



THE DIPPER



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EVERGREEN AUDUBON NEWSLETTER

www.evergreenaudubon.org

BIRD-BOX SALES

The Evergreen Audubon Bird-box Sale will be held on two weekends this year: Saturday-Sunday, March 12-13, at the Bergen Park King Soopers and Saturday-Sunday, March 19-20, at the Evergreen and Conifer Safeway stores. Sale hours will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to staff the sale in two-hour shifts: 9-11 a.m., 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 1-3 p.m.

To volunteer for a shift, call Bud at 303-679-8889.

CALL FOR TRIP IDEAS, LEADERS

If you have an idea for a field trip, please send it to fieldtrips@evergreenaudubon.org.

If you walk a location regularly, be it in Fairplay, Georgetown, Golden or anywhere in between and you would like to share it with others, we would like to come!

Any place is possible; please contact us. We're looking forward to another exciting year of Evergreen Audubon trips and Evergreen Nature Center.

ENC DIRECTOR

The Evergreen Audubon board has received about 25 applications for the Evergreen Nature Center director position.

Joan Ridgely is heading up the Search Committee, which started reviewing applications in mid-February.

First Founders' Award presented

The first Evergreen Audubon Founders' Award was presented at the Jan. 21 Annual Banquet to longtime members Bill (posthumously) and Sylvia Brockner and Bill and Louise Mounsey.

In 1968, the Brockners and Mounseys brought together a group of conservation-minded people to form The Evergreen Naturalists, which later became The Evergreen Naturalists Audubon Society and recently simplified its name to Evergreen Audubon.

The group was formed to educate the community on environmental issues such as protecting wildlife and wildlife habitat, but the members also wanted to have fun watching, listening to and understanding birds, as well as identifying and enjoying plants.

The now-formal mission of Evergreen

Audubon is conserving and protecting the natural environment and educating our community about the natural world. For 43 years, the Brockners and Mounseys have embodied EA's mission in their lives and have worked tirelessly to educate the Evergreen community and beyond about the natural world and man's relationship to it.

Through the years, numerous environmental actions have been initiated and supported by EA through their leadership. Among their initiatives:

- participant in the Evergreen Spruce Up campaign creating Evergreen's first recycling program;
- organizer and participant in Evergreen's first Earth Day;

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March program: Absolutely All Alaska

At our March 3 chapter meeting, Ron Belak will discuss his travels during 2009 and 2010 in our nation's Last Frontier.

You can learn about nymphing for chunky rainbows and Dollies on the Kenai River, dry-fly fishing for grayling, photographing grizzlies at Katmai National Park, pursuing whales in Resurrection Bay, and driving 500 miles on the Haul Road from Fairbanks to the North Slope.

You'll enjoy a light-hearted presentation filled with magnificent wildlife, great scenery, trophy trout and, of course, tall tales.

Ron has published about 45 magazine articles and 250 photographs, primarily in Colorado Outdoors magazine. His work also has appeared in American Angler and Fly Fisherman.

The chapter meeting will be Thursday, March 3, at 7 p.m. at Church of the Hills, 28628 Buffalo Park Road (just west of the Evergreen Library) in the downstairs Fellowship Hall. Visitors are welcome. Refreshments and a business meeting will follow Ron's presentation.



Alaska will be the subject of the March 3 EA chapter meeting.

2010 OFFICERS

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bird Monitoring	Brad Andres	303-670-0101 birdmon@evergreenaudubon.org
Communications	Lisa Wald	303-674-0417 communications@evergreenaudubon.org
Conservation	Chuck Aid	303-674-3331 conservation@evergreenaudubon.org
Development	Mimi Nelson	303-674-3192 development@evergreenaudubon.org
Education	Cheryl Manning	303-670-0699 education@evergreenaudubon.org
Social Events	Marge Petersen	303-670-4310 socialevents@evergreenaudubon.org
At Large	Heather Johnson	303-670-0101 atlarge1@evergreenaudubon.org
At Large	Tim Zeman	303-862-8061 atlarge2@evergreenaudubon.org

