SEPTEMBER 2022

Sacajawea Audubon News

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

Monday, September 12th, 2022, at 6:30 PM, Hope Lutheran Church:

DinoChicken Project—Working Towards an Evolutionary Discovery

with Dana Rashid, PhD

The **DinoChicken Project**, started by paleontologist Jack Horner, focuses on bird evolution from Mesozoic dinosaurs. Birds are the only modern-day dinosaurs, and have undergone a number of changes in their evolutionary history. They went from having long tails to short, from toothed snouts to beaks, and from clawed wings to clawless wings better adapted for flight, among other changes. The project to date has concentrated on the tail, to better understand tail shortening and fusion of tail vertebrae. These features arose in the Cretaceous, and have contributed so greatly to bird ecological success that they have remained unchanged for over a hundred million years. Just how the bird tail came to its current state is actually a fascinating evolutionary story, and our discoveries now span not only dinosaur evolution but also human medical science. What we thought was a vastly shortened tail turns out to be more a shifting of the bird body plan. The mechanism responsible for tail fusion looks like bone fracture healing, revealing a novel role for the immune system in the development of the spine. Our work is also challenging the idea that all modern birds came from a single long-tailed ancestor. These studies, along with work from other laboratories, are building a more comprehensive view of avian evolution.

After finishing her Ph.D in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from UC Davis, Dr. Rashid came to Montana State University to pursue studies in biochemistry and developmental biology. For the last nine years, she has been working with Jack Horner on the DinoChicken Project, working to understand how birds evolved from their Mesozoic dinosaur ancestors. She now lives outside Bozeman with her husband, teenage twins, two golden doodles, a modern dinosaur budgy, and her own Cretaceous fossil hill in her backyard.

Dana Rashid, PhD

The in-person meeting on Monday, September 12th will be held at Hope Lutheran Church, 2152 W. Graf (off S. 19th). A social begins at 6:30pm; the program begins at 7:00pm. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own re-usable cup.

For virtual attendance please register for the September 12th 2022 Program Meeting at: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4692843595718218251. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Attendees—whether in person or virtual—are encouraged to share their bird sightings at this and every monthly program. Share the program on social media using the hashtags #sasbirds #sacaaudubon #evolution

SAS monthly programs are free and open to the public, featuring a special guest speaker the 2nd Monday of each month, September through May. For more information, contact Kyle Moon at programs@sacajaweaaudubon.org.

President's Message

Sacajawea Audubon Society (SAS) sends out newsletters to our membership and holds monthly meetings September through May of each year. We welcome you all back as we start the 2022/2023 SAS season and speaker series. It has been a busy summer with birding trips, the Birdathon, breeding bird surveys, weed pulls, wetland clean-ups, pollinator garden tours, a BioBlitz, and all sorts of activities by the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve (IAWP) Busy Beavers at the IAWP and other sites in the Gallatin watershed.

So don't be fooled into believing that SAS goes quiet over the summer just because there is no newsletter. In fact, the opposite is true. A lot of activities and projects can only be done during the summer. You will see details on some of those activities within this newsletter and in future issues. So check out all the details and visit our website so that you don't miss out on what is going on. Get out, experience the fall migration, and enjoy the last days of summer! Maybe we will run into you on the local trails and at **YOUR** IAWP!

WELCOME TO SAS'S NEWEST BOARD MEMBERS

SAS welcomes our two newest board members: Janet Winnie and Frank Marchak. Both were voted onto the board at our last membership meeting in May. They have both jumped right in and have been major contributors and leaders in SAS's activities over the summer.

Frank Marchak is a professor at MSU and has also been a very active IAWP Busy Beaver for over a year. He has been instrumental in monitoring the piezometers at the wetland, and overseeing several Boy Scout projects at the IAWP including installation of the new photo stations and construction of Wood Duck boxes. He and several other board members helped construct the new storage shed at the IAWP so that we have onsite storage of chairs, tables, tents, and other equipment used for events at the site. Before the end of the summer, he and other volunteers will be constructing a pavilion at the IAWP to provide shade for workshops and events. Frank has been the lead on maintaining the beaver deceiver, which provides us some ability to limit the depth of water backed up by the beaver at the site.

