

# The dipper o

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Editor: Margaret McDole Assistant Editor: Mark Meremonte

# Slide Show for Picnic

By popular request we will have another digital slide show at the TENAS picnic. Last year's show apparently was quite successful due to great images submitted by some of our talented photographers.

Here is another chance for all interested to share some of your best nature-related shots. Send up to 10 digital files compatible with PowerPoint and with brief descriptions to Dave Balogh, david3drb@netscape.net, or contact him at 303-679-2799.

He needs to have them by July 14 to make final selections and organize them into one presentation.

# Reminder: No July Meeting

There will not be a chapter meeting in July.

#### Chapter Meeting Location Moved

Beginning with the August meeting and going through December, the chapter meetings will be held at the Church of the Hills, 28628 Buffalo Park Rd. (across the highway from the library) in the Fellowship Hall downstairs.

We are very grateful that the church is willing to let us use their facilities.

# **Annual Picnic July 21**

The Evergreen Naturalists picnic is scheduled for Saturday, July 21, at the home of Sylvia and Bill Brockner.

#### Schedule of Activities

- 4-6 p.m. Arrival, social hour, appetizers
- 6-7 p.m. Potluck supper, announcements and updates
- 7-9 p.m. The program will be slides or digital pictures and/or talks or anything else entertaining by TENAS members.

Brad Andres will bring the projector. Dave Balogh will put together collected digital pictures. Call Dave at 303-679-2799 if you have questions about your slides.

The club will furnish non-alcoholic beverages, plates, cups, tableware, napkins and fried chicken. A fee of \$4/person will be collected on site to cover the cost of the above supplies.

You will need to bring a potluck dish to serve at least eight people. Please refer to the following alphabetical last-name list when deciding what to bring:

- A through G will bring vegetables or salads,
  - H through N will bring desserts,
  - · O through S wine or beer,
  - T through Z appetizers.

You may want to bring lawn chairs for comfort; however, picnic-bench seating is available.

Make your reservation and get directions from Bill Brockner, 303-674-4851, by Sunday, July 15.

Let him know how many are in your party and your phone number. Also let him know if you can bring an ice chest with ice (club will pay for ice) and whether you can stay and help clean up after the event. Please notify him if you must cancel.

Sylvia Robertson and Peggy Durham will be coordinating the preparation and cleanup. They will need help setting up, collecting money and cleaning up afterward.

Please call 303-674-1715 or 303-674-8648 if you can help. Or we'll call you!

# Ponderosa Pine Ecosystem

Dr. Dave Leatherman, forest ecologist, will come to the August TENAS meeting to share his expertise on ponderosa pine forests and the birds and other wildlife that depend on these forest ecosystems.



Dr. Dave Leatherman

Many of us have questions about pine beetles and how to best prevent or treat beetle outbreaks in our backyards. Dave is an expert entomologist who will help answer these questions and provide intriguing facts about the difference between spruce and pine beetles.

He will explain bark beetle life cycles and how they are sexually attracted to one another. He will also teach us how to keep our trees as healthy as possible, and provide guidance on spraying trees: when it is essential, and how and when to spray to be most effective and reduce threats to birds and other wildlife.

From 1974 to 2005, Dave served as the forest entomologist for the Colorado State Forest Service, which is headquartered at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. His major responsibilities included management of mountain pine beetle and western spruce

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### <u>President's Message</u>

#### Odds and Ends

I hope everyone who is likely to attend chapter meetings has been notified of the change in meeting place to the Church of the Hills. I apologize to anyone who has been inconvenienced by showing up at Evergreen Recreation Center.

The rec center is under reconstruction and will be unavailable for several months. This change for the June meeting was unexpected so we set in motion the telephone tree and e-mail notification and the website announcement.

Once again, volunteers stepped up to help. Thank you all. It would be a good idea to check the website before meetings to see if there is a change.

The success of the Campaign for Weed Awareness is impressive, both in educating local citizens about the problem and in doing the dirty work.

The work of the Education chair teaching classes of young-

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sters both at schools and at the lake shows the importance of reaching out to students in the community.

Both these efforts bode well for the work we wish to do if we are successful in leasing the warming hut at the lake for a nature center. So many people are crawling all over the place, especially on weekends, and they are interested in birds and animals.

I am frequently asked to share my binocs with total strangers. These people are obviously enjoying the outdoors and nature; what better place to provide a nature center with fascinating exhibits, books, pictures, carvings, nature walks and classes? Stay tuned.