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Audubon Color.	Dick Prickett	303-674-0217
Bear Creek Atlas	Brad Andres	303-670-0101
Bird Box Sales	Bud Weare	303-679-8889
Conservation	Chuck Aid	303-674-3331
Dipper Editor	Debbie Marshall	303-674-3752 marshallpublish@gmail.com
Education	Cheryl Manning	303-679-0699
Field Trips	Karel Buckley	303-670-8859
Hospitality	Rachel Hutchinson	303-679-1503
Land Acquisition	Polly Phillips	303-674-7744
Membership	Jean Thayer	303-670-9066
Nature Center	TBD	
Program	Cheryl Manning	303-670-0699
Publicity	TBD	
Ways & Means	Irma Wolf	303-670-3402 irmasonny@aol.com
Weeds	Cathy Shelton	303-674-8610 sheltonpublicaddress@hotmail.com
Webmaster	Lisa Wald	303-674-0417

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE HEATHER JOHNSON

Volunteer-Up!

Today you may be sitting in your cozy home, looking out the window at snow and ice and taking time to enjoy a good book or the birds at your feeders. Or, perhaps, you are spending the winter skiing, snowshoeing or ice-skating.

Maybe some of you are taking the time to do all of the above!

Although we are still in the thick of winter in Evergreen, spring is poking its head around the corner, reminding us to begin preparing for a new season. As Audubon members, we know spring means that migratory birds are arriving soon, a series of excellent field trips will begin, and Evergreen Nature Center will be opening again!

Because so many of you participate in numerous Evergreen Audubon programs and activities, you know it is the season to "Volunteer-Up!" Now is the time to begin thinking about those activities you want to contribute to this year, no matter how much, or little, time you can afford.

We have formed an Evergreen Nature Center Subcommittee, and teams are working on every aspect of getting things up and running for opening day. We are preparing for another season of the Breeding Bird Atlas and will have a number of sites that will need observers.

We have formed a committee of people to make bluebird boxes for our spring bird-box sale and are laying out schedules of volunteers for nest-box monitoring in Elk Meadow and Three Sisters parks.

We already have a good supply of spring and summer field trips, programs and children's activities specific to fish, wildlife, plants and geology. Given the diversity of activities we have planned for this spring and summer, we are going to need a great deal of volunteer assistance to pull it all off!!

We need all hands on deck, so don't hesitate to get involved! We want to hear from each and every one of you outstanding Evergreen Audubon members.

Everyone has some talent and expertise to bring to the organization. We welcome your new or increased involvement.

To challenge you this year, we want each of you to volunteer for one traditional activity you have been involved in and one new one. Or, get involved in one traditional activity and adopt a new friend to get involved as well.

If you are excited about getting involved in new aspects of Evergreen

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VIP VOLUNTEERS DAVID WALD

- Many thanks to 2010 board of directors members **Peggy Durham, Mark Meremonte** and **Sylvia Robertson**. You'll be missed!
- Thanks to our Banquet helpers: **Marge, Irma, Juanita, Kent, Marilyn, Sylvia, Peggy, Heather, Lisa, Mark** and speaker **Vince Matthews**.
- Thanks to **Jean Thayer** for producing an absolutely beautiful Volunteer Newsletter, providing information to Nature Center volunteers.
- Thanks to the Executive Director Search Committee (**Cheryl Manning, Mimi Nelson, Tim Sandsmark, Joan Ridgely, Jean Thayer**).
- **John and Diane Sears** of Evergreen Wild Bird Store generously offered to donate, stock and maintain two bird feeders outside the ENC. They are having an Audubon Membership drive through spring sales at the Wild Bird Store (see article on page 6).

