SacajaweaAudubonNews

Sacajawea Audubon builds on an interest in birds to promote the conservation of our natural environment through enjoyment, education and action.

April 2018

Calendar at a Glance

April 9th	SAS Meeting
April 18th	SAS Book Discussion
April 18th	Science Inquiry Series
May 4th - 6th	SW MT Sage Grouse "Lek" Tour
May 5th - June 30th	SAS Spring Birding Series
May 12th	SAS Celebrates World Migratory Bird Day
June 8th - 10th	MT Bird Festival - Wings Across the Big Sky

LOVE BIRDS?
BUY A LOCAL MEMBERSHIP
TO SUPPORT
SACAJAWEA AUDUBON!

Montana's Great Basin Birding: Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park

Monday April 9th, 2018 at 7pm
Hope Lutheran Church
2152 W. Graf St. (off of South 19th street)

Montana is notable for it's diverse landscapes and habitats. Hidden away between the forested mountains and valley prairies of Southwest Montana are small nooks of desert habitat that exhibit classic Great Basin Ecosystems. Lewis & Clark Caverns is one such place. Join park assistant manager and naturalist Tom Forwood as he dives deep into what makes this a unique place and worthy of a second, or third, look.

Tom Forwood has been a naturalist of one sort or another since a very young age, but it was 10 years as an interpretive Ranger at Missouri Headwaters and Lewis & Clark Caverns State Parks where he grew to truly love and appreciate birds. He is now a regional eBird reviewer, and compiles for two Christmas Bird Count Circles in Southwest Montana and birds every single day at home and abroad when possible.

Sacajawea Audubon meets every 2nd Monday of the month, September through May. Our meetings are held at Hope Lutheran Church (unless otherwise indicated), 2152 W. Graf (off of S. 19th). Come for the social beginning at 6:30 p.m. A short chapter meeting starts at 7 p.m. with the program following after. Our programs are free and open to the public.

SAS Hospitality News

Many thanks to **Sharon Hanton** for her faithful and generous work as the Hospitality Chair. Thanks, too for all of the members for bringing delicious snacks for every monthly meeting.

Don't forget: May is the month for the annual "Sweet & Savory" Potluck. Bring a dish to pass and mingle with other members and non-members. May 14th is the date.

Snack Schedule Change for Monthly Meetings

Please note: If your first or last name begins with the first letter of the month, please try to bring a snack. If your name doesn't match any month…pick a month of your choice (just one) and bring a snack. Hopefully this will eliminate the need to sign up. No time to bake? No problem. Bring a bunch of bananas, a bag of apples, or chips. This will also ensure that folks with gluten issues have something to snack on. We'll see how this works.

Don't forget! If your name (first or last) begins with "A" (all you "Anns and Andersons" out there) Please bring a snack for the **April** Meeting!

Thoughts? Suggestions? Contact Sherry Staub, 563-370-0757 ; scstaub@mchsi.com

2018 Sacajawea Audubon Spring Birding Series

Participants in all trips will meet at the front parking lot of the Museum of the Rockies at 6:45 AM and depart at 7:00 AM unless otherwise noted. Car pools will be arranged at the museum; an offer to help with gas to the person driving is always appreciated but not mandatory. Dress for the weather; good footwear is a must as field trip conditions are not always dry. Bring any food or beverages that you will need during the course of the trips, and some of the longer trips might require that you pack a lunch. Turn off your cell phones and keep unnecessary conversations to a minimum. Some field trips are limited to a certain number of participants. **Contact the trip leader for more details about any trip, and to sign up for the trip.** We encourage all skill levels of birders to participate. Come have a good time and learn something new.