Janet Winnie has been a long-time member of SAS and brings years of enthusiasm for birds, study of birds, and natural history education along with her intense interest in protecting our natural environment. Janet headed up the bird station at the recent BioBlitz at the IAWP and is helping organize the upcoming SAS Board Retreat.

SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Officers

President	Chris Nixon pres@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Vice President	John Edwards vicepres@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Treasurer (acting)	Loreene Reid treas@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Secretary	Emma Narotzky sec@sacajaweaaudubon.org

Board Members

Billy Burton	billyburton@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Aaron Clausen	aaronclausen@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Travis Kidd	education@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Frank Marchak	
Kyle Moon	programs@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Loreene Reid	loreener@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Vicki Saab	vickisaab@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Janet Winnie	

Activity Leaders

Education Chair	Travis Kidd education@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Conservation Co-Chairs	Paulette Epple conservation@sacajaweaaudubon.org Adele Pittendrigh adelep@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Field Trips, Bird Sightings	John Parker birdsightings@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Hospitality	Rebecca Himsl hospitality@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Membership	Loreene Reid membership@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Newsletter	Terri Narotzky newsletter@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Programs	Kyle Moon programs@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Website	**Looking for Volunteer** webmaster@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Social Media	**Looking for Volunteer** socialmedia@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Wetlands Preservation	Loreene Reid wetlands@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Book Club	Elisabeth Swanson & Hilary Johnson elsswa@gmail.com | ralphhilary@gmail.com
Big Sky Watershed/ AmeriCorp Member	Oakley Strausser oakleystrausser@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Newsletter Design	Amy Kelley Hoitsma aok@mcn.net

CONTROLLING NOXIOUS WEEDS WITHOUT TOXIC CHEMICALS

by Carla Hoopes with Kids In Action Initiative

On a spectacular sunny Saturday morning at the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve (IAWP), a dozen volunteers introduced a few hundred spotted knapweed root weevils into the Wetland on a designated study site. The introduction of *Cyphocleonus achates* adds a new approved biological control insect to the already present *Larinus sp.* These weevils feed on the seedheads and flowers of spotted knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*), reducing the negative impacts of this noxious weed that is established on the Wetland.

As part of a vegetation management priority for the IAWP to seek alternative solutions to reduce the amount of chemicals used on the Preserve, 22 IAWP Busy Beaver Volunteers and Sacajawea Audubon Society Board Members participated in a series of professional workshops in June, July, and August. The highlight of the workshops included hands-on access to live insects and local noxious weeds.

Todd Breitenfeldt of the Whitehall Project is a long-time science teacher and author of *Montana's Field Guide for the Biological Control of Weeds in Montana*, co-authored and edited by local and national biological control scientists and program leaders. Sacajawea Audubon Society, Gallatin Watershed Council, Montana Biological Control Coordination Project, Montana Noxious Weed Trust, and Kids in Action Initiative (bringing teachers, kids, and scientists together in real study sites) sponsored these IAWP Busy Beaver workshops.

A knapweed root weevil (Cyphocleonus achates) hugs Frank Marchak's fingers before participants released the weevils on spotted knapweed plants in the designated Wetland study site. Photo by by Carla Hoopes.

Todd Breitenfeldt shows IAWP Busy Beavers invasive weeds and their biological control agents during a Biological Control of Weeds in Montana workshop in June. Photo by Heather Priest.

