



THE PELICAN

JULY / AUGUST 2007

NEWSLETTER OF GREAT SALT LAKE AUDUBON

www.greatsaltlakeaudubon.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 14th - ANNUAL BRIGHTON BIRD COUNT - details page 4.

July 22nd - LOWER MIRROR LAKE HIGHWAY field trip, see page 4.

Aug. 18th - Field trip, MIRROR LAKE, UINTA MOUNTAINS, see page 5

SUMMER LONG GUIDED TOURS at BEAR RIVER MIGRATORY BIRD REFUGE, see page 3 for more information.

Sept. 27th - 7:00 PM, FALL FUND RAISING GALA at Gardner Village, registration form in this issue.

SEPT./OCT. - Sunflower Seed Sale

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Naturalist, The Great Salt Lake Nature Center at Farmington Bay, see page 3.

Tree planting - at Farmington Bay WMA, 106th South, & GSLA easement Jordan R.

Fish Springs work parties - contact Nathan or Tom Neuman if interested

Sunflower seed sale delivery - Oct. 20

Help with the GALA FUNDRAISER

GSLA does not hold general meetings and programs during July and August as we take a break for the summer, but we look forward to seeing you back in September.

Reserve Your Space Now for GSLA's 6th Annual Gala

Don Paul, Great Basin Bird Conservation Region Coordinator of the Intermountain West Joint Venture, will be the featured speaker at the sixth annual gala dinner and silent auction. This is GSLA's most visible fundraiser of the year. The Gala generates essential funding for chapter programs and activities, creates greater awareness of Audubon in the community, and provides our members and supporters with an opportunity to mix and mingle. Not only will you have a blast, your participation will help fund activities such as habitat preservation and restoration projects.

So join Great Salt Lake Audubon friends and supporters at The Gathering Place at Gardner Village, 1100 West and 7800 South on Thursday, September 27th from 7 to 9:30 p.m. We'll celebrate the role of birds and wildlife in our lives, our communities, and the world, including the remarkable lake that is Great Salt Lake. It'll be an evening of good food, good company, live music, entertainment and a chance to be highest bidder on the auction items you most covet.

The cost for the evening is just \$45 per person. Reserve your seat now by completing and returning the registration form on page seven. We'll see you there.

INSIDE

President's Message.....	page 2
Bear River Tour information.....	page 3
Field trips.....	page 4
Membership.....	page 6
Johnson's Mill trip photo.....	page 6

THE PELICAN

NEWSLETTER OF GREAT SALT LAKE AUDUBON

Printed on recycled paper.

Mission Statement: Great Salt Lake Audubon is dedicated to protecting and enhancing habitat for wild birds, animals and plants, and to maintaining healthy and diverse environments for wildlife and people throughout the state.

GREAT SALT LAKE AUDUBON DIRECTORY

www.greatsaltlakeaudubon.org

OFFICE

1800 S. West Temple, Suite A217B, SLC, Utah • (801) 521-2939
Send correspondence to P. O. Box 520867, SLC, UT 84152-0867

OFFICERS

President, Nathan Darnall.....755-4480
Vice President.....Open
Secretary, Arne Hultquist.....487-8721
Treasurer, Kathy Waddell.....523-2274

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Term Ending 2008

Christine Moris.....733-6276
Jen Hajj596-8716
Kent Lewis.....581-0832

Term Ending 2009

George Melling.....277-9118
Tom Neuman.....274-9595
Tiffin Brough.....867-2810

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Newsletter Editor, Nancy Sakahara.....487-4025
News Distribution, June Ryburn.....576-0103
Audubon Adventures, Jennifer Hajj.....596-8716
Field Trips, Sylvia Gray.....532-3486
Field Trips, Deedee O'Brien.....272-8060
Field Trips, Kathy Coleman.....944-5773
Jordan River Site, Keith Johnson.....467-6497
Membership, Vivian Schneggenburger.....485-7342
Programs, Jennifer Hajj.....596-8716
Publicity, Hillary White.....201-8581
Education, Jennifer Hajj.....596-8716

Submission Guidelines: Original articles and photos are welcomed. The editor reserves the right to choose and edit as needed. E-mail articles to newsletter@greatsaltlakeaudubon.org. *The Pelican* is published 6 times a year. Submission deadline for the September/October issue is August 12, 2007.



