

Chequamegon Chirps



May 20, 2019 Volume 38 Number 5

The May meeting will be held at the Medford School Forest Monday, May 20th.

This is located about 8 ½ miles east of Medford on Highway 64. It is on the south side of the road a half mile east of where County Highway C goes north of 64. There is a sign by the entrance. There will be a bird walk starting at 5:30 and the meeting will start at 6:30. There will be a campfire and you can bring hot dogs or fixings for smores. Bring your own utensils and a chair. If it is raining we will meet indoors. Ticks are out and other pests may be out in force by the 20th. Plan accordingly. Probably good to bring footwear for wetter conditions if we get rain about that time. One of the things to discuss at the meeting will be where to hold the June picnic. If you have suggestions, please share them at this time. -

Mead Wildlife bird walk

Saturday, May 18 is the day for a trip to the Mead Wildlife area. The meeting place will be at 2148 Highway S (which is south of Highway C in Marathon County) at 7 A.M. There will be car pooling with a departure time of 6 A.M. from Hardee's in Medford. Anyone who would like a ride should contact Joe Scott at 715-965-3498 for information. Participants can meet up anywhere between Medford and the Mead area.

As expected, many new specie--54--were recorded by members between the March and April meetings. They are as follows: **Geese**; Snow and Cackling. **Swan**; Trumpeter. **Ducks**; American Widgeon, American Black Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Ring-necked, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Hooded Merganser. **Loon**; Common. **Grebes**; Pied-billed, Horned. **Pelican**; American White. **Heron**; Great Blue. **Vulture**; Turkey. **Hawks**; Osprey, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Sharp-Shinned, Cooper's, Broad-winged, Red-tailed, Rough-legged, Merlin. **Cranes**; Sandhill, Whooping. **Plover**; Killdeer. **Sandpipers**; Wilson's Snipe, American Woodcock. **Gull**; Ring-billed. **Dove**; Eurasian Collared. **Owl**; Eastern-screech. **Kingfisher**; Belted. **Woodpecker**; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. **Flycatcher**; Eastern Phoebe. **Swallow**; Tree. **Wren**; Winter. **Kinglet**; Golden Crowned. **Thrushes**; Eastern Bluebird, Hermit. **Warbler**; Yellow-rumped. **Sparrows**; Chipping, Fox, Song. **Blackbirds**; Red-winged, Eastern Meadowlark, Rusty, Common Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird.

Try this quiz for a Lark

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| 1-In golf, two below par on a hole. | A-Cardinal |
| 2-Tool for opening hard-shelled fruits. | B-Chat |
| 3-To loose courage. | C-Crane |
| 4-Wide brimmed hat. | D-Duck |
| 5-To pedal wares by crying them. | E-Eagle |
| 6-Toy to fly in the wind. | F-Grouse |
| 7-To ingest. | G-Hawk |
| 8-To shoot at individuals from hiding. | H-Kite |
| 9-Capable of moving at great speed. | I-Nutcracker |
| 10-Hoisting machine. | J-Oriole |
| 11-To converse informally. | K-Pigeon |
| 12-In show business, an unsuccessful production. | L-Ruff |
| 13-One who is easily swindled (slang). | M-Skimmer |
| 14-Baltimore baseball player. | N-Snipe |
| 15-To grumble. | O-Swallow |
| 16-Church official. | P-Swift |
| 17-When you come to a low branch. | Q-Quail |
| 18-In Bridge, to trump a trick. | R-Turkey |

Answers on page 4

Warm weather and more color in our lives. Such good therapeutic medicine for people drug down by a cold and snowy winter that was slow to end. Bright green grass and the Tamarac tree in my yard is showing the first pale blush of new needles. Baltimore Oriole orange, Indigo Bunting blue, Goldfinch yellow, Cardinal red and Rose Breasted Grosbeak colors make a great palate for the changing season. These were colors seen outside my kitchen window as I've been typing this paragraph. What a wealth of visual senses. Does slow up typing, though. Life is good—especially on a warm and sunny spring day.

Potential Life Span of Some North American Birds

(From official banding records of birds from files of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Species	Years	Species	years
Red-winged Blackbird	4-14 ½	Eastern Bluebird	3-6 ½
Cardinal	4-13 ½	Gray Catbird	4-10
Black-capped Chickadee	5-12 ½	Cowbird	5-13 ½
Brown Creeper	3-5	Common Crow	6-14
Mourning Dove	5-10	Rock Dove	6-16+
House Finch	6-10	Purple Finch	6-12 ½
Yellow-shafted Flicker	5-12 ½	Great-crested Flycatcher	6-11
American Goldfinch	4-8 ¾	Common Grackle	4-16
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	4-9	Blue Jay	5-15
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	5-15	Junco	3-10 ¾
Kestrel	2-4	Eastern Kingbird	3-8
Purple Martin	4-8	Red-breasted Nuthatch	7 ½
White-breasted Nuthatch	5-9 ¾	Baltimore Oriole	6-8
Eastern Phoebe	8-9	American Robin	4-11 ½
Fox Sparrow	6-9 ¾	House Sparrow	13 ½
Tree Sparrow	6-9	White-crowned Sparrow	7-13 ½
White-throated Sparrow	5 ½ -9 ½	Starling	6-16
Barn Swallow	6-8 ¼	Cliff Swallow	4-5
Tree Swallow	5-9	Scarlet Tanager	3-9
Brown Thrasher	4-12 ¾	Tufted Titmouse	3 ½-12
Cedar Waxwing	3-7	Downy Woodpecker	4-10 ½
Hairy Woodpecker	7-12 ¾	House Wren	5-7
Red-bellied Woodpecker	6 ½ -20 ½	Winter Wren	5 ¾

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Club contacts

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May and June events

Full moons May 18 and June 17	1. E	10. C
Much more daylight	2. I	11. B
Warblers arriving and passing through	3. Q	12. R
Waterfowl hatching	4. M	13. K
Schools closing—an opportunity to	5. G	14. J
spend extra time with children and grandchildren	6. H	15. F
Summer species continue to arrive	7. O	16. A
Watch out for turtles and other road creatures	8. N	17. D
Enjoy the outdoors	9. P	18. L