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President's Report – May 2017 – Evergreen Audubon

2-3 minutes

The 2017 season of the Evergreen Nature Center is officially open! Thanks to all the volunteers who came out on nesting day to help set up our wonderful treasure. We'll be open on the weekends until Memorial Day then switch to summer hours which include some weekdays as well. We still need several visitor assistants, so don't be shy, come on join the fun. We'll make sure you will be volunteering with either Colleen, the center director, or Susan, our seasonal naturalist or an experienced visitor assistant. Check the calendar for upcoming visitor assistance training sessions.

I hope you can join us for our 23rd annual Dawn Chorus on Saturday, May 13th. We meet at the nature center at 6am for coffee and snacks then head out around the lake to listen and see our feathered friends. Last year was my first year of attending and am I glad I did! Everyone made me feel welcomed and there was an amazing amount of energy considering it was so early in the morning. Dawn Chorus is a wonderful time to be at the lake; very few people are there except your fellow birders and it's very quiet giving you a chance to hear the chorus of birds. It's an amazing sound. Evergreen Audubon's best birders are there

to help you identify the bird calls and songs. If you are working on the 2017 birding challenge, you don't want to miss this event.

Last year, we saw or heard many of the usual lake birds (Double-crested Cormorants, Barn Swallows, Song Sparrows and Red-winged Blackbirds) but we also had a few special visitors, including a Lark Bunting that rarely comes up the hill and a Clay-colored Sparrow. For me, being a newer birder, I was also introduced to the Plumbeous Vireo, Say's Phoebe and Yellow-rumped Warbler. In the past 22 years, I'm sure there have been a few snowy Dawn Choruses, but last year was perfect weather, making getting up so early a bit easier. Let's hope we're lucky again this year.

Thank you to all the members who supported Evergreen Audubon and the Evergreen Nature Center in this year's annual appeal. We couldn't be successful without your support.

-Kathy