



SacajaweaAudubonNews

SACAJAWEA AUDUBON BUILDS ON AN INTEREST IN BIRDS TO PROMOTE THE CONSERVATION OF OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT THROUGH ENJOYMENT, EDUCATION AND ACTION.

May 2014

Calendar at a Glance

| | | | |
|--------------------|--|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| May 10th | International Migratory Bird Day | June 9th, 12th, 14th | Beginning Birding Workshop |
| May 10th-June 28th | SAS Spring Birding Series | June 26th, 28th | Beginning Birding by Ear Workshop |
| May 12th | SAS Meeting | June 27th-29th | MT Native Plant Society Meeting |
| May 17th-June 29th | Birdathon | July 2nd | Birdathon Awards Party |
| June 6th-8th | Wings Across the Big Sky Bird Festival | | |



Join SAS for the Annual Sweet and Savory Social!

Monday May 12th , 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Hope Lutheran Church

2152 W. Graf Street (off of South 19th) in Bozeman

Come join the annual Sacajawea Audubon Society Sweet and Savory Social. Everyone is welcome to join SAS and share their interest in birding and conservation. The meeting will include the Sweet and Savory Social, including treats provided by members and a "Show and Tell" time for sharing nature-related stories, poetry, pictures, or art.

Bozeman City Commission approves Story Mill Community Park!

A huge thank you to all who wrote letters in support of the park and offered testimony at the hearings! Because of all the hard work by the Trust for Public Lands, and the tremendous outpouring of support from the community, Story Mill Park will become a reality. On March 24, 2014, the Bozeman City Commission voted unanimously to allocate \$4.5 million of Trails, Open Space and Parks bond proceeds to the acquisition and improvement of 54 acres of parkland on Bozeman's Northeast side. Next up, a park master planning process will begin and wetlands restoration projects will get underway. For our part, Sacajawea Audubon will conduct a breeding bird survey, put up more nest boxes for swallows, wrens, and chickadees, and lead Friday morning bird walks on the property May 16th, May 30th, and June 13th. Check our website (www.sacajaweaaudubon.org) in May for details about these bird walks.

Join the Montana Native Plant Society

Fire and Ice, this year's Montana Native Plant Society's state meeting will be held June 27- 29 at Luccock Park Camp south of Livingston. Field trips are planned to explore surrounding areas that have been marked repeatedly by wildfire and glaciation and will include explorations of the Gallatin Petrified Forest, post-fire succession in the Paradise Valley, wetland habitats, medicinal plants, mushroom ecology and alpine regions. Included are guided activities for children on Saturday.

Roy Renkin, forest scientist from Yellowstone National Park, will be the evening's featured speaker. He will discuss post-fire plant community succession in the Greater Yellowstone.

For more details and to register visit www.mtnativeplants.org.

International Migratory Bird Day

May 10, 7:30 am - 3:00 pm

WHY BIRDS MATTER –

Come join the fun with the Yellowstone Ranger District and Livingston Adult Community Education! Learn more about our fine-feathered friends through field trips led by experts in avian resources. **Field trip is FREE and open to community members of all ages.**

Meet at the Yellowstone Ranger District, Livingston Office, 5242 Hwy 89 South. Bring binoculars, field guide, water/ snacks, and dress appropriately for walking and quiet observing. Times are approximate and depend on weather and participant level of interest.

For more information, call Rachel Feigley, Yellowstone District Wildlife Biologist, at 222-1892 or go to the Gallatin NF website, <http://www.fs.usda.gov/gallatin/> or check Livingston Adult Community Education website, www.livingstonace.org.

Calling all Volunteers!

There are so many wonderful activities to be involved in with Sacajawea Audubon:

Education Committee Chair – Duties: Determine overall community needs for environmental awareness and understanding within the scope of the Sacajawea Audubon's mission. The main focus of the education committee is to generate education programs for youth and adults in the schools and other community settings and events.

Membership Development Chair – Duties: work with Membership Data Chair and Hospitality Chair to promote membership cultivation, acquisition and welcome to the Chapter.

IBA Bird Surveys are a great way to get out birding for a morning and help to monitor the bird use on these valuable areas. Upcoming events include- Headwaters State Park IBA surveys: May 3rd and mid June (date TBA). Madison Valley IBA survey: June 25th. Contact Martha Collins at

marthacoll@msn.com to help with the Headwaters IBA surveys and contact Paulette Eppele at bigskyepples@msn.com to join the Madison IBA survey.

Wings Across the Big Sky Bird Festival: Over 300 people are expected to attend this festival and it does take a small army of volunteers to make it happen. Please contact Sharon Hanton at sharonh1313@gmail.com if you can help out with an hour or two of your time at the Festival.