Before I moved to Evergreen, I was working in the Facilities Department at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

It was an eye opener for me to think about every convenience we take for granted, like heated or air-conditioned rooms, lights, clean floors, comfortable chairs and tables, food service, landscaping, clean windows, classes assigned to appropriate rooms, furniture moved as needed.

I realized that someone was actually doing the preparation *Continued on Page 4* 



- To **Loie Evans** for her almost daily attention to the birds at Evergreen Lake and keeping the numbers of birds listed on the sheets on the boardwalk. Audubon members and the public benefit from her ever-watchful early morning runs around the lake.
- To Carolyn Fraker, Brad Andres, David Wald and Ginny Boschen for their efforts in putting together a "Use Plan for the Evergreen Audubon Nature Center at the Evergreen Lake Warming Hut." The plan was submitted to the Evergreen Park and Recreation District Board and will be on its meeting agenda in mid June.
- To **Dave Balogh** for organizing and leading the educational outing for three classes of Wilmot fourth-graders at Evergreen Lake. **Sylvia Robertson** and **Bud Weare** took over when Dave had to leave.
- To Cathy Shelton, Marilyn Kaussner, Else Van Erp and Bud Weare for taking the Campaign for Weed Awareness outside the King Soopers in Aspen Park, using real samples to show interested shoppers. The store manager was very gracious and helpful.
- To **Cathy Shelton** and **Sylvia Robertson** for setting up the Campaign for Weed Awareness at the Safety for Kids event at Bergen Meadow Elementary School.
- To Marilyn Kaussner and Sylvia Robertson for again representing the CWA and actually pulling weeds at the event sponsored by the Friends of Beaver Brook Watershed.



# Audubon Strategizes on Global Warming

National Audubon Society held its annual board meeting/retreat May 18-20 in Park City, Utah.

I attended along with other chapter leaders from around the country to hear about the NAS draft of its position on global warming and to participate in interactive sessions with state and national officers to evaluate and strategize on an action plan.

The impact of global warming on wildlife, people and habitat is already being felt and threatens to be profound. NAS President John Flicker is committed to bringing the power of Audubon's resources to bear on this crisis that he believes requires a response even greater than that of the original environmental movement 40 years ago.

The scientific basis and reasoning on which NAS is acting was presented to us by Dr. Stephen Schneider, a leading scientist of climate change from Stanford University.

He explained how the scientific members of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change developed their peer-reviewed, objective results on global warming from which summary conclusions, subject to governmental and scientific consensus, were hammered out in preparation for the 2007 IPCC Report.

The top scientists in the world are more certain than ever that global warming is real and primarily due to vast amounts of greenhouse gases resulting from human activities. Furthermore, the resulting climate changes are transforming the Earth's environmental conditions with severe impacts.

Many climate-related changes being observed all over our planet can either be directly attributed to or strongly linked to global warming. NAS has documented many of these impacts in a slide program, "Global Warming: The Forecast for Birds, Biodiversity, and People," presented in draft form at the meeting.

For example, the huge reduction in the numbers of Sooty Shearwaters, a pelagic species with an extensive migration pattern, is attributed to warming ocean waters reducing upwellings of plankton on which these birds feed.

The decline of this long-distance traveler is indicative of the possible impacts on other birds and species. The "canary in the coal mine" analogy applied to our environment is obvious. This program, with revisions based on the feedback from those of us at the meeting, will soon be available for individual chapters..

Individuals can significantly impact the reduction of the offending greenhouse gases by choices made in our energy uses as set forth in Audubon's "Global Warming and Top Ten Things You Can Do."

Many of these things will not be new to conservation-minded Audubon members but here are some surprising facts from that list. These are reductions in carbon dioxide, the major greenhouse gas in global warming.

- Recycle half your household waste: 2,400 lbs. per year.
- Wash clothes in cold or warm not hot water: 500 lbs. per year.
- Reduce water heater temperature to 120 degrees: 500 lbs. per year.

- Set thermostat 2 degrees lower in winter, higher in summer: 2,000 lbs. per year.
- Use alternate transportation to work two days a week: 1,600 lbs. per year.

These and other steps with similar impacts can go a long way toward reducing the U.S. annual average of 50,000 lbs. of carbon dioxide per person.

Educating and motivating more of our citizens to take these steps is an important part of the NAS action plan. How we can be effective in that goal was part of the training material from the draft of the Global Warming Toolkit presented at the meeting.

