

THE DIPPER

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Editor: Peggy Durham

Assistant Editor: Margaret McDole

Bear Beware

Much as we like to watch our birds, please make the effort either to place your feeders where bears cannot get at them or bring them in at night.

Bears will be hyperactive in feeding for the next month, preparing to hibernate. We want to avoid any bear incidents and to keep bird food available for the birds.

See photo on Page 3.

Silent Auction

Irma Wolf is repeating the silent auction at the January banquet, so if you have any items worthy of donating, give her a call at 303-670-3402. This is another fundraiser for our club and was quite successful last year.

Kidney Suet

Again this year in November, kidney suet will be sold in 5-pound bags at \$1 per pound. Pickup will be at Sylvia Brockner's, 5965 S Herzman Dr.

The suet should be kept frozen or very cold once we deliver it to the Brockners, so be prepared to pick up your order as soon as you are notified. Please contact Sylvia Brockner, 303-674-4851, to place an order by Nov. 13.

Migratory Birds Program

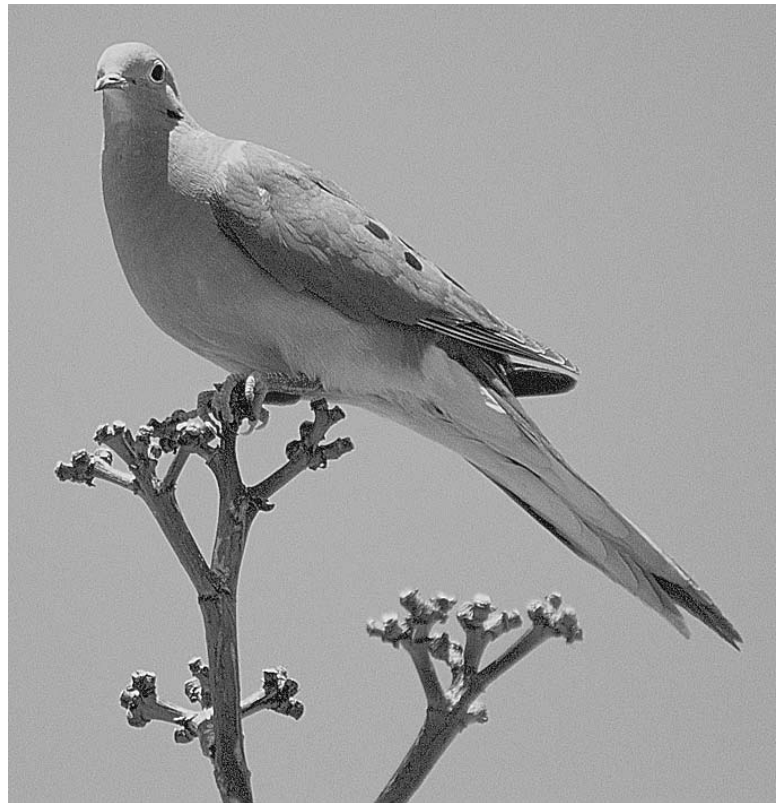
David Dolton will give a PowerPoint presentation on migratory birds at the next TENAS General Meeting. Topics will include what characteristics constitute a migratory bird, the agencies and actions that serve to manage and protect these important birds, and the surveys and programs that are used in migratory bird management.

David will talk about local programs and activities in which the public can participate to learn more about migratory birds. He also will discuss common questions and issues that involve migratory birds, such as what to do when you find a baby bird, avian influenza and resident Canada geese.

David is a native Texan and obtained both bachelor's and master's degrees in wildlife science from Texas A&M University. He has been a wildlife biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Division of Migratory Bird Management for 31 years.

David specializes in Mourning and White-winged Doves and Band-tailed Pigeons. Initially, he worked at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Maryland for 20 years, where he coordinated an annual nationwide survey of Mourning Doves and a nationwide Mourning Dove nesting study before moving to Colorado in 1995.

David is in charge of the Webless Migratory Game Bird Research Program, through which funding is given for research projects



Mourning Dove. Photo by George Andrejko

on species such as marsh birds, Sandhill Cranes, American Woodcock, doves and Band-tailed Pigeons.

Also, David oversees a contract to produce charges for rocket nets to capture wildlife.

