



# SacajaweaAudubonNews

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

May 2013

## Calendar at a Glance

|                          |                                     |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| May 8th-31st             | International Migratory Bird Day    |
| May 11th-June 30th       | SAS Birding Series                  |
| May 13th                 | SAS Meeting                         |
| May 28th, 31st, June 1st | Beginning Birding Workshop          |
| June 7th-9th             | Wings Across the Sky                |
| June 13th                | Bird Language Workshop              |
| Nov 22nd-Dec 1st         | IX International Women's Conference |

*Boreal.*

*Brown streaked night hunter*

*Yellow eyed cavity home*

*Cold fluffy fledglings*



## Join SAS for the Annual Sweet and Savory Social!

Monday May 13th , 2012 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.

## Beginning Birding Workshop

Sacajawea Audubon Society is offering a Beginning Birding Workshop on May 28, 31, and June 1st. 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.

- Tues, May 28 & Fri, May 31 6-8pm
- Bozeman Library Small Community Room
- Saturday, June 1 7-10am
- Sourdough Nature Trail (Goldenstein trailhead)
- Cost: \$40 for Sacajawea Audubon members; \$50 for non-members. Please make checks payable to "Sacajawea Audubon Society" and mail to Ashley Martens at 42 Hitching Post Rd., Bozeman, MT 59715.

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

## Bird Language Workshop

Birds are the true messengers of the forests. They 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 the ancient art of bird language in an introductory class taught by naturalist Ashley Martens. We'll learn the 5 voices of the birds as well as some alarm patterns. Then we'll head out for a short "bird sit" to look and listen for those voices. Bird language can inform us on a much deeper level what is going on in the forest. Awareness of bird language also inevitably leads to a deeper awareness of self. (What are the birds doing when YOU move through the woods? Can you shift that?)

- Thurs, June 13<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm at the Sourdough Nature Trail (Gardner Park Trailhead).
- Cost: \$5-10 donation to Sacajawea Audubon to support their growing educational programs.

Contact Ashley at [ashmartens@yahoo.com](mailto:ashmartens@yahoo.com) or 208-883-4998 for more information and to register. Maximum 15 students.



The Board of Directors of Sacajawea Audubon Society would like to amend the Bylaws of the organization to expand the board from 9 Directors to 11 Directors. We propose adding 2 more at-large Directors. The changes to the Bylaws are underlined below. A vote to approve these amendments will be taken at the Annual Meeting on May 13, 2013, 7pm at Hope Lutheran Church. We hope by adding 2 more Directors to the Board we can involve more people and provide better leadership in carrying out the many responsibilities of our very active Board.

### ARTICLE III Board of Directors

Section 1. The control and conduct of the property and business of the Society shall be vested in a ~~nine (9)~~ **eleven (11)** member Board of Directors. The Board shall make decisions and develop the policies of the Society by majority vote.

Section 2. The Board shall be composed of the Society's four (4) officers (see Article IV, section 1), whose terms on the Board shall be concurrent with their term of office; the immediate Past President in *ex-officio* status, who will serve on the Board until replaced by the next outgoing President; and ~~four (4)~~ **six (6)** at-large Directors elected from the membership, each for a term of two (2) years. ~~Two (2)~~ **Three (3)** of these at-large Directors shall be elected in odd-numbered years and ~~two (2)~~ **three (3)** in even-numbered years. Any Board member is eligible to succeed himself (herself) and, subsequently, may be elected to any office. All Directors shall be members of the Society in good standing. All Directors shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present at the Annual Meeting. Any vacancies occurring during a term of office shall be filled by appointment by the Board until the expiration of that term.

Section 3. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least six (6) times each year on such day of such months as determined by the Directors following election at the Annual Meeting. (Traditionally, these Board meetings have been held prior to the membership meetings.)

Section 4. ~~Five (5)~~ **Six (6)** Board members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any Directors meeting.

