



# Pileated

# Post

the

Newsletter of the Flathead Audubon Society

Volume 15

Number 7

October, 1990

## Mark Your Calendar

1990 OCTOBER 1990						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
7 FM 4	1	2	3	4	5	6
14	8	9	10	11	12	13
21	15	16	17	18	19	20
28	22	23	24	25	26	27
	29	30	31	LO 11	NM 18	FO 26

10/8/90 - Board of Directors Dinner Meeting, 5 pm at the Korner Kitchen in Bigfork. Open to all interested members.

Regular Monthly Meeting: United Methodist Church, Commerce & Electric Avenues, Bigfork. Business Meeting: 7:30 pm. Open to all. Program: 8 pm.

Board member Bob Ballou will discuss the wildlife program at the Bosque Refuge in New Mexico, where he and wife Nancy volunteer.

The Bosque Refuge is noted for wintering sandhill cranes and snow geese, and also for being the winter home of the whooping cranes raised by sandhill cranes at Greys Lake, Idaho.



10/13/90 - Delivery Day for Sunflower Seeds. The sunflower seed orders will be delivered at the following locations:

- Bigfork, Lakehills Shopping Center, 9 - 11 am
- Columbia Falls, 1st Federal Savings 10 - 12 am
- Condon, Call June Ash (754-2289) for arrangements
- Kalispell, Center Mall west parking lot, 10 - 12 am
- Polson, Super 1 parking lot 11 am - 1 pm
- Whitefish, Train Depot parking lot 10 - 12 am

## President's Corner

How many times have you heard the term, "The Audubon Cause"?

I've heard it off and on for the past several years and thought I had an idea what it was or what it meant. I've never seen it in print or heard exactly what it was until a couple of months ago when I opened the chapter leader's guide and found a copy of it!

Basically, it's the Audubon philosophy -- the driving force behind the many councils, chapters, etc. Recently, Rod Ash ordered a couple hundred copies of "Audubon Cause" and they will be passed out to the membership. This is part of an on-going effort to keep everyone informed about Audubon in general and Flathead Audubon specifically.

In line with keeping informed, I hope to recruit, coerce or beg a few of our members to give "Beginning Bird Watching" lessons at our meetings. I definitely feel uncertain about several groups of birds when I try to identify them in the three seconds available for observation; some birds would take me three hours under ideal conditions, I'm sure.

The October meeting will be conducted by Leo Keane, as I'll be walking over the (now defunct) Montana National Guard Training Center site, south of Glasgow. My wife, Kay, and I will be on safari in search of antelope with several of our friends. Last year, I saw sage grouse for the first time in nearly 20 years.

Best wishes for an informative and fun meeting.

Brent Mitchell





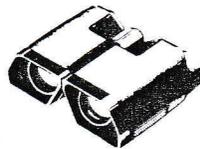
## Wanted: Your Input

THE PILEATED POST is your newsletter. It is the voice of the Flathead Audubon Society and in that regard it can speak for you, since you're a part of the chapter. A new column, "A Piece of Mind", will be in the next newsletter, giving you an opportunity to voice your thoughts, ideas or opinions on the wide range of Audubon concerns.

Send your written comments to the editor: Sharon Bergman, 354 LaBella Ln, Big Arm, MT 59910. The editor reserves the right to make editorial judgments on the material submitted. The deadline for copy for the November issue is October 20. So, let's hear from you!

THE PILEATED POST is printed by Gull Printing in Polson, and with the equipment at our disposal the newsletter can include photographs. If you have an outstanding shot, be it animal, bird or scenic, send it along and maybe we can use it. If you want the print returned, enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

## Montana Wildlife Viewing Guides Available



Roadside signs sporting binocular logos are cropping up across Montana. A second sign accompanying the white-on-brown binocular symbol states, "Wildlife Viewing Area".

The key to locating all 113 designated viewing sites is a new book, the MONTANA WILDLIFE VIEWING GUIDE. The book may be purchased at all Fish, Wildlife & Parks offices and is also being sold in book stores and other outlets.

