

# Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge

## Volunteer Newsletter

October 2013



### What's New?

WE'RE OPEN!! I speak for everyone when I say 'it's great to be back!' We are working hard at getting back on schedule. The birds are here in full force, the waterfowl hunting season has opened, birders and photographers are here as well. Water levels are being checked and adjustments made. The L-line construction project will start up again. And at the Wildlife Education Center we are the getting back to business as usual.

It was an interesting 16 days during the Government Shutdown. Everyone but our Project Leader Bob and LEO Greg were sent home. Lucky for us Zone Officer Lisa and Special Agent Brian were able to stay on the job as well. Together they spent countless hours at the Refuge gates upholding the shutdown status.



During the closure the waterfowl migrated into the Refuge in large numbers. It was a 'duck-nado' said one officer. The arrival of waterfowl signaled the departure of other birds. Shorebirds, egrets, and pelicans are all moving to warmer climates. The swallows are gone, but the American pipits are arriving and whether we are open or closed, the seasons march on.

### Thumbs-Up!

Three CHEERS to our Environmental Education Volunteers: Les Talbot, Rebecca Browers, De Ann Lester, and Charlotte Mason (new SCA)! During the shutdown they worked with our partners at

Hardware Ranch WMA to continue the 4<sup>th</sup> grade field trip program. Marni, Jodie and Brad (all from Hardware) were awesome too! Without everyone pulling together, we could not have continued the field trips and local 4<sup>th</sup> graders would have missed a great experience. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!!!

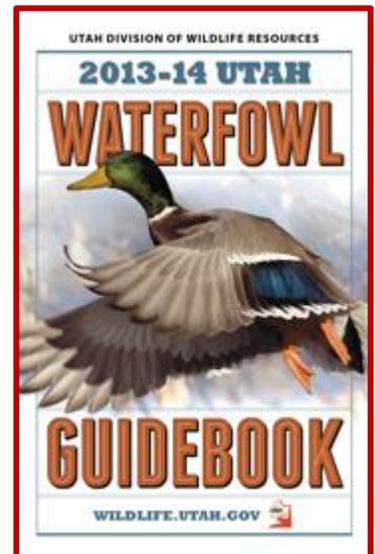


And how about a brand new intern! Visitor Services staff is thrilled to welcome Charlotte Mason! Charlotte is an intern from the Student Conservation Association and comes to us from Indiana. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science from Indiana University and will be helping the Visitor Services staff with Environmental Education and much more. We are excited for her fresh ideas and creativity and she will be

here through July 2014! Welcome Charlotte!

### Refuge Roundup

Water and hunting update: The waterfowl hunting season got underway on October 17<sup>th</sup>. After 2 weeks of being closed the number of birds on the Refuge is astounding! As for water, most of the units open to hunting are at target levels. The north end of Unit 9 and 2C remain dry, due to the L-line construction project. Don't forget, we have all the hunting information (Q&A, maps, water updates) at the front desk and available online. Don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.



## Odds and Ends

- 🍁 Since we had to cancel our event on October 12<sup>th</sup>. The **2013 Amateur Photo Contest Awards** will be handed out on Saturday November 30<sup>th</sup> along with our Turkey Day open house. We appreciate all your patience. More details below!
- 🍁 Don't forget to visit the Refuge yourself! Fall is a great time to get out and around the Auto Loop to see all the ducks. Stop in at the Education Center first and borrow one of the Audio Auto Tour CDs. This CD has 26 stops and will entertain you from the moment you leave the Education Center.
- 🍁 We need extra help in the Avocet Corner bookstore! If you are interested please let Tracy Gilson know before October 29<sup>th</sup>! Bookstore phone: 435-734-6423
- 🍁 Ring-necked pheasant general season will be open on the Refuge from November 2<sup>nd</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>. Pheasant hunting is allowed only in the areas open to waterfowl hunting.

