



# THE DIPPER

VOL. 43 NO. 10  
OCTOBER 2013

EVERGREEN AUDUBON NEWSLETTER

[www.evergreenaudubon.org](http://www.evergreenaudubon.org)

## 2013 Bird House Bash follows migration to Mexico

This year's Bird House Bash will celebrate migrating birds and the importance of Colorado and Mexico's forests to bird migration.

Evergreen Audubon will host the colorful, festive evening on Thursday, Oct. 3, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Evergreen Lake House to raise funds for Evergreen Nature Center.

The 2013 Bird House Bash: *Aves sin Fronteras* (birds without borders) will offer gourmet Mexican food and

beverages, as well as a local crafts *mercado* and entertainment.

Auction items include Philip Newsom's original watercolors; beautiful jewelry and quilt work by local artisans; cheesecake and soup-of-the-month packages; birding trips; and a Beaver Creek get-away.

Commemorative T-shirts featuring this year's *Aves sin Fronteras* graphic by Megan Miller will be available for purchase by order. Event organizers recommend bringing a couple dollars in cash for some additional surprise items.

Also that evening, Evergreen Audubon will collect any working, used binoculars for donation to the Birders' Exchange, which redistributes them free of charge to researchers, conservationists and educators working to conserve birds and their habitats in the Neotropics.

Donors of used binoculars will receive a half-price ticket for prizes including a \$500 pair of binoculars.

The 6-year-old Evergreen Nature Center hosts thousands of visitors annually and provides environmental education for locals and visitors to Evergreen Lake.

Register at [www.evergreen-audubon.org](http://www.evergreen-audubon.org), or



**Bird House Bash**  
*Aves sin Fronteras*  
birds without borders



*The Western Tanager symbolizes the migration theme of this year's Bird House Bash: Aves sin Fronteras. Photo by Alistair Montgomery*

### NATURE CENTER CLOSING DATE

Evergreen Nature Center will close for the season on Sunday, Oct. 13.

### NO CHAPTER MEETING

The monthly Evergreen Audubon chapter meeting will be replaced in October by the Bird House Bash fundraiser on Thursday, Oct. 3.

We hope to see you there!

### FIELDER HEADLINES TU FUNDRAISER

Photographer and author John Fielder will headline the Fall Benefit for Evergreen Trout Unlimited.

Fielder will share photos and stories from his latest works Saturday, Nov. 16, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. at Hiwan Golf Club in Evergreen.

Evergreen Audubon members are invited to join the event, which will include a book signing by Fielder; a silent auction including trips, artwork, lodging, equipment and gift certificates; gourmet appetizers; door prizes; and a cash bar.

Tickets are \$30, with all proceeds going to Evergreen Trout Unlimited.



in person at Evergreen Nature Center on Evergreen Lake. Bash tickets are \$50 per person or \$75 for patrons, who will be listed in the program.

For more information, call Nature Center executive director Vanessa Hayes, 303-330-0489, or Ginny Ades, Evergreen Audubon director of development, 303-674-7199.

**EVERGREEN AUDUBON**  
www.evergreenaudubon.org

**2013 OFFICERS**

|                       |                 |  |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--|
| <b>President</b>      | Brad Andres     | 303-670-0101<br>president@evergreenaudubon.org     |
| <b>Vice President</b> | Jean Thayer     | 303-670-9066<br>vicepresident@evergreenaudubon.org |
| <b>Secretary</b>      | Heather Johnson | 303-670-0101<br>secretary@evergreenaudubon.org     |
| <b>Treasurer</b>      | Joan Ridgely    | 303-526-2250<br>treasurer@evergreenaudubon.org     |

