

Lois Webster Fund Presentations Draw Large Audience



LWF Grantees from left to right : Amber Carver, Steve Olson, Stephanie Shively

On May 2, The Lois Webster Fund partnered with Kent Denver School to host the annual LWF program. Over 80 attendees showed up on the Kent Denver campus to hear the presentations.

The audience consisted of students and teachers as well as members and friends of the Audubon Society of Greater Denver and the Lois Webster Fund committee. Ann Reavis, a niece of Lois Webster, flew in from Washington DC to join us.



Topics of Presentations

The three presentations were: “Backyard Bee Watchers Citizen Scientist Launch” by Dr. Amy Ellwein from the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory; “Importance of Habitat Heterogeneity to Distribution and Breeding Success in Shortgrass Steppe Birds” by Amber Carver, a graduate student at University of Colorado Denver; and “Brown’s Canyon National Monument Bioblitz and Biotech” by Stephanie Shively, a Forest Ranger in Salida.

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Lois Webster Fund Presentation *cont.*

LWF committee member, Karen Hollweg, gave the presentation on the “Backyard Bees” for Dr. Amy Ellwein who was unable to attend at the last minute. Fortunately Amy’s PowerPoint and detailed notes enabled Karen to relay the research to the audience. Afterwards, any questions were written down and Karen made a call to Amy to find the answers which were later revealed at the end of the presentations.

Amber Carver’s presentation on the “Importance of Habitat Heterogeneity to Distribution and Breeding Success in Shortgrass Steppe Birds” caught the interest of the science teachers and students. Her impressive and detailed research showed how the scientific method is followed in her field studies. The final presentation was given by Stephanie Shively and Steve Olson, a botanist for the US Forest Service, on the Brown’s Canyon National Monument Bioblitz. The project is an initial compilation of all the animal and plant wildlife that exists in the area. Stephanie and Steve spent the

earlier part of the day with the students at Kent Denver. They shared their experience and took some of the classes outdoors for some “hands-on” teaching opportunity. Jeff Caulfield, the chairman of the Science Department at Kent Denver is interested in organizing a Bioblitz of the school’s campus.

The grantees for 2017 will be: “Native Fish in the Classroom” by Mark Kucza, a 4th grade teacher at Highland Elementary School in Pierce, CO; “Conserving Northern Leopard Frogs on Colorado’s Front Range” by Joy Master, a conservation ecologist with the City of Boulder Parks and Recreation Department; and “Grassland Bird and Mammal Response to Bison Reintroduction in Northern Colorado” by Kate Wilkins, a PhD candidate in Ecology at Colorado State University.

We look forward to hearing these interesting and diverse projects at next year’s Lois Webster Fund presentation event.



Kent Denver students getting hands-on experience on their campus.



A brief run-down on the 2017 Legislative session is now in order:

- Began on January 11, 2017, ended at midnight on May 10, 2017.
- Passed the Nongame Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Voluntary Contribution Act, reauthorizing the Nongame Income Tax Check-off and setting up a grants program for rehabilitators with some of the Nongame program funds.
- Did NOT pass the Financial Sustainability Act, HB 1321, which would have allowed the Parks and Wildlife Commission to raise hunting and fishing license fees over time AND explored how non-hunters could contribute to the support of CPW lands.
- Did NOT pass the bill requiring the establishment of measurable goals and objectives for the Colorado Climate Action Plan.
- Did NOT pass a bill requiring the mapping and remediation of oil and gas flow lines, despite the deaths of two men in Firestone, CO due to an open flow line.
- Did NOT renew the Colorado Energy Office, which has supported a transition to renewable energy sources.

On the other hand, a number of very anti-regulatory bills died before they could be signed by the Governor, thus preserving the State's ability to establish regulations to protect public health, safety and the environment, and some positive steps for water management were taken.