Brockners, Mounseys share first EA Founders' Award

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- supporter and campaigner for the official protection of endangered species and non-game species known today as the Endangered Species Act of 1973;
- early supporter of the Jefferson County Open Space program to conserve land such as Elk and Noble meadows and to build hiking, biking and horseback riding trails;
- leader in protecting Evergreen Lake, by undertaking the first biological survey of the lake and encouraging Evergreen Park and Recreation District to construct the boardwalk over the wetlands we enjoy today;
- installer of bluebird boxes on Jeffco Open Space to protect bluebird habitat and promote their survival;
- member of the Mountain Area Planning Council (which developed the Evergreen Area Community Plan as we know it today), helping to protect Evergreen's quality of life.

Bill and Sylvia Brockner are recognized as Evergreen's foremost educators on birds and plants and as advocates for protection of the environment. Bill's expertise on protection of birds and their habitat was sought out in Evergreen and worldwide.

Sylvia taught environmental education classes and led numerous educational field trips for EA. She has been writing a weekly environmental essay in the Canyon Courier since 1972 and has written several books on plants, including "Birds in Our Evergreen World," and is now compiling a book of her weekly articles.

Bill and Louise Mounsey established the University of the Wilderness at their cabin in Wyoming, where Audubon members participated in field trips and classes on environmental issues and protection/conservation of wildlife and wildlife habitat.

Bill was an active member of the Wilderness Workshop and Colorado Open Space Council, as well as an environmental lobbyist in Washington, D.C. Louise was EA's first Conservation director, advising on and campaigning for environmental issues and, as a member of Evergreen Garden Club, contributing to conserve and beautify Evergreen.

Congratulations to Bill and Sylvia Brockner and to Bill and Louise Mounsey for your superior service to Evergreen Audubon, the Evergreen community, and the community beyond.

Your dedication has earned you the first Evergreen Audubon Founders' Award.

- Mark Meremonte
EA 2010 Conservation Director

Annual awards given at banquet

Several prestigious awards were presented at the EA Annual Banquet Jan. 21.

- Best Bird Award(s), presented by Heather Johnson for Brad Andres: Loie Evans for Swamp Sparrow and Aaron Wald for Pine Warbler.
- Best Flower Award(s), presented by Marilyn Rhodes: Lynne Price and Linda Lorenz for Green Antelope-horn Milkweed (*Asclepias asperula*).
- Founders' Award, presented by Mark Meremonte: Bill (posthumously)

and Sylvia Brockner, and Bill and Louise Mounsey.

- President's Citation Award (Dipper), presented by David Wald: Karel Buckley received a special citation for her many efforts on behalf of Evergreen Nature Center as well as organizing quality field trips for both Audubon members and the public.
- Members Award, presented by Marilyn Kaussner: Irma Wolf for the Annual Banquet silent auction and decorations.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS DAVID WALD

Jan. 27 Joint Board Meeting

- Treasurer Diane Sears provided our annual financial statement for 2010. The Balance Sheet and Profit/Loss documents are posted online (evergreenaudubon.org under About Us – Documents).
- Welcome to our new board of directors members: Jean Thayer, Secretary; Chuck Aid, Conservation; and Tim Zeman, At Large.
- Good news! At its Jan. 25 board meeting, the Evergreen Park and Recreation District board approved a five-year Use Agreement for Evergreen Audubon to continue to use the Warming Hut as our Nature Center.

• The bad news is that the use agreement now stipulates a use fee of \$1 per year (up from \$0), so we're looking for a donor (no quarters, please)!

• The Database Committee (chaired by Jean Thayer, with Mimi Nelson, Lisa and David Wald, Kent Simon and Diane Sears) made major progress on consolidating membership, donor and volunteer data. Much of the credit goes to Jean!

- The Nature Center Committee

(chaired by Heather Johnson, with Karel Buckley, Joan Ridgely, Jean Thayer and Lisa Wald) is making progress in new programs and developments for the spring Nature Center reopening.

