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President's Report – Feb 2017 – Evergreen Audubon

3 minutes

We are barely into 2017 and I know it's going to be a great year.

We had our **Open House at the new Education Center** this past Saturday and I was extremely pleased with the turnout. We had over 50 people including existing members, new members, a teacher, and several families. As expected, there was lots of interest in our new [After School Programs](#) and [Summer Camps](#). What wasn't expected was the number of folks who expressed interest in volunteering. As you may know, *getting involved* has been one of my messages since I took over as president. For ideas on how you might contribute to the success of our organization visit my recent article at:

<https://www.evergreenaudubon.org/evergreen-audubon-volunteer-opportunities/>

Earlier this month we celebrated at the **Annual Banquet**, honoring Fran Enright, Rachel Hutchison, Chuck Aid and all the volunteers, donors and members. You can read more about the banquet highlights at: <https://www.evergreenaudubon.org/annual-banquet-highlights/>.

During the banquet, Brad announced the **birding challenge for 2017**; we're calling it "The Third of the Birds" challenge. The goal will be to sight a third of the species previously recorded in a specific area. You can achieve the challenge by finding 106 species in the Bear Creek Watershed or 129 species in Jefferson County or 71 species in Clear Creek County or 166 in Colorado. That provides a lot of opportunities to get out and Explore the birds around you. Of course, you can try to win the challenge in one or all four areas. I've got over 25 species in Colorado already!

Don't forget about [National Audubon's Great Backyard Bird Count](#) (GBBC), Friday February 17 through Monday February 20th. The GBBC is a fun, and easy event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations. Participants are asked to count birds for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as you wish) on one or more days of the four-day event. Report your sightings online at [birdcount.org](#). Evergreen Audubon is kicking off their own [GBBC on Friday February 17th](#) with a children's event at the Evergreen Library (thanks Carol Burdick) from 1:30 -4:30pm.

During the month of February, we'll be promoting the Evergreen Nature Center in the Evergreen Library's front lobby. Stop by and check in out.

-Kathy