

THE DIPPER

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Editor: Margaret McDole

Assistant Editor: Mark Meremonte

Special Double Dipper

September and October events are included in a Double *Dipper*. For additional information or changes check the website, www.dipper.org.

Now We Can Recycle More

Evergreen Recycling Center behind King Soopers now takes plastic labeled 1 through 7. Tops must be removed. This is in addition to the aluminum, tin, newspaper, office paper, cardboard and phone books they have taken in the past.

Evergreen Nature Center

Phone:
303-330-0489

Website:
evergreennaturecenter.org

E-mail:
enc@dipper.org

Annual Wreath Fundraiser

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

Orders are due no later than Oct. 31. *See story on Page 6.*

Wind Energy and Wildlife

Karin Sinclair of the National Wind Technology Center at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory will give a presentation on wildlife issues as they pertain to wind energy development.

She will provide an overview of wind technology as a growing energy source option, a background on early avian impact concerns, and a summary of current approaches to assessing the potential for wildlife impacts at wind projects.

She also will discuss several collaboratives

that the DOE/NREL is participating in and the current wildlife research focus (including birds, bats and habitat).

Karin has been with NREL since 1992 and in the wind program since 1996. Her current focus areas are environmental issues (wind and wildlife) and distributed generation (small wind turbines).

Karin has a master's of administration in Environmental Administration and a bachelor's degree in Economics, both

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Reefs Revisited

Polly and Walt Phillips will show once again the extraordinary coral reefs of some oceans and seas with their amazing marine life. We'll visit the Caribbean, the Red Sea, the Galapagos, the Solomon Islands, Australia, New Guinea and various other great places in the Pacific.

Polly and Walt learned to scuba dive 25 years ago and fell in love with the wildlife in the water. Identifying species became even more exciting than bird watching!

Although they no longer dive, they are still very much interested in the oceans of the world that have such great importance in our lives.

This is timely because 2008 is the International Year of the Reefs. Much data has been collected in the past 20 years and, as in so many environments, man has had a del-



Striped Grunts. *Photo by Polly and Walt Phillips*

eterious impact on the health of underwater ecosystems. Still, there is enough beauty and wonder for a while.

Join us for Walt and Polly's amazing underwater adventures on Thursday, Oct. 2, at 7 p.m. at Church of the Hills, 28628 Buffalo Park Road (across from Evergreen Library) in the Fellowship Hall downstairs. Refreshments and a business meeting will follow.



President's Message

Fire/Rescue

Recently a friend needed medical assistance in a hurry on a Saturday afternoon. Within minutes of being called at 911, the Evergreen Fire/Rescue ambulance was on the scene. Also arriving were several Fire/Rescue volunteers, ready to provide whatever help was needed.

After the ambulance left for the hospital, the volunteers stayed until they were assured that no one else needed attention.

As I thanked them for their immediate response, I felt so grateful that volunteers in our community are willing to give of their time, whenever needed, to help others.

And a few days later, at about 5 a.m., I spotted several grass fires across the valley and called them. Again, very quickly, the Fire/Rescue trucks and volunteers arrived and put out the fires.

In this summer of extreme drought, the risk of fire is great.

Our habitat could easily suffer a catastrophe if a fire got out of control.

About this time last year, after talking with Einar Jensen of Fire/Rescue about protecting my property from fire, I wrote about fire mitigation for homeowners. Anyone wishing more information about making the home habitat safer from fire should go to the website firewise.org.

I have recently seen vast areas of beetle-killed trees in the high mountains, whole mountainsides covered with nothing but dead, dry trees. What is happening to the wildlife that

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• To **Walt Phillips** for stepping in to be treasurer the past few months after Karen Knudsen had to resign. Thank you, Walt, for keeping us operating smoothly until we found a replacement. Our nature center presented new challenges that Walt dealt with perfectly. Walt bought a computer specifically for the treasurer's job and then donated it to TENAS for continuing use by the new treasurer. It's a very generous contribution, making it easier for the next person. The treasurer's job is in good order as it passes on to his successor.

• To **John Sears** of Evergreen Wild Bird Store for helping us buy items for the gift shop at the nature center. Thank you, John, for your continuing support for the nature center and TENAS.

• To **Polly Phillips** and **Sylvia Robertson** for chairing the Friendraiser in June. The event was a huge success. The turnout was impressive, the donations for the silent auction were very generous and the contributions to the nature center were most welcome. Special thanks to **Walt Phillips** for soliciting donations for the silent auction. And to **Marilyn Kaussner** for creating the lovely table decorations and to all those who helped set out for the evening. And to the caterer, **Kimberly Reese**, for extra help with the preparations for the meal.