Section 5. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or by any ~~five (5)~~ **six (6)** Board members. Any business may be transacted at these special meetings that might be transacted at a regular Board meeting. A minimum of five (5) days prior notice of any special meeting shall be given to each Board member, and, as far as practicable, statement of the reason for the special meeting shall be given.

Section 6. In the event that an interpretation of the Bylaws becomes necessary, the interpretation shall be made by a 2/3 majority vote of Board members.

## Bird Notes

As always, this past month was about first arrivals of the season and the promise of more to come. This year, Mountain Bluebirds seemed to arrive a few days later than we've come to expect. The first **Mountain Bluebird** reported in the Gallatin Valley was a single male seen near Menard March 13<sup>th</sup>, by Mary and John Griffith. In Paradise Valley, Mitch Hurt saw several bluebirds on March 9<sup>th</sup>.

Two **Sandhill Cranes** were spotted in a field off of Dry Creek Road north of Belgrade, by Don Bishop on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Within the week Sandhill Cranes were being noted at numerous locations in the area.

Further to the west near Harrison, Mike Becker had the first **Tree Swallow** March 28<sup>th</sup>, which is a fairly typical first arrival date for the species. Then four days later at the same location Mike saw the first **Long-billed Curlew** of the year, which marks the earliest local record for curlews.

Also on April 1<sup>st</sup>, Sam Koenen saw a single **Caspian Tern** at the Meadow Lake fishing access on Ennis Lake. This is the earliest a Caspian Tern has ever been reported in Montana. While at Central Park Pond March 25<sup>th</sup>, Robin Wolcott was able to find a male **Eurasian Wigeon** among all the other numerous ducks. A **Say's Phoebe** that Lou Ann Harris saw along Bench Road south of Three Forks April 4<sup>th</sup> was the first flycatcher of the year in our area. On March 29<sup>th</sup> about a mile up South

Cottonwood Canyon Kathryn Hiestand, Neal Miller, and Melissa Scott were serenaded by a **Varied Thrush**. On March 16<sup>th</sup> Mike Myers had a **Peregrine Falcon** fly right over his car near the firehouse on Davis Lane in west Bozeman.

Since mid March many people have been going to the Pop Stand, south of Livingston, to watch the pair of Peregrine Falcons that are nesting on the cliffs there. In Livingston, Sally MacDonald had eight **Red Crossbills** come to her feeder March 26<sup>th</sup>. On several occasions during the second week of March Roxanna and Bill McLaughlin had a strange bird join the rosy finches at their feeder, near the Jackson Creek exit on Bozeman Pass. This nearly pure white bird with a few spots of brown is most likely to be a leucistic **Gray-crowned Rosy Finch**, despite resembling a redpoll with its red forehead patch.



## Wings Across the Big Sky | Lewistown, MT June 7—9<sup>th</sup>

See wonderful birds, wildlife, and habitat in Central Montana! Wings Across the Big Sky still has many wonderful field trip options from which to choose. Join fellow birders in the heart of the state for field trips, a visit from live raptor ambassador birds, and presentations on state and worldwide conservation efforts.

**Owl bet this trip will be amazing! 15SU American Prairie Reserve** Join a guided tour of the American Prairie Reserve and hear firsthand about this ambitious conservation project. The tour will weave through the Reserve as we learn about the project's progress and the area's wildlife, focusing on birds. We'll see migrating shorebirds taking up residence alongside birds that stay year-round. We'll explore sagebrush grasslands and riparian corridors. Stops will include a conservation bison herd, an active prairie dog town with Burrowing Owls and raptors, and ponds with shorebirds and ducks.



**Fishing for a good catch? 2SA/2SU Big Springs State Fish Hatchery** Big Springs State Fish Hatchery is 7 miles south of Lewistown. Springs bubble up supporting greenery and giant willows. A leisurely walk takes you through grassy hills and shade trees. Watch for Belted Kingfishers, woodpeckers, crossbills, grosbeaks, sparrows and warblers, and duck and goose families. Tour the hatchery and feed the fish!