War on Burdock: Join the battle this August to eradicate burdock from some of our favorite birding trails around Bozeman. This obnoxious weed has spiky seed heads that are a danger to songbirds, whose feathers get caught in their grip causing the birds to perish. Watch our website this summer to join in the fun of killing burdock! Or drop a note to Paulette at bigskyepples@msn.com to get on an email list for notifications of dates.

Birding Workshops

BEGINNING BIRDING in

Forest and Field

To help you answer all your birding questions and more, Sacajawea Audubon Society is offering a BEGINNING BIRDING WORKSHOP on June 10th, 13th, and 14th. Participants will be introduced to the basics of birding through 2 evening classroom sessions and 1 field trip. The course 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 figure out what you see, hear, and love about the wild birds around us.

Mon, June 9th & Thurs, June 12 6-8pm
Bozeman Public Library (small meeting room)

Saturday, June 14 7-10am
Sourdough Nature Trail (Goldenstein trailhead)

Cost: \$45 for Sacajawea Audubon members; \$55 for non-members. Please make checks payable to "Sacajawea Audubon Society" and mail to Sacajawea Audubon, P.O. Box 1711, Bozeman, MT 59771-1711.

Contact Ashley at ashmartens@yahoo.com or 208-883-4998 for more information and to register. Maximum 10 students. Supply lists will be provided upon registration.

BEGINNING BIRDING BY EAR in Forest and Field

A singing bird inspires you. Sometimes it's enough to simply enjoy the song, and sometimes you'd like to learn more. Who's singing? Why? It is a "call" instead of a "song?" What's the difference? In addition to the who and why, birds 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 to identify some common local birds by song and call, and learn the 5 voices of the birds as well as some alarm patterns.

Thurs, June 26th 6-8pm
Hope Lutheran Church

Saturday, June 28 7-10am
Sourdough Nature Trail (Goldenstein trailhead)

Cost: \$35 for Sacajawea Audubon members; \$45 for non-members. Please make checks payable to "Sacajawea Audubon Society" and mail to Sacajawea Audubon, P.O. Box 1711, Bozeman, MT 59771-1711

Contact Ashley at ashmartens@yahoo.com or 208-883-4998 for more information and to register. Maximum 10 students. Supply lists will be provided upon registration.

Hummingbirds at Home: Audubon's Newest Citizen Science Program

Watching hummingbirds is a favorite pastime for many birders and gardeners alike. These aerial wonders are fascinating and endearing as they flit about and feed on flowers and at feeders, visiting our yards and parks on their migration journeys during the spring.

Their small size belies their toughness – many hummingbirds migrate long distances and must eat several times their weight in nectar daily to stay alive. Their accelerated metabolism may keep hummingbirds moving at impressive speeds, but also means they live on the edge, consistently within hours of starving to death if they don't find food.

To live such high energy lifestyles hummingbirds must sync their migration and nesting times with the flowering of nectar-bearing plants. Climate change threatens to throw off this delicate balance, with unknown repercussions for hummingbirds. We know that scientific research will be essential for helping us understand how climate change is affecting hummingbirds and for learning what we can do about it. But it's not that simple. Collecting the necessary scientific data across large areas is difficult and costly.

Since the spring of 2013, over 9200 volunteers have shared over 26,000 observations of feeding hummingbirds with Audubon through our newest citizen science program, Hummingbirds at Home. The purpose of this innovative program is to gather data that will help us better understand

how changing flowering patterns and supplemental feeding by people relate to the timing of hummingbird migration and breeding success, and how hummingbirds are impacted by feeders, non-native nectar sources in gardens, shifting flowering times, and climate change.

Since nectar is a critical resource for hummingbirds, fueling their ability to breed after migration, Audubon's Hummingbirds at Home program asks people to document what flowering plants the hummingbirds are feeding on in their backyards as well as whether hummingbird feeders are supplied and used. The ultimate goal of Hummingbirds at Home will be to develop a series of region-specific recommendations to help hummingbird lovers make their gardens and "patches" better stocked with nutrient-rich nectar sources, especially during the critical post-migration and breeding seasons.

In this family-friendly program, participants log hummingbird sightings and the flowering plants or feeders they visit online and with free mobile technology or via desktop computers. Participants can record surveys of their yards, as well as logging how often hummingbirds visit their nectar foods. As sightings are reported, participants can also view hummingbird sightings on the website in near real time!

