

Calendar

All monthly meetings begin at 6:30 pm at the Pinetop-Lakeside Town Council Chambers. Fieldtrip times and meeting places vary; see below or please check the website. You may call 367-2462 for more information.

Meetings and Programs

Sept. 7: Monthly meeting speaker will be Lynn Krigbaum of "Save Our Park" who will give an update about Woodland Lake Park.

Oct. 5: Monthly meeting speaker will be Dawnafe Whitesinger, Navajo County Supervisor, explaining her work as supervisor.

No Field Trip plans for September and October. Any ideas?

Officers:

President: Mary Ellen Bittorf 367-2462

Vice-Pres.: Tom Jernigan 532-1510

Secretary: Liz Jernigan 532-1510

Treasurer: Chuck Bittorf 367-2462

Programs: Loretta Pena 368-3380

Field Trips: Kent Schipper 537-7569

Editor: Jody Inman 369-3240

Membership: Position open

Board Members: Joan Patrick, Jody Inman and Richard Inman, Mary Freemon



American Goldfinch
By Kirsten Munson

Reach us at www.whitemountainaudubon.org

September/October, 2016

Out on a Limb with Your President~

Some time ago a nice little bird planted a black oil sunflower seed in a planter of iris in my yard. I noticed that the main stem was nice and strong. As I watched it grow, I was anxious to see if I would get a flower from it. Last week the first flower opened up. It was about six inches across and really pretty. A couple of days later there was another smaller flower and later another flower appeared. I took several pictures, I thank the little bird that put that seed in the planter.

So what good are birds? Well, they spread seeds, pollinate flowers, sometimes they fertilize the soil, and they make life much more pleasant for us humans. Not just because they are beautiful, but with their songs.

The end of August, Diane Dorsay will be moving to Florida. She has been a valuable member of Audubon for many years, and she has made sure we had refreshments at our meetings. We will miss her on the Audubon board, but we wish her well, and we hope she enjoys being close to her family.

My thanks to Mary Freemon for her help at the hummingbird banding. There were a lot of people there, and we were busy at our table. This was the first time we haven't been rained out by noon.

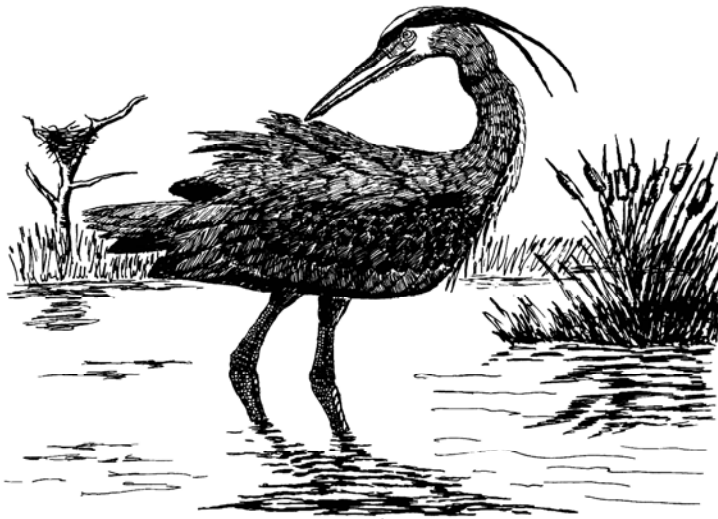
I hope you all enjoy the rest of the summer, and....enjoy birding.

Mary Ellen~

July 9th Field Trip to White Mountain Lake

Bob and I met Irene Klim at the McDonald's in Show Low and then visited the home of Shirley Bilderback in White Mountain Lake. Her home sits high above Silver Creek and the birds were very abundant as she provides food and usually water. The water had dried up as she and her husband had to be away from home when we visited. They were very kind and generous to welcome us there in their absence. Some of the birds we saw from the deck were: Mockingbird, Black-headed Grosbeak, Great Blue Heron, Mourning Dove, House Finch, Black-chinned Hummingbird, Turkey Vulture, Brown-headed Cowbird, Phainopepla, Spotted Towhee, Juniper Titmouse and Lesser Goldfinch. From their residence, we drove on to Silver Creek Fish Hatchery and walked along the stream for a way. By then it was mid-morning and the sun was high and hot. Birds seen there were Osprey and Barn Swallow. Thanks Shirley for letting us enjoy the birds at your home. It is a great spot and we three enjoyed the morning.

~Loretta Pena



Great Blue Heron
~Steven DAmato

Birdathon 2016 Results

May is the month for White Mountain Audubon Society's fundraising effort called Birdathon. The money raised by Birdathon goes for our educational programs which include scholarships, Audubon Adventures, and the Beginning Birding Workshop. It is a wonderful time to bird here in the White Mountains, seeing our resident birds (Mountain Chickadee nested in our nestbox) and migrants nesting and raising young. Bob helped me throughout the month and with his help, along with the Bittorfs and Dee Oster's help, I saw 75 species of birds. Sitting on Bittorfs back porch enabled me to see several species. Dee told us about the Long-billed Dowitchers at Woodland Lake Park and the day we went we saw 45 of them feeding along the dam side of the lake. Areas we covered were of course our yard, which is tiny, but always yields many species. Fool Hollow State Park, Pintail Lake, Billy Creek, Big Springs and the Nature Center Trail, McNary, River Walk in Springerville, Woodland Lake Park were the other areas we visited. Some of the species I saw were Common Yellowthroat, Painted Redstart, Western Wood Pewee, Belted Kingfisher, Eared Grebe, House Wren, and Ash-throated Flycatcher. Highlights of the month, for me, were seeing the Long-billed Dowitchers, Northern Goshawk and the Yellow-breasted Chat. Income to WMAS from the Birdathon is \$1055. Thanks to all for supporting WMAS in this effort.

