

Chequamegon Chirps

Newsletter of the Chequamegon Bird Club

Medford, Wisconsin

August 2009

Volume 28 Number 8

NEXT MEETING:

Date: Monday, August 17, 2009

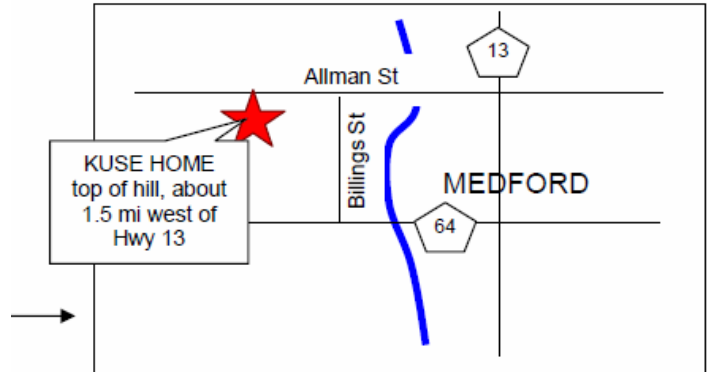
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Come earlier to visit, bird watch

Location: Hildegard & Loretta Kuse Home
W6219 Allman St
Medford
_ please use west driveway
_ and park on driveway

Program: Bird Identification by Sight & Song
Members

Refreshments: Gayle Davis & Claire Romanak

Please bring your own mug for beverages.



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New Bird Species

Discoveries of new species occur surprisingly frequently, especially in out-of-the-way places. Over 350 species were discovered in the eastern Himalayas in the last ten years and over 1000 species were found in the Mekong Delta area of Vietnam from 1997 to 2007. One of the most recently reported species from Asia is a new bird species from Laos. The Bare-faced Bulbul, as it has been named, is a thrush-sized bird that has only a few wispy feathers on the top of its head and is bald on the face. The rest of the bird is olive-green with a light-colored breast.

The bird lives in sparse trees, is not particularly secretive, and has a distinctive call, but the remoteness of the rather inhospitable area helps explain why it was not noted previously. The bird was found in a remote limestone region of Laos as part of a study funded by a mining company that has



Bare-faced Bulbul

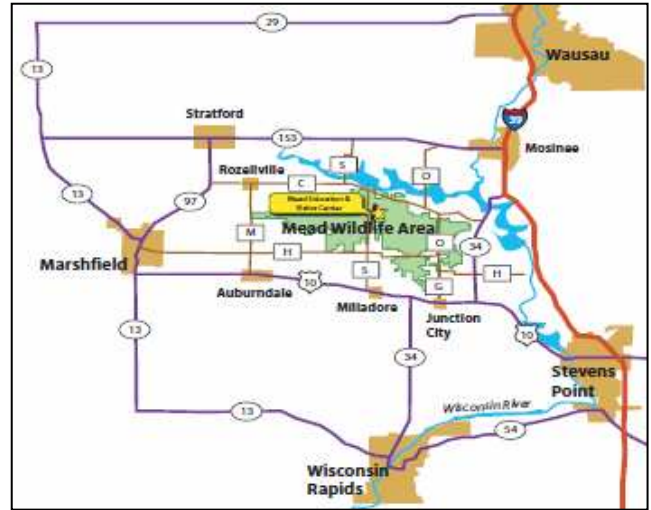
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Mead Celebrates 50th Anniversary

On August 29 the George W. Mead Wildlife Area will celebrate its 50th Anniversary with a full day of activities. The event is free. See events schedule below.

The celebration will be centered at the Mead Education & Visitor Center, which is located southeast of Stratford at S2148 County Hwy S. The phone number is 715-457-6771. The website is www.meadwildlife.org.

The Mead is well known as a prime birding area. With a variety of habitats, over 250 species have occurred there and over 125 species have been recorded as breeding there.



Schedule of Events

6:30 a.m. – 8 a.m.: Take a biking bird tour lead by Kent Hall around the Berkahn trail or a hiking bird tour lead by Dan Belter around the Audubon trail.

8 a.m. – 11 a.m.: All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast

Enjoy Buttermilk and Blueberry Pancakes topped with Pure Maple Syrup, Pork Sausage, Wisconsin Cheese, Applesauce & Ice Cream. Served with Coffee, Milk, & Cranberry Juice

Adults: \$6.00, 6-12: \$3.00 Under 6: Free Sponsored by Friends of the Mead/McMillan

10 a.m.: Bake Sale

Sponsored by Marathon High Eco Club

11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.: Food & Beer Stand

Serving Hamburgers, Brats, Hotdogs, Chips & Soda

Proceeds Benefit 50th Celebration & the Izaak Walton League

Scheduled Events:

