

Portneuf Valley Audubon Society News

September 2018, Vol. 45, #10

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

Facebook: Portneuf Valley Audubon Society

PO Box 32, Pocatello, ID 83204-0032



Citizens' Climate Lobby

September 20, Thursday, Monthly Meeting

"Carbon Tax, a Solution to the Problem of Climate Change"

Presented by Linda Engle, Pocatello Citizens' Climate Lobby

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Marshall Public Library Community Room.

Linda Engle, who represents the Pocatello Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL), will talk about legislation to enact a carbon tax such as that introduced by GOP Representative Carlos Curbelo of Florida.

A carbon tax bill backed by Washington's Democratic Governor failed by a few votes to get approval of the Democratic Senate last spring, but at least it got out of committee.

The Citizens' Climate Lobby addresses the problem of climate change and how tax incentives can be used to discourage pollution while encouraging a healthy business climate. It is a topic long thought to address the concerns of both business and environmentalists.

Founded in 2007 in the USA, the Citizens Climate Lobby has grown to be an international organization. In the U.S. it supports working with Democrats, Independents, Republicans, and third party lawmakers to initiate economic solutions to address climate change. To quote from the CCL's web page, the approach is three-pronged:

1. Place a steadily rising fee on fossil fuels. To account for the cost of burning fossil fuels, we propose an initial fee of \$15/ton on the CO₂ equivalent emissions of fossil fuels, escalating to \$10/ton/year, imposed upstream at the mine, well or port of entry.

Accounting for the true cost of fossil fuel emissions not only creates a level-playing field for all sources of energy, but also informs consumers of the true cost comparison of various fuels when making purchase decisions.

2. Give 100% of the fees minus administrative costs back to households each month. 100% of the net fees from the carbon fee are held in a Carbon Fees Trust fund and returned directly to households as a monthly dividend.

About two-thirds of households will break even or receive more than they would pay in higher prices.

3. Use a border adjustment to stop business relocation.

Import fees on products imported from countries without a carbon fee, along with rebates to US industries exporting to those countries, will discourage businesses from relocating where they can emit more CO₂ and motivate other countries to adopt similar carbon pricing policies. For more information, visit:

<https://citizensclimatelobby.org/basics-carbon-fee-dividend/>.



Refuge elk herd during rut Photo Credit: USFWS

September 22, Saturday, Field Trip

**5th Annual Birds, Bugles and Brunch
At Camas National Wildlife Refuge**

Time: 6 a.m. to noon

Place: Camas NWR

Audubon members and the public are invited by Friends of Camas to participate in this event that includes hay rides, bird walks, youth activities, free brunch, invertebrate discovery, bird house building, pollinator garden tours, peregrine cam live stream and an early-bird 7:30 a.m. hayride that offers the best chance to hear elk bugle.

Chuck Trost will lead two birding walks at 8 and 9 a.m. Then we will be treated to a delicious breakfast/lunch courtesy of the Friends of Camas. We will also have a short memorial for Nancy Maxwell who passed away this past spring. Bring a friend and plan to have fun!

Email camasfriends@gmail.com to reserve a spot for lunch. To reserve a seat on the early-bird hay ride contact Brian at brian_wehausen@fws.gov or 208-662-5423.

To Carpool: Meet at 6 a.m. in the lower ISU Campus parking lot by the Bison Sculpture behind the Idaho Museum of Natural History Building (5th and Dillon).



Settell Photo

September 15, 5th Annual Beaver Dam Jam by the Watershed Guardians

Time: 4 to 10:30 p.m.

Place: *Mink Creek Pavilion*: located 1.3 miles south of the Scout Mountain turnoff on South Mink Creek Road.

To support beaver conservation, this event includes food, a silent auction, raffles, a singer/songwriter contest and more. Headliners will be the Eclectics and Shawn and the Marauders. Watershed Guardians provides shuttle transportation to and from the event. On-site camping is available.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for anyone using the shuttle. Youths 8 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased online at Brown Paper Tickets, <https://beaverdamjam-idaho.brownpapertickets.com/> or at the Healthier Place to Eat or Main Street Music on South Main Street in Pocatello.

President's Letter from the Portneuf Valley Audubon Society President Barb North

Welcome back from your summer break. I hope you have been experiencing birds and nature in a satisfying way. We will begin another season of meetings and field trips on the third Thursday, September 20, with our field trip on the following Saturday, September 22. We look forward to seeing you, and hearing about your birding activities.

We are ready to order Audubon Calendars! The variety of calendars has changed. Your options include: Songbirds (wall 12"x14"), Nature (wall 12"x12"), Birder's Engagement (weekly 6 1/4"x9 1/4"), Birds of the Garden (wall 12"x12"), and Birds Page-a-Day (desktop 6"x6"). The new calendars are two mini calendars called Little Owls or Sweet Songbirds (7"x7" wall calendars for cubicles or fridges).

I will bring the order list and a description of all the calendars to our meeting. I would like to place the order by September 28. I can still get a very good discounted price as long as we order 25 total calendars. Please let me know what you would like to order and quantity.
<barb.north10@gmail.com> or 208 406-8507.

These calendars should arrive by the October meeting, in time for gift giving.

Thanks!