For next year:

- 1) Plan to contribute to the Nongame Cash Fund; you can do this whether or not you get a refund on your State Income Tax form.
- 2) Think about some creative (but NOT voluntary) ways that nonconsumptive wildlife users – i.e. people who don't hunt or fish – can help support Colorado Parks and Wildlife's nongame and habitat programs. Send your ideas to us!

Developments at the National level: If you are online often you are getting besieged with alerts from environmental organizations raising the alarm about the anti-environmental policies of the current administration. Examples of such policies:

- Rescinding regulations that prohibited dumping mine waste into streams.
- Reviewing EPA's regulations to protect wetlands, playas, and ephemeral streams, referred to as the "Waters of the US" regulations.
- "Reviewing" National Monuments established under the Antiquities Act in the last 20 years.
- Dumping the review of the federal coal leasing program ordered by former Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell.
- Reversing the ban on predator control on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska, which will cause the decline of wolf and grizzly bear populations there.
- And much, much more.....

In the face of such a massive assault on conservation, especially policies on climate change, two issues stand out: public lands and endangered species. If we lose them, they are gone for good. Other items, like regulations, can be fixed eventually, but these two cannot.

Our recommendation for action items:

- 1) Public lands. Write to Interior Secretary, Ryan Zinke, about the review of National Monuments and oppose any abolition or reduction of these priceless areas. In Colorado, Canyons of the Ancients was established to protect Ancient Puebloan sites, which are scattered across the Monument's landscape. The acreage was set so that the maximum number of archeological treasures could be preserved; the Monument should remain AS IS. In Utah, the Bears Ears National Monument was established at the request of, among others, 5 Native American tribes to protect traditional uses and knowledge of the land. In addition over 100,000 archaeological sites are included in Bears Ears, a preservation of historical knowledge of great value.

Conservation Report *(cont.)*

Grand Staircase/Escalante, also in Utah, preserves an amazing red rock landscape and geological and paleontological features; it provides a wide variety of opportunities for recreation as well. Both should remain AS IS.

You can see the list of national monuments under review at www.doi.gov/pressreleases. Comments are due by July 10!

2) The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) coastal plain. For almost 40 years conservationists have managed to defend the ANWR coastal plain from oil and gas development. While the majority of the Refuge was designated as wilderness in 1980's Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, management of this stretch of the coastal plain, where caribou go to calve and spend part of the summer, was left for later Congresses to decide. With anti-environmental sentiment so strong in this Congress, there is a good chance the coastal plain will be opened up for industrial development. Audubon wants to stop this effort cold!

Why should Coloradoans care? Birds from six continents migrate to the ANWR to breed; species we observe during migration include golden plover, sandhill crane, snowy owl in years of irruptions, and many shorebirds. Birds definitely form a link between ANWR and us! Plus, ANWR provides the last area on the coast of the Arctic Ocean that is not open to oil and gas leasing (yet). Its magnificent wilderness qualities would be destroyed by a network of pipelines, roads, storage tanks, dormitories, and the other paraphernalia of development – “only 2,000 acres” we are told, but those acres would be spread across a huge territory.

Information on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and a link for contacting your Congressional delegation can be found at www.audubon.org. Write as soon as you can!

For information on recent Chatfield developments, please go to www.SaveChatfield.org. The status of our lawsuit is unchanged: waiting.

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Offer Expires: August 31, 2017. May not be combined with any other offers. Optics not included.

WOODPECKER WOES AND OTHER WILDLIFE ISSUES?
<http://www.denveraudubon.org/about/wildlife-issues/>

THIS LINK WILL CONNECT YOU TO THE NATIONAL AUDUBON WEBSITE AND OTHER HELPFUL LINKS TO HELP YOU DEAL WITH COMMON QUESTIONS!



