

VOL. 41 NO. 7 AUGUST 2011

EVERGREEN AUDUBON NEWSLETTER

www.evergreenaudubon.org

MEMBER EVENING

A members-only evening at Evergreen Lake beckons with complimentary wine and hors d'oeuvres on Thursday, Aug. 11, from 6 to 8 p.m.

"This will be an opportunity to visit with friends, see some folks you haven't seen in awhile and look around the Nature Center," said Marge Petersen, Evergreen Audubon social director.

To indicate you will attend, please call Marge at 303-670-4310 or email her at socialevents@evergreenaudubon.org.

WAKE UP & WEED

If you "Wake Up and Weed" on Saturday, Aug. 13, you will be rewarded with a delicious brunch provided by the Community Weed Awareness Campaign and Evergreen Audubon.

Weeding will begin with the area around the lake at 8:30 a.m., with brunch to follow at 10:30 a.m. CWAC is busy planning culinary delights for its hard-working volunteers.

"We need your help to keep Evergreen Lake a healthy habitat for native plants, birds and wildlife," said CWAC volunteer Cathy Shelton. "There are plenty of noxious weeds to go around, so grab your pruners and gloves and make a difference."

For more information, go to www.evergreenaudubon.org.

2nd annual Bird House Bash Sept. 7

Don't miss the second annual Bird House Bash, Wednesday, Sept. 7, at Evergreen Lake House.

A benefit for the Nature Center, the evening features appetizers and cocktails at the Nature Center at 5:30 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., guests will move to the Lake House for dinner and entertainment, as well as spirited silent and live auctions. Regular tickets are \$45 per person; patron tickets are \$75 per person.

A highlight of the evening will be the silent auction, as 20 mountain-area artists are currently using their artistic skills to create a bevy of one-of-a kind hand-decorated bird houses that will be silent auction items. Don't leave for home without one!

Invitations will be mailed the week of Aug. 8. Tickets will be available at Evergreen Wild Bird Store and Evergreen Nature Center after Aug. 15. Tickets must be purchased in advance.



Prairie Warblers are birds of the southeastern United States, and few are seen in Colorado. But on June 1, Inga Brennan found several of these rare birds along Bear Creek, near Corwina Park. The birds were monitored for any breeding activities as part of the Bear Creek Atlas project and the Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas project. *Photo by Sherman Wing*

EVERGREEN AUDUBON www.evergreenaudubon.org

2010 OFFICERS

President David Wald 303-674-0417 president@evergreenaudubon.org **Vice President** Mike Wilson 303-697-9445 vicepresident@evergreenaudubon.org Secretary 303-670-9066 Jean Thayer secretary@evergreenaudubon.org **Treasurer** Diane Sears 303-883-0810 treasurer@evergreenaudubon.org

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Meetings first Thursday except January, June, July, August 7 p.m., Church of the Hills, 28628 Buffalo Park Road, Evergreen

BOARD MESSAGE CHERYL MANNING

Reaching Across the Generations

Think of this article as an invitation! You are invited to ask questions, share what you know, or just listen to a story sometimes. The only thing I ask is that you do these things with someone whose youth has been spent in a decade significantly different from your own.

Why? Because we all have something to give and receive from people who are significantly older or younger than we are. While I have always believed that we have much to gain from those of a different generation, I am convinced that reaching out to those much younger or older than ourselves is even more important in the "information age."

Last month, I called my 97-year-old grandmother in Montana to wish her a happy birthday. I had to interrupt computer and TV time so my 11-and 15-year-old daughters could talk to her.

