

*Mission: Building on the tradition of special interest in birds, Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society is organized to promote enjoyment and protection of the natural environment through education, activism, and conservation of bird habitat.*

VOLUME 47, NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2017

**Chapter Meeting Presentation: Monday, February 20, 7PM**  
**"Educational Bird Trunks" - An Educational Tools Program for Youth and Adults**



Megan O'Reilly and Bob Gibson with Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (MFWP) were recipients of the 2016 Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society (YVAS) Conservation Grant. Megan is the Billings area wildlife biologist as well as the nongame specialist for MFWP Region 5. Bob is the Information and Education Manager for MFWP Region 5 and has extensive experience with design, assembly and delivery of outreach tools for use in the classroom and beyond. Megan will present an overview of the three educational trunks they have put together, in part with the funds they received from YVAS. She will also discuss the associated curriculums and how interested members and friends of YVAS may help us in delivering these fun and informative lessons to classrooms and beyond.

The 2017 birding season is coming quickly! Megan and Bob will also talk about MFWP bird monitoring programs and needs. As always MFWP would welcome your help with upcoming surveys. New this year they are hoping to add Chimney Swifts to their survey efforts. Design of this survey protocol is in the very early stages and MFWP welcomes input from YVAS expert birders on how we may best survey this species. They are also planning to make another big push for additional Black Rosy-Finch surveys. *Above photo of Megan O'Reilly with feathered friend submitted by Megan.*

## YVAS MEETINGS

**All YVAS Meetings are at Mayflower Congregational Church, corner of Rehberg Lane and Poly Drive, Billings, MT unless otherwise noted. The public is welcome, there is no admission fee and ample free parking is available.**

**Tuesday, Feb. 14, 6:00pm: Board of Directors Meeting**

**Monday, Feb. 20, 7:00pm: Chapter Meeting**



**We will hold a YVAS fundraiser dinner at 5:30, before the Chapter meeting. Dinner donation: \$6. Nancy Traeger has generously volunteered to coordinate this month. Please contact Nancy [before Friday, Feb. 17](#) to make reservations and your dish contribution at 406-252-5236.**

**THIS FLYER IS PUBLISHED ON Sustainable Forestry Initiative SFI.org CERTIFIED PRODUCT**

**☞We're on the web! [yvaudubon.org](http://yvaudubon.org)**

**And Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/Yellowstone-Valley-Audubon-Society-504343829741848/>**

**Board Action January 12, 2017***Submitted by Sue Weinreis*

- YVAS will apply for membership in Montana Shares beginning in the fall 2017. This is an opportunity to promote the important work of YVAS and raise some revenue for our Chapter.
- The Christmas program, featuring a dessert social and special program by Bob Landis, drew record numbers and was a very successful fundraiser for YVAS. The Board discussed ways to improve and enhance the event in the future, such as having dessert after the presentation, and implementing better registration procedures. The Board credits the efforts of Barbara Garrett, YVAS Publicity Chairperson, for the outstanding publicity, which undoubtedly contributed to the record-breaking turnout.
- Joan Eddy and Peter Cummins have agreed to accept the responsibilities of Data Base Administrator, keeping the membership data updated and current. The Board extends a big "THANK YOU" to Joel Bowers, who is retiring from the task after many years of service to YVAS in this capacity.
- The YVAS Board has developed a Welcome Letter for new members, which includes information about our website, the Flyer, our Facebook page, monthly meetings, our mission statement and personal contacts.
- Wild Birds Unlimited offered customers a free one-year membership to YVAS for the purchase of \$100 or more in merchandise. YVAS welcomes ELEVEN new members as a result of this generosity. Many thanks to Kathy and crew at WBU!
- YVAS is collaborating with Sacajawea Audubon Society and others in developing responses and recommendations concerning waterfowl deaths at Montana Resources Berkeley Pit Superfund Site. We also continue working with a variety of local organizations on other efforts consistent with the YVAS Mission, such as USFS Custer Gallatin Forest management plan comments and recommendations; and recreational, education and conservation opportunities in the greater Billings area.
- Shelia McKay reported that Duck Day 2017 would take place the last Saturday in March.

**Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society Officers:****AREA CODE 406****President:** Steve Regele, 962-3115, sregele@juno.com**Vice-President:** Steve Linder, 380-0073, becon1@bresnan.net**Secretary:** Doreen Hartman, 697-0277, rdzlhman@bresnan.net**Treasurer:** Pam Pipal, 245-4517, ppipal@charter.net**Board of Directors:**

Donn Bartlett: 252-0757, donnbartlett@msn.com

Dorothy Bartlett, 252-0757, dpadanyi@live.com

Sheila McKay: 652-7175, cell 694-7918, wjhbird@yahoo.com

Marco Restani: 425-2608, restani@stcloudstate.edu

Deb Regele: 962-3115, debregele@gmail.com

Sue Weinreis: 855-4181, granpeak47@gmail.com

Nancy Wiggins: 839-4461, nwiggins83@gmail.com

**Montana's Congressional Delegation:**Sen. Steve Daines: U.S. Senate, Wash. D.C. 20510email Sen. Daines via his website: [daines.senate.gov](http://daines.senate.gov)

Billings: 406-245-6822 Wash. D.C. 202-224-2651

Sen. Jon Tester: U.S. Senate, Wash. D.C. 20510website: [tester.senate.gov](http://tester.senate.gov)email: [senator@tester.senate.gov](mailto:senator@tester.senate.gov)

Billings: 406-252-0550 Wash. D.C.: 202-224-2644

Rep. Ryan Zinke:website: [zinke.house.gov](http://zinke.house.gov)email [representative@zinke.house.gov](mailto:representative@zinke.house.gov)

Billings: 406-702-1182 Wash, D.C: 202-225-3211

**Committees and Special Assignments: AREA CODE 406**

Audubon Adventures: Jerry Dalton, daltonlj@centurylink.net

Baling Twine Project: Deb Regele, debregele@gmail.com

Bird Questions: George Mowat, 656-7467 gbmowat@gmail.com  
or Helen Carlson Cummins, 248-8684

Birdathon: Ruth Vanderhorst, 245-5118, erv132@charter.net

Christmas Bird Count: Jim Court, 259-5099, C: 860-0450,  
custertours@gmail.com

Conservation Advisor: Steve Regele, 962-3115, sregele@juno.com

Data Base Administrator: Joel M. Bowers, 534-3672,

C: 591-5635, membership.data@yvaudubon.org

Facebook: Nancy Wiggins, 651-0218, nwiggins83@gmail.com

Flyer Editor: Trenay Hart, 860-1175, yvasflyer@gmail.com

Field Trip Chair: Donn Bartlett, 252-0757, donnbartlett@msn.com

Hospitality: Audrey Jurovich, 656-2748

Membership Committee Chair: Dorothy Bartlett, 252-0757,  
dpadanyi@live.com

Osprey Project: Deb Regele, 962-3115, debregele@gmail.com

Publicity: Barbara Garrett 652-3180, garrettimprisonart@gmail.com

Program Committee: Steve Regele, 962-3115, sregele@juno.com,

Nancy Wiggins, 651-0218, nwiggins83@gmail.com,

Sheila McKay, 652-7175, wjhbird@yahoo.com

Recycling (aluminum): Larry Handsaker, 855-9832,  
918 AVE C, Billings

Website: Deb Regele, 962-3115, debregele@gmail.com

**Meetings** are held September through May at Mayflower Congregational Church, corner of Poly and Rehberg, Billings, MT:

· Board Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm. Board Meetings are open to all members.

· General Chapter Meetings are held the third Monday of each month at 7:00pm. All meetings are open to the public.

Saturday, December 31, 2016 Christmas Bird Count (Finally, after being delayed by very cold weather.)

On a beautiful cool, crisp, sunny, windless day 13 teams counted 68 species of birds. Total birds counted were 16,736. The most numerous was the European Starling (6,048) followed by the Canada Goose (3,581). The Black-billed Magpie and European Starling were seen in all 13 areas plus by the feeder watchers. Team #2 (Two Moon Park and Billings Heights– Steve and Deb Regele, Marco Restani and Carolyn Sevier) saw the most species with 34 being counted. Thanks to everyone for helping and to the Montana Audubon Center for hosting the evening tallying party.

*Submitted by James Court*

Sunday, January 15, 2017 Yellowtail Afterbay (Impromptu trip with the Avian Rangers.)

Will Crain submitted information and photos regarding an impromptu trip with the Avian Rangers (Will Crain, Brian Henderson, Robert Hill and Mike Weber, though Mike didn't make this trip). These birders, along with Marco Restani, notified Donn Bartlett of the outing they planned and others did join in the fun. This was a much needed field trip since the usual New Year's Day trip to the Afterbay had been canceled. Some species Will mentioned were Bald Eagle, Red-tailed Hawk, Western Meadowlark and American Tree Sparrow. Surely a full list of what they saw that wintery day, with temperatures soaring to 14 degrees Fahrenheit, is on eBird as always faithfully submitted by Brian Henderson. *Photo by Will Crain:* Left to right– Brian H., Jim H., Ruth V., Robert H., Pam P., Jerry D., Donn B., and Marco R.