The guide tells how to find the sites, the species of wildlife to look for and the seasons and times for best viewing. The sites chosen represent a sampling of the best in the state, including a snow goose stopover near Great Falls, Bighorn sheep and elk viewing sites, a canoe trail in the Swan Valley, fish hatcheries and even urban parks are included.

Proceeds from sales at the FWP offices will help fund a watchable wildlife program.

## Thru The Editor's Spotting Scope



It was a warm day and we were sitting outside enjoying a cool drink and pleasant conversation. In the middle of a sentence my visiting daughter said, "Mom, there's a bear in the garden."

The last time I had encountered an unexpected, unwanted bear was at the age of 14 in Glacier National Park. The family had made a Sunday jaunt to the park for a picnic and Mom and Dad took a short walk, leaving my sister and me in the car. We noticed a black bear come into the parking area and nose around the garbage can. At that point it was cute and interesting for two teenagers fresh out of Arizona who could cope with rattlesnakes and scorpions, but knew nothing about bears.

We wound down the window to get a better look and the bear thought we had a delectable treat. We thought it was trying to get in the car through the window. At that point it ceased to be cute and interesting. We wound up the window, fast, and our screams echoed through the picnic grounds -- and proved to be affective in making a startled bear back down.

My garden is partially fenced and, after sampling the apples, this black bear was trying to find a way out -- which was the way he came in. He saw me looking at him across the fence in disbelief and ran across my newly-planted lawn (oh, drat!) as he beat a hasty retreat. When he cleared the area and paused in the road in front of the house my dormant courage came to life and I yelled at him, "Go on! Get out of here!" He stared at me; I stared at him. And when he got good and ready, he left.



And so it is with bears and other critters that share our space. We can't always have them on our terms. Since we chose to live here, compromises have to be worked out. Frankly, I'd rather work them out with a black bear than with scorpions and rattlesnakes anytime.

Sharon Bergman



## Earth Day . . . Continued

The Montana Environmental Quality Council is an agency of the legislative body of state government. It serves environmental health in an advisory capacity, making recommendations to the executive and legislative branches, to develop and insure that environmental policies of the state are carried out.

The following statement by the Flathead Audubon Society, regarding the disposal of hazardous wastes, was presented to the Montana Environmental Quality Council and the Flathead County Solid Waste District.

"We support composting plans and urge county-wide recycling of paper, glass, aluminum and steel cans. We believe it is obscene not to be recycling today.

We are particularly concerned about the disposal of hazardous wastes:

Hazardous waste tossed into garbage has been responsible for serious injuries to refuse workers and damage to disposal equipment and facilities.

Disposing of household hazardous waste in a landfill is not an effective solution. Mounting evidence indicates that municipal landfills contain toxic chemical leachate in high enough concentration to be potentially harmful to our water supplies.

Municipal incinerators are not designed to treat hazardous wastes either, including those generated from households. Air pollution and toxic ash, which must be landfilled, result from incineration of household hazardous waste.

Alternatives to landfilling and incineration include comprehensive recycling and composting.

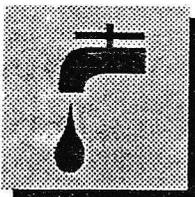
No matter how solid waste is managed, the hazardous materials from the waste stream must be removed and proper treatment provided.

We urge county-wide collection of hazardous waste and arrangements made for safe disposal. Communities all over the country have cooperated in the collection process of hazardous waste and with the opportunity, we will also.

We realize a comprehensive educational program is needed and wish to assure you of our cooperation. We are willing to inform local citizens how to precycle, reuse and recycle."

April 21, 22 and 23, 1991 are days to remember, so mark your calendar. They have been reserved for the Earth Day exhibits next spring at the Kalispell Center Mall.

Ferne Cohen, Earth Day Coordinator



**CONSERVING WATER** - Did you know that as a nation we consume 450 billion gallons of water every day? Water conservation reduces the amount of chemicals and energy used in water and sewage treatment and reduces the amount of energy needed to pump the water to our homes or heat the water once it's there. It also saves you money and may prevent expensive, ecologically damaging future water projects.