- Our 2011 Jefferson County Conservation Trust Fund Grant for Nature Center displays was approved, providing support for new display cases, materials and mounts.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE HEATHER JOHNSON

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Audubon but feel you need additional training to feel comfortable with these tasks, let me know and I'll personally make sure we get you the training you need to volunteer where you would like to be most effective.

Now is the time of year to be thinking about how you want to help out, to give back to our community and be a part of our new "Volunteer-Up!" effort! Let's SPRING into spring with a bang!

Christmas counters rewarded with 100th species

We held the 42nd Evergreen-Idaho Springs Christmas Bird Count on Dec. 19. Although the day seemed rather slow to field observers, we ended up tying last year's record of 55 species.

We also found the 100th species recorded on the count—a single male Gadwall tucked in with mallards along Bear Creek in Kittredge.

Besides adding the Gadwall to our Christmas Count list, we also produced high counts of Bald Eagles, Eurasian Collared-Doves (which continue to increase), Mourning Doves, Hairy Woodpeckers, Black-billed Magpies and White-breasted Nuthatches.

Counts of a number of finches, including Red Crossbills, American Goldfinches, Cassin's Finches and Evening Grosbeaks, were noticeably lower this year. The accompanying table provides numbers from 2010, the average for the previous 41 years, and the high count of the species and the year it was made.

Participation in 2010 was about average, with 51 field observers and 21 feeder watchers contributing more than 173 party-hours of effort. These observers counted 6,837 individual birds.

The information we are collecting on common foothills birds is useful for determining the status of our nation's birds. (See www.stateofthebirds.org for an application of Christmas Bird Count data.)

For those who did not see last year's *American Birds* summary, the 2009 Evergreen-Idaho Springs count had the North American high count for Pygmy Nuthatches and Cassin's Finches and the second-highest count for Mountain Chickadees.

Our high count of 956 Pygmy Nuthatches this year will likely put us in the running for top honors again in 2010.

For Christmas Bird Counts conducted in Colorado in 2009 and in addition to the three species mentioned above,

we had the highest state count for Northern Goshawks, Hairy Woodpeckers, Fox Sparrows (only one), Gray-headed Junco, White-winged Junco, Pine Siskins and Evening Grosbeaks.

We had the second-highest state count for American Three-toed Woodpeckers, Steller's Jays, Golden-crowned Kinglets and Pine Grosbeaks; and the third-highest state count for Black-billed Magpies and Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches.

Thanks to all section leaders and participants, the Walds for hosting the tally rally, Lori Hogan for making the chili, Marge Petersen for organizing the dinner, Bob Santangelo for making the veggie chili, Barbara Jean Gard for coordinating the feeder watchers, Emily Wald for recording the section counts, and John and Diane Sears (Evergreen Wild Bird Store) for distributing leader packets and hosting several teams on Sunday morning.

- Brad A. Andres

Summary of birds observed on the 2010 Evergreen-Idaho Springs Christmas Bird Count, the average number seen from 1969 to 2009, and the high count and year recorded.

Common Name	Number per Year		High Count	
	1969-2009	2010	number	year
Canada Goose	8	1	70	90
Cackling Goose	<1		2	08
Wood Duck	<1		2	93/07
Gadwall	<1	1	1	10
American Wigeon	<1		2	96
Mallard	48	162	235	93
Northern Pintail	<1		1	96/98
Green-winged Teal	<1		1	81
Chukar	<1		1	80
Blue Grouse	<1		12	94
Wild Turkey	40	3	110	04
Great Blue Heron	<1		1	88/90
Black-crowned Night Heron	<1		1	09
Bald Eagle	1	5	5	10
Northern Harrier	<1		2	04
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	2	3	06
Cooper's Hawk	<1	1	2	09
Northern Goshawk	1	1	3	72/87
Red-tailed Hawk	12	35	40	09

