

# THE PELICAN

Newsletter  
July–August 2023



Great Salt Lake  
AUDUBON



The *Birds 'n Bites* program is a monthly gathering (January to May and September to November) that offers informative and entertaining content for the bird enthusiast. Programs are free, open to the public, and presented via Zoom.

Due to COVID-19, all *Birds 'n Bites* programs are being held via videoconferencing until further notice.

## Fall Grant Applications Due September 1

Kandy Richards, GSLA Treasurer

### Breaking News: Grant limit has increased to \$2000

The Great Salt Lake Audubon Grant Committee is accepting applications for the Fall Grant Cycle. Applications are due Friday, September 1, 2023. The awards will be announced on Monday, October 16.

Qualifying applicants must be a non-profit organization with 501 (c)(3) status or a governmental/non-profit educational institution (e.g., university, school district, elementary school, etc.).

Successful applicants should demonstrate that their request aligns with the GSLA mission, and projects should focus on areas such as conservation, education, or academic research.

While the Grant Committee considers all applications, our preference is to fund hard costs such as equipment or supplies. In general, we do not fund salaries for existing organization staff except for rare circumstances.

An applicant organization may apply only once per year and grants have an upper limit of \$2,000.

Please see our website to download the application.

<https://greatsaltlakeaudubon.org/grant-program>



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## Join Us July 8 for the Brighton Bird Count

Jeanne Le Ber, GSLA Board

Great Salt Lake Audubon has hosted the Brighton Bird Count every year since 1937. In the early days of the BBC, Audubon members camped Friday evening at the Redman Campground, birded Saturday morning, and enjoyed a potluck in the afternoon at Leon Stanley's Brighton cabin.

This year we meet on **July 8** at the top of Big Cottonwood Canyon near Silver Lake. Birders arrive at **7:30 AM** and can select one of three birding options:

- Silver Lake (easy walk)
- Lake Solitude (moderate hike)
- Twin Lakes (more strenuous hike)

Team leaders guide the group to count species seen, as well as the number of individual birds. If you are lucky, you might see a Western Wood-pewee on her nest, or a Three-toed Woodpecker at her cavity.

Birders gather at 11:30 AM for a potluck lunch at an area picnic table. Please bring a dish to share (an appetizer, salad, main dish, or dessert), your own plate and eating utensils, and GSLA will provide cold drinks. Team leaders report the birds seen by their group.

Since 1968 (the earliest data we have) the number of species seen has varied from a low of 25 reported in 1968 to a high of 57 species in 2004. The numbers of individuals has also fluctuated with the most recent high count being 674 in 2008. Some of the ups and downs of bird numbers can be attributed to the number of birders who participate, birder skill level, as well as the inconsistency of the earlier bird data.

Birders of all skill levels are encouraged to join us. This is an opportunity for novice birders to learn from more experienced birders. Contact Jeanne Le Ber ([jeanne.leber@utah.edu](mailto:jeanne.leber@utah.edu) or 801.230.4373) if you are interested in attending or have questions.

# THE PELICAN NEWSLETTER

## GREAT SALT LAKE AUDUBON MISSION

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.

### CONTACT GSLA

**Website:** <https://greatsaltlakeaudubon.org>  
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### OFFICERS

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Vice President: Ray Smith  
Secretary: Leah Richardson  
Treasurer: Kandy Richards

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### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR THE PELICAN

Original articles and photos are welcomed. The editor reserves the right to choose and edit as needed. Email articles to [newsletter@greatsaltlakeaudubon.org](mailto:newsletter@greatsaltlakeaudubon.org). *The Pelican* is printed on recycled paper and published six times a year. The submission deadline for the September–October issue is Monday, August 14, 2023.

### AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**Local:** GSLA chapter-only membership is \$30 a year. Local membership is important as GSLA is primarily self-supporting. Join on the website or use the form found on page 8 of this issue of *The Pelican*.

