



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.

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JUNE/JULY 2017

CONGRATULATIONS HELEN CARLSON!!! FIFTY YEARS AND COUNTING...



How many of us know exactly when we became birders? At age 93 Helen Carlson remembers the moment. Well-known in the birding community, Helen recalls the day, fifty years ago when she overheard a conversation of people talking about seeing ducks out at Three Forks. At the time, Helen was a young woman facing depressing issues that made her wonder if life was even worth living. She talked a friend into taking her out to Three Forks, where someone identified an Eared Grebe for her. One look, she went and bought binoculars and a bird book and never again looked back. She had found joy and happiness in birding that has filled her life ever since. Helen moved to Billings from Bozeman, and joined an active group of birders who had founded the Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society. Together they traveled the state and the country, formed close ties with the National Audubon Society, and even put an Audubon t-shirt on then President Jimmy Carter! She served as President of YVAS for seven years. After being hospitalized in 1984, her recovery goal was to go on the birding trip of a lifetime to Gambell, Alaska, with WINGS Birding Tours. Being Helen, she was soon hired by WINGS to cook for tour groups, producing popular meals on a single burner stove for 20 people at a time, for 13 years. Helen energetically has taught 37 years of YVAS birding classes, and continues to this day to be involved with students from Rocky Mountain College. In 2012, the birds outdid themselves and introduced her to the charming Peter Cummins, who met Helen while touring the US with a birding group from England. Marrying in June of 2013, they have already shared a lifetime of happy birding adventures.

Submitted by Nancy Wiggins, Photo of Eared Grebe from blogdicristian.

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, August 8, 6:00pm: Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, September 18, 7:00pm: Chapter Meeting



We will hold a YVAS fundraiser dinner at 5:30, before the Chapter meeting. Dinner donation: \$6. Watch for details regarding the September Chapter meeting dinner in the August Flyer.

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

☞ We're on the web! yvaudubon.org

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

Topics discussed at the May 9, 2017 YVAS Board meeting:*Submitted by Sue Weinreis*

- BIRDATHON NEEDS SUPPORT! Members who regularly participate in the YVAS Birding Field Trips will receive a special invitation to participate in the June 3-4 Birdathon, by starting, joining or sponsoring a Birdathon team.
- TRAIL MAINTENANCE IN THE PRYORS – Can you help? YVAS has signed an agreement with the US Forest Service to do trail maintenance in the Pryors.
- YVAS sponsored a booth for the Arbor Day celebration on May 4 in Veteran's Park. Steve Regele made a presentation to over 200 Billings 4th graders.
- YVAS is working on signage, maps and a bird list for Dover Park.
- The Bluebird Trail at Phipps Park has 10 nest boxes, 8 with nesting pairs.
- The Baling Twine Committee is working with two potential sites for baling twine collection – an exciting step forward!
- The Board will convene again in August.

Who do you call when you find an INJURED bird?

Injured Birds: Details at yvaudubon.org (select the "Projects" tab and then "Injured Birds") or call MT Fish, Wildlife and 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 Society Officers:**AREA CODE 406**

President: Steve Regele, 962-3115, smregele@gmail.com

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Montana's Congressional Delegation:

Sen. Steve Daines: U.S. Senate, Wash. D.C. 20510

email Sen. Daines via his website: daines.senate.gov

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

Sen. Jon Tester: U.S. Senate, Wash. D.C. 20510

website: tester.senate.gov

email: senator@tester.senate.gov

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

Rep. Ryan Zinke:

website: zinke.house.gov

email 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, debregede@gmail.com

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

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

Website: Deb Regele, 962-3115, debregede@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, May 6, Riverfront Park*Submitted by Jerry Dalton*

Fourteen or more birders were serenaded constantly by numerous newly arrived House Wrens. At Josephine Pond a single Caspian Tern circled, and a Belted Kingfisher rattled by. A little herd of Canada Goose goslings were being trained to pan handle. The usual year round birds were there, but the migrants we hoped for were not seen or heard, not even a Yellow Warbler. The majority of the group split around 10 a.m. due to the forecast high of 88 F and the warm morning, the rest of us soon went home, too.

Thursday, May 4, on a practice walk, Lois and Jerry Dalton observed a Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Yellow-headed Blackbird, and a Wood Duck pair flyby.

Saturday, May 13, Wheat Basin, Big Lake*Submitted by Mike Weber*

I have tried, really tried to replicate, duplicate and to have a groundhog sort of day; a day where you see the same number of species and types of birds, travel the same roads, encounter the same weather, and experience it with the same people. But it looked like my day was going to be foiled. None of the Avian Rangers were there and there was a new face in the crowd.