## Field Trip Calendar:

All field trips depart from Rocky Mountain College parking lot on Rimrock Road, adjacent to Billings Studio Theater, unless otherwise noted, and will be by car. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING PETS.** All field trips are open to the public. Passengers will share gas costs with driver when car-pooling. Do make sure you check all field trips with listing in flyer each month for any changes. Binoculars and birding books are available on loan at the field trips  
FIELD TRIP CHAIR: Donn Bartlett 252-0757, [donnbartlett@msn.com](mailto:donnbartlett@msn.com)

April 8	Sat	Exxon Ponds and Emerald Hills. 8am to 3pm.	ONE MILE WALK. Sack lunch. Ron Kuhler & George Mowat, leaders.
Mid-Late April	TBD	Pryor Mountains	LEK viewing plus searching for a Sagebrush Sparrow. Stan Heath leader.

**2017 and beyond FEATURE:** In order to encourage additional but unscheduled outings, please call or email Donn Bartlett (see below) with the needed information such as time, route, etc. and he will forward it to interested area birders. These birders have provided Donn with their contact information to be used in these situations. If you want to be added to the email list for unscheduled outings let Donn know and you'll be included.

Field Trip Chair: Donn Bartlett, [donnbartlett@msn.com](mailto:donnbartlett@msn.com) or 406-252-0757.



There are no Field Trips in February or March but as noted above unscheduled outings are encouraged! Maybe the Avian Rangers will pull something out of their crests and let Donn Bartlett know so others can fly along. We hope so!



WJH BIRD RESOURCES AND YELLOWSTONE VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY PRESENT:

# Duck Day

An excellent experience for children, families and beginning to advanced birders!

Meet at Rocky Mountain College (parking lot off of Rimrock Rd. north of Taylor Hall) at 8:00 am for guidance to WJH, or arrive at WJH at 8:30 am. Please DO NOT arrive at the facility before 8:30 am; late arrivals welcome - check in at the green barn. Please dress for the weather and wear closed-toe shoes and clothes that can get dirty or wet.



**WJH BIRD  
RESOURCES AND  
YELLOWSTONE  
VALLEY AUDUBON**

WJH Bird Resources  
2753 56th St. W.  
Billings, MT 59102

Phone: (406)652-7175  
Email: [wjhbird@yahoo.com](mailto:wjhbird@yahoo.com)



Image: (photo) by Greg on Wikimedia Commons

**March 25th, 2017, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Free admission; participants of all ages welcome!

- ♦ Meet the captive birds at WJH with opportunities to observe some birds up close
- ♦ Games and structured activities for children
- ♦ Opportunity to view the Wagner Marsh south of the property with some history of the wetland project

**Host and Event Guides:**

Sheila McKay - WJH Owner/Proprietor; winner of IWWA Conservation Award  
 Marcus Hemker - Hemker Park and Zoo  
 Jeff Brown - Oregon Cranes  
 Allan Parker - YRPA  
 Dave Pauli - HSUS Wildlife Innovation and Response  
 George Mowat - Head of MT rare birds sighting group; YVAS birding trip leader  
 Will Crain - Billings artist, photographer and birder  
 Nicholas Godfrey and Kirsten McKenna - WJH Staff

RSVP to [wjhbird@yahoo.com](mailto:wjhbird@yahoo.com) [WJH website address]

Please state "Duck Day" in the subject line  
 Or call the office at (406)652-7175



**Nature Nuts Toddler Program: Every Tuesday, 10-11am \$6/program or \$40 for an 8-pack**

Nature exploration comes naturally, especially for little kids! Children aged 18 months (walking) to four years (and an accompanying adult) join Montana Audubon teacher naturalists for guided outdoor play and learning about the local area. No registration required.

**Kids Campfire Fridays: February 3rd, March 10, April 7, 5:30-9pm. \$30/child.**

Campfires, stories, games, and exploring nature? Sounds like a great time! Sign your kids up for a special evening event just for them, and take some time for a date night yourself. All Campfire Fridays at the Audubon Center feature nature-themed activities, games, and plenty of outdoor play under the supervision of our experienced teacher-naturalist staff. Participants should be prepared for outdoor time, including appropriate clothing and footwear, though we've got plenty of indoor activities (and hot cocoa) to warm up with in inclement weather. Each month features different games and activities. Ages 4-12, registration required.