- 7 a.m., Noon, & 2 p.m. - Wagon Tours into the "Interior" of the property
- 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. - Muddy Waters Dog training presentation and demonstration
- 10 a.m., Noon, & 2 p.m. - Warden's Laser Shot Shooting Simulator & BB gun shooting gallery
- 10 a.m. - Wetland Exploration Activity
- 1 p.m. - Wind Wise Activity
- Scavenger Hunt Activity of the day's events (win prizes)
- Mead Family Dedication and cake
- Walking tours of the Prairie Gardens and Audubon Prairie
- "Winged Artistry" Exhibit - the Fine Art of Bird Taxidermy
- Bird Taxidermy Artist mounting demonstration

Stop Bird Collisions with FREE Window Clings

Get 15 FREE WindowAlert static window clings for your home or office from the Wisconsin Humane Society's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. Up to one billion birds die every year in North America due to window collisions, but we can help prevent their deaths by applying simple clings to our windows! This initiative to save wild birds is made possible by the generosity of the Rusinow Family Foundation. Fall migration begins in mid-August and continues into November, so get your clings now to save birds heading south for winter. Send an e-mail to: sdiehl@wihumane.org to request your FREE window clings. Please provide your full mailing address. For more information about preventing bird window collisions at home or at work, visit the "Wings" web site at www.wihumane.org/wildlife/wings/default.aspx

Thanks! Scott

Scott Diehl, Manager, Wisconsin Humane Society Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Milwaukee



Bird Reports (June – July 2009)

Checklist observers: Rhoda Barber, Gayle Davis, Connie Decker, Hildegard and Loretta Kuse, Dennis Larson, Ken Luepke, Cathy Mauer, Gordy Ruesch, Doug and Willa Pledger, Claire Romanak, Greg and Cam Scott.

Total Number of Species Observed this month is: 139

- Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal , Green-winged Teal , Hooded Merganser, Ruddy Duck
- Ring-necked Pheasant, Ruffed Grouse, Wild Turkey, Northern Bobwhite (Kuse/Mauer/Ruesch)
- Common Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant
- American Bittern, Least Bittern, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron
- Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk (Davis), Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Merlin (Pledger), Peregrine Falcon (Luepke)
- Sora, American Coot, Sandhill Crane, Whooping Crane (Decker/Luepke), Killdeer, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Spotted Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Wilson's Snipe, American Woodcock
- Ring-billed Gull, Black Tern, Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Black-billed Cuckoo, Yellow-billed Cuckoo (Davis)
- Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl
- Common Nighthawk, Whip-poor-will, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker
- Olive-sided Flycatcher (Davis), Eastern Wood-Pewee, Alder Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird
- Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo (Davis), Warbling Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo
- Blue Jay, American Crow, Common Raven
- Horned Lark, Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Bank Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow
- Black-capped Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch
- House Wren, Winter Wren, Sedge Wren, Marsh Wren
- Golden-crowned Kinglet (Decker)
- Eastern Bluebird, Veery, Hermit Thrush, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher
- European Starling, Cedar Waxwing
- Golden-winged Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Pine Warbler, Black and White Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Mourning Warbler, Common Yellowthroat
- Scarlet Tanager
- Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow
- Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel
- Bobolink, Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Brewer's Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Northern Oriole
- Purple Finch, House Finch, Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch, Evening Grosbeak (Pledger), House Sparrow

SUNFLOWER SEED SALE

\$14.00 for 50# (tax exempt)

Compare & save – remember that most stores are now selling sunflower seed in 40# bags

- locally grown
- order for friends & relatives
- pick up at March Bird Club meeting

**Call Connie by Monday noon to order.
654- 5819**

Fundraiser - Bird Club makes \$2/bag.





Editor, Chequamegon Chirps
N4416 Crane Dr
Medford WI 54451-9376

«FIRST_NAME» «LAST_NAME» & «ADDITIONAL_NAME»
 «STREET_ADDRESS»
 «CITY» «STATE» «ZIP_CODE»

Club Officers 2009-2010

- President* – Claire Romanak
- Vice-president* – Connie Decker
- Secretary* – Hildegard Kuse
- Treasurer* – Cam Scott

Other Club Contacts

- Web site: www.chequamegonbirdclub.org
- Email: info@chequamegonbirdclub.org
- Newsletter Email: newsletter@chequamegonbirdclub.org
- Bird sightings: Connie Decker

August - September Outdoors

- Wild rice ripens
- Snapping turtle eggs hatch
- Monarch butterflies head south
- September 4 – Full (Harvest) moon
- Ruffed grouse broods disperse
- Hummingbirds begin migrating
- White-tailed deer shed velvet
- Migrating Canada geese begin arriving
- Hawks begin migrating
- Nighthawks migrate

Bald-face Bulbul (continued from p. 1)

copper and gold mines in the region. The bird was found in a protected area. It is the only known bald songbird in mainland Asia. There are only about forty known species of bald songbirds in the world, mostly in Africa.

What function the bulbul’s baldness serves is not known. Bald heads are thought to benefit vultures by being more sanitary for birds that eat carrion, but that does not apply to the bulbul. It is possible that the bald head benefits the bulbul in courtship.

An estimated 15,000 to 20,000 new species are discovered annually. This is the first new species of bulbul found in Asia in over 100 years. New discoveries remind us of the many amazing creatures that have evolved and are still evolving and of how important it is to protect the world in which they, and we, live.