



THE DIPPER

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EVERGREEN AUDUBON NEWSLETTER

www.evergreenaudubon.org

ENC VOLUNTEER PARKING RELIEF

Parking at Evergreen Lake can be tough almost any weekend of the year.

I am happy to announce that Brad Bednar of Evergreen Parks and Recreation District has agreed to let us cone off a spot for Evergreen Nature Center volunteers.

With the busy event schedule at the Lake House, it was challenging to secure this agreement, so please take advantage.

Here's how it will work:

On busy mornings, our intern, Cassandra, or I will block off a parking space for one of the volunteers.

If the "Reserved for ENC Volunteers" spot is still available when you arrive, please make sure to move the cones to the front of the spot and fill it.

Afternoon volunteers should then call ENC (303-330-0489) when they arrive, if they cannot find a spot, and switch with the morning volunteers parked in our reserved space or another.

Cassandra and I have agreed to park farther away in order to secure this reserved spot.

Please make sure to take advantage, so we don't lose it. If the second volunteer is unable to find a spot, please call the center and Cassandra or I will switch with you.

I hope this improvement helps to make volunteering at ENC a more relaxing experience!

- Vanessa Hayes, ENC Director

Annual Picnic July 27 at Dedisse Park

Evergreen Audubon will hold its Annual Picnic at Dedisse Park, Site 1, on Saturday, July 27. The club will furnish the main course (barbecued chicken and beef, and vegetarian option), 3.2 beer, and non-alcoholic beverages.

Schedule of Activities

4-5 p.m. Social Hour, Appetizers

5-6 p.m. Potluck Supper

6-7 p.m. Announcements, Entertainment

7 p.m. -? Cleanup

To round out the picnic, please bring a potluck side dish to serve 10. To get a good variety we'd like people to bring a dish according to the letter of the alphabet of your last name.

A-F Appetizer

G-L Salad/Veggie

M-R Dessert

S-Z Side Dish/Vegetarian option

ATTENTION

We are asking for a \$7 contribution to cover the cost of the food, beer and non-alcoholic beverages.

The only alcoholic beverage allowed by Denver Mountain Parks is 3.2 beer (DMP does not allow glass containers).

In keeping with our recycling ethic, please bring your own reusable utensils, plates and beverage cups. Plan to take them home after the picnic.

Bring a lawn chair or blanket in case you don't get a picnic bench.

Please RSVP by Sunday, July 21, to Janet Warner or Peg Linn, coordinators. Contact information is below. When you RSVP, please indicate if you will help with setup or cleanup.

- Janet Warner, 303-674-1636

Peg Linn, peglinn@q.com

Sex, Lies and Rattlesnakes at Nature Center

Chances are you won't encounter a rattlesnake here in Evergreen, but if you've done any hiking in the lower foothills, you've probably seen a few or perhaps loathed encountering one along the trail.

Want to know more about these slithering creatures? Join us at the Nature Center on Thursday, July 11, at 7 p.m. to explore the curious sex lives of prairie rattlesnakes, also known as the western rattlesnake.

Mary Ann Bonnell, lead naturalist for Aurora Parks, Recreation and Open Space, will discuss and dispel common myths and misinformation related to this Front Range species.

Here are a few fun facts about the prairie rattlesnake:

- They have been seen in terrestrial landscapes up to 9,000 feet in elevation;

Continued on page 3



Western Tanager at Lair o' the Bear on June 2.
Photo by Susan Harper

EVERGREEN AUDUBON
www.evergreenaudubon.org

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Meetings first Thursday, 7 p.m., Church of the Hills, 28628 Buffalo Park Road, Evergreen, except January. Meetings in June, July and August are held at Evergreen Nature Center.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BRAD ANDRES

I am writing this piece (on the due date, as usual) from the municipal campground in Maybell, Colo. I am out here in the northwest to conduct two Breeding Bird Survey routes.

It's 93 degrees F and quite breezy, but I am hoping for better conditions tomorrow at 5 a.m. when I start the first route. I will stop every half-mile on a predetermined route and count all the birds I hear or see in a three-minute period. The route consists of 50 stops and takes four hours or more to complete.