David has authored and co-authored numerous reports and publications, most notably a chapter in the book "Ecology and Management of the Mourning Dove." He and his wife, Linda, have two sons. David enjoys jogging, hunting, woodworking, photography and hiking and is actively involved in church activities.

Join us at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5, at Evergreen Recreation Center, 5300 S Olive Rd., behind the high school.



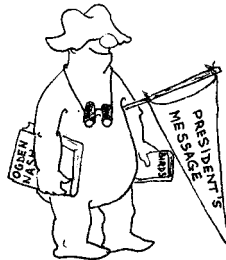
President's Message

Carolyn and I attended the Audubon Colorado Rendezvous at Mt. Princeton Hot Springs in late August. What a grand setting for appreciation of the Colorado high country.

I had to be satisfied with occasional glances out the conference room windows, though; the Saturday agenda was full and kept us busy even through the lunch hour.

Here are some of the highlights, which include some opportunities for all of us to see other parts of our great state in service for good causes.

For the Friday evening opening of the Rendezvous, a special presentation was made by Tony Leukering of the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory introducing the Colorado Bird Atlas Partnership.



Fieldwork for Atlas II will begin in 2007, 20 years after the initiation of the first Breeding Bird Atlas. Many TENAS members at that time joined in the work and saw the fruits of their labors in the final publication in 1998.

I expect Tony will be looking to TENAS for our participation again. Being a field worker will sharpen your birding skills and enhance your knowledge of Colorado birds and bird behavior.

The thrust of the Saturday morning session of the Rendezvous was on "Global Issues and Local Actions." These issues include global warming as a new National Audubon priority and monitoring interaction of wild birds and people such as the current concerns with avian flu in the United States.

To help local chapters and members be more involved and effective, National Audubon: 1) has a new Chapter Services Web Page nearly ready for release, 2) provides through its Public Policy Office advocacy training and support services for local chapters for advocacy training, and 3) offers leadership workshops.

I believe TENAS should take advantage of these services to increase our effectiveness on local issues. Additionally, we could use the training and workshops to build a base of new leaders within TENAS.

From local chapters we heard from SeEtta Moss of the Arkansas Valley Audubon about "Conserving Colorado's Water"
Continued on Page 3



• To **Cathy Shelton** for again spearheading the Weed and Wine event at Evergreen Lake. See article on Page 5 for details.

• To **Dick Williams** for his excellent, well prepared presentation at the September chapter meeting.

• To **Dave Balogh** and **Carolyn Fraker** for attending the Audubon Colorado Rendezvous, learning what AC is doing and reporting on our chapter's activities.

• To **Mike Foster**, who has guided us once again through the peak season of field trips that are an integral part of the TENAS mission.

• To **Walt Phillips** goes credit for once again carrying the ball for TENAS, this time on getting us the opportunity to make a pitch for the warming hut at Evergreen Lake as a nature center.

• To **Kent Simon** for preparing the tree class and leading the tree tour through the five Bear Creek Life Zones.

2006 Officers

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President's Message

Continued from Page 2

and Cheryl Day of the Black Canyon Audubon on the Gunnison Sage Grouse Project.

SeEtta urges us to overcome any hesitations we may feel about speaking at public meetings and to be "real-life activists" so the Audubon position is heard at water board hearings.

Cheryl reviewed the status of the Gunnison Sage Grouse and the project's accomplishments for the first year, emphasizing the need for more help from all of the Audubon chapters in Colorado.

Saving the Gunnison Sage Grouse is the top priority for Gary Graham, executive director of Audubon Colorado. He recalled how the Atwater Prairie Chicken in Texas went extinct by the turn of the century even when the population had been about 100,000 birds in 1975.

The Gunnison Sage Grouse numbers are less than 10,000

Calling All Members!

Yup, that's you. I need YOU!

TENAS has the display case at Evergreen Library for the entire month of November. This is a great opportunity to let the public know who we are and what we do.

The display case is not just your ordinary glass case. Nooooo . . . it's a glass WALL! So, I need everyone's help in filling it. I'm looking for ideas, nature items, books, photos, maps, etc. Think about why you became a TENAS member and what would be a great draw to bring in new members. Any ideas and props are greatly appreciated.

The case will be securely locked, so your prized possessions will be safe.

November is just around the corner, so I do need your input no later than Oct. 15! You may call me at 303-902-2607 (cell) or e-mail me at CoRaptor-Rescue@hotmail.com.

