



Photo By Paul Shockey
 Lynn Kelly proudly holds up her Wildlife Biologist of the Year plaque.

Lynn Kelly to be Recognized for Outstanding Conservation Achievements

By Linda Winnie

The haunting wail of a Common Loon, the alarming "loonatic" yodel of a loon in distress, the graceful black and white form of a loon floating quietly over the water. If these are a part of outdoors Montana that you cherish, then join with Flathead Audubon in thanking Montana's "Loon Lady," Lynn Kelly, for 30 years of dedication and hard work to ensure that these sights and sounds remain part of our landscape.

Loon Research: Lynn Kelly has been studying Common Loons of northwest Montana since the mid-1980s, when she began working on her degree in Wildlife Management at MSU. In the course of her thesis research, Lynn established that human disturbance can contribute significantly to Common Loon nest failure and chick mortality. Boaters coming too near a nest will alarm the parent incubating eggs or caring for chicks. If, as a result, the parent flees and stays away too long, an egg cools or a chick becomes eagle food. Lynn found that keeping boaters roughly 100 yards from an active loon nest greatly increases the chances of nesting success and chick survival. As a result of her research, floating yellow signs are now regularly posted roughly 100 yards away from active Common Loon nests on busy lakes in northwest Montana, to warn boaters of the nest and urge them to stay outside the signs.

Montana Loon Society: Lynn's involvement in Common Loon research and preservation began at a Flathead Audubon meeting in 1985. Lynn was teaching science in the Polson Middle School at the time – a position from which she has recently retired. She was also at that time the President of Flathead Audubon. The meeting speaker was Don Skaar talking about the Common Loons of Montana. Don had

founded the Montana Loon Study, which enlisted wildlife agency biologists to help gather the loon data he needed in order to write the first Montana Loon Management Plan. Don explained that he needed both money and people to help continue his work on loons. FAS contributed funding for his effort, and Lynn volunteered to help. Out of this came her thesis topic and the research described above. Several years later, in 1988, Lynn worked with Don to found the Montana Loon Society (MLS), a volunteer organization for both citizen loon enthusiasts and professional wildlife biologists, dedicated to supporting the study and preservation of the northwest Montana Common Loon population. The newly formed MLS immediately launched an annual Loon Day, held in mid-July, when volunteers survey more than 300 lakes in northwest Montana to determine locations of loons and loon nests, count loons, record chick survival, and take notes on loon behavior. The following year, MLS volunteers began working cooperatively with Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (MFWP) and the US Forest Service (USFS) to put up floating loon-nesting advisory signs each spring on the roughly 30 busiest loon nesting lakes in Montana.

Loon Banding: Lynn has been President of MLS since its founding, and under her leadership the organization has grown in membership and influence. With her guidance, it has also expanded the range of activities it carries out in support Montana's loon population. In 1996, MLS began working cooperatively with MFWP and USFS to band loons in northwest Montana, a program that continues to be active today. The bands make it possible to determine return rates and nesting fidelity, ... *(Lynn Kelly, continued on page 7)*

SEPTEMBER FLATHEAD AUDUBON CALENDAR

Monday, September 9, 2013: Flathead Audubon General Meeting. Gateway Community Center, United Way Conference Room. Rich and Carole Baginski present "Birding in the Galapagos Islands."

See page 3 for full details,

Tuesday, September 3, 2013: FAS Board of Directors Meeting. 6 PM at 295 3rd Ave. EN. All welcome.

Saturday, September 7, 2013: Raptor Day in Memory of Rod Ash. Lone Pine State Park. See page 3.

Saturday, September 28, 2013: Owen Sowerwine Work Day. See page 4.

BIRD OF THE MONTH

By Ben Young

Eurasian Collared-Dove

References listed on
www.FlatheadAudubon.org

And the winner for the North American “Bird of the Decade” award is . . . the Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*). That was my determination at the turn of the decade, and I’d make a case for it three years later.

Likely no other bird species on record has stormed the North American landmass as quickly as Eurasian Collared-Doves (EUCDs). After release from captivity in the Bahamas in 1974, they arrived on the continent in the late 1970s. By the late 1980s, the bird had successfully colonized southern Florida.