I will run another route near Lay on Wednesday morning. I hope I am ready for the songs of Bewick's Wren, Gray Flycatcher and Sage Thrasher!

The BBS is the primary way biologists track the population trends of songbirds in the United States.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our annual campaign. Prior to the last general meeting, the EA board held a reception for the Evergreen Park and Recreation board of directors, EPRD Executive Director Scott Robson and Jefferson County Council members from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District.

As you are aware, both organizations have been major supporters of Evergreen Nature Center. Of course, your contributions are the cornerstone of the success of the ENC. The Evergreen Audubon board believes Vanessa, and the great space we have created, have impressed the EPRD board and SCFD councilors, which bodes well for future collaboration and support.

I know a number of you were able to attend the opening of the Evergreen Artists Association's juried show "For the Birds" at the Main Street Fine Art Gallery at the end of May.

With the help of Joan Ridgely, I presented the Evergreen Audubon Award of Excellence (\$50) to Gale Gatto for her photograph of Double-crested Cormorants taken at Evergreen Lake. We also decided to present an honorable mention (a year's membership in Evergreen Audubon) to Laurie Hill Gibb for her fabric depiction of Red-winged Blackbirds at the lake.

Carmon Slater judged the entire show, and we hope to display his winning choices at the ENC throughout the summer.

On the theme of community partnerships, Vanessa has persuaded Evergreen Trout Unlimited, Daughters of the American Revolution and EPRD staff to help with emptying the fishing line receptacles as part of our Evergreen Lake respectful recreation campaign, which was also the theme of the Evergreen Library display that Vanessa, Kathy Madison and Lisa Wald put together for June.

If you have any other ideas of community groups you believe offer partnership potential with Evergreen Audubon, please drop me a line.

Now to Craig to get a Wifi connection.



Evergreen Nature Center

Hours of Operation

April 20–Oct. 12
Sat.–Sun., 10am–4pm

Additional hours May 29–Aug. 30
Wed.–Fri., noon–4pm

Sex, Lies and Rattlesnakes at Evergreen Nature Center

Continued from page 1

- average length is 27 inches;
- maximum recorded length of 39.4 inches;
- courtship and mating occurs in early to midsummer with litters produced in late summer to early fall;
- litter size five to 10 depending on size of mother;
- preys on ground squirrels, prairie dogs, mice, rabbits, lizards and ground-nesting birds;
- known predators include hawks, eagles, coyotes and other snakes.

(Facts found in the Colorado State Parks Rattlesnake Management Stewardship Prescription.)

Mary Ann's experience with rattlers includes three summers assisting a prairie rattlesnake research project at the Plains Conservation Center in Aurora.

She has a bachelor's degree in Environmental, Population and Organismic Biology from the University of Colorado at Boulder and has worked as a naturalist for Colorado State Parks, Colorado Division of Wildlife and Jefferson County Open Space.

She has been with the city of Aurora since 2005.

Mary Ann is also an artist, creating original illustrations, caricatures and three-dimensional fabric sculptures for scientists and educators for use in nature centers, botanic gardens, museums and aquaria.

She earned the Enos Mills Award for Lifetime Achievement in Environmental Education in 2002 and the National



Hold onto your hat! Photo by Bryon Shipley

Association for Interpretation's National Master Front Line Interpreter Award in 2003.

- Kathy Madison, Director of Education

Meet the ENC's seasonal naturalist

If you love animals, you will likely enjoy Evergreen Nature Center's 2013 seasonal naturalist. Compassion for wildlife clearly drives Cassandra Bugir every day.

Many of us have similar feelings and motivations, but I would argue that few are so devoted.

When Cassandra is not working at Evergreen Nature Center (Friday through Sunday), she nurses injured or abandoned wildlife at Greenwood Wildlife Rehab Center, where she works Monday through Thursday.

Cassandra also nurtures orphaned kitten litters for GWRC on a regular basis,

while taking care of her own dog, rabbit and bearded dragon.