I look forward to hearing from you. Thanks a bunch!

- Carol Goldstein

Member Report

We thank the renewing TENAS local members for their support.

Renewing

Pam Bixter—Evergreen

David & Karyn Pedersen—Evergreen

Marge & Gordon Petersen—Evergreen

Bob Santangelo—Wheat Ridge

Helen Swem—Evergreen

Renewing Family

Chris & Kim Etcheson—Evergreen

so saving them from extinction is a real challenge. Their intrinsic beauty, importance as an indicator species and place in the web of life that has been so weakened by accelerated species extinctions are reasons we should care. (See the Gunnison Sage Grouse article in this *Dipper* to find out how you can help with this project.)

The meeting closed with a promise to hold next year's in Gunnison for on-site evaluation of progress toward saving the grouse and to join in fieldwork to improve habitat for the grouse.

Nature Center Revisited

The TENAS board has approved the concept of developing a nature center at the old warming hut at Evergreen Lake. TENAS has tried this before.

Ten years ago Polly Phillips and Gerry Saul came up with a concept that evolved to the point of having detailed floor plans drawn up. For reasons beyond the control of TENAS, the project did not come to fruition. Now it is alive again.

In the meantime, the warming hut has been renovated by Evergreen Park and Recreation District with a grant from the Colorado Historical Society and should be ready for use by next spring.

We will join with Trout Unlimited to make a presentation to the district in September for use of the hut as a nature center where we would offer a joint program of educating the public to preserve and appreciate the habitat and wildlife of the lake, its wetlands and streams.

There are many questions at this time on how and if this will all work out, but the enthusiasm of the board and members so far has been very encouraging to me.

- Dave Balogh



Young bear dining at Kay Niyo's peanut feeder in broad daylight. Photo by Kay Niyo



Bird Business

Migration picked up steam during August. Shore birds—Snowy Egrets—came through in large flocks at Jackson Reservoir in northeastern Colorado. However, they were noticeably down at Evergreen Lake. This year a couple of Green Herons were found along the Front Range.

The weather cooperated with the migrants in Colorado. It changed suddenly the last days of the month. Are we in for a rough winter?

Sherman Wing and his wife are doing an outstanding job in Mt. Falcon Park. On Aug. 27, they had 10 Townsend's Warblers in a flock in one tree! That is surprising for that Northwestern warbler in migration in Colorado. What a sight!

Interesting were the 8 Brown Creepers spotted by the Wings at O'Fallon Park on Aug. 12. They nest in this park, but their nests are very hard to find.

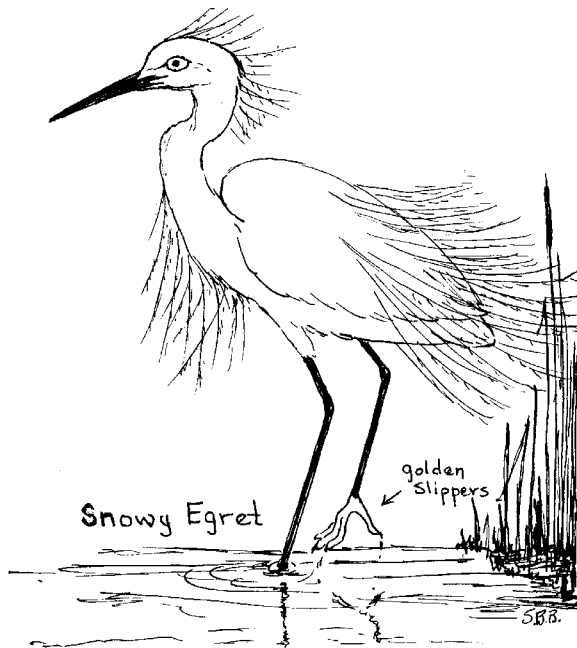
A Eurasian Collared Dove was studied on South Table Mountain near Boulder on Aug. 28. Mike Foster and Fran Enright found it. This dove is spreading very rapidly throughout the United States.

Competing with the bird calls is the abundant elk bugling on the golf course adjacent to Evergreen Lake. Enjoying the jam session was Karel Buckley. The sound carries for quite a distance.

To end the month and to welcome September, Inga Brennan heard an owl calling at 1:15 a.m. Sept. 1 outside her bedroom window. She peeked out the window and finally located the owl perched on a neighbor's chimney.

