

Backyard Bird Watching with Harry:

by Harry Johnson



Backyard Bird Watching by Harry Johnson is brought to you by

My Place Cafe

'Where Good Times, Good Folks and Good Food Come Together'

Its springtime and the wild flowers are coming out all over the Valley. If you're like me, you've noticed an increase in birds coming to your feeders. Please take the time to go out and clean your feeders.

One of the reasons I'm doing this article is to promote bird watching in the Valley. The other is to get kids interested in birds and appreciate birds as something other than an object to throw rocks at. It can be a fun and inexpensive hobby for kids and families.

Bird Watching for kids:

There isn't a better nature-oriented activity for kids than bird watching. What child hasn't been delighted to see

his first bird up close? Birds are a natural delight for kids, and they can be seen anywhere in the world. Even in your own backyard.

It's more than observing the birds. It's taking an interest in the actual birds they are seeing. It's learning their names, identifying their markings, and observing their activities. It's listening to and learning their songs. It's learning their behavior and habitats. It's learning and appreciating nature and the world around them that doesn't include the T.V. or video games.

Where can you go to watch birds?

Bird watching can be

as simple as setting up a bird feeder or bird bath in your backyard which invites wild birds to come to you. Walking in your neighborhood or hiking are great ways for children to get exercise that turns into a fun fulfilled adventure. Start with your backyard or neighborhood and learn the birds there. As you become familiar with the local birds, it's time to expand out. You may think about taking trips to areas that will feature different species than you have locally.

What do you need?

Bird watching is an inexpensive hobby, especially compared to other activities for children. You'll need a

pair of binoculars. It is more fun if everyone has their own pair, so nobody misses out on a sighting. If you check the internet you can find binoculars just for kids. You don't need an expensive pair for starters. They will need a field guide to help them identify what they are seeing. Check the local used book stores before you go out and buy a book. I would try the *Petersons Field Guide* as your first book. If your children are older you may want to think about getting them a camera. Have them start a bird list of the birds they've seen and dates and where they've seen them. In the *Petersons Field Guide* you will find the

bird list in the back of the book. Just check off the birds you see and mark the date. It's very easy.

Backyard Bird Feeding:

Don't miss out on one of the best bird watching activities for people of all ages, especially for children, feeding birds in your own backyard. It can be as easy as putting out a feeder or spreading the seed out on the ground. But if you really want to attract birds add a bird bath. You may want to think about adding a bird house and sit back and watch the new family move in. All you have to do is watch the smiles come when it's time for the new families to have babies. The

Bird watching and back-

yard feeding are wonderful hobbies for the whole family to enjoy. Try it one afternoon and see for yourself how your family bonds while enjoying the fresh air, local scenery and most of all, the natural world around you.

Remember I'm always at My Place for breakfast each Saturday morning. Come on by and say hi. For questions, you can email me at birdwatching@frontiernet.net .

Thank you,
Harry Johnson

A moment with Mary:

By Mary Halvorsen

A little girl stands in yellow shorts, the material stretchy, a raised seam down the middle of each leg, the lone embellishment on the bright polyester. She is barely able to hold still, as her mother works a yellow striped top over her head. It is the first warm day after a long winter, and she bolts down the stairs, through the living room, and out the front door. She wears no shoes, and feels the cool concrete of the patio, then wet grass, on her feet. She runs past the white wood fence her father built, and on to the sidewalk of the street where she lives.

Thick, gray trunks of Elm trees line both sides of the sloping side street, fronting every home, their branches meeting in the middle, over worn, chipped asphalt. Some days it gets so hot, melting tar starts to ooze through cracks in its hard, gray surface. The neighborhood kids hop across it barefoot, feeling the burn.

They step from their baths at night and climb into bed with its faded, black remnants imbedded on the soles of their feet, like summer tattoos.