Cassandra's love of animals led her to a degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Colorado at Boulder, where she also double-majored in theater—a perfect fit for enthusiastic environmental education.

Her varied volunteer experience includes the Denver Zoo and Butterfly Pavilion as well as PR for the Los Angeles band Rooney and the Shakespeare Festival.

Perhaps one of my favorite inclusions on her resume, though, was her love of power tools and I look forward to building exhibits together soon.

Observing Cassandra's loving care for animals, even indirectly, is truly inspiring, so I encourage you to come down to ENC to say hello soon. We are fortunate that one of Evergreen Audubon's 2013 grant awards provided funding to keep Cassandra with us until Sept. 29.

It is also crucial that we garner enough visitor assistant support so Cassandra can focus on her responsibilities helping with publicity, education, administration, development and exhibits for the center. Please help to make 2013 a productive season by signing up for visitor assistant shifts when you can.

- Vanessa Hayes, ENC director



Cassandra Bugir is the ENC's seasonal naturalist. Photo by Vanessa Hayes

Bird House Bash: *Aves sin Fronteras*

Please save the date Thursday, Oct. 3, for the annual Bird House Bash: *Aves sin Fronteras* (birds without borders).

Evergreen Audubon's annual fundraising Bash is going Mexican this year in honor of our migratory birds, who will be preparing to winter in warmer climates. (This includes some of our non-feathered friends as well.)

Please join us for all kinds of fiesta fun and an Audubon good time to raise funds to support Evergreen Nature Center.

Mark your calendars and watch for more details in the next couple months.

If you are interested in joining in with the fun of planning this event, or if you have an idea or auction item for us, please contact Vanessa Hayes, ENC director, at encdirector@evergreenaudubon.org or 303-330-0489, or Ginny Ades at development@evergreenaudubon.org or 720-308-3394.

- Ginny Ades
Director of Development

Nest cams allow you to watch nesting activity live

Editor's note: This article was submitted in time for the June Dipper, but a misunderstanding caused it not to be included that month.

After travelling in Maine and discovering a web cam for puffins, I started to think a short article listing web addresses of the nest cams many of us would enjoy watching would be fun to write for our newsletter.

When I went online and saw how many nest cams there are I was astounded. There are now cams all over the world observing many, many species, birds and otherwise. What fun!

Here are just a few web addresses to get you started.

- Explore.org (www.explore.org)

- Allaboutbirds.org—Cornell Lab bird cams (www.allaboutbirds.org)
- A new, first-of-its-kind infrared camera has been installed to observe a Long-eared Owl nest in Montana at night. To read about it, check www.owlinstitute.org or www.explore.org.

- Our own Xcel Energy has two Great Horned Owl cams, one at Valmont station Boulder, the other at St. Vrain, and a kestrel cam in Brush. <http://birdcam.xcelenergy.com/>

- A Bald Eagle cam is hosted by Xcel Energy in Fort St. Vrain: birdcam.xcelenergy.com/eagle.html.

- Another Bald Eagle, Decorah, Iowa—www.decoraheaglecamalerts.com

- Red-tailed Hawk nest cam in

Ithaca, N.Y.— cams.allaboutbirds.org/channel/16/Red-tailed_Hawks/

- Also at Cornell, the Great Blue Heron nest cam is 40 feet above Sapsucker Woods Pond at www.allaboutbirds.org/cornellherons.

- A Puffin Loafing Ledge camera has been activated at Seal Island NWR in Maine. See more at www.explore.org.

- There is a puffin cam at <http://www.shetland.org>.

- Ospreys at Hog Island Osprey Cam in Maine, www.explore.org.

- Viewbirds.com has many, many nest cams. (www.viewbirds.com)

Google your species and see what turns up. It would be possible for me to spend hours finding new resources; however, they do change year to year.

There are cams worldwide—how fun is that!

- Karel Buckley



Evergreen Audubon display case at Evergreen Library. Photo by Lisa Wald

Library display case features Audubon

The display case at Evergreen Library featured the Evergreen Audubon and Evergreen Nature Center in the month of June.