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

|                        |                   |   |
|------------------------|-------------------|---|
| <b>Bird Monitoring</b> | JoAnn/Bill Hackos | 303-670-8517<br>birdmon@evergreenaudubon.org        |
| <b>Communications</b>  | Lisa Wald         | 303-674-0417<br>communications@evergreenaudubon.org |
| <b>Conservation</b>    | Chuck Aid         | 303-674-3331<br>conservation@evergreenaudubon.org   |
| <b>Development</b>     | Ginny Ades        | 303-674-7199<br>development@evergreenaudubon.org    |
| <b>Education</b>       | Kathy Madison     | 303-670-0209<br>education@evergreenaudubon.org      |
| <b>Social Events</b>   | Marge Petersen    | 303-670-4310<br>socialevents@evergreenaudubon.org   |
| <b>At Large</b>        | Barbara Klaus     | 303-674-1102<br>atlarge1@evergreenaudubon.org       |
| <b>At Large</b>        | Peggy Linn        | 303-674-2239<br>atlarge2@evergreenaudubon.org       |

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

|                         |                   |  |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>National Audubon</b> | Dick Prickett     | 303-674-0217                                     |
| <b>Bear Creek Atlas</b> | Brad Andres       | 303-670-0101                                     |
| <b>Bird Box Sales</b>   | Bud Weare         | 303-679-8889                                     |
| <b>Bird Business</b>    | Marilyn Rhodes    | 303-674-9895<br>cloverlane@aol.com               |
| <b>Conservation</b>     | Chuck Aid         | 303-674-3331                                     |
| <b>Dipper Editor</b>    | Debbie Marshall   | 303-886-0593<br>marshallpublish@gmail.com        |
| <b>Education</b>        | Kathy Madison     | 303-670-0209                                     |
| <b>Field Trips</b>      | TBD               |  |
| <b>Hospitality</b>      | Rachel Hutchinson | 303-679-1503                                     |
| <b>Land Acquisition</b> | Polly Phillips    | 303-674-7744                                     |
| <b>Membership</b>       | Jean Thayer       | 303-670-9066                                     |
| <b>Nature Center</b>    | Vanessa Hayes     | 303-330-0489<br>encdirector@evergreenaudubon.org |
| <b>Program</b>          | Kathy Madison     | 303-670-0209                                     |
| <b>Publicity</b>        | TBD               |  |
| <b>Ways &amp; Means</b> | Irma Wolf         | 303-670-3402<br>irmasonny@aol.com                |
| <b>Weeds</b>            | Cathy Shelton     | 303-674-8610<br>sheltonpublicaddress@hotmail.com |
| <b>Webmaster</b>        | Lisa Wald         | 303-674-0417                                     |

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

By now, you will have received your invitation for the annual Bird House Bash, which will take place at the Lakehouse on Oct. 3. I hope you can join me in showing support for Evergreen Nature Center.

The success of ENC is clearly attributable to the enduring support of our Evergreen Audubon members. I believe you will all enjoy this year's theme, *Aves Sin Fronteras* (birds without borders). We will be celebrating the connections our migratory birds make with habitats and people in Mexico.

In August, Vanessa and I attended a mixer at the Evergreen Chamber of Commerce office. As we circulated through the crowd, we were constantly receiving compliments on the Nature Center.

In fact, one local businessman went as far to say that ENC was the BEST community asset in Evergreen. This type of reaction certainly shows that our value to the community is continuing to grow.

To have this kind of perception among community members attests to the great leadership Vanessa has provided and to all the hard work of our great visitor assistants. I also applaud Cassandra's work at ENC this summer.

On a recent flight, I had the opportunity to read through a paper on public opinion produced for The Nature Conservancy that had some good ideas on marketing conservation that are applicable to Evergreen Audubon and Evergreen Nature Center.

Perhaps not surprisingly, 82 percent of the respondents in their public opinion poll believed that children not spending enough time outside was a somewhat serious to serious problem.

Clearly, ENC is poised to address this problem and indeed is providing opportunities to get kids away from their electronics. I need all the membership to work as ambassadors for the ENC and our other programs.

Spread the word among friends, social networks, and fellow churchgoers. The authors found that people have a sense of shared responsibility that ties in to the cultural, spiritual and moral fabric of a society.