**Wing your way to an oasis! 16SU Zortman Area** You'll find yourself in a different setting from the prairie as you travel to Zortman, located in a mountain range surrounded by an ocean of grass. The Little

**Not interested in worms? Not an early bird? 11SA Carters Pond** Later morning trip! Carters Ponds are prairie reservoirs between the Moccasin and Judith Mountains, north of Lewistown. Common waterfowl include American Wigeon, Ruddy Ducks, Ring-necked Ducks, Lesser Scaup, Northern Shoveler and grebes. Falcons, eagles, Savannah Sparrows, Western Meadowlarks, and shorebirds are also seen. Rockies are called the Island Mountains by local tribes. Quaking aspen, pine and fir provide habitat for Cooper's Hawks, Western Tanagers, Dusky Flycatchers, Red Crossbills and Saw-whet Owls. The cliffs attract White-throated Swifts. You'll see how a mountain oasis can attract birds and bird-watchers!

**We hope to see you in the center of Montana June 7—9<sup>th</sup>!**



**Learn much more online at the Wings Across the Big Sky website!**

**Visit [Mtaudubon.org](http://Mtaudubon.org).**

## 2013 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.

### May11: 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.**

### May18: Mount Ellis

**Leader: John Parker 586-5863**

**(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 25: 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 1: Mission Creek

**Leader: Robin Wolcott, 581-5418**

**(Until mid-afternoon; bring a lunch)**

**After leaving Bozeman, we will meet at Albertson's parking lot in Livingston at 7:30 a.m. and then leave from there at 7:45 a.m. Car-pooling is essential.**

In the rolling prairie we may find McCown's Longspur, Long-billed Curlew, and raptors. In the Mission Creek Valley we will watch for Wild Turkeys, listen for warblers, and watch for residents of the spruce forest. On the return trip we may see Lark Buntings. We have seen over 110 species along this route,

including Sprague's Pipit, Upland Sandpiper, and Broad-winged Hawk.

### June 7-9: Please join us at the 2013 Montana Audubon Bird Festival in Lewistown, MT.

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

### June 15: East Gallatin Recreation Area

**Leader: Lou Ann Harris 406-600-3585**

**(4 hour trip; easy walking)**

This trip covers several habitats in a relatively small area. In the wet riparian areas bordering the East Gallatin River are many early migrants including warblers. The grasslands, brushy areas and lake will provide many opportunities for sparrows, swallows and water birds. At this location, nearly anything is possible. **15 person limit.**

### June 22: Sheep Gulch at Lewis and Clark Caverns

**Leader: Tom Forwood 406-287-3541**

**(4-5 hour trip; moderate hiking)**

**Meet at 8AM at the main (lower) visitor's center, to carpool to the trailhead.**

Starting by the Jefferson River, then climbing up the gulch this trip passes through several habitats, including cottonwood riparian, Douglas fir, and dry scrub. A nice variety of birds can be seen here, with several locally uncommon birds such as Cordilleran Flycatcher, Canyon Wren, and Yellow-breasted Chat breeding along this corridor.

### June 30: Rocky Mountain Road Bluebird Trail

**Leader: Lou Ann Harris 600-3585**

**(1/2 day)**

Get up close and personal with Mountain Bluebirds. Join bluebirders Lou Ann Harris, Diane Gresham and Janne Hayward 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, July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**This summer, check the Sacajawea Audubon website ([www.sacajaweaudubon.org](http://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