Roughly a decade later, Montana had its first confirmed sighting of EUCDs in 1997. It was only a matter of time before they arrived in the Flathead Valley. First reports started coming in spring of 2007. West-northwest expansion continued into Canadian provinces up to the final frontier, Alaska, where nesting evidence of EUCDs was first recorded in 2009.

To put this feat in perspective, in the same time that it’s taken for the EUCD to spread from Florida to Alaska (quarter century), European Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) spread from their introduced location (New York City—1890) to the Mississippi River. This is less than ½ the time it took for the House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) to complete its transcontinental expansion from its introduced location in New York City in the early 1850s.

This should come as no surprise, given the fact that the bird has had practice in the art of conquering continents. Native to the Bay of Bengal region of southern Asia, EUCDs dispersed to Turkey and the Balkans by the 16th century. Thirty years later, the species had colonized nearly every country in Western Europe.

Their mode of dispersal, referred to as jump dispersal, has proved incredibly efficient, making them one of the most successful terrestrial invaders. Small populations of birds move up to several hundred miles ahead of the known range, only to colonize the area between as local populations expand.

A major factor contributing to the success of EUCDs is their high affinity for human-influenced landscapes such as gardens, town parks, pasture land, and other features that provide year-round access to seed sources, roosts, and nesting sites.

Three key questions appear to dominate much of the current research involving EUCDs. First is

the mystery surrounding the expansion pattern of this bird in both its North American and European transcontinental movements. In both cases, birds expanded with a northwest trajectory, leaving regions due north of the original populations relatively devoid of established populations. For example, while observations of EUCDs have occurred in the New England states, a bona fide expansion up the eastern seaboard has yet to occur beyond the Carolinas.

Secondly, researchers are monitoring the potential impacts of the invasive EUCDs on the displacement of native avifauna, like the Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*), by competitive exclusion. To date there exists no conclusive evidence that this is occurring. Rather, studies suggest that impacts of EUCDs on Mourning Doves may be less significant than suspected, as aggression toward and competition with Mourning Doves do not appear to be limiting factors (Poling & Hayslette 2006; Hayslette 2006). Curiously, one study even observed an increase in the site-level abundance of other dove species at sampling locations where EUCDs also increased in abundance (Bonter, Zuckerberg, & Dickinson 2010).

A third research focus is the role which EUCDs play in the transmission of emerging infectious diseases like pigeon paramyxovirus (PPMV). In December 2009 and January 2010, ill and dead EUCDs were observed in Three Forks and Belgrade, Montana. Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks collected six individual birds to submit for diagnostic testing. The cause of death in each of the examined birds was infection with PPMV, a virus for which 236 species of free-ranging birds (wild, domestic, and pets) are known to be susceptible.

If you’d like to find a EUCD, chances are that unless you live in a heavily forested area, they are already present. If you have Mourning Doves coming to your feeder, take a closer look for the larger-bodied EUCD. Nearly twice the size by mass of a Mourning Dove (200 g vs. 120 g), EUCDs are also distinguished from Mourning Doves by their broad, squared-off tail, more rounded dark-tipped wings, and thin black collar on the nape of the neck. Check for them on exposed perches like utility poles and wires from which they offer their three-syllable coo. Or drive past some of Kalispell’s city parks and neighborhoods with mature spruce trees, where they roost and nest.



Tom Ulrich Photo



September Program

BIRDING THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS



Tom Ulrich Photo

Flathead Audubon member Rich Baginski will tell us about his wonderful visit this past April to the Galapagos Islands when we meet Monday, September 9. Rich will talk about the geography, geology, topography, flora and fauna of the Galapagos. His photos will include land and marine life.

The 120-plus volcanic islands (18 major) of the Galapagos archipelago straddle the Equator about 600 miles off the Pacific coast of South America. They are a province of Ecuador and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Their physical isolation and location where three ocean currents converge led to the development of unusual animal life and endemic biodiversity that ultimately inspired Charles Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection, published in *THE ORIGIN OF THE SPECIES*.

Rich and his wife Carole retired to the Flat-

head in 2010 after careers in consumer products research and development with Procter and Gamble in Cincinnati, Ohio. They live in Martin City and are active birders. Rich added 22 birds to his life list while in the Galapagos, 15 of which are endemic to the islands. In addition to travel, they enjoy hiking, volunteering in Glacier National Park, wood carving and weaving.