**Yellowstone River Walks: February 4th, March 11, April 8, 10am-noon. \$10/person.**

This 680-mile un-dammed river is a cultural and ecological focal point for the entire region. Want to know more about it? Join our staff naturalists for a once-a-month guided walking tour of the river in all seasons, covering both the social and natural history of the area. \$10/person, free for kids under 12. Two-hour tour begins at 10am. Reservations recommended.

**Owl Prowl: February 11th, 6pm - 9pm, \$12/person.**

Celebrate Valentine's weekend with a night out...in the woods! Our teacher naturalist staff will present a short program on owls in the Billings area, followed by a walk around Norm's Island to search for these charismatic creatures of the night. \$12/person, registration recommended.

**Great Backyard Bird Count: February 17-20**

Do you have 15 minutes to give to science? This global online citizen science event collects observations through the online tool eBird from more than 100,000 people worldwide, most watching the birds in their own backyards. We'll have links and connections on our website and social media about how to attract birds to your backyard, how to identify who's there, and how to add your own list of the global effort!

The Audubon Center and Wild Birds Unlimited in Billings will be hosting a Saturday morning bird program and will have a raffle prize drawing each of the four days for participants in the bird count. To register for the Saturday program or for the raffle drawing, or any above program go to [www.mtaudubon.org/center](http://www.mtaudubon.org/center) or call 406-294-5099.

**Calling All Students and Youths for Great Backyard Bird Count**

*Submitted by Barbara Garrett*

Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society (YVAS) is inviting science classes, Scout troops, and other student and youth groups to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count, February 17-20, 2017. Participants simply tally the numbers and kinds of birds seen for at least 15 minutes on one or more days of the count. They can count from any location, anywhere in the world, for as long as they wish.

Launched in 1998 by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, the Great Backyard Bird Count was the first online citizen-science project to collect data on wild birds and to display results in near real-time. The Great Backyard Bird Count is a free, fun, and easy event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a snapshot of bird populations by reporting sightings online at [birdcount.org](http://birdcount.org).

Participants new to the count are directed at [birdcount.org](http://birdcount.org) to create a free online account to enter their checklists. During the count, they can explore what others are seeing in this area or around the world. They can share their bird photos by entering the photo contest, or enjoy images pouring in from across the globe.

YVAS is encouraging students and youths to hop on board [birdcount.org](http://birdcount.org) for complete information about this event to join in the fun. For further information about YVAS and this event, visit its website at [yvaudubon.org](http://yvaudubon.org) or contact Steve Regele at (406)962-3115 or [sregele@juno.com](mailto:sregele@juno.com).

**Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society 2016 in summary-** The YVAS Board of Directors is pleased to summarize some of the 2016 activities and work of our Society. We hope it reminds all of us that the membership and Board accomplish very good things in line with the YVAS Mission and have some real fun together. It would not happen without the YVAS membership, its individuals and groups. YVAS always benefits from donations and grants. While we do not routinely and aggressively advertise and solicit for such, we always appreciate and put to very good use every dollar we receive. Thank you for your membership and YVAS Mission efforts.

*Submitted by Steve Regele*

**Monthly Presentations** YVAS organized and provided top notch presentations in 2016. Check out the YVAS website and Flyer for a summary of the wonderful 2016 Christmas social evening presentation by Bob Landis! We also had other great presentations including those by Gary Swant (his birding "Big Year"), Sue Weinreis (Cuba and birds), Lorelle Berkley (greater Sage-grouse), John Marzluff (Ravens), Marco Restani (Osprey), YVAS Conservation Grant recipients, and a beautiful PBS bird film and one about the Pryor Mountains. We are looking forward to more great presentations in 2017!

**Birding Trips** YVAS hosted many scheduled birding trips in the 2016. All trips are open to the membership and public. Other annual birding events include a Birdathon event in June, Christmas Bird Count in December, and an Annual Eagle Survey in the winter.

**Bird Data:** More than thirty YVAS bird trip data summaries have been recorded and will be submitted for 2016. YVAS bird data is available through the Montana Natural Heritage Program, Cornell Labs eBird Program, various State and Federal agencies, and others. It is quite valuable to managers and investigators involved with wildlife, habitat and related projects and developments. It is also useful to birders planning their birding trips!

