SacajaweaAudubonNews

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

Calendar at a Glance

Book Group June 2 Meeting Cancelled

The book group discussion for June 2 is cancelled. *Adventures in the Athropocene* will be the discussed in September.

The Sacajawea Audubon Society Annual Meeting

Monday May 9th, 2016 at 7pm
Hope Lutheran Church
2152 W. Graf Street in Bozeman

Come join us for Sacajawea Audubon Society Annual Meeting with our Sweet and Savory Social and Featured Sacajawea Audubon Program on **"Bluebirds, Burdock, Kestrel Nest Boxes & Raptor Survey"**. The meeting will include the Sweet and Savory social and potluck, and features 4 short presentations by SAS members on some of our conservation programs, followed by board elections. Please bring a sweet or savory dish to share.

Our featured programs and speakers will be:

Lou Ann Harris – Who doesn't love bluebirds? Sacajawea Audubon's Mountain Bluebird Trail citizen science project monitor over 100 boxes. A project SAS has sponsored since 1967.

Andy Epple – The Burdock eradication project. How a group of Sacajawea Audubon members with clippers started an annual event to eradicate burdock. This movement to eradicate burdock from our area trails and favorite recreation sites has thwart the spread of millions of burdock seeds without the use of chemicals.

Quinn Powell – Boy Scout Quinn Powell, with troop 676, partnered with Sacajawea Audubon in a kestrel nest box project for his Eagle Scout badge. He lead his scout troop in constructing 20 beautiful cedar kestrel boxes which he has donated to Sacajawea Audubon for our Kestrel Nest Box Project.

Steve Hoffman – Last fall marked the start of the 25th consecutive season of raptor migration research along the crest of the Bridger Mountains. Sacajawea Audubon, has partnered with Montana Audubon and HawkWatch International to assist with this scientific project.

The social and potluck will start at 6 p.m. with a short meeting followed by the program at 7 p.m.

For more info, contact Lou Ann Harris at 600-3585 or email montlou311@gmail.com

Everyone is welcome to join SAS and share their interest in birding and conservation. The Sacajawea Audubon Society meets the second Monday of the month (September through May) at 7:00 p.m., at the Hope Lutheran Church, 2152 W. Graf Street (off of South 19th) in Bozeman. We invite the public to attend our meetings and participate in our field trips and learn how you can get involved in one of our many conservation initiatives to help protect birds and wildlife of southwest Montana.

From the Nominations Committee, we nominate as follows:

President:	Loreene Reid
Vice-President:	Lou Ann Harris
Board members at large:	Chris Nixon
	Adele Pittendrigh
	John Edwards

Sacajawea Audubon 2016 Birdathon
Saturday, May 14 – Sunday, June 26, 2016

How does a Birdathon Work?

A Birdathon is similar to a walk-a-thon, but instead of collecting pledges per mile walked, you spend a great spring day outdoors with fellow birders, scanning skies, trees, shrubs, fields and water - even your backyard feeder - for birds. The challenge is to identify as many bird species as possible within a 24 hour period from May 14 – June 26, 2016. You collect pledges per bird species and the money raised benefits Southwestern Montana birds and other wildlife.

To add to the fun - by participating you could win prizes and awards. Check-out the Birdathon Dates, Rules and Award /Prices information sheets in the Birdathon Kit you can find online at www.sacajaweaaudubon.org or call 406 600-6666.

How Can You Participate in the Birdathon?

Participation is easier: You don't have to be an expert - some people even do Birdathons by counting the visitors to their feeder. Others cover dozens of miles in a day, racking up over 100 species. The key to Birdathon is to have fun!