As important as individual actions can be, federal government legislation and leadership will also be necessary to ultimately reach the goal of 2% reduction per year in carbon dioxide over the next 30 years.

What the government's part should be to meet this challenge was a key subject at the meeting. More on that in the second part of my report planned for the next issue of *The Dipper*.

- David Balogh

### August Program will Feature Ponderosa Pine Ecosystem

#### Continued from Page 1

budworm and the diagnosis of pest injury to trees or wood.

He conducted surveys for gypsy moth, aerial detection mapping, and collection of specimens for the arthropod museum at CSU. He still continues a program of outreach and education.

Dave's hobbies include bird watching and nature photography. As an avid birder, Dave has seen more than 430 species within Colorado and has been part of two new state records: Slatybacked Gull and Tropical Parula.

He was the editor of the Colorado Field Ornithologists' Journal in the mid-1990s. As a photographer he made two national journal covers (Western Birds) and was selected as the winner of the Colorado Division of Wildlife's Nongame Photo Contest in 1986.

A particular interest is documenting the various gallery patterns of bark beetles.

Join us for this very informative presentation on Thursday, Aug. 2, at 7 p.m. at the Church of the Hills, 28628 Buffalo Park Road. Refreshments and a business meeting will follow the program.



### **Bird Business**

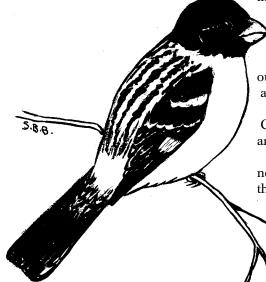
The verdant month of May has flown by. In some species of birds migration was behind schedule. Flycatchers were noticeably scarce. However, by the end of the month they began to show up. In May, 73 species of birds were observed at Evergreen Lake!

During the last half of the month we began to receive reports of a flock of swans along Upper Bear Creek. Soon, proper observations revealed that these were DECOYS!

A House Wren returned on May Day to Indian Hills. It was discovered by Sherman Wing. Then on May 6 he watched a Yellow Warbler cavorting in a snowstorm in Kittredge. On the same day Loie Evans saw an Eastern Kingbird at Evergreen Lake.

Loie Evans saw three Redhead ducks on Evergreen Lake on May 7. The next day she found a Bullock's Oriole and a Savanna Sparrow near the lake and Carmon Slater welcomed a Black-headed Grosbeak to his yard.

A Western Tanager was first seen on May 12 by Sherman Wing at O'Fallon



Black-headed grosbeak

Park. Watch for nesting in this area. On the same day we had a Green-tailed Towhee at the feeders in our yard.

Debra Eberts took excellent photographs of a Summer Tanager on May 17

in Evergreen. Thank you, Debra!

A Black-chinned Hummingbird and 40 waxwings visited Carol Goldstein on May 22 on Floyd Hill.

A handsome Indigo Bunting came to our feeders on May 23. This bird nests as near as Lair o' the Bear Park.

A Poor-will was calling in the yard of Carmon Slater on May 17. Hope it stays around.

Barbara Jean Gard called from Juneau, Alaska, on May 26. She reported that birding and fishing were great. She had excellent views of Black and Ruddy Turnstones.

The Inmans enjoyed a visit to Portal, Ariz., during the month. They came up with a good list of birds there.

Mike and Kathi Krieger toured California in May. While visiting their daughter, Mike got in a little birding.

June is nesting month! Hope for many, many nests this summer.

- Bill Brockner

### President's Message

#### Continued from Page 2

of every comfort or necessity required and I became less oblivious to the efforts of others.

A couple of weeks ago, as I walked the boardwalk at the lake, I saw that the display on the glass-encased bulletin board had been changed, now showing the noxious weeds which proliferate in the wetlands there and beyond.

It dawned on me that someone had taken the responsibility to prepare the display and wade through the water to put in the new pictures and text. I believe that we have Cathy Shelton and Betsy Kelson to thank for creating the display and installing it, respectively.

And it was another reminder to me that Audubon has so many people vol-

unteering their efforts to promote the causes we support.

- Peggy Durham

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# Mother's Day on Pawnee Grasslands

For this year's Mother's Day, we headed north to Crow Valley Campground and the Pawnee National Grassland. After meeting at 6 a.m., Kay Niyo, Dick Williams, Aaron and David Wald, Heather Johnson and I departed for the grasslands.