After studying it awhile through her binoculars, she determined that it was a Long-eared Owl! This owl nests in our area. Watch for it in scraggly trees. Most of the time the nests are built about 15 feet from the ground.

Larry White spent more than a week in August birding the Mt. Denali area of Alaska. He found Lincoln's Sparrows and White-winged Crossbills to be common. He also had a chance to see Black-poll Warblers.



By October, warblers will have left us. Finches and sparrows will still be here in fair numbers. Winter is on its way!

- Bill Brockner

Evergreen Wild Birds Plans Open House

Evergreen Wild Bird Store will hold an Open House on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 13 and 14. Owners John and Diane Sears will kick off the event on Friday from 4 to 7 p.m. with a catered "Thank You Party," including free food and beverages, for all their customers. Local artist Laura Mehmert will be on hand to show off her new wild bird paintings.

Saturday's hours will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The day will be full of birding seminars, community exhibits and kids' activities, plus the Birds of Prey Foundation's live raptors. Evergreen Garden Club will discuss planting for the birds and Wild Again Rehab will speak about the wild mammals of Evergreen.

TENAS will be there doing its part to educate the public about our causes and activities, to sell bird boxes and to recruit new members. There will be

a signup sheet at the October chapter meeting for volunteers to staff the table. Hint, hint, hint . . .

So, save the date, come on down and don't forget to BRING THE KIDS! There will be a special tent with children's activities, including constructing bird masks. To top it off, Big Bird himself will be there!

Evergreen Wild Bird Store will hold

its fall seed sale with the lowest seed prices of the year and many other specials. John and Diane Sears are giving 10% of the Open House receipts to the participating non-profit organizations.

It's the perfect time to replace those old feeders, stock up on nutritious seed and suet and even start crossing people off your gift list. See you there!

- Carol Goldstein



Local & Independent

"Helping to create wild bird habitat."

TENAS Members Save 10% Every Wednesday
on any regularly priced items.
Not to be combined with other offers.

303.679.2786

Located at 32156 Castle Ct. #111 Evergreen
(across from Fire Station #2)



Weed Pullers Work, Celebrate



Sylvia Robertson is honored with the Silk Thistle Award.

Photo by Peggy Durham

Under the able direction of Cathy Shelton, about 35 stalwarts showed up at Evergreen Lake on Aug. 10 to pull or behead as many noxious weeds as possible in two hours. We were rewarded for our efforts by refreshments and good company.

Many thanks to the people who provided the food and wine. And more thanks to everyone who came armed with sturdy gloves, clippers, weeding tools and a good attitude.

Be advised for next year: arriving late in waterproof footwear meant being assigned to the

mean thistle patch in the swampy area next to the driveway.

In recognition of two of our most ardent weed workers, Cathy presented the newly established Silk Thistle awards to Sylvia Brockner for her unfailing support in the fight against intrusive aliens and to Sylvia Robertson for always being avail-



Accepting the Silk Thistle Award from Cathy Shelton (r), Sylvia Brockner declares "It was THIS big." *Photo by Peggy Durham*

able to help in this effort.

The weeding needs attention all summer, so call Cathy, 303-674-8610, anytime to offer help. Please plan to join us next year in this most worthy and fun TENAS effort!

Efforts to Save Gunnison Sage Grouse

As you are aware, the Gunnison Sage Grouse was denied listing on the Endangered Species List. The plight of this dwindling population, however, did not magically improve.

The San Miguel population of this grouse is on the brink after an extended drought that in some places killed 75% of the sagebrush. Therefore, Audubon Colorado is putting sharp focus on this situation, with money for a coordinator. AC hopes each chapter in the state will become involved.

As a birder, you probably have traveled to a lek and have seen the March display of the males. And you have seen the unique habitat: sagebrush, low growth and rather dry conditions.

To preserve this delicate habitat, the San Miguel Gunnison Sage Grouse Working Group is trying harder than ever to implement creative solutions

to stabilize this population. They have good relationships and involvement with private landowners in the area, the San Miguel County Commissioners, energy companies, the public and with the agencies involved in land management.

The immediate issues for the survival of the grouse in this area are:

1. Get withdrawals of oil/gas leases that are around and on the leks. There is sympathy from the Bureau of Land Management on this issue and deferrals have been granted. Audubon could help at the state and national level with pressure to get deferrals changed to withdrawals.