**National:** To join the [National Audubon Society \(NAS\)](#), use the link on page 8. The NAS website details the benefits of national membership. You will receive a subscription to the Audubon magazine and a one-year courtesy subscription to our newsletter, *The Pelican*.

**Both:** You may join both GSLA and NAS if you wish to support both local and national activities.

## Board Highlights for May & June

by Leah Richardson, GSLA Secretary

Summer is here, and after the historic winter snowfall and ample spring storms, I am watching the profusion of wildflowers and pollinators. The abundant moisture has been great for our local birds and summer migrants. One way to enjoy this season is to join us on one of our weekly field trips. Check our calendar for more information.

In April and May, GSLA welcomed the Audubon Photography Awards Traveling Exhibition. We partnered with The City Library to host several events. Paul Bannick, our keynote speaker, gave an entertaining and artistic presentation on *Owl: A Year in the Lives of North American Owls*. Thanks to all who attended.

On June 2 to 4, thirty-two people joined us for our annual Basin & Range Weekend Seminar at the Arch Dam Campground near Dutch John, Utah. Six wonderful field instructors and two evening presenters engaged participants with their knowledge of the environment. Campers managed to stay dry and enjoyed this uniquely beautiful location.

The annual Brighton Bird Count is scheduled for Saturday July 8. This is an excellent way to celebrate birds at high elevation. Don't be shy. Please join us for a morning of birding and a potluck lunch (see page 1).

If you participate in social media, please follow us on our Facebook and Instagram pages. We have been putting more information on these sites to advertise our events and activities. Thanks to Tena Rohr for helping us with this, and thanks to all of you for being GSLA members.

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## From the Editor

Dear Reader,

Opportunities to learn about birds are abundant. I recently read *Birdpedia: A Brief Compendium of Avian Lore*, that is full of bird facts, stories, and short essays about all things avian. The June 6, 2023 *ScienceTimes* (*The New York Times*) was devoted to birds, covering feathered dinosaurs, American Kestrels in decline, and birdsongs—are they really songs? Nature writer Jennifer Ackerman has just published *What an Owl Knows*. You might have read her books *The Genius of Birds* or *The Bird Way*. Jennifer is an award-winning science writer. Ray and I heard her speak a few years ago at the Yampa Valley Crane Festival. And, by the way, the 2023 festival is scheduled for August 31 to September 3 in Steamboat Springs. Check it out! A great way to learn about birds.

If you have contributions to, or questions, concerns, or suggestions about the newsletter, contact me at [newsletter@greatsaltlakeaudubon.org](mailto:newsletter@greatsaltlakeaudubon.org). Enjoy the read.

Jeanne

## Education News

by Lianna Lopez, GSLA Board

### Birds of a Feather Flock Together

I first learned about Corey Jensen and the Eastmont Middle School Bird Association in the fall of 2022 when the Great Salt Lake Audubon Board approved his grant. Corey wanted to create an afterschool program for middle school students to *inspire a love of birds and all things nature, teach basic identification, and go on birding field trips*. With funds awarded by GSLA, Corey purchased several pairs of Vortex Crossfire 8x42 binoculars for students to borrow for field trips.

In December 2022, I met these bird-loving middle schoolers when I visited their classroom to talk to them about feeding birds in the winter. We made toilet paper tube feeders and suet cakes. The students were excited to learn about feeding birds in the winter.

This past May three GSLA Board Members (John Middleton, Jeanne Le Ber, and Ray Smith) met the Eastmont Middle Schoolers at the Eccles Wildlife Education Center at Farmington Bay. On this field trip Corey, two of his colleagues and ten of the students saw 42 species, and some students got up to 20 lifers. Some of the highlights were a Virginia Rail, Sandhill Crane, Eastern Kingbird, and a Belted Kingfisher that John got in the scope. Corey later shared with me that, *John also let the kids take photos of the birds through the scope with their phones* (digiscoping). The students were excited to walk away with some decent photos of birds with their phone cameras. One of the most heart-warming moments Corey stated was, *when we got back on the bus many of [the students] said, 'That was one of the best field trips I've ever been on.*

Working with this group of students has been inspiring and so much fun. We congratulate Corey Jensen and his colleagues for creating this association and using the GSLA grant funds to foster outdoor field trips, instill a love for birds in young people, and further GSLA's mission. We look forward to working with Corey and his students again next year!