HERE IS THE WEBSITE FOR FOLKS TO REPORT FOX SIGHTINGS AS PART OF A RESEARCH PROJECT:

www.ifoundafox.org



Breaking News: Local Bird Organization Wages Battle on Woodpeckers This Summer

By Kate Hogan, Community Outreach Coordinator

Field news correspondent Marvin the Black-billed Magpie was undercover this week at the Audubon Nature Center at Chatfield State Park. High from a perch in the blue spruce tree located just north of the main building, Marvin overheard Audubon Society staff meeting with contractors about plans to remove the aging wood siding on their 1938 Farmhouse building. The Audubon Nature Center building and outdoor lab classroom were originally built as part of a homestead and local farming operation, and have since passed through a number of different owners including Martin-Marietta (now Lockheed Martin) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Marvin the Magpie reports that in a recent historical program, he learned that the Audubon Society of Greater Denver is leasing the building from Chatfield State Park until 2049 and the society has big plans for implementing building improvements in the future.

“Well personally, my wife and I were shocked to hear that these ‘bird advocates’ are planning on removing our favorite siding material – I mean, rotting wood is ideal for us to implement the pecking and renovation plans of our own” stated Frank the Northern Flicker. Francine Flicker also shared, “I was afraid that something would happen after that lady who does the school field trips surprised me one day when I was hanging out on the old stone chimney. Frank had brilliantly pecked in a 2x4 at the corner of the building and we escorted ourselves inside – we figured if anyone would welcome us into their buildings, it would be the Audubon Society . . . but apparently we were mistaken!”

After meeting with siding contractors, it was discovered that lead abatement would also be necessary for the old shingle removal before new siding can be installed. Marvin the Magpie reported that he overheard the Executive Director and the Community Outreach Coordinator discussing the need to raise \$16,000 to complete the project, and they turned to local friends and colleagues to help meet their goal!

Babs the Red-winged Blackbird commented during a daily feeder chat how “wonderful it is when the Audubon staff and their volunteers fill our bird feeders with delicious high-quality seeds and suet. I for one hope they can meet their fundraising goal – Frank and Francine have PLENTY of trees to excavate around here. They should stop their whining.”



Northern Flicker by Dick Vogel

The Audubon Nature Center sees thousands of visitors and hikers every year – in order to fulfill our mission, we need a sturdy foundation that can continue to inspire outdoor and wildlife enthusiasts for generations to come. Our Nature Center fulfills this amazing purpose day after day!

Our new siding and upstairs windows were installed on June 8th, so if you have not been down to visit and see the updated look, please come on out! Though the work is done, we are still asking for members to consider giving a donation to help offset the costs of the project. You can call the office at 303-973-9530 and mention the Siding Project or mail a check to Audubon Society of Greater Denver, 9308 S. Wadsworth Blvd, Littleton, CO 80128, with “Siding Project” in the memo. Marvin the Magpie thanks you for your consideration!

Hummingbirds caught our attention this spring – 24 messages to Backyard Birds. First, people chronicled their arrivals (all Broad-tailed): John Ealy, in Roxborough Park, saw one March 28 – his earliest sighting (previous, April 5). Most people saw them first in mid-April: Apr. 14, Peggy and Lowell Baunonk near Chatfield; Randy Nelson, Parker (normal first date, Apr. 22-28); Karen Metz, Franktown (also a Black-chinned); Apr. 17 Kay Chambers, Larkspur; Jill Holden, Roxborough; Apr. 20, Nicole Buyck,



Broad-Tailed Hummingbird by Dick Vogel

Aurora. But not until April 27 for Linda Williams in Highlands Ranch. Karen mentioned, “The ladies often arrive at my place before the males do, and one year female and male Black-chinned Hummingbirds arrived on the same day, a day ahead of Broad-tailed.”

Then the snowstorms came and the discussion turned to how they survive. To endure the cold, these little birds can go into torpor. Hummingbirds have the highest metabolic rate of any animal—100 times that of an elephant. That means they must consume their weight in nectar, daily. At night, even with comparatively mild temperatures they can go into “torpor”—dropping their temperature up to 50 below the normal 104. This saves energy and helps to survive food shortages, and adjusts to cold temperatures.