May 5 Saturday: Headwaters State Park
Leader: Martha Collins
Contact: 586-9478 or 579-0506 or marthacoll@msn.com
(1/2 day trip; easy walking)
The Headwaters area includes a variety of habitats, including sage/grassland and riparian, so anything from waterfowl to sparrows can occur. One of the unique features of the Headwaters area are the limestone cliffs, which support several cliff nesting species such as Prairie Falcons and White-throated Swifts. The park, which is situated along the Missouri River corridor, is an ideal location to observe early spring migrants. Those wishing to meet at the Headwaters area contact the trip leader. **15 person limit**

May 5 Saturday: Owl Prowl
Leader: Tom Forwood
Contact: 406-570-6432 or tforwood@mt.gov
Meet at the Museum of the Rockies at 7 PM. Some of the owl species we hope to hear, and possibly see, include Northern Pygmy-Owl, Northern Saw-Whet Owl, Great Horned Owl, and possibly others. This is an evening field trip, so please dress for cold weather, including warm boots. Snowshoes are not necessary, but grippers might be helpful if conditions are icy. The location of the Owl Prowl is TBD possibly including several locations. Be prepared to be out well after dark. **10 person limit**

May 6 Sunday: Shields Valley Driving Tour
Leader: Forrest Rowland
Contact: 814-573-1391 or rowbird2005@gmail.com.
(Options for half to full day) Visit Shields Valley's birding hot spots. The array of habitats visited will range from dense riparian, lush agricultural, shortgrass prairie, and sage flats at lower elevations, up through mixed Douglas Fir and Pine forests to high-elevation Sub-alpine Fir, depending on road conditions. We will also spend plenty of time birding Cottonwood Reservoir , which will surely be loaded with waterfowl and shorebirds at this peak time of year. **Meet at the Clyde Park Post Office parking lot, at 7:00 AM for car-pooling.**

May 13 Sunday: Triple Tree Trail
Leader: Lou Ann Harris
Contact: 600-3585 or montlou311@gmail.com
(5 hour trip; moderately strenuous climbing 500 ft, 4 miles)
As this trail climbs the hillside it passes through a number of habitats, and transitional edges between them. At the bottom of the mountain, grassland quickly gives way to brushy deciduous habitat as the trail crosses Limestone Creek, where Ruffed Grouse, Calliope Hummingbirds, and Lazuli Buntings are some of the birds to expect. The trail then ascends through Douglas fir and lodgepole pine forests with a wide variety of nesting birds, including Cassin's Vireo, Swainson's Thrush, and Western Tanager. This trip features perhaps the greatest diversity of any short hike in the Gallatin Valley. **12 person limit**

May 16 Wednesday: Bozeman Fish Technology Center
Leader: John Parker
Contact: 586-5863 or conundrumjp@gmail.com
(Until late morning, light walking)
There are several habitat types that come together in this relatively compact area, including the riparian areas along Bridger Creek and the conifer slopes of Drinking Horse Mountain. We will try to find some of the earlier migrants, and many of the breeding birds should already be on their territories at this location. Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Yellow-rumped Warblers, and American Dippers are expected here. If time permits we may also bird some of the parkland further down stream along Bridger Creek. **10 person limit**

May 19 Saturday: Old Town Road and Milligan Canyon
Leader: Tom Forwood
Contact: 406-570-6432 or tforwood@mt.gov
(1/2 day trip; mostly driving with light walking on roads)
This trip begins along the cottonwood bottomlands of the Jefferson River, and then abruptly moves into dry greasewood/sage scrubland habitat. Birds along this section will range from Dusky Flycatchers and Bullock's Orioles, to Sage Thrashers and Brewer's Sparrows. The route then cuts through the arid limestone cliffs of Milligan Canyon. Canyon Wrens, Rock Wrens, and Spotted Towhees frequent this dry landscape. Golden Eagles and Pinyon Jays are also a possibility along this portion of the trip. **15 person limit**