Our birding really began when we arrived in Molt. Just north of the towering grain elevators lies a seasonal wetland. It started pretty normal with ducks such as Cinnamon teal, Green-winged Teal and Northern Shovelers, clad in their spring colors, plus Killdeer, Wilson's Phalaropes, Red-winged and Yellow-headed Blackbirds. The flyby of a Northern Harrier confirmed that this may a usual day birding, nothing new or unexpected, maybe a groundhog day after all. Then suddenly winnowing high through the air at break-neck speed was a Wilson's Snipe! I was caught off guard. Many in the crowd craned their neck to find this rapid flyer against the blue. Jim Hanson stated it brought back boyhood memories where he heard the snipe winnowing each spring from his backyard in Minnesota. The winnowing sound is made by the tail feathers as the snipe dives through the air. Another snipe called from the grassy wetlands; its call sounding to me like a Northern Flicker. Moments later we were surprised by a Sora calling its ker-wee call a half dozen times from deep in the sedges. At that point I had given up hope that this day was going to be anything but ordinary.

On the way to Corral pond we stopped in front of the old Eastlick farm in order to admire a couple dozen blossoming tulips. Someone claimed they planted them from the previous fall-just for this particular trip. Hmm. To the West we watched a Long-billed Curlew dive-bomb a Common Raven and observed a Ferruginous Hawk soaring to the north. The farmyard caragana shrubs held a handsome pair of Loggerhead Shrikes.

The birding was great all the way to the pond. There we observed a Common Raven on its nest on the crossbar of a power pole. We heard, then saw a pair of Sandhill Cranes fly by. In the distance was a soaring immature Golden Eagle. We watched numerous Chestnut-collared Longspurs flying and singing-to me it's song, although unique sounds like a miniature version of a Meadowlark song. Horned Larks sang high in the air and Savannah and Vesper Sparrows sang from the fence posts and fields. A pair of Gray Partridge flushed from the roadside brush. Corral pond was busy with many Wilson's Phalaropes, ducks, a lone Pied-billed grebe and a flock of 2 dozen Eared Grebe. North of the pond we watched an Upland Sandpiper as it stood upon a wooden fencepost. A pair of Long-billed Curlews were walking perhaps 40 yards from the road. We estimated that there were at least 3 pair of Curlew in the large prairie dog town. We heard our first Grasshopper Sparrow.

Next stop was the shelterbelt which lies about 3 miles North of Corral pond. We noted a Swainson's Hawk and a Swainson's Thrush. A brush pile held a Lazuli Bunting and several Chipping Sparrows. There was perhaps 4 or 5 Audubon (Yellow-rumped) Warblers, 2 Western Kingbirds and another pair of Loggerhead Shrikes.

Next we stopped at the NE area of Big Lake at the parking area. The lake had not filled much and the water was far to the South. Another immature Golden Eagle was flying overhead with a Common Raven closely shadowing it. A Burrowing Owl was briefly spotted. Driving to the south side of Big Lake we stopped where the main water inlet flows into Big Lake. We got good close looks of American Avocet, Pintail, Gadwall, Blue-winged Teal and American Wigeon.

The road into the south side of Big Lake off of Wheat Basin Road was in good shape. We parked near a series of brood ponds in the SE area of Big Lake. Jim Hanson stated they were created by damming a different creek than the one the feeds the main Big Lake and it will hold water most of the year, providing a place for waterfowl to go when Big Lake evaporates during the summer. The brood pond held lots of ducks, Canada Geese and a Double-crested Cormorant. Far out in the middle of the Big Lake was an island that held around 75 gulls that we surmised were nesting. Even from the south the water in the lake was a long distance away. We did see several flying flocks of large shorebirds-most likely Dowitchers? The hills and the prairie along Big Lake was dotted with greasewood and sagebrush and patches purple lupine. The songs of Vesper and Grasshopper Sparrows filled the air and we saw our first few Lark Buntings of the year. On the way home a roadside pond wetland held 27 Long-billed Dowitcher's. A perfect ending to extraordinary day of birding.

Thursday, May 11, Riverfront Park*Submitted by Peter Cummins*

George Mowat, substituting for Mike Weber led 7 Birders on a sunny evening walk around Riverfront Park. The walk had a good start with 8 Ruddy Ducks swimming on the lake. This was followed with a flyby of 11 American Pelicans. The sight of some Canada Geese shepherding a flock of 80 goslings provided the Ah!!!! moment. Birds proved difficult to see but we were rewarded with a total of 23 species, including Least Flycatcher, Yellow Warbler, Black-headed Grosbeak, & a pair of Spotted Sandpipers, flying across the river. The walk finished with 2 of the group seeing a Sharp-shinned Hawk, the only raptor of the trip. Thank you, George for an enjoyable walk.