To learn more about this exciting citizen science project, go to www.hummingbirdsathome.org



Wings Across the Big Sky June 6-8, 2014 ~ Bozeman, Montana

IT IS NOT TOO LATE to register for **Montana Audubon's Wings Across the Big Sky Festival** in Bozeman, Montana on June 6-8, 2014. Please send in your print registration form, go online to www.mtaudubon.org and sign up, or call the Helena office (406.443.3949) and register! Checks can be made out to 'Montana Audubon' and can be mailed with registrations to: Montana Audubon, PO Box 595, Helena MT 59624. You may also email any questions to cerickson@mtaudubon.org or mtaudubon@mtaudubon.org.

We will be meeting at the **Best Western GranTree Inn** in Bozeman. We have available rooms blocked until May 20, 2014. Please call 1-800-624-5965 to reserve your room and be sure to mention that you are part of the Montana Audubon *Wings Across the Big Sky Festival*.

Sacajawea Audubon has planned a fun Friday night kickoff including an ever-popular bird identification event; then at the Saturday social hour prior to the banquet.

If you're a camper, consider staying in one of the many campgrounds near Bozeman. Check out the website at <http://www.allstays.com/Campgrounds/mt-bozeman-campgrounds.htm> for camping sites, both private and public. There is also camping at the Gallatin County Fairgrounds.

Check them out at [http://www.gallatin.mt.gov/Public Documents/GallatinCoMT Fairgrounds/FacilityRental/OpenCamping](http://www.gallatin.mt.gov/PublicDocuments/GallatinCoMTFairgrounds/FacilityRental/OpenCamping). Right across the main street from the hotel is a WalMart and they allow fee camping in their parking lot (no hook-up.)

We still have room for you on the **Field Trips** Saturday and Sunday, even though some of them have been filled. Call the Helena office and someone will be happy to help you choose an available fun trip.

We have a great variety of speakers for Saturday afternoon presentations. There will be six great talks - the challenge will be choosing which ones to attend!

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 23, 2014. Mail completed forms to *Montana Audubon, PO Box 595, Helena MT 59624*.

2014 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 a.m. and depart at 7:00 a.m. 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. 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 beginning birders to participate. Come have a good time and learn something new.

May 10: Headwaters State Park

Leader: Martha Collins, 586-9478 or 579-0506

(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 17: Mount Ellis

Leader: Audrey Evers, 218-742-7885 or 218- 742-4335

(4 -5-hour trip; moderately strenuous walking)

We will explore a variety of habitats including grassland, aspen meadow and conifer forest edge, while we look for early spring migrants. Some of the nesting species include Red-naped Sapsucker, Orange-crowned Warblers, White-crowned Sparrow, among others.

15 person limit.

May 24: Sourdough Nature Trail

Leader: Andrew Guttenberg 451-5427

(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 spring migration so we should see and hear a variety of flycatchers, thrushes and warblers. Some of the nesting neotropical birds nesting here are Northern Waterthrush, American Redstart, and Black-headed Grosbeak.

12 person limit.

May 31: Spanish Creek

Leader: John Parker, 586-5863

(5 hour trip; 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. At the trailhead there is an interesting juxtaposition of habitats. In one direction the trail borders the wet willow riparian area along Spanish Creek, where Willow Flycatchers and Lincoln's Sparrows nest. While

going in the other direction, the trail climbs through dry open slopes where you can expect to see Green-tailed Towhees, Brewer's Sparrows, and Lazuli Buntings. **12 person limit.**

June 6-8: Please join us at the 2014 Montana Audubon Bird Festival in Bozeman, MT.

Contact Montana Audubon at (406) 443-3949 or go to www.mtaudubon.org. Come join the fun.

June 14: Kelly Canyon

Leader: Ron Farmer, 586-3987

(driving and walking along gravel roads)

This trip passes through open fields, then climbs past dry juniper covered hillsides, mature wetlands, mixed woodlands, and eventually reaches into the conifer forest. Bluebirds, towhees, kingbirds, hummingbirds, warblers, grosbeaks, and tanagers are just a few of the species that we should see along this route. **Four car limit.**

June 21: Shields Valley

Leader: Robin Wolcott, 581-5418

(mostly driving with light walking on roads)

The Shields Valley offers good riparian habitat, sagebrush, prairie and grasslands, a farm pond, a marvelous marsh and a reservoir. There are good possibilities of encountering Sora and Virginia Rail, a chance for Sage Thrasher and Brewer's Sparrow and of course raptors, waterfowl and shorebirds. We will travel north to Cottonwood Reservoir for our final stop. This trip will last until early afternoon so plan to bring a lunch.