2018 Sacajawea Audubon Spring Birding Series (cont.)

May 23 Wednesday: Mount Ellis
Leader: Don Profota
Contact: 406-579-3200 dprofota@gmail.com
(4 -5-hour trip; moderately strenuous walking 3 miles) This slow-paced hike of approximately 3 miles, will explore a number of habitats on State and Forest Service lands, including grassland, aspen meadow, and conifer forest edge. At this time of year many of the nesting birds, such as Calliope Hummingbirds, Red-naped Sapsuckers, Dusky Flycatchers, Orange-crowned Warblers, and a wide variety of sparrows will have arrived on their territories. Along with terrific views of the Gallatin Valley, the wildflowers on this walk will likely distract you from the diversity of birds. **12 person limit.**

May 26 Saturday: Sweet Grass County Prairie Bird Tour
Leader: Beth Madden
Contact: 406-224-1012 or bethmadden64@gmail.com
(The 5-6 hour driving tour wrap up by early-mid afternoon) Celebrate the "Year of the Birds" on the prairies! We will follow an approximately 40-mile driving route through prairie and agricultural landscapes north of Big Timber. Past trips have yielded curlews, cranes, raptors, and prairie songbirds from bobolinks to longspurs. Stops at wetlands will feature water birds. **Meet in Big Timber (Big Timber is 63 miles east of Bozeman on Interstate 90) at the Town Pump located at I-90 Exit 367 at 8:00 AM for car-pooling.**

May 26 Saturday: East Gallatin Recreation Area
Leader: Andrew Guttenberg
Contact: 406-451-5427 or afgutte@hotmail.com
(4-5hour trip; easy walking at most two miles) There are lots of possibilities with this local area. Over 180 bird species have been seen in the recreation area. This will be near the peak of migration, so we hope for some surprises. With a pond, riparian habitat, limited grassland, and mature cottonwoods we hope to see good diversity of what Gallatin Valley has to offer. Species may include flycatchers, Warbling Vireo, Gray Catbird, several warblers, Lazuli Bunting, and Black Headed Grosbeak. **12 person limit**

June 2 Saturday: Paradise Valley Driving Tour
Leader: Mitch Hurt
Contact: 406-223-4919 or wildbirdhunting@gmail.com
(Options for half to full day) Visit Paradise Valley birding hotspots with local guides – spring creeks, prairies/hillsides, and possibly as far as Dailey Lake. The diversity of habitat covered on the trip, along with it being near the peak of songbird migration, should yield a huge variety of birds. Early on this trip we will visit a bird banding station along the Yellowstone River. **Meet at Livingston Albertson's parking lot, northeast corner at 7:30 AM for car-pooling.**

June 3 Sunday: Spanish Creek
Leader: John Parker
Contact: 586-5863 or conundrumjp@gmail.com
(Until mid afternoon; moderately strenuous walking on forest trail, with several hundred foot elevation gain) This trip follows Spanish Creek through the Flying D Ranch, to the edge of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness. We will spend much of the morning birding along the road focusing on the grasslands and forest edges. Once at the trailhead there is an interesting juxtaposition of habitats, which support an interest mix of birds. In one direction the trail borders the wet willow riparian area along Spanish Creek, while going in the other direction, the trail climbs through dry open slopes. **12 person limit.**

June 5 Tuesday: Sourdough Nature Trail
Leader: Adele Pittendrigh
Contact: 599-5086 or Adele.pittendrigh@gmail.com
(4-5 hour easy walking) After leaving the MOR parking lot, this trip will begin at the Gardner Park entrance. The trail is an easy, level stroll following Sourdough Creek. This trip is at the peak of the breeding season so we should see and hear a variety of flycatchers, thrushes and warblers. Some of the neotropic birds nesting here are Northern Waterthrush, American Redstart, and Black-headed Grosbeak. **8 person limit.**

June 8-10: Please join us at the 2016 Montana Audubon Bird Festival in Kalispell, MT.
Contact Montana Audubon at **(406) 443-3949** or go to **www.mtaudubon.org Come join the fun.**