Thanks to Vanessa Hayes for the awesome overall design with the message of Respectful Recreation. Thanks to Vanessa Hayes, Kathy Madison, Jean

Thayer and Lisa Wald for the posters, banners, flyers and other miscellaneous content, and to Kathy Madison and Lisa Wald for setting up the display.

Once we got that “mountain” in there, the rest came together quickly.

- Lisa Wald

Director of Communications

ENC needs phone for credit sales

Are you due for a smart-phone upgrade? Consider donating your out-of-service 2010-2013 Droid or iPhone 4, 4S or 5 to Evergreen Nature Center.

Earlier this year, EA's fantastic treasurer, Joan Ridgely, found a way for ENC to save a significant amount of money when processing credit-card sales by switching to all PayPal instead of paying monthly service charges all winter and higher processing fees. All we have to do now is swipe cards with a phone-adapted card reader.

So far ENC staff and some of our volunteers have downloaded the free app onto their personal phones to process payments. But often there is not an available smart phone at the center and volunteers must process credit-card payments manually, which not only involves using the finicky carbon card copier, but also incurs a higher fee than swiping.

If you have a phone to donate, please contact Vanessa Hayes at encdirector@evergreenaudubon.org or call 303-330-0489. Thank you!

- Vanessa Hayes, ENC Director

MEET THE BOARD BARBARA KLAUS

As an at-large member of the Evergreen Audubon board, Barbara Klaus may be “at the beck and call” of the EA president, but she certainly has charted her own path through life.

Her career as a nurse practitioner began after she decided she wasn’t likely to get married and took a big trip before looking for a “serious job” for the rest of her life.

After seven years living in San Francisco, including a year near the notorious Haight-Ashbury district in the equally notorious ’60s (“I thought that’s where the pot of gold was”), she had received a graduate degree from the University of California at San Francisco.

Off to Europe and Greece she went, but as fate would have it, her non-marriage plans were derailed when she met her future husband, a New Yorker, overseas.

Littleton became their home for nine years, until they built a solar home in the Peaceful Hills area near North Turkey Creek Road. Barbara couldn’t raise the bushels of tomatoes that had graced her garden at lower altitude, but she read about organic farming and thought they might raise chickens or goats. That never happened.

As a nurse practitioner in the ’90s, she worked in the HIV department at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Denver, where as many as five patients a month died. Probably as a result of that stress, she had “responsibility dreams” that ostensibly had nothing to do with work, but involved “crazy stuff” like forgetting to feed puppies she didn’t have and jumping out of bed to do it.

“Being an independently functioning nurse practitioner was like being a doctor in many ways and it was a scary thought that I might blow it,” she said. “I hoped I wouldn’t kill anybody before I retired.”

She grew up in New York and New Jersey, graduating from Cornell Nursing School in New York City. Her mom introduced her to birds, but she doesn’t consider herself an avid birder although she’s been an Evergreen Audubon member since the early ’80s.

In the ’90s she participated in Hawk Watch at the Hogback, and also volunteered for a program observing cliff-nesting raptors.

“That was fun,” she said. “We watched a pair of owls nesting in the rocks at Red Rocks from egg-laying through the fledging of one owlet.”

Barbara had retired about the time Evergreen Nature Center was opening, and decided she would enjoy that type of volunteer work.

She didn’t work much at the Nature Center last summer because of an arthritic knee, but that is improving.

She organized the EA annual picnic last summer and helped with the Bird House Bash, but her favorite task for Evergreen Audubon is to proof *The Dipper* each month.

She examines the newsletter with a fine-toothed comb, more or less tactfully pointing out errors. She has some history with publishing, having written articles for professional journals and writing a chapter in a book.

Barbara still cycles and swims, but is not as hard-core as in the past. She was always a swimmer, and in her 40s she joined the Evergreen Recreation District master’s program to keep in shape. She discovered her competitive streak at a meet at Stanford University and over the subsequent years, won lots of blue ribbons, finishing as high as fourth (“or maybe second”) in a national competition.