The following are simple things you can do to make a difference:

- \*Install a water-saving showerhead. \*Take showers rather than baths. \*Install a space-occupier (weighted plastic bottle) in the toilet. \*Install sink faucet aerators. \*Turn off the water between rinses when shaving and brushing teeth. \*Use a broom rather than a hose to clean walkways. \*Don't let the hose run when washing the car. \*Water plants and lawn in the morning to minimize evaporation. \*Install a drip-irrigation watering system. Wash only full loads in clothes and dishwashers. \*Repair faucet leaks immediately. \*Plant drought-tolerant plants.



## Beach Blues

Join actor and environmentalist Ted Danson in the season's first new Audubon Television Special, "Danger at the Beach." Danson, founder of the American Oceans Campaign, explores America's coasts and the mounting pollution problems that beset them, and he talks with activists who are searching for ways to protect our waters before it is too late.

"Danger at the Beach" kicks off the fall line-up of Audubon Television Specials on TBS SuperStation. Air dates: Sunday, September 30 at 10:00 p.m.; Monday, October 1 at 12:45 a.m.; Saturday, October 6 at 9:05 a.m.; and Monday, October 22 at 2:05 a.m. (all Eastern Standard Time).

## Welcome To Those New Among Us



Mrs. Jack Beard, D. Boddington, John Carlisle, Milt Carlson, Kim Davis, James Courney, M/M Robert Finley, Kay Fry, Gary Sakahara, J. T. Schroeder, Evelyn Smith and Morgan of Kalispell, all of Kalispell; Genevieve Candee and Connie Wood of Libby; Glenn Meredith of Troy; Daisie Aaberge of Polson; E. J. Sackett of W. Glacier; Doug & Karen Chadwick of Whitefish; Dick & Judy Howell and Sandy Everts of Columbia Falls; Bettye Jeude of Lakeside; Mary Kile of Dixon; Bill West and M/M Dick Wunderlich of Ronan; Donald Tincher of Rexford; Steve Hermes of Kila; F. Faust of Essex and Cas Still and Joe Potoczny of Bigfork.

## NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Enjoy full National Audubon Society benefits—and AUDUBON magazine—at a special new-member rate of \$20.

Mail to:  
Flathead Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 715  
Bigfork, Montana 59911

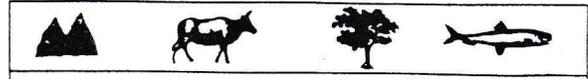
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Payment enclosed  Bill Me

Allow 4-6 weeks for first issue of AUDUBON. Membership dues include \$20 for AUDUBON magazine.

**NEW MEMBERS ONLY!**

Join today and receive:  
A YEAR—6 BIMONTHLY ISSUES—of the stunning photography and absorbing articles in AUDUBON magazine.  
MEMBERSHIP in one of the 500 local Audubon chapters nationwide (if there is one in your area) with access to field-trips and other activities.  
FREE OR REDUCED ADMISSION to Audubon nature centers and sanctuaries.  
INVITATIONS to Audubon's ecology camps and workshops.  
ELIGIBILITY for wide-ranging Audubon tours.  
DISCOUNTS on nature books, collectibles, and gifts. And with your membership you're supporting the National Audubon Society's vital efforts at protecting wildlife and environment.



## Help make a difference!

Joining the Audubon Activist Network has never been easier—or more urgent! By signing the Activist Pledge—a commitment to write two letters and make two phone calls during the year for Audubon issues—you can be part of a growing corps of Audubon activists who want to make their voices heard. By making the Pledge, you will receive the newly designed and monthly *Audubon Activist*, as well as *Action Alert* bulletins on key votes in Congress. Simply fill out the form below and send to: *Audubon Activist*, 950 Third Ave., NY, NY 10022.