Respondents had a strong sense of place, so we need to continue to link the natural and human communities. ENC is a great venue to merge the cultural, historical and natural values of our mountain communities.

The authors also suggested that conservation should be marketed as a long-term plan for a community's quality of life. I would love to hear of any ideas you have in continuing to make Evergreen Audubon a strong asset to our members and our communities.

On another note, we would welcome any submissions to *The Dipper* from our members on topics you believe would be of interest to our membership.

**VIP VOLUNTEERS**

- Thanks to **David Wald** for organizing the Triple Bypass volunteers and congratulations on making his first ride. Thanks to those who trekked up to Vail Pass: **Lisa and David Wald, Ed Gondolf, JoAnn and Bill Hackos, Joan Ridgely, Dick Prickett** (and for organizing Sunday's crew), **Kathy Madison and Steve Garman, Jack Salter, Bud and Juanita Weare, and Jean and Tom Thayer.**

- Thanks to **Janet Warner, Peggy Linn and Marge Petersen** for organizing the picnic. **Vanessa Hayes** came up with storyteller John Stienle.

# Bluebirds have a moderate year at Open Space parks

We continued our regular monitoring of the nest boxes at Elk Meadow and Alderfer/Three Sisters Jefferson County Open Space Parks in 2013.

We made 11 complete visits and several spot checks to each park between March 17 and Aug. 4, spending a total of 29 survey hours at Elk Meadow and 25 hours at Three Sisters.

During this period, we found that 32 of the 35 boxes at Elk Meadow were occupied by breeding bird pairs, and 21 of 25 boxes were occupied at Three Sisters.

Nest box occupancy in 2013 was 88 percent (both parks), which was lower than past years.

For first nest attempts at both parks, Mountain Bluebirds laid eggs in 22 boxes, Western Bluebirds in nine boxes and Tree Swallows in 17 boxes; these three species constituted 91 percent of all nests with eggs.

House Wrens made three first attempts at nesting and Violet-green Swallows made two first-nesting attempts.

Western Bluebirds built nests in only about half of the nest boxes they did in 2012. Likely because we have moved more boxes onto metal poles, we did not find any nesting chickadees or nuthatches in 2013.

Compared to 2012 when we had 20 pairs that made second or late-season nesting attempts, only five pairs of birds initiated a second nest attempt in 2013.

At both parks, 198 young of five species were produced in the nest boxes in 2013, with an average productivity of 3.5 fledged young per box. Young produced in 2013 was down 22 percent from the production out of nest boxes in 2012.

Again this year, Tree Swallows on average produced fewer chicks (2.44 chicks per pair) than bluebirds (3.77 chicks per pair).

We believe that some swallow chicks died of starvation, so differences in productivity could relate to the differences in feeding behavior and prey availability between swallows and bluebirds.

The percentage of Mountain and Western bluebirds nesting in Elk Meadow has fluctuated significantly among years (see figure), ranging from almost even (50:50) in 2008–2009 to a domi-