Todd and his biocontrol crew used the second edition of the *Montana Field Guide* in the classroom and in the field at the IAWP. Participants experienced hands-on learning about natural enemies of invasive plants in the Bozeman area. Participants established a permanent biocontrol insect release site for spotted knapweed on the IAWP and took away a strong understanding of invasive plants at the Preserve and their natural insect biocontrols approved for release by the USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine program. Participants learned more about the role of weed biocontrol insects in the Preserve's overall plan for integrated plant management and conservation.

IAWP Busy Beaver volunteers will be part of an annual monitoring program to track changes in knapweed's negative impacts over the long-term. Weed biological control insects that exclusively attack established weeds on the Wetland reduce negative impacts on agriculture, water resources, economies, and human health.

SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY

INDRELAND AUDUBON WETLAND PRESERVE UPDATE: SEPT. 2022

HELP DOCUMENT CHANGES AT THE IAWP WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE

by Loreene Reid

This summer, volunteers installed four **Chronolog Photo Stations** at the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve (IAWP). Chronolog is an environmental photo-monitoring program whose mission is to engage communities with nature while recording important natural changes. Sacajawea Audubon Society (SAS) has partnered with Chronolog to assist with public participation to observe and photograph seasonal changes in ecological processes. Changes at the IAWP happen gradually; you can help document those changes by uploading a photo to the SAS Chronolog website.

Photo by Frank Marchak.

"The idea is for IAWP visitors to stop at a photo station, put their smartphone in the holder, and take a picture. The database creates a time lapse of the pictures taken at that location," explains, Frank Marchak, SAS Board Member and Wetland Preservation Project Member.

"We want the community to participate and get engaged with protecting wetlands in Bozeman. Getting people to go out to the IAWP and take photos will not only help us collect data, it will help them see and learn more about wetlands and other riparian places they walk past every day," stated Travis Kidd, IAWP Photo Station Project Lead and SAS Board Member.

Three of the photo stations are located along the old railroad berm trail:

SAS-102 Wood Duck: After restoration, this location will be more inviting to Wood Ducks.

SAS-103 Northern Harrier: This is the best view of the wetland—maybe that is why Northern Harriers have traditionally nested within view of this station.

SAS-104 Beaver Lodge: You have a great view of a beaver lodge and the damming of a culvert by beavers.

Eagle Scout Haylan Board (center) and Boy Scout Troop 0636 install photo station posts at the IAWP. Photo by Frank Marchak.

SAS-101 Historical Point is located at the southwest corner of the IAWP. The upland area is planned for a Nature Center. This overlooks the historical Milwaukee Railroad Trestle that was built in 1906.

Travis began this project in 2020 and was able to launch it this July with the help of Jake Rose, Chronolog; Rich McEldowney, Confluence, Inc.; Frank Marchak, SAS's Wetland Preservation Project; Glenniss Indreland; and Eagle Scout candidate Haylan Board of Boy Scout Troop 0636, who made and installed the photo station posts. To earn the rank of Eagle, a Life Scout must complete a meaningful service project to benefit his community while learning leadership skills. SAS is honored to have been selected by Haylan to sponsor his project. Haylan would like to thank members of Troop 0636 and their parents for all their support in making this project possible. He also thanks Kenyon Noble for donating all the project supplies.

To keep up with happenings at the wetlands, check out Bozemanwetlands.org. If you would like a tour of the IAWP, email: wetlands@sacajaweaaudubon.org

BUSY BEAVERS UPDATE

by Heather Priest

The IAWP Busy Beavers have had a busy volunteer season thus far, and there is still plenty of summer left! Currently, the volunteer team stands at 72 volunteers, with 42 returning members and 30 new recruits for the 2022 season. Participants have been involved in a variety of events, including weekly groundwater monitoring, tree plantings, rain garden installation, shed building, weed pulls, avian point counts, watershed cleanups, educational events, and more! Volunteers also participated in a wide variety of educational workshops, including topics such as mitigation banking, water rights in Montana, biological control of weeds in Montana, and how to assess culverts to help our native trout populations. The season is not over yet! Please see the list of upcoming events in the box at right.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Annual River Cleanup and GWC Annual Meeting:

Saturday, September 10th, 2pm–4pm followed by a celebration at Story Mill Community Park at 5pm. Annual Meeting to begin at 6pm.