2018 Sacajawea Audubon Spring Birding Series (cont.)

June 16 Saturday: Mission Creek
Leader: Robin Wolcott
Contact: 581-5418 or pajaros@wewolcotts.com
(Until mid-afternoon; mostly driving with light walking on roads) In the rolling prairie just east of Livingston we will seek McCown's Longspur and Long-billed Curlew. Along Little Mission Creek we will watch for riparian species, then search for residents of the spruce/fir forest. On our return along Mission Creek we could find a Cordilleran Flycatcher or a Golden Eagle. Over 130 species have been seen along this route including Sprague's Pipit, Upland Sandpiper, and Green-tailed Towhee. Spectacular views, abundant wild flowers, and wildlife make the trip through the northern foothills of the Absaroka Mountains a trip to remember. **After leaving Bozeman, we will reconvene at Albertson's parking lot in Livingston at 7:30 AM and then leave from there at 7:45 AM Car-pooling is essential. 14 person limit**

June 17 Sunday: Rocky Mountain Rd Bluebird Trail
co-Leader: Janne Hayward
Contact: 587-6124 or jannehayward@gmail.com
co-Leader: Lou Ann Harris
Contact: 600-3585 or montlou311@gmail.com
(1/2 day) Get up close and personal with Mountain Bluebirds. Join bluebirders Janne Hayward and Lou Ann Harris, as they check bluebird nest boxes and band adults and nestlings along Rocky Mountain Road. This is a rare opportunity to get an inside look at the lives of these amazing birds, including nest building, egg laying and raising young. **The participants on this trip will meet at 8:30 AM, at the north end of the Target parking lot.** Due to the sensitive nature of the work, we are limiting these field trips to **8 participants**.

June 23 Saturday: Rocky Creek
Leader: Billy Burton
Contact: 406-925-9405 or mtnhotspinger@gmail.com
(Until late morning, bring muck boots if you plan on getting close to the beaver dams) Many species of warblers can be viewed in the riparian willow/alder thickets, with possibilities of American Redstart and Lewis's Woodpecker. Mature cottonwoods offer a unique opportunity to view cavity nesters including Wood Ducks. Many different species of waterfowl, and other birds associated with the creek may also be present.

June 30 Saturday: Sixteen Mile Creek
Leader: Tom Forwood
Contact: 406-570-6432 or tforwood@mt.gov
email is preferred
Come see one of Gallatin County's hidden birding gems. Tucked away at the north end of the county is Sixteen Mile Creek. This remote drainage offers serene beauty and some fantastic bird life. Large numbers of Veerys, Lazuli Buntings, Spotted Towhees and even some Yellow-breasted Chats make the creek bottom their home. The trip will travel up to the Middle Fork Canyon where many Cordilleran Flycatchers call home and other mountain habitat species reside as well. The return trip usually figures extensive Common Nighthawk activity. This trip requires a bit of dirt road driving, though they are generally in good shape by this time. **We will meet at the NE corner of the Belgrade Albertson's parking lot at 4:00 PM and will be returning after dark, so plan to pack a to go meal or have an early dinner. Round-trip time will likely be 5+ hours. 15 person limit.**

Go Paperless for Birds!!!

You may be impressed by all the programs Sacajawea Audubon has to help the birds: removing burdock (a weed that catches birds with its Velcro-like burrs that don't let go), screening open vent pipes to save owls and other birds, supporting swan reintroduction, monitoring raptor migration, providing field trips and classes. We are improving and increasing our programs for birds and for people. Now we hope to accomplish a long-standing goal for Sacajawea Audubon: to reduce the number of paper copies of the newsletter we mail out.

You may be surprised to learn, as I was, that last year Sacajawea Audubon spent $3, 688 on printing and mailing newsletters. That's a lot of paper and a lot of money. It's 12% of Sacajawea's annual budget, and money we could spend on birds, education and conservation. We are urging all members who receive a paper newsletter in the mail to go paperless. You will still get your newsletter by email, and when you will receive the newsletter in color when you receive it electronically. We are aiming to reduce the number of mailed newsletters by 80%, which would allow us to spend almost $3000 more on programs. Please help and go paperless!

To go paperless please email louann@sacajaweaaudubon.org.