“WE NEED MORE OPEN SPACE”

By Nathan Darnall, GS LA President

Last month, we celebrated our twenty-fifth annual Basin and Range weekend field seminar. Participants learned about birds, plants, geology, stream ecology, bats, and pre-history. It was a wonderful time to experience nature, to learn about the natural world, and to commune and build relationships with others.

We've continued this long tradition for numerous reasons-which are too many to articulate here-but one reason is that Basin and Range fills a unique niche by providing an opportunity for people to learn about nature by getting out into nature. Sure, we could hold classes in a building or even show a video on television, but those do not compare to being immersed and having all five senses involved in the learning experience. Perhaps it's the sense of the unexpected (e.g., what will I see next) that makes it so invigorating and exciting, or maybe it's the new surroundings, or maybe it's being immersed. Regardless, Basin and Range has had twenty-five years of success in connecting people with nature, and connecting people with nature is one of the things Audubon is about.

That's why it was so great to see one of the participants bring two neighbor boys with her. The boys were energetic and enthusiastic and curious about everything. Today, children don't have the same opportunities to explore the outdoors as previous generations. Farmlands are disappearing, more children live in cities, and parents are concerned about safety. Richard Louv has written a book titled Last Child in the Woods that describes the ills associated with alienation from nature (and they are many). It is important to get kids unplugged from video games, iPods, Internet, etc. and to get them out and exploring the natural world so they can not only identify the birds and beetles and trees but can also appreciate them, which may lead to more desire to preserve them.

Unfortunately, there are fewer places to explore. Rural areas are being replaced with subdivisions and



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE cont.

shopping centers, fewer parks are being built, and natural areas are rarely preserved. My feeling is that our elected officials and city and county planners take open space for granted. They look at the mountains of the Wasatch Range and see lots of open space and lots of places for people to recreate and experience nature. And they're correct, to a point, but the mountains are often too far, especially for kids, the terrain is steep and doesn't lend itself well to play, and the types of habitats are not varied enough.

City and County parks can be a good start but are often manicured to a fault so that they feel sterile. Emphasis is placed on soccer fields and less on places like Parley's Gulch, which unfortunately has become overused. Some of the more interesting and natural places today may be the edges of golf courses (perhaps hard to believe) with all the trees and shrubs and "rough" grasses. I'm not advocating for more golf courses, because even though there are some natural or semi-natural habitats, kids can't play there and I guess neither can we, unless we schedule a tee time.

Still, people crave the outdoors and are looking for places to experience nature. As a result more and more people are trespassing on GSLA's restoration project at 106th South. While the occasional person enjoying the site would matter little, the area was not intended for flying kites or trapping animals or playing paintball or throwing parties. Instead, it was set aside as habitat for migratory birds. Today, it is one of the few remaining open spaces in the area and people are using it because it is "available." To remove this pressure, we need cities and counties setting aside more open space for their residents, not GSLA. We'd be happy to help, but the burden should not be ours, nor is it the responsibility of farmers, ranchers or duck clubs. Sometimes, people don't know what they need, but we need more open space. And if the citizens of Utah won't clamor for it, we have to do it for them.

The Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge is now offering GUIDED REFUGE TOURS to the public.

A dedicated group of refuge volunteers have been trained. Tours will be given both morning and afternoon on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays throughout the summer. The refuge's large van will be used to transport visitors, but others may also caravan along. Tours will take people out to the refuge along the

REFUGE GUIDED TOURS cont.

main road, and around the auto tour route, making several stops along the way. Guides will share bird and wildlife sightings, as well as a bit of refuge history and management. Guides will have a spotting scope to help get close-up views. Tours will be appropriate for all ages. Two-way radios and binoculars may be checked out by participants at the wildlife education center prior to the tours. Tours will be limited to 6 vehicles. Tours will begin and end at Bear River's James V. Hansen Wildlife Education Center (visitor center), located at 2155 West Forest Street, Brigham City, Utah. From Interstate 15, take exit #363 (Forest Street) and turn west, one block to the Center.

For more information, call (435) 723-5887 weekdays between 8am and 5:00pm, and Saturdays between 10:00am and 4:00pm. Tours will not be offered on federal holidays. The tours are free of charge, but donations to Friends of the Bear River Refuge will gladly be accepted. The Friends group provides support for the refuge tour program. The Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge is a world-renowned gem, featuring 74,000 acres and hosting millions of shore and water birds annually.

