



## Janet Ellis Wins National Award

Janet Ellis of Montana Audubon has won the Ace Award from the National Audubon Society this year. The Ace Award is given by the national organization to select state staff who have done extraordinary work during the past year.

Janet directs Montana Audubon's policy programs, including lobbying the Montana legislature. "She is known among legislators for being honest and reliable," comments Montana Audubon's Executive Director Ray Johnson. "Even people who disagree with her on some issue know that they can trust her research to be factual. And she is especially good at finding ways to get people to work together on difficult issues."

During this last year, Janet authored an 87-page booklet entitled "***A Planning Guide for Protecting Montana's Wetlands and Riparian Areas.***" The booklet was a cooperative effort of Montana Audubon, the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, and Montana Watercourse. The previous year, Janet researched and wrote a companion piece, "***Going with the Flow,***" an illustrated guide to understanding stream bank stabilization. These two publications are already being used by state agencies, local officials, conservationists, and other groups interested in planning for a sustainable future. They form the basis of a workshop that has been offered around the state to educate land-use planners and government officials on wetland and water quality issues.

"Not only is Janet an outstanding staff member," says Johnson, "but she has been with Montana Audubon since its inception. In many respects, Montana Audubon is partly Janet's creation. I am thrilled that she has been recognized by our national organization."

The past and present officers and board of Flathead Audubon are thrilled also. For nearly as long as Flathead Audubon Society (FAS) has been in existence as a chapter of National Audubon, Janet has played an active role in a variety of this chapter's activities.

FAS has had Janet's help in such basics as formulating our bylaws, chapter board development, strategic planning and goal setting, development of a mission statement and program work on conservation issues in northwest Montana. With her depth of experience and knowledge in Audubon issues, biology and the political mechanics of legislation, she has helped guide our interests and priorities in order to achieve the "end results" that we, as a chapter, were seeking.

Most recently, Janet has played a major role in Flathead Audubon's effort to protect and manage the Owen Sowerwine Natural Area. When FAS was faced with an unreasonable re-appraisal of the Owen Sowerwine land use license fee, Janet negotiated a new reasonable and fair license fee. When the legislature threatened the "Natural Areas Act" and threatened in particular continued viability of the Owen Sowerwine Natural Area, Janet lobbied for an exclusion that saved the Owen Sowerwine.

(see "Janet Ellis" continued on page 3)

### JANUARY FLATHEAD AUDUBON CALENDAR

**Monday, January 12, 2004:** Flathead Audubon presents Flathead Valley's world-traveling **wildlife photographer Tom Ulrich**, who has photographed more than 500 North American birds during his career, presenting a slide show focusing on the behavior of North American mammals and birds. The meeting is at the Calvary Lutheran Church at 2200 Highway 2 East in Evergreen. The general meeting begins at 7:30 p.m., with the program starting around 8 p.m.

**Sunday, Jan. 11, 2004: Winter birding in the Mission Valley** See article on page 6 for full details.



## CHICKADEE CHATTER

It is astonishing but another year has nearly passed by. Difficult to believe, my mother always warned me that as I got older the years went by more swiftly than ever. She was right, of course. The days of December are passing quickly but I have so many wonderful memories of this past year to cherish. One of my dreams came true this year; I had the great good fortune to visit one of the most beautiful places on earth, the country of Chile.

Twenty years ago or so I read an article in a magazine about a spectacular national park in the southern tip of Chile; it had just been designated a Unesco World Biosphere Reserve, which makes it a very special place indeed. (Our very own Glacier National Park is also on that venerable Unesco list.) It is called Parque Nacional Torres del Paine and it is without a doubt one of the most remarkable places I have ever been; but that is a story waiting to be told. And so I have dreamt of visiting this very far away place for a very long time. And since life is short and we all need to have dreams fulfilled sometimes, I decided to go to the very southern tip of South America and see with my own eyes the wonders of Patagonia.