• To **Bill** and **Sylvia Brockner** for once again hosting the annual picnic on their terrace. We had a record crowd, good weather and great food. Thinking green, we asked everyone to bring their own utensils and plates. The amount of throwaway trash was greatly reduced as a result. To **Sylvia Robertson** and **Peggy Durham**, who cleaned the patio and set up the picnic ready for all to enjoy.

• To **Lynette Makowski** for inviting TENAS members to her yard to view the birds, especially hummingbirds, plus butterflies. Lynette has produced an extraordinary garden designed to attract birds. She also provided refreshments to the lucky viewers.

• To the **Weed Awareness Campaign** headed by **Cathy Shelton** with committee members **Else Van Erp**,

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2008 Officers

President	Peggy Durham	303-674-8648
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	jappnc@terra.com.br	



Heartfelt Thanks for Friendraiser Help

This is the first chance I've had to publicly thank all the helpers who made the Friendraiser event in June so successful, and it was a great party.

We received many compliments on the food (thank you Kimberley, Trish, Sylvia, Jane, Margaret P., Ruth S. and Elaine), the decorations (thank you Marilyn, Margaret M., Carol B., Rachel and their crew) and the elegant music (thank you Brad).

More thanks to Mark, Brad, Ginnie and Tom, Jack, Carolyn, Kent, Carmon and Donald, who took on special duties like manning the bar and the nature center, setting up tables, running errands and greeting guests. Obviously, it takes a mob to put on such an event; all the hard work made it a pretty wonderful gathering.

I think the audience learned a lot about the nature center and its promise from Dave Wald and Michael Stills. Dave Balogh had the happy duty of announcing the bid and prize winners, all of whom were thrilled.

Walt Phillips had the fun of counting the money and was pleased to announce that the party cleared \$8,800 and in addition \$2,500 worth of "Friends of the

Nature Center" memberships were collected.

Be proud of yourselves!

- Polly Phillips



Annual Picnic a Success

A photo show provided by TENAS members provided entertainment at the summer picnic. There were 70 people who attended and all who attended enjoyed the mild weather on the Brockners' patio, the good food and the lively conversation. *Photo by Mark Meremonte*



Courtesy of Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska

Wildlife issues and wind energy will be the focus of the September program.

September Program: Wind Energy

Continued from Page 1

from the University of California at Riverside.

Join us for Karin's dynamic wind energy presentation on Thursday, Sept. 4, at 7 p.m. at Church of the Hills, 28628 Buffalo Park Road (across from Evergreen Library) in the Fellowship Hall downstairs. Refreshments and a business meeting will follow the program.



Bird Business

Since the last report in this column, birds arrived from the south, nested and are already getting ready to return southward. The spring migration indicated a decrease in populations in some species.

Birds are decreasing in North America and the number of nesting species dropped noticeably this year.

Flycatchers were slow in returning this year. Ruth Alford spied a Cordilleran Flycatcher on June 6 in her yard north of Hiwan.

Young Pygmy Nuthatches were pouring out of a nesting box in Karel Buckley's yard on June 7. All nuthatches did very well this summer.

Exciting was a Painted Bunting in Judy Carrier's yard near Conifer on June 8. This bird does well in Oklahoma and periodically sneaks into Colorado.

On June 11, Ginny Boschen watched a Western Kingbird near Soda Creek. Western Kingbirds are way down in numbers. On the same day Karel Buckley and Kathanne Lynch found an Ovenbird at Tiny Town.