If you are an educator or know of an educator who would benefit from a grant or would be interested in having GSLA come to your school for educational activities or programs please reach out to Lianna Lopez at [education@greatsaltlakeaudubon.org](mailto:education@greatsaltlakeaudubon.org) for more information.

### GSLA Fledglings Club & Educational Program Update

Education Chair & Board Member, Lianna Lopez is pregnant with her second child, and is expecting a baby girl in mid-July. For that reason, the Fledglings Club and other in-person educational programs will be put on hold until September. Activities will be offered via our Facebook and website over the next two months as a replacement to club meet-ups. We will keep you updated on future events in our September–October Newsletter.



Eastmont Middle School Bird Association visit Farmington Bay.  
Photo by Corey Jensen ©

## Basin & Range 2023 Travels to Eastern Utah

Great Salt Lake Audubon held the 39th Annual Basin & Range Weekend Seminar June 2–4 at the Arch Dam Group Campground near Dutch John, Utah. While primitive, the campground accommodated our thirty-two registered participants and field instructors. We especially enjoyed the newly constructed pavilion that offered shade and rain protection.

On Saturday and Sunday morning, attendees joined field instructors Chris Eaton (fish), Tom Elder (geology auto-tour), Cooper Farr (bird behavior), Jeanne Le Ber (bird apps), Margaret Pettis (drawing nature), and local volunteers to learn more about the natural and historic history of the area. The tour of the Swett Ranch was an interesting look at local pioneer history.

After a delicious potluck dinner Saturday evening, hydrologist Nathaniel Todea spoke about water issues related to river flows, and Tom Elder explored the stars. Despite thunder and rainstorms, we weathered it well.

B&R co-coordinators Nancy Lombardo and Jeanne Le Ber extend a big thank you to all the participants, the field instructors, presenters, and Karen Millam, Visitor Information Services, USFS, for her support. We look forward to seeing you next year at another location. Any suggestions? Contact Jeanne Le Ber at [jeanne.leber@utah.edu](mailto:jeanne.leber@utah.edu) or 801.230.4373.



Top: Yellow-breasted Chat  
Bottom: Immature Bald Eagle  
at Little Hole along the Green River.  
Photos by Klaus Bielefeldt ©





## Calendar of Field Trips & Events for July–August 2023

GSLA: 385.313.0608; Website: <https://greatsaltlakeaudubon.org>



GSLA field trips are conducted in an atmosphere of mutual respect and cooperation between leaders and participants. Participation in any field trip is at the discretion of the leader. **NOTE:** Field trips may be re-scheduled or canceled due to COVID, weather, or other factors. Contact the leader to determine if trip is a go.

**Accessibility codes:** B-benches available; E-easy; L-level trail; M-moderately level; P-paved; P/U-paved-unpaved; R-restroom available; S-strenuous; U-unpaved

### Wednesday, July 5—7:00–11:00 AM

Mountain Dell Rec Area, Parleys Canyon—M P/U R

**Leader:** Jeanne Le Ber—801.230.4373

**Email:** [jeanne.leber@utah.edu](mailto:jeanne.leber@utah.edu)

Meet by the golf cart bridge on Highway 65 for a morning of birding. **See map.** Contact Jeanne if you plan to attend.

### Saturday, July 8—7:30–11:30 AM

Brighton Bird Count—B E M R S

**Leader:** Jeanne Le Ber—801.230.4373

**Email:** [jeanne.leber@utah.edu](mailto:jeanne.leber@utah.edu)

Meet at 7:30 AM at the top of Big Cottonwood Canyon in the Silver Lake Visitor Center parking lot. Birders can select one of three birding options: (1) Silver Lake [easy walk], (2) Lake Solitude [moderate hike], or (3) Twin Lake [strenuous hike]. Novice to expert birders are welcome. Bring a potluck dish to share. GSLA will provide cold drinks. We are aware of area construction and may need to adjust plans. Contact Jeanne if you plan to attend.

