SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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

Oct 2nd - 4th	Bridger Raptor Fest
Oct 5th	SAS Board Meeting
Oct 12th	SAS Meeting and Program
Oct 15th	SAS Book Group
Oct 17th	Madison Valley IBA Bird Survey
Oct 24th	Ennis Lake Field Trip

SAS Book Group October Meeting

The SAS Book Group will discuss Scott Weidensaul's *Living on the Wind* on October 15 from 5:30-6:45pm. The group will meet at the Sola Cafe, 290 W. Kagy Blvd. in Bozeman.

Flights on the Wild Side
Life & Times of a Wildlife Biologist/Pilot in Alaska

Monday Oct 12th, 2015 at 7:00pm
Hope Lutheran Church
2152 W. Graf Street in Bozeman

Join Sacajawea Audubon for our October program, "Flights on the Wild Side - The Life and Times of a Wildlife Biologist/Pilot in Alaska", presented by SAS Board member, Mike Vivion. Mike will discuss the areas where he worked and flew, as well as some of the changes that took place during his 34 year career with the Fish & Wildlife Refuge Division.

Mike Vivion is a retired Wildlife Biologist/Airplane Pilot who worked on several National Wildlife Refuges over the course of his career. Twenty nine years of that career were spent in Alaska, where he was stationed on the Izembek, Kodiak and Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuges. Aerial census and research projects took him to all the other refuges in Alaska. He retired from the FWS in 2005 and taught at the University of Minnesota, Crookston for seven years. He and his wife Gina, a retired elementary school teacher, moved to Bozeman in 2013 and are happily retired.

Sacajawea Audubon Society meets every 2nd Monday of the month, Sept. through May at Hope Lutheran Church, 2152 West Graf. Meetings start at 7:00 p.m. and are free and open to the public.

October Field Trip
Ennis Lake Waterfowl

This should be near the peak time for migrating waterfowl. Ennis Lake is one of the premiere staging areas for migrating waterfowl in southwestern Montana. Thousands of ducks can be spread across the lake on any given day. As is typical with high concentrations of birds, there is always the possibility of a rarity being found. Bring a lunch as we'll be out until at least mid-afternoon. Also, remember to bring plenty of warm clothes as it will likely be cold and windy. Limit 16 people. For more information and to make reservations, call John Parker at 586-5863 or email at birdsightings@sacajaweaaudubon.org.

Citizen Science Opportunity

Come join other members of the Sacajawea Audubon Society for the next Madison Valley IBA survey this October 17th. For more information and to schedule car pools please contact Paulette Epple at bigskyepples@msn.com or call 406-580-6186 for details or to sign up to help.

Bird Notes

Broad-winged Hawk

The raptor migration heated up early this year, with higher than normal numbers being seen early in September at the Bridger Ridge hawkwatch site. On August 31st, while birding a loop through Gallatin and Madison counties Giff Beaton spotted a **Broad-winged Hawk**. Over 130 raptors were tallied during the trip including numerous American Kestrels, 2 Merlin, 1 Prairie Falcon, and 2 Peregrine Falcons.

A very late **Long-billed Curlew** was seen September 12th at Cottonwood Reservoir by Sam Koenen. Though curlews are one of the earliest shorebirds to arrive, and they are one of the earliest to leave Montana, with any curlew seen in September being notable.

A **Barn Owl** was observed east of Canyon Ferry Reservoir, August 14th by Alex Lamoreaux. Barn Owls are very rarely seen in this corner of Montana, with only two being recorded in the area previously.

Pileated Woodpecker

It's been quite a run of woodpeckers this past month for Tom Forwood. On August 4th Tom saw a **Lewis's Woodpecker** west of Four Corners. Then on September 9th while hiking the Bear Canyon trail east of Bozeman with Shannon Knodel they came across an **American Three-toed Woodpecker**.Tom and Shannon, along with several other people have been seeing **Pileated Woodpeckers** at several locations south and east of Bozeman. Of these three locally uncommon woodpeckers, probably the most notable was the American Three-toed Woodpecker, as it was discovered outside of a recently burned area.

From July on, DeeAnn and Tom Langel have been seeing an albino **Black-billed Magpie** around their property north of Manhattan. This magpie seems to fit right in with the rest of the flock. Most albinos do not survive for long as they make an easy target for birds of prey, but perhaps since this magpie is part of a very social group of birds it can beat the odds. If it makes it to winter it should blend right in.

While enjoying a day birding around the Livingston area September 6th, I was excited to find a **Blackpoll Warbler** at Mayor's Landing. Around the first of September, several people were able to see one or both of the **Chestnut-sided Warblers** that were frequenting the Gardner Park area in south Bozeman. Over the last several years Chestnut-sided Warblers have become nearly an annual occurrence in this area.