She asked me about the summer and had some real words of wisdom

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VIP VOLUNTEERS DAVID WALD

- Thanks to Triple Bypass volunteers Dick Pricket, Bud and Juanita Weare, Karel Buckley, and Aaron, Emily, Lisa and David Wald.
 What a great event to support!
- Thanks to **Gordon and Annette Stach** for donating a 10'x10' popup tent to Audubon for our picnic and other events.
- Please recognize **Cheryl Manning**, director of education, for authoring "Reaching Across the Generations," this month's timeless Director's Message.
- Lead Volunteer Assistant **Matt Mitchell** has supplied the ENC with a small fridge for VAs. This is very handy for keeping lunches and drinks cold during the summer weather. Thanks, Matt!
- Big thanks to **John and Diane Sears** of the Evergreen Wild Bird Store for their kind donation of feeders and seed, and to **Marge Petersen** and **Lisa Wald** for their feeders for the Nature Center. You'll notice these hanging outside now!
- We appreciate the **Ken Caryl Middle School Leadership Corps** for volunteering their time to build a Pollinators Garden at Evergreen Nature Center (come and check it out!).
- Kudos to **Sundance Nursery** for donating 30 plants that pollinators love and four bags of soil.
- Thanks to our amazing June/July ENC visitor assistants: Matt Mitchell, Alicia Silva, Karel Buckley, Kathy Madison, Julia Bingham, Donald Randall, Christie Greene, Hjalte Durocher, Joan Ridgely, Barbara Klaus, Peggy Linn, Lisa and David Wald, Jean Thayer, and Sylvia Robertson.
- And thank you to the Community Weed Awareness Campaign for maintaining the Noxious Weeds exhibit at the ENC.

Learn about a Colorado birding 'big year' Sept. 1

Colorado native Cole Wild will offer an insider's view of the world of competitive bird watching in Colorado at the Thursday, Sept. 1, Evergreen Audubon chapter meeting.

His recently published book, "Wild Birding Colorado," provides a thrilling account of Cole's amazing feat of establishing a new record for most bird species seen in one year, 412 species, a Colorado BIG YEAR.

Colorado is one of our nation's most biodiverse states, with almost 500 bird species on the official state checklist.

Cole's account rivals other birding Big Year stories such as Mark Obmascik's "The Big Year" and Kenn Kaufman's "Kingbird Highway." The entertaining narration by the author not only recounts comical and tense situations encountered during his extensive travels, but also provides a treasure chest of birding tips for where and when to find some of the state's most elusive species, such as Sedge Wren and Black Swift.

Most of the birds Cole observed as part of his Colorado Big Year were photographed, and many of his best shots will be displayed as part of his presentation.

After the presentation, Cole will be available to sign copies of his book, which will be available for sale before and after the presentation.

Cole is a 26-year-old naturalist from Loveland. He began birding at age 19

when he first noticed a Western Tanager and viewed its beautiful colors through binoculars.

He became an avid birder, and eventually held bird-survey jobs in Colorado, Texas, Pennsylvania, Florida and Mexico. In 2010, he decided to try to break the record for the Colorado Big Year.

His account of his record-breaking year was co-authored by Colorado biologist Nicholas Komar. The book is available for purchase online at OutskirtsPress.com as well as other major book outlets.

The chapter meeting will be at 7 p.m. at Church of the Hills, 28628 Buffalo Park Road (across from Evergreen Library) in the downstairs Fellowship Hall.

Nature Center has new lead visitor assistant

The next time you visit Evergreen Nature Center, you may see the new lead visitor assistant, Matt Mitchell, talking with visitors about local wildlife and ecology.

Matt was hired to open and close the ENC two or three days a week so that Aly Duffey, ENC executive director, may be available to teach programs for kids.

Matt has a degree in natural resources and environmental communication from Colorado State University at Fort Collins.

He will soon be taking classes to work toward his master's degree in organizational leadership.

Matt started as a volunteer visitor assistant at the ENC to gain experience and share his love for nature with others.

One thing he loves about working at the ENC is learning alongside experienced birders about bird identification and behavior.

- Aly Duffey

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS DAVID WALD

June 23 EA Board Meeting

• Board President and Director Lisa Wald met with National Audubon President David Yarnold and author Richard Louv at a book signing for the author at the Denver Botanical Gardens.

Yarnold later commented on the success of the Evergreen Audubon in his introduction to Richard Louv's subsequent talk.

- The board failed to achieve a quorum (seven directors) for the second month in a row; no actions were taken.
- To accommodate as many directors as possible the next two board meetings will be held on alternative dates: July 21 and Aug.18 (6 p.m.), both at Evergreen Nature Center.

The Board of Directors of Evergreen Audubon cordially invites you to



An Evening for Audubon Members

Jhursday, August II, 2011 vPM-8PM Evergreen Nature Center



Complimentary Wine and Hors d'Oeuvres

If you plan to attend please respond to Social Director Marge Petersen by Monday, August 8th

socialevents@evergreenaudubon.org or 303-670-4310

BIRD BUSINESS COMPILED FROM EVERGREENAUDUBON.ORG: LOCAL SIGHTINGS

Jude Roehm reported on June 17 that four male and two female Red Crossbills had been coming regularly to her feeders in Indian Hills over the past three days.