## International Migratory Bird Day

### 2013 Theme: Life Cycles of Migratory Birds: Conservation Across the Americas!

Come join the fun with the Yellowstone Ranger District, Livingston Adult Community Education, and Links for Learning! Learn more about our fine-feathered friends through *free* lectures and field trips presented by experts in avian resources. This year's theme details all aspects of a migratory bird's life, from nesting and migration to breeding and raising young. Habitat conditions in one season may affect the survival and nesting success of birds in another. From winter habitats to migratory stop over sites and quality nesting sites – all influence nesting success which starts the cycle all over again! Refreshments, including bird-friendly shade-grown coffee and cookies will be served during the evening of lectures. **All IMBD offerings are open to community members of all ages.**

*Free lectures:* Washington School, 315 N. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Livingston

**Wednesday, May 8 – 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

#### **LIFE AND TIMES OF A HUMMINGBIRD!**

*Neil Travis, Master Permit Holder, Federal Bird Bander*

Don't miss this encore presentation by Neil Travis as he presents his work banding hummingbirds with the Hummingbird Monitoring Network at Saguaro National Park in Arizona. Neil will explain habitat needs of hummingbirds and share how the banding effort is tied to habitat protection and other conservation efforts for hummingbirds! Anyone interested in hummingbirds or bird banding will find this presentation informative and enjoyable!

**Wednesday, May 8 – 8:15-9:15 p.m.**

#### **MONTANA BIRDS AND THEIR HABITATS**

*Byron Butler, behavioral ecologist/ ornithologist*

In this presentation, Byron explores the diversity of birds across Montana. This presentation will tour Montana to look at the wondrous diversity of birds and their habitats in each region of our great state. Byron will discuss how the distribution of Montana's birds varies with the landscape both east to west and north to south – and explain why some birds are found in some parts of the state and not in others.

*Field trips:* Bring binoculars, field guide, water and snacks, and dress appropriately for short-distance walking and quiet observing. Times are approximate and depend on weather and participant level of interest.

**Wednesday, May 8 – 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.**

#### **FAMILY BIRD WALK!**

*Rachel Feigley, USFS Wildlife Biologist & Links for Learning*

This easy nature walk is designed for families with children ages 6 and above. Binoculars helpful but not necessary. No fee. Meet at the Bozeman Trail Connector Trailhead, corner of Star Road and Northern Lights Road for a fun family outing!

**Saturday, May 11 – 7:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.**

#### **2013 THEME: LIFE CYCLES OF MIGRATORY BIRDS**

*Rachel Feigley, USFS Wildlife Biologist & local field guides*

Join local guides for birding field trips in celebration of International Migratory Bird Day! We will hit birding hot spots on three routes within Park County and try to identify as many species as possible. No fee. Meet at the Yellowstone Ranger District, Livingston Office, 5242 Hwy 89 South.

**Friday, May 17 – 8:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.**

#### **SHORT-GRASS PRAIRE BIRDS!**

*Beth Madden, Wildlife Biologist & Rachel Feigley, USFS*

Join us for some quality bird watching near Big Timber in short-grass prairie and other unique habitats. We will hit birding hot spots on routes within Sweetgrass County and try to identify as many species as possible. No fee. Meet at the Yellowstone Ranger District, Big Timber Office, 225 Big Timber Loop Road.