Common Name	Number per Year		High Count	
	1969-2009	2010	number	year
Ferruginous Hawk	<1		2	98
Rough-legged Hawk	1		11	85
Golden Eagle	3	3	8	89
American Kestrel	1	2	4	87
Merlin	<1	2	2	10
Prairie Falcon	<1		1	82
Wilson's Snipe	1	1	4	78/91/00
Rock Pigeon	79	53	212	81
Eurasian Collared-Dove	<1	49	49	10
Mourning Dove	<1	2	2	10
Great Horned Owl	1	1	5	09
Northern Pygmy-Owl	<1	2	4	95
Long-eared Owl	<1		1	74/82
Northern Saw-whet Owl	<1		1	70
Belted Kingfisher	2	3	6	04
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<1		1	80
Downy Woodpecker	29	38	51	08
Hairy Woodpecker	43	75	75	10
Am. Three-toed Woodpecker	<1		3	79/89

Common Name	Number per Year		High Count	
	1969-2009	2010	number	year
Northern (Red-shafted) Flicker	14	32	39	09
Loggerhead Shrike	<1		1	several
Northern Shrike	4	8	13	86
Gray Jay	14	13	53	77
Steller's Jay	264	256	446	00
Blue Jay	<1		1	95/00
Western Scrub-Jay	2	2	14	93
Pinyon Jay	5		200	72
Clark's Nutcracker	27	2	108	78
Black-billed Magpie	177	322	322	10
American Crow	620	1,450	1,519	00
Common Raven	115	122	200	72
Horned Lark	<1		15	86
Black-capped Chickadee	72	132	170	95
Mountain Chickadee	477	564	786	75
Juniper Titmouse	<1		1	82
Bushtit	<1		15	09
Red-breasted Nuthatch	49	44	127	93
White-breasted Nuthatch	67	123	123	10
Pygmy Nuthatch	365	956	990	09
Brown Creeper	13	11	23	75
Canyon Wren	1	2	5	81
Winter Wren	<1		2	75
American Dipper	19	16	37	87
Golden-crowned Kinglet	3	1	18	84
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<1		2	83/91
Mountain Bluebird	<1		2	92
Townsend's Solitaire	66	34	202	82
American Robin	132	3	1,500	72
Northern Mockingbird	<1		1	78
Brown Thrasher	<1		1	several
European Starling	132	97	301	00
Bohemian Waxwing	45		580	80
Cedar Waxwing	9		163	87
Spotted Towhee	<1		4	75
Cassin's Sparrow	<1		1	71
American Tree Sparrow	3	1	37	84
Clay-colored Sparrow	<1		1	83
Fox Sparrow	<1		1	several
Song Sparrow	4	11	12	93
White-throated Sparrow	<1		1	84/06
Harris's Sparrow	<1		2	80
White-crowned Sparrow	<1	1	1	several

Common Name	Number per Year		High Count	
	1969-2009	2010	number	year
Golden-crowned Sparrow	<1		1	93
Dark-eyed (Gray-headed) Junco	161	173	293	76
Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco	91	57	232	74
Dark-eyed (Pink-sided) Junco	16	55	276	80
Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco	83	61	413	82
Dark-eyed (White-winged) Junco	55	32	70	07
Dark-eyed Junco (All subspecies)	555	485	699	08
Red-winged Blackbird	42	70	500	91
Common Grackle	<1		3	93
Great-tailed Grackle	<1		1	07
Brown-headed Cowbird	<1		1	09
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch	130	300	429	84
Black Rosy-Finch	8		70	04
Brown-capped Rosy-Finch	17	10	140	04
All Rosy-Finches	163	310	429	84
Pine Grosbeak	13	15	51	07
Cassin's Finch	164	21	474	88
House Finch	155	314	430	06
Red Crossbill	68		643	82
White-winged Crossbill	1		16	70
Common Redpoll	4		30	70
Pine Siskin	222	46	723	08
American Goldfinch	18		176	00
Evening Grosbeak	135	32	420	95
House Sparrow	104	104	377	00
Number of Species	46	55	55	09/10

Join us on the Bluebird Trail

Evergreen Audubon, in collaboration with Jefferson County Open Space, has established two bluebird nest-box trails. Each is approximately 4 miles in length: The Elk Meadow trail has 35 boxes and the Alderfer/Three Sisters trail has 25 boxes.