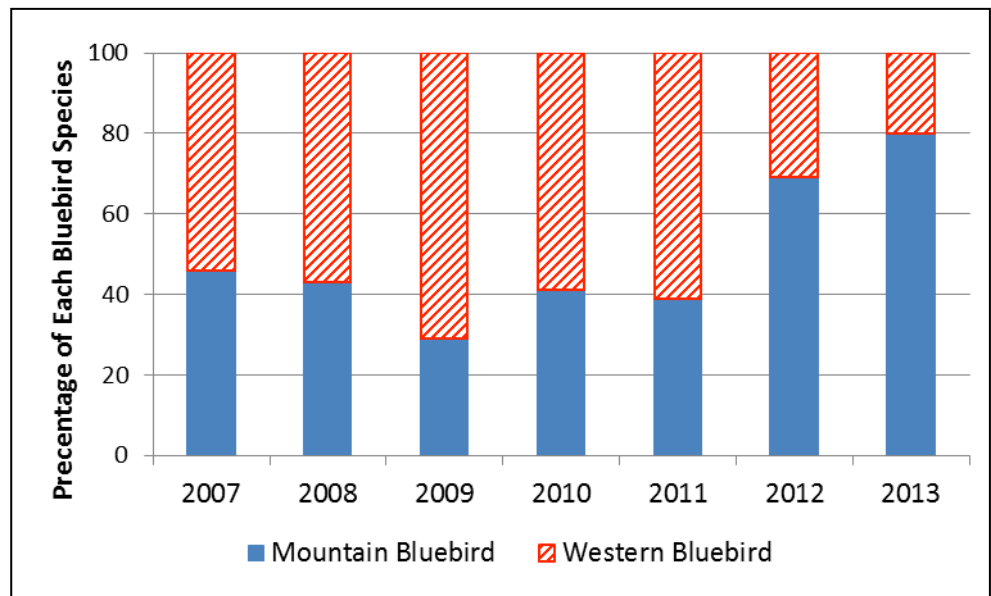
Continued on page 4

*Breeding success of birds using nest boxes in Elk Meadow and Alderfer/Three Sisters Parks, Evergreen, Colorado – 2013. Second attempts are clutches laid, by either the same or different species, after the success or failure of the initial clutch.*

| Elk Meadow             |                   |      |                  |      |                      |      |              |            |  |
|------------------------|-------------------|------|------------------|------|----------------------|------|--------------|------------|--|
|                        | Mountain Bluebird |      | Western Bluebird |      | Violet-green Swallow |      | Tree Swallow | House Wren |  |
|                        | 1st               | 2nd  | 1st              | 2nd  | 1st                  | 2nd  | 1st          | 1st        |  |
| Nesting attempt        |                   |      |                  |      |                      |      |              |            |  |
| Nests built            | 15                | 1    | 3                | 1    | 1                    | 1    | 11           | 2          |  |
| Nests with eggs        | 15                | 1    | 3                | 1    | 1                    | 1    | 11           | 2          |  |
| Successful nests       | 14                | 1    | 3                | 1    | 1                    | 1    | 9            | 2          |  |
| Clutch size            | 5.47              | 2.00 | 4.67             | 5.00 | 4.00                 | 4.00 | 3.82         | 6.50       |  |
| % hatched of eggs laid | 85                | 100  | 93               | 100  | 100                  | 100  | 90           | 100        |  |
| % fledged of eggs laid | 85                | 100  | 93               | 100  | 100                  | 100  | 52           | 100        |  |
| Chicks fledged/pair    | 4.67              | 2.00 | 4.33             | 5.00 | 4.00                 | 4.00 | 2.00         | 6.50       |  |
| Young produced         | 70                | 2    | 13               | 5    | 4                    | 4    | 22           | 13         |  |

| Three Sisters          |                   |     |                  |      |                      |              |      |            |  |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----|------------------|------|----------------------|--------------|------|------------|--|
|                        | Mountain Bluebird |     | Western Bluebird |      | Violet-green Swallow | Tree Swallow |      | House Wren |  |
|                        | 1st               | 2nd | 1st              | 2nd  | 1st                  | 1st          | 2nd  | 1st        |  |
| Nesting attempt        |                   |     |                  |      |                      |              |      |            |  |
| Nests built            | 7                 | -   | 6                | 1    | 1                    | 6            | 1    | 1          |  |
| Nests with eggs        | 7                 | -   | 6                | 1    | 1                    | 6            | 1    | 0          |  |
| Successful nests       | 6                 | -   | 4                | 1    | 1                    | 5            | 1    | -          |  |
| Clutch size            | 4.14              | -   | 4.83             | 5.00 | 5.00                 | 4.00         | 5.00 | -          |  |
| % hatched of eggs laid | 66                | -   | 52               | 80   | 100                  | 83           | 80   | -          |  |
| % fledged of eggs laid | 66                | -   | 52               | 80   | 100                  | 79           | 60   | -          |  |
| Chicks fledged/pair    | 2.71              | -   | 2.50             | 4.00 | 5.00                 | 3.17         | 3    | -          |  |
| Young produced         | 19                | -   | 15               | 4    | 5                    | 19           | 3    | -          |  |

