



# YELLOWSTONE VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

- FROM THE PRAIRIES TO THE PEAKS.

*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 46, NUMBER 5

MAY 2016

## **Dr. John Marzluff, YVAS Featured Speaker to present his new book, *Subirdia***

**Monday, May 16, 2016 at 7PM**

We all know that human development is threatening our environment. Runoff pollutes our streams. Homes and businesses encroach on wilderness habitat. Energy use warms the planet. Too many species are in decline. And yet... for some of our most charismatic wild creatures, suburban and urban habitats offer surprising opportunities to thrive.

In his book *Welcome to Subirdia*, Dr. John Marzluff reveals that our suburbs and city parks are often remarkably rich in bird diversity—holding more species than either wilderness areas or urban centers. Business parks and vacant lots are home to rare and fragile species. The diversity of plants and trees in our gardens and parks creates valuable habitat for many birds. Our birdfeeders, ornamental ponds and fountains, and nesting boxes bolster populations and help some species to flourish.

Of course, the news is not all good. Many birds cannot adapt to the pressures of human development. They retreat to our limited wilderness areas or become scarce. But in his presentation based on *Welcome to Subirdia*, Dr. Marzluff will give us something to celebrate. The herons in our urban streams, the barred owls whose shrieks wake us in our city neighborhoods, the woodpeckers that nest in our wooded parks, and the chickadees that entertain us at our birdfeeders can motivate us to seek a future filled with birds. The ways we manage our property, plan our towns, and think about the nonhuman residents of our ecosystems can make a difference for our children and grandchildren.

Dr. John Marzluff is James W. Ridgeway Professor of Wildlife Science at the University of Washington, where he teaches classes in ornithology, urban ecology, conservation and field research. His previous books include, *In the Company of Crows and Ravens* (with Tony Angell), *Dog Days, Raven Nights* (with his wife Colleen), and *Gifts of the Crow* (with Tony Angell). Photo provided by Dr. John Marzluff with the Ravensmaster at the Tower of London.



## **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.**

**Monday, May 9, 6:00pm: Board of Directors Meeting**

**Monday, May 16, 7:00pm: Chapter Meeting**

**We will hold a YVAS fundraiser dinner at 5:30, before the Chapter meeting. Dinner donation: \$6. Sheila McKay has generously volunteered to coordinate. Please contact her at 406-652-7175 before Friday, May 13 to make reservations and your dish contribution.**



**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/>**

The Board of Directors of Yellowstone Valley Audubon met for the regular meeting on April 16, 2016. Some of the points of discussion were as follows:

- There was an update on the Osprey Project
- It was discussed and decided to increase the annual dues to \$25 effective Sept 1, 2016
- Conservation projects were discussed and reviewed
- The Breeding Bird Survey meeting and routes were discussed
- Steve Regele reported about the meeting he had with Jonathan Lutz to discuss coordination and cooperation between YVAS and MAC
- The special program for the May General Membership meeting was discussed and planned

If members have questions or would like further information about the meeting, please call any board member listed in this Flyer.

*Submitted by Dorothy Bartlett*

### **More on Dr. John Marzluff's presentation:**

The March/April issue of "Audubon" magazine featured an article by Dr. Marzluff; the cover of that issue is seen at right.

Dr. John Marzluff has published a number of books about birds and avian conservation. At least 12 of his titles are available through Amazon, Barnes and Noble and elsewhere. If you are interested in obtaining one or more of his books, and order early enough, Dr. Marzluff will be available at the May 16 meeting for book signings!

Additionally, the Board decided that Dr. Marzluff's presentation would be free to members and \$10 for non-members. Non-members can receive a yearlong YVAS Family membership with 2 admissions (\$20) to the program.

*Submitted by Steve Regele*



### **Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society Officers:**

#### **AREA CODE 406**

**President:** Steve Regele, 962-3115, sregele@juno.com

**Vice-President:** OPEN

**Secretary:** Doreen Hartman, 697-0277, rdzlh-man@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  
 Steve Linder: 380-0073, becon1@bresnan.net  
 Sheila McKay: 652-7175, cell 694-7918, wjhbird@yahoo.com  
 Deb Regele: 962-3115, debregele@gmail.com  
 Sue Weinreis: 855-4181, granpeak47@gmail.com  
 Nancy Wiggins: 651-0218, nwiggins83@gmail.com