We will reconvene in Livingston under the Albertson's sign at 0730. We will depart promptly from there at 0745.

June 29: Rocky Mountain Road Bluebird Trail

Leader: Janne Hayward, 587-6124

(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. Due to the sensitive nature of the work, we are limiting this field trip to **6 participants**. Inclement weather will cancel the trip. If there is enough interest, a second trip will be added Monday, June 30th.

This summer, check the Sacajawea Audubon website (www.sacajaweaudubon.org) for leader's choice field trips in late July and August.

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 controlled, 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

2014 Birdathon

Saturday, May 17 – Sunday, June 29, 2014

Spring is here, which means it's time to call your favorite birders and register your birdathon team. Sacajawea Audubon Birdathon Committee would like to announce our 2014 Birdathon.

May 17 - First Day of Birdathon

June 29 - Last Day of Birdathons

June 30 - Team Reports and Pledge Forms Due

July 2 - Birdathon Award & Celebration Party

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 17 – June 29, 2014. 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 Rules and Prize & Award 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 easy! 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 the Birdathon is to have fun!

- **Join a Team**
- Contact the Birdathon Committee (600-6666). 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 pledge.

For Birdathon Kit or more information: maps, field guides, fundraising tips, and plenty of experience to share. Contact us at www.Sacajaweaaudubon.org or *contact Loreene Reid at loreener@yahoo.com or 600-6666.*

BIRDATHON AWARDS PARTY -July 2 at 7:00 pm, E. Gallatin Recreation Area . Awards & Prices for: Most Species, Most Pledges, Best Bird, Most Hawks, Most Magpies, the Sitting Duck, Most Species in an IBA, Carbon Neutral, Mentor & Rookie Awards and Most Money Raised

Sacajawea Birdathon

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

Time For Elections!

At the May 12th Annual Meeting Sacajawea Audubon will hold an election to fill five open positions on the Board. The Nominating Committee is presenting the following slate of nominees for the available positions:

- Loreene Reid - President
- Lou Ann Harris - Vice-President
- Chris Nixon - At-large Director
- Peter Norlander - At-large Director
- Jackie Wilson - At-large Director

These members have been serving in their respective positions for the past 2 years, and have agreed to serve again if elected. We appreciate their service and wholeheartedly nominate them for re-election!

Bird Notes

The **Eurasian Wigeon**, that was first seen at Central Park Pond on March 21st, was a very accommodating rarity. This male in breeding plumage lingered at the pond till at least April 2nd, and was seen by many birders from around this area. Along with the Eurasian Wigeon on April 2nd, Martha and Hobart Collins saw 3 **Snow Geese** at Central Park Pond. On March 31st, Jim Bennett got close looks at two adult and 2 cygnet Trumpeter Swans at the Cherry River ponds. The size of North America's largest bird was quite apparent as a Canada Goose swam past the swan family. A pair of **Chukars** has taken up residence in the New Hyalite View subdivision near the hospital in Bozeman. Matt Keefer has seen these apparent escapees on a couple of occasions during March and early April.

South of Bozeman, Judy Wilkes saw a pair of **Turkey Vultures** feeding on a deer carcass, on the exceptionally early date of March 17th. These were the first vultures seen in Montana this year, and the earliest ever recorded in our area. The pair of **Peregrine Falcons** returned to the cliffs at the Headwaters boat launch on April 5th. Martha and Hobart Collins watched as the Prairie Falcons that were already in residence repeatedly dove on the newly arrived Peregrines.

It was a good week early for Dave McWethy early in March. On March 8th, up Lick Creek south of Bozeman, Dave saw a **Northern Pygmy Owl**, and then two days later, while at Bohart Ranch in Bridger Canyon, he saw a **Pileated Woodpecker**. On April 1st, Mike Becker heard a Long-eared Owl calling close to his house near Harrison. The Beckers have had **Long-eared Owls** in the past, but this was the first time they've heard them in a couple of years.

On the morning of April 11th, I went over to Ennis Lake with Tom Forwood and Ben Pierce for a tour around the lake. The first major movement of shorebirds was definitely the highlight of the trip, as we saw 14 **Long-billed Curlews** between in the Jeffers area, and over 375 **American Avocets** on the mudflats at the east end of the lake.

Joan Ryshavy, who lives near the Gallatin River west of Belgrade, was thrilled to finally see an **American Dipper**, March 16th, on the stretch of river she often walks along. While out at the Three Forks ponds, with Karen Day and Carolyn York April 1st, Joan reports that they saw two dozen **Red-breasted Mergansers**, and a pair of **Osprey** on the nest platform east of the ponds. After that, they went over to the Headwaters boat launch and were treated to the lovely descending song of a **Canyon Wren**.

