



Portneuf Valley Audubon Society News

May 2017, Vol. 44, #9

PVAS website: <http://pvaudubon.org>

Facebook: Portneuf Valley Audubon Society

PO Box 32, Pocatello, ID 83204-0032

May 25, Thursday, Program

Southeast Idaho Bird Migration

Photos by several, talk by Chuck Trost

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Marshall Public Library Community Room

Idaho State University Professor Emeritus of Ornithology Chuck Trost will discuss changes in shorebird migration on the mudflats of American Falls Reservoir. Numbers of species and individuals have decreased by more than 50 percent in the last 12 years at the reservoir. Trost feels this is due to the lack of midge larvae, which is caused by an increase in nutrients in the reservoir.

Sue Weeg and others will show slides of migrants. Light refreshments will be served.



Oriole at Roger Turner birdbath this spring. Photo by Roger Turner

May 20, Saturday, Field Trip

Market Lake Celebration

Market Lake celebration of International Migratory Bird Day. Plan to meet at the museum parking lot at 9 a.m. to carpool to the Ducks Unlimited facility north of Roberts. Several events are planned, including hamburgers for lunch. We hope to find a Blue-winged Teal for LaRue. We'll return at around 2 p.m.

To Carpool: Meet at 9 a.m. in the lower ISU Campus parking lot by the Bison Sculpture behind the Idaho Museum of Natural History Building (5th and Dillon).

FROM PVAS PRESIDENT, BARB NORTH...

Migration is progressing, and birds are moving. What are you seeing? I have a Red-naped Sapsucker that I can observe multiple times per day. There is a House Wren with a song larger than he is; Black-billed Magpies nesting, and Dark-eyed Juncos and Black-capped Chickadees singing and flying around. I am hoping that a Sage Thrasher moves into the sagebrush area nearby.

I enjoy open space like many of you. Taking care of our valued space, appreciating it, and sharing that appreciation with everyone we encounter, is so very important. We are educating through example; though there is plenty still to do to protect our planet and be an advocate for it.

Room to wander has a big role to play in our personal sense of wellness. The contentment we enjoy in life may be affected just by knowing that vast spaces are awaiting our thoughts. Other times, we may need to step into our valued space to let stress slide off and contentment take over. Maintaining our space contributes greatly to our contentment also. Consider the assistance we allow other species indirectly, when we save spaces for our contemplation. We are saving spaces for them to live also. Space that includes food, water, and shelter, the essential building blocks.

We can share our spaces with family and friends during our annual Birdathon-- Celebration of Birds and fundraiser on June 3rd. Choose your partners! Watch your feeder, walk your backyard, hike your favorite trail, or spend all 24 hours being outside searching for every species you can count. Cheer us on! Join the celebration of birds, help us raise money for our bird and conservation projects, for which we are deeply appreciated!

Please join us at this wonderful time of year and watch behavior or help someone discover how fun birding can be. Every opportunity to go out and observe is an opportunity to learn! Bring your lists to our Celebration Picnic on June 25th at the Mink Creek Group Site pavilion.

Well Wishes

PVAS wishes Jackie Johnson Maughan speedy recovery. We are hoping that she will be back to hiking before she knows it!

April 29 Field Trip Report: Cherry Springs

There were four of us traveling to Cherry Springs for an early season visit. We were short on variety, but we were rewarded by observing an Ovenbird! It stayed very close to the ground, but did not call. Everyone saw it well.

The chorus of singing from the other birds ended abruptly as the weather warmed. This was the first sunny day during the rainy period. Our plant reward was the Brown Peony. It was in bud, but was growing strong. LaRue said there were bluebells on the upper trail. The first Arrowleaf Balsamroot flowers were out as well.

In honor of the Ovenbird sighting Curtis Whitaker, PVAS member and ISU English professor provided this poem by Robert Frost:

The Ovenbird

*There is a singer everyone has heard,
Loud, a mid-summer and a mid-wood bird,
Who makes the solid tree trunks sound again.
He says that leaves are old and that for flowers
Mid-summer is to spring as one to ten.
He says the early petal-fall is past
When pear and cherry bloom went down in
showers
On sunny days a moment overcast;
And comes that other fall we name the fall.
He says the highway dust is over all.
The bird would cease and be as other birds
But that he knows in singing not to sing.
The question that he frames in all but words
Is what to make of a diminished thing.*

A Look Ahead: Stay tuned for these summer activities.