Chile is that very long country that takes up much of the western coastline of South America; it stretches nearly 2800 miles from Peru to the Cape of Good Hope and nowhere is it more than 250 miles in width. It is a country of dramatic contrasts caught between sandy beaches, fjords and headlands that jut into the Pacific Ocean and the high Andes Mountain Range whose peaks reach into the sky some 16,000 feet. To the north lies the Atacama Desert, the driest desert on Earth and to the south and the very ends of the Earth (or at least South America) is the mythical land of Patagonia. In between these two extremes are fertile valleys where fruit is grown and some of the best wines in the world are made, snow-covered volcanoes, lakes of every shade of blue known to man and lush temperate rainforest which receives over 250 inches of rain a year. It is nearly impossible to describe a country with so many contrasts in topography, climate and geography. And the flora and fauna are equally wonderful and diverse.

My journey to Chile began on a cold snowy November day and an icy trip to the airport and 28 hours later I was looking out the window of the airplane at the rugged, snow covered peaks of the Andes Mountains. The plane landed in Santiago, a city of some 5 million people and the capital of Chile, and

an adventure I will not soon forget began. I spent only one day in Santiago; it was a beautiful sunny day and by late afternoon it was 92F. November is late spring in Chile. Santiago is a very nice city with lovely colonial architecture on every corner, lots of small green parks here and there, all with large bronze statues (a tribute to Chile's militaristic past), and an impressive church or two, all set against the mountains of the mighty Andes.

I spent one day in Santiago and boarded an airplane early the next morning to fly to Southern Patagonia and the city of Punta Arenas. Founded in 1848, it overlooks the Strait of Magellan and in the distance you can see the island of Tierra del Fuego. More than 110,000 people inhabit this bustling city at the end of the world.

It is a 6 hour drive from Punta Arenas to Torres del Paine. A very good road travels through the Patagonian steppe, a place that is inhabited sparsely by humans but has tens of thousands of sheep and cattle roaming the expanse. The steppe or pampa is an arid land of low hills and vast flat expanses covered by tussock grasses and shrubs. And in this seemingly inhospitable place there is an amazing abundance of wildlife. Birds fly hither and thither and sit on fence posts much as they do here. Foxes run across the road in front of the car and herds of guanaco (similar to llamas) graze peacefully beside the road.

The first time I pass by a Darwin's Rhea, I have to look twice. The Nandu as it is known in Chile, is a very large – 36" to 39," long-necked, long-legged bird that roams the pampas in small groups. In a reversal of roles, the male hatches and raises the young. I saw one bird with 14 miniature rheas following him one day. Apparently, they are very attentive parents. The pampas are full of predators

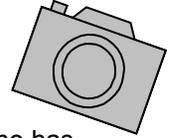
On the first day in Patagonia I see a bird I have waited years to see - the legendary Andean Condor. This magnificent bird has a wingspan up to 122 inches...that's over ten feet from wing tip to wing tip. They fly over the steppe lands only in the spring-time when the lambs are being born; otherwise they are creatures of the lofty heights. The first sight of a soaring Condor will stay in my memory for the rest of my days. It was a huge black and white bird that seemed to fly effortlessly in the strong wind with each black feather of the wingtip visible on the outstretched wings. I watched it for many moments as it flew higher and higher into the sky until I couldn't see it any more.

Some 430 species of birds have been recorded in Chile and I would have been content to see only the one. But there was so much more to see and I will continue the tale of my adventure next month. Happy New Year!

By Leslie Kehoe



## January 2004 Program



Flathead Audubon welcomes back Flathead Valley's world-traveling bird and wildlife photographer, Tom Ulrich, at its January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ulrich, who has photographed more than 500 North American birds during his photography career, will present a slide show focusing on the behavior of North American mammals and birds. He will also discuss the photography techniques involved in capturing his images.

Flathead Audubon's January meeting is at the Calvary Lutheran Church at 2200 Highway 2 East in Evergreen. The general meeting begins at 7:30 p.m., with the program starting around 8 p.m. (In February, Flathead Audubon will be meeting at The Summit, in Conference Room #3.)

Ulrich, who has published seven books, has also been published in numerous natural history publications. His most recent books are "Mount Reynolds" and "Photo Pantanal." His book, "Once Upon a Frame," offers interesting and entertaining insights into the stories behind his wildlife photographs.