#### ***Montana's Congressional Delegation:***

**Sen. Steve Daines:** U.S. Senate, Wash. D.C. 20510  
 website: daines.senate.gov

email: [senator@daines.senate.gov](mailto:senator@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](mailto: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](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: Lisa Bessasparis, ospreybtc@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

Injured Raptors: Montana Raptor Conservation Center, 406-585-1211; Raptor Transport Jeanette Tasey 669-3169,  
 jtasey@gmail.com

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

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

Publicity: Dorothy Bartlett, 252-0757, dpadanyi@live.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 Monday 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, April 9 Exxon Ponds and Emerald Hills**

A group of 13 birders, led by Ron Kuhler from Exxon and George Mowat, spent the morning and early afternoon of April 9, 2016, at the Exxon Ponds and Emerald Hills. The cold wind coming across the grassy meadow at Exxon put a nip in the air early in the day, but by 10 a.m. we were removing jackets as the temperature went toward a near-record high of 78 degrees.

An early highlight of the trip was at the cattail-choked ditch as we got to the meadow, when a Virginia Rail loudly made its presence known. We moved on so that the bird wouldn't expend any more energy "talking" to us. A second Virginia Rail with a more quiet call was heard a bit farther down the ditch. We spotted a distant Osprey, the first sighting of the spring for most of us. We enjoyed seeing Wood Ducks in the east end of the long pond, the best look I've had of these beautiful birds in a long time. Someone spotted a pair under the overhanging bushes, and as we watched, five drakes and two hens swam into the open. There was a variety of ducks, although not large numbers, perhaps because with the warm spring quite a few had passed through already. In addition to the Wood Ducks, we saw Gadwall, American Wigeon, Mallard, Northern Shoveler, Ring-necked Duck, Bufflehead, and Common Merganser.

We weren't just tallying a list of species, as the group enjoyed considering what the birds were doing and why; that's much of the fun of "birding." The male Red-winged Blackbirds were back, singing and displaying on their territories, waiting for the female Red-wings to arrive so the males can sing and display to impress them. I mentioned that in ornithology lab a long time ago, we had a team of students place a mounted, displaying male Redwing in the territory of a real male, and the stuffed bird was very quickly attacked. They could move the mounted bird and determine where the boundaries of the adjacent territories were.

Wild Turkeys were gobbling, Ring-necked Pheasants were crowing, and a pair of Sandhill Cranes on the far side of the pond called loudly just once. I suspect that the cranes will nest there. The Bald Eagles were on or around the nest across the river, probably feeding their young. The adults weren't constantly on the nest; perhaps with the warm weather, they didn't need to brood their young. We found four Canada Geese on nests incubating, one of them remarkably well-hidden in plain sight on a mat of flattened cattails, and one pretending to be a large, gray boulder on top of a bare rock island. We also saw Black-capped Chickadees (at very close range), Song Sparrows, a Belted Kingfisher, Double-crested Cormorants, a Cooper's Hawk, and a Northern Harrier, among others.

The Osprey platform on the area had no nest, Canada Goose or Osprey, so it will be available to arriving Ospreys. From a distance, we saw that there was something white on the platform, possibly the size and shape of a goose egg. It may be that a goose thought about nesting there, but then thought better of it. Geese don't carry nesting materials, so having a bare platform in the spring is one way to exclude geese.

After leaving Exxon, the group went to the Emerald Hills area to eat lunch and to check for birds. Among the birds found there were a Common Raven, eight Mountain Bluebirds, three White-throated Swifts, twelve Red Crossbills, two Western Meadowlarks, and two Red-breasted Nuthatches. We ended up with a total of 40 species, 32 at Exxon and an additional 8 new ones at Emerald Hills.

We greatly appreciated our trip leaders, appreciate Ron Kuhler doing some extensive tree and brush trimming to open up a new part of the Exxon area to us, and we appreciate Ron and Exxon allowing us to make use of the area each year.  
*Submitted by Jim Hansen*

**Saturday, April 16 Pryor Mountains Lek Field Trip**

The weather report did not look great for the trip to see two leks Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> in the Pryor Mountains, however seven avid birders showed up at the meeting places. It should be noted that the meeting time at RMC was 4:20 am, so you know we were up pretty early!

Very special thanks to Stan Heath for being our leader! Stan does a regular count of the number of Greater Sage Grouse observed at the two leks for FWP, however this trip was not one of his regular counting days. We really appreciated him getting up at the crack of early to lead the YVAS group on this field trip.