We look forward to seeing you at 7 PM at the United Way Conference Room at the Gateway Community Center on Highway 2 West in Kalispell. The Conference Room is accessed from the parking lot on the west side of the Center. Also at the meeting, Lynn Kelly will be presented with the first Flathead Audubon Conservation Achievement Recognition of our new program year. Please join us!



Raptor Day Saturday, September 7!



The sixth annual Raptor Day Celebration will be Saturday, September 7, at Lone Pine State Park in Kalispell. Everyone is welcomed to a fun-filled day with lots of activities for kids and adults. A community bird walk will kick off the event at 9:30 AM. Participants should meet in the Lone Pine parking lot. Following the bird walk, there will be a short address from Flathead Audubon and the family of Rod Ash, and then biologist and author Kate Davis from Raptors of the Rockies will give a dynamic presentation with live birds.

Bring a sack lunch or purchase lunch from Bennies Dog House, then stay to hear Rob Domenech of the Raptor View Research Center talk about his research on migrating raptors. Lone Pine will provide activities for kids during breaks and as an alternative during the presentations. There will also be many fun and interactive booths from local conservation agencies and organizations. For more information contact Ashley at AudubonAshley@gmail.com. And look for our posters in the newspapers and all over town!



IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!



Ten years ago, we announced a new category of membership, a local membership in Flathead Audubon Society. The Basic Membership fee of \$20 covers expenses of the chapter: newsletter, monthly meetings, field trips, etc. This amount does **not** cover special programs such as Owen Sowerwine Naatural Area and our Conservation Education program. To help meet these expenses, we also offer a Supporting Membership at \$35. We encourage all who are able to subscribe to the Supporting Membership.

You can still join National Audubon, of course. Your membership fee will support National's many excellent nation-wide education and conservation programs, **but that money will not go to your local chapter**. With a National membership, you receive

both the Audubon magazine and the Flathead Audubon *Pileated Post*. The National Audubon fee is \$20 for first-time members (\$15 for Seniors and Students), and then \$35 to renew your membership after that. We strongly suggest that you join Flathead Audubon and then choose either to join National Audubon or not. Our local members keep our important local programs afloat!

Over the years, Flathead Audubon has been well supported by valley residents through both donations and activities. We hope this support will continue in the future and be supplemented by a large group of local chapter members. Use the form on the last page to join now!

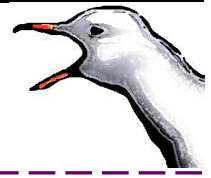
Mike Fanning, Membership Co-Chair



CHIRPS & SQUAWKS

From

Kay Mitchell for the Flathead Audubon Board



Highlights from May 2013 Board Meeting:

- ◆ Renewed Conservation Educator contract for 2013-14 at same rate, \$20,808.
- ◆ Approved final draft of Policy #2, Diversity and Inclusion.
- ◆ Heard from Bob Lee, FAS representative to MT Audubon Board, that MA has approved their 2013-114 budget of approximately \$900,000, and has established an Investment Policy for large donations.
- ◆ Heard an early proposal for a Wildlife Conservation Stamp, as an alternative to the Federal Duck Stamp, (see photo at right), and voted to support the proposal conceptually.

Full minutes of every Flathead Audubon Board meeting are printed on Flathead Audubon's website, www.flatheadaudubon.org, after they are officially accepted at the following month's meeting. Click on "About Us," then "Board Meeting Minute Archives." Take a look!



A Message from President Bob Lopp

Flathead Audubon is a group of dynamic people as diverse as the birds they watch, from hummingbirds to eagles. Common interests revolve around birds, of course, but also habitat preservation and conservation education.

Saturday, September 7 is our 7th Annual Raptor Day in memory of Rod Ash, held at Lone Pine State Park. Starting with a family bird walk and followed by workshops and demonstrations, it is a day of learning and experiencing birdlife in the outdoors.

More technical is the Hawk Watch on Mount Aeneas, starting in September where hawks are counted and identified as they fly south. Volunteers are welcome; call Dan Casey, or just join the watch while you enjoy the Jewel Basin. Bring your camera and binoculars but be ready to duck when a hawk attacks the fake owl on a pole!