Suzie deDisse saw a Eurasian Collared Dove in her Skyline Drive yard on June 19. She also had about two-dozen crossbills for a couple of weeks.

Jude enjoyed a rare treat when a lovely male Lazuli Bunting visited her feeder off Cameyo Road in Indian Hills on the evening of June 20.

Two inches of semi-frozen muck brought John and Diane Sears a female Lewis' Woodpecker on June 20. It repeatedly went back and forth to their feeders for food. Nestlings?

Right on schedule, according to Marilyn Rhodes, her first-of-season Rufous Hummingbird arrived July 1. The Fourth of July wouldn't be the same without them!

Four of the five Pygmy Nuthatch eggs Marilyn had been watching with a nest cam hatched on June 8 and 9. One egg failed to hatch. All four chicks fledged between July 1 and 3. Pandemonium ensued as they bounced off the walls learning to fly!

Marilyn reported that she and Bob Santangelo led 18 birders on a Denver Audubon field trip July 9 to Evergreen Lake, the Dam Garden and Evergreen Nature Center.

The highlight of the day was an aerial display by three Belted Kingfishers.

After the field trip, they got great views of an American Dipper on the creek at Highland Haven. After lunch at Bear Creek Restaurant, Bob and Marilyn drove to Red Rocks to check in on the falcons.

They saw four Peregrines and four Prairie Falcons.



Above, a juvenile female Broad-tailed Hummingbird photographed by Sherman Wing on July 17 in Pence Park. Juveniles have a neatly spotted throat and lack a pale eye-ring. Below, a Red Crossbill Sherman snapped previously.



BOARD MESSAGE CHERYL MANNING

Continued from page 2

to offer me. Those words made me realize how different my childhood was from my kid's lives.

I grew up on a ranch in Montana where we only received two TV channels, so I spent my summers outside running, biking, hiking, riding horses and swimming, all after I got my chores done, of course.

My girls' lives are filled with camps, play dates and other organized activities. Grandma told me to make sure the girls had lots of time to get bored: kick them out of the house, make them go for walks, let them swim in the little pond up the road, and ride their bikes to their friends' houses.

I started to defend myself: "but there are mountain lions and black bears around."

Didn't I "remember the grizzly bears and cougars?"

"I don't want them to get giardia from the pond water."

But, "Don't the girls know how to keep their mouths shut underwater?"

She was patient with me and persisted in encouraging them to be kids.

Today, my 11-year-old came home from a sleepover where the girls all rode bikes, played hide-and-seek in the woods, and snuck out and jumped into a little pond full of muck and "seaweed."

The girls were giddy with their newfound freedom, thrilled just to be alive. That is what youth is about. I called my grandmother and told her. She was so satisfied, happy that the girls were having fun, happy that I took her advice.

I told my girls about what their greatgrandmother said about having lots of time off from scheduled activities. They agreed with her. We schedule too much, the TV is on too long, and the computers are so easy to use. They want to be encouraged to go outside and play.

Here I am in my mid-40s, in the "middle" looking back on my youth and forward to, well, the future. I am very aware of what young people have to gain from older people: knowledge, wisdom, compassion and patience.

I am also conscious of what kids have to offer the elderly: enthusiasm, aware-

ness, passion and energy. As a person between these two generations, I need to let go of the control so that people can interact with each other and with the natural world in an authentic, meaningful way.

When those scheduled activities do come around, I need to make sure they include opportunities for the kids to be with people who are older than mepeople who can teach without preaching, listen without thinking of what they are going to say next, and still expect the kids to behave respectfully toward others and the natural world around them.

These are the lessons I learned from my grandparents and their friends.

When I was 5, I went fishing with Grandma and a bunch of her friends. We had a great time even though I didn't catch any fish. I learned the difference between a sparrow and a finch, rainbow and cutthroat trout, and sedges and grasses.

Grandma was always willing to share her knowledge and enthusiasm for the natural world without lecturing or judging me.

I went camping with my Grandpa, who was a workaholic. When we went

camping, he picked up trash, cleaned out fire pits and fixed washed-out footbridges.

He would say, "Always leave a place better than you find it." He was a tough man to keep up with and expected us to know better than to cut into the bark of a tree with our pocketknife or to hold a salamander too long.

The time I spent with my grandparents in the outdoors helped to frame my environmental ethic. In my mind, they were incredibly wise and caring people whose knowledge I never doubted.