Septic in Gallatin Valley Workshop led by the Gallatin Local Water Quality District:

Monday, October 24th at 5:30pm, location TBD.

If you would you like to become an IAWP Busy Beaver, contact Heather at heather@gallatinwatershedcouncil.org. We would love to have you on the team!

IAWP Busy Beavers are trained to measure groundwater in April. Groundwater is measured weekly to help influence the enhancement of the IAWP. Photo by Heather Priest.

2022 Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve BioBlitz

by Oakley Strausser

Citizen Science plays an important role in the study of nature across the world, including in Gallatin County. To become a citizen scientist, you do not need a formal degree—just a passion for the outdoors and a willingness to get your hands dirty! The helping hands of these community volunteers adds to a scientific database that would otherwise not exist.

If you are wondering what a citizen scientist looks like, you may ask yourself if you have taken part in any of SAS's projects like the Christmas Bird Count or the American Kestrel Project. If so, then you are a citizen scientist! The Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve (IAWP) Busy Beavers, a volunteer team co-run by the Sacajawea Audubon Society (SAS) and the Gallatin Watershed Council, is another program that we recommend getting involved with if you are looking to learn skills related to conservation and enhancing the IAWP.

On Saturday, July 23rd, community members gathered at the IAWP to kick-off a new citizen science project. Funded by the DNRC's Watershed Management Grant, the goal of the **2022 IAWP BioBlitz** was to provide a fun interactive learning experience for our participants, while also creating an ecological snapshot of the wetland that SAS can use to monitor it through the future. We gathered our own Board Member Aaron Clausen for botany; Nick Banish from the Water Quality District to teach about hydrology and macroinvertebrates; and Master Naturalist Cedar Mathers-Winn to teach tracks and signs of mammals found on the wetlands. Our new

Board Member Janet Winnie speaking about birding at the IAWP. Listening are Ronan Donovan, Nick Banish, Patricia Leffingwell, Julie Fathy, Loreene Reid, Jennifer Abbot, Rob Malo, and Kessie Strausser. Photo by Oakley Strausser.

Board Member Aaron Clausen discussing plant species with participants; Kale Hesford, Rochelle Hesford, Kessie Strausser, and Ronan Donovan. Photo by Oakley Strausser.

Board Member Janet Winnie gave us tips and tricks on birding. Despite the heat, participants were ready to soak in information and explore the urban wetland oasis. We ventured into the wetland and, using National Geographic's observation tracking app **iNaturalist**, gathered over 60 new observations.

A tadpole at the IAWP. Photo by Oakley Strausser.

Curious about how to get involved? You can become a citizen scientist too! The IAWP iNaturalist Project can be added to by anyone at any time. Download iNaturalist then head out to the wetland and upload observations. If you are unsure of the ID of a plant or animal, upload a picture of it and others can suggest IDs. You can also take pictures with your camera and upload them at home later. Observations within the geographical area of the wetland will automatically appear on our project page, where you can view everyone's uploads. We are currently at over 180 observations, and counting!

Visit the IAWP's iNaturalist project page at: bit.ly/iNaturalistProject

The Garden Buzz: Attracting Bees and Birds

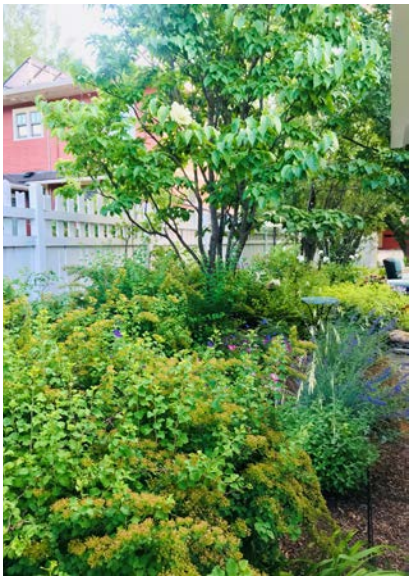
by Paulette Epple

This summer, Sacajawea Audubon Society and four avid gardeners hosted **Bird-Friendly Garden Tours** in two special gardens in the heart of Bozeman. Both gardens have been transformed from mostly lawn to astonishingly beautiful habitats for birds and pollinators.