**Friday, May 31 – 7:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.**

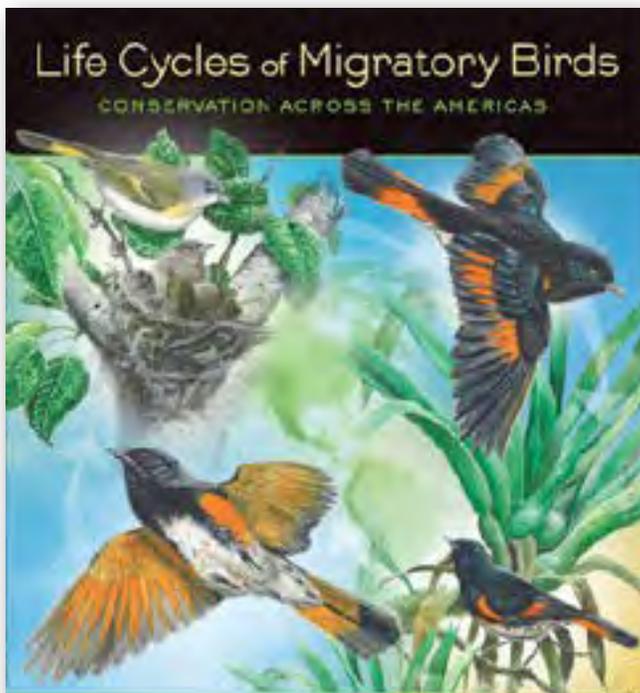
#### **BIRD BANDING DEMONSTRATION!**

*Neil Travis, Master Permit Holder, Federal Bird Bander*

Come and observe a working bird banding station! The technique of bird banding will be demonstrated as participants see birds being removed from the nets, the actual banding process, and observe birds in the hand. No fee. Meet at the Yellowstone Ranger District, Livingston Office, 5242 Hwy 89 South.

**IMBD offerings are open to community members of all ages.**

**Please sign up for evening lectures and field trips through the Livingston Adult Community Education website @ [www.livingstonace.org](http://www.livingstonace.org). For more information, call Rachel Feigley, Yellowstone District Wildlife Biologist, at 222-1892 or 823-6064 or go to the Gallatin NF website, <http://www.fs.usda.gov/gallatin/>**



## You're Invited:

# The IX International Women's Conference & US Women's Research Delegation: Women Advancing Gender Equality, Racial Justice & Sustainable Development in Cuba November 22-December 1, 2013

You're invited to the **US Women & Cuba Collaboration** to participate in the *Women in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century IX International Conference* at the University of Havana and explore—in Havana and other provinces of Artemisa and Matanzas.



**The Delegation:** This will be a 10-day delegation for up to 25 women, and is expected to cost around \$2,600, plus roundtrip airfare from our US destination. Per US government guidelines for travel to Cuba, our delegation will be arranged by **Marazul Charters**, a Travel Service Provider (TSP) licensed by the US Treasury Department. This tour is designed for women who are “full-time professionals conducting research in their fields” including community organizers, educators, social and health care workers, media makers and artists, public policy leaders and environmental justice advocates. In addition to Conference participation, we'll have 10 days of living and learning experiences in and outside of Havana. We'll visit Las

Terrazas in the UNESCO bio-preserve as well as Varadero Beach to explore eco and coastal tourist development in the global economy and a women's agricultural coop. Plus other visits with CENESEX (National Center for Sex Education), Federation of Cuban Women; Latin American Medical School (ELAM), Museum of Literacy; Union of Artists and Writers, alternative health centers and educational programs for young women & women of the Third Age/seniors. And much more. Jan Strout, co-chair of the US Women & Cuba Collaboration and MSU faculty & Zenaida Mendez, Collaboration National Advisory Board member and environmental justice advocate, have been leading successful women's delegations to Cuba and other nations in Latin America for over 15 years. Information and applications about this delegation are on our web site [www.womenandcuba.org](http://www.womenandcuba.org). Anticipated deadline is early to mid-October. For further details, please email [2013delegation@gmail.com](mailto:2013delegation@gmail.com)

## Turkey Vultures, a Spring Omen

Recently I was in Cuba- legally of course, leading students on a short-term study abroad trip. I certainly knew that the weather would be very nice there, compared to the North American mountains in March. Temperatures were in the upper 60s to mid 70s everyday, so it felt like spring and summer. And to my delight, I saw so many turkey vultures that it made me long for spring in Montana.

Many people look to trees budding or the first shoots of bright green grass or the very first flowers to sigh a big relief for making it through winter, but I look to the skies for the tell-tale teeter- tottering flight of the turkey vultures. Though some may not find them as visually appealing as buds, grass and flowers, I feel a wonderful sense of renewal when I see them .