There were the inevitable comments about "kids these days" being spoiled and out of touch but they were always willing to reach out and help us understand their perspectives.

Today, with family members scattered from one coast to another, it is very special for my two daughters to spend time in nature with their grandparents and other people their age. When they do, we all benefit.

So next time you see someone much older or much younger than you on a trail, by the lake or next to the creek, take some time to ask them questions and listen to their answers. In doing so, we might all learn something.



Bird House Bash

Weed campaign is making a (big) difference

The 14th Annual Community Weed Day on June 25 was a rousing success. The weather couldn't have been better as 25 weeders worked their magic around Evergreen Lake.

Some teams finished early—proof that the Community Weed Awareness Campaign is making a difference. Chamomile was nowhere to be found, and knapweed was scarce, making "Team Knapweed" wonder if they will have to change their name.

State Rep. Cheri Gerou and Audubon President David Wald headed up a stellar roster of volunteers, ranging in age from 7 to 70-plus.

Another seven volunteers kept the show running and helped with our education outreach, including Alicia Doran, Jefferson County weed specialist, and the indomitable Sylvia Brockner.

CWAC was also pleased to present its weed program to Leadership Evergreen at Evergreen Nature Center.

CWAC volunteers staffed a weed information booth at Bergen Park King Soopers on July 9 as part of Pulling for Colorado.

They started getting questions before the table was set up, and after four hours they had talked to at least 73 people about noxious weeds.

A half-dozen folks brought plants in from their yards to get identification and control advice, including Lynn Simpson, a Clear Creek County resident who brought in a List A species, Orange hawkweed, along with its Colorado native lookalike, Orange agosoris (see photo).

Thankfully, Lynn is dedicated to eradicating the weeds on her property!

Evergreen Audubon sponsors weed efforts in partnership with the Mt. Evans Group of the Sierra Club, Evergreen Garden Club and Evergreen Park and Recreation District.

A Pulling for Colorado Weed Grant funded new tools and volunteer recognition gifts. Local businesses including Bergen Park King Soopers, Wal-Mart, The Bagelry, Jared's Nursery and Colorado Timberline contributed to the efforts. Please thank these businesses for their support.

- Cathy Shelton



Colorado native Orange agosoris, on the left, is a look-alike for the noxious weed Orange hawk-weed (right), highlighting the importance of proper identification.

Support Evergreen Audubon

Become a Member . Your membership contribution will make you a partner in the Evergreen Audubon's mission of conserving and protecting the natural environment and educating our community about the natural world.

Give the Gift of Membership. Do you know someone who likes nature, birds, and wildlife? A gift of Evergreen Audubon membership is the perfect sentiment for this special person. Just indicate "Gift" on a membership form.

Donate a Onetime Gift. Your special donation will help the Evergreen Audubon continue to offer educational classes and field trips to the community, and will help support the Evergreen Nature Center.

Memorial Gift . Remember a departed family member or friend with a onetime gift to the Evergreen Audubon that will make a lasting difference in the community. Send a memorial gift to Evergreen Audubon, PO Box 523, Evergreen, CO, 80437.

To help, go to www.evergreenaudubon.org and click on Support Us.

FIELD TRIPS AND PROGRAMS KAREL BUCKLEY

Unless otherwise noted, register online or call the ENC at 303-330-0489.

Living with Lions Evergreen Nature Center Saturday, Aug. 6, 3-4 pm Donna Forrest

Come learn about our mysterious and elusive neighbor. Donna Forrest is a Colorado Parks and Wildlife education assistant and volunteer.

Ages: older kids and adults . Class size: 20

Living with Wildlife Evergreen Nature Center Sunday, Aug. 14, 2-3 pm Ashley Delaup, Denver Mountain Parks

Some species of wild animals have recognized the abundance of resources found in close proximity to people.

In fact, for certain animals, cities and towns have become a haven, short on danger and rich in food, water and shelter.

This leads to increasing contact between wildlife and people and pets. With knowledge about normal and abnormal behavior, and if people make informed choices on their interactions with wildlife, we can reduce potential conflicts with our wild neighbors.

Ages: 8+. Class size: 25.

Antarctic Research Today Evergreen Nature Center Saturday, Aug. 20, 4-5pm John Evans The United States Antarctic Program. A look at contemporary Antarctic science and operations with selected examples of science projects, large and small, with a view to showing what U.S. tax dollars are supporting in Antarctica.