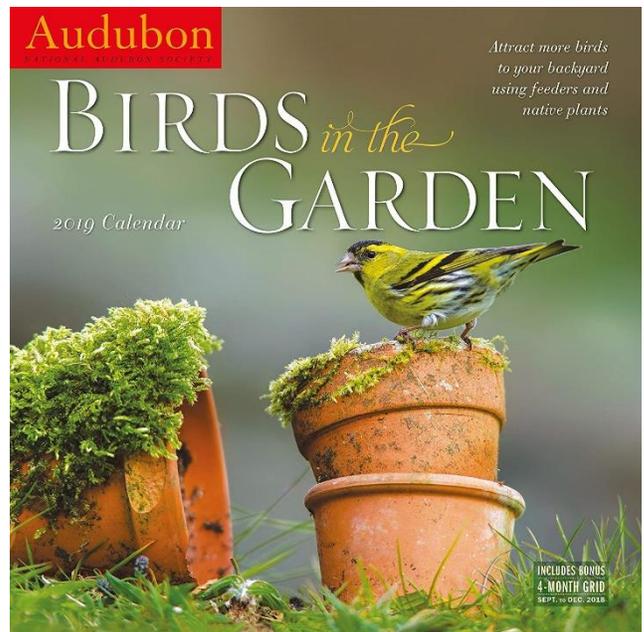
Recap of Summer Events Reported by Chuck Trost

2018 Birdathon: Seven PVAS members participated in our successful Bird-a-thon on June 2nd, when we found 158 species, and collected over \$1700 from our generous membership.

Awards of three \$25 gift certificates from McKee's Feed Center were given to Barb North for finding the most birds (118), to Frank Renn for guessing the closest number (157), and to Todd Winters for conducting his entire count on a bicycle. Thanks everyone for a fun and rewarding event.

Cassia Crossbill Trip: Four of us, plus five folks from out of state, had a great trip to Mt. Harrison in the Albion Mountains on July 21st. We found the endemic Crossbills at three locations high up above the ski area. The flower displays on the mountain were simply outstanding! Please don't miss this trip if we do it next summer.

Loon Search: Five of us stayed at the Squirrel Meadows cabin, east of Ashton in mid-August. A loon chick was found with two adults on Moose Lake and an immature loon was with two adults on Grassy Reservoir. There is speculation that this young loon may have come from Indian Lake, where there was a chick earlier. A wolf was heard howling, and the meteor showers were awesome. The cherry pie was equally outstanding!



Bird Watching by Janne Goldbeck

Nuthatches, titmice with round, dark eyes
now in the cold
goldfinches, green for winter, juncos,
shy chickadees.

Birds crowd the feeders, shelter
in the hackberry tree. A multitude
of finches. The tree sprouts wings in place of leaves.
Perches they feed from sway
at the impact of their constant rise
and settle, swing wide in the November wind.
Like another gust, the merlin plunges down,
scattering small birds into the spruce
and silence. It catches
none of them.

I strain to see this feast of birds through sunstreaked
fissured glass. These stains
cannot be washed away. They lie between my vision
and the wind that spills the birds into flight.
Still, I see wings blurred as if the falcon's talon
had torn my eye,
as if I looked through tears.

Pelicans are not hard to see. They drift in flocks
across our lakes, along the curves of rivers,
rest along the muddy banks.
Ridiculous birds, on shore, with their small heads,
thin necks, their ponderous beaks,
waddling to feed their gluttonous young.
Few of us know how they begin,
the rough-shelled egg, blood marked
and broken, where the chick sprawls, panting.
Wings stretch nine feet across to lift the earthen clumsiness
to soaring on the updrafts.
Fishing together, their semicircle
glides inexorably toward the shore, a choreography
of oval, compact bodies. Heads slide into the water
all in unison emerge, pause, dip again. Who can bear
this grace of ungainly birds, a black tipped wing turning
in the failing light.

Turning

We all long to see the ivory-billed woodpecker, the ghost,
the resurrected. We know the photographs, the black and
white
of loss, of bones and feathers scattered to the years. We
know
stiff forms in museum trays, the specimens. How could we
recognize
the living bird, the way it turns its head or preens along the
back?
The ivory-bill slips cautiously among the cypress,
hinting at secret life.

Feathers lift from a shattered wing in the wind
of a passing car, fall back, mimic flight not quick enough,
a confidence in wind and wing not justified. This silence
of raucous magpie body. Black and white.

Successful flight always eludes us. The wing
is faster than the eye. Leaving us
slightly out of focus.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Our chapter wishes to thank the people who joined or
renewed during December. **National renewal or new national
membership includes membership in the Portneuf Valley
Audubon Society.**

Our chapter welcomes the support of: **Renewed and new
members:**

Linda Crandall, Gilbert and Arlene Bacon
Dorothy Scherbel, Vicky Griggs, Nancy Corgiat, Lee Lemon,
Judy Dvorak, Kevin Daniel Chupp, Brent Holmes, Judith Krauser,
Elaine Medal, Shelley Hardenbrook, Jeanie Krichbaum,
and Paul Allen.

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 jjm47@cablone.net

Field Trips, Chuck Trost, 208-233-4538

trostchuck@cablone.net

Conservation Chair, Dave Delehanty, 208-232-8757

deledavi@isu.edu

Membership, Frank Renn, 208-233-5638,

rennnanc@isu.edu

Webmaster, Scott MacButch, 208-232-7510

scott@ecotonephoto.com

Publicity, including newsletter

Andy Taylor, 208-317-4965, taylandy@isu.edu

Members-at-Large:

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

Curt Whitaker, 208-282-2742, whitaker@isu.edu

Todd Winters, toddwinters@gmail.com

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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