

# PORTNEUF VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWS May 2010

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PVAS Website: <http://pvaudubon.org>  
(Check our site for the latest news!)

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## ***Please note:***

***This is the last newsletter until September.  
We have a lot of activities for the summer.  
We hope to see you at some of them.  
The public is invited to all events hosted  
by the PVAS.***

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **MIGRATORY BIRD DAY AT CAMAS NWR**

**When: Saturday, May 15**

**Location: Camas National Wildlife Refuge  
Carpool: Meet at 9 a.m. at the ISU Idaho  
Museum of Natural History Parking Lot**

PVAS members will join the Friends of Camas and other volunteers and participants at Camas National Wildlife Refuge. We will participate in birding tours of the refuge and join in other activities.

PVAS has adopted this refuge and we have contributed time and money to enhance its birding potential.

There will be representatives from several agencies. This is a great opportunity to experience this tremendous Southeast Idaho wildlife refuge featuring a wide variety of waterfowl, songbirds, raptors and other wildlife.

Questions, call 233-4538.

## **MAY MEETING**

**“Uganda Birds, Mammals and People” by Frank Renn**

**When: 7 p.m., Thursday, May 20**

**Where: **\*\*NEW LOCATION\*\*** Idaho State University Plant Science Auditorium (Building 69 on ISU campus maps). You can get there off of Memorial Drive (15th Street) across from the Portneuf Regional Medical Center in the ISU Biological Sciences and Nursing Building parking lot, or by parking in the lot south of Holt Arena.**

Frank Renn and Chuck Trost spent three weeks last May-June touring Uganda, where they got to see both Chimpanzees and Mountain Gorillas.

Steve Matteredly, a fellow traveler and professional photographer from Houston has lent Frank over 200 remarkable pictures of the wildlife and the people of Uganda.

This is a landlocked country in Central Africa, situated right on the Great Rift. Frank and Chuck's encounter with a huge male silverback Mountain Gorilla and his family seemed an almost spiritual event to them - like a family reunion of related primates.

Don't miss this program, our last for the year. We've saved the best for last. Refreshments will be served

### **ANNUAL BIRD AND BREAKFAST**

**When: 7 a.m., Saturday, May 22**

**Location: Cherry Springs Nature Area, Mink Creek**

This annual event is one of PVAS' most popular offerings, drawing large crowds of hungry birders. Bird walks will begin at 7:00 a.m. and breakfast will be from 9:00 till 10:00 a.m. Bring binoculars and an appetite. This is a great opportunity for beginning birders. Volunteers to help with the cooking and the cleanup are always appreciated. Call 233-0714 for more information or to volunteer.

Cherry Springs is a nearby, important spring hotspot for checking out a variety of migrating songbirds and a chance to see other critters, including everything from owls to moose.

### **MAY FIELD TRIP**

**Hummingbird Banding, Rudeen Ranch, Rockland**

**When: Sunday, May 30**

**Carpool: Meet at 9 a.m. at the ISU Idaho Museum of Natural History Parking Lot**

This is another PVAS spring classic! Watch Stacy Peterson and his family capture and band hummingbirds. This is an amazing spectacle, with over 400 hummingbirds being banded annually, and about a third of them have been banded in previous years. This is up close and personal - plan to hold a hummingbird in your hand for release.

### **SAGEBRUSH LAND TRUST TOUR**

**When: Saturday, June 12**

**Carpool: Meet at 9 a.m. at the ISU Idaho Museum of Natural History Parking Lot**

This is a tentatively planned trip of the Trust's Rapid Creek property and will include birding tours and plant walks.

This activity can be confirmed by calling Chuck Trost, Field Trip Leader (233-4538), or Barb North (406-8507). [Sign up for e-mail notifications, and we'll send more information!](#)

### **PVAS BIRDATHON**

**When: All or any part of Saturday, June 19**

**Details: Gather into teams, collect sponsors, count as many species as possible in one day, then meet at Scout Mountain to tally our group total at a**

**potluck. See *President's Message* on next page for full details about this event.**

Around the first of June, expect a separate mailing from Portneuf Audubon with details about our June 19 Birdathon.

### **SAGEBRUSH STEPPE REGIONAL LAND TRUST'S GREAT OUTDOORS FUNDRAISER**

**When: Thursday, July 8**

**Where: Mink Creek Group Site**

The Fundraiser features good food, good friends, and good music for a great cause. Enjoy live music by Steelhead Redd, a rack of lamb dinner donated by a Land Trust member, a silent auction, and the opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors!

The Sagebrush Steppe Regional Land Trust's mission is to protect and enhance natural lands and wildlife habitat, and working farms and ranches, now and for future generations, in southeastern Idaho.

The Land Trust works with landowners, federal, state and local governments, and the public-at-large, to create win-win situations for private and public interests in Idaho's seven southeastern counties.

Through voluntary land conservation, innovative partnerships, and community support, we have the opportunity to help protect special places in Southeast Idaho.

For more information, contact Joselin Matkins, Executive Director, at (208) 241-4662, [joselin.matkins@sagebrushlandtrust.org](mailto:joselin.matkins@sagebrushlandtrust.org), or go to [www.sagebrushlandtrust.org](http://www.sagebrushlandtrust.org) Land Trust meeting.