### Saturday, July 15—7:30–11:00 AM

Jordan River, Arrowhead Park, Murray—B E L P/U R

**Leader:** Linda Johnson—801.865.2700

**Email:** [mnczech@gmail.com](mailto:mnczech@gmail.com)

Walk on a flat, mostly unpaved trail featuring riparian and wooded habitat on both sides of the river. Meet at Arrowhead Park, 593 West 4800 South. Contact Linda if you plan to attend.

### Wednesday, July 19—7:30–11:00 AM

Jordan River Day-Riverside Library—E L P/U R

**Leader:** Jeanne Le Ber—801.230.4373

**Email:** [jeanne.leber@utah.edu](mailto:jeanne.leber@utah.edu)

Bird along the river on paved and unpaved paths. Meet in the parking lot at 1575 West 1000 North. Contact Jeanne if you plan to attend.

### Saturday, July 22—7:30–11:00 AM

Yellow Fork Canyon—M R S U

**Leader:** John Neill—801.231.2019

**Email:** [neilljc@yahoo.com](mailto:neilljc@yahoo.com)

Yellow Fork Canyon has a mix of mountain and desert bird species. Meet at the Yellow Fork trailhead parking lot. **See map.** Contact John if you plan to attend.

### Monday, July 24—Dawn–2:00 PM

Antelope Island Causeway & Farmington Bay—E R

**Leader:** Bryant Olsen

**Register:** <https://tinyurl.com/496neaa8>

Registration is required to receive trip details via email the day before your scheduled trip.

### Tuesday, July 25—Dawn–1:00 PM

Inland Sea Shorebird Reserve—E

**Leader:** Bryant Olsen

**Register:** <https://tinyurl.com/496neaa8>

Registration is required to receive trip details via email the day before your scheduled trip.

### Saturday, July 29—7:00–11:00 AM

Antelope Island Causeway Shorebirds—E L P/U R

**Leader:** Max Malmquist

**Email:** [max.malmquist@audubon.org](mailto:max.malmquist@audubon.org)

Meet at the entrance to Antelope Island State Park at 7:00 AM. We bird along the causeway looking for migrant shorebirds and practice shorebird identification. Email Max if you plan to attend.

### Wednesday, August 2—7:30–11:00 AM

Mountain Dell Rec Area, Parleys Canyon—M P/U R

**Leader:** Jeanne Le Ber—801.230.4373

**Email:** [jeanne.leber@utah.edu](mailto:jeanne.leber@utah.edu)

See July 5 field trip for details.

### Saturday, August 5—Time to be determined

Redwood Nature Area

**Leader:** John Neill—801.231.2019

**Email:** [neilljc@yahoo.com](mailto:neilljc@yahoo.com)

This natural area along the Jordan River has wetlands, open areas and trees, harboring a variety of species. Contact John for time and meeting place.

### Tuesday, August 8—8:00 AM–12:00 PM

Alta, Trails & High-Elevation Habitats—R S

**Leader:** Vivian Schneggenburger, 801.518.1730

**Email:** [vivschneggs@gmail.com](mailto:vivschneggs@gmail.com)

See high altitude species in a beautiful alpine setting. Contact Vivian if you plan to attend and for meeting place.

### Wednesday, August 16—7:30–11:30 AM

Jordan River Day-Riverside Library—E L P/U R

**Leader:** Jeanne Le Ber—801.230.4373

**Email:** [jeanne.leber@utah.edu](mailto:jeanne.leber@utah.edu)

See July 19 field trip for details.

Contact Jeanne if you plan to attend.

### Saturday, August 19—7:30–11:00 AM

Jordan River, Arrowhead Park, Murray—B E L P/U R

**Leader:** Linda Johnson—801.865.2700

**Email:** [mnczech@gmail.com](mailto:mnczech@gmail.com)

See July 15 field trip for details.