We decided to record birds only once we got in Weld County, and Aaron Wald, our accomplished 10-year-old birder, spotted the first Weld County bird, a Red-tailed Hawk, barely over the county line.

After re-locating the nesting Great Horned Owl we found last year, we arrived at Crow Valley at 8 a.m., where we were greeted by a Loggerhead Shrike.

Heading out on the trail, Karel Buckley hooked up with us to search for migrant warblers, flycatchers and thrushes. Unfortunately, these soughtafter migrants were elusive; the only really prevalent migrants were Swainson's Thrushes.

However, we had great looks at Brown Thrashers, Common Nighthawks and Green-tailed Towhees. Heading out into the grass, we tallied numerous McCown's Longspurs, Lark Buntings

### <u>Membership</u>

We thank the new and renewing TENAS local members for their support.

#### New

William Kepler-Wailuku

#### New Family

Sheryl & Tom Stone–Golden

#### Renewing

Barbara Voth-Evergreen Louise Walker-Littleton

#### Renewing Family

Vivian & Dick Burrows-Conifer Carol & Al Goldstein-Evergreen Edward & Vera Sable-Golden Bud & Juanita Weare-Evergreen and Burrowing Owls, and spotted a Golden Eagle.

Because Crow Valley was relatively inactive we decided to head south to check out waterbirds. Loloff Reservoir treated us to Cinnamon Teal, American Avocets, Black-necked Stilt and Longbilled Dowitchers.

Moving west to Latham Reservoir, we were rewarded with views and calls of Sora, Virginia

Rail, Willet, Northern Harrier, Yellowheaded Blackbird and Marsh Wren.

As we tallied up the count on the way home, we managed to check off 75 spe-



Common Nighthawk at Pawnee National Grasslands. *Photo by Kay Niyo* 

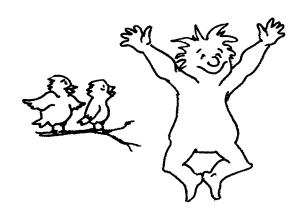
cies. Aaron tallied 20 new species he had not seen before. I hope you can join us for a prairie excursion next year.

- Brad A. Andres

### Help Carl Celebrate!

Help Carl Keiser celebrate his 90th birthday on Saturday, Aug. 11, at 2 p.m. at Janet Williamson's house at 7303 Silver Horn Drive.

If you want to be part of the revelry, please call Janet, 674-1637, Sylvia Robertson, 674-1715, or Trish Baker, 674-1308. Or e-mail Janet at bearstonej@ gmail or Sylvia at sylbob1@msn. com.





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### Wilmot 4th-graders Have a Field Day

On May 31, the entire fourth grade at Wilmot Elementary School had a literal field day, hiking cross country from their classrooms to Evergreen Lake where they visited the water plant, attended Division of Wildlife and Hiwan Homestead presentations at the warming hut, and took a boardwalk tour of the wetlands with TENAS members David Balogh, Sylvia Robertson and Bud Weare.

Wilmot science teacher Suzanne Parks did an excellent job preparing her 75 students and organizing them into six groups, each group spending about 30 minutes at each station.

Dave Balogh commanded the TENAS station, where we talked about the multiple functions of a wetland, ranging from water purifier to wildlife habitat.

Mother Nature (a mother mallard in this case) cooperated with a prominent display of her nine newly hatched ducklings. The pedagogical highlight was Dave's grab bag of "marshland metaphors."

As the climactic event of our presentation, the students were invited to reach



Wilmot Elementary School fourth-grade students study wetlands with Dave Balogh and Bud Weare. Photo by Sylvia Robertson

into a cloth sack and pull out an object (a can of soup or a sponge, for example) and then explain the metaphorical relationship between the object and the marsh.

The students performed amazingly

well as the TENAS tutors settled into a Socratic mode based in no small part on wetlands research supplied by Brad Andres and Heather Johnson.