- **Join a Team:** Contact the Birdathon Committee, we have birdathon teams that would love for you to join them. Even if you can't tell a goose from a grouse, we can teach you how. We also, have celebrity birder teams.
- **Form a Team:** Get a few of your birding friends together and schedule a 24 hour period to go birding. Contact us for a Birdathon Kit and register your team. *(see registration form for details)*
- **Take a Business "Bird Break":** Trade in your briefcase for binoculars, grab co-workers and count birds on your lunch hour! Contact us for more information on getting your business involved in Sacajawea Birdathon - becoming an event sponsor, creating a company team, or specific levels and benefits of event sponsorship.
- **Be a Backyard Birder:** Gather pledges and watch birds in your neighborhood park, or at your own backyard feeder. Compete for our "Sitting Duck" award. Contact us or go online at www.sacajaweaaudubon.org for a Birdathon Kit.
- **Sponsor a Team Member:** Support your favorite team or team participant by making a pledging.
- **Sponsor a Youth Team:** Support a group of young birders as a adult birder mentors them on a 6 hr. or 24 hr. birdathon. Recommended donation for a youth team is $50 or more.

The Birdathon Committee has maps, field guides, fundraising tips, and plenty of experience to share. Contact us at www.sacajaweaaudubon.org or 600-6666.

Awards & Prizes Categories

There Are Many Prizes – check out our website for more details

We will be giving out 12 Awards this year. They are.....

- **Most Species Identified:** This award recognizes the team that identifies the most species in a 24-hour period. All members of the team must see or hear 95% of the birds reported.
- **Most Money Raised:** This award recognizes the team that raises the highest total dollar amount in donations.
- **Most Pledges Collected:** This award recognizes the team that solicits the highest number of individual pledges.
- **Most Species in a Half Day:** This award recognizes the team that identifies the most species in a 6 hour period.
- **Best Bird Award:** This award recognizes the team that records the "best" bird as determined by an outside judge. This could be a rare bird for a specific habitat or a bird that is difficult to find in its habitat.
- **Raptor Award:** This award recognizes the team that sees the most Raptors on their Birdathon Day. Count all Hawks, Falcons, Eagles, Ospreys and Vultures.
- **Montana Audubon Award:** This award recognizes the team that sees the most Magpies on their Birdathon Day
- **Important Bird Area (IBA) Sighting Award:** This award recognizes the team that observes the most bird species in Montana IBAs. The Team Report submitted must indicate on which IBAs the birds were seen.
- **Sitting Duck Award:** This award is given to the team whose members identify the highest number of species while staying within an imaginary circle 200 feet in diameter during their count.
- **Carbon Neutral Award**: This award is given to the team who is the most energy efficient or has the smallest carbon footprint.
- **Mentor Award:** Each Team Leader will be entered for a prize.
- **Rookie Award:** If you're new to birdwatching you will be eligible for a prize at the awards celebration

Sacajawea Birdathon ....

… the most fun you'll ever have helping to protect Southwest Montana's natural heritage.

For Birdathon Kit or more information:
www.Sacajaweaaudubon.org or contact Loreene Reid at loreener@yahoo.com or 600-6666

Sacajawea Audubon Society

Win Early Bird Birdathon Prize

Register your team by Monday, May 9

Win a Full Registration to:
Montana Audubon Bird Festival
June 3-5, 2016 in Missoula, MT
Includes all meals - a $160 value

Birdathon 2016

Team Registration Form

To compete for the Early Bird Registration Prize, complete and return this form with $50 by May 9, 2016 to Birdathon Committee at PO Box 1711, Bozeman, MT 59715 or turning it in at our Annual Meeting Program on May 9, 2016.. All team members will be entered into a drawing to be awarded at Sacajawea Audubon Annual Meeting on May 9, 2016 at 6:00 pm

Team Name: _____ Team Leader: _____

Team Member Name	Email Address	Address	Phone	New Birdwatcher

For Birdathon Kit that includes; Rules, Awards, Prizes, How-to-Hints, Pledge Tracking Forms, and Other Info. go to: **www. sacajaweaaudubon.org**

Return this form with $50 registration fee to Birdathon Committee at PO Box 1711, Bozeman, MT 59715.