While working locally, Ulrich spent seven years photographing the life history of a local pair of red-necked grebes, including many stunning underwater images. He also did a fascinating photo essay on red-naped sapsuckers and the many other creatures they benefit by drilling holes into trees and releasing sap from the trees.

In the past year, Ulrich has spent time photographing in Costa Rica, the Galapagos Islands and the Pantanal, a huge flood plain in Brazil. When in the Flathead, he has been pursuing hoary mar-mots with his camera.

Please join Flathead Audubon in welcoming Tom Ulrich. If you cannot attend the Audubon meeting, Ulrich will also be presenting his photos to benefit Big Brothers/Big Sisters on January 6<sup>th</sup> in Whitefish and January 15<sup>th</sup> in Kalispell.



### LEAD US TO YOUR FAVORITE BIRDING SPOT

Audubon fieldtrips have been a huge success. During the past few years, many Audubon members have led field trips in and around the valley, in Glacier National Park, and into the North Fork. Flathead Audubon has even gained new members from participation on our advertised field trips. In mid-January, I will begin to plan the 2004 Spring, Summer, and Fall Audubon field trips.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! If you could lead a field trip during one of our upcoming seasons, please contact me. You don't have to be an expert birder to sponsor a field trip--birders work together to spot and identify birds. Just lead us to your favorite birding spot and we will do the rest! Contact Jim Swab, [sue-jim@bigsky.net](mailto:sue-jim@bigsky.net) or 387-4299.



#### *(Janet Ellis, continued.....)*

When the Owen Sowerwine management plan was up for revision, Janet coordinated the input from Flathead Audubon and Montana Audubon, and negotiated with the Montana Department of Natural Resources a full two years to get a realistic plan. When the funding required for the license fee and liability insurance was projected to increase beyond the capacity of Flathead Audubon's financial resources, Janet negotiated an agreement between Montana Audubon and Flathead Audubon that caps the FAS financial commitment and gives us some predictability. When limited fencing and signing were required by the management plan, Janet obtained a grant to pay for the needed fences and signs. And just in the last month, when the 1<sup>st</sup> Biennial Status Report on our management of Owen Sowerwine was coming due, Janet traveled to the Flathead from

Helena to meet with the FAS Owen Sowerwine Committee, and to facilitate a meeting for neighbors of Owen Sowerwine and the public, to take input on possible changes to the management plan.

Janet is a wealth of information and an advocate for common sense, scientifically based natural resource decisions. She has been a primary support for Flathead Audubon. When Flathead Audubon has needed help, Janet's been there! Over the years, she has also come to be a personal friend to many of us in FAS.

Flathead Audubon wishes to congratulate Janet Ellis on receiving the Ace Award, and to thank her for all she has done for this chapter

by Brent Mitchell (FAS)

Linda Winnie (FAS)

Rusty Harper (MT Audubon)



## **BIRDS IN PLACE**

By Radd Icenoggle



Are you a birder or a birdwatcher? According to Radd Icenoggle in his newly published book, Birds in Place, "the birdwatcher is someone who appreciates birds and enjoys their company; the birder is a fanatic who lives and breathes birds in all aspects of their lives. Basically, birders are obsessed and birdwatchers are somewhat normal." I define local birders as those who contribute regularly to Montana Online Birding and share their expertise with the rest of us birdwatchers. I am not meaning that Dan and Susannah Casey, Bob and Mo Rost, Jim Rogers, and Radd Icenoggle himself are not somewhat normal, but I admire their obsession and hope one day to be able to call myself a "birder" as well.

One of the ways to get to that esteemed station is to get out and observe in all seasons of the year. It is also important to have some reliable field guides. I have relied heavily on Tom Ulrich's Birds of the Northern Rockies to help identify local birds. The photos by Tom and other local photographers are clear and the book is conveniently arranged in the sequence of the Checklist of North American Birds. Best of all, it features 170 common birds, which narrows down the birds that we would expect to see here from the 10,000 global possibilities.