*Percentage of Mountain and Western bluebirds using nest boxes in Elk Meadow Open Space Park, 2007–2013.*



# Wreaths will beautify your holiday home, help chapter

Believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about the holidays! If you need the perfect holiday gift, Evergreen Audubon has lovely and reasonably priced balsam fir wreaths for sale.

They are fresh, very fragrant and will last into the New Year! They'll dress up your home and make ideal gifts for your family, friends, coworkers and clients—both in-town and out-of-town.

We're offering four 25-inch wreaths this year: the Classic, Victorian, Wintergreen and Cranberry Splash.

All of the wreaths are pictured on our website and all are available as Holiday Gift Wreaths (HGW) for out-of-town delivery. All of the wreaths are available for in-town pickup **except** the Wintergreen.

**Orders are due no later than Oct. 29. Prices are listed in the box.**

Last year this sale generated \$2,500 to support our projects.

If you can help with sales and delivery or would like to place an order, call Marilyn Rhodes at 303-674-9895 or email her at [cloverlane@aol.com](mailto:cloverlane@aol.com).

Payment, by cash or check, for in-town wreaths is due at pickup and for Holiday Gift Wreaths (HGW) at time of

Holiday Wreath Prices—all wreaths are 25 inches and are pictured at [evergreenaudubon.org](http://evergreenaudubon.org)

|                    | Method of Delivery |             |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|
|                    | In-town            | Out-of-town |
| Classic Wreath     | \$20               | \$30 (HGW)  |
| Victorian Wreath   | \$25               | \$35 (HGW)  |
| Cranberry Splash   | \$26               | \$36 (HGW)  |
| Wintergreen Wreath |                    | \$35 (HGW)  |

order. The wreaths should be delivered just before Thanksgiving.

Please support our chapter by participating in this important fundraiser.

- Marilyn Rhodes

## Bluebirds have a moderate year at Open Space parks

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nance of Western Bluebirds in 2009–2011 to a dominance of Mountain Bluebirds the last two years.

We are unsure about what might be driving this annual variation. When Western Bluebirds were on the rise, it seemed they were more aggressive than Mountain Bluebirds and were out-competing them for boxes.

Jessica Fish continued her master's degree study of bluebirds and was assisted by Holly Beveney. Concentrating at Three Sisters, they banded every chick that hatched and also banded nine new adults and recaptured four adults from previous years' banding efforts.

One female Mountain Bluebird was recaptured in the same box where she was originally captured in 2012. She actually kicked out a pair of swallows at the beginning of the 2013 season to get it back!

Two other adults were captured at different boxes, and one recaptured female was banded as a nestling in 2011. So far, this is the only bird banded as a nestling that has been recaptured at either park; all other recaptures were returning adults.

They also banded some birds at Elk Meadow, including 42 chicks and 13 new adults. They also recaptured two adults, both that had geo-loggers. Recall that these devices are used to determine the wintering locations and migration pathways of migrant birds.

In addition to banding, they also collected fecal and blood samples from most captured adults at both parks, which will be used to answer questions regarding trade-offs between immune defense and reproductive investment. They will be analyzing the fecal samples to look for microbial diversity and the presence of pathogens.

They also weighed chicks periodically to determine reproductive investment. Finally, they collected feather samples

from captured adults to determine wintering regions, especially for the birds that returned geo-loggers.

The following folks assisted with this year's nest-box checks: Brad Andres, Holly Beveney, Pat Carter, Bill Hackos, Rachel Hutchison, Heather Johnson, Barbara Nabors, Chris Pfaff, Dee Sacks and Larry White. Thanks to you all! We also appreciate the support of Sean Kluesner and Jefferson County Open Space.