2. Relocation of County Road U29, which currently runs less than 100 yards from a lek in Dry Creek Basin. Birds have actually been run over on this road in the past year! The county and landowner involved support this ef-

fort. Audubon could possibly help with securing the right-of-way across energy-company land to facilitate this project.

Habitat improvement is being helped with the funding of a solar pump at a well close to the Desert Lek to create a wet meadow for the young grouse. Audubon is also planning to get involved by monitoring the health of the sagebrush ecosystem on public land in the Gunnison Basin.

What can you do to help? You can volunteer to become a team member. Once a year in June you will "rendezvous" for four to five days to gather habitat information. Teams will take pictures and take notes. Educational programs also will be included with the fun.

There will be more about this opportunity as we get closer to June 2007. But take note, you are needed.

- Carolyn Fraker



2006 Holiday Wreath Fundraiser

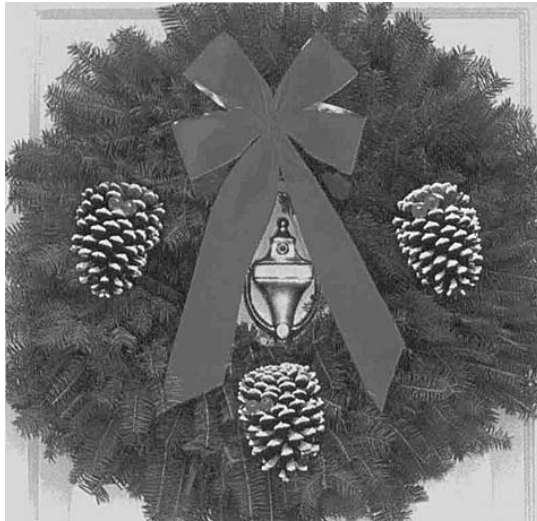
Believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about the holidays! The 25-inch Victorian Wreath we offered last year was so well received, we'll offer it again this year, along with the 25-inch Classic Wreath, the seasonal favorite we've sold in the past.

Both wreaths, pictured here, are available for in-town pickup and as Holiday Gift Wreaths (HGW) for out-of-town delivery. Note, although the Victorian HGW has plug-in lights on it, the in-town Victorian Wreath does not. Orders are due by Oct. 27. Prices are listed below.

- 25" Classic Wreath (in town delivery) \$18
- 25" Victorian Wreath (in town delivery) \$21
- 25" Classic HGW (out of town delivery) \$26
- 25" Victorian HGW (out of town delivery) \$29

Last year we raised more than \$1,300 to support our projects. If you can help with sales and delivery or would like to place an order, call Marilyn Rhodes at 303-674-6580 or e-mail me at cloverlane@aol.com.

Payment for in-town wreaths is due at pickup and for Holiday Gift Wreaths at time of order, preferably with a credit



Wreaths 25" Classic (l) and 25" Victorian

card. The wreaths should be delivered just before Thanksgiving. Please support our chapter by participating in this important fundraiser.

- Marilyn Rhodes

Audubon Colorado

Please note these Audubon Colorado websites:

www.auduboncolorado.org

www.coloradobirdingtrail.com

Beaver Brook Watershed Trails Fest

Sponsored by
Mountain Area Land Trust and TENAS

Sunday, October 1
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (note change in time)

Activities

Trail Ride, Naturalist Hike, Fitness Hike,
Kids' Art Project, Historical Hike, Photography Hike

Directions: Take Squaw Pass Rd (Hwy. 103) 3.5 miles to the 2nd intersection at Old Squaw Pass Rd. (see white fence). Parking there and at entrance at Old Squaw Pass Rd. and Witter Gulch Rd. No cars inside the fence.



...AND FOR DIN-DINS WE'RE HAVING SWEET-PUDDING AND TWISTLE SEED...AND FOR DESSERT... PEANUT BUTTER SURPRISE!!



Field Trips and Outings

Sunday, October 1

Beaver Brook Watershed Festival
Leader: Dave Balogh, 303-679-2799

On this half-day trip we will drive up toward Squaw Pass, catching some vistas and a bird's-eye view of the Beaver Brook Watershed. We will drive back to the festival there, join in a nature hike (led by Kent Simon) and then continue on our own across Beaver Brook for more birding and enjoyment of the fall scenery. This will be a moderately difficult hike of about 3 miles. Bring water and dress in layers for the variable fall weather. Bring your lunch and camera. Meet at the Bergen Park 'n' Ride at 7:30 a.m. Call Dave for more details.