Now Radd Icenoggle has published an attractive companion book to Tom's. Birds in Place first hit the bookshelves last May, and I was fortunate to receive one as a Christmas present. There are a few typos in this first run but those can be easily overlooked for the richness of information.

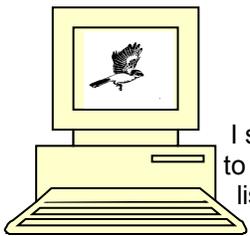
The birds are grouped by 21 types of habitats since, Icenoggle explains, "habitat can be

thought (of) as the platform on which all species stand." One particular habitat of interest to us is the Post-fire Forest. This section begins with a very clear description of the value of fire to the ecosystem. The species accounts include three-toed woodpecker, black-backed woodpecker, olive-sided flycatcher, mountain bluebird, Townsend's solitaire. The best part of this guide is the information box at the beginning of each species account. It allows you to quickly gather not only the habitat association but also the yearly abundance pattern in the Northern Rockies, the occurrence status, feeding behavior and food preference. With the olive-sided flycatcher, for instance, we see that it is somewhat common and migrating in May and September and somewhat common and breeding in June through August. Its food preference is insects and its feeding behavior is "sallies." In the description farther down the page we are reminded that this is the bird of the catchy "quick three beers" song.

In addition to the species accounts, there are interesting essays and great quotations such as, "When the bird and book disagree, always believe the bird." "Be ready to spot the transient and rarity."

The ID photos are sometimes too small for clear identification, but that is why this is a good guide to be used in concert with others. I also miss not finding a reference list. That would have helped those of us birdwatchers who want to know more. But overall, this is an attractive addition to those of us birdwatchers who are trying to simplify birding.

Reviewer: Linda deKort, President FAS



## **Montana Online Birders**

I started MOB (Montana Online Birders), an email birding list, shortly after moving back to Montana in 1998, after having been the list administrator for OBOL, Oregon's birding list, for a couple of years. I didn't want to miss interesting bird sightings and discussions, so I decided I would start a list in Montana, like the one in Oregon. My wife, Karen, came up with the name. She thought it would be cute to be known as Mobsters (also a nice pun on mobbing).

Most of the traffic on the list is about bird sightings, whether rare and unusual, or just interesting. There have been discussions about genetics, bird chases, bird guides, trip announcements, and many other topics. The only topics we try to avoid are "political" (write your congressman) messages and discussions of the control of Starlings, guns, cats, etc., which just upsets one person or another.

Currently the list has 128 subscribers, many of them in other states, and includes many of the best birders in Montana. All it takes to be a member of MOB is an internet connection, email program, and a desire to read or write about birds in Montana.

To sign up for MOB, go to <http://www.redmeadow.com/mailman/listinfo/mob>.

By Dan Owens



# BIRD OF THE MONTH

## BIRDS WHO CAN REALLY GET A GRIP!

As members of the bird family *SITTIDAE*, nuthatches are described by this Greek word as birds that peck at the bark of trees. Additionally, the name nuthatch originated in Europe and refers to the foraging technique in which the birds take a seed, fly to a tree branch, jam the seed into a bark crevice and hack or “hatch” it open with the bill. Keeping those facts in mind gives us a good start toward understanding the behavior of these small, rather stocky birds that are often seen scurrying **headfirst down** tree trunks

Although these little birds bear a superficial resemblance to woodpeckers because of their food choices and gathering methods, they are not closely related and can be distinguished from woodpeckers by their smaller size (from 4.25 inches for the Pygmy to about 6 inches for the White-breasted), their square tails, the upturned underside of the bill, and by their ability to walk **down** tree trunks supported only by their strong feet and legs. Remember woodpeckers have moveable spines in their tail feathers that allow them to use the tail for support and balance as they climb. Because of the need for this extra support, woodpeckers can only move in an **upward** direction.