EA offers volunteers the opportunity to monitor bluebird nest boxes in the two parks. Volunteers are assigned to a team that makes biweekly walking visits along the nest-box trails.

During visits, which take place throughout the spring and summer, participants will observe and record adult arrival, nest building and the number of eggs and chicks. Other cavity-nesting species also may be observed.

The monitoring data collected contributes to the growing EA database of bluebird breeding success in our area and is also entered into the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology Nest-Watch unified database.

For more information about volunteering for this project, contact Mike Wilson at vicepresident@evergreenaudubon.org or Brad Andres at birdmon@evergreenaudubon.org.

- Mike Wilson

This report covers sightings noted on the Evergreen Audubon website from late December to late February. We should have some early spring migrants to report by our April issue.

Marilyn Rhodes finally got to see the **White-throated Sparrow** at Red Rocks last Dec. 26. Marilyn and Bob Santangelo also saw four other species of sparrows: a **Golden-crowned**, a **Harris's**, a **Song Sparrow** and many, many **House Sparrows**. They also got good, long looks at a **Curve-billed Thrasher**.

If you want to study **Juncos**, Marilyn believes Red Rocks is definitely the place to go. Several subspecies are represented and you can compare them to one another—**Pink-sided**, **Gray-headed**, **Oregon**, **Slate-colored**, **White-winged** and **Cassiar** (an intergrade between the Oregon and Slate-colored). We're so lucky to have the park in our backyard.

Marilyn snapped a picture of the **White-throated Sparrow** on Dec. 31

at Red Rocks along with a wonderful surprise—**Rosy-Finches**. She saw the **Gray-crowned**, **Brown-capped**, **Black** and **Hepburn's**, a subspecies of the Gray-crowned.

Larry White spotted an **American Pipit** on snow-covered Upper Bear Creek Road near Evergreen Lake on the last day of 2010.

Sherman Wing started off the first day of 2011 with great birding at Red Rocks. He listed the notable birds seen at the Trading Post feeders that day: **Curved-billed Thrasher**, **White-throated Sparrow**, **Harris's Sparrow**, **White-crowned Sparrow**, **Golden-crowned Sparrow**, **Grey-crowned Rosy Finch** and **Brown-capped Rosy Finch**. The Harris's Sparrow is a life bird for Sherman.

One of the EA Birds of the Year was spotted on the last day of 2010 by Aaron Wald. He saw a **Pine Warbler** on his family's feeder in Hiwan Country Club. It stayed for the morning. (Pictures on

the Evergreen Audubon Flickr page at www.flickr.com.)

On the morning of Jan. 29, Marilyn Rhodes saw all five races of **Dark-eyed Juncos**, **White-throated**, **Harris's** and **Golden-crowned** sparrows and the **Curve-billed Thrasher**. The Rosy-Finches didn't show while she was there.

Eve Ashby saw a **Bald Eagle** circling over the open valley along Lone Peak Drive on Feb. 2.

On Feb. 2, Pat Wyker spied a tiny buffy-breasted bird sitting in the shrubs in her backyard in Georgetown. It was a **Red-breasted Nuthatch** who braved the 22 degree-below-zero temps to join a small flock of Mountain Chickadees at the feeder.

