

October 2013
Newsletter



PRAIRIE FALCON

Missouri Breaks Audubon Chapter Newsletter

Thursday

October 17

**First United Methodist
Church**

Media Center

117 N. Central Ave

Board Meeting

6:30 pm

Regular Meeting

7:30 pm

Presenter:

Eileen Stukel

**"Fall Warblers and other
LBJ's"**

Bird of the Month

TBD

"To be determined"

THIS MONTH:

Raptor sighting maps:

The Audubon website has a feature mapping out the best places to observe raptor migrations across the nation. As of this writing West Virginia, Oklahoma, Nevada, Hawaii and South Dakota do not have any areas listed. Should we add a point for observing raptors? We have great opportunities to observe many types of hawks, falcons, owls, and eagles.

Pierre Arboretum Dedication:

The Pierre Arboretum held an open house and dedication on October 5, 2013. The Missouri Breaks Audubon Chapter helped sponsor this event. To see an article about this event and some pictures of the improvements and some of our members go to the following website!

<http://www.drgnews.com/2013/10/08/officials-show-off-improvements-at-the-native-plant-arboretum-in-southeast-pierre/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Chapter Calendar

October 17, 2013	Board and Membership Meeting
November 21, 2013	Board and Membership Meeting
December 12, 2013	Board and Membership Meeting
January 16, 2014	Membership Luncheon with time and place to be announced
February 20, 2014	Board and Membership Meeting
March 20, 2014	Board and Membership Meeting
April 17, 2014	Board and Membership Meeting
May 10, 2014	Tentative date for chapter picnic

Birding Events

—SDOU Fall Meeting at the Governor's Inn, Pierre, South Dakota

November 8-10, 2013

—Pierre Area Christmas Bird Count: Saturday December 14, 2013

MISSOURI BREAKS
AUDUBON CHAPTER

National Audubon Society
Box 832, Pierre, SD 57501
Established 1978

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Rex Riis, *Education*

Glenn Moravek, *Conservation*

Dave Ode, *Program Chair*

Doug Backlund, *Christmas Count*

Dave Johnson, *Membership*

Doug Backlund, *Field Trip*

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. 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>

Merlin takes down smaller bird on October 5, 2013

By Kris Dozark

So I am sitting at my parent's house on Frontier Road in Fort Pierre having supper and I look out the dining room window and what do I see? I see a Merlin sitting on the base of my dad's Purple Martin house. That's pretty cool I think to myself. I wonder what it is doing? Then I see the little lifeless body clutched in its claws. Well I guess he/she is also having supper! So after enjoying my supper while watching the Merlin enjoy its supper, I decided to see if I could identify what type of bird it had devoured for its meal. I was amazed that not hardly a morsel was wasted. All I could find was a couple of feathers and a portion of the lower beak. So even though I failed to identify the smaller bird it was neat seeing nature at work!