Nevertheless, they patronized feeders through the cold, and feeder-providers use ingenuity to keep the feeders from freezing. Rotating them every 2-3 hours (Randy Parker, until 11:30 at night) (Jill Holden) using a higher concentration (1:3 sugar/water vs. the normal 1:4); various heating devices (Linda Williams) including Christmas tree lights and foot warmers (Urling).

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After thawing feeders, several others mentioned visitations – Leslie Anderson, Elizabeth, and Ron West in Castle Pines.

On April 30, Jill Holden commented, “I have had five different hummingbirds this morning. A couple of male Broad-tails, a male Black-chinned, a female, and an immature or female with a few spots of color on the throat. I had a male Black-chinned show up and, for the rest of the day, chase everybody else off if they tried to come to the feeder. Today the power seems to have shifted since it has been Broad-Tailed males that seem to be drinking more, but I have seen them all get good drinks, so it looks like the hummingbirds have done very well at getting through the storm. It barely stopped snowing at all here yesterday with at least a little bit of small stuff falling pretty much continuously.”

The hummers picked surprising roost sites: Karen wrote, “I inadvertently disturbed a female when I put out a feeder at 5:40. She was in a pine cone wreath on my front door, under the roof overhang. She flew off, chipping, so apparently had emerged from torpor already. She’d found as warm a spot out of the falling snow as any could find last night.”



Black-Chinned Hummingbird by Dick Vogel

Randy’s found a similar site: “A male Broad-tailed roosted on the south-facing covered deck in some old dead twiggy potted vines near a deck rail light. He also commented, “Normally I turn lights off at night as it apparently interferes with migrating birds (and interferes with backyard astronomy), but during cold snaps like we just had, I leave a light on near the feeders just in case.”

On Apr. 27, a female visited Linda Williams, apparently “in distress (incessant, rapid chipping) --after 9:00 p.m!--and again Apr. 28. The heated feeder with the light must have drawn her like a beacon.”

Karen responded, “I’m not sure that rapid chipping is actually distress calling. I have certainly heard high pitched chipping from hummers that have not appeared to be in distress. It tugs on human hearts, to be sure, but they might be calling to locate other hummingbirds.”

Backyard Birds (cont.)

Another part of the discussion concerned feeding late. Leslie Anderson (Elizabeth) said, "I thought they stopped flying at sunset." Randy was "rotating feeders every 3 hours or so till 11:30 last night then out at 5:30 am with new ones. I had several instances where I saw hummingbirds at feeders well after dark during sub-freezing weather. In all cases, it was on a covered deck or porch (or under an awning) with porch lights on. The latest I saw this occur was around 9:30 or 10:00 pm."

Another vigorous discussion involved the birds that flocked to feeders during and after our various snowstorms – some rarities, some normal migrants. Richard Maslow (southwest Denver) attracted an Indigo Bunting on May 18—as he did last year. Sandra Newton, Park Hill, reported flocks of Western Tanagers May 15-16, then a pair eating at her suet feeder May 18 and 20.

Sharon and Bruce Johnson, Roxborough Park, emailed May 18: "We have been getting a ton of snow in Roxborough Park and lots of birds at the feeders as a result. We counted 15-18 Western Tanagers (males and females), eating oranges, preserves, and a little suet. We had 3 Lazuli Buntings eating millet.



Western Tanager by Sandra Newton

“However, much to our horror, a Sharp shinned Hawk came by and grabbed one of our Black-headed Grosbeaks (We have lots of grosbeaks now), and the hawk flew off with the bird in its talons. The hawk came

back later and grabbed a male tanager. We were somewhat upset with the hawk, but we know that they have to eat too. I wish they would eat our mice instead. . . Hard to get other work done today with the bird show. The count of tanagers went up to 20 or so.”