### Monday, August 28—Dawn–1:00 PM

Antelope Island Causeway & Farmington Bay—E L P/U R

**Leader:** Bryant Olsen

**Register:** <https://tinyurl.com/496neaa8>

Registration is required to receive trip details via email the day before your scheduled slot.

### Tuesday, August 29—Dawn–1:00 PM

Inland Sea Shorebird Reserve—E

**Leader:** Bryant Olsen

**Register:** <https://tinyurl.com/496neaa8>

Registration is required to receive trip details via email the day before your scheduled slot.

### Wednesday, September 6—7:30–11:00 AM

Mountain Dell Rec Area, Parleys Canyon—M P/U R

**Leader:** TBD

**Email:** TBD

See July 5 field trip for details.

### Saturday, September 16—9:00 AM–12:00 PM

International Coastal Cleanup Day at

Great Salt Lake State Park

**Leader:** FRIENDS of Great Salt Lake

**Save the Date!** Details about participating will be provided in the September-October *Pelican*.

## Pelican versus Blackbird

On May 28, 2023, I captured this picture along the Jordan River, close to the Redwood Trailhead. Within seconds of the American White Pelican landing in the river, a female and male Red-winged Blackbird started mobbing the pelican, which moved along and tried to defend itself from the more aggressive male you see in the picture. Once downriver, life became calm again for everyone. I assume that the pelican got too close to a nest and triggered the territorial/brood defense. Avian parenting is quite impressive and will make my former efforts look like parental neglect.

*Story & photo by Klaus Bielefeldt©*



## Birding with a Purpose

by Jeanne Le Ber, GSLA Board



Do you keep a bird list?

When I asked that question of participants at my birding sessions at Basin & Range 2023, the answer from 17 responders was a strong yes. Nine answered they maintain their bird list electronically, four keep their list on paper (including marking up their bird book) and four did not have a

list. Pete Dunne, noted birder, author, raptor expert, and former director of the Cape May Bird Observatory, has stated that he has nothing against lists, but finds the real joy in birding is just watching the birds. Yes, of course.

But there are important reasons for keeping a bird list electronically. Submitting your bird sightings on an app such as *eBird*, *Merlin* or *Audubon* contributes to the overall knowledge of bird populations. By volunteering and participating in a community science project, you are helping professional ornithologists expand

their awareness, reach, and understanding of what is happening to our feathered friends. For example, by evaluating over 40 years of Christmas Bird Count data collected by citizen birders, scientists have documented the northward movement of 58% of the observed species (177 of 305). Our winter birds are ranging further north!

Community science programs like the *Christmas Bird Count* (initiated in 1900), the *Great Backyard Bird Count*, *Project FeederWatch*, *Breeding Bird Survey*, and locally the *Tracy Aviary Conservation Science Program* are for the birds. By contributing to these programs, you add to the depth of knowledge of what we know about birds.

This data can identify problems related to declining bird numbers, fluctuations in bird numbers, and the overall health of habitat available for birds. Recognizing a problem early on allows federal, state, and local wildlife agency personnel to address the issues and ensure that birds thrive.

So, while keeping a bird list isn't essential, by contributing to the wealth of information about birds via electronic formats like *eBird* you can make a significant difference for the study and protection of our birds.

## Bird-friendly Glass Makes Progress

by Jeanne Le Ber, GSLA Board

Great Salt Lake Audubon's Bird-window Collision Working Group has been advocating for a bird-friendly cityscape, using bird-friendly glass for a few years now. Our group has presented relevant information on the problems, solutions, and resource materials. While at times the effort seems to move along ever so slowly, we have recently seen progress at the Salt Lake City level for which we are immensely grateful.

On May 16, 2023, the City Council voted 6-0 on a straw poll to have the Planning Staff research bird-friendly glass and building materials to determine if it should be added to the Downtown Building Height Ordinance.