American Birding Association Principles of Birding Ethics

Everyone who enjoys birds and birding must always respect wildlife, its environment, and the rights of others. In any conflict of interest between birds and birders, the welfare of the birds and their environment comes first.

Code of Birding Ethics

1. Promote the welfare of birds and their environment.

1(a) Support the protection of important bird habitat.

1(b) To avoid stressing birds or exposing them to danger, exercise restraint and caution during observation, photography, sound recording, or filming.

*Limit the use of recordings and other methods of attracting birds, and never use such methods in heavily birded areas, or for attracting any species that is Threatened, Endangered, or of Special Concern, or is rare in your local area.

*Keep well back from nests and nesting colonies, roosts, display areas, and important feeding sites. In such sensitive areas, if there is a need for extended observation, filming, photography, or recording, try to use a blind or hide, and take advantage of natural cover.

*Use artificial light sparingly for filming or photography, especially for close-ups.

1(c) Before advertising the presence of a rare bird, evaluate the potential for disturbance to the bird, its surroundings, and other people in the area, and proceed only if access can be con-trolled, disturbance minimized, and permission has been obtained from private landowners. The sites of rare nesting birds should be divulged only to the proper conservation authorities.

1(d) Stay on roads, trails, and paths where they exist; otherwise keep habitat disturbance to a minimum.

2. Respect the law, and the rights of others.

2(a) Do not enter private property without the owner's explicit permission.

2(b) Follow all laws, rules, and regulations governing use of roads and public areas, both at home and abroad.

2(c) Practice common courtesy in contacts with other people. Your exemplary behavior will generate goodwill with birders and non-birders alike.

3. Ensure that feeders, nest structures, and other artificial bird environments are safe.

3(a) Keep dispensers, water, and food clean and free of decay or disease. It is important to feed birds continually during harsh weather.

3(b) Maintain and clean nest structures regularly.

3(c) If you are attracting birds to an area, ensure that birds are not exposed to predation from cats and other domestic animals, or to dangers posed by artificial hazards.

4. Group birding, whether organized or impromptu, requires special care.

Each individual in the group, in addition to the obligations spelled out in Items #1 and #2, has responsibilities as a Group Member.

4(a) Respect the interests, rights, and skills of fellow birders, as well as people participating in other legitimate outdoor activities. Freely share your knowledge and experience, except where code 1(c) applies. Be especially helpful to beginning birders.

4(b) If you witness unethical birding behavior, assess the situation, and intervene if you think it prudent. When interceding, inform the person(s) of the inappropriate action, and attempt, within reason, to have it stopped. If the behavior continues, document it, and notify appropriate individuals or organizations.

Group Leader Responsibilities [amateur and professional trips and tours]:

4(c) Be an exemplary ethical role model for the group. Teach through word and example.

4(d) Keep groups to a size that limits impact on the environment, and that does not interfere with others in the same area.

4(e) Ensure that everyone in the group knows of and practices this code

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The ABA Code of Birding Ethics may be freely reproduced for distribution/dissemination

Bird Notes

This year's first **Mountain Bluebird** was spotted February 28th along the Logan to Trident road, by Mary and John Griffith. In recent years, a late February first arrival date for Mountain Bluebirds has been typical for this corner of Montana. The bluebirds started arriving en mass during the moderate weather during the second week of March.

Mountain Bluebird

Sandhill Crane

Like bluebirds, the first **Sandhill Cranes** of the year are thrilling to hear and see. This year's first cranes were heard near Hamilton Road north of Bozeman, on March 1st by the participants on the Raptor Workshop field trip. Later that day, Tom Forwood heard a crane in Willow Creek. On March 10th, Hobart and Martha Collins had five Sandhill Cranes land in their yard near Four Corners.

While birding near Ennis Lake on March 11th, Audrey and Joel Evers discovered a **Greater White-fronted Goose**. This species is always an uncommon migrant through this area, but especially so during the spring migration. Local records for Greater White-fronted Goose indicate that you are at least three times more likely to see one during the fall migration.