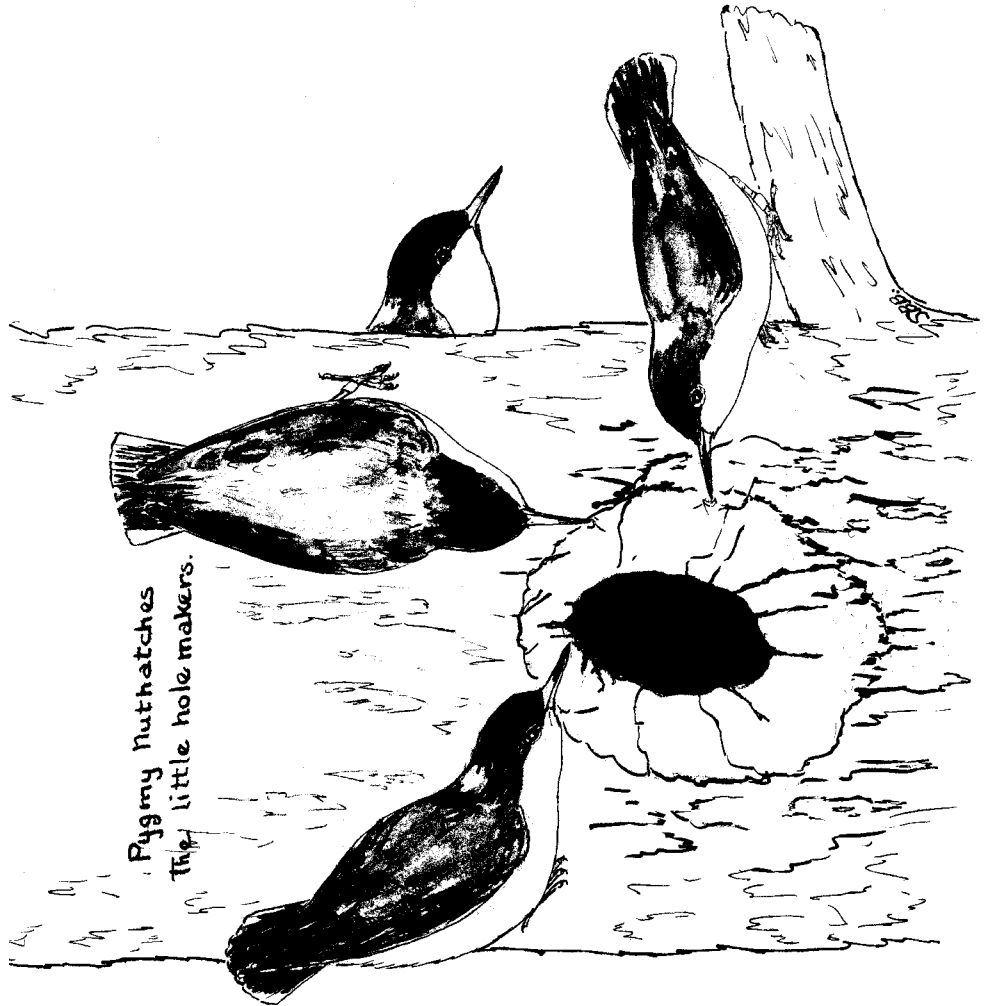
The LaTourettes were greeted by two Great Horned Owls at their home in Evergreen on June 23. The Great Horned Owl is the most common owl around Evergreen. It nests in our area.



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Marilyn Kaussner, Pat Carter, Sylvia Robertson, Renee Ahern-Cormier and Betsy Kelson, which sponsored the Weed Day in June. And thanks to the many weeders who turned out at the lake that day on their search-and-destroy mission.

• To **Margaret McDole** and her assistant editor, **Mark Meremonte**, for producing *The Dipper* in a skillful, interesting way, month after month. They have done a great job keeping us informed of important information regarding our local interests.



Inga Brennan welcomed a Rufous Hummingbird to Lookout Mountain on June 24. Hummingbirds did very well around Evergreen this year.

Clark's Nutcrackers nested near Dick William's home near Upper Bear Creek. This was just below 8,000 feet.

To open the month, Else Van Erp saw an Ovenbird on July 3 at Lair o' the Bear Park.

Sherman Wing had a Calliope Hummingbird in Indian Hills on July 27. This is the smallest bird we have in our area.

Ginny Boschen had a great trip to Hawaii in July. Amongst the many birds she saw was the Red-footed Booby, White-tailed Shearwater and the Great Frigatebird.

Smithsonian Institution has just published the newest "Field Guide to the

Birds of North America." It's heavier and bigger, but still can be carried in your car.

The author is talented local (Boulder) Ted Floyd, editor of American Birding Association's "Birding" magazine, the best birding publication available. This guide lists 730 birds with excellent color photos to illustrate the volume. It also includes bird songs. Get it! You will like it!

Just out are great T-shirts with the Evergreen Nature Center logo. Rush down to the Evergreen Lake Warming Hut to get one and support the nature center.

Already, fall migration has begun and will increase in September. Warblers and sparrows will be coming through in good numbers. Let me know what you see.

- Bill Brockner



Continuing Fight Against Noxious Weeds

The Community Weed Awareness Campaign has been busy this summer working toward its goal of no noxious weeds in the mountain community. The local response to this endeavor has been very encouraging.

On June 21, the 11th annual Weed Pull was held at Evergreen Lake and involved 45 local citizens armed with spades and clippers. They worked from 8 a.m. until noon eradicating unwanted weeds around the area.

Another 60 people came with plants from their yards seeking information from experts Sylvia Brockner and Pam Little.