If you would like to participate in nest-box monitoring efforts in 2014, please contact Rachel Hutchison ([rachelhutchison@comcast.net](mailto:rachelhutchison@comcast.net)) or JoAnn/Bill Hackos ([birdmon@evergreenaudubon.org](mailto:birdmon@evergreenaudubon.org)).

- Rachel Hutchison, Dee Sacks, Brad Andres

### Volunteer Appreciation Event

Friday, October 25th, 5-7pm  
At Evergreen Nature Center

Thank you Evergreen Audubon and  
Evergreen Nature Center Volunteers  
for all your help in 2013!

Invitations to the annual  
Volunteer Appreciation  
Event coming  
soon!

## Yard Birds—Evergreen Area

### Turkey Creek

On Aug. 13, Ed Furlong reported, “Birding my local patch today (in the North Turkey Creek watershed at 7,680 feet), I saw a shrike, which seems likely a **Loggerhead Shrike** given the time of year.

“I routinely see Northern Shrikes in winter, and the Bear Creek checklist suggests the Loggerhead Shrike is here in migration—is it really that time already?

“I saw the shrike at the corner of Gardner Road and Danks Drive, about 100 feet up the unpacked part of Danks, on the barbed wire fence along the meadow. It sure made my day.”

### Indian Hills

Sherman Winged reported a male **Broad-tailed Hummingbird** and a **Pygmy Nuthatch** at his home feeder Aug. 16.

The next day he enjoyed a **Steller’s Jay**. “Yes, this a rather common bird in the hills, and normally the Steller’s Jay is so fidgety he will fly off as I approach. This one stuck around and allowed me to capture his beautiful colors.”

The same day he was treated to a family of **Evening Grosbeaks**.

On Aug. 25 Sherman reported a **House Finch** and other yard birds:

“There are new fledglings (late broods) in my yard today. I was watching two juvenile **House Wrens** taking a birdbath; I’ve never seen that before.

“There are also juvenile **Western Bluebirds, Pine Siskins** and **Pygmy Nuthatches**. Still a fair number of female **Broad-tailed** and **Rufous** hummers here at the feeders.

Finally, I saw a **Prairie Falcon**, soaring just above treetop this morning.”

### Soda Creek

On Aug. 26 JoAnn and Bill Hackos had 10 to 12 adult male, adult female and immature **Evening Grosbeaks** at their feeders.

The day before they had 15 **Band-tailed Pigeons**. On Sept. 2, they had **Yellow-rumped Warblers, Chipping Sparrows** and more chickadees.

On Sept. 8, JoAnn and Bill saw 10



*Billy Dooling, who helps monitor White-tailed Ptarmigan flocks on Mt. Evans, attaches a telemetry device to a hen while Dipper columnist Marilyn Rhodes holds the bird. Photo by Ed Kasten, forest ranger*

**Blue-winged Teal** in eclipse plumage at the Soda Creek pond, along with one **Spotted Sandpiper**, and a **Red-tailed Hawk** in the meadow alongside Highway 65 through Soda Creek.

### Mount Evans and Echo Lake

I made seven trips to Mount Evans this year and hit the ptarmigan jackpot on the last four.

A few years ago I communicated with Clait Braun, who helped launch a **White-tailed Ptarmigan** study in 1966 that continues today and includes Rocky Mountain National Park and Mount Evans.

This year I met the seasonal tech, Billy Dooling, who was charged with monitoring the flocks on Mount Evans.

Some of you may remember Louise Walker. She and her husband, Lou, were longtime EA members.

Their daughter, Teresa, visited me recently and she and I were able to join Billy in monitoring the flocks on Aug. 21.

We saw 21 birds and five of them were unbanded. We got to assist in the capture and banding of four of them, a hen and three chicks. The cock got away from us.

After banding the birds, Billy attached a telemetry device to the hen.