**Osprey Project:** YVAS members and others in the Yellowstone River basin organized and implemented an ongoing and outstanding Osprey nest monitoring project in 2009 and Osprey banding in 2012. The project involves nearly 50 volunteers, mostly YVAS members, and interaction with utility companies, tree surgeons, government agencies, private businesses, and the public. For more information go to <http://www.yvaudubon.org/conservation/osprey-monitor-project/>

**YVAS Conservation Grants:** YVAS solicits proposals and grants financial assistance to various projects each year in line with the YVAS Mission. We accept applications until February 1 of each year. <http://www.yvaudubon.org/conservation/yvas-conservation-grant/>

**Bird Information/Education Signs:** Bird and habitat information signs planned to be installed in 2017 include the following sites: Dover Park, Riverfront Park, Phipps Park. Thanks to volunteer work and financial gifts from YVAS members.

**Collaboration with numerous local and regional non-profit organizations:** Throughout 2016 YVAS has collaborated with numerous groups to accomplish the YVAS and similar organizations missions – e.g. Pryor's Coalition, Our Montana, MT Wilderness Association, Montana Wildlife Federation, Montana Audubon Center, National Audubon Society, and Montana Audubon, as well as with various State and Federal agencies. One example of our collaborations: The Custer Gallatin National Forest (CGNF) Management Plan is being revised and YVAS is working closely with various groups and the USFS to help make that effort a good one. Much of our focus is on the Pryor Mountain portion of the CGNF.

**Injured Bird Assists:** YVAS and its members provide information and assistance in dealing with injured birds. Various members also accept and deliver injured raptors to the Montana Raptor Center in cooperation with the Center and MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

**Website:** The website is updated routinely and provides an excellent door to YVAS news and information and many other offerings. Visit <http://www.yvaudubon.org/>

**Flyer:** YVAS publishes our newsletter throughout the year. Keep in touch about YVAS news and information and the work and offerings of the Society and members. Visit <http://www.yvaudubon.org/> and click on the Flyer Header.

**Facebook:** Visit with members and share news and offerings. <https://www.facebook.com/Yellowstone-Valley-Audubon-Society-504343829741848/>

**Publicity:** YVAS advertises its presentations, birding trips, projects and events in a wide variety of local and regional venues. We have all benefitted from the work Barbara Garrett, YVAS Publicity Chairperson, has accomplished this year - thanks Barbara!

**Recycling:** The money earned from the YVAS aluminum can recycling helps with routine YVAS organizational costs and with special project expenses. See the Flyer or contact Larry Handsaker, 855-9832 for details - Thanks Larry, Helen Carlson and Peter Cummins!

**Information requests and assistance about "Birding Hot Spots" in Yellowstone Basin and eastern Montana:** Throughout the year YVAS receives requests for help in finding particular bird species or for good birding hot spots, largely from out-of-state visitors. We do our best to provide helpful information. We also publish local and regional birding maps and bird lists - <http://www.yvaudubon.org/birding/birding-hot-spots/>

**Membership Outreach:** YVAS has about 400 members. We are always reaching out to the local and regional community for new contributing members. See <http://www.yvaudubon.org/> or "The Flyer" for applications and related information. Please help in bringing in new YVAS members that want to take part in the YVAS Mission, and thanks to all that contribute time and talent to YVAS projects and activities.

**Montana State Parks Board:** The Parks Board is very concerned that the financing is insufficient to support all 55 State Parks. Consequently, we have requested several bills be drafted for the current session of the legislature. LC 1791 would increase the car registration fee for Parks (in exchange for free entrance to all 55 Parks) by \$2 to \$8. LC 1792 would give counties an additional \$2 provided the people of that county approve it on the ballot. LC 1789 would move the current trust fund for parks into the Coal Tax Constitutional Trust so it is constitutionally protected and then receive 10 times the inflow each year after 2025. LC 1793 would extend the car registration fee to motor homes and RV Trailers. We also are working with YRPA and Our Montana and Rep. Virginia Court on an amendment that will make a public park owned by a charitable organization exempt from property taxes. This would affect Dover Park which is , currently limited to 160 acres exempt from local property taxes. Finally we are asking the Legislature for authority to spend all of our ending fund balance on park improvements all over the State. Although not sponsoring it directly, we are also watching LC 1797 by Rep. Brad Hamlett of Great Falls which would attach the Board to the Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks for administrative purposes only which means the Board would appoint an administrator and control the budget. This would help us deal with the problems that apparently caused us to lose Chas Van Genderen as the current Administrator. If you like our State Parks, any time you can encourage our legislators to support these efforts would certainly be appreciated.