On July 12, CWAC participated in a statewide project, "Pulling for Colorado," by sending Pat Carter and Sylvia Robertson to the Safeway store in Idaho Springs for a weed education day. They had expert help from Ted Brown, Clear Creek County weed supervisor.

Previous publicity and the display of noxious weeds and literature was an attraction that left the three with little time to rest from all the inquiries.

The next task was "Pulling for Democrats" sponsored by the Democratic

Party from Clear Creek County. Marilyn Kaussner and Sylvia Robertson represented CWAC, joining them in their effort to clear the infestation of noxious weeds in the park adjacent to Clear Creek High School.

The final project for the season was the Weed and Wine event at Evergreen Lake on Aug. 14. This was the reward for all those who have faithfully done their part in keeping the area around the lake clear of weeds.

The work of the CWAC committee does not stop here. They continue to meet throughout the year working out their plan of attack on noxious weeds for



A young weed warrior makes quick work of a thistle at Evergreen Lake. *Photo by Cathy Shelton*

the next season. It becomes an obsession.

- Sylvia Robertson

President's Message

Continued from Page 2

live(d) in those areas? One lightning strike could cause a disaster for the local people, wildlife and habitat.

I know that people say fires are part of the natural cycle. Still, it is hard to view the potential and real damage without alarm.

Let's hope there will be a scientific breakthrough that will slow the destruction of so many trees.

New Treasurer

The board of directors appointed Doug Kieswetter as treasurer to fill the vacancy upon Walt Phillips' resignation. Doug is a longtime Evergreen resident. He has run his own construction business and is now semi-retired. He also volunteers for the Colorado Division of Wildlife.

Weed While Walking

Laura Mehmert and I, plus an assortment of dogs, walk in the Stage Coach Boulevard off-leash dog area early in the mornings. The Canada thistles were getting taller than we were.

Equipped with clippers and bags, we have spent several days beheading and bagging thistles as we shuffle along. We didn't cover quite as much ground, though the dogs did.

It sounds dreary, but what a wonderful feeling to know we have rid the park of so many noxious weeds. It's probably too late this summer for you to have any impact on the noxious weeds, but I will remind you and the other dog walkers next summer.

Welcome to Wild Kingdom

In this same dog park, in late July,

we stopped dead in our tracks when we heard a new animal noise unlike anything familiar in Evergreen. At home, I Googled "moose sounds" and right away decided what we heard was female moose mating call #1.

The pictures of the young moose in Elk Meadow in the local paper would seem to confirm it. We heard more of the same calls a couple of mornings later. I am on super alert when out with the dog.

When I moved here from Massachusetts six years ago, I had no idea how much wildlife abounded in the neighborhood, in front and back yards, and on nearby hiking trails. We are blessed to have these critters around, but I caution everyone to keep their eyes and ears open at all times. Happy trails!

- Peggy Durham



2008 Holiday Wreath Fundraiser

Believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about the holidays! If you need the perfect holiday gift, TENAS 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 a new wreath this year, the 25-inch Wintergreen Wreath, pictured here, along with the two sea-

sonal favorites we've sold in the past: the 25-inch Classic Wreath and the 25-inch Victorian Wreath.

The Classic and Victorian wreaths are available for in-town pickup but the Wintergreen Wreath is not. All of the wreaths are pictured on our website (www.dipper.org) and are available 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 no later than Oct. 31. Prices are listed below.

- 25" **Classic Wreath** (in-town delivery) \$20
- 25" **Victorian Wreath** (in-town delivery) \$23
- 25" **Classic HGW** (out-of-town delivery) \$28
- 25" **Victorian HGW** (out-of-town delivery) \$31



25-inch Wintergreen Wreath, new this year

25" **Wintergreen HGW** (out-of-town delivery) \$32

Last year this sale generated more than \$1,700 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 her at cloverlane@aol.com.

Payment, by cash or check, for in-town wreaths is due at pickup and for Holiday Gift Wreaths at time of order. The wreaths should be delivered just before Thanksgiving. Please support our chapter by participating in this important fundraiser.

- Marilyn Rhodes

Membership

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

New

- Connie Greenberg—Evergreen
- Doug Kieswetter—Golden
- Kathi LaTourrette—Evergreen
- Patti Nolan—Conifer
- Jean Thayer—Evergreen

New Family

- Louise, Jim, & Matt Mitchell—Evergreen
- Barbara & Alistair Montgomery—Lakewood

Renewing

- Peggy Durham—Evergreen
- Beth Erlund—Morrison
- Kim Goedeke—Evergreen
- Mike Henwood—Morrison
- Ed Steinbrecher—Evergreen
- Louise Walker—Littleton
- Michael Weideman—Evergreen
- Dick Williams—Evergreen

Renewing Family

- Heather Johnson & Brad Andres—Evergreen
- Vivian & Dick Burrows—Conifer
- Ron Huston & Nancy Dulin—Riverview
- Robyn & David Hanna—Evergreen
- Susan & Mark Harper—Evergreen
- Einar & Deb Jensen—Idaho Springs
- Ken & Nancy Lerner—Evergreen
- Bud & Juanita Weare—Evergreen



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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)



Fall Programs and Classes

Sponsored by the Evergreen Nature Center at Evergreen Lake, all the classes below are free. To register, send an e-mail to enc@dipper.org.