There were three cars, each with a window-mounted scope so as not to disturb the birds by people getting out of the cars. We were glad to stay in the cars since the temperature was 32 degrees and it was snowing! Between the two Leks we counted around 50 Greater Sage-Grouse puffing up the air sacks on their chests to attract the females. We could also hear the unique sound they make during this mating ritual.

One car of birders went on to bird on the way home and explored the area around Edgar and Sundance. They reported seeing Sandhill Cranes, Hooded Mergansers and Marsh Wrens. We hope to have this outing preplanned for next year and hopefully in spring-like weather!  
*Submitted by Dorothy Bartlett*

**BIRDATHON 2016** begins at 5 pm May 28 and is completed at 5 pm May 29. Although that is Memorial Day weekend, birders are expected to form teams soon and to scout out their routes in their attempts to find more species of birds than other teams. They do this for an excellent reason and not just for the challenge or the fun. They do this to raise funds for YVAS to support important projects and programs such as have occurred in the past year; i.e., saving twine entangled Osprey nestlings through the Osprey Rescue Fund and offering public education such as the showing the remarkable film *The Messenger*.

Every YVAS member is urged to contribute to the Birdathon and thereby offer support to the important projects that the organization carries on. It is easy to participate by pledging support. Fill out the Birdathon 2016 Pledge form (enclosed in this Flyer and on the website, [yvaudubon.org](http://yvaudubon.org)). Every donation is much appreciated and is tax deductible. When you complete and mail the Pledge form (or give it to a team member) you may elect to support a specific team (they also compete to raise the most funds) or make a general donation. You may pledge according to the number of bird species identified collectively by the teams (last year 143) or a flat amount. We hope you will participate. You will receive a receipt and a list of the birds identified during the Birdathon.

Teams are forming to compete. Rules are posted on the website. Each team must complete an application form and send it with \$5.00 per team member to the Treasurer, YVAS, P O Box 1075, Billings, MT 59101, no later than May 20. Team members are strongly encouraged to review the rules.

All teams are to meet at 5 pm May 29 at Mayflower Church to report their species list. The competition is culminated at this gathering as we relax together.

Let's make Birdathon 2016 the best yet in numbers of species identified and in terms of numbers of YVAS members who participate with a financial contribution. Many of the team members make significant donations, as well as hunt for birds for 24 hours (some do catch a short nap). Happy Birding!

Questions? Call Ruth at 245-5118 or email: [erv132@charter.net](mailto:erv132@charter.net)

*Submitted by Ruth Vanderhorst*

**YELLOWSTONE VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY  
DONATION & PLEDGE FORM  
BIRDATHON 2016**

The YVAS Annual Birdathon will take place during the 24-hour period from 5pm, Saturday, May 28 until 5 pm on Sunday, May 29, 2016. Teams of two or more persons will compete to identify bird species and to raise funds for important YVAS projects. You can support by contributing either a fixed amount or by pledging a set amount per species identified. 90-150 species are likely to be identified. Pledges per species are on the basis of the total number of species seen by all teams.

I wish to support the YVAS 2016 Birdathon with a pledge in the name of the \_\_\_\_\_ team to the YVAS 2016 Birdathon.

Enclosed is my donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_, payable to the Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society.

OR

I pledge \$.25\_\_\_\_\_, \$.50\_\_\_\_\_, \$1.00\_\_\_\_\_, \$5.00\_\_\_\_\_, Other\_\_\_\_\_ for each species seen during the YVAS 2016 Birdathon.

You will be sent the exciting results of the Birdathon and a statement to let you know the total amount of your pledge. **Donations are tax-deductible** to the extent the law allows. Questions: Ruth Vanderhorst, 245-5118 or [erv132@charter.net](mailto:erv132@charter.net)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Email (for receipt) \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

**Please give this form to the team you support or send it to: Birdathon 2016  
YVAS, PO BOX 1075, Billings, MT 59103**

**THANK YOU**



## YELLOWSTONE VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

## 2016 BIRDATHON

May 28, 5 pm – May 29, 5 pm

## REGISTRATION FORM

1. Please complete the Registration Form and send it along with a \$5.00 per team member fee to Treasurer, YVAS, PO Box 1075, Billings, MT 59103 (checks payable to YVAS) by May 20, 2016.

2. Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

3. Team Leader: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ PH: \_\_\_\_\_

## Team Members:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_ PH \_\_\_\_\_

- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_ PH \_\_\_\_\_

- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_ PH \_\_\_\_\_

- 4) \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_ PH \_\_\_\_\_

The **Montana Audubon Center** (MAC) has several positions open: Internship position (11th-12th graders), a Staff Assistant position (9th-10th graders), and a position for a seasonal teaching staff.

Contact MAC if you are interested in details: Carolyn Sevier, Education Coordinator, Montana Audubon Center, 7026 South Billings Blvd, Billings, MT 59101. Office phone: 406-294-5099 or cellphone: 406-696-8622.

## Osprey Platform

For the past month, YVAS Osprey Nest Monitors have been watching for the arrival of Ospreys at nesting sites along the Yellowstone River and its tributaries. Thirty-one volunteer monitors are observing over 100 known osprey nests from Gardiner to Miles City. There undoubtedly are many unknown nests, too! While most Ospreys have arrived, stragglers are still showing up and looking for nesting sites. Some nesting platforms that have never been used before are getting the attention of interested Ospreys this year. It is still early but these monitors are hopeful!

For those of you who are new YVAS members, the volunteer monitors record specific data at their adopted Osprey nesting sites. Some of the dates recorded include the arrival date of Ospreys to the nest, beginning of incubation, first signs of brooding, date and number of nestlings that are seen, and the date and number of nestlings that fledge.

These data are used for two things. The first goal is to assist Dr. Marco Restani in determining the age of the nestlings for banding. This is the fifth year of this project. The second goal is to input the data into a spreadsheet that is submitted to the Montana Natural Heritage Program where it is made available to all organizations, government agencies and individuals.

Other goals of this project include promoting safe nesting alternatives to active power poles and to increase public awareness to the dangers of twine with the hopes of establishing a twine recycling protocol. *Submitted by Deb Regele*

**Breeding Bird Surveys** are abundant around the Billings Area and need volunteers to conduct the survey's. Refer to the USGS Patuxent BBS webpage <http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs/> for more information. Mike Weber, YVAS member is a willing contact for some tips on doing survey's and offers his email to contact him if you need some tips regarding BBS. [MWeber@sjlm.org](mailto:MWeber@sjlm.org)

Thank you for all the submissions to the Flyer this month. There was a lot of material to include and not enough space to provide for our *Creative Corner* and *Bird of the Month* submissions. Rest assured that I will eventually get much of what you send me into a Flyer at some point.

Please send photos from all the upcoming Field trips!

*Submitted by Trenay Hart*

## Clarks Fork Waterfowl Production Area Trail Update

*Submitted by Steve Regele*

It is now an easy walk into the Clarks Fork Waterfowl Production Area (CFWPA) – without wading boots! We previously reported in the Flyer that YVAS received \$1,000.00 from an anonymous donor through the “Network for Good” organization. The YVAS Board of Directors voted to use the money to improve the main trail into the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) CFWPA. This is an important waterfowl and other bird and wildlife use area and also has great birding and recreational opportunity.

With the financial assistance from the “Network for Good” grant donor and from Bank of Bridger (Bridger, MT), Town & Country Supply Association (Laurel and Bridger, MT), and USFWS, culverts and road base materials were obtained. Valuable advice was provided by YVAS members, USFWS staff, Jim Hansen MT Fish Wildlife and Parks, and by some Bridger locals that use the area regularly. Thanks to all for those contributions!

With those resources in hand and some YVAS volunteer field work and construction equipment “manned and fueled” by USFWS, the main trail is now ‘birding ready’. None of this could have happened without the alliance with USFWS.

Keep the CFWPA in mind as you get out and about, and think about attending the YVAS birding trip scheduled for Sept. 10, 2016. That birding trip will include time at the CFWPA.

This is a very rewarding project. YVAS looks forward to contributing to additional avian and recreational enhancement projects at the CFWPA and elsewhere. Stay tuned to the Flyer and the [yvaudubon.org](http://yvaudubon.org) web site for plans and details.

## Shiloh Conservation Area Bird Information Sign

*Submitted by Deb and Steve Regele*

Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society received a gift the from Rose Sylling estate in September 2014. Per her wishes and those of her family the money is being used with respect to education about birds and conservation. As part of that focus YVAS created a bird information/education sign that has been installed at the Shiloh Conservation Area (SCA). The SCA is located on the northwest corner of the Shiloh Road Roundabout west of Scheels All Sports.