Saturday, October 7

Bear Creek Lake Park
Leader: Mike Foster, 303-456-2647

Let Mike show you some of the little-known parts of this Lakewood city park, a rich birding site. Call to sign up, then meet at the park at 7:30 a.m. Enter from Morrison Road, just east of its intersection with C-470. After entrance booth, turn right at stop sign, then right at first parking area (Skunk Hollow). Mike has park passes. Bring snack and water for a half-day trip.

Sunday, October 8

Beaver Brook Watershed
Leader: Fran Enright, 303-674-2657

Fran will select an appropriate location for the season. Call her to sign up and to get details.

Sunday, October 15

Roxborough State Park
Leader: Dave Balogh, 303-679-2799

This jewel of a state park should be in full autumn glory with brilliant scrub oak foliage set against the spectacular red rock outcrops. Meet Dave at Bergen Park 'n' Ride at 7:30 a.m. We will drive down along Bear Creek and meet others who may await us in Morrison. On the way to Roxborough we will "bird on the fly," watching especially for perched raptors. Once in the park we will hike about a mile as we look for fall migrants and enjoy views along the mountain front. Bring a lunch, water and dress for variable weather.

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

Roskes Find Arizona Birding Outstanding

In recent years Pat and I have spent three or four weeks in March and April in Arizona. Our hope is always to escape the major snowstorm that often hits at that time.

This year we spent time in Portal, Sierra Vista and Phoenix. At Portal we visited Bob and Sondra Inman, who were renting a cabin there with some of the best birding we both have had—at the feeders in their back yard. The number and variety of birds were simply outstanding.

If I always could guarantee birding like that, even Pat would become a birder! Life birds for me there included the Bridled Titmouse, Scott's Oriole, Phainopepla, Crissal Thrasher and Yellow-eyed Junco. Alas, no Elegant Trogon. Maybe next time.

In Sierra Vista we met Dieter and Alicia Kamm, whom many of you know from their time in Evergreen. This was the third time we have birded with them in the spring and I have always added birds to my life list when with them.

This year life birds included Grace's Warbler, Rufous-crowned Sparrow, Hutton's Vireo and my target bird on all previous trips, the Zone-tailed Hawk.

We were driving back from birding that morning inside the city limits on Highway 92 when Dieter yelled, "Stop the car and get

out!" There above us was the Zone-tailed Hawk.

Dieter and Alicia would love to see any of you. If you are planning a trip to Arizona, please contact them. Their e-mail is aliciakamm@hotmail.com and their phone is 520-452-8811.

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Calendar

Oct. 1	Beaver Brook Watershed Trails Fest
Oct. 1	Beaver Brook Watershed Field Trip
Oct. 5	Chapter Meeting
Oct. 7	Bear Creek Lake Park Field Trip
Oct. 8	Beaver Brook Watershed Field Trip
Oct. 13 & 14	Evergreen Wild Bird Store Open House
Oct. 15	Roxborough State Park Field Trip
Oct. 26	Board Meeting
Oct. 27	Wreath Orders Deadline
November	Library Display Case by TENAS

Monthly Meetings (except January and July)

Evergreen Recreation Center, 5300 S. Olive Road, 7 p.m.

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

TENAS website www.dipper.org

***The Dipper deadline for the
November issue is Thursday, Oct. 5.***

Submit articles to:

***Peggy Durham, peggy.durham@comcast.net
AND Margaret McDole, mem2@earthlink.net***

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The Evergreen Naturalists Audubon Society
Local Membership Application
Please enroll me/us in The Evergreen Naturalists Audubon Society. I/we may participate in all chapter activities, receive *The Dipper* newsletter, and vote (both Family members may vote) on chapter issues. Dues remain local.

Individual (\$20) Family (\$30) Student (\$10)

I have included an additional donation of _____

Name _____ Family member _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

(optional) (optional)

I DO NOT want solicitations from National Audubon.

Enclosed is my check payable to TENAS

P.O. Box 523

Evergreen, CO 80437

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- Bear Aware
- Save the Sage Grouse
- Wreath Fundraiser

In This Issue

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THE DIPPER

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