Sunday, May 14, Bear Canyon*Submitted by Jim Sells*

On a beautiful, crisp Mother's Day, 8 YVAS members traveled to Bear Canyon. Near the mouth of Bear Canyon we were serenaded by Prairie Falcons high on the cliff above. We all enjoyed superb looks at target species: Lazuli Bunting, Western Tanager, Townsends Solitaire, Mountain Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Green-tailed Towhee, Spotted Towhee and Yellow-breasted Chat.

Amazingly, we were thrilled to see a trifecta of wren's: Rock Wren, Canyon Wren and House Wren! We hiked into this unique riparian ecosystem, encountering running water in Bear Canyon. Undeterred we identified 30 species in this Important Bird Area (IBA). The "Bushwhacking Birders" constructed makeshift bridges with logs and rocks across the creek.

With that being said, our leader Trenay Hart, was happy we all got our feet wet! Thanks, Trenay for leading this hike and we all appreciated the educational information about birds provided by Stan and Eric Heath. We support Steve Regele's efforts to do trail maintenance and trail building in Bear Canyon IBA. Donn and Dorothy Bartlett split from our group and observed Sagebrush Sparrows and Blue-gray Gnatcatchers at different locations. With great views of the snow covered Beartooth Mountains and EXCELLENT BIRDWATCHING, everyone had a terrific day.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and Yellow-breasted Chat Photos by Jim Sells from Bear Canyon.

**Tuesday, May 16, Stillwater River and Woodbine Area***Submitted by Dorothy Bartlett*

The weather was most kind to us one more time as Ruth Vanderhorst led five cars with twelve birders on this favorite annual trip toward and along the Stillwater River and points beyond. Taking the back roads to Columbus we saw a Spotted Sandpiper, Sandhill Cranes, Yellow and Yellow-rumped Warblers, Eastern and Western Kingbirds, a Northern Harrier and finally a much anticipated Common Snipe. We saw many other birds too numerous to list, as it was one of those perfect days with sunshine, no wind and lots of birds flitting, flying and soaring about.

After we left Absarokee, the group split into two groups: one group of three cars followed the original plan to Woodbine while two cars split off toward Red Lodge to hunt for a rare Golden-crowned Sparrow that had been spotted there by our board member, Marco Restani. The Woodbine group was treated to, among others, Ruby-crowned Kinglets and the Calliope Hummingbird that has faithfully appeared along the Stillwater, in the same spot, for many years. The group counted 51 species observed during the outing.

The Red Lodge group spent their time (about two hours) looking for the Golden-crowned Sparrow and were finally rewarded by everyone in the group getting a good look at this bird, rare in our area. A couple from Bozeman spotted one at the same time, about half a block down the creek, making us think there may be a pair of them along Nichols Creek. Both groups enjoyed picnic lunches and a pleasant drive home before the forecasted weather system moved in. Thank you, Mother Nature, for holding up before showering the state with rain and snow.

Saturday, May 20, Pompey's Pillar/Captain Clark's FA*Submitted by Robert Hill*

All Birders met at Rocky Mountain College parking lot bright and early at 7AM. We headed out on the Interstate to the Captain Clark FA first for about an hour. There we observed Bald Eagles, Common Yellowthroats, and Yellow-breasted Chat. We spent little over an hour there then headed to Pompey's Pillar. At Pompey's we had some good birding with sightings of 2 Great Horned Owls, Spotted Towhees, White-throated Swifts, American Redstarts, Least Flycatchers and Western Wood-Peepees. There were about 13 birders on the trip and after we walked around the monument area we had a great lunch together. Great sunny day with great people. *Photo of Robert and George discussing bird ID by Dorothy Bartlett.*

**Sunday, May 21, Bear Gulch***Submitted by Sue Weinreis*

Eight early-birders set off Sunday, May 21 at 5:30 am, for our destination, Bear Gulch, a scenic private ranch south and west of Grass Range, Montana. We met the friendly landowner, Macie, on the highway and followed her pickup to Bear Gulch, where we parked our vehicles and walked down into the canyon. This lovely, pristine valley has been in the Lundin family for 5 generations and they love to share it with the public. Macie's son Ray conducted a 1.5 mile guided walk. We saw hundreds of petroglyphs (scratched) and pictographs (painted) on the walls of the canyon, probably of Crow Indian design, dating from 600 to 1600 years old. They represent the largest concentration of shield bearing warriors in the Northern Plains. Many of them have a large "plus" sign on the shield. The three-legged man is also a common symbol, representing a figure that is half-man, half-animal. Before, during, and after the guided tour, we BIRDED, of course. With the abundance of water, trees, brush, and pristine canyon environment, we were treated to a day of great birding.