Of the four species of nuthatches found in North America, three are commonly found here in Western Montana: the Pygmy, the Red-breasted and the White-breasted. The Pygmy and White-breasted are predominately gray and white, while the Red-breasted is gray with a rusty, reddish breast and has a distinctive white eyebrow with a black line through the eye. The easiest way for me to differentiate between the Pygmy and White-breasted is by looking at the head and eye. The Pygmy has a dark cap bordered by a slightly darker line that ends just below the eye, while the White-breasted has a dark gray or black cap with white all around the eye and

face. Yes, the bird pictured with this article is a Red-breasted—notice the black stripe through the eye.

Nuthatches are monogamous cavity nesters, with White-breasted Nuthatches nesting in existing holes while the other two species normally make their own cavities. Occasionally, nuthatches will use a nest box. We once had a Red-breasted family raised in an east-facing box near our deck and it was delightful to see the mother stick her head and chest out of the hole to enjoy the morning sun! Normally taking one to eight weeks, the nest construction process is shared by both sexes with the female taking the lead. Pygmy Nuthatches travel in small flocks of two to five birds consisting of the mated pair and unmated male relatives who serve as “helpers” during the breeding cycle.

The occurrence of these helpers is particularly high where lack of habitat prevents them from breeding themselves. Nest holes are lined with fur, feathers, twigs, bits of bark and vegetation. Red-breasted Nuthatches smear sap around the hole entrance and White-breasted

Nuthatches sweep around the nest entrance with noxious smelling insects. Both behaviors help deter predators from entering the nest area. Cavity-nesting birds usually lay pure white eggs but nuthatches are the exception and produce white eggs heavily spotted and streaked with brown. Incubation is primarily the job of the female.

Our nuthatches are non-migratory and frequent visitors at feeders during the winter months. To combat our severe winters, they often roost communally in a single cavity for warmth and records exist of more than 100 birds huddled in a single cavity. For more information about these spunky little birds, check out Cornell's new online bird guides at: <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/programs/AllAboutBirds/BirdGuide/>

by Jeannie Marcure



## ON THE ROAD AGAIN!

At last, Flathead Audubon has located a facility that is large enough for our increasingly growing attendance at monthly meetings, offers a comfortable setting with easy access for attendees of all abilities, and fits our always-scanty budget. Beginning with the **February 9<sup>th</sup>** meeting, join us at The Summit, 205 Sunnyview Lane, on the north side of Kalispell. We will meet in Conference Room 3. Next month's Pileated Post will carry more information about this “change of scenery.”



## PLACES TO GO



**Sunday, Jan. 11, 2004: Winter birding in the Mission Valley** We will roam the back roads in search of birds that frequent the valley in winter. The Mission Valley is home to one of the largest winter concentrations of Rough-legged Hawks in the U.S. Our focus on this trip will be on raptors that can be found here, such as Rough-legged and Red-tailed Hawks, eagles and the occasional Prairie Falcon. In years past, we have also seen Short-eared Owls, Snow Buntings, waterfowl of all kinds, Townsend's Solitaires and even a frosty American Robin or two. It is always an enjoyable trip, so come spend a day watching some of the fascinating birds of winter in Montana. Meet at 8:00AM at the Park and Ride across from the White Oak Lodge (formerly Ramada Inn) on Highways 93 and 82 (the Somers cut across road) and return in the late afternoon. You will need warm winter clothing and boots and lunch. To sign up for the trip or for more information, please call Leslie Kehoe at 837-4467.

## Costa Rica Travel Opportunity Offered

Have you ever wanted to visit Costa Rica? Are you ready for a once in a lifetime adventure? Flathead Land Trust and The Glacier Institute have teamed up with Holbrook Travel to present **Costa Rica's Jungles and Peaks - An Explorer Series Adventure**.

Join board members of our organizations as they explore the rich connections of biodiversity and land conservation between the jungles and peaks in the south to the Crown of the Continent in our own backyard.