Thank you for participating in Birdathon 2016 and supporting Sacajawea Audubon's Educational and Conservation Programs

2016 Sacajawea Audubon Spring Birding Series

Lot's of birding trips still open! 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. For more information and a full description of field trips, please see the **Sacajawea Audubon Society Website** at: http://www.sacajaweaaudubon.org/

May 7 Saturday: Paradise Valley Driving Tour
Leader: Mitch Hurt
406-223-4919 or wildbirdhunting@gmail.com
(Options for half- to almost full day)

May 8 Sunday: Headwaters State Park
Leader: Martha Collins
586-9478 or 579-0506 or marthacoll@msn.com
(1/2 day trip; easy walking)

May 14 Saturday: Old Town Road and Milligan Canyon
Leader: Tom Forwood
570-6432 or fwptforwood@gmail.com
(1/2 day trip; mostly driving with light walking on roads)

May 14 Saturday: Sweet Grass County Prairie Bird Tour
Leader: Beth Madden 406-224-1012 or bethmadden64@gmail.com
(5-6 hour driving tour, wrap up by early-mid afternoon)

May 15 Sunday: Mount Ellis
Leader: John Parker 586-5863 or conundrumjp@gmail.com
(4 -5-hour trip; moderately strenuous walking 3 miles)

May 21 Saturday: Triple Tree Trail
Leader: Lou Ann Harris
600-3585 or montlou311@gmail.com
May 28 Saturday: Mission Creek
Leader: Robin Wolcott 581-5418 pajaros@wewolcotts.com
(Till mid-afternoon; mostly driving with light walking on roads)

June 3-5: Please join us at the 2016 Montana Audubon Bird Festival in Missoula, MT
Contact Montana Audubon at **(406) 443-3949** or go to **www.mtaudubon.org**. Come join the fun.

June 9 Thursday: Sourdough Nature Trail
Leader: Adele Pittendrigh
599-5086 or Adele.pittendrigh@gmail.com
(4-5 hour easy walking)

June 11 Saturday: Spanish Creek
Leader: John Parker,
586-5863 or conundrumjp@gmail.com
(4-5 hours; moderately strenuous walking on forest trail, with several hundred foot elevation gain)

June 12 Sunday: Rocky Mountain Rd Bluebird Trail
Leaders: Janne Hayward
587-6124 or jannehayward@juno.com Lou Ann Harris
600-3585 or montlou311@gmail.com
(1/2 day)
June 12 Sunday: Rocky Mountain Rd Bluebird Trail
Leaders: Janne Hayward 587-6124 jannehayward@juno.com , and Lou Ann Harris 600-3585 montlou311@gmail.com
(1/2 day)

June 18 Saturday: Kelly Canyon and Battle Ridge
Leaders: Ron and Cheryl Farmer 586-3987
songbird@wispwest.net
(1/2 day trip; driving and walking along gravel roads)

June 24 Friday: Montana's Nightjars at Lewis & Clark Caverns
Leader: Tom Forwood at 406-570-6432
fwptforwood@gmail.com
(2 1/2 hour; 2-3 mile walk)

June 25 Saturday: Cherry River and Middle Cottonwood
Leader: Brad Barth
406-640-2628 or barth.brad@gmail.com
(4-5 hours; moderate walking with some rocky terrain; 2 to 3 miles total)

Global Big Day -
May 14th-Participate in this global event and report your findings to ebird. For more information see link at http://ebird.org/globalbigday/

2016 SACAJAWEA AUDUBON BIRDING WORKSHOPS

All courses will be taught by Ashley Martens, an experienced birder, naturalist, and outdoor educator. Ashley's approach to teaching birding engages all of your senses to tune in to what you see, hear, and love about the wild birds around us. Contact Ashley at ashmartens@yahoo.com or 208-883-4998 for more information and to register for all classes detailed below.

INTERMEDIATE BIRDING WORKSHOP

This is the perfect class for birders who want to boost their birding skills up a notch and start studying more details of plumage, bird behaviors, and more sight and sound identification tips. We will spend some extra time on common families of birds in our region that can be challenging to identify such as warblers and sparrows. We'll meet 2 evenings in the classroom and take 2 field trips to hone our skills.