MEMBERSHIP

JEAN THAYER

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

New

Ryan Antenucci—Evergreen
Mac Behrhorst—Evergreen
Louise Mitchell—Evergreen
Nora Monnet—Evergreen
Tim Zeman—Evergreen

New Family

Alan Rowe & Sherry Bright—Evergreen
John & Terry Vimont—Pine

Renewing

Mike Foster—Lakewood
Gisela Henderson—Evergreen
Mike Henwood—Morrison
Mimi Nelson—Evergreen
Patti O'Neall—Arvada
Marge Petersen—Evergreen
Dick Prickett—Evergreen
Linda Rockwell—Evergreen
David Walker—Indian Hills
Sonny & Irma Wolf—Evergreen

Renewing Family

Barbara Jean & Tom Gard—Evergreen
Marilyn & John Kaussner—Evergreen
Cheryl & Andy Manning—Evergreen
Debbie & Don Marshall—Evergreen
David & Jean Sharer—Evergreen
Carl & Judy Stock—Conifer
Caroline & Ingrid von Kleydorff—Evergreen

Non-member offer at Wild Bird Store

Dear Friends,

Tom and Else Van Erp's recent gift to Evergreen Audubon showed us all that we should be doing more and giving more to help Evergreen Audubon fulfill its potential as a leader in conservation and birding in the Colorado foothills area.

Their gift certainly has inspired us to announce the following promotion at Evergreen Wild Bird Store.

Any non-member from the Denver/Foothills area who spends \$100 or more now through June 30, 2011, will receive a family membership gift to Evergreen Audubon from Evergreen Wild Bird Store. There is one asterisk, however, that we must apply. We cannot do this if the customer uses coupons, sales prices, etc.

We believe that we will likely bring EA some quality new members during the promotion period.

Evergreen Wild Bird Store will promote this Audubon Membership Special in our upcoming spring seed sale flier as well as in our store with signage. It is always our goal to work more closely with Evergreen Audubon to increase membership rolls and funding of birding-related activities.

Lastly, if you haven't yet tried our store full of wild bird treats, habitat items, bird-watching supplies, gifts and more, what are you waiting for? When you stop by please introduce yourself. We'd love to chat birds and help you with your backyard bird supplies.

Members already receive 10% off all items all of the time. Same asterisk applies re coupons, etc.

John and Diane Sears
Evergreen Wild Bird Store

A memorial to Carl Keiser, dedicated conservationist

When you observe the wetlands at Evergreen Lake, filled with cattails and willows and inhabited by Red-winged Blackbirds and other species, think of Carl Keiser, who more than anyone else fought to protect and preserve them.

Carl died on Jan. 23 at the age of 94. After a long and distinguished military career, he put his efforts into our local scene and at the Colorado Legislature, always working for protection of our environment.

He was our Audubon conservation chair for more than 20 years and he made a difference.

At one time Fran Enright, then TENAS president, noticed that asphalt from road construction on Bear Creek Road was being dumped into the wetlands at

the west side of the lake. Carl took charge and after some frustrating confrontations, made sure that it was all removed.

When the lake was dredged (1986-1989), he was instantly alarmed, fearing the wetlands would be destroyed. After many meetings and a lot of effort, the Metro Water District made sure the wetlands would be restored and the boardwalk would be built to allow people to walk through the wetlands without causing any degradation.

Carl, along with Etta Satter, initiated the first Earth Day held at Evergreen Lake. He never missed one unless weather caused cancellation.

Jo Evans, our Audubon lobbyist, remembers Carl as Audubon Colorado legislative chair for decades. He created a

statewide phone-in network for legislative alerts. This was long before email and the Internet.

“Audubon’s legislative program today owes a lot to him,” Jo said. When Carl made his conservation reports at meetings, he made sure that everyone wrote letters to politicians by passing out postcards; they were to write then, not later or never.

Ask those who knew Carl, and they will remember him as a kind, pragmatic idealist, who worked aggressively and relentlessly, pursuing goals that benefitted our community.

Carl is survived by his wife, Mildred, who also played an important role in the success of this organization, especially as editor of *The Dipper*.

FIELD NOTES KAREL BUCKLEY

National Eagle and Wildlife Property Repository

Twelve people participated in a Feb. 4 trip to the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, where the National Eagle and Wildlife Property Repository is housed.