Ages: older children and adults. Class size: 25

Colorado Wildflowers Sunday, Aug. 21, 1-3pm Reynolds Ranch Pam Little

Walk with a Native Plant Master and discover native plants' importance to wildlife and humans.

All programs will be easy, less than a

mile walking, on dirt trails with uneven surfaces. Wear sturdy shoes and layered clothing for all weather conditions.

Ages 10+. Class size: 20.

Late-summer Stars and Planets Picnic area in front of Evergreen Lake House Friday, Aug. 26, 7:45 pm Pam Little

Join amateur astronomer Pam Little for a tour of the night sky. Participants will learn how to use a star chart and a star clock, hear ancient star stories and locate star shapes and planets in the night sky. Bring a blanket or camp chairs.

All ages. Class size: 25.



Butterfly Buddy

Marge Peterson, EA social director, had a pet butterfly for probably a half hour during a butterfly class at Evergreen Nature Center June 24. it just sat on her lovely nose and walked around with Marge and the seven other people who attended the class.

FIELD NOTE KATHANNE LYNCH

Genesee Park Beginning Birders June 24

There were four participants at this Genesee Park Beginning Birders field trip.

An add-on trip to the 1860 Patrick Toll House was attended by three of the party.

The field trip focused on beginning birding.

Orientation:

- Field Guide–how it's organized, authors;
- Binoculars—wearing for glasses, optics, fitting and focusing, how to find birds/object;
- References—audio and books, websites, local birding organizations, joining Evergreen Audubon.

History:

• Handout on Genesee Mountain Park history and facts;

- Handout on EA's Christmas Bird Count;
- Handout on tropical bird species seen in June/July on Genesee Mountain. Birding:
- Highlights included nesting House Wren, Violet-green Swallows and Western Bluebird at their nest cavities. Three Turkey Vultures circled us as participants stood at the top of Genesee Mountain (8,284 feet elevation).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Aug. 6	Living with Lions	3-4 pm	Nature Center
Aug. 6	ENC open, Night Boating	8-10 pm	
Aug. 10	Newsletter Deadline	5 pm	
Aug. 11	EA Member Evening	6-8 pm	Nature Center
Aug. 13	Wake Up and Weed	8:30 am	Evergreen Lake
Aug. 14	Living with Wildlife	2-3 pm	Nature Center
Aug. 18	Board Meeting	6 pm	Nature Center
Aug. 20	Antarctic Research Today	4-5 pm	Nature Center
Aug. 20	ENC open, Night Boating	8-10 pm	
Aug. 21	Colorado Wildflowers	1-3 pm	Reynolds Ranch
Aug. 26	Late-summer Stars and Planets	7:45 pm	Evergreen Lake House
Sept. 1	Chapter Meeting	7 pm	Church of the Hills
Sept. 7	Bird House Bash	5:30 pm	Nature Center/Lake House

Please submit newsletter content by the 10th of the month to Lisa Wald: communications@ evergreenaudubon.org. Email or call *Dipper* editor Debbie Marshall with questions or comments: marshallpublish@gmail.com, 303-674-3752.

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Audubon Colorado Office, 303-415-0130, www.auduboncolorado.org

Evergreen Audubon Local Membership Application

I/we would like to join the Evergreen Audubon. I/we may participate in all chapter activities, receive *The Dipper* newsletter electronically, and vote (two Family members may vote) on chapter issues. Dues remain locally.

	Individual		ıl	Family		y	Student	
Annual dues	\$	20		\$	30		\$	10
Electronic Dipper	\$	0		\$	0		\$	0
Hard-copy Dipper	\$	10		\$	10		\$	10
Additional donation	\$_		:	\$_		_	\$_	
Total	\$_		:	\$ _		_	\$_	
Name								
Family member(s) nan	ne(s)							
Address								
City						Zip		
Phone (optional)								
T 11								

523, Evergreen, CO 80437.I DO NOT want solicitations from National Audubon.

If you would like to join or donate to the National Audubon Society directly and receive the AUDUBON Magazine, use chapter code C9ZD090Z and call 1-800-274-4201.

Enclosed is my check payable to: Evergreen Audubon, P.O. Box

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Artwork: Sylvia Brockner, Mildred Keiser

Sept. Chapter Meeting: Big Year Board Message: Across Generations Wake Up and Weed

IN THIS ISSUE

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