GSLA received a PDF copy of the memorandum from the office of Kelsey Lindquist, Planning Manager and Nick Norris, Planning Director on May 18. Planning staff are researching the issue to determine how best to integrate bird-friendly requirements within the SLC Zoning Ordinance. Five discussion points (summarized here) were identified:

1. Bird-friendly regulations are most effective when applied to the first 40-60 feet of the building.
2. Bird-friendly regulations require specific and vetted details to establish guidelines on how to apply the regulations.
3. Staff time would be required to draft regulations and guidelines.
4. A public engagement strategy would be created to determine if bird-friendly requirements would be effective in decreasing bird-window strikes.
5. Analysis of cost implications would need to be conducted.

The memorandum indicates that *Planning Staff support the direction of implementing bird-friendly building materials and design throughout Salt Lake City.*

The BWCWG thanks Mayor Erin Mendenhall, Dan Dugan, Nick Norris, Kelsey Lindquist, and staff for their support of migrating and resident birds by taking this initial step to research solutions and initiate meaningful guidelines.

The City's action is timely as this past spring the Tracy Aviary Salt Lake Avian Collision Survey (initiated in 2017) identified 30 birds of 18 species that died as a result of hitting windows in downtown Salt Lake City. We are thankful the city is addressing the impact of building materials on our bird populations.

To learn more about bird-window collisions please visit GSLA's [bird safe windows webpage](#).

We invite you to join the effort to save our birds. Contact Jeanne Le Ber if interested ([jeanne.leber@utah.edu](mailto:jeanne.leber@utah.edu)).

## Progress in the Fight Against Light Pollution

by Jacqueline Sundstrand, GSLA Dark Skies Initiative

When it comes to residential light pollution, it's usually the neighbor that experiences intense light trespass from other homes and businesses who finally steps up to fight for better lighting ordinances. But what happens when the neighbor doesn't speak our human language?

As development continues to encroach upon the wetland habitat of birds along the Great Salt Lake shoreline, it is our duty to be their voice, and that's what the **Great Salt Lake Audubon Dark Skies Initiative** is doing.

Several months ago, we had a small victory in the Inland Port warehouse district. One of the Amazon Fulfillment Centers was interested in being better stewards of the environment, so we helped them understand how the lighting at their building is negatively impacting their bird neighbors. They listened and have agreed to turn off a significant portion of their parking lot lights that are not being used. This gives us hope that more business owners in this area will be willing to help once they are educated. A small step, but it is still progress!

Contact Jacqueline for details or if you want to help with the project ([info@greatsaltlakeaudubon.org](mailto:info@greatsaltlakeaudubon.org)).

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## Request for Volunteers

**An opportunity to help Great Salt Lake Audubon.  
No experience needed!**

Great Salt Lake Audubon (GSLA) is in need of volunteers for tabling events. There are no special qualifications, just a desire to promote GSLA's work to the public and a few hours of your time. If you think this might be for you, contact Linda Johnson at [mnczech@gmail.com](mailto:mnczech@gmail.com) or leave a message at 385.313.0608.

The birds thank you.



Photo by Linda Johnson ©

## 2023 Bluebird Box Spring Use Report

by Jeanne Le Ber, GSLA Board

Eighteen volunteers gathered in Strawberry Valley on Saturday, June 10 to assess the use of the one hundred nesting boxes placed by Great Salt Lake Audubon along the Per Fluge Langeland Bluebird Box Trail. The goal is to record data about the birds using the 100 boxes.

- Are the boxes being used by Mountain Bluebird, Tree Swallow or House Wren?
- Are the birds on eggs and if so, how many?
- Are nestlings in the box?
- Are the boxes in need of repair?
- Do the poles need to be replaced?