Greater White-Fronted Goose

Western Screech Owl

On the night of March 7th George Kelly heard two **Great Gray Owls** calling from the slopes of the southern Bridger Mountains. During the night of March 12th, Kathryn Hiestand heard a **Western Screech Owl** calling from the cottonwoods along Hyalite Creek south of Bozeman. It's that time of year to get outside during the night and listen, you never know what might be in the neighborhood.

Sacajawea Audubon is sponsoring a slate of local spring trips, starting May 5th, with the always entertaining Headwaters State Park trip. And that same evening is your opportunity to search the Gallatin Valley for owls. With trips scheduled throughout the weeks of May and June, we hope you can join us on some of the field trips this spring.

-John Parker

Thank you to all our sharp-eyed birders for reporting your great sightings. Please report your Bird Sightings by the 9th of the month to John Parker at 586-5863 or birdsightings@sacajaweaaudubon.org

Science Inquiry Series

Museum of the Rockies
Tuesdays or Wednesdays at 7 pm
Sponsored by the Gallatin Valley Friends of the Sciences
Free to the public

Explore cutting edge science topics, their latest developments, and their relevance to Society--through speaker presentations followed by conversations between speaker and audience.

-Image Courtesy of David Sands

Apr 18 – **"Flying" Bacteria as Potential Rainmakers**
Certain plant-infecting bacteria that can be found circulating high in the atmosphere can also promote the formation of ice crystals needed to produce rain. **Dr. David Sands**, Professor of Plant Pathology at MSU, will discuss the possibilities of such "bioprecipitation" and its implications for potential mitigation of natural events including droughts and wildfires.

HELP US WELCOME BACK THE BIRDS!

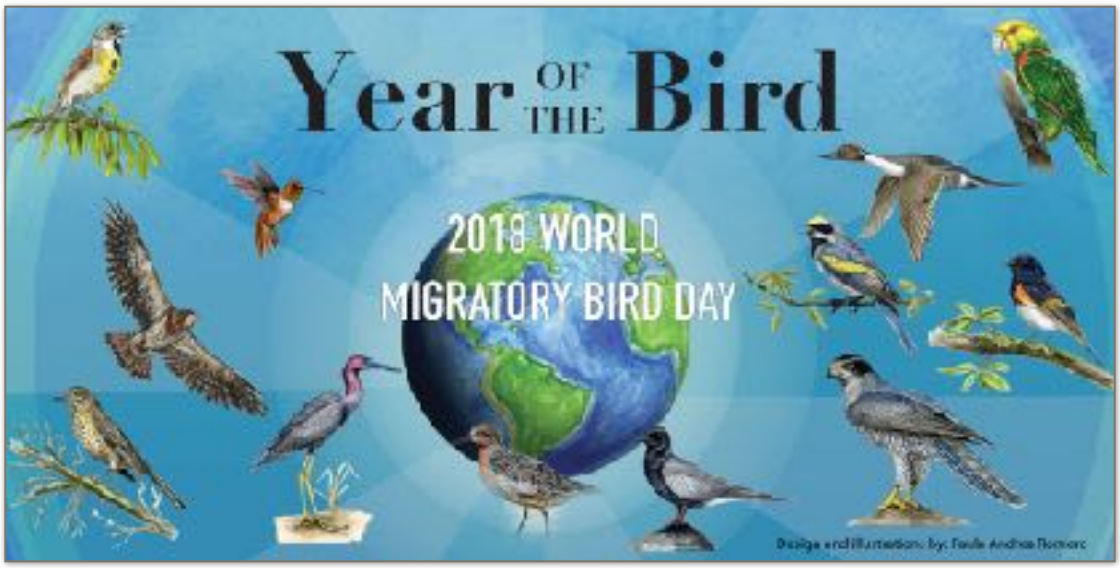
CELEBRATE WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY WITH SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY

It's Spring and the birds are back! They are everywhere, but where have they been for the winter? Birds migrate thousands of miles every year to spend winters in warmer climates and return in the Spring to start a family! We can get a peek into their remarkable journey and the places they now call home. Our neighborhoods, parks, trails and our own backyard!

