

President's Report – Winter 2018

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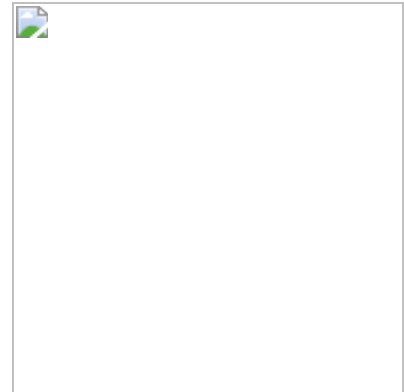
Brad Andres

January 14, 2018

Happy New Year!

Like most people, Evergreen Audubon will start out the year with some changes. Starting with this issue of the Dipper, we will be publishing the Dipper quarterly instead of monthly. The Dipper will include more interest-articles and less about upcoming events. Events and other announcements will be communicated via a new electronic newsletter that we plan to send out twice a month. We also plan on upping our social media presence and will continue to post articles on the website. If you don't want to miss anything, consider following us on Twitter or Facebook or using the feed-burner service which will email when a new article is posted on our website. The social media links can be found at the top of our website; the "feed" icon looks like radio signals.

For those who missed the Annual Banquet and 2018 Kick-Off Party, here's what you missed! Brad gave us a humorous review of the birding year, ending with presenting hats to the new folks that achieved the 2017 birding challenge (New cap-getters) and acknowledging those who were repeat achievers (Salty crows). He ended his talk with naming Chuck Aid as our Birder of the Year!



Colleen honored the Nature Center volunteers, including a special call-out to Sylvia Robertson, Donald Randall and Cindy Barge. Her Volunteer of the Year award was given to Melissa Leasia for her dedication to both the Nature Center and the Education Center.

I continued the celebration by thanking our other volunteers, including those who help with our bird studies, build & sell bird boxes, help with the Dipper newsletter, provide snacks & greet guests for our chapter meetings, and I added a special thanks to our hard working board members. I also thanked Mendhi Audlin, Jenna Audlin and Eva Fuse for being such good ambassadors for Evergreen Audubon. I finished up the evening by giving the President's Award to Marilyn Rhodes for her hard work on our annual Wreath Sale and for her special knack bringing new members to Evergreen Audubon. She has been selling wreaths on behalf of Evergreen Audubon for 23 years bringing in over \$46,000 for our fundraising efforts! Marilyn has also contributed many years of Bird Business articles to the Dipper.

For those who missed the December Chapter Meeting, the motion to eliminate term limits for Board Members was passed. In February we will be voting to elect returning board members and to add Dwight Souder to the Board. Look for an email prior to the meeting with details on how you can do a proxy vote.

If you haven't heard, National Audubon and National Geographic have partnered to make 2018 the Year of the Bird. And, JeffCo Open Space is having their own Big Year. We will do our best to keep you posted on the various events. And... Stay tuned for details about our own 2018 Birding Challenge.

Whatever your New Year's resolutions are, I hope you'll make room for a few more...

1) Become a member of Evergreen Audubon or renewed your membership. Membership letters will go out shortly or you can join online at: <https://evergreenaudubon.org/get-involved/membership/>

2) Start thinking of Evergreen Audubon as a co-op and find the time to volunteer in some capacity during 2018.

-Kathy