The guided tour schedule is: Thursdays and Fridays: 9:00am to 12:00pm and 4:30pm to 7:30pm, Saturdays: 11:00am to 2:00pm and 3:30pm to 6:30pm

James V. Hansen Wildlife Education Center (visitor center) Hours: Monday - Friday - 8:00am to 5:00pm, Saturday - 10:00am to 4:00pm, Closed Sundays and federal holidays (435) 723-5887.

Become a Volunteer Naturalist at the Great Salt Lake Nature Center at Farmington Bay

The Center needs people who are passionate about sharing the wonders of Utah's natural environment to help run fun daytime and evening fieldtrips, workshops and nature tours at our unique site throughout the year. Training is provided. If you are interested in this enjoyable and interesting opportunity, please contact Justina at:

The Great Salt Lake Nature Center at Farmington Bay
Cell Phone--(801) 589-2373

Site Phone--(801) 451-7386

email address: jparsonsbernstein@utah.gov

Mailing Address: c/o DWR

Northern Regional Office

515 East 5300 South Ogden, UT 84405

<http://www.greatsaltlakenaturecenter.org>

Field Trips for July/August

Beginning birders are always welcome!

We encourage carpooling on our field trips. Contributions towards gas money are appreciated. For local trips, under 40 miles round trip, we suggest \$3 per person and for round trips over 40 miles, we suggest \$5 per person.

Wednesday, July 11th, 7:00 am - Noon MOUNTAIN DELL RECREATION AREA, PARLEY'S CANYON

Leaders: Jack Clark and Sylvia Gray

Meet at 7:00 am in the southeast corner of the Shopko parking lot in Sugarhouse. Come and join us for our monthly bird survey. Last year we saw 39 species in July. Call Jack (255-7989) or Sylvia (532-3486) if you plan to attend.

Saturday, July 14th, 8:00 am - Noon BRIGHTON BIRD COUNT

Leaders: Jeanne Le Ber and Ray Smith

Please join Great Salt Lake Audubon for our annual Brighton Bird Count. Meet at 8:00 am at the top of Big Cottonwood Canyon in the parking lot adjacent to the Silver Lake Visitor Center. Birders can select one of three birding options: 1) Silver Lake (easy walk), 2) Lake Solitude (moderate hike), 3) Twin Lake (strenuous hike). Novice to expert birders are welcome to participate. A potluck lunch follows at Noon after a pleasant morning. Please bring a dish to share and your own eating utensils, plate, glass. GSLA will provide cold drinks. Please call Jeanne Le Ber or Ray Smith at (532-7384)

Friday, July 20th, 7:30 am CANYON WALKS - LITTLE COTTONWOOD CANYON

Leader: Roberta Wherritt

Meet at the Little Cottonwood Canyon Park and Ride by 7:30 am. We will be walking and birding from the Albion Basin Campground. Bring snacks and water. Call Roberta Wherritt (274-3058) if you plan to attend.

Sunday, July 22nd, 6:00 am LOWER MIRROR LAKE HIGHWAY

Leaders: Steve and Louise Brown

Meet at the southeast corner of the Sugarhouse Shopko for a 6:00 am departure. Alternate meeting place will be at 7:00 am in the parking lot on the east side of the Kamas Food Town on Highway 248 in Kamas. We will explore the riparian areas on trails along the lower Mirror Lake highway. Possible sightings include Red-naped Sapsucker, Sage Sparrow, Western Tanager, Olive-sided Flycatcher and White-breasted Nuthatch along with many other birds that frequent this area. The trails are easy walking. In addition to your lunch and water, also bring sunscreen and bug spray. Steve and Louise Brown are very familiar with this area so come prepared for a great trip. Call them at 435-783-2221 if you have any questions or plan on attending.

Wednesday, July 25th, 7:00/7:30 am - Noon, FARMINGTON BAY AND NEARBY AREA

Leaders: Bob Huntington and Deedee O'Brien

Join us for our monthly half-day visit to Farmington Bay. Meet inside the McDonald's just north of the Centerville exit from I-15 at 7:00 am for breakfast and camaraderie or 7:30 am to head out. Bring your own water and snacks. Call Deedee O'Brien (801-272-8060) if you plan to attend.

Wednesday, August 1st, 7:00 am - Noon MOUNTAIN DELL RECREATION AREA, PARLEY'S CANYON

Leader: Jack Clark

Come and join us for our monthly bird survey. Meet at 7:00 am in the southeast corner of the Shopko Parking lot in Sugar House. Call Jack (255-7989) if you plan to attend.