The first garden was created by Casey Delphia and Justin Runyon. Both are entomologists who study insect pollinators. They started their garden transformation in 2016, and six years later they have a splendid display of flowers that attract a variety of bees and birds. Participants had a lot of questions about bees and how to attract them. Delphia and Runyon answered questions and demonstrated how to make bee houses with tubes of various sizes for the cavity-nesting native bees and leave small areas of bare ground in the garden for the ground-nesting bees.

Their favorite plants for attracting bees and birds are Joe Pye weed, Sticky geranium, Showy goldeneye, Scottish harebell, Missouri goldenrod, monarda, Maximillian sunflower, soapwort, and an extensive collection of penstemons, including Rocky Mountain penstemon.

Mel Frost and Jim Madden began the transformation of their yard in 2005. They got rid of the lawn and started planting to create a garden full of textures and colors that change with the seasons. Birds love different levels of foliage in their environment.



The inviting garden of Mel Frost and Jim Madden. Photo by Paulette Epple.

Frost and Madden planted a variety of trees, shrubs, and plants that create different habitat levels throughout the garden. The garden is full of flowers and vegetables and invites human visitors to sit, relax, and enjoy.

Their favorite plants for attracting birds and pollinators are hydrangea, Cranesbill geraniums, roses, Lady's mantle, catmint, and lavender, plus monarda and salvia to attract hummingbirds. Some of the birds that have appeared in their garden are Sharp-shinned Hawk, Turkey Vulture, Blue Jay, Common Redpoll, Cedar Waxwing, Western Tanager, Dark-eyed Junco, and Pine Siskin.

Many thanks to our gardener hosts for an inspiring and informative evening! Watch for more bird-friendly garden tours in the future.

Casey Delphia, entomologist at MSU, teaches us about the needs of native bees. Photo by Paulette Epple.

SACAJAWEA AUDUBON LAUNCHES 31ST CONSECUTIVE FALL SEASON OF RAPTOR MIGRATION COUNTS ATOP BRIDGER BOWL

by Steve Hoffman, Project Coordinator

The Sacajawea Audubon Society (SAS) celebrates the start of the 31st consecutive annual **Bridger Raptor Migration Count.** Luisa Frankenburg, Joshua Jaeger, and Jessica Lewis have been recruited as the three official, season-long observers for the fall 2022 migration season. They will be documenting all raptors migrating along the crest of the Bridger Ridge—above Bridger Bowl Ski Area—from 27 August through 31 October, 2022.

Luisa has done extensive raptor rehabilitation work at the Teton Raptor Center (based in Jackson, WY). Josh has conducted waterfowl (and some raptor) migration counts at the Mackinaw Straits Hawk Watch in Michigan. Jessica conducted her college Capstone Research Project on raptors (near Arcata, CA). All three individuals have tremendous passion and enthusiasm for raptor research and conservation.

The primary goals of the Bridger Project are to: a) assess the status and long-term trends of Golden Eagles and other migrant raptor species using this Rocky Mountain flyway; and b) monitor landscape-level environmental changes using these widespread, apex predators as valuable barometers of ecological health.