The same day, Kay Chambers (Larkspur) reported: “five pairs of Western Tanagers found us! We spread sunflower seed on the back porch



Dark-eyed Junco by Dick Vogel

for them. We have our usuals, too - Broad-tailed Hummingbirds, Western Bluebirds, Tree Swallows, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Spotted Towhees, House Finches, American Goldfinches, Downy Woodpeckers,

White-breasted Nuthatches, robins, doves, juncos, and Black-capped and

Mountain Chickadees. The Tanagers are a silver lining!”

By Apr. 22, Linda Williams added Spotted Towhee, Say’s Phoebe, and Hermit Thrush. May 8, a Green-tailed Towhee and White-crowned Sparrows showed up at John Ealy’s.

Lynne Duman (Douglas county) saw her first American Goldfinch and Black-headed Grosbeak of the season on May 4—later than most of us, probably because of the higher elevation where she lives.

In our yard we counted 44 Chipping Sparrows Apr. 30; most have left but a couple continue to feed, after the snow storms.

In Littleton, Deb Carstensen has a different kind of backyard.

“Spring is such a wonderful time! The Snowy Egrets and Spotted Sandpipers have returned to the ponds. Say’s Phoebes have set up shop on my living room window drain pipe. Great Blue Herons, Black-crowned Night-Herons, and Wood Ducks have also returned. I have also enjoyed Common and Hooded Mergansers. Of course, the big news was the Brant that showed up at my house for a day. That was fantastic! New yard bird!”



Chipping Sparrow by Dick Vogel

(Cont. next page)

Backyard Birds *(cont.)*

The storm brought, to John Ealy, four Western Tanagers and a Bullock's Oriole drinking from a hummingbird feeder."

Other special observations: May 8, two Bullock's Orioles arrived at Debbie Trujillo's in Elbert County. She "had both Spotted and Green-tailed Towhees for about 2 weeks. Also, White Crowned Sparrows, Chipping Sparrows, a pair of Blue Jays.

Kathy Parker sent a photo of a Rose-breasted Grosbeak that graced her yard May 15-20. John Ealy's first Black-headed Grosbeaks and seven Lazuli Buntings arrived May 7. With the storm Urling and I counted up to 7 Lazulis; their intense blue (lazuli?) heads shine in the light—I can't see enough of it.



Rose-Breasted Grosbeak by Kathy Parker

few days. This year they arrived on schedule and only stayed a few days. I have fresh millet but have no idea what made them depart any thoughts would be appreciated." They nest in shrubby areas, particularly along streams and may desert feeders in order to breed.

Gina Gerken (Castle Pines) specializes in bird houses. On Apr. 23, "I put up 10 nest boxes, hanging them off the side of my house. I was leaning out the window, hanging a box, when I noticed the cutest little Mountain Chickadee couple sitting right beside me in the scrub oak, watching. Then one of them flew over to a box I had just hung. She perched on the entrance hole and peeked into the box, sat there for several seconds, as if she were thinking about it, and then

Lynne Duman (Douglas County) emailed, "We have had Lazuli Buntings for over five years that come in May till August. Last year, though, they left in June and returned in August for a

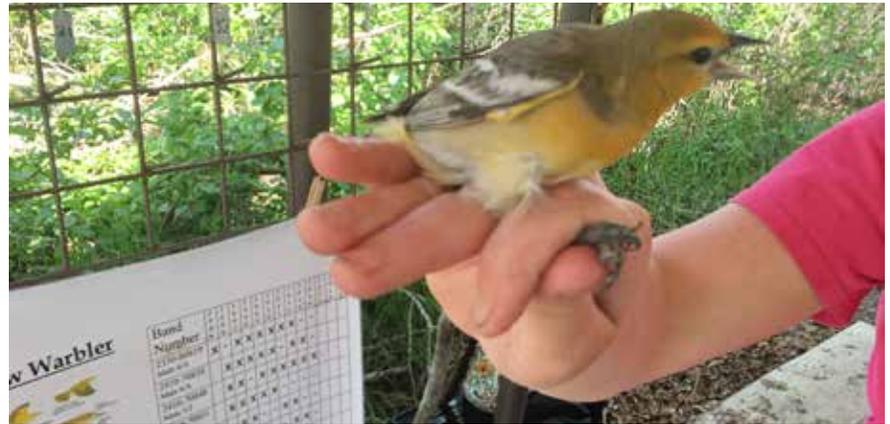
flew away.....it made my day!