The next day, I led Larry and Carol Soule, snowbirds from Florida who spend their summers in Bailey, and two Brits, David and Christine Taylor, on a tour of Mount Evans and Echo Lake.

Larry had emailed evergreenbirders requesting a local bird guide for their party and I offered to assist them.

We had an amazing day and got most of our target species of birds and mammals, including 17 **White-tailed Ptarmigan**, a flock of close to two-dozen **Brown-capped Rosy Finches**, the ubiquitous **American Pipit**, **Clark’s Nutcrackers**, **Gray Jays**, a **Barrow’s Goldeneye** with four ducklings, two juvenile **Red-naped Sapsuckers**, hummingbirds, goats, sheep, mule deer, pika,

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marmots, weasels and more. Note, the Mount Goliath Visitors Center has very helpful flower and bird checklists.

Ironically, while observing four ptarmigan on a hillside, one taking a dust bath, six walked across the road below us.

It was a great day filled with many firsts for the Brits. They had never eaten chili or cornbread so I introduced them to the Echo Lake Lodge's famous buffalo chili and cornbread, and, of course, their homemade coconut-cream pie.

I escorted another birder from Maryland, Anne Morley, to Mount Evans and Echo Lake on Aug. 26, again in search of high-elevation birds. We saw five **White-tailed Ptarmigan** and a **Barrow's Goldeneye** hen with four ducklings.

On Aug. 28, I took a high school classmate visiting from Albuquerque to Mount Evans and we saw four **White-tailed Ptarmigan**, including the hen I helped band on Aug. 21.

### Guanella Pass

While birding with the snowbirds and Brits, they told me about their recent trip across Guanella Pass. I was thrilled to hear they'd opened the road because it is one of my favorite fall foliage drives.

A friend from Albuquerque and I



*White-tailed Ptarmigan hen banded on Mt. Evans on Aug. 21. Photo by Marilyn Rhodes*

drove the road on Aug. 30. The unstable parts of the road have been reinforced and supported. At the summit, I found a male **Wilson's Warbler** in the shrubs, still in breeding plumage.

### Out and About

#### San Luis Valley Black Swifts

Kathanne Lynch won a trip to Zapata Falls at the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory's 25th anniversary celebration. She was unable to attend and graciously let me go in her place.

The objective of the trip was to count **Black Swifts** that nest behind or near the falls, which are located near the Great Sand Dunes in the Sangre de Cristo Range near Alamosa.

We met our leader, RMBO Black Swift researcher Jason Beason, Aug. 13.

We hiked to the falls, arriving at the nest site about two hours before sunset, and counted a total of 11 swifts flying in to roost. Thank you, Kathanne, for a truly unique experience!

#### Box Canyon Black Swifts

After completing the driving tour through the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge where we enjoyed many **Violet-green Swallows**, **Northern Harriers** and **Marsh Wrens**, a friend and I drove

the Million Dollar Highway to Box Canyon in Ouray to see **Black Swifts** on the nest.

Thirteen nests have been identified this year by longtime observer Sue Hirshman and we were able to see four of them. Three had chicks on the nest and one was empty.



*Black Swift chick on the nest in Box Canyon in Ouray, Colo. Photo by Marilyn Rhodes*

## Appeal to save Paton's Birder Haven

Tucson Audubon is requesting donations to help purchase Paton's Birder Haven for the Audubon family.

"I feel sure that you have among your members people who have traveled to southeast Arizona and visited Paton's Birder Haven in Patagonia," said Tucson Audubon executive director Paul Green. "You may have visited yourself and seen the Violet-crowned Hummingbird and other characteristic species of the borderlands."

He said since Marion Paton passed away, the family has wanted to sell the house, and to keep it open in the way that the birding community has become accustomed.

With the American Bird Conservancy and Victor Emanuel, Tucson Audubon has launched an international campaign to raise funds for its purchase and renovation.