Classroom Sessions: Thurs eves **June 2 and 16**
6:30-8pm Bozeman Public Library
Field Trips: Saturday mornings **June 4 and 18**
7-10am Various Locations

Cost: $70 for Sacajawea Audubon members; $90 for non-members. Please make checks payable to "Sacajawea Audubon Society" and mail to Ashley Martens at 42 Hitching Post Rd., Bozeman, MT 59715.
Maximum 8 students. Supply lists will be provided upon registration.

INTRO TO BIRD LANGUAGE WORKSHOP

Birds are the true messengers of the forests. They can tell us if there's a fox hiding in the brush, a person about to run down the trail, a sharp-shinned hawk about to fly through. Come learn the ancient art of bird language in an introductory class taught by naturalist Ashley Martens. We'll learn the 5 voices of the birds as well as some alarm patterns. Then we'll head out for a short "bird sit" to look and listen for those voices. Bird language can inform us on a much deeper level what is going on in the forest. Awareness of bird language also inevitably leads to a deeper awareness of self. (How do birds respond when YOU move through the woods?)

Monday **June 6th** 6-8pm Sourdough Nature Trail (Gardner Park Trailhead).

Cost: Free for participants in our other workshops, $5-10 donation for others to support Sacajawea Audubon's growing educational programs.
Maximum 12 students. No supplies necessary.

-Ashley Martens
True Nature Education

Whooping Cranes: America's Symbol of Survival and Hope

Tuesday May 24th, 2016 at 7pm
Hope Lutheran Church
2152 W. Graf Street in Bozeman

How does a species reduced to a mere 21 birds in 1941 recover to over 600 today? Learn how this endangered species has faced unnatural hazards with natural instincts to survive. Become part of the world that we and cranes hope to coexist and thrive in.

Liz Smith is the Director of the International Crane Foundation's Texas Whooping Crane Program, and has been conducting important research on cranes and their habitat in coastal Texas for over 20 years. Liz continues to expand her research on sea-level rise and storm surge effects on coastal habitat change, and promoting community advocacy for conservation planning and coastal protection. These efforts are being undertaken with the specific goal of ensuring quality wintering habitat for the Whooping Crane as its' populations continue to increase.

Most of Liz's career has been focused on coastal Texas, and she has been nationally recognized in receiving the Coastal America Partnership Award for Restoration at Bahia Grande and Protection at Shamrock Island, EPA Award for Environmental Excellence in Wetlands, as well as regionally recognized in receiving the Conservation and Environmental Stewardship Award for Higher Education and Pathways to Success in Science Programs.

Important Bird Area Surveys

If you would like to put your birding skills to good use, join us on our next IBA surveys. We'd love your help!
June 18th – Headwaters IBA Contact Martha Collins – marthacoll@msn.com (579-0506)
June 29th – Madison Valley IBA Contact Paulette Epple – bigskyepples@msn.com (580-6186)

wings MONTANA AUDUBON across the big sky

June 3-5, 2016
Missoula, Montana

Step back in history and learn how Montana Audubon began as a fledgling organization 40 years ago; hear the highlights of these last 4 decades of conservation successes! What have they been doing since 1976 and who has been part of that journey?

Meet the authors of the long-awaited *Birds of Montana* at this year's festival and get your autographed copy! Hear Erick Greene as he brings you fascinating stories of how birds communicate to alert each other to danger and get a bird's-eye view of the Clark Fork watershed. Learn about Kate Davis' raptor education in the Bitterroot, as well as the important work of the American Prairie Reserve.

Five Valleys Audubon (FVAS) has been working with local schools to bring some "Art" to the Festival. They are offering an abundant variety of silent auction items, along with some great custom field trips. There are going to be some creative desserts for our Dessert Auction, so come prepared to bid to enjoy your beautiful dessert at the banquet.

FVAS has also done a fantastic job providing a great selection of field trips – but they are filling up fast, so please register as soon as possible. Register by mail, or online at www.mtaudubon.org. Also—be sure to reserve your rooms at the Holiday Inn Downtown by calling 1-406-721-8550 or 1-800-399-0408. (Be sure to mention that you are part of the Montana Audubon Bird Festival to get the group rate if you call. – Code MAS.)

