

April 2012  
Newsletter



# PRAIRIE FALCON

Missouri Breaks Audubon Chapter Newsletter

**Thursday**

**April 26**

**First United Methodist  
Church**

**Media Center**

**117 N. Central Ave**

**Board Meeting**

**6:30 pm**

**Regular Meeting**

**7:30 pm**

**Presenter:**

**Lynn Barber**

**“Extreme Birder: One  
Woman’s Big Year”**

**Bird of the Month**

**Dave Ode**

**“Farm Island**

**Bluebird Boxes”**

**THIS MONTH:**

**Extreme Birder: Lynn Barber**

In 2008, Lynn Barber undertook a Big Year. During this time she observed 723 species with 333 species observed during the month of January! She wrote a book about the experience, “Extreme Birder: One Woman’s Big Year”. Lynn will be selling (\$29.95) and signing books at Prairie Pages in downtown Pierre from 3 pm to 5 pm on April 26 as well as at our membership meeting (so bring your checkbooks). You can explore more about Lynn Barber’s adventures on her website: [www.lynnbarber.com](http://www.lynnbarber.com)

**LAST MONTH:**

**Bill Bossman: Cape May Birding**

At last months meeting Bill Bossman gave a presentation about his trip to Point Pleasant, N.J. Bill’s presentation pointed out prime birding spots, shipwrecks now used as bird perches, species observations, helpful books and regulations of certain areas around the Cape May area. One of his more entertaining tales concerned a group of birders struggling to identify a western grebe from a flock of red-throated loons, the opposite of what happened at a SDOU meeting in Pierre a couple of years ago.

**Kris Dozark: Himalayan Snowcock**

After reading The Big Year by Mark Obmascik, Kris Dozark gave a presentation on the Himalayan Snowcock. This bird was introduced into the Ruby Mountains of Nevada and is hunted as a game bird. It was a focus of one of the stories in the book. Two birders take to the skies and try to observe the fowl from a helicopter.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

—Earth Day Event at the Discovery Center in Pierre: April 22, 2012

—Lynn Barber presentation on “Extreme Birder: One Woman’s Big Year” : April 26, 2012

—Annual Spring Membership Picnic: May 12, 2012

—South Dakota Birding Festival at Fort Randall: May 18-May 20 2012

— Information at [www.sdgreatlakes.org/greatoutdoors/birdinginfo](http://www.sdgreatlakes.org/greatoutdoors/birdinginfo)

—SDOU Spring Meeting at the Sunrise Guest Ranch in Edgemont, South Dakota

June 1– June 3 2012

MISSOURI BREAKS  
AUDUBON CHAPTER

National Audubon Society  
Box 832, Pierre, SD 57501

*Established 1978*

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**Be Green — Get this newsletter online**

As a member of the National Audubon Society in Hughes and Stanley counties, you receive a copy of this newsletter as part of your membership. New mailing regulations require a different format and sticky tags to support machine readability at the post office. This adds to our handling time for paper copies of the newsletter.

If you would like to receive this newsletter by e-mail instead of hard copy (saving trees, postage, handling, and trash), send your e-mail address to [info@MissouriBreaksAudubon.org](mailto:info@MissouriBreaksAudubon.org). We won't share your address with anyone, and you can unsubscribe at any time. Of course, if you don't want the hard-copy either, let us know and we'll take care of that, too.

**New Website Location**

This newsletter, a downloadable calendar, and other valuable birding links are all available at our new website, <http://www.missouribreaksaudubon.org>

**Snowy Owls show ecotourism's power** from the April 2, 2012 Rapid City Journal (via Vince Devlin from the Missoulian)

For three months, snowy owls have been just about all anyone has wanted Denver Holt, the director of the Owl Research Institute, in Charlo, Montana to talk about. Up to 25 owls congregated in Mission Valley, near Polson, Montana this winter. Visitors came from 25 different states to observe the owls. Holt points to a 2006 U.S. FWS report that says wildlife watching was a \$45.7 billion-a-year industry in the United States. That's more than fishing (\$42 billion) or hunting (\$22.9 billion). They say that waterfowl rank #1 and birds of prey rank #2. The average age of birders is 50, and average salary is more than \$75,000!

I wonder how much our snowies and other birds (gyrs) have generated in the past?