## Upcoming Events and Volunteer Opportunities

### 🍁 Saturdays in November: **Free Fall Films!**

Returning to the Refuge big screen is our FREE Fall Films. Every Saturday in November, at 1pm, we will be showing a family-friendly movie about nature, wildlife and the great outdoors. This year's fun and educational film schedule: Nov. 2 –Beavers: The Biggest Dam Movie, Nov. 9 – March of the Penguins, Nov. 16 – Ravens, Nov. 23 – Fly Away Home and Nov. 30, noon showing - My Life as a Turkey!



### 🍁 **November 29 & 30: Photo Contest Awards & Turkey Day Open House**

And even though the Refuge will be closed on Thanksgiving . . . it will be OPEN for an Open House on Friday and Saturday, November 29 & 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be information aplenty on turkeys and animal tracks, kid's crafts, and at 10am and noon both days, a free showing of "My Life as a Turkey" in the Auditorium. Plus, the prizes for our **2013 Amateur Photo Contest** will awarded at 1:00pm in the auditorium. We hope you can join us!



## Mark Your Calendars and Save the Dates!

- **Saturdays in November: Free Fall Films**
- **Nov. 11: Veterans Day (we're closed)**
- **Nov. 28: Thanksgiving (we're closed)**
- **Nov. 29 & 30: Turkey Days Open House (we're OPEN)**
  - **Nov. 30: Photo Contest Awards 1pm**

### **Avocet Corner Bookstore:**

*The bookstore is again participating in the Box Elder county Shop At Home program...so dollars spent shopping here during the holidays count toward filling up your Shop At Home card! You can get your cards to fill up to \$250 at the bookstore, too, so start your holiday shopping at home now! The program runs Nov. 1 thru Dec. 24.*

**Box Elder County Winter Shop At Home**

Shop at participating local businesses listed below for chances to win great prizes. Cards are available at all participating businesses. Each time you spend \$250 you may enter into the drawing by putting your card(s) in the "Drop of Boxes".

**Brigham Drop Box Locations:**  
The Chamber, Holmes Clothing, Honeyville Farms, Kent's, Shopko, Smith's, Wal-Mart

**Tremonton Drop Box Locations:**  
ALCO, Hales Bros. Flooring, Kent's Market, Tremonton Leader

Program runs from Nov. 2nd to Dec. 24th. Drawing held on January 2nd.

**PARTICIPATING BRIGHAM AREA BUSINESSES**

ACE Hardware - 220 W. Main - Alton's Floral - 37 S. Main - All About Books - 45 W. Main, Ste. 101  
 All About Us - 100 S. Main, Ste. 101 - Antiques Here and There - 11 S. Main  
 Animal Corner Bookstore - 601 N. Myrtle Blvd (Highway) - Bart's Cafe - 60 S. Main  
 Big O Shoes - 1025 S. Main - Brigham Plaza & Gift - 127 S. Main - Bookarama - 19 S. Main  
 Carol Louise Unique Creations - 87 S. Main - Coppins Hardware - 74 S. Main  
 Country Toy Printing - 131-133-135 - Cover Up - 100 - 102-104 - Cycles by Moore - 100 S. Main #1  
 Dana's Auto Group - 647 S. Main - 440 W. - Designer's Place - 235 W. 1300 S.  
 Drexler Floral & Gift - 20 S. Main - El Paso Maps - 440 S. Main #100 - Georgia Tire Factory - 2015 Main  
 Silver Foxes - 100 S. Main - Great Lakes - 100 S. Main - Great Lakes - 100 S. Main  
 Hair Design - 121 S. Main - Hammer Photography - 23 W. 100 S. - Hansen Jewelry - 12 S. Main  
 Heritage Music Company - 119 S. Commerce Way - Holmes Clothing - 44 South Main  
 Honeyville Farms - 1000 N. Main #201 - Maui Scales - 100 S. Main - House Village - 100 S. Main #1  
 Jeff's Hair Care - 10 S. Main - Jeff's Hair Care - 10 S. Main - JFF Auto - 100 S. Main