Visit Native Plant Gardens at Glacier High School, Helena Flats, West Valley and Somers Schools, designed and planted with native plants by students, teachers and volunteers as part of Flathead

Audubon's education outreach program. Ashley Mason, our Education Coordinator, works with students, adults and seniors all year long, encouraging them to get outdoors to see and touch nature.

How fast can a Wolverine climb 5000 feet up a mountain? That was just one of the fantastic programs last year at the Flathead Audubon monthly meetings on the second Monday of each month from September to May. Richard Kuhl, Program Chairman, finds the most interesting and informative programs every month. I never want to miss a meeting!

Recent articles in the Daily InterLake and Bigfork Eagle tell the story of proposed preservation of 189 acres on the north shore of Flathead Lake. Gael Bissell, a wildlife biologist with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and Flathead Audubon Board Member is working on the details of having the state purchase the land and place it in a conservation easement.

So join Flathead Audubon in enjoying, studying and protecting the diversity of birds and their environment. They share their house and space with us!

OWEN SOWERWINE WORK DAY IS SEPTEMBER 28!

Mark your calendar right now! Meet at 9 AM at Montessori School to fix up our favorite Natural Area. Everyone welcome! Details at September 9 FAS General Meeting and in October *Pileated Post*.



REMINDER!

Keep your bird feeders empty and attractants out of your yard until the bears start their long winter's nap. Be sure to clean up under your fruit trees.

Even if you live in town, please help keep our wildlife WILD!



FLATHEAD AUDUBON MISSION STATEMENT

THE FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY IS A LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY.



OUR MISSION IS TO CONSERVE BIRDS, WILDLIFE HABITAT, AND ECOSYSTEM DIVERSITY.

WE PROMOTE AWARENESS AND APPRECIATION OF THE NATURAL WORLD THROUGH EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND ADVOCACY PROGRAMS.

WE WORK WITH DIVERSE GROUPS AND AGENCIES TO ACHIEVE SOUND DECISIONS ON NATURAL RESOURCE ISSUES.

WHILE FOCUSING OUR EFFORTS IN NORTHWEST MONTANA, WE BELIEVE IN THE PROTECTION OF THE EARTH AND ALL OF ITS INHABITANTS.



FIELD TRIPS for 2013-2014



Last year's 2012-2013 Flathead Audubon field trip season was another great success, with well over 100 people participating in field trips. The Field Trip Committee gives a **HUGE THANKS** to our great volunteer field trip leaders. We hope to see you again this season and we encourage others to lead or co-lead a trip to your favorite birding area. In alphabetical order, give your applause to:

Dan & Susannah Casey	Pete Fisher	Leo Keane	Meredith Stewart
Gail Cleveland	Steve Gniadek	Nicole Montgomery	Kathy Ross
Leslie Kehoe	Craig Hohenberger	Bob Lee	Bruce Tannehill

Leaders need not be bird experts, just knowledgeable about the area where you might lead a trip. If you would like to be a leader or co-leader and/or have ideas for new or special places to watch birds, we would love to hear from you. To offer information for new birding hotspots or to volunteer to lead a field trip, please contact Kathy Ross 837-3837 or Gael Bissell 751-4580.

If you like to bird on your own, Whitefish and Kalispell's Convention and Visitors Bureaus reprinted the "Flathead Valley Birding Guide." These are available at both Kalispell and Whitefish Visitor Centers, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks office in Kalispell, and on the FAS website, www.FlatheadAudubon.org. With all of those magnificent bird images still flying through our memories, we look forward to a new field trip season.

October 2013: Golden Eagle and Raptor HawkWatch: Kathy Ross will lead another field trip to the Teakettle Fishing Access Site just west of Bad Rock Canyon on U.S. Highway 2 in early October. From the comfort of your lawn chair, you can watch Golden Eagles and other raptors soar across Bad Rock Canyon on their fall migration along the Swan Crest. Details will be in the October *Pileated Post*, in the local newspapers, and at www.FlatheadAudubon.org.

You can also get up close and personal with migratory raptors with a hike to the **Jewel Basin Hawk Watch** site up on the edge of the Jewel Basin. Raptor counts are made every day from September 1 through the end of October, weather permitting. Contact Dan Casey at dcasey@abcbirds.org or call 756-2681 to sign up, as space at the site is limited.