### **JULY FIELD TRIP**

**Red Rocks Lake, Montana, and Elks Lodge Camping, Canoeing and Birding**

**When: July 17-18**

This two-day trip to a remote, beautiful and wildlife rich area just over the border in Montana is tentatively set.

Contact Chuck Trost, Field Trip Leader (233-4538), or Barb North (406-8507). Sign up for e-mail notifications, and we'll send more information!

### **AUGUST FIELD TRIP**

**Pahsimeroi Hike near Leatherman Peak**

**When: August 14-15**

Join the PVAS for one of its most remote field trips featuring spectacular scenery and natural history. This two-day trip is tentatively set.

Contact Chuck Trost, Field Trip Leader (233-4538), or Barb North (406-8507). Sign up for e-mail notifications, and we'll send more info!

### **MESSAGE FROM PVAS PRESIDENT**

The PVAS Birdathon will be coming up on June 19. As you probably know, it is our main fundraiser for the year. We need your support by the way of contributions, collecting sponsors, and by participation in our event. Please consider how you can help.

We are combining all our counting efforts into the total number of bird species observed on June 19 by the PVAS teams.

We encourage everyone to choose a location or a route that fits your ability and available time. Examples could be watching your feeder, visiting your favorite birding spot, or planning a route with friends; your time expended could include an hour to all day. This will reduce competition and increase fun.

On the evening of our event, we will have a compilation potluck on Scout Mountain, very similar to the Christmas Bird Counts. Everyone is encouraged to participate, whether you are a member or not.

Choose your team members, plan your route and time to meet, have fun. Register your team by contacting Chuck Trost (233-4538). Location and time of the potluck will be available by the May 20 meeting, and by contacting Chuck Trost. We will have several leaders available and sign up lists if you would like to join their teams. You are encouraged to form your own teams.

In early June, expect a separate mailing from Portneuf Valley Audubon with more details about our June 19 Birdathon.

Come out and share the joy of birding as we contribute to our ability to be a positive voice for birds and conservation in southeast Idaho.

If you would like to be kept informed of PVAS events, we would like to send you occasional e-mails.

---**Barb North, PVAS President**

### **PAST EVENTS**

#### **2010 COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR** **April 24, Tydeman/Optimist Park, Pocatello**

Portneuf Valley Audubon was one of the 80 exhibitors that day. Our group had an informational table with newsletters, bird feeders, and such. At this table, birdcalls played from an iPod attracted many visitors. On our other table sat 10 furry six-inch toy Audubon birds with factual information beside each. When squeezed, each bird did its authentic birdcall provided by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. It turned out that people couldn't just squeeze one! By these birds was a poster on which one could put a star by one's favorite bird there.

About 120 people took an Audubon newsletter, 20 people signed up to receive further information, and children and interested others put a total of 240 stars on the *Vote For Your Favorite Bird* poster. It was a successful day for the birds and PVAS as many people expressed interest in our group, its events and birds in general.

### **MEMBERSHIP AND EMAIL UPDATES**

Our chapter wishes to thank the people who have become new members or renewed since our last April 2010 newsletter.

Our chapter welcomes the support of – F. J. McCarty, Janice Hardman, B. Adamcik, Gary & Jan Mumford, Sharon & Norm Self, Meg Downey, Mary Callahan, Michael Bickley, Joyce Browning, Randy Dirickson, Lorne Engleson, Ms. Ann Hamm, Virginia Kelly, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Deuell, David Vanek MD, John & Eliza Schmidt, Mr. Donald Brown, Bea Cowger, Jean A. Ravsten, Roger & Kay Turner, and John & Gerda Jefimoff.

Questions, call 233-0714 or email [mgnicholls@cablone.net](mailto:mgnicholls@cablone.net).

**EMAIL UPDATES:** If you would like to receive more detailed information before each event by email, contact Mel Nicholls, 233-0714 or [mgnicholls@cablone.net](mailto:mgnicholls@cablone.net) (List kept confidential/not shared).

# PORTNEUF VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Send your \$20 check payable to **National Audubon Society** for

the National Membership introductory rate to: **Mel Nicholls, Membership Chair**

Send your \$15 check payable to **Portneuf Valley Audubon**

**9440 W. Caribou Rd.**

**Society** for Local Membership to: **Pocatello, ID 83204-7248**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Category (check one):

\_\_\_\_ Membership (\$20 1 yr. introductory rate, \$35 renewal after the 1<sup>st</sup> yr. billed by the *National Audubon Society*) includes PVAS Chapter and *National Audubon Society* membership, Audubon Magazine and PVAS Newsletter.

\_\_\_\_ Membership (\$20 1 yr. introductory rate, \$35 renewal after the 1<sup>st</sup> yr. billed by the *National Audubon Society*) includes PVAS Chapter and *National Audubon Society* membership and Audubon Magazine. The PVAS Newsletter will be sent to your email address. (Help us save postage costs and the boreal forest.)

\_\_\_\_ Membership (1 yr.) \$15 includes only the PVAS Chapter Membership and PVAS Newsletter.

\_\_\_\_ Membership (1 yr.) \$15 includes only the PVAS Chapter Membership and PVAS Newsletter that will be sent to your email address. (Help us save postage costs and the boreal forest.)

Promotional Code: **COZG010Z**

**PORTNEUF VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
**9440 West Caribou Rd**  
**Pocatello ID 83204-7248**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**