Once purchased by the American Bird Conservancy, ownership will be transferred to Tucson Audubon to run Paton's Birders Haven for the birding community.

To help, visit [www.abcbirds.org/paton](http://www.abcbirds.org/paton).

# Speaker series explores grouse, crows, bird origins

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory and the Denver Museum of Nature & Science have once again partnered to deliver a speaker series featuring top names from the bird world.

Dates, topics and speakers are listed below.

- Oct. 3: *Save the Last Dance* with Noppadol Paothong, award-winning wildlife photographer.

Paothong will share stories and images of the impressive, often bizarre courtship behaviors of grouse from his new book, "Save the Last Dance: A Story of North American Grassland Grouse."

- Oct. 22: *Get to Know the Crow* with Dr. John Marzluff, professor of wildlife science at the University of Washington.

Dr. Marzluff will share funny, awe-inspiring and poignant tales about the intelligence and traits of crows.

- Nov. 20: *Living Dinosaurs* with Dr. Julia Clarke, associate professor of vertebrate paleontology at the University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Clarke will present research and discoveries scientists are using to paint a vibrant new picture of dinosaurs and the origins of birds.

All talks in the series begin at 7 p.m. Paothong will speak in the Phipps IMAX Theater and Dr. Marzluff and Dr. Clarke will speak in the Ricketson Auditorium at DMNS, 2001 Colorado Blvd. in Denver.

Cost for Paothong is \$15, or \$12 for

RMBO and DMNS members (includes reception following talk).

Cost for Dr. Marzluff or Dr. Clarke is \$10, or \$8 for RMBO and DMNS members.

RMBO members should email [info@rmbo.org](mailto:info@rmbo.org) to receive the promo code for their discount.

For information or tickets, call 303-370-6000 or visit [www.dmns.org/learn/adults/after-hours/](http://www.dmns.org/learn/adults/after-hours/).

Founded in 1988, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory is a Colorado-based nonprofit that works to conserve birds and their habitats in the Rocky Mountains, Great Plains and Mexico by advancing science, engaging people and conserving western lands.



## Bring working, used binoculars

to Evergreen Audubon's

**Bird House Bash: *Aves sin Fronteras***

**Thursday, October 3, 5:30-8:30 pm**

**Evergreen Lake House**

***Help turn Latin American landowners into world-class conservationists by donating working, used binoculars.***

***Donors will receive a half-price prize ticket. Prizes include a \$500 pair of binoculars, original Western Tanager artwork and more.***

*Birders' Exchange is a bird conservation program of the American Birding Association. Birders' Exchange collects used and new birding equipment and redistributes it, free of charge, to researchers, conservationists and educators working to conserve birds and their habitats in the Neotropics. These donations help our Latin American partners to develop local conservation strategies and to educate local citizens about bird conservation and ecosystem-wide habitat protection. —ABA*



# Bird House Bash:

## *Aves sin Fronteras*

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

|         |                                 |              |               |
|---------|---------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Oct. 3  | Bird House Bash                 | 5:30–8:30 pm | Lake House    |
| Oct. 10 | Newsletter deadline             | 5 pm         |               |
| Oct. 13 | Nature Center closes for season |              |               |
| Oct. 25 | Volunteer Appreciation          | 5–7 pm       | Nature Center |
| Oct. 29 | Wreath order deadline           |              |               |

Please submit newsletter content by the 10th of the month to **Lisa Wald** at [communications@evergreenaudubon.org](mailto:communications@evergreenaudubon.org), and *Dipper* editor **Debbie Marshall** at [marshallpublish@gmail.com](mailto:marshallpublish@gmail.com), 303-886-0593.

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**Audubon Colorado Office, 303-415-0130, [www.auduboncolorado.org](http://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                    | \$ _____   | \$ _____ |
| <b>Total</b>                           | \$ _____   | \$ _____ |

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

Bluebirds Have Moderate Year  
 Wreath Fundraiser  
 Bird Business: Ptarmigan, Black Swift

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