We think Rose would have thoroughly enjoyed the SCA and the benefits it brings to Billings and the birds. The sign fits well within the YVAS 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.”*

YVAS is very grateful for the gift from Rose Sylling. We also greatly appreciate the support and vision of Mr. David Mumford, Director of the Billings Public Works Department, without which the SCA itself and the YVAS bird sign installation would not have been possible. Thanks also to the BPWD staff for all of their assistance. The SCA is providing habitat for many birds and other wildlife and creating human recreational opportunities, while accomplishing the important mission of managing perennial and storm-water flows. This is an excellent example of good stewardship of natural resources and exemplary public service.

YVAS looks forward to such future opportunities *“to promote enjoyment and protection of the natural environment”*.



Linda Sylling Wham (L) and Gail McGlothlin (R) at Shiloh Conservation Area (two of Rose Sylling's daughters. March 2016 photo)

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 May 2016. 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 Membership Secretary Joel M. Bowers at 406-534-3672 or [jmba@jmba.com](mailto:jmba@jmba.com), with any questions.

**May 2016 Renewals:** Robert Pond, Brenda Dunham, David Darby, Cheryl Tatum, Marco Restani, Janet Weisz, Frank W. Cookson, Bruce Waage, Helen & Peter Cummins.



## YVAS Membership Dues set to Increase

The annual membership dues for YVAS have been \$20 a year since the beginning of our history.

The cost of printing, mailing, room rental, and insurance have all increased over the years; as have web fees and other electronic costs. Beginning with memberships paid on or after September 1, 2016, the annual dues are increasing to \$25. This rate will include the cost of PayPal, which you can access from the YVAS website: [www.yvaudubon.org](http://www.yvaudubon.org).

We hope that our members see value in the field trips, programs and conservation work that is done by volunteers who are all members of YVAS. Without the organization, none of this would happen. Thanks for your continued support, valued members of YVAS!

If you are a National Audubon member and have not formally joined YVAS, please consider becoming a dues-paying member now. The application and PayPal are found on our website: [www.yvaudubon.org](http://www.yvaudubon.org). We could sure use your support financially as well as your help with our many efforts to “*promote enjoyment and protection of the natural environment through education, activism and conservation of bird habitat*”.

*Submitted by Dorothy Bartlett*

### National Audubon Society

Recruitment Code: C0ZN500Z

Application for New Membership

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society. I understand that I will receive the Audubon Magazine and Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society Flyer (electronically), Make check payable to **National Audubon Society**. Renewals will be sent to you through National Audubon.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

One Year Membership: \$20 One year new membership

Send this application and your check made out to  
**National Audubon Society** to:

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

### 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



# YELLOWSTONE VALLEY AUDUBON FLYER

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization  
PRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
BILLINGS, MT  
PERMIT NO. 27

Photo below of a Calliope Hummingbird in a nest captured by Will Crain last summer near Nichols Creek Trail, Red Lodge.



## 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)

May 7	Sat	Meet at Riverfront Park, S Billings Blvd, 1 <sup>st</sup> parking area on the right.	George and Bernie Mowat, leaders.
May 8	Sun	Pryor Mountains, Bear Canyon Birding/Hiking	Meet at Rocky Mountain College at 6:00 am or at the Bridger Rest Area at 7:30 am, to hike into Bear Canyon at 8:30 am.
May 12	Thurs	Meet at Riverfront Park, S Billings Blvd. 1 <sup>st</sup> parking lot on the right.	Mike Weber, leader
May 14	Sat	Lake Basin. 8:00 am.	Sack lunch. Mike Weber, leader
May 15	Sun	Yellowstone River W.M. A. State Park 8:00 am.	Sack lunch. Megan O'Reilly, leader
May 17	Tues	Stillwater River and Woodbine Area 7:00 am to 5:00 pm.	Sack lunch. Ruth Vanderhorst, leader
May 21	Sat	Pompey's Pillar and Captain Clark's FAS. 7:00 am.	Sack lunch. Robert Hill, leader
May 22	Sun	Bear Gulch near Grass Range 5:30 am, all day	<b>WALKING TRIP</b> , bring a picnic lunch, \$15/per person, Group of 10 or more \$10/ person. Carolyn Jones, leader.
May 28 & 29	Sat &	BIRDATHON	Contact Ruth Vanderhorst 406-245-5118 or <a href="mailto:Erv132@charter.net">Erv132@charter.net</a>