- Bud Weare



### Don't Forget!

Community Weed Day Saturday, June 23 8 to 11 a.m. Evergreen Lake Lawn

# BIB Monitoring Window July 14–22 & August 11-19

For specific times and dates at the different sites, phone a team leader or Kent Simon, BIB chair, at 303-674-3017

SITE	LEADERS	PHONE
Bear Creek Lake Park #1	Mike Foster	303-456-2647
Bear Creek Lake Park #2	Bob Santangelo	303-477-1367
Gravel Pit	Ruth Alford	303-670-0835
	Kathanne Lynch	303-526-0670
Lair O' the Bear	Else Van Erp	303-816-5084
Corwina Park	Warren Roske	303-526-9725
O'Fallon Park	Sherman Wing	303-697-8840
Evergreen Lake	Brad Andres	303-670-0101
Upper Bear Creek	Deb Callahan	303-674-4923
The Gardens	Gil Schoonveld	303-674-6865
Groundhog Flat	Inga Brennan	720-746-1780
Beaver Meadows	Larry White	303-674-0535
Summit Lake	Kent Simon	303-674-3017



### Field Trips and Outings

Sunday, June 24

Flowers of Jeffco Open Space Leader: Lynne Price, 303-670-0840 Join Lynne for a morning stroll to enjoy and identify plants in one of Jeffco's newer Open Space Parks. Due to the abundance of moisture this year, flower display should be much superior to last year. Definitely, the year to get out! The terrain is easy. Wear weather-appropriate clothing and bring water. Call Lynne by the Thursday before for details.

Sunday, July 22

Silver Dollar Lake

Leader: Lynne Price, 303-670-0840

Enjoy an impressive display of subalpine and alpine flowers. Not a long walk but uphill at relatively high altitude. Wear a hat and weather-appropriate clothing. Bring sunscreen, water and lunch. Call Lynne for details.

Saturday, July 28

Herman Lake

Leader: Mike Foster, 303-456-2647

Fourth in a series of beginners' birding trips. This time we'll investigate subalpine and tundra habitats, to find birds we've not yet seen. Bring binoculars, bird guide and lunch/water. The hike will cover around 6 miles roundtrip and gain 2,200 feet. Meet at 7:15 a.m. in the parking lot of El Rancho (Exit 252 off I-70). Do call to sign up. Mike will be bringing a group from the Denver area, and we won't stop at El Rancho unless you have called to say you'll be there.

Sunday, July 29

Alpine flowers on Mt. Evans

Leader: Lynne Price, 303-670-0840

Join Lynne for a morning trip to our local fourteener to view the seemingly delicate but actually quite resilient alpine plants that live at Summit Lake. We also try to take in the view from the summit of Mt. Evans, time and weather permitting. Hat, sunscreen, appropriate outer clothing, water and food a must. The altitude can make one very hungry and it can be cold up there even in the summer. Call Lynne for details.

Sunday, August 26 Shorebirds on the Plains

Leader: Brad Andres, 303-670-0101

Migrant shorebirds are moving through eastern Colorado in large numbers by the end of August. Depending on water conditions, we will seek the best shorebird sites in Weld or Morgan County. As many as 33 species of migrant shorebirds are annually recorded on the eastern plains during fall migration. Meet at the Bergen Park Park 'n' Ride at 7 a.m. Bring a lunch and plan to return to Bergen Park by 3 p.m.

Always call the leader on the Thursday before the trip to confirm arrangements!

### **Botany Group Summer Schedule**

The Botany Group continues to meet on Friday afternoons, generally alternating field studies at local parks with keying sessions at Sylvia Brockner's house.

Anyone who is interested may participate in one or more of the two decidedly different activities. No experience is required.

Please phone Sylvia Brockner at 303-674-4851 by Thursday of the week of the activity in which you wish to participate. Plans may change for a variety of reasons such as weather or unexpected changes in the bloom dates.

Here is what we have planned:

- July 6: Early afternoon trip to Reynolds Park.
- July 13: Early morning trip to Mountain View Experimental Garden in Breckenridge.
  - July 20: Noon keying session at Sylvia's.
  - July 27: Morning trip to Mt. Goliath.
  - Aug 3: Noon trip to Arapahoe Springs.
  - Aug 10: Noon keying session at Sylvia's.
- Aug 17: Morning trip to Beaver Meadows via Echo Lake.
  - Aug 24: Noon keying session at Sylvia's.

#### July-August Calendar

July 21	TENAS Picnic
July 22	Botany Field Trip to Silver Dollar Lake
July 28	Field Trip to Herman Lake
July 29	Botany Field Trip to Mt. Evans
August 2	Chapter Meeting
August 26	Shorebirds on the Plains Field Trip

Monthly Meetings (except January and July) Church of the Hills, 28628 Buffalo Park Road, 7 p.m.

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

> > TENAS website www.dipper.org

The Dipper deadline for the September issue is Thursday, August 2. Please submit articles to: Margaret McDole, mem2@earthlink.net

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  - 4th-grade Field Trip
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