Over the course of eight days, **April 3-11, 2004**, we will visit a biological field station, an entomological museum, the Sarapiquí Conservation Learning Center and the La Salle Museum of Natural Science. This trip has it all – for individual travelers as well as family travelers – natural history, cultural immersion and active adventure. The connections to Costa Rica with our own Flathead Valley are amazing, as we will search for the Rufous Hummingbird (which summers in Montana) and travel over the Continental Divide observing geologic features that are remarkably similar to our area. Highlights include:



**Rainforest exploration  
Tropical birding  
Whitewater rafting  
Arenal Volcano National Park  
Treetop canopy tour and zip-line adventure**



The price is great at only \$1,209\* per person (excluding air), but space is limited, so you will need to book soon! Please consider joining us on this first of a series of programs that will help support our efforts to make the Crown of the Continent a wonderful place to live for future generations.

Call Flathead Land Trust at (406) 752-8293, and we will provide you with all of the information you need to secure space on this fabulous adventure, including a detailed itinerary and booking form.

\*((\$200 of the trip is a tax-deductible donation to Flathead Land Trust.)

\*reprinted from the Flathead Land Trust web site



*The back porch may be more secure, but the FUN lies in jumping the fences.*

*David J. Horner*

## Tubing Party

Some of you may be aware that Flathead Audubon has a collection of bird study skins. The years take a toll on these, as they do on us. In an effort to protect them, the Education Committee is having a "Tubing Party." We'll spend the afternoon placing the specimens in protective plastic tubes so that they can be



*Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all.*

*Helen Keller*

used for identification training without damage. Everyone is invited to participate. The Tubing Party will take place on 7 February 2004 at 1 PM at Bob Lee's house. He lives on the fish hatchery in Creston; the address is 730 Creston Hatchery Road. For more information, contact Bob at 758-6879 (work), 257-0363 (home) or email at [Robert\\_Lee@fws.gov](mailto:Robert_Lee@fws.gov).

Hope to see you there!





# BIGFORK CHRISTMAS COUNT: (Our 30<sup>th</sup>)

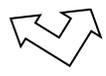
These are the **preliminary** results of our count on Saturday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. An exact total will be in the February newsletter. We had 32 people in the field. In spite of the fog and thick hoar frost, we had our second highest species total, with 86 counted. New to the count was a Swamp Sparrow in Somers. Other highlights included a (possible escapee) Whooper Swan, 1 Hoary Redpoll, a Long-tailed Duck at Bigfork, and new record high counts for 7 other species, including Harlan's (red-tailed) hawk, mourning dove, ring-necked pheasant, northern flicker, common raven, song sparrow and Harris's sparrow.

Pied-billed Grebe	1	Wild Turkey	398	Pygmy Nuthatch	79
Horned Grebe	7	American Coot	478	Brown Creeper	17
Red-necked Grebe	1	Killdeer	1	Winter Wren	1
Western Grebe	2	Wilson's Snipe	1	Marsh Wren	<b>5</b>
Great Blue Heron	7	Ring-billed Gull	5	American Dipper	3
Tundra Swan	63	Herring Gull	cw	Golden-crowned Kinglet	32
Whooper Swan	1	Gull, species	5	Townsend's Solitaire	9
Canada Goose	1523	Rock Pigeon	125	American Robin	1
Green-winged Teal	2	Mourning Dove	<b>132</b>	Bohemian Waxwing	728
Mallard	388	Great Horned Owl	3	Northern Shrike	3
Gadwall	3	Northern Pygmy-Owl	1	European Starling	53
Canvasback	2	Belted Kingfisher	10	American Tree Sparrow	77
Ring-necked Duck	23	Downy Woodpecker	27	Song Sparrow	<b>29</b>
Greater Scaup	8	Hairy Woodpecker	9	Harris's Sparrow	<b>3</b>
Common Goldeneye	204	Northern (R-s) Flicker	<b>106</b>	Swamp Sparrow	1
Barrow's Goldeneye	23	Pileated Woodpecker	19	Dark-eyed Junco	79
Long-tailed Duck	1	Horned Lark	10	Snow Bunting	42
Bufflehead	39	Gray Jay	10	Red-winged Blackbird	342
Hooded Merganser	91	Steller's Jay	1	Brewers Blackbird	143
Common Merganser	153	Blue Jay	1	Pine Grosbeak	21
Bald Eagle	40	Clark's Nutcracker	1	Cassin's Finch	7
Northern Harrier	9	Black-billed Magpie	172	House Finch	260
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	American Crow	43	Red Crossbill	16
Northern Goshawk	cw	Common Raven	<b>206</b>	White-winged Crossbill	19
Red-tailed Hawk	7	Black-capped Chickadee	554	Common Redpoll	109
Red-tailed (Harlan's) Hawk	6	Mountain Chickadee	99	Hoary Redpoll	1
Rough-legged Hawk	26	Chestnut-backed Chickadee	47	Pine Siskin	158
Merlin	1	Red-breasted Nuthatch	94	American Goldfinch	<b>236</b>
Gray Partridge	18	White-breasted Nuthatch	1	Evening Grosbeak	77
Ring-necked Pheasant	<b>112</b>			House Sparrow	7
Ruffed Grouse	7				