All Bald and Golden eagles found dead anywhere in the nation are transported to the repository, which is a U.S. Fish and Wildlife program. The birds are processed for Native American religious activities.

There are 576 tribes in our country; all of the individuals within a tribe may request a whole eagle or feathers for ceremonial use. They must complete a certification form that shows enrollment in this program. There are currently 6,000 requests on the wait list for items, including a whole bird.

The repository receives 2,000 birds a year, two-thirds Bald and one-third Golden, but the requests are primarily for Golden Eagles. Wait time can be as long as five years for a Golden Eagle.

We watched the technicians carefully examine each bird, counting primary and secondary feathers, looking for injuries, checking feet, beak, noting life stage—adult or immature.

All birds are tagged and charts of all the technicians’ findings are noted.

They package frozen birds for shipping to Native Americans to prepare for their ceremonies.

We toured the warehouse to see the multibillion-dollar inventory of confiscated items. Exotic pets, products made from these animals for fashion, furniture, key chains, boots, you name it. It was very sad to see the waste here.

We hope to plan another trip to the arsenal for wildlife viewing. The Rocky Mountain Arsenal visitor center is open to the public; a new visitor center will open May 28.

We had good birding there, seeing two Ferruginous Hawks, one Bald Eagle and hundreds of Red-winged Blackbirds just driving into the repository.

FIELD TRIPS AND PROGRAMS KAREL BUCKLEY

Gull and Waterfowl Search Local Reservoirs

Sunday, March 20, 8 am

We will search local reservoirs for good wintering gulls and waterfowl. We will meet at Bergen Park Park 'n' Ride. The trip will last five to six hours, so bring some snacks or a light lunch. Call Brad Andres at 303-670-0101 or email him at birdmon@evergreenaudubon.org with questions or interest.

Spring is Coming Red Rocks Park

Saturday, March 26, 8 am

Join Susan Harper and Sherman Wing at Red Rocks Park to see what birds are showing up. We should see many of the

regular winter residents and possibly a few of this winter’s rarities, which include the White-throated Sparrow, the Harris’s Sparrow, the Golden-crowned Sparrow and the Curve-billed Thrasher.

The early spring migrants should be coming through and there’s a possibility of seeing Mountain and Western bluebirds. Last year, we were fortunate to view a pair of Peregrine Falcons soaring and calling from the cliffs.

We will meet at the Red Rocks Trading Post. Bring along your binoculars, some water and a little snack; dress for the weather. This moderate, half-day field trip should conclude before 1 p.m.

Call Sherman Wing, 303-324-9636 (cell) for more information.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 3	Chapter Meeting	7 PM	Church of the Hills
March 10	Newsletter deadline	5 PM	
March 12-13	Bird-box Sale	9 AM-3 PM	Bergen Park King Soopers
March 19-20	Bird-box Sale	9 AM-3 PM	Evergreen, Conifer Safeways
March 20	Gulls Field Trip	8 AM	Bergen Park Park 'n' Ride
March 24	EA Board Meeting	7 PM	
March 26	Red Rocks Field Trip	8 AM	Red Rocks Trading Post

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.

VOLUME 41, NO. 2. Evergreen Audubon, P.O. Box 523, Evergreen, CO 80437, publishes *The Dipper* every month. Evergreen Audubon is a chapter of the National Audubon Society. Members may receive an electronic copy of *The Dipper* without charge or may pay \$10 a year for a mailed hard copy. Evergreen Audubon encourages readers to submit original articles, creative nature writing or art to *The Dipper*. Please state if the material submitted has been published elsewhere requiring publisher's permission. The editor reserves the right to select suitable articles for publication and to edit any articles selected.

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	Student
Annual dues	\$ 20	\$ 30	\$ 10
Electronic <i>Dipper</i>	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Hard-copy <i>Dipper</i>	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10
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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Artwork: Sylvia Brockner, Mildred Keiser

Carl Keiser Memorial
Christmas Bird Count Results
First EA Founders' Award

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