Somewhere along the line she bought a road bike and, naturally, declined to just dabble. She did Ride the Rockies and one century, plus numerous Bicycle Adventure Club vacations, from New Zealand to Majorca and Cape Cod to Hawaii.

After divorcing more than 20 years



Barbara Klaus mixes bike business with pleasure.

ago, she bought a town home in Sun Creek with her job and two children keeping her busy. Her son is about to get married. She babysits her daughter’s two children in Denver one day a week, which isn’t much work but does involve “the odious carpool.”

One other day a week she works at the Anschutz medical campus in Aurora with an AIDS clinical trial group doing quality assurance.

The typical, “Anything you want to add?” question during an interview elicits a surprising response. “Well apparently I have some condition, aberration or unusual situation called synesthesia.” Each letter has a color in her mind—“A” is blue, for instance.

Enter Wikipedia, which says, “Synesthesia is a neurological condition in which stimulation of one sensory or cognitive pathway leads to automatic, involuntary experiences in a second sensory or cognitive pathway . . . In one common form of synesthesia . . . letters or numbers are perceived as inherently colored.”

“It’s common in people who are musical, but I’m not,” she said, banjo lessons for 10 years notwithstanding.

- Debbie Marshall, *Dipper* Editor

I'm finishing this column in Hatteras, N.C., having just completed three pelagic trips on the Gulf Stream where the water was 80-plus degrees F.

News from home is grim. Wildfires are raging all over Colorado. A woman on the trip with me is from Colorado Springs and has been desperately trying to find out if her home is in jeopardy.

I also just received an email from the Evergreen Animal Protective League seeking help for the volunteers who are looking after hundreds of animals from the Black Forest fire.

I was in Hatteras last October, just before Superstorm Sandy hit, and watched the residents and vacationers in the Outer Banks try to protect themselves from the hurricane and minimize damage to their homes.

And, of course, most of my family and many of my lifelong friends live in the path of the recent Oklahoma tornadoes.

Unfortunately, a number of Evergreen residents, including me, can relate all too well to the initial fear and anxiety of residents living in those disaster-stricken areas.

On June 3 at 3 p.m., a number of us received calls, texts and emails from Jeffco with the following message: "This is Jefferson County Sheriff's Office. We are working a wildland fire in your area. We are issuing a Level 3 evacuation.

"A Level 3 evacuation means leave immediately. Danger in your area is current and imminent. There is no time to gather belongings. Leave immediately.

"If you need to go to a shelter please go to Conifer High School. If you need help please call 911."

From my perspective, although the Bluebell fire evacuation alert was terrifying, it was a needed reality check and a good exercise.

Although I reacted quickly and saved those things most precious to me, I was clearly unprepared for a long stay away from home.

The lesson: Never think wildfires can't and won't affect us and our members, family and friends. Prepare now to evacuate on a moment's notice, if necessary. Create an evacuation plan



A Cordilleran Flycatcher gathers material for its nest above Sherman Wing's Indian Hills front door. Photo by Sherman Wing



Fairy Slippers in the Mt. Evans Elk Management Area on June 9. Photo by Susan Harper

and checklist. You may not have time to think.

Be a good neighbor and take steps to mitigate fire damage on your property. Eliminate the most combustible fuels on your land by removing dry pine needles from the floor and dead limbs from your trees.

Let's all do whatever we can to preserve the quality of life we enjoy.

In addition to the lives and homes

lost, the tragic burning of some of Colorado's most beautiful areas has been heartbreaking.

Black Forest, home of the new National Audubon Kiowa Creek Sanctuary, the stunning Royal Gorge and Beaver Meadows, where moose are frequently seen grazing, have all suffered serious damage and loss.

The timing of the fires will com-

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

pound the impact to birds and wildlife since so many young birds and mammals will be affected.

In the foothills, as we head into the middle of June, the reports of migrant arrivals and significant vagrants has slowed significantly.

Nesting activity has been in full swing and observers reported breeders and clutch sizes, and have begun to enjoy fledglings as they venture into the world.

Baby bison can be seen in Genesee, mule deer fawns and elk calves nap in our backyards, bear sows and their cubs have been making the rounds.