Sunday, August 5th, 6:00 am - Noon ANTELOPE ISLAND CAUSEWAY*

Leaders: Steve and Cindy Sommerfeld

Fall migration of shorebirds should be underway by this time. The Antelope Island Causeway is a good place to see those that have dropped in for food and rest before continuing their journey. Join us to look for some exciting birds and to get help with identifying these some-

times confusing species. Meet in the southeast corner of the Sugarhouse Shopko parking lot at 6:00 am to carpool or in the parking lot east of the causeway gatehouse by 7:00 am. Call the Sommerfelds at 261-4270 if you plan to attend.

†* *Note: Antelope Island is a state park requiring an entrance fee/vehicle of \$9. Bring a couple of dollars to help defray the cost OR your Utah State Park Annual Pass.*

**Friday, August 10th, 8:00 am
CANYON WALKS - LAMB'S CANYON from
MILL CREEK CANYON**

Leader: Allene Keller

Meet by 8:00 am in the parking lot just west of the REI on 33rd South and 3285 East. We will be hiking to Lambs Canyon pass from Mill Creek Canyon. This trail does have some elevation gain. Bring plenty of water, snacks and a Mill Creek Canyon pass if you have one. If you have any questions or plan on attending call Allene at 467-3960.

**Wednesday, August 15th, 7:00 am
BRIGHTON, BIG COTTONWOOD CANYON**

Leader: Colby Neuman

Meet in the parking lot at the entrance to Big Cottonwood Canyon by 7:00 am. This trip will involve hiking around the ski resort for looking for migrating flocks of songbirds and White-winged Crossbills. Call Colby at 598-4367 for more information or email him at colby.neuman@gmail.com.

**Saturday, August 18th, 7:00 am/8:00 am
MIRROR LAKE, UINTA MOUNTAINS**

Leader: Dave Hanscom

Meet in the southeast corner of the Shopko parking lot in Sugarhouse leaving at 7:00 am or at the Ranger Station in Kamas by 8:00 am. Call Dave (435-649-3213) for more information or to let him know you will be there. This trip will be in conjunction with SL Birders. Dave will lead us to Mirror Lake with stops along the way. If we are lucky, we may see Pine Grosbeaks, Three-toed Woodpecker, Williamson's Sapsucker, Clark's Nutcracker, and Gray Jay.

**Sunday, August 26th, 7:00 am
WILLARD BAY STATE PARK**

Leader: Kathy Coleman

Meet at the southeast corner of the Sugar House ShopKo parking lot for a 7:00 am departure. This is a good time of year to see migrating warblers. Bring water, lunch and a state park pass if you have one or money to help with the entrance fee. Call Kathy Coleman (944-5773) to attend.

**Wednesday, August 29th, 7:00/7:30am - Noon
FARMINGTON BAY AND NEARBY AREA**

Leaders: Bob Huntington and Deedee O'Brien

Join us for our monthly half-day visit to Farmington Bay. Meet inside the McDonald's just north of the Centerville exit from I-15 at 7:00 am for breakfast and camaraderie or 7:30 am to head out. Bring your own water and snacks. Call Deedee O'Brien (801-272-8060) if you plan to attend.

**Wednesday, September 5th, 7:30am - Noon
MOUNTAIN DELL RECREATION AREA,
PARLEY'S CANYON,**

Leaders: Jack Clark and Sylvia Gray

Meet by 7:30 am in the southeast corner of the Shopko parking lot in Sugar House or 7:45 am at the Clubhouse at Mountain Dell. Come and join us for our monthly bird survey. Since we began this survey we have seen over 100 species. Call Jack (255-7989) or Sylvia (532-3486) if you plan to attend.



Pied-billed grebe and frog by Deedee O'Brien

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

by Vivian Schneggenburger and Heather Dove

New members joining, renewing or transferring through National Audubon: Paul Abate, Karyl Bennion, Jo Ellen Blackham, Alan Blackhurst, Jack Bowen, Nancy Burns, Mindy Cook, Peter Corroon, James Deibler, Glenna Empey, John Excell, Brent Feitch, Marilynn Gillette, Rene Hart, Nicole Higgins, Barbara Jacobson, Jenny Jasperson, Lori Johnson, Friederike Kolbay, Natasha Lloyd, Gabrielle McDonald, Claren McGivney, Stella Moss, Norma Munoz, Terry Paswaters, David Peifer, David Pierson, John E. Riley, Kimberly D. Roush, Carol M. Sayles, Nancy Scott, Simon Seikaly, Michelle Soper, Neol Soreusen, H. Thiese, Neil D. Thompson, Else Marie Vanderhooft, Jo Ann Vanderwilt, Marybeth Whittaker, and Theodore Wilczek.