June 3, Saturday, Birdathon

TO ALL FRIENDS OF THE BIRDS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT: Please show your support for the Portneuf Valley Audubon Society (PVAS) by participating in our Birdathon in any way that suits you! This is our chapter's only yearly fundraiser. We depend upon financial donations to provide continuing educational information to the public and to contribute to projects that support the birds and their environment.

Chuck Trost has sent out letters and pledge forms for his efforts, but PVAS members are encouraged to do their own Birdathon and collect pledges to add to the total.

As of press time, there were three committed PVAS groups covering large and small areas of Southeast Idaho to raise funds for all the important projects that PVAS is involved with.

Think about birding in your backyard, riding a bike

down the Portneuf Greenway, walking your favorite trail or birding a local waterway.

Contact Chuck Trost at 233-4538 or Barb North at 208-406-8507 if you'd like to participate or donate to this year's PVAS Birdathon.



Audubon Warbler at Sue Weeg's place this spring.
Photo by Sue Weeg

June 4, Sunday, Hummingbird Roundup

RUDEEN RANCH

Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Rudeen Ranch Photo

<http://idahoptv.org/outdoors/shows/birdersbandersbinoculars/hummingbirds.cfm>

If you haven't done this before or if you want to go back, this is a great opportunity to get up close and personal with hummingbirds that are being banded and also flying around.

Carpool: Meet by 10:00 a.m. in the lower ISU Campus parking lot by the Bison Sculpture behind the Idaho Museum of Natural History Building (5th and Dillon).

Questions? Contact Trost: 233-4538; more info:

<http://hummingbirdroundup.com/>

June 25, Birdathon Summer Celebration Potluck

COMPILE COUNTS TIME: 2:00 p.m.

DINNER TIME: 3:00 p.m., approximately

PLACE: U.S. Forest Service Mink Creek Group Site (past the Guard Station and 2 1/2 miles south of Cherry Springs). PVAS will provide a ham and utensils. Please bring a potluck item to share.

Camas Peregrine Webcam Up:

The Peregrine webcam at Camas NWR is back on line. Look for "Falcon nest Webcam live stream" on YouTube.

There's another webcam at a Peregrine nest in Missouri, so look for the one that mentions Camas National Wildlife Refuge.



Yellow Warbler at birdbath. Photo by Sue Weeg

SQUIRREL MEADOWS CABIN RESERVED

The Squirrel Meadows U.S. Forest Service Cabin has been reserved Aug. 13 and 14, a Sunday and Monday. This cabin is reserved for PVAS's annual loon search in the Falls River area. Participants are encouraged to bring a canoe or kayak.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Our chapter wishes to thank the people who recently joined or renewed their membership. Our chapter welcomes the support of:

Mr. and Mrs. John Schmidt
Leeann Kenison
Curtis Whitaker
Nicholas Heyneman
Jenny Semenza
Roger Boe
Cheryl Sebold
Christine Baker
Kenneth Ryan
Bruce Baker
Louise Mingo
Floyd Johnson
H. Hilbert
John Grahl
Reed Hurst
Melissa Curtis
Karl Holte
Nikki Pearce
Leonard Hitchcock
Michael Crist
Joel Young
Helen Beita
Leta Trahant
Debbi VanVooren
Todd Winters
Mary Spinner

For membership questions, contact Chair Frank Renn, 233-5638, rennnanc@isu.edu



PVAS Board

President, Barb North, 208-406-8507

barb.north10@gmail.com

Treasurer, Jackie Maughan

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Conservation Chair, Dave Delehanty, 232-8757

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Andy Taylor, 317-4965, taylandy@isu.edu

Members-at-Large:

Priscilla Hearst, 232-0233

Sue Weeg, (208) 220-0327, pvasnews@gmail.com

Curt Whitaker, 282-2742, whitaker@isu.edu

Todd Winters, toddwinters@gmail.com



PORTNEUF VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

New or Renewing National Audubon Member: mail form and your \$20.00 check directly to the New York address. This includes membership in PVAS.

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY.

Attn: Chance Mueleck
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
225 Varick Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10014

PVAS CHAPTER LOCAL MEMBERSHIP ONLY, \$15.00 for one year. Make your check payable to the Portneuf Valley Audubon Society.

Mail form and your check to Frank Renn, Membership Chair, PO Box 32, Pocatello, ID 83204-0032

PLEASE PRINT

DATE
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