The following submissions will remind you of why we are all so lucky to live here.

Yard Birds

Trish Tofte had a **Sage Sparrow** at her home near Kittredge April 18 and a **Bald Eagle** flew overhead the same morning.

Susan Harper heard her first **Nighthawk** of the season with their unusual “boingy” sound on May 24 at dusk.

Rob Raker photographed a **Nighthawk** in Bear Creek Lake Park May 29, admitting, “They are a tough bird to photograph.”

May 29, Marge Petersen reported a pair of **Black-headed Grosbeaks** at her feeders on Golden Willow Road.

On June 3, Sherman Wing observed a **Cordilleran Flycatcher** attempting to nest above the front door of his Indian Hills home.

The find of the month, however, was from Ken Piner on June 6. He lives on James Drive, by Witter Gulch and Upper Bear Creek (near Tallgrass Spa and King-Murphy Elementary School). He called to report a **Blackburnian Warbler** hanging around his grill and back window.

The dozen or more **Red Crossbills** that descended on my feeders May 2 stayed the remainder of the month and continue to hang out at my feeders in Hiwan Hills.

Evening Grosbeaks and **Cassin’s Finches** joined them briefly.

Pygmy Nuthatches have returned to



A female Broad-tailed Hummingbird on her nest. Photo by Marilyn Rhodes

my home this year to nest in one of my nest boxes with a nest camera. When I left home June 8, the female had laid eight eggs of which five had hatched.

I hope my other nest-cam nest box is occupied when I return, with returning **Violet-green Swallows**.

I had an opportunity to check out several of Denver’s mountain parks in Morrison canyon before I left for Hatteras.

I observed at least three, possibly more, **Prairie Falcon** chicks in their nest at Park Cave Rock at Red Rocks.

I caught a glimpse of the **Peregrine Falcon** at Red Rocks and the **Golden Eagle** flying above its nest in Bear Creek Canyon.

Else Van Erp and I had a chance to photograph a female **Broad-tailed Hummingbird** on the nest May 28. She was sitting on two eggs.

Corwina Park

Inga Brennan and Betty Minges did a route at Corwina Park the morning of June 6.

Highlights: **Black-chinned Hummingbird**, **Orange-crowned Warblers**, **Wilson’s Warbler**, **Great Blue Herons**, **Cedar Waxwings**, **Sharp-shinned Hawk**, loads of **Lesser Goldfinches**,

Yellow Warblers and **Western Wood-Pewees**.

Also, on the way there, they had two singing male **Red-eyed Vireos** in the gulch along Grapevine Road.

Alderfer/Three Sisters

While doing a bird survey the morning of June 2, Barbara Jean Gard saw a **Great Blue Heron** fly over Alderfer/Three Sisters.

Lair o’ the Bear

Sherman Wing and his Bear Creek Atlas Team continued to survey Lair o’ the Bear during the month of May.

On May 11, he reported, “Bob Santangelo found a pair of **Peregrine Falcons**. This is one bird that I didn’t expect to find at the park.

“We took the upper hillside trail today. Along the way, we found/heard over a dozen singing **Spotted Towhees**.

First-of-the-season birds included a pair of **Olive-sided Flycatchers**, one singing **Lesser Goldfinch**, one **Mourning Dove** cooing, two **Chipping Sparrows** and two **Scrub Jays**.”

By the end of May, Team Wing had logged 71 different species of birds and confirmed 14 as breeders.

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

Camp Rock, Beaver Meadows

Larry White, Chris Pfaff and Susan Harper saw a pair of the relatively rare **Three-toed Woodpeckers** just upstream of Camp Rock on their way back from monitoring at Beaver Meadows on May 25.

The pair was drumming, calling and acting territorial in the old growth spruce-fir forest.

Red Rocks

On May 19 around 5:30 p.m., Sherman Wing and Sharon Powelson birded the area behind the truck loading docks, across from the Trading Post.