Most of us practice some sort of spring cleaning to refresh our closed up living spaces and begin anew. Well, our vulture friends arrive in Montana to do just that- clean up the environment. Their Latin name, *Cathartes aura*, is an indicator that their job is to purify. Many cultures even revere and rely



on the turkey vulture to clean the remains of humans who die. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Turkey vultures do not have feathers on their red, wrinkly heads, but it is purposeful. Since they spend time digging into the guts of dead things, having no feathers on their heads means less preening and clean-up. Everything about the turkey vulture is meaningful to their purpose of keeping the land clean- sunning to remove bacteria from feathers, a stomach that can handle the ripest of meat, an incredibly keen sense of smell to locate dead animals , and a super sharp beak to rip and tear.

While these traits of the turkey vulture are not as pleasant as the growing buds of trees, or as soft as new grass, or as lovely and delicate as a fresh flower, they are important to our planet. And my heart strings get a little tug every time I witness that wobbly flight or that proud, bald, red head, because I know it means the beginning of another season, a season of renewal, growth and hope.

*Article by Cynthia Zyzda*



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

*Change Service Requested*

**Non-Profit  
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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 10<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding the month articles will appear. Please send to: **Mary Cloud Ammons, 503 Bozeman, Bozeman MT 59715** or [newsletter@sacajaweaudubon.org](mailto:newsletter@sacajaweaudubon.org).

**Change of Address:** Please notify Sally MacDonald, 223-9167 or [membership@sacajaweaudubon.org](mailto:membership@sacajaweaudubon.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.sacajaweaudubon.org/>

*Mailing Address*

**SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

|   |                    |          |  |
|---|--------------------|----------|--|
| <b>President</b>                                  | Loreene Reid       | 600-6666 | <a href="mailto:pres@sacajaweaudubon.org">pres@sacajaweaudubon.org</a>                               |
| <b>Vice President</b>                             | Lou Ann Harris     | 600-3585 | <a href="mailto:louann@sacajaweaudubon.org">louann@sacajaweaudubon.org</a>                           |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                                  | Evelyn Acton       |          | <a href="mailto:treas@sacajaweaudubon.org">treas@sacajaweaudubon.org</a>                             |
| <b>Secretary</b>                                  | Paulette Epple     | 586-0932 | <a href="mailto:sec@sacajaweaudubon.org">sec@sacajaweaudubon.org</a>                                 |
| <b>Past President</b>                             | Anne Millbrooke    | 599-1096 | <a href="mailto:anne27m@yahoo.com">anne27m@yahoo.com</a>   |
| <b>Board members</b>                              | Jackie Wilson      | 599-0942 | <a href="mailto:jackiewilson@sacajaweaudubonsociety.org">jackiewilson@sacajaweaudubonsociety.org</a> |
|   | Chris Nixon        | 544-4901 | <a href="mailto:christophernixon@yahoo.com">christophernixon@yahoo.com</a>                           |
|   | Annie Sisk         | 285-6596 | <a href="mailto:anniesisk@sacajaweaudubon.org">anniesisk@sacajaweaudubon.org</a>                     |
|   | Peter Norlander    | 222-4646 | <a href="mailto:norlander@q.com">norlander@q.com</a>   |
|   | John Shellenberger | 585-5384 | <a href="mailto:conservation@sacajaweaudubon.org">conservation@sacajaweaudubon.org</a>               |
|   | Monica Brelsford   | 388-6125 | <a href="mailto:monica.brelsford@gmail.com">monica.brelsford@gmail.com</a>                           |
| <b>Audubon Adventures</b>                         | John Parker        | 586-5863 | <a href="mailto:birdsightings@sacajaweaudubon.org">birdsightings@sacajaweaudubon.org</a>             |
| <b>Field trips, Bird Count and Bird Sightings</b> | John Shellenberger | 585-5384 | <a href="mailto:conservation@sacajaweaudubon.org">conservation@sacajaweaudubon.org</a>               |
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