CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Birding in Thailand
Bob Davis
Thursday, April 15
7:15 PM Via Zoom

Bob and Terrie Davis spent three weeks in Thailand seeing some of the most sought after and interesting bird species—Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Painted Stork, Ultramarine Flycatcher, and many others, as well as sampling their world-famous cuisine. While most Thailand birding tours concentrate on either the south or the north, this trip covered both with a wide range of incredible species.

April Birding
Darren Clark has reported thousands of gulls at Mud Lake WMA, including Lesser Black-backed, Herring and possible Thayer’s. So now would be a good time to go up there and check out the gulls—and your gull identification skills.

Due to corona virus concerns, the library is not available for our meetings. We are having our meetings via ZOOM. If you would like to be included, please send your email address to Kit Struthers:
kit619@centurylink.net

Then an invitation will be sent out before the meeting time for you to connect. If you’ve previously received our Zoom invitations, you’re already on the list and don’t need to ask again.
Membership
Welcome to new members June Bills of Idaho Falls and Janyce Johnson of Victor. Please plan to join us at our meetings (via Zoom for now) and on our field trips.

Please let Kit Struthers (kit619@centurylink.net or 529-2028) know of any address changes or if you will be temporarily away so that your newsletters aren't returned to us. We have to pay first class postage for each returned newsletter. Those who are receiving our newsletter via electronic mail, please send Kit any change of e-mail address.

Fund Raising
For those who shop at Fred Meyer, please remember to sign up for their Community Rewards program and link your rewards card to Snake River Audubon Society as the beneficiary, number V1510. This is a new number, but the old number will still work for current participants. New participants should use the new number.

Bird Feeders
It is now considered safe to put bird feeders back up after cleaning them with a 10:1 water: bleach solution.

Snake River Audubon Website
Google is currently making changes to its website hosting format. As of April 1, these changes have wiped out all but the text in our website. On April 2, I tried to access the site on my iPad and received the message that “The requested URL was not found on the server.” I was able to access our website on my computer, but with just text—no photos. So we need to find a volunteer to help us re-establish our website, possibly with another host. If you can help, please contact Mark Delwiche at:
mark_delwiche@q.com
(208) 206-2081

Prescribed Fires at Market Lake WMA
A large, prescribed burn occurred at Market Lake Wildlife Management Area on April 1. Others burns are planned through April 15. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game has contracted with the Bureau of Land Management to conduct the controlled burns to remove dead cattails and bull rushes and expose more land to open water. This should afford more opportunities for both waterfowl and duck hunters. Market Lake will be closed during the burns. The WMA is a favorite birding location in southeastern Idaho.

The series of burns are designed to remove dead vegetation and improve wetland productivity. Without this removal, cattails and other vegetation take over the marshes, leaving less open water for waterfowl. The roads near the burning areas will be closed for safety reasons.

Take Action: Prevent Bird Deaths from Building Collisions
The National Audubon Society
Building collisions kill 300 million to a billion birds each year, and many of these deaths can be prevented. The new Bird-Safe Buildings Act would promote bird-friendly materials and design features for federal buildings and help birds like the Blackpoll Warbler avoid collisions with glass and concrete. Take action now and urge your members of Congress to cosponsor and support the Bird-Safe Buildings Act.

Controlled Burn at Market Lake on April 1
Photo by Carolyn Bishop
Sixth Annual Birdathon

This year’s sixth annual fund-raising birdathon will be held May 24-31, inclusive. As in the past, the birdathon proceeds will be shared equally between Snake River Audubon Society and Friends of Camas National Wildlife Refuge. Letters of explanation will be mailed in early May, so watch for your letter and plan to participate—either by active-ly birding or by supporting a birder or team of birders or by donating.

Due to Covid-19, it has not yet been decided if we will be able to hold an awards potluck.

Bird Reports

March 22: As many as 12 Common Redpolls at a time in Doug Ervin’s yard in Ashton.

March 31: Three Spotted Towhees in Kim Ragotzkies’s yard in Ashton.

April 1: Steve Butterworth saw his first Osprey of the season at Gem Lake, south of Idaho Falls. Steve continues to have Blue Jays in his yard.

April 1: Sue and Don Gosswiller have spotted at least 24 returning Turkey Vultures around Tautphaus Park.

Steve Butterworth also photographed this Snail Kite on his trip to Florida. Note the bands on the legs of this locally endangered species.

Steve photographed this Florida Scrub-Jay, a threatened species, on a recent trip to Florida. The Florida Scrub-Jay lives only in Florida.

Ferruginous Hawk photo by Carolyn Bishop

Idaho Falls Area Birds

Idaho Falls Parks & Rec.

Snake River Audubon

Copies of our chapter’s booklet, Idaho Falls Area Birds, are available from Linda Milam at lmilam1472@aol.com.

The booklet features photographs by 15 Idaho birder/photographers. Cover photo by Gary Ellwein.
To join only Snake River Audubon Society and not the National Audubon Society, please send a check for $10, plus your name, mailing address and e-mail address to:

Snake River Audubon Society
P O Box 2922
Idaho Falls, ID  83403-2922

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Sixth Annual Birdathon —May 24-31

Painted Stork
Photo by Bob Davis

Ultramarine Flycatcher
Photo by Bob Davis

Snake River Audubon Society
Officers and committee chairmen:
Pres.  Mark Delwiche  525-9414
V. P.  
Sec'y.  Kit Struthers  529-2028
Treas. Sue & Don Gossweiler  221-8948
Dir.  Robyn McCarthy  520-0128
       Linda Milam  523-8316
       Steve Butterworth  522-6493

Programs
Field Trips
Website  Mark Delwiche  525-9414
Newsletter  Kit Struthers  529-2028
Facebook  Carolyn Bishop  932-0526
Publicity  Kit Struthers  529-2028

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society and of my local chapter. Please send Audubon magazine and my membership card to the address below.

My check for $30 to the National Audubon Society is enclosed.

Name ________________________________
Address ______________________________
State ___________  Zip _________________
Local Chapter

Mail to:
National Audubon Society, Inc.
225 Varick Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10014