In this riparian corridor, they saw **Cordilleran Flycatcher, Lazuli Buntings, Western Tanager, Bullock's Oriole, Virginia's, Yellow and Yellow-rumped warblers, Lark Sparrow** and more.

On May 26, Sherman had a **Yellow-breasted Chat** at Red Rocks.

Two days later, Sherman reported seeing the following birds at Red Rocks at Entrance 2, around the parking lot: **Blue Grosbeak, Black-headed Grosbeak, Bullock's Oriole, Western Kingbird, Yellow Warbler, Mourning Dove** and **Spotted Towhee**.

The Hogback

On May 26, Barbara Jean Gard reported, "This morning on the north end of the Hogback, were **Western Tanagers, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Rock Wrens** and lots of towhees and gnatcatchers. Plus a pair of kestrels."

Echo Lake

JoAnn and Bill Hackos were at Echo Lake on June 2 and spotted a pair of **Barrow's Goldeneyes**, presumably the same pair seen in 2012.

They also saw **Mallard, Lincoln's Sparrow, Wilson's War-**



Western Kingbird in the Fort Collins area on June 4. Photo by Sherman Wing



Western Scrub Jay at Red Rocks Park on June 10. Photo by Alistair Montgomery

bler, White-crowned Sparrow (Rocky Mountain), Steller's Jay, Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Ruby-crowned Kinglet and Common Raven.

Butterflies sighted: Mourning Cloak and Hoary Comma.

Belmar Park, Jeffco

Bill and JoAnn Hackos found a male **Blackpoll Warbler** on May 13.

Deer Creek Open Space

Larry White observed a male **Black-headed Grosbeak** stripping common mullein fibers for nest building in nearby Gamble's oak on May 21.

Bent's Old Fort, La Junta

On May 13, Sherry Walker reported seeing a **Northern Harrier** "flying over the grasslands at Bent's Old Fort in La Junta this weekend close to dusk . . .

"We also saw a **Great Horned Owl** and two owlets, **American Avocets, Blue-winged Teal, Killdeer**, shrikes and meadowlarks galore, in addition to the usual suspects (**Red-winged Blackbirds, robins, etc.**)"

Cortez, CFO Convention

On May 17, JoAnn and Bill Hackos reported from Cortez while attending the Colorado Field Ornithologists Convention.

"Today was our first birding trip around the Cortez and Durango area. Among many nice sightings, we had great views of **Lewis's Woodpeckers** at the nest, **Grace's Warbler** and two **Dusky Grouse**."

Magee Marsh, Ohio

While enjoying a warbler-palooza at Magee Marsh in Oak Harbor, Ohio, in May, I ran into Evergreen birding pal Barbara Jean Gard, Greg Miller of "The Big Year" fame and Chris Hitt, the 2011 "Lower 48 Big Year" record holder on the boardwalk.

FIELD TRIPS, PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Evergreen Music Fest **Thursday, July 4, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

Free Event

Listen up! Nature is singing all around you. Stop by the ENC booth to celebrate nature in music and make a sweet sound of your own.

Stargazing at Evergreen Lake **Saturday, July 6, 8:45 p.m.**

All ages

Bring a blanket or camp chairs. Join amateur astronomer Pam Little each month for a tour of the night sky. Meet on the west side of the lake parking lot.

Intermediate Birding Field Trip **to Squaw Pass, Echo Lake** **and Summit Lake**

Sunday, July 7, 7:30 a.m.

Meet at Bergen Park Park-n-Ride.

Wander up Squaw Pass to Mount Evans with leaders Bill and JoAnn Hackos and enjoy the beautiful songs of nesting Hermit Thrushes, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Lincoln's Sparrows and Wilson's Warblers.

Along the way, search for Gray Jays, Pine Grosbeaks, Three-toed Woodpeckers and other subalpine forest birds.

We'll drive up to Summit Lake (fee!) to look for American Pipits, rosy-finches and ptarmigan, and hopefully to catch a peek at bighorn sheep, mountain goats, marmots and pikas.

Lunch at Echo Lake Lodge will round out a lovely day of exploring.