SAS is partnering with HawkWatch International (HWI) to continue this critically important project. HWI initiated these science-based, season-long counts in 1992. A total of 17 raptor species are recorded each season, including Golden and Bald eagles, Sharp-shinned and Cooper's hawks, Red-tailed and Rough-legged hawks, Northern Harriers, Northern Goshawks, American Kestrels, Turkey Vultures, and Ospreys as well as Peregrine and Prairie falcons and several other raptor species. These migrants originate primarily from breeding areas throughout the U.S. Pacific Northwest, western Canada, and Alaska. Over-winter destinations include a wide range of latitudes (varying by species and breeding origins), from the American West and Mexico to Central and South America.

Golden Eagle Count Trends

Autumn Golden Eagle counts in the Bridger Range have generally totaled from 1,000 to 1,800 per season, with up to 150 or more tallied on a single migration day (maximum Golden Eagle numbers are generally observed during the first 2–3 weeks of October). However, it is noteworthy that autumn migration counts of Golden Eagles at this and other western sites have shown significant declines, particularly from 2000-2010.

Importantly, during the most recent decade Golden Eagle counts seem to have stabilized. The cause of the long-term Golden Eagle decline is not fully understood; our Bridger findings—and counts conducted elsewhere in the western U.S.—have inspired in-depth Golden Eagle research conducted by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service across the western United States and Alaska.

Mark your Calendar for the

BRIDGER RAPTOR FESTIVAL

October 7,8 & 9, 2022 *at the* **Bridger Bowl Ski area**

Details at **https://bridgerraptorfest.com/**

Live raptors on site so please, **NO DOGS**.

Sub-adult Golden Eagle photo by Kyle Dudgeon.

Raptor Viewing Tips for the Bridgers

The best overall raptor viewing atop the Bridgers is from mid-September through mid-October. The general public is invited to join Luisa, Josh, and Jessica to witness one of nature's most spectacular phenomena as these majestic birds migrate south over the Bridgers!

Volunteer observers are always needed to help conduct these counts. It is a strenuous 1.5–2 hour hike to the observation point (2,000-ft. elevation gain). Anyone wishing to volunteer should contact Steve Hoffman at swhoffman0322@gmail.com or **406-461-5714**. Visit hawkcount.org or sacajaweaaudubon.org to obtain the daily count totals.

Project Funding

It is always a challenge to find support for our long-term Bridger raptor population monitoring efforts. The 2022 budget for this important work is $17,000. Contributions in any amount are greatly appreciated!! Please send your check with **Bridger Raptor Count** in the memo line to:

Sacajawea Audubon Society, PO Box 1711, Bozeman, MT 59771

THANK YOU!!

"Birds In Art" Exhibit

September 15–December 15, 2022

BAM
BOZEMAN ART MUSEUM

The Bozeman Art Museum will host a major national show from the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum. This accumulation of 50 paintings and 40 sculptures will showcase selections from over the years.

Since 1976, the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum has organized **Birds in Art** annually, seeking to present the very best contemporary artistic interpretations of birds and related subject matter.

FREE ADMISSION

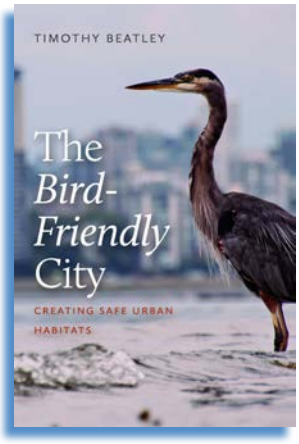
Bozeman Art Museum, 2612 W. Main, Suite B
bozemanartmuseum.org

BAM logo & example of art images courtesy of BAM

Visit sacajaweaaudubon.org for upcoming details on SAS's collaborative event (TBD) in association with this exhibit.

SAS Book Club News

Hello and welcome to a new season of reading about birds. We welcome new and returning members. You are welcome to come join us even if you have not read the book and would just like to hear about it. We will meet both in person and virtually this fall on **the third Wednesday of each month** (except December) from **6:30 to 7:45pm** at Hope Lutheran Church on Graf. You can learn about meeting virtually by contacting our tech savvy co-leader, Elisabeth Swanson, at elsswa@gmail.com. Elisabeth can also put you on our email list. Hilary Johnson (ralphhilary@gmail.com), our other co-leader, is working on being more tech savvy.