Highlights of the 2013-14 FAS Field Trip Program includes trips to Glacier National Park, Mission Valley, Swan Lake and Refuge, Freezeout Lake, Tally Lake, and our annual spring owling night. A new spring field trip to listen for and record bat calls is also in the works. Kathy and Gael, Field Trip Chairs

Did you know that you can be an **Audubon Hero**? Yep, just send an email to lindawin@centurytel.net and ask to receive your Pileated Post by email. It's safe, private, and frees up your membership dollars for Flathead Audubon's important local work. And we share your email address with NO ONE!

2013 BIRDATHON A GREAT SUCCESS!

In June, more than 30 members of Flathead Audubon participated in a fundraising Birdathon, with two teams identifying as many bird species as possible in Northwest Montana on a single day. Participants pursued pledges by phone and in person.

June 23 began with a beautifully clear sunrise, preceded by a "SuperMoon," and developed into a spectacular day for the competing Birdathon teams. Tannehill Tanagers racked up **162** species, and John's Jays identified **151**. Teams searched from the Bison Range to Glacier National Park for species. Participants met at the end of the day, excitedly exchanging stories. Each team had memorable experiences: watching a Sandhill Crane glide over a herd of eight cow elk and a bull in velvet in Glacier National Park; sighting of an Ovenbird at Smith Lake, a warbler rarely seen west of the Continental Divide; having a Peregrine Falcon fly over in the Mission Valley on the way

to finding a Long-eared Owl and its chick; thrilling to the song of an Olive-sided Flycatcher while looking at the snow clad mountains of Glacier; and finding four species of flycatchers at one location. All marveled at the beauty of natural environment they birded.

But the day was about more than having a good time. It was about raising money to continue Flathead Audubon's commitment to conservation education in the Flathead Valley, as well as helping to pay the lease and expenses associated with the Owen Sowerwine Natural Area.

With the help of so many of you, we raised **over \$8,000** for conservation in the Flathead Valley! Special thanks to all participants and donors for a memorable day in the great outdoors of Northwest Montana and for supporting Flathead Audubon's conservation goals!

From Gail Cleveland



FAS CONSERVATION EDUCATION DOES NOT TAKE A SUMMER BREAK

Though FAS meetings have taken a summer break, FAS educational outreach has continued. Our Conservation Educator, Ashley Mason, has continued programs throughout the summer. The native plant gardens are thriving at Somers and West Valley School. Ashley and her beautiful daughters also visited the Veterans Home in Columbia Falls in the late spring and brought live birds to the residents. It was delightful and we hope to continue such programs. A well-attended family program was presented at Whitefish Library and now with fall approaching, Ashley has been hard at work coordinating Rod Ash Raptor Day which will be held on Saturday, September 7, and will feature some excellent presenters again. Following are some details of the recent activities of our CE's varied activities on our behalf. From Linda DeKort

NATIVE PLANT GARDENS

The four native plant gardens installed during the 2012-2013 school year are finished and thriving! Gardens were installed at Helena Flats and Glacier High School in the fall of 2012 and at West Valley and Somers School in the spring of 2013. At West Valley, Alison Godfrey, a master gardener volunteer, has organized local volunteers to keep the fledgling plants watered during the dry months. They now seem well on their way to becoming established. The garden, inspired by a Native American Medicine Wheel, is thriving on the northeast corner of the campus. This fall, an outdoor classroom will be established and native shrubs will be planted along the fence line; it is a wonderful addition to the West Valley campus.

All of the students and teachers involved in these gardens will add to their native plant experience through service work on the Flathead National Forest this fall. These service projects may include weed mitigation, planting and or seed collection. A.M.



BUFFALO TERRACE BUZZES AFTER HUMMINGBIRD PRESENTATION

Residents of Buffalo Terrace's independent and assisted living apartments flocked to Ashley's Hummingbird program in July. Turnout was quite high and attendees were very enthusiastic. Our common love of those little guys crosses all generations!

AUDUBON/ROAD SCHOLAR COLLABORATION

The FAS Education Program engaged in a new type of partnership this summer. Conservation Educator, Ashley Mason, and FAS Board members Gail Cleveland, Bruce Tannehill, Kathy Ross and John Hughes partnered with Road Scholar (formerly Elderhostel) to provide three days of education in Glacier National Park as part of Road Scholar's Intergenerational Program.