~Loretta Pena

Bird Sightings for July and August, 2016

NAME	WHAT SEEN	WHERE
Mary Ann	Lazuli Bunting	Rainbow Lake Park and Drive
Barb Davis	Ash-throated Flycatcher, Red-faced Warbler	Wildhaven (her home)
Leighayn Green	Band-tailed Pigeon, Stellar's Jay	Nutriosio
Tom Hollender	White-breasted Nuthatch, Clarks' Nutcracker, Lewis' Woodpecker	Nutriosio
Bittorfs	House Wren, House Finch, Flicker, Acorn Woodpecker, Robin, Bluebird, Lesser Goldfinch, Magnificent Hummingbird	Pinetop yard
Mary Freemon	Spotted Towhees, Lesser Goldfinches, House Finches, Juncos, Nuthatches (White-breasted and Pygmy)	Lakeside yard
Penas	Spotted Towhee, Rufous Hummingbird	Backyard
Dee Oster	Hepatic Tanager	Pinetop
Inmans	Eared and Pie-billed Grebes, Great Blue Herons sunning, American Dipper, Turkeys, Flickers and Robins (LOTS), Cooper's Hawk, Common Mergansers, Lazuli Bunting, Western and Hepatic Tanagers, Red-faced Warblers (family), Blue-throated, Black-chinned, Rufous, Broad-tailed and Calliope Hummingbirds	Luna Lake, Thompson Trail, Reservation Lake, Big Lake, Sky Hi Retreat yard, Three Forks



Hummingbird by Kirsten Munson

**CONSERVATION: Good News! Key Agencies Step Up to
Address Drought (from audubonaction@audubon.org July 2016)**



The Wilson's Warbler has declined 61% from 1966 through 2014 due to loss of its primary nesting habitat in woodlands along western streams and rivers.
(Photo: Howard Cheek/Audubon Photography Awards)

The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) have announced an important new agreement to enhance water conservation in the drought-stricken Colorado River Basin and other regions. The two agencies will begin coordinating critical programs that help save water in order to achieve greater conservation impacts on the ground.

In the Colorado River Basin, and in other drought-ravaged regions throughout the country, water conservation programs are vital for helping to secure water resources for people and wildlife. The Colorado River and its tributaries provide shelter and food for most of the region's birds, and is a critical passage corridor for migrating species.

DOI's WaterSMART program and USDA's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) help to conserve water on working lands. WaterSMART provides grants to improve community water delivery systems and infrastructure, while EQIP assists individual farmers with on-farm water conservation practices and improvements.

Audubon and other conservation groups have advocated for a coordinated approach in places like the Colorado River Basin, so that dollars and water savings can be stretched even further. More than \$5 million in USDA funds will be coordinated with WaterSMART funding, and additional \$10 million will help support these projects in 2017. In total, USDA and DOI announced more than \$47 million in investments to fund grant projects for these two programs.

“One touch of nature makes the whole world kin.”

~William Shakespeare

www.whitemountainaudubon.org

If you find distressed songbirds, raptors including eagles, waterfowl and small mammals, please contact Susan Taggart at (928) 242-5796. If you are unable to reach her and need assistance immediately, you may call the White Mountain Animal Hospital in Lakeside at (928) 368-8425 or Alta Sierra Veterinary Clinic in Show Low (928) 537-2880. Susan works in conjunction with the animal hospitals and is sub-permitted through the Arizona Game and Fish Department to care for injured and orphaned wildlife as a community service.

DUES ARE DUE, PLEASE!

White Mountain Audubon Society Membership/Donation Form

White Mountain Audubon Society membership dues are: **Individual \$15**, or **Family \$25 per year**. Please renew your membership. Your tax-deductible membership supports our on-going programs and activities, as well as future new projects. Your membership and donations do make a difference!!!

MEMBERSHIP _____ DONATION _____

Individual _____

Family _____

Name _____

Date _____

Mailing Address _____ E-mail _____

Phone _____

Send this form and your dues or donation to: **White Mountain Audubon Society**
P.O. Box 3043
Pinetop, AZ 85935

You may use this form for either your Membership renewal or a Donation to WMAS. Please designate above which you are doing. **Thank you very much for your support of White Mountain Audubon Society! LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**

WHERE TO WRITE

President Barack Obama
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20206
202-456-1111

U.S. Sen. Jeff Flake
B85 Russell Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510
www.flake.senate.gov/contact

Gov. Fred Ducey
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Rep. Albert Hale
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U.S. Sen. John McCain
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White Mountain Audubon Society is dedicated to the enjoyment of birds and other wildlife by providing environmental leadership and awareness through fellowship, education, community involvement, and conservation programs in the White Mountains and surrounding areas.

**White Mountain Audubon Society
P. O. Box 3043
Pinetop, AZ 85935**