Volunteers were divided into five teams with 3-4 people per team. Each team was assigned a set of 20 boxes and given a data sheet to record how boxes were being used. A big thank you to participants: Mary Ellen Allan, Jane Collison, Julia and Nick D'Alesandro, Joy Emory, Bonnie Fletcher, Cat Heinz, John Hill, Hailey and Melanie Jones, Jeanne Le Ber, Nancy Lombardo, Alicia Power, Knute Rife, Tim Rule, Ray Smith, Rebecca Wallace, and Patrick Watson.

We quickly became concerned about the health of the trail as many boxes were down and poles were bent. While a few boxes were obviously vandalized (one had three bullet holes), we suspect that many may have succumbed to the weight of this winter's record snow fall. Fifty boxes were down, and one box was missing.

The following chart details the species and numbers related to box use.

Box User	# Nests	# Eggs	# Chicks
Mountain Bluebird	9	15	13
Tree Swallow	31	57	0
House Wren	9	9	0
Empty	50		
Missing	1		

The Mountain Bluebird builds a simple grass nest. They also remove the nestling's fecal sac so that the nest itself remains clean. On the other hand, the Tree Swallow nest is insulated with lots of bird feathers and there is poop throughout the box. Very messy! The House Wren fills the box with small twigs making it difficult to accurately assess the number of eggs or chicks in the box.

Our team of volunteers will be making new boxes to replace the damaged boxes. Replacement of boxes and poles will be done during the September visit. If you are interested in participating keep an eye out for the field trip date and put on your work gloves. We would love to have your help.

Thanks again to all our caring and hearty volunteers.

## Mountain Dell Birders Spot CONI

by Jeanne Le Ber, GSLA Board

Seven birders gathered at Mountain Dell on Wednesday, June 7 for a morning of bird watching. In total our group sighted 34 species of birds. (Not too shabby!)

Our most curious sighting was a Common Nighthawk (CONI) sitting in a tree along the walking trail adjacent to and above Parleys Creek (aka Alexander Creek). The nighthawk remained in the tree as we passed going and coming back along the trail. The CONI posed for several pictures.

The CONI is most active at dawn and dusk as it hunts insects sweeping through the air with its cavernous mouth wide open. You often hear the bird overhead making a sharp, electric *peent* call. This bird also has a booming in-flight display that earns it its bullbat nickname.

The Cornell Lab All About Birds conservation note indicates that between 1966 and 2019 CONI numbers have declined by forty-eight percent. Threats to CONI include habitat loss and the use of pesticides that reduce the nighthawk's food supply, which includes mosquitoes. In addition, the clutch size of the nesting CONI is just two eggs though they may have two broods per year.

Keep an eye and ear out for this bird during dawn and dusk when it tends to be most active.



Common Nighthawk near Mountain Dell  
Photo by M. H. Roberts ©

### Save the Date! Save the Date! Save the Date!

The annual International Coastal Cleanup Day at Great Salt Lake State Park is scheduled for Saturday, September 16 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. This is a volunteer event hosted by **FRIENDS of Great Salt Lake** with the goal of picking up litter along the south shore of Great Salt Lake. Details provided in next *Pelican*.





**THE PELICAN**  
**Great Salt Lake Audubon**  
**P.O. Box 520867**  
**Salt Lake City UT 84152-0867**

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**GREAT SALT LAKE AUDUBON**  
**Local Membership Form**

Local membership is \$30 annually.

This fee includes a 1-year, electronic subscription (6 issues) to the GSLA newsletter, *THE PELICAN*.

1. Complete the local-membership form below.
2. Prepare a check in the amount of the membership fee (\$30) plus any desired donation amount.
3. Mail both to :

**GREAT SALT LAKE AUDUBON**  
**P.O. Box 520867**

**Salt Lake City UT 84152-0867**

4. Or go to GSLA website to join online; click *Membership* at the bottom of website page.

**NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
**(National Membership)**

**Online Membership Form Only**

Go to the following website to join and pay National Audubon Society dues.

<https://act.audubon.org/onlineactions/DH8fxTkoC0qHjXF9fZCtRw2>

By using this special webpage to join, you will also give the Great Salt Lake Audubon chapter a small monetary credit.

Membership Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_