Road Scholar Intergenerational Programs provide the opportunity for grandparents to take their grandchildren to exciting, educational, and adventurous places around the globe. FAS provided education on Bird Identification, ecology and geology while hiking the beautiful Avalanche Lake Trail. Participants also had the opportunity to get to know each other through playing nature games, writing poems and sharing their own personal stories about the landscape.

In return, Road Scholar has provided \$1,200 in support of the FAS Conservation Education Program. This has been a wonderful collaboration...one that we hope will continue in future years. A.M.

Look deep into nature, and then you will
understand everything better.

Albert Einstein

WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR TEACHERS AND EDUCATORS

Wilderness is a defining characteristic of much of the land surrounding us. Educational partners, including Glacier National Park, Flathead National Forest, Montana Wilderness Association and Crown of the Continent Ecosystem Consortium are working together to host the "Wilderness Investigations Teacher Workshop," September 14-15, 2013. This hands-on workshop takes place in Glacier National Park at the Glacier Institute Field Camp and will introduce K-12 teachers to the defining elements of wilderness. It will provide teachers with age-appropriate activities to use in their classrooms to get students thinking about, and discussing wilderness values.

Glacier Park Acting Superintendent Kym Hall stated: "We are so grateful for the financial support that enables The Glacier Institute to provide this valuable workshop to teachers. We view parks as classrooms for all, and any opportunity to welcome our educators to Glacier National Park and help them build on their skills and at the same time educate students about wilderness, is a worthwhile venture."

The cost of the workshop is FREE to the first twenty teachers, offers OPI renewal credit and is funded by grants from the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem Consortium (COCEEC) and the Flathead Chapter of the MT Wilderness Association (MWA). Interested educators should contact The Glacier Institute at (406) 755-1211 or visit www.glacierinstitute.org for information.



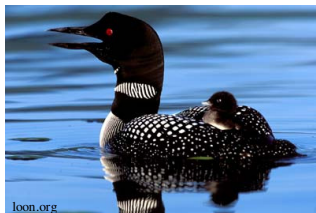
(Lynn Kelly, continued from page 1 ...)

and track the migration paths of Montana's loons. During the banding process, the birds are measured and weighed, and blood is drawn that is used to monitor levels of heavy metals and to pave the way for genetic testing. MLS volunteers watch for and record loon bands on Loon Day, and throughout the summer.

Common Loon Working Group: The research and management of Montana's Common Loon population took another leap forward in 1998. Under Lynn's influence, Gael Bissell (MFWP) and Jane Ingebretson (USFS) founded the Montana Common Loon Working Group (MCLWG). This organization brings together wild-life biologists of federal and state agencies and private entities (such as timber companies) who have an interest in and responsibility for the management of Montana's Common Loon habitat and population. The group meets on a regular basis to plan loon research, monitoring and management, and the members work cooperatively with each other and with volunteers to carry out these plans. MLS continues to enlist volunteers to help with the activities of the MCLWG, while the MCLWG can now draw on institutional funding and expert personnel to organize and oversee the research and conservation protection needed to support Montana's Common Loons.

Loon Education: For many years Lynn spent countless hours and drove many miles around northwest Montana talking to local residents and anglers about the need for protecting the Common Loons of Montana, about the role of the floating nesting signs, about how to recognize when you are causing loon distress, about how to engage in water activities in a way that is not harmful to loons. In 2000 the MCLWG organized a program using paid interns to do this job. Known as Loon Rangers, these interns also help put up floating loon-nesting signs, monitor Common Loons and loon bands, give evening presentations at campgrounds, and meet with lakeside land owners and other lake users to explain why loons need privacy, especially during nesting season. It must give Lynn great pleasure to see 3 or 4 enthusiastic young college biology students spreading out every summer over northwest Montana to do the work that she had for so many years tried to do on her own!

Flathead Audubon's first Outstanding Conservation Achievement Recognition of the 2013-14 Audubon season will be presented to Lynn Kelly at the September 9 FAS meeting. With this Recognition, Flathead Audubon salutes Montana's Loon Lady for her research on the Common Loon; her many years of dedication to monitoring, and protecting Montana's loons; her many hours and miles of personal work towards these ends; her wide-spread public education efforts; and her creative and industrious approach to developing a network of volunteers and professionals to carry this work forward.



loon.org

SPECIAL GIFTS

I wish to help make Flathead Audubon's vision a reality. Here is my contribution to the continued success of our chapter.