Bear Creek Nature Walk: **Elk Management Area** **Saturday, July 13, 9 a.m.**

Meet at Evergreen Lake parking lot.

In a span of 25 miles Bear Creek drains from the summit of Mount Evans out to what historically was semi-desert grassland.

In the process it passes through a wonderful variety of habitats with their attendant communities of birds.

This is the third of four monthly walks this summer, during which we will make our way from grassland to tundra enjoying the birds and the habitats in which they live.

Night Boating and Nature Exploring **Saturday, July 13, 7–10 p.m.**

Free Event

Stop by ENC during extended boat rental nights to pick up your family scavenger hunt and begin an evening outdoor adventure.

Youth Outdoor Skills Day **Sunday, July 21, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.**

Free Event

Evergreen Nature Center joins Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Evergreen Elks, Evergreen Trout Unlimited and other area organizations to celebrate fishing, boating, camping, hiking, hunting, exploring and general outdoor fun on Evergreen Lake.

Registration required! Call 303-291-7386 or email wildlife.neoutreach@state.co.us.

Night Boating **and Nature Exploring** **Saturday, July 27, 7–10 p.m.**

Free Event

Stop by ENC during extended boat rental nights to pick up your family scavenger hunt and begin an evening outdoor adventure.

Wildflower Field Trip **to Silver Dollar Lake** **Sunday, July 28, 8 a.m.**

Meet at Evergreen Lake at 8 a.m. to carpool to the trailhead.

Enjoy up to 100 species of gorgeous wildflowers during this short hike at high altitude.

Bring a hat, sunscreen, water, weather-appropriate layers, snacks and lunch.



If you join JoAnn and Bill Hackos on July 7 for an Intermediate Birding Field Trip, you'll have a chance to see subalpine birds such as this pair of American Three-toed Woodpeckers. Photo by Larry White

NATURE CENTER KIDS PROGRAMS

Call Evergreen Nature Center, 303-330-0489, to register.

Wednesday Wild Ones: Fish Life **July 10, 10–11 a.m.**

Minnnows, darters, trout and more swim, sleep and eat in Evergreen Lake. After a closer look, we'll play a "fishy" game and paint with watercolors.

Ages 2–5 with adult.

Bear Creek Dippers: **Swooping Swallows** **Saturday, July 20, 10 a.m.–noon**

Look closely and discover three different swallow species darting and diving over Evergreen Lake. Learn how they live, grow and travel as we explore and play.

Ages 6–10 with adult.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 4	Evergreen Music Fest	10 am–2 pm	Evergreen Lake/ENC
July 6	Stargazing	8:45 pm	Evergreen Lake House lawn
July 7	Intermediate Birding Trip	7:30 am	Squaw Pass, High Lakes
July 10	Wednesday Wild Ones	10–11 am	Nature Center
July 10	Newsletter deadline	5 pm	
July 11	EA Summer Program	7 pm	Nature Center
July 13	Bear Creek Nature Walk	9 am	Elk Management Area
July 13	Night Boating/Exploring	7–10 pm	Evergreen Lake/ENC
July 20	Bear Creek Dippers	10 am–noon	Nature Center
July 21	Youth Outdoor Skills Day	9 am–1 pm	Evergreen Lake
July 27	EA Annual Picnic	4 pm	Dedisse Park
July 27	Night Boating/Exploring	7–10 pm	Evergreen Lake/ENC
July 28	Wildflower Field Trip	8 am	Silver Dollar Lake

Please submit newsletter content by the 10th of the month to Lisa Wald: communications@evergreenaudubon.org. Contact *Dipper* editor Debbie Marshall with questions or comments: marshallpublish@gmail.com, 303-886-0593.

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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.

Date _____

	Individual	Family
Annual dues	\$ 20	\$ 30
Electronic <i>Dipper</i>	\$ 0	\$ 0
Hard-copy <i>Dipper</i> (members only)	\$ 15	\$ 15
Additional donation	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____	\$ _____

Name _____

Family member(s) name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (optional) _____

Email _____

(must include for electronic *Dipper*)

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

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Nest Cam Links

Meet the Board: Barbara Klaus

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