*Submitted by Thomas E. Towe, Chairman, Montana State Parks Board*

I found this interesting article, **The 12 Best Books About Birds And Birding In 2016**, on Facebook. Follow the link for more information about the author, her choices, and the books.

*Submitted by Sue Weinreis*

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/grrlscientist/2017/01/09/the-twelve-best-books-about-birds-and-birding-in-2016/#5546c4ff38b0>

The Most Perfect Thing: Inside (and Outside) a Bird's Egg by Tim Birkhead, Lapwings, Loons and Lousy Jacks: the how and why of bird names by Ray Reedman, Bird Brain: An exploration of avian intelligence by Nathan Emery, The Genius of Birds by Jennifer Ackerman, A Sky Full of Birds by Matt Merritt, Bird Droppings: Writings About Watching Birds and Bird Watchers by Pete Dunne, Lost Among the Birds: Accidentally Finding Myself in One Very Big Year by Neil Hayward, Listening to a Continent Sing: Birdsong by Bicycle from the Atlantic to the Pacific by Donald Kroodsma, Raptor: A Journey Through Birds by James Macdonald Lockhart, Owl: A Year in the Lives of North American Owls by Paul Bannick, The Hidden Lives of Owls: The Science and Spirit of Nature's Most Elusive Birds by Leigh Calvez, Handbook of Bird Biology (Cornell Lab of Ornithology) by Irby J. Lovette and John W. Fitzpatrick

### RENEWALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The YVAS Board of Directors is trying to find a better way to alert supporting Chapter Members of their renewal dates. The list below consists of those members up for renewal in February. Please use the application form below (include your email address) and submit it, along with a check, to any Board Member or mail it to the address on the application when it is time to renew. Contact Data Base Administrator Joel M. Bowers at 406-534-3672 or [membership.data@yvaudubon.org](mailto:membership.data@yvaudubon.org), with any questions.

FEBRUARY Renewals: Charles Paris, Donald Seibert, Donna Bruce, Deborah Mattern, Paulette Jackson, Nancy Ballou, Sondra Daly, and Elizabeth & Robert Adcock.



### Who do you call when you find an INJURED bird?

Injured Birds: Details at [yvaudubon.org](http://yvaudubon.org) (select the "Projects" tab and then "Injured Birds") or call MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks, (M-F) 406-247-2940.

Injured Raptors: Montana Raptor Conservation Center, Becky Kean, 406-585-1211.

Injured Waterfowl: WJH Bird Resources, Sheila McKay, 406-652-7175.

Twine Entangled Osprey in Nest: Dr. Marco Restani, 406-425-2608 or Deb Regele, 406-962-3115



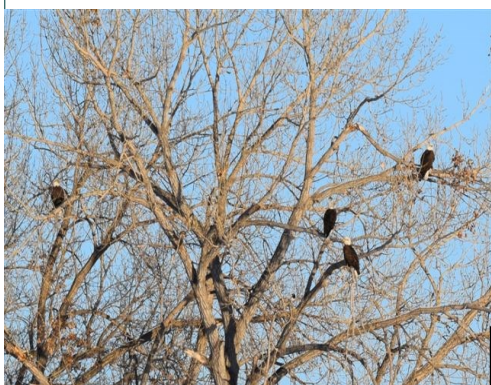


**YELLOWSTONE VALLEY  
AUDUBON FLYER**

P.O. Box 1075  
Billings, MT 59103-1075

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Non-Profit Organization  
PRST STD  
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PAID  
BILLINGS, MT  
PERMIT NO. 27**



**Bald Eagles, Yellowtail Afterbay, Jan. 15, 2017**

*Submitted by Will Crain*

We have simplified Membership to YVAS for renewals and new members with this single form below or go to [yvaudubon.org](http://yvaudubon.org).

**Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society**  
Application for New & Renewal Membership

Please enroll me as a supporting member of Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society. I understand I will be supporting local Chapter activities and receiving the local newsletter. I will enjoy full family Chapter benefits. Make check payable to **Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society** for \$20. If applying for a new or renewing student membership, make check for \$10 and indicate academic affiliation.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want to receive the Flyer electronically?

☐ YES ☐ NO

Send this application and your check to:

Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 1075  
Billings, MT 59103-1075

**YVAS Bird of the Month**



**Downy Woodpecker**

A familiar sight at backyard feeders was captured by Robert Hill this January. His photos give a good scale to this small woodpecker as it is no bigger than the common suet feeder, much smaller than its confounding look-a-like the Hairy Woodpecker. *Adapted from All About Birds.*