Dave Menke, USFWS

- Eagle Donation, \$1000+
- Osprey Donation, \$500+
- Snowy Owl Donation, \$250+
- Merlin Donation, \$100+
- Kestrel Donation, \$50+
- My Own Vision, amount of my choice

* * * *

The FAS activity which most interests me is:

- Education Programs
- Owen Sowerwine Natural Area
- Scholarships and Grants
- Field Trips and Outdoor Events

* * * *

I want my gift to recognize another:

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Please send a notification of this gift to:

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Please make checks payable to:

Flathead Audubon Society

P.O. Box 9173

Kalispell, MT 59904

Your gift is tax deductible.

IN APPRECIATION

In a final settlement of the estate of long-time member Jack White, Flathead Audubon has received a generous donation, in addition to a directed donation received in 2011. The FAS Board is currently determining the use of this contribution. Posthumously, we honor his memory and accept Jack's generosity with respect and gratitude.



SEPTEMBER 2013



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The Flathead Audubon Society is affiliated with Montana Audubon and the National Audubon Society. Flathead Audubon meets on the second Monday of each month from September through May. Meetings start at 7:00PM and include a featured guest who presents a conservation or nature program. The Board of Directors meet the Monday preceding the general meeting, at 6PM at 295 3rd Ave. EN, in Kalispell. Both meetings are open to all those interested.

THE PILEATED POST is published September through May and is sent to members of Flathead Audubon Society as a membership benefit. For membership information or address change, please call Mike Fanning at 862-8070. **To receive this newsletter electronically, email your request to: lindawin@centurytel.net. Deadline for newsletter copy is the 18th of each month. Contact newsletter editor at 755-1406; email submissions to: lindawin@centurytel.net**

Website: www.FlatheadAudubon.org
Conservation Educator - Ashley Mason: AudubonAshley@gmail.com

FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY DIRECTORY

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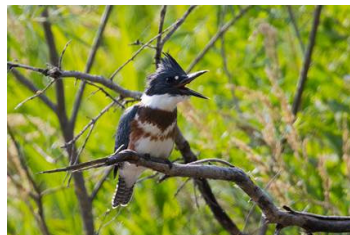
President	Bob Lopp	boblopp@bresnan.net	752-7026
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Treasurer	Bruce Tannehill	tanneland@bresnan.net	862-4548
Past-President	Paula Smith	paulabobsmith@centurytel.net	837-0181

DIRECTORS

2013-2016	Jan Wassink	janwassink51@gmail.com	249-6590
2012-2015	Steve Gniadek	grayjaybro@yahoo.com	892-7406
2012-2015	Lewis Young	68 Garrison Dr., Eureka 59917	889-3492
2011-2014	Richard Kuhl	kuhlpan@cyberport.net	257-5793
2011-2014	John Hughes	birdwatcher.hughes@gmail.com	261-2506
2011-2014	Gael Bissell	gbissell535@gmail.com	755-8709
2011-2014	Denny Olson	docwild@centurytel.net	249-3987
2013-2014	Ben Young	youngb@sd5.k12.mt.us	257-2286

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Christmas Bird Count	Dan Casey	857-3143
Conservation	Lewis Young	889-3492
	Steve Gniadek	892-7406
	Denny Olson	249-3987
Education	Kathy Ross	837-3837
	Gael Bissell	755-8709
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	Mary Nelesen	755-7678
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	Mike Fanning	862-8070
Membership	Jill Fanning	862-8070
	Richard Kuhl	257-5793
Owen Sowerwine Natural Area Newsletter	Linda Winnie	755-1406
	Linda Winnie	755-1406
	Kay Mitchell	756-8130
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	Richard Kuhl	257-5793
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Sales	Jill Fanning	862-8070
Refuges	Kathy Ross	837-3837
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Wetlands	John Hughes	261-2506



Kingfisher at OSNA,
Photo by Dennis Rabon

MONTANA AUDUBON
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www.MTAudubon.org

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shoffman@mtaudubon.org
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