Trip Stats:

- Number of Birders: 8
- Miles driven: 218
- Number of Birds Identified: 33 (Bear Gulch), 3 more on Old Divide Road,
- "Ice Cream" Birds: Spotted Towhee, Bullock's Oriole, Lazuli Bunting, Lark Bunting, Black-headed Grosbeak, Say's Phoebe, Catbird, Rock Wren, Least Flycatcher, American Goldfinch, Yellow Warbler, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, and the "Kingbird Trifecta" – Western, Eastern, Cassin's.
- Animal of the Day: A black bear and her cub, spooked by our vehicles, spotted by Trenay Hart on Fairview Road. We also saw antelope, prairie dogs, and white-tailed deer.
- Bird of the Day: Cassin's Kingbird – on our way home via the 8-mile Old Divide loop.

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

June 3 & 4	Sat & Sun	BIRDATHON	Contact Ruth Vanderhorst 406-245-5118 or Erv132@charter.net
June 6	Tues	Clark Fork WMA - Bluewater Fish Hatchery - Fromberg. 8:00 am - 6:00 pm	Sack Lunch. Steve Regele, leader.
June 9-11	Fri-Sun	MT AUDUBON BIRD FESTIVAL IN GREAT FALLS	Visit www.mtaudubon.org for more information. Will alert any Field Trip Birders of any local Impromptu trips.
June 14	Wed	Pryor Mountains-Sage Creek 7:00 am, all day	Meet at 7:00am at Rocky Mountain College or at the Bridger Rest Stop at 8:30am. Sack lunch. Stan Heath leader.
June 17	Sat	Red Lodge Area	Meet at Rocky Mountain College for car-pooling at 7:00 am or Lions Park in Red Lodge at 8:30 am. Sack lunch. Jerry Dalton and Stan Heath, leaders.
June 18	Sun	Yellowstone River W.M A State Park	Sack lunch. Megan O'Reilly, leader

There are no Field Trips in July but 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! Contact Donn Bartlett if you have an outing planned. **FIELD TRIP CHAIR: Donn Bartlett 252-0757, donnbartlett@msn.com**



Osprey Platform*Submitted by Deb Regele*

Ospreys have returned to the Yellowstone, Stillwater and the Big Horn Rivers and are keeping over thirty-five nest monitors very busy again this spring and summer. The monitors are observing over 100 nests to determine which ones will be occupied. One of the most anticipated events for the group is incubation - whether it will occur and when. Currently most pairs are incubating with some beginning as early as mid-April. However, there are always a few that are late to commitment to raising young!

The YVAS Osprey Nest Monitoring Project does not interfere with the **natural events** that take place at these nesting sites. With **human-caused events** that endanger the Ospreys, such as baling twine entanglement at nests or electrocution at nests on power poles, YVAS will support and help to correct what is reasonably possible to eliminate these threatening or fatal occurrences.

Power poles and baling twine continue to create serious problems for Ospreys. Electrocution of Ospreys happens every year. This spring has already seen several electrocuted Ospreys in both the Billings and Paradise Valley areas. Besides observing the known nesting sites, monitors keep an eye out for new Osprey nests that may be built on power poles. This is especially important in areas where geese have taken over an Osprey's nesting platform. YVAS is continuing with its efforts to increase public awareness to the dangers of baling twine. Efforts to locate a Central Twine Collection Site for a twine recycling program are still on going.

Over the past six years, more than 275 nestlings have been banded. And now, more and more of these banded nestlings are returning as adults. This is very exciting for all of us! Osprey monitors have been surveying for these banded Ospreys as well.

If you see a banded Osprey, contact either Marco Restani at restani@stcloudstate.edu or 406-425-2608 or Deb Regele at debregale@gmail.com. If you would like to help the Baling Twine Committee with summer tables at local Farmers Markets, or help with the twine recycling effort, contact Deb at debregale@gmail.com.

A big THANK YOU to all the YVAS Osprey nest monitors for your continued support, time, gas and dedication.

Summer - Fall of 2017 YVAS Projects and Opportunities

YVAS will not have another scheduled Board of Directors Meeting until August, 2017. Our next Membership Meeting and scheduled presentation for members and the general public is September 18, 2017.