The Bird Friendly City: Creating Safe Urban Habitats by Timothy Beatley is our September 21st selection. In this book, Timothy Beatley, a longtime advocate for intertwining the built and natural environments, takes readers on a global tour of cities that are reinventing the status quo with birds in mind. Efforts span a fascinating breadth of approaches: public education, urban planning and design, habitat restoration, architecture, art, civil disobedience, and more. Beatley shares empowering examples, including: advocates for "catios" (letting your cat enjoy fresh air and not a bird), a public relations campaign for vultures, and innovations in building design that prevent bird strikes aesthetically.

You will finish reading, motivated to implement and advocate for bird-friendly changes to make our urban environments more welcoming to many bird species.

The Reading List for the Rest of the Year:

Oct. 19: *The Invention of Nature: Alexander Humboldt's New World* by Andrea Wulf

Nov. 16: *Birds: Masters of Air, Land, and Water* by Tom Murphy, local photographer and writer

December: No meeting

Jan. 18: *Beloved Beasts: Fighting for Life in an Age of Extinction* by Michelle Nijhuis

Feb. 15: *The Bird Way: A New Look at How Birds Talk, Work, Play, Parent and Think* by Jennifer Ackerman

Mar. 15: *The Secret Perfume of Birds: Uncovering the Science of Avian Scent* by Danielle J. Whittaker

Apr. 19: *Owls of the Eastern Ice: A Quest to Find and Save the World's Largest Owl* by Jonathan C. Slaght

We hope you can join us!

August Tjernagel, a 9-year-old Sacajawea Audubon Society member, Busy Beaver volunteer, Cub Scout, bird-lover, and woodworker (see article on next page) is offering:

Hand-crafted Birdhouses for Sale!

The **Chickadee birdhouse** is constructed from untreated lumber using a pattern from the Sacajawea Audubon Society

The **Mountain Bluebird birdhouse** is constructed with untreated lumber using a pattern from the North American Bluebird Society

❊❊ ❊ ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY SEPTEMBER 23, 2022 ❊❊❊

PLACE YOUR ORDER

There are two ways to place your order:

1. Email August's mom, Kelsi, at kelsiturnerwrites@gmail.com to place your order and/or ask any questions. When placing your order, please include your **name**, **email address**, and **phone number**. Also include the type(s) of birdhouse(s) you'd like (chickadee and/or bluebird) and the number of birdhouses you'd like.
2. Alternately, you may turn in the following completed form at the September SAS meeting.

Full Name:_____

Email:_____ **Phone number:**_____

PAYMENT: Cash or check is due upon receipt of your birdhouse(s).

PICK-UP YOUR BIRDHOUSE! Birdhouses will be available for pick-up at the SAS meeting at 7pm Monday, October 10th at Hope Lutheran Church, or by contacting August's mom and creating an alternate plan.

Thank you for providing homes for birds and for supporting August's burgeoning interests and skills!

WE APPRECIATE YOU!

Birdhouse Type	Number of Birdhouses	Price per Birdhouse	TOTAL
Chickadee birdhouse	_____ X	$26	= $_____
Mountain Bluebird birdhouse	_____ X	$38	= $_____
			Grand Total $_____

SAS MEMBER PROFILE: August Tjernagel

August Tjernagel is a 9-year-old Sacajawea Audubon Society member, Busy Beaver volunteer, Cub Scout, bird-lover, woodworker (he especially likes making birdhouses and boats), guitar-player, fencer, fisherman, snowshoeing enthusiast, potter, reader and mountain-biker. He is happiest when he is outside, playing in and near water.

He started volunteering with the Busy Beavers in the summer of 2021 at the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve (IAWP) with his mom. He monitors the piezometers and wells, pulls weeds, and collects trash as part of the seasonal watershed cleanups.