Blackpoll Warbler

-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

BRIDGER RAPTOR FESTIVAL
a migration celebration

Skiing for Raptors Raffle

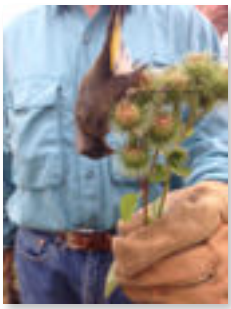
Be one of two winners of a Bridger Bowl Season Ski Pass (2015-2016 season). Support Bridger Mountains Raptor Count, the largest concentration of autumnal migrant Golden Eagles known in the lower 48. Help Sacajawea and Montana Audubon continue this important research project, in our very own Bridger Mountains. Raffle Ticket are $10 each or 6 for $50. Drawing Date: November 9, 2015 7:00PM Sacajawea Audubon Program Meeting at Hope Lutheran Church.
Each Ticket Value: $749

It's time for the 19th Annual Bridger Raptor Festival, **October 2nd, 3rd & 4th**at Bridger Bowl! Sacajawea Audubon is again co-hosting and will be offering several fun children's activities.

Friday night kicks off at the Museum of the Rockies with keynote speaker, Kate Davis, founder of Raptors of the Rockies. Kate's presentation will feature four live birds including a Golden Eagle named Nigel! Saturday and Sunday's events begin at 10 a.m. at both Saddle Peak and Jim Bridger Lodge at Bridger Bowl. There will be LOTS of family activities including: Build a Bird House, Binocular Target Blitz, Face Painting, Nature Journaling, Sketch a Bird, Raptor ID with Steve Hoffman, Wildlife Olympics, interpretive walks with MOSS, and live raptor presentations. There will be an up-to-date raptor count board at the Montana Audubon/Sacajawea Audubon booth for you to see what birds are being seen up at the Bridger Hawk Count site. Bridger Raptor Fest is FREE and a great family-friendly, community event. So grab the kids & grandkids, (but please no dogs) and come up to Bridger Raptor Fest!

For more information and festival schedule, go to: www.bridgerraptorfest.org/current_events

THANK YOU BURDOCK- REMOVAL VOLUNTEERS!



A big THANK YOU to all the volunteers who helped make our 2015 "Knock Out Burdock" campaign a great success! Over 45 thirty-gallon bags of burdock seed heads and 2500 pounds of whole burdock plants were removed from many of our favorite trails and birding hot spots and buried in the landfill. That is *hundreds of thousands of burdock seeds* that will not propagate, entangle birds, or spread by being caught in the fur of wildlife and dogs. Burdock is a short-lived biennial and is unable to reproduce by any other means than seeds. As we continue to deny the plants the ability to spread by seeds the stands of burdock will die out.

Thanks to all our incredibly hardworking volunteers who put in over 200 hours of work, clipping off seed heads and "Knocking Out Burdock": Vickie Backus, Glenda Barnes, Jim Belli, Susan Bilo, Norm Bishop, Diana Blank, Joy Carlough, Gina Carolan, Hobart and Martha Collins, Scott Dreblow, John Edwards, Andy and Paulette Epple, Stephen Filanowski, Leo Freeman, Barb Geller, Lou Ann Harris, Janne Hayward, Jim and Mary Keefer, Monica McNally, John Parker, BJ Plum, Gail Richardson, John Shellenberger, Julee Shepard, Alice Southworth and the crew at Missouri Headwaters State Park, Felix Spinelli, Scott and Holly Stratford, Sara Thane (from Senator Tester's office), Kevin and Becky Ward, Richard and Robin Wolcott, Sue who never gave her last name, and to all the others who are working on their own to stop the spread of burdock.

Thanks also to Owenhouse Ace Hardware that donated the sturdy paper bags for our use.

Art Gallery of a Citizen Artist

Among the SAS Board and Chair Members we have been privy to over six months worth of wonderful artwork from our long-time member and former president Peter Norlander. Peter's work conveys his deep love and knowledge of our feathered friends. Peter kindly agreed to having his artwork shared with the greater Sacajawea Audubon Society community. Here, we present some of this work and hope you enjoy

Sacajawea Audubon Society
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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
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	Mike Vivion		mikevivion@sacajaweaaudubon.org
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Field trips, Bird Count andBird Sightings	John Parker	586-5863	birdsightings@sacajaweaaudubon.org
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Hospitality/Coffee	Jocelyn Allen	577-1246	hospitality@sacajaweaaudubon.or
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Publicity Chair	**OPEN**		kehlert44@gmail.com
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Audubon Adventures	Hillary Johnson		ralphhilary@gmail.com

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

Membership Application

National Audubon Society
(Includes chapter membership)

- National, State and Chapter Audubon Membership
- National Audubon Magazine
- Monthly Sacajawea Audubon newsletter September through May by surface mail or E-mail
- Admission to National Audubon sanctuaries
- Support of National Audubon conservation efforts

Name: _____
Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ **Zip:**_____

Email: _____

_____ **$20 First Time Member**

_____ **I would like to receive the chapter newsletter by E-mail only.**

Mail your check and application to:

Sacajawea Audubon Society
Attn: Membership
P.O Box 1711, Bozeman, MT 597711711
(N51)