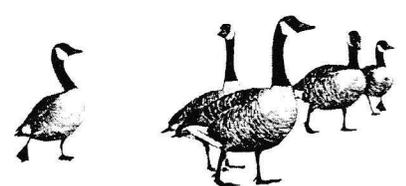
YES, I'd like to be an Audubon Activist. I'll receive a complimentary subscription to the *Audubon Activist* news journal, plus *Action Alert* bulletins when my letter or phone call is needed, plus the chance to be part of a telephone network, and access to the Actionline phone number with taped updates on late-breaking environmental news. *For my part, I pledge to take action by writing at least two letters and making at least two phone calls for Audubon each year.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



## From Montana Audubon Council

### Audubon Regional Conference a Success.

The Rocky Mountain Regional Conference of National Audubon was a resounding success. Approximately 185 Audubon members from the six Rocky Mountain states gathered at Mammoth Hot Springs in Yellowstone Nat'l. Park for the five-day conference. The conference was hosted by the Montana Audubon Council -- largely successful because of all of the hard work of our Montana members.

Meeting National Audubon staff and Audubon activists from other states is the most exciting part of the conference because that is where the exchange of ideas takes place. It is always energizing to be with such a large group of people with similar interests and concerns.

Thanks to all the Audubon chapters for donating items to the Silent Auction we held during the conference. We raised almost \$1000 from the auction and raffle.

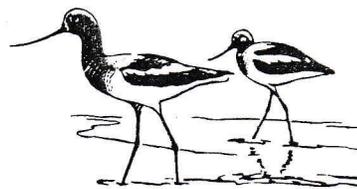
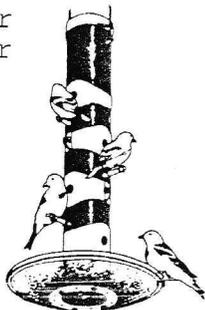
1991 Montana Legislature. In January, 1991, the Montana Legislature will meet in Helena. Audubon will again be there with a lobbyist. Our legislative priorities will include the following: 1) subdivision reform as it affects wildlife; 2) a host of forestry issues; 3) recycling; 4) wetland/riparian habitat protection; 5) state parks legislation and 6) funding for a Watchable Wildlife program. More details on each of our priority issues will be coming out this fall.

If you have suggestions on any of these issues, please contact the Montana Audubon Council office at P. O. Box 595, Helena, MT 59624; 443-3949.

Janet H. Ellis

## Niger Seed Available

If the birds at your feeder prefer niger seed, Pete Barber of Denton can supply your needs. You can contact him by phone (567-2342) or drop him a note at Denton, MT 59430. The cost is \$51 for a 50-lb. bag and \$28.50 for a 25-lb. bag. If you make arrangements early enough, Pete can deliver on 10/13.



## Challenges For Our Chapters

by Peter A.A. Berle, NAS President

First came the summer of 1988: garbage on the beaches, holes in the ozone layer, drought in the Midwest. A nation awoke to the looming reality of environmental troubles.

In the dog days of 1989 we fared little better. Angry shrimpers refused to comply with the law, costing the lives of thousands of endangered sea turtles. The impacts of the country's worst oil spill, the Exxon Valdez, reverberated through the system.

This summer we are witnessing yet another full-scale assault on the environment:

- \* Citing "national security," the oil industry and some congressmen renewed their call for drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, while the year-long rash of oil spills continued to proliferate.

- \* Following the listing of the northern spotted owl as a threatened species, the administration worked feverishly to circumvent the Endangered Species Act and allow continued high rates of logging in the ancient forests of the Pacific Northwest.

- \* Developers continued to pour millions of dollars into lobbying for the disastrous Two Forks Dam on the Platte River, despite a nearly sure veto by the EPA.

However, the summer of 1990 will also be remembered for its victories--many of them engineered by chapters and Audubon activists:

- \* Scenic designation was declared for 76 miles of the beautiful Niobrara River in northern Nebraska.

- \* Revisions to the Clean Air Act passed both houses of Congress that, over time, should stop acid rain.

- \* Oil spill liability legislation was signed requiring tankers to have double hulls and making oil spillers pay more of the true cost of spills.

- \* As of this writing, 123 representatives had signed on to Rep. Jim Jontz's landmark Ancient Forest Protection Act of 1990.