Saturday, Sept. 6
Bird Migrations through Colorado
Instructor: Brad Andres

Learn where Evergreen birds migrate to and from with ornithologist Brad Andres. Brad will lead a field trip to search for migrants and discuss migration strategies of all birds encountered. **Ages 10+, 8 a.m.-noon. Class size: 10.**

Saturday, Sept. 13
Know Your Weeds
Instructor: Else Van Erp

Want to know how to tell a good thistle from a noxious thistle? Want to know how to get rid of the noxious thistles? Betsy and Marilyn will answer thistle questions and Else Van Erp, Native Plant Master, will identify your weeds and native plants. **1-3 p.m.**

Friday, Sept. 19
Fall Planets & Star Clusters
Instructor: Pam Little

Take a tour of the night sky with amateur astronomer Pam Little. View Jupiter and star clusters through a telescope. Learn to find constellations and how to use a star chart. Hear amazing star facts and stories. Dress for outdoors. Bring camping-type chair/blanket for comfortable sky-watching and binoculars, if available. **Ages 3+, 8 p.m. Class size: 25.**

Saturday, Sept. 27
Color Me Colorado
Instructor: David Balogh

A "Sharing Nature with Children" class with imaginative games to awaken kids to the delights of nature at Evergreen Lake. Instructor David Balogh and others. **Ages 5-9. 10:30 a.m.-noon. Class size: 10.**

Friday, Oct. 24
Under the Milky Way
Instructor: Pam Little

Join amateur astronomer Pam Little in viewing star clusters, galaxies and planets through a telescope. Use a star chart to find your way around the night sky. Hear ancient star stories and learn amazing star facts. Dress for outdoors. Bring camping-type chair/blanket for comfortable sky-watching and binoculars, if available. **Ages 3+, 7 p.m. Class size: 25.**



Spotted Knapweed is seen often in our mountain community. *Photo by Cathy Shelton*

Weed of the Month—Knapweed

It's been awhile since we've featured our old nemesis, knapweed, among the nastiest plants on the block. There are currently five knapweeds on the noxious weed list in Colorado.

The List A knapweeds are the Meadow and Squarrose. These two are not widely distributed in the West yet, but we should be on the lookout for them so they can be eradicated.

The other three are List B knapweeds—Russian, Diffuse and Spotted—and are seen often in our mountain community. They need to be stopped from spreading.

Knapweeds, while a member of the Aster/Sunflower family, do not look or act like the yellow sunflowers and purple asters that bloom in our yards in late summer.

Most often you will find the knapweeds in shades of white, pink or pur-

plish-red and they are anything but friendly to our environment. Once established in disturbed areas, knapweeds can rapidly grow into cultivated areas, pastures and native areas.

This reduces not only the productivity of our rangelands, but also the good forage for our wildlife. In addition, these noxious weeds have allelopathic chemicals that suppress the growth of competitive plants around them, creating huge patches and even entire fields of nothing but knapweed.

Control can be time-consuming but effective and well worth it. Hand pulling can be effective with persistence. Several traditional broad-leaf weed killers have been effective on these weeds, so please consult your local lawn care service, garden center or county weed specialist.

- Betsy Kelson and Cathy Shelton
Community Weed Awareness Campaign

Calendar

- Sept. 4 Chapter Meeting
 Sept. 6 Bird Migrations through Colorado (*Nature Center Program*)
 Sept 13 Know Your Weeds (*Nature Center Program*)
 Sept 19 Fall Planets and Star Clusters (*Nature Center Program*)
 Sept 27 Color Me Colorado (*Nature Center Program*)
 Oct. 2 Chapter Meeting
 Oct. 24 Under the Milky Way (*Nature Center Program*)
 Oct. 31 Last day to order Holiday Wreaths

Monthly Meetings (except January and July)

First Thursday at 7 p.m.
 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 November issue is Thursday, Oct. 2. Please submit articles to: Margaret McDole, editor@dipper.org

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The Evergreen Naturalists Audubon Society, Inc.

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