Call the Montana Audubon office at (406) 443-3949 if you have any questions about the festival or registration.

Recognize Your Peers!

Each year Montana Audubon recognizes 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 from www.mtaudubon.org/about/awards.html. Nominations are due at the office by May 19, 2016. Mail completed forms to *Montana Audubon, PO Box 595, Helena MT 59624.*

Calling all Bird Lovers!!

Coming this spring Sacajawea Audubon will be offering guided bird walks to the developing Story Mill Community Park. Members of Sacajawea Audubon will lead these morning outings to see the many bird species that call the Story Mill area their home.

Dates are: Thursday mornings May 12, May 19, May 26, June 2, and June 9.
Time is 8-9:30 am

We will meet on Story Mill Rd south of the Mill Elevator, at the trailhead of the Story Mill Spur Trail. Please contact Martha to sign up: marthacoll@msn.com or call 579-0506. Bring your binoculars, your eyes and your ears for a unique birding experience. Space is limited!

Sacajawea Audubon Society
P.O. Box 1711
Bozeman, MT 59771-1711

Change Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid Bozeman. MT 59771
Permit No. 106

Mailing Address

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

Sacajawea Audubon News is sent to all Sacajawea Audubon Society members monthly September through May. Deadline is the 15th of the month preceding the month articles will appear. Please send to: **Mary Cloud Ammons, 503 Bozeman, Bozeman MT 59715** or **newsletter@sacajaweaaudubon.org**.

Change of Address: Please notify Karin Jennings at **587-2279** or **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 Officers and Committee Chairs

President	Loreene Reid	600-6666	pres@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Vice President	Lou Ann Harris	600-3585	louann@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Treasurer	Evelyn Acton	586-2258	treas@sacajawea audubon.org
Secretary	Paulette Epple	586-0932	sec@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Education Chair			
Field trips, Bird Count andBird Sightings	John Parker	586-5863	birdsightings@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Conservation Chair	Vickie Backus	600-2280	conservation@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Hospitality/Coffee	Jocelyn Allen	577-1246	hospitality@sacajaweaaudubon.or
Membership Records	Karin Jennings	587-2279	membership@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Newsletter Ed./Design	Mary Cloud Ammons	600-0301	newsletter@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Program Chair	**OPEN**		
Publicity Chair	**OPEN**		
Chapter Rep. to State	Mike Vivion		mikevivion@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Webmaster	Lou Ann Harris	600-3585	louann@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Audubon Adventures	Hillary Johnson		ralphhilary@gmail.com
Board members	Chris Nixon		christopherfnixon@yahoo.com
	Sharon Hanton		sharonhanton@sacajaweaaudubon.org
	Rick Sanders		ricksanders@sacajaweaaudubon.org
	Mike Vivion		mikevivion@sacajaweaaudubon.org
	Adele Pittendrigh		adelepittendrigh@sacajaweaaudubon.org
	John Edwards		johnedwards@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Honorary Board Member	Peter Norlander		norlander@q.com

Membership Application

- National, State and Chapter Audubon membership
- 6 issues of ***Audubon*** magazine
- Monthly SAS newsletter September through May
- Support of National & local Audubon conservation efforts

____ $20 Introductory membership
____ Additional donation $ _____*

***All additional donations go directly to your Sacajawea Audubon Chapter.**

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip:_____
Email: _____

____ I will go green: Please send me the Sacajawea Audubon newsletter by E-mail only. (Add email address above.)

Mail your check and application to:
Sacajawea Audubon Society
Attn: Membership
P.O Box 1711, Bozeman, MT 59771-1711 (C5ZN510Z)

I am interested in volunteering for:
____ Bird Surveys
____ Assist with educational activities
____ Invasive plant removal
____ Newsletter or website articles
____ Help with refreshments at meetings
____ Participate in chapter Birdathon

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

The Sacajawea Audubon Society Newsletter is Printed on 100% Recycled Paper