	443-3949
Western Montana Office	Dob Petty, P.O. Box 621 Stevensville MT 59870	777-0780
Board President	Jim Brown, 1504 Woods Gulch Road, Missoula MT 59802	549-8052

The Flathead Audubon Society is affiliated with the National Audubon Society and meets on the second Monday of each month from September through May. The regular meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. and includes a featured guest who will present a conservation or nature program. The regular monthly meeting is preceded by the Executive Board meeting. Both meetings are open to all those interested.

THE PILEATED POST is published September through May and is sent to members of the Flathead Audubon Society as a membership benefit. Subscriptions for non-members are \$10.00 per year.

Deadline for newsletter copy: the 20th of each month. Newsletter e-mail [likehoe@digisys.net](mailto:likehoe@digisys.net)



# the Pileated Post

Flathead Audubon Society

PO Box 9173  
Kalispell, MT 59904

## Audubon Membership Form



## Flathead Audubon Society

Support local programs and  
receive the Pileated Post Newsletter.

Flathead Audubon Member \$15 ☐

## National Audubon

Support nationwide programs  
and receive Audubon magazine  
as well as the Pileated Post Newsletter.



First-time Member	\$20	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senior/Student	\$15	<input type="checkbox"/>
Individual Renewal	\$35	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family Renewal	\$38	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you join both Audubon organizations --  
Flathead and National -- only one copy of the  
Pileated Post will be sent to you.

Name

Address

City

State  Zip

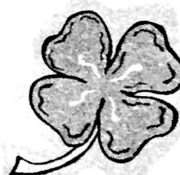
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