International Migratory Bird Day was created 25 yrs ago by visionaries at the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Join nearly one of the most spectacular events in the Americas-**BIRD MIGRATION!**

World Migratory Bird Day (as it is now called) is celebrated in Canada, the US, Mexico, Central and South America and the Caribbean in protected areas, refuges, parks, museums, schools, zoos and right here at the Bozeman Library. Please help us kick off the inaugural WMBD Festival sponsored by SAS.

WHEN: May 12th, 2018
TIME: 10 AM - 2 PM
WHERE: Bozeman Public Library
ACTIVITIES: Guided Bird Hikes to the East Main Wetlands every hour. Bird "Parade" with costumes every hour to Lindley Park; "Build-a-Bird" Workshop with Sharon Glick; Migration Game; Interactive learning in the Bookmobile; Celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act; Learn how to promote bird conservation in your own backyard; Crafts and more.



The SAS Bookclub in April:

The Bone Museum: Travels in the Lost Worlds of Dinosaurs and Birds

The Bone Museum, by Wayne Grady is the last book of the season for the Sacajawea Audubon Book Group. The group will meet at the Hope Lutheran Church on April 18 from 4:00—5:15pm. If are new to the group and plan to participate, please let Adele Pittendrigh know. (adele.pittendrigh@gmail.com)

Have you caught the citizen science bug yet?

Well another opportunity to go "swifting" sure should help! Montana Audubon is partnering with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks throughout eastern Montana to discover just where our Chimney Swifts are active and breeding. Unlike searching for Black Swifts, Chimney Swifts are best surveyed in eastern Montana, in towns and near buildings with large chimneys! Surveys will occur for 30 minutes before and after sunset, during June and July, with observers being stationed for just a short time at selected chimneys.

If you'd like to participate in this project please think about what region in Montana you'd like to visit. Check out the FWP regional map (http://fwp.mt.gov/regions/) to figure that out. Surveys will be conducted in Regions 5, 6, and 7. We are preparing new survey maps, locations, and webpages right now, but it's never too soon to sign up.

And, even if you are unable to dedicate an evening to this survey, your Chimney Swift observations are valuable! Please email Amy Seaman with observations and include date, time, location of observation, weather information, and who made the observation. Please include a picture of the location or chimney as well as you could help discover a new nesting site worth monitoring.

If you'd like to participate in this project, please contact Amy (aseaman@mtaudubon.org or 406-210-9449).
This is a great excuse to get in your eastern Montana birding for the summer!

SW Montana Sage-Grouse "Lek" Tour

May 4-6, 2018 (3-days, 2-nights)

This Southwest Montana birding watching tour of sagebrush-steppe, grassland and wetland habitats in the Dillon area will be great fun for birders of all skill levels. This 2.5-day, 2-night guided trip will start before dawn in Grasshopper Valley to witness displaying male Greater Sage-Grouse at one of the largest breeding leks in Beaverhead County, near Bannack State Park. We will also be searching for other shrub-steppe songbirds (Sage & Brewer's Sparrow, Gray Flycatcher, Sage Thrasher, Vesper Sparrow & Loggerhead Shrike). Participants will also enjoy birding the alfalfa fields and grazing lands north of Dillon, with spectacular views of Bald & Golden Eagle, Prairie Falcon, Ferruginous Hawk (nesting), Long-billed Curlew, McCown's Longspur, Say's Phoebe, and possibly Burrowing Owl.