by Dan Casey



## Birding Hotspots in the Flathead Basin



Are you curious about the best places to go birding in the Flathead? Look no further than Flathead Audubon's "Birding Hotspots in the Flathead Basin." This handsome brochure contains descriptions of 13 different birding hotspots in and around the Flathead Valley, along with a map to show you how to get there. It also lists all the birds that have been sighted in the Flathead, along with information on their abundance, breeding status and season of occurrence. You can get copies of the brochure at Flathead Audubon's monthly meetings or by contacting Dan Casey at his American Bird Conservancy office. Dan can be reached at 756-2681 or [dcasey@abcbirds.org](mailto:dcasey@abcbirds.org) or by old-fashioned mail at 33 Second Street East, Kalispell, MT 59901. If you would like to have brochures mailed to you, please include \$1 per brochure to cover shipping costs.

Funding assistance for the brochure was provided by: Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Region One; the Flathead National Forest; and Glacier National Park.



AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP FORM

**FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY**

Support local programs and receive the Pileated Post

Flathead Audubon Member \$15   
(Individual or Family)

**NATIONAL AUDUBON**

Support nationwide programs, receive the Audubon magazine and the Pileated Post

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**Mail this form with your check to:**  
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Whitefish, MT 59937



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2003-2006	Andrea Goff (bigfork@digisys.net)	837-1530

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Audubon Adventures	Kim Davis	755-1311	Membership	Mike Fanning	862-8070
Birdseed Sales	June & Rod Ash	754-2289	Owen Sowerwine NA	Brent Mitchell	756-8130
Christmas Bird Count	Dan Casey	857-3143		Neal Brown	837-5018
Community Naturalist Program	Sonja Hartmann	387-4150	Newsletter Editor	Karen Nichols	756-5763
Conservation	Brent Mitchell	756-8130	Program	Leo Keane	862-5807
Education	Sonja Hartmann	387-4150	Publicity	Karen Nichols	756-5763
Field Trips	Jim Swab	387-4299	Refuge Projects	Leslie Kehoe	837-4467
Hospitality	Lois Drobish	756-7405	Sales	Lisa Discoe	837-1456
	Judy Spence	857-2599	Wetlands/Waterfowl	Neal Brown	837-5018
Librarian	Gail Leonard	862-5807			

**MONTANA AUDUBON**

State Office	Ray Johnson, P.O. Box 595, Helena, MT 59624	443-3949
Western Montana Office	Bob Petty, P.O. Box 831, Stevensville, MT 59870	777-0780
Board President	Jim Brown, 1504 Woods Gulch Rd., Missoula, MT 59802	549-8052



**JANUARY, 2004**

The Flathead Audubon Society is affiliated with the National Audubon Society and meets on the second Monday of each month from September through May. The regular meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. and includes a featured guest who presents a conservation or nature program. The regular monthly meeting is preceded by the Executive Board meeting. Both meetings are open to all those interested.

*THE PILEATED POST* is published September through May and is sent to members of the Flathead Audubon Society as a membership benefit. For membership information or address change, please call Mike Fanning at 862-8070.

**Deadline for newsletter copy is the 20th of each month. Contact newsletter editor at 756-5763; email submissions to pileatedpost@hotmail.com**