"Another cool story, a few weeks ago, when I was cleaning out nest boxes on the Bluebird Trail, I dumped a particularly large old nest at the base of a tree, in the bushes. Two days later, I happened to drive by and saw a crow come flying out of those very bushes, carrying that giant old nest! It was so heavy, he was having to flap a good bit to carry it. Bird Recycling - I love it."

By May 1 Leslie had "baby birds chirping in a house that has Pygmy Nuthatches in it. I've never had baby nuthatches so early."

In our yard, Tree Swallows now occupy four boxes, including one that they wrested from a House Wren (now nesting under some eaves nearby). One pair of Western Bluebirds has claimed a box, and near our house, two pairs of House Wrens hang out.

Sharon Hines, south of Franktown at 6,880 feet, had a unique observation May 4. "I have had a pile of coyote scat in my driveway for at least



Bullock's Oriole at bird banding station by Hugh Kingery

a week. Today I saw a Black-capped chickadee tearing into it. At first I thought she was after hair for her nest, but I never saw her pull out hair. I couldn't tell if she was feeding on something (undigested seeds or insects) or if she was looking for something. Have you ever seen this behavior?"

Your contributions write this column. Thanks to you in urban and suburban Denver who sent in all these intriguing reports. Send a note or post card to P.O. Box 584, Franktown 80116, or Email me: ouzels8@aol.com.

Leave a Legacy

Educate Generations - Protect Birds and Habitats into the Future Include ASGD in Your Will, and Other Gift Planning Options

The Audubon Society of Greater Denver offers an opportunity for you to make a gift or bequest to leave a legacy and a lasting impact. The goal of planned giving is to help you plan your estate and charitable giving in a way that benefits you, your family and ASGD. We invite friends who share a commitment to educating all ages about birds, other wildlife, and habitats to consider making a personal investment in the future of our programs. There are several ways you can make these planned gifts to charity and enjoy tax and income benefits:

- **Specific, Residuary and Contingent Bequests**
- **Retirement Accounts and Pension Plans**
- **Insurance**
- **Securities**
- **Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT)**
- **Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA)**

Please consult with your financial planner and attorney to assure you receive the best financial advantages and that your intentions are carried out fully.

We would be glad to discuss any planned giving option with you – in confidence and without obligation. For more information, please call 303-973-9530 or e-mail Karl Brummert, Executive Director, at kbrummert@denveraudubon.org

Please Let Us Know

We often receive bequests from people whom we have never had the opportunity to thank. If you include Audubon Society of Greater Denver in your estate plans, please let us know. We value the opportunity to express our gratitude in person to let you know that your gift is greatly appreciated now and for future generations of people and birds to come. Those people who have notified us of their intention to make a bequest to the Audubon Society of Greater Denver are invited to our Legacy Circle. Legacy Circle special events and activities highlighting the work we accomplish together will keep you connected to the “legacy” that you have planned for us.

Legal Designation: If you wish to name Audubon Society of Greater Denver in your will or estate plan, we should be legally designated as: *“Audubon Society of Greater Denver, a nonprofit organization (Tax ID #23-7063701), with its principal business headquarters address of 9308 S. Wadsworth Blvd, Littleton, CO 80128.”*