- \* Audubon chapters in Florida participated in unprecedented hands-on training workshops on wetland preservation, sponsored by National Audubon.

Many of the most crucial battles ahead of us will be fought at the chapter level, and your letters, phone calls, and appearances before public agencies will continue to make the difference on a whole host of local and national issues.

Now is our chance to help save the world. We can make a difference and we will.

## From Montana Audubon Council

### Audubon Regional Conference a Success.

The Rocky Mountain Regional Conference of National Audubon was a resounding success. Approximately 185 Audubon members from the six Rocky Mountain states gathered at Mammoth Hot Springs in Yellowstone Nat'l. Park for the five-day conference. The conference was hosted by the Montana Audubon Council -- largely successful because of all of the hard work of our Montana members.

Meeting National Audubon staff and Audubon activists from other states is the most exciting part of the conference because that is where the exchange of ideas takes place. It is always energizing to be with such a large group of people with similar interests and concerns.

Thanks to all the Audubon chapters for donating items to the Silent Auction we held during the conference. We raised almost \$1000 from the auction and raffle.

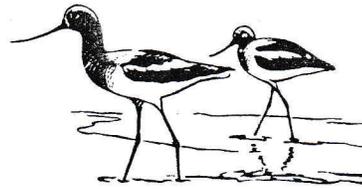
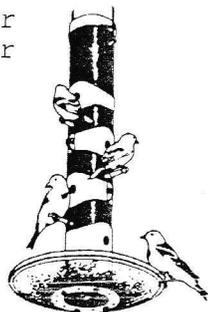
1991 Montana Legislature. In January, 1991, the Montana Legislature will meet in Helena. Audubon will again be there with a lobbyist. Our legislative priorities will include the following: 1) subdivision reform as it affects wildlife; 2) a host of forestry issues; 3) recycling; 4) wetland/riparian habitat protection; 5) state parks legislation and 6) funding for a Watchable Wildlife program. More details on each of our priority issues will be coming out this fall.

If you have suggestions on any of these issues, please contact the Montana Audubon Council office at P. O. Box 595, Helena, MT 59624; 443-3949.

Janet H. Ellis

## Niger Seed Available

If the birds at your feeder prefer niger seed, Pete Barber of Denton can supply your needs. You can contact him by phone (567-2342) or drop him a note at Denton, MT 59430. The cost is \$51 for a 50-lb. bag and \$28.50 for a 25-lb. bag. If you make arrangements early enough, Pete can deliver on 10/13.



## Challenges For Our Chapters by Peter A.A. Berle, NAS President

**F**irst came the summer of 1988: garbage on the beaches, holes in the ozone layer, drought in the Midwest. A nation awoke to the looming reality of environmental troubles.

In the dog days of 1989 we fared little better. Angry shrimpers refused to comply with the law, costing the lives of thousands of endangered sea turtles. The impacts of the country's worst oil spill, the Exxon Valdez, reverberated through the system.

This summer we are witnessing yet another full-scale assault on the environment:

- \* Citing "national security," the oil industry and some congressmen renewed their call for drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, while the year-long rash of oil spills continued to proliferate.

- \* Following the listing of the northern spotted owl as a threatened species, the administration worked feverishly to circumvent the Endangered Species Act and allow continued high rates of logging in the ancient forests of the Pacific Northwest.

- \* Developers continued to pour millions of dollars into lobbying for the disastrous Two Forks Dam on the Platte River, despite a nearly sure veto by the EPA.

However, the summer of 1990 will also be remembered for its victories--many of them engineered by chapters and Audubon activists:

- \* Scenic designation was declared for 76 miles of the beautiful Niobrara River in northern Nebraska.

- \* Revisions to the Clean Air Act passed both houses of Congress that, over time, should stop acid rain.

- \* Oil spill liability legislation was signed requiring tankers to have double hulls and making oil spillers pay more of the true cost of spills.

- \* As of this writing, 123 representatives had signed on to Rep. Jim Jontz's landmark Ancient Forest Protection Act of 1990.

- \* Audubon chapters in Florida participated in unprecedented hands-on training workshops on wetland preservation, sponsored by National Audubon.