Early arriving **Say's Phoebe** was heard singing by Robin Wolcott, March 30th, from the cliffs at Headwaters State Park. Robin thought she may have heard the phoebe the previous week, at the same location. On March 16th, Dorrie Green had a frustratingly poor look at a flock of waxwings by her house in northwest Bozeman, and was determined to relocate the flock of over 100 birds. Later that morning Dorrie relocated the waxwings, and positively identified them as **Bohemian Waxwings**.

Thank you for all your sightings, and enjoy all the new birds of 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@sacajaweaudubon.org

Sacajawea Audubon Society Board Meeting, April 7, Abstract

President Loreene Reid's report: Martha Collins is resigning as Education Committee chair. A new chair is needed. Members for both our Education Committee and Conservation Committee are needed. An ad hoc committee for the Habitat Coalition Project has been created and will be chaired by Richard Keigley.

Nominations Committee: See the notification of Elections in this newsletter

Bridger Raptor Festival. The Board passed a motion to enter into an Understanding with Bridger Bowl to facilitate the success of the upcoming 2014 Bridger Raptor Festival, to be held October 3-5.

Montana Bird Festival (Bozeman, June 6-8). Montana Audubon (Helena) reports that registrations are going well for SAS's hosting of the event. Coordination of volunteers are under arrangement; T-shirts and water bottles with festival artwork will be available for purchase; PSAs are going out to radio stations; an informal bird calling contest will take place before the Saturday evening banquet.

Education: The recent Raptor ID Workshop-Field Trip filled quickly and was quite successful. Audubon Adventures needs a

coordinator for the 2014-2015 school year. Birding Classes: See the announcement in this newsletter

Conservation: SAS will be invited to help master plan the recently city-approved and funded Story Mill Community Park. A breeding bird survey, bird walks, burdock control, and the erection of more bird boxes were mentioned as desirable SAS projects. A motion to allot \$100 for bird box construction was approved.

Field Trips: See John Parker's list of Spring field trips printed in this *Newsletter*.

SAS representative to Montana Audubon: Sharon Hanton reports that next year's Bird Festival will be held in Helena. She reminds us that Montana Audubon has \$500 scholarships available for qualifying college students.

Birdathon: This year's dates are May 17th through June 29th. SAS members are urged to sign-up teams by May 16th for a chance to win an Early Bird Sign-up prize of a free 2014 bird festival registration.

New Business: Leo Freeman discussed the merits of SAS becoming a member of the Bozeman Chamber of Commerce. Montana Audubon is offering to share half of the cost. A motion to join the Chamber of Commerce for this year was approved.



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

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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 10th 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 Sally MacDonald, 223-9167 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/>

Mailing Address

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 | | treas@sacajawea audubon.org |
| Secretary | Paulette Epple | 586-0932 | sec@sacajaweaaudubon.org |
| Board members | Jackie Wilson | 599-0942 | jackiewilson@sacajaweaaudubon.org |
| | Chris Nixon | 544-4901 | christopherfnixon@yahoo.com |
| | Leo Freeman | 414-403-7943 | leofreeman@sacajaweaaudubon.org |
| | Peter Norlander | 222-4646 | norlander@q.com |
| | Richard Keigley | 582-5833 | richardkeigley@sacajaweaaudubon.org |
| | Jeff Safford | 587-3782 | jeffsafford@sacajaweaaudubon.org |
| | Martha Collins | 579-0506 | marthacoll@msn.com |
| Education Chair | John Parker | 586-5863 | birdsightings@sacajaweaaudubon.org |
| Field trips, Bird Count and Bird Sightings | Vickie Backus | 600-2280 | conservation@sacajaweaaudubon.org |
| Conservation Chair | Diane Gresham | 219-3543 | dgresham@bresnan.net |
| Hospitality / Coffee | Sally MacDonald | 223-9167 | membership@sacajaweaaudubon.org |
| Membership Records | Mary Cloud Ammons | 600-0301 | newsletter@sacajaweaaudubon.org |
| Newsletter Ed. / Design | Jackie Wilson | | programs@sacajaweaaudubon.org |
| Program Chair | Karen Ehlert | | kehlert44@gmail.com |
| Publicity Chair | Sharon Hanton | 586-9500 | |
| Chapter Rep. to State | Lou Ann Harris | 600-3585 | louann@sacajaweaaudubon.org |
| Webmaster | | | |

Montana Audubon: 406-443-3949; PO Box 595, Helena, MT 59624; mtaudubon@mtaudubon.org;
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