Date of Incorporation: September 30, 1969



Photo by Dick Vogel

QUICK GLANCE - UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

JUL 1 SAT FRONT RANGE BIRDING

JUL 2 SUN WALK THE WETLANDS

JUL 7 FRI NOCTURNAL WILDLIFE HIKE – BATS OF CHATFIELD

JUL 8 SAT THE WILDCAT MOUNTAIN TRAIL, HIGHLANDS RANCH

JUL 8 SAT EXPLORE WHEATRIDGE GREENBELT

JUL 8 SAT FAMILY BIRDING ADVENTURE LAKE WOOD HERITAGE CENTER

JUL 13 THU ROXBOROUGH STATE PARK

JUL 20 THU ASTRONOMY PRESENTED BY RED ROCKS COLLEGE

JUL 22 SAT ECHO LAKE AND SUMMIT LAKE MOUNTAIN PARKS

JUL 22 SAT BIRD HABITAT GARDEN TOUR – WASH PARK

JUL 29 SAT CHATFIELD STATE PARK

AUG 4-6 FRI-SUN COLONIAL NESTING TRIP – WALDEN AREA LAKES

AUG 5 SAT MOUNT EVANS AT SUNRISE

AUG 5 SAT EXPLORE WHEATRIDGE GREENBELT

AUG 5 SAT BIRDING INSIGHTS ADULT WORKSHOP – HUMMINGBIRDS

AUG 5 SAT AUDUBON NATURALIST TRAINING INFO SESSION

AUG 6 SUN WALK THE WETLANDS

AUG 10 THU ROXBOROUGH STATE PARK

AUG 19 SAT SHAKE, RATTLE N’ BULL LIVE SNAKE ENCOUNTER

AUG 25 FRI NOCTURNAL WILDLIFE HIKE – SILLY SALAMANDERS

AUG 26 SAT CHATFIELD STATE PARK

SEPT 14 THU FALL BEGINNING BIRD WATCHING CLASS (START)

SEP 23 SAT 7TH ANNUAL HOOTENANNY OWL & BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

FOR A FULL DESCRIPTION OF THESE FIELD TRIPS, VISIT WWW.DENVERAUDUBON.ORG/EVENTS/ OR CALL 303-973-9530

Costa Rica's Wildlife and Birding Hotspots December 2-11, 2017

Costa Rica may be the only country in the world to have so many bird species and habitats accessible within such a small area. A country only the size of West Virginia, Costa Rica is home to more than 850 species of birds, greater than in all of North America north of Mexico. One of the main reasons for Costa Rica's extraordinary bird life is that a variety of habitats, from beaches and mangroves to rainforests and cloud forests, are located in close proximity to one another. In addition, Costa Rica's wealth of protected areas, ~25% of the country, provides ample opportunities for the birding and wildlife enthusiast. This trip includes birding in the cloud forest of San Gerardo de Dota, coastal rainforest on the South Pacific Coast, and the Costa Rican Bird Route.



Keel-Billed Toucan by Reefs-To-Rockies

Detailed itinerary and more information at: <http://reefstorockies.com/destinations/central-america/costa-rica/costa-rica-birding-hotspots-2017/>

Birding and Wildlife in North and Central Thailand with Audubon Society of Greater Denver and Partnership for International Birding

**Main Trip: October 27 to November 13, 2017 (18 Days and 17
Nights for \$2,890, with 4-8 trip participants)**

~Optional South Thailand Extension~

November 13 to 18 (5 Days and 5 Nights More for only \$780)

Trip Hosted by ASGD Members, Doug Kibbe and Mackenzie Goldthwait, with One of Thailand's Most Sought After Bird Guides (Punjapa Phetsri)

Thailand is home to over 1,000 bird species, and you will be struck by the diversity of other wildlife (butterflies, mammals, and more). This tour was especially designed to support birding in the most important bird areas and many other beautiful locations in north and central Thailand. You will have the



Malayan Banded-Pitta
by Ian Dearing

Detailed Itinerary and More Information at:
<http://www.pibird.com/thailand-itinerary-and-overview>

Birding in Northeast Ecuador February 3-11, 2018 with Lelis Navarrete (author of the Fieldbook of the Birds of Ecuador) plus an ASGD Staff Member