Many of the most crucial battles ahead of us will be fought at the chapter level, and your letters, phone calls, and appearances before public agencies will continue to make the difference on a whole host of local and national issues.

Now is our chance to help save the world. We can make a difference and we will.



# 1990 Flathead Audubon Society Directory

## OFFICERS

President	Brent Mitchell, 960 Kienas Rd, Kalispell, MT 59901	756-8130
Vice president	Leo Keane, 514 Pine Place, Whitefish, MT 59937	862-5807
Secretary	Gail Leonard, 514 Pine Place, Whitefish, MT 59937	862-5807
Treasurer	Tommie Clark, 231 Pine Needle Ln, Bigfork, MT 59911	837-6615

## DIRECTORS

Ferne Cohen, P. O. Box 1782, Whitefish, MT 59937	862-2028
Dick Fretheim, 904 Woodland Ave, Kalispell, MT 59901	755-5768
Lynn Kelly, 905B 5th Ave. E, Polson, MT 59860	883-5797
Robin Magaddino, 2100 Swan Hwy, Bigfork, MT 59911	837-4294
Bob Shennum, 2888 Swan Hwy, Bigfork, MT 59911	837-6208

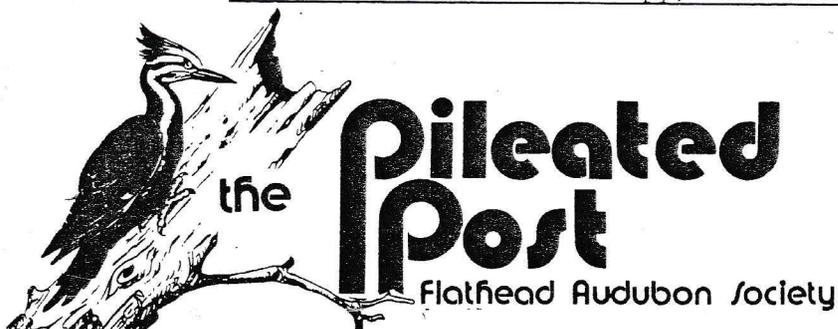
## CHAIRS

Audubon Adventures	Kim Davis, 4870 Hwy 93S, #62, Whitefish, MT 59937	862-7350
Conservation	Rod Ash, P. O. Box 1129, Condon, MT 59826	754-2289
Field Trips	Dan Casey, P. O. Box 2922, Kalispell, MT 59901	857-3143
Hospitality/Sales	Pattie Brown, 560 Wolf Creek Dr, Bigfork, MT 59911	837-5018
Hostess	Evelyn Kile	892-4864
Librarian	Marie Shirley, 1016A Park Ave, Whitefish, MT 59937	862-0790
Membership	June Ash, P. O. Box 1129, Condon, MT 59826	754-2289
Newsletter	Sharon Bergman, 354 LaBella Ln, Big Arm, MT 59910	849-5286
Program	Ferne Cohen, P. O. Box 1782, Whitefish, MT 59937	862-2028
Refuge Projects	Bob Ballou, Rt. 1, Box 11881, Charlo, MT 59825	644-2365
Schools/Clubs	Jean Robocker, 1655 Montford Rd, Kalispell, MT 59901	756-6344

THE FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY meets on the second Monday of each month from September through May at the United Methodist Church in Bigfork. The business meeting is held at 7:30 pm, followed by a special program at 8 pm. The regular monthly meetings are preceded by an Executive Board meeting, the time and place of which are published in the preceding newsletter. These meetings are open to all interested people.

THE PILEATED POST is published nine times a year, September through May, and is sent to Flathead Audubon Society members as a membership benefit. Subscriptions for non-members are \$5 per year. The address for The Flathead Audubon Society is: P. O. Box 715, Bigfork, MT 59911.

Deadline for newsletter copy; the 20th of each month.



P.O. BOX 715  
BIGFORK, MONTANA 59911

Non-Profit Org. Postage PAID Permit No. 3 BIGFORK, MT 59911
--