He volunteers because he "can help the environment, the wetlands, the animals, and I get to be with my friends who like to do that, too." Volunteering at the IAWP helps him feel more connected to the earth: "I loved getting deep into the burdock bushes to cut them down."

When he collects trash, he "gets to be out in nature and go out to places where no one else really gets to be. I see all kinds of animals. I always hope to see beavers and ducks and geese." This spring when he collected trash at the IAWP it was "like a nursery for all the baby animals," he said.

He's also had the chance to follow the Bluebird Trail with Lou Ann Harris and help band kestrels with Terri Narotzky and Paulette Epple. "They always let me help. It is so fun to be by the wild birds. I like how the birds are wild—how they are themselves," said August.

He makes birdhouses for his friends and for his family because "I like making safe homes for wild birds without taming them." He's made nest boxes for Barred Owls, kestrels, chickadees, and Mountain Bluebirds. "I even made my mom a bee box," he said.

August rolls an old tire out of the IAWP at the last Gallatin Watershed Cleanup. Photo by Kelsi Turner Tjernagel.

SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP 2022

Individual or Family | January–December 2022

❒ **Basic Membership** **$25**

❒ **Supporting Membership** **$50**
(Supporting local conservation & education projects)

❒ **Thank You for Considering an Additional Donation $**_____

❒ Bridger Raptor Study
❒ Education Projects
❒ Story Mill Park Bird Feeding Station
❒ Wetland Campaign
❒ Conservation Projects
❒ Wherever is Needed

Name _____

Address _____
(Street or PO Box)

_____
(City) *(State)* *(Zip)*

Phone (_____) _____

Email _____

Sacajawea Audubon Society Newsletter is sent by email. ❒ I would like a paper newsletter mailed to me.

We do not share your information except with National Audubon Society, so your contact information is safe with us. Please check this box ❒ *if you do* ***NOT*** *want your information shared with the National Audubon Society.*

❒ **YES! I have included another $20 to join National Audubon Society**

Mail this form and your check to: Sacajawea Audubon Society, Attn: Membership
PO Box 1711, Bozeman, MT 59771-1711

Thank you for your membership and donation. We look forward to birding with you!

Sacajawea Audubon Society
P.O. Box 1711
Bozeman, MT 59771-1771

Change Service Requested

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

Sacajawea Audubon Society's Monthly Newsletter is available electronically to all Sacajawea Audubon Society members, September through May.

Deadline for article submission is the 15th of the month preceding the month the articles will appear. Send articles electronically to newsletter@sacajaweaaudubon.org.

Change of Address: If you have a change of address or are away, please notify membership@sacajaweaaudubon.org. Undeliverable mailed newsletters are returned to us for an extra fee.

Find more at the **Sacajawea Audubon Society website** at sacajaweaaudubon.org

SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY WILL BE HIGHLIGHTED IN THE FALL 2022 ISSUE OF *OUTSIDE BOZEMAN* MAGAZINE!

FIELD TRIP: HARRISON RESERVOIR

Saturday, September 10, 2022

Trip Leader: John Parker

406-586-5863 | conundrumjp@gmail.com

Meet at 7:45am at the Museum of the Rockies. Carpool and leave at 8am.

The emphasis of this trip will be on waterfowl and shorebirds, while exploring all the shorelines and other habitats around Harrison Reservoir. September is the peak of the fall migration, so we will likely be making other stops on the way to and from Harrison Reservoir to look for other migrants. This trip will last until late afternoon, so bring a lunch and anything else you may need for a day in the field. Scopes will be especially useful on this trip, as many of the birds will be distant.

Participants limited to 10

To reserve a spot on the trip or for more information please contact the trip leader.

Three Greater Yellowlegs, one Lesser Yellowleg, and four Wilson's Phalarope. Photo by John Parker.