Northwest Ecuador is a great location for persons new to South American birding. Many of the sites to be visited are world famous birding sites. The lodges provide excellent meals and a base for a number of birding routes each day. With excel-



Colored Aracaris by Murray Cooper

lent guides, we anticipate trip participants will see 300 to 350 plus species. Over 30 species of hummingbirds are often seen and 60 to 70 Tanager species, including Saffron-crowned Tanager, Flame-faced Tanager, Beryl-spangled Tanager, Scarlet-and-white Tanager, Guira Tanager and Blue-whiskered Tanager. Everyone loves the fantastic and colorful Collared Trogon, Choco Trogon, Broad-billed Motmot, Purple-throated Fruitcrow, Chestnut-fronted Macaw and Andean Cock-of-the-Rock.

\$2590 for 9 days and 8 nights, based on a group size of 8.

Register: Charles Thornton-Kolbe by phone at 720-320-1974, or email at charles@PIBird.com.

Itinerary and More Information at:

<http://www.pi-bird.com/EcuadorNWPlusBitEast-Main-1.html>

opportunity to see a great variety of spectacular birds, some extremely rare and endemic. You will also have a chance to see mammals found only in Asia, and an abundance of other wildlife. From mountain tops, rainforests, lakes, beaches, bamboo forest, expect to see over 400 bird species in this 18-day birding tour. If you include the south Thailand Extension, you can expect to see over 500 bird species. Register: Charles Thornton-Kolbe by phone at 720-320-1974, or email at charles@PIBird.com.

Southeast Arizona Birding April 22-28, 2018

From desert basins to sky islands, southeastern Arizona is one of the most biologically diverse areas in North America. This is where the Sonoran and Chihuahuan Deserts come together. This is also where the temperate Rocky Mountains and the subtropical Sierra Madres meet. This diversity of habitat is the reason that the area has more species of birds, mammals, reptiles and insects than any other area in the country. There are 550 species of birds on the Arizona list, and you can always expect a productive trip here. As a testament to the region's diversity, many areas have been identified as "Important Bird Areas" (IBA) by the National Audubon Society. Southeast Arizona always has something to offer most North American birders. This is also a great time of year to see several species of hummingbirds. With the Mexican border along the southern edge, the potential for Mexican rarities often adds more joy for visiting birders.

\$1690 per person for 8-10 trip participants

Register by contacting Charles Thornton-Kolbe, 720-320-1974, email charles@PIBird.com. Detailed Itinerary and More Information at: <http://www.pi-bird.com/Arizona-1details.html>

Birding in Newfoundland, Canada July 8 to 14, 2018

Newfoundland in July is the prime time to see many nesting seabirds, such as Atlantic Puffin, Northern Gannet, Black-legged Kittiwake, Common Murre,



Magnificent Hummingbird Madera Canyon, AZ by Bill Schmoker

Thick-billed Murre, Razorbill, Black Guillemot and Northern Fulmar. While you will have many opportunities to scan for these birds from the coast, you will also take a boat trip to get even closer looks at the birds on their nests. Scanning the ocean from shore, it is possible to see jaegers and shearwaters as well!

In addition to seabirds, we will search inland for Willow Ptarmigan, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Boreal Chickadee, Magnolia Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Fox Sparrow, Pine Grosbeak, White-winged Crossbill and Red Crossbill. This is a good time of year to look for stray migrants from Europe.

A few interesting mammals are also possible, including Humpback Whale, Harbor Seal, Newfoundland Red Fox, Caribou, Moose and Snowshoe Hare.

\$1,890 per person for 8-10 trip participants

Trip Leader: David Trently

Register: Charles Thornton-Kolbe, 720-320-1974, email charles@PIBird.com

Detailed Itinerary and More Information at:

<http://www.pi-bird.com/Newfoundland-2013-details.html>



Atlantic Puffins by Bob Gobeille

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Your volunteer hours are very important to us!

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