Local new and renewing members of GSLA:

Barbara L. Kitchens, Carma Rekoutis, Andy & Leslie White, Anthony Morgan, Reatha Whiting, Connie C. Holbrook, Gerald Poulsen, Nancy Sakahara, Pomera Fronce, Mary Beth Whittaker, Barbara Komeyli, Phil & Mary Helsley, J. Scott Maddox, Sandy Bassett, Nancy Bill, Warren Whittaker, Howard & Barbara Ross, John Van de Graaff, Karen Nelson, and Judith Romney Wolback.

Thanks to all who have recently joined GSLA. We hope that you will become an active member and join us at our General Meetings and on our field trips and projects. The Pelican has all of the details. We look forward to meeting you.

May and June Board Meeting Highlights

by Arne Hultquist

Our fall fund raising dinner event has been approved and it will be held at Gardner Village on Thursday, September 27 this year with featured guest speaker, Don Paul. Look for details in the Pelican or online. We think the event is an exciting and entertaining evening that everyone will enjoy.

The Board has reviewed and approved the budget



On May 9th, members of GSLA went to Johnson's Mill in Midway to honor the memory of Bob Johnson by planting a river birch on the grounds in his memory. Charlene Johnson, pictured on the far left, was very appreciative of the gesture. Thanks to all who contributed to the effort. Photo by Dick O'Brien.

presented by the Finance Committee. We appreciate the work they have done during the last year. Special thanks to our Treasurer, Kathy Waddell, who has spent considerable time updating our accounting system. The change makes it easier for everyone to understand our budget and its details.

The Board has also been busy with conservation and education matters. We supported a volunteer program at Fish Springs NWR as well as a cleanup of invasive weed species on East Bonneville Boulevard in Salt Lake City. Several board members have actively supported the Basin and Range Weekend Seminar. The Board is being continually updated on the GSL Minerals expansion request to the State of Utah Department of Natural Resources.

Finally, I would like to thank our President, Nathan Darnall, who has stepped up again. Last month he was named President of the Audubon Council of Utah. The Board appreciates his competence and tireless volunteerism to our organization and its mission.



Great Salt Lake Audubon 6th Annual Gala and Silent Auction

With invited guest speaker *Don Paul*
of the Intermountain West Joint Venture

Thursday, September 27, 2007
The Gathering Place at Gardner Village
1100 W 7800 South, West Jordan
7:00 pm to 9:30 pm
Only \$45 per person

See The Pelican or visit
www.greatsaltlakeaudubon.org
For more information

Registration

Please reserve a place for me!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Dinner Preference (indicate number) _____ Beef _____ Salmon _____ Vegetarian

My check is enclosed \$ _____ Please charge my _____ Visa _____ MC

Card No. _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature (required for credit card purchase) _____

Mail completed registration to: Great Salt Lake Audubon
P.O. Box 520867
Salt Lake City, UT 84152-0867



THE PELICAN
 Great Salt Lake Audubon
 PO Box 520867
 Salt Lake City, UT 84152-0867

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 P A I D
 SALT LAKE CITY, UT
 PERMIT NO. 2871

GREAT SALT LAKE AUDUBON

(Local Membership Only)

Please enroll me as a member of GSLA, my membership fee of \$25.00 includes a 1-year subscription to The Pelican.

Please clip and send your application and check to:
 Great Salt Lake Audubon
 P.O. Box 520867
 Salt Lake City, UT 84152-0867

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP + 4 _____

Email _____

Phone _____ Today's Date _____

If an e-mail is provided, look forward to receiving electronic updates on classes and field trips offered by our chapter. We will not share your information with other organizations.

Thank You for Supporting GSLA!

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

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

_____ My check for \$20.00 is enclosed (Introductory price only).

_____ My check for \$35.00 is enclosed for membership renewal.

Please clip and send your application and check to:
 National Audubon Society
 Chapter Membership Data Center
 P.O. Box 51001
 Boulder, CO 80322-1001

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP + 4 _____

Local Chapter Code: 7XCHA

W50