This doesn't mean YVAS is inactive over the summer, nor does it mean that Board Meetings and Monthly Membership Meetings/Presentation are the only things in the works for YVAS through the rest of 2017!

Following is a list of some YVAS projects and members opportunities 'in the works' for the summer through fall of this year:

- Birding and hiking trail work ... Bear Canyon Pryor Mountains; Billings area and regional parks and public lands;
- Stewardship and education-related work ... southcentral Montana parks and public lands;
- Bird nesting boxes ... maintenance, construction, installation;
- YVAS and local organizations teamwork ... MT Audubon Center, Yellowstone River Parks Association, MT Conservation Corps, MT Wildlife Federation, Montana Wilderness Association, Our Montana, etc.

If you want to volunteer to work on any of these projects or have questions please contact Steve Regele at smregele@gmail.com

Audubon Fund Raiser Potlucks 2017-18

NEEDED: Hosts/hostesses for February, March and May 2018

PLEASE CONTACT: Sue Weinreis at 406-855-418, granpeak47@gmail.com, if you can help out.

It has been a tradition of YVAS to offer a Potluck dinner to members and friends prior to each regular YVAS meeting as a tasty way to meet and greet fellow birders and to raise money for YVAS service projects. The host/hostess provides a main dish for 24-30 people. Everyone else brings a salad, side, bread, or dessert sufficient to serve 6-12 people. Water and coffee are provided. The cost of the potluck is \$6.00 per person. The host/hostess are not required to pay. Dinner is served promptly at 5:45 pm.

RARE BIRD ALERT! YVAS Birds of the Month Golden-crowned Sparrow and Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

Two very exciting birds were seen in the last couple of weeks by avid birders out looking for migration surprises. The Golden-crowned Sparrow was seen at Nichols Creek, near Red Lodge, MT on May 14 by Marco Restani. Presumably elated to see the not so common bird, he called Stan Heath to come see the bird as well. The bird didn't respond to pishing or calls but did get curious. The bird was also seen the following day by Dan Casey and then on Tuesday by a crew of YVAS members. Stan and Trenay Hart looked again on Saturday, 4 days after the last sighting, and had no luck. Wintering on the Pacific coast and breeding in the tundra of BC and Alaska it was likely off course and provided a thrill to YVAS for a few days. It is only the 20th record of the bird in the state. No photos were captured, the one below is borrowed from All About Birds website.

A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was spotted by Jeff & Brenda Dunham May 21, 3:30pm on a fence beside East Rosebud Road, about 2.5 miles up the canyon from Roscoe, MT. Jeff submitted the glorious photo (seen in full color on the back page of the Flyer). This bird usually is found in the southern Great Plains and south Texas, whoa! A bit of course as well. Steve and Deb Regele reported an effort to see the bird on May 22 but wind and rain prevailed and no Scissor-tailed to be found.

Submitted by Trenay Hart

**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 June and July. 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 Administrators: Joan Bunke or Peter Cummins or membership.data@yvaudubon.org, with any questions.



JUNE and JULY Renewals: Rita Cetrone, Nancy & Dale Detrick, Trenay Hart, Stanley A. Heath, Claudia Janecek, James King, Donna M. Lance, George & Bernie Mowat, Jim & Jeanie Sells, Rhett Smith and Liz Yorgason.

Helen Carlson would like to Thank everyone for the lovely flowers and tributes that were paid to her as she celebrated her 50th Anniversary of Birdwatching!

Larry Handsaker submitted some field notes from the Laurel Golf Club where he regularly takes a swing and sees an array of wildlife, including birds. On May 20th he reports the common occurrence of Sandhill Cranes strutting across the fairway but this time was unique as they were escorting their 2 youngsters who were 15-18 inches tall. He said this was the first time they have seen any Sandhill Cranes with their colts. The adults were big enough to be Emus, noting they must be 4 feet high. Two other species he loves to watch out on the course includes a nest of Red-tailed Hawks with their screeching and annual hatch, and an Osprey that fishes in one of the ponds.

THANK YOU to all who are saving their aluminum cans, we can always use more!

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





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Loggerhead Shrike beautifully captured by rising photographer, *Dorothy Bartlett* while on the Wheat (Lake) Basin Field Trip.

Below: **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** photo by *Jeff Dunham*, May 21 near Roscoe, MT. Accompanying article on page 7 of this Flyer.



Top left: **Yellow-headed Blackbird**, Bottom right: **American Avocet**
photos by *Robert Hill*
seen at Spidel WPA and Broadview Pond, April 30.

Bottom left: **Red-tailed Hawk**, Top right: **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** photos
by *Will Crain*, Woodbine field trip, May 16.