The trip will take you into the Pioneer Mountains along Birch Creek in search of various forest birds, including woodpeckers, jays, raptors and passerines. The wetlands and shorelines of Clark Canyon Reservoir will provide good views of a great many waterbirds, such as ducks, loons, grebes, pelicans and shorebirds. In addition to the birding, we will explore historic Bannack ghost town, which was a booming mining town beginning in the early 1860's. **$475/person (Non-SAS members $525)**

To register and for more information, contact Steve Hoffman at Steve@merlinbirding.com or (406) 461-5714

wings MONTANA AUDUBON across the big sky

June 8th through 10th

Kalispell, Montana

The annual Montana Audubon Bird Festival is fast approaching! Please register early by mailing the form included in the registration brochure or by visiting www.mtaudubon.org. If registering online, please only choose one field trip per day as the system will not allow you to register for a trip that is full; if registering by mail, be sure to include 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices.

Rooms have been blocked at the Kalispell Red Lion Inn. Call 406.751.5050 and mention you are attending the Montana Audubon bird festival to receive the discounted rate.

Each year Montana Audubon recognizes outstanding individuals who work for the conservation and protection of birds and other wildlife by presenting **Awards** at the Saturday evening banquet. We are currently seeking nominations in the following categories: Lifetime Achievement Award, Educator of the Year, Conservationist of the Year, Citizen Scientist of the Year, and Special Achievement Award. To make a nomination, download a nomination form at www.mtaudubon.org. We must receive nominations by May 18th, 2018. Mail completed forms to *Montana Audubon, PO Box 595, Helena, MT 59624*.

Register soon and join us in Kalispell this June! If you have further questions, please contact Montana Audubon at 406.443.3948 or festival coordinator Cathie Erickson at cerickson@mtaudubon.org.

Sacajawea Audubon Society Officers and Committee Chairs

President	Loreene Reid	600-6666	pres@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Vice President	Lou Ann Harris	600-3585	louann@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Treasurer	Janne Hayward	587-6124	treas@sacajawea audubon.org
Secretary	John Edwards	581-0877	sec@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Education Chair	Travis Kidd		traviskidd@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Field trips, Bird Count andBird Sightings	John Parker	586-5863	birdsightings@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Conservation Chair	Paulette Epple		paulettepple@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Hospitality/Coffee	Sherry Staub		hospitality@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Membership Records	**OPEN**		
Newsletter Ed./Design	Mary Cloud Ammons	600-0301	newsletter@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Program Chair	Carl Roth		programs@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Publicity Chair	**OPEN**		
Chapter Rep. to State			
Webmaster	Lou Ann Harris	600-3585	louann@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Website Updates	Stephanie Nelson	587-3052	stephanienelson@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Audubon Adventures	Hillary Johnson		audubonadventures@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Facebook	Lou Ann Harris		louann@sacajaweaaudubon.org

Board members	Chris Nixon	chrisfnixon@sacajaweaaudubon.org
	Travis Kidd	traviskidd@sacajaweaaudubon.org
	Billy Burton	billyburton@sacajaweaaudubon.org

Honorary Board Member Peter Norlander

Sacajawea Audubon Society
P.O. Box 1711
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Mailing Address

Sacajawea Audubon Society, affiliated with the National Audubon Society, meets on the second Monday of each month, October through May.

Sacajawea Audubon News is sent to all Sacajawea Audubon Society members monthly October through May. Deadline is the 20th of the month preceding the month articles will appear. Please send to: **Mary Cloud Ammons, 2742 E. Table Rock Road, Boise ID 83712** or **newsletter@sacajaweaaudubon.org**.

Change of Address:
Please notify membership@sacajaweaaudubon.org if your address changes**.** When you move or are away, newsletters are returned to us for an extra fee.

Find more at the **Sacajawea Audubon Society Website** at: http://www.sacajaweaaudubon.org/

Sacajawea Audubon Society

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Attn: Membership
P.O. Box 1711, Bozeman, MT 59771-1711

Montana Audubon: 406-443-3949; PO Box 595, Helena, MT 59624; mtaudubon@mtaudubon.org; www.mtaudubon.org For direct contact: norane@mtaudubon.org
Montana Bird Hotline: 406-721-9799 to report unusual or out-of-season birds

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