## CALENDAR

**Please note:** To accommodate the current Covid situation, social distancing and masking are encouraged. Carpooling for field trips will be your own decision.

**Accessibility:** Walks are no more than 1 1/2 miles. See box at end of calendar for explanation of accessibility codes.

### MAY

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| 4     | **Wednesday 8:00 am bird walk**  
Farmington Bay: Meet at the parking area outside the  
gate to Eccles Wildlife Center at Farmington Bay Wildlife Management Area located at 1157 S. Waterfowl Way (1700 W Grovers Lane) Farmington. Leader-Ben | R P L B |
| 11    | **Wednesday 8:00 am bird walk**  
Woodland Park, Farmington: 300 S 200 E, Farmington, next to the police station. | Leader-Colin |
| 14    | **Saturday all day Great Salt Lake Bird Festival**  
It’s not too late to enjoy many activities at the Festival!  
Head out to the Wildlife Education Center located at 1157 S. Waterfowl Way (1100 W Grovers Lane) Farmington. More info at www.greatsaltlakebirdfest.com. | R P U L B |
| 17    | **Tuesday 6:30 pm WAS meeting**  
Meet at Ogden Nature Center on the front porch of the visitor center. We will take a walk about the trails to see what birds and other wildlife we can find. Bring your binoculars and a water bottle. We will wait about 15 minutes for people to arrive before we begin the walk. | R P U L B |
| 18    | **Wednesday 8:00 am bird walk**  
Garr Ranch on Antelope Island: Meet at the parking lot just before the toll booth  
This is a fee area. | Leader-Colin |
| 25    | **Wednesday 8:00 am bird walk**  
Ogden Regional Medical Center, South Ogden:  
Meet at the south end of the hospital parking lot on the west side of the building. | Leader-Ben |

### JUNE

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| 1     | **Wednesday 8:00 am bird walk**  
Mueller Park, Bountiful: 2200 Mueller Park Road. From I-15 take exit 315, go east on 2600 S (turns into Orchard Dr.). Turn east on 1800 S and go up and over the summit into Mueller Canyon. Meet at the parking area. (You may have to park on the street if lot is full). Leader-Colin | U M |
| 7     | **Tuesday 7:00 pm WAS Board Meeting.**  
Held remotely. | |
| 8     | **Wednesday 8:00 am field trip**  
Willard Bay State Park: Meet at the Pilot Flying J Travel Center (600 W 750 N, Willard) in the parking lot, south end. Exit I-15 at Willard and go east. This is a fee area. Leader-John | R P/U L B |
| 11    | **Saturday 8:00 am Saturday Bird Walk**  
Winter’s Grove/Jefferson Hunt Campground, Huntsville: Meet at north end of Smith’s parking lot (Harrison & 12th St., Ogden) at 8:00 am or in Huntsville at south end of the Nature Trail at 8:30 am (Rte. 39, just past Chris’, down short road on the left). Leader-John | P/U M |
| 15    | **Wednesday 8:00 am bird walk**  
Green Pond Trail near Snowbasin: Meet at the trailhead which is on New Snowbasin Road just past mile post 2. | Leader-Kris Purdy |
| 21    | **Tuesday 7:00 pm WAS meeting**  
Meet at Ogden Nature Center on the front porch of the visitor center. We will take a walk about the trails to see what birds and other wildlife we can find. Bring your binoculars and a water bottle. We will wait about 15 minutes for people to arrive before we begin the walk. | R P/U L B |
| 22    | **Wednesday 8:00 am bird walk**  
Farmington Pond/Mouth of Farmington Canyon, Farmington: Meet in the parking lot at 750 N 75 W Farmington. | Leader-Colin |
| 25    | **Saturday 8:00 am Field Trip**  
Bird the Donner/Mormon Trail: Meet at the DWR office, 515 E 5300 S (Adams Ave) in South Ogden. We will caravan to Henefer where we will pick up the trail, follow it to East Canyon Reservoir and go on to Jeremy Ranch Road (a dirt road). We will spot historical markers and birds along the way, ending at Mormon Flats. Target birds: Bald Eagle, Golden Eagle, Dusky Grouse, Hermit Thrush, American Dipper. | Continued on pg. 6 |
Bring water and a lunch. Leader-Dan This trip is mostly done by driving, maybe occasional restroom break.

29 Wednesday 8:00 am bird walk
Riverdale Trail South: Meet at the trailhead off Riverdale Road at 700 W. Leader-Dan R P L B

JULY
6 Wednesday 8:00 am bird walk
Great Salt Lake Nature Center, Farmington: Meet in the parking lot. 1157 S. Waterfowl Way (1100 W Glovers Lane) Farmington. Leader-Ben R P/U L B

Accessibility Codes

R - Restroom available
P - Paved trail
U - Unpaved trail
P/U Combination
L - Level trail
M - Moderately level trail
B - Benches available

CONTACTS FOR WALKS AND TRIPS

Dan Johnston: 801-645-8633
John Bellmon: 801-444-3704
Ben Johnson: 801-231-7008

ISTANBUL BIRD PALACES

by Jay Hudson

When Suleiman the Magnificent conquered Constantinople, formerly known as Istanbul, in the mid 15th century, good things began to happen for birds! Suleiman put his chief architect, Sinan, to work building the city to Muslim standards. The city’s name became Istanbul, and like all conquerors, he moved Muslims in to consolidate his new empire. Mosques and administrative buildings sprang up. There were many new places (with natural air-conditioning) for birds to nest in the lattice work openings of the new buildings. Muslims used birds for food and appreciated them for the effect their chirping had on the soul. As the city spread out, gardens and flowing water became part of the city’s charm, and they took the birds with them. Because the population understood that heat rises, they made openings for the hot air to escape. This principle was practiced from China to the island of Guam and places in between.

Architects designed bird “palaces” to mount on the sides of buildings. In 1878, the traveler de Amicis wrote “Mosque and grove, ancient wall and garden, palace and courtyard are full of song.” The “Palaces” mimicked the architectural design of the rich men’s buildings. They “…provided safe havens for sparrows, swallows, pigeons and doves to come and go in peace”. I envy the concept of man’s engagement with nonhumans. Building owners and mosque superintendents chose to work with nature.

Watching Ogden grow, I have seen little evidence of the ethics of working with nature. We covered over our streams for industry and private dwellings to squeeze in people and build profits. The traveler De Amicis wrote, “Religion puts emphasis on the oneness of creation, proper stewardship and protection of the earth.” I doubt that this is a serious part of subsidized housing development. We are lucky for those who developed zoos so we can reconnect with nature. Istanbul developed fountains that gushed rose-water and musk. Rome’s famous fountains were paid for by the wealthy to prove they were looking after the people. The Sultan’s Topkapi palace in Istanbul had aviaries that totaled over 6,500 birds, not for profit but for ambiance.

Istanbul’s mosques, tombs, schools, libraries, bridges, and water systems were all provided with bird palaces. One travel writer described Constantinople as a place blessed with “grace emanating from her myriad of birds of every species.” I have looked at Ogden’s visitor’s pamphlets and have missed a like endorsement. On the positive side, Weber County is blessed that it’s leaders and volunteers developed a mountain and rivers trail system that attracts many species of animals and birds.

We encourage our Audubon members to voice their thoughts to leaders at all levels on building a closer relationship between growth and nature. If Suleiman could do it centuries ago, we should be able to do it today.