

May 19th, 2018
ANNUAL MEETING and
YEAR of the BIRD CELEBRATION



Dear Member and/or Friend of the Bighorn Audubon Society,

The mission of our local Audubon chapter is to support the efforts of National Audubon Society with emphasis on protecting birds and their habitats, offering educational opportunities to our members and our community, advocating for birds, and supporting citizen science.

With the help of wonderful bird supporters like you, our accomplishments are many this past year:

- Release of *Common Birds of the Brinton and The Bighorn Mountains Foothills* by President Dr. Jackie Canterbury and Dr. Paul Johnsgard
- Monthly 'Birding at the Brinton'
- Provided seed for Audubon volunteer – Vistara Parham
- Movie "Crane Song" in cooperation with Sheridan County Fulmar Library
- Citizen Science Projects: Spring Bird Count, Christmas Bird Count, and Bald Eagle Survey (BLM)
- Sheridan March for Science
- Active in local and national conservation issues impacting birds including: threats to Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Red Grade Trail proposal, Tongue River - Kleenburn industrial development, Powder River District Ranger position, Wilderness Study Areas, Public Lands Day Rally and more
- Important Birding Areas (IBA's) added in 2017:
 - Valley View Subdivision
 - Kleenburn Recreation Area
- Discussion of a bird conservation strategy for The Brinton IBA with Brinton staff and Audubon Rockies
- Strategy and startup of the Little Goose Creek IBA
- Successful bird nest program at The Brinton in cooperation with Science Kids
- Dave Polefka Bluebird box memorial
- National Audubon Convention in Utah attended by Jackie
- Montana Audubon program presentation by Jackie
- Amazon Smile program
- Production of a new email-newsletter
- "Universal Language of Birds" bird walk and program with Ucross Foundation.

It's the **Year of the Bird** - here is how you as members can contribute?

You can participate in Audubon's Western Rivers Bird Count and Climate Watch program. Migration is in full swing and birds are returning to their breeding grounds. Tracking when and where migratory birds show up helps create strategies to protect them. This month's **Year of the Bird** actions focus on participation in Audubon's Western Rivers Bird Count and Climate Watch. By participating in the Western Rivers Bird Count from May 5 through June 30, you can help us better understand how birds are responding to drought in the West. Bighorn Audubon has recently begun participating in this important science program every Tuesday evening at 6pm, meeting at the Kleenburn Recreation Area parking lot on the Tongue River.

You are welcome and we encourage you to join us. Go to <https://www.audubon.org/western-rivers-bird-count> for more information.

In addition, National Audubon's new community science program, Climate Watch, explores how birds are responding to climate change. You can participate any time between May 15 through June 15. Go to <https://www.audubon.org/western-rivers-bird-count> for more information.

Please continue to bookmark our website: www.bighornaudubon.com. Here you will find complete information on our latest programs and bird-related activities. We also maintain a Facebook page for members and friends to share bird sightings, our field trips, and accomplishments. Our website provides easy access to membership. You can also make additional donations to the Bighorn Audubon Society using PayPal.

Thank-you for your continued support of Audubon. "We are making a difference."

Dr. Jackie Canterbury,
President, Bighorn Audubon Society
bighornaudubon@gmail.com