She catches sight of her friend rounding the corner down the hill, and transitions from running to skipping, throwing her arms wide. She calls his name twice, exclaiming, "It's spring again, once more!" as if announcing it, will make it stay longer, not disappear overnight into the heat of summer. Maybe she was telling herself to grab the moment, that slice of life, and run with it, an attitude that came naturally as a child. There was no need to read a book about how to be happy, or how to live in the moment, back then.

Five decades later, across the country, on the first warm, sunny day of spring, that much older girl turns her bike onto a country road two

miles from home. Gearing down, she notices that a horse with a white stripe down the middle of its face, is watching her pass. Beyond a rusting gate and barbed wire fence, a patch of surface water looks like a pond in a sea of grass, reflecting the sky. She pedals past wide swaths of blackberries lining the road, birds diving at them from the phone wire above. She continues past an old red tractor, and a tilled, brown field. She is not riding barefoot, or in shorts. She sports a helmet, sunglasses, sensible shoes, and a bright orange vest to be visible to traffic. In her pocket are pepper spray and a cell phone. Leaning into the incline that ends at her driveway, she feels the cold racing through her, takes in the open road, and remembers hurtling down the sidewalk on an oversized bike, unafraid.

She does not live in a neighborhood anymore, but a community. She has no sidewalk

to skip down, and the stories of her neighbors, like their homes, remain at a distance. Walking barefoot on blistering asphalt once seemed like nothing. Stubbed toes were a minor inconvenience, and shoes were for church on Sunday. Running towards friends, and climbing on a bicycle for the thrill of the ride, were daily spring activities. People move and neighborhoods change, but being swept up by the rush of spring remains a constant.

Robin Williams once offered, "Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!'" And toward the end of her life, Nadine Stair mused, "If I had my life to live over, I would start barefoot earlier, and stay that way later in the fall."

No matter age or address, it's spring again, once more.

Church News

Community Bible Church

It's Impossible!

"For with God nothing will be impossible."

Luke 1:37

Supernatural – existing or occurring outside the normal experience or knowledge of man; not explainable by the known forces or laws of nature.

I have a box in my office at the church – I call it my God box. I bring it out on occasion when I am speaking to the church about our relationship and our interaction with God. I tell them that they have put God in a box by not believing, by not trusting Him, and by not giving Him His rightful place as God. Our culture is missing a great truth about God. He is, by nature of being God, supernatural. God is eternal. He has no beginning, no ending, He possesses all power, all knowledge, and He can be everywhere at the same time (omnipresent). We tend to think of

God and picture Him like ourselves – which is very limiting. It's impossible to cram God into our limited, earthly context. I have had conversations with people who have trouble believing in God or believing the truths that the Bible teaches about God, because they can't figure it all out. Join the club – neither can anyone else! God's ways are simply beyond our comprehension on many levels. Yet in His mercy God has shown the world what He would be like as a man. He did one more impossible thing – God became a man and lived among us. The first chapter of the book of John in the Bible tells us this. The Bible tells us that if we seek Him, we will find Him – but we must choose to seek Him.

In Christ,
Pastor Dave

Ministry at CBC

Sunday, April 27th
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday
Prayer 10:30 a.m.
A.W.A.N.A. April 27th
6:15-8:00 p.m.
Age 3 to Grade 6

Community Christian Academy
Preschool – 12th grade

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

"Ta-Dah"! Christ is Risen!

(John 20:1-31)

A Sunday School teacher had just finished telling her third graders about how Jesus was crucified and placed in a tomb with a great stone sealing the opening. Then, wanting to share the excitement of the resurrection, she asked: "And what do you think were Jesus' first words when He came out of that tomb?"

A little girl in the back of the

room shot her arm into the air and leaped to her feet and shouted excitedly "I know, I know!"

"Good" said the teacher, "Tell us, Bethany what did he say." Extending her arms high into the air she said: "TA-DAH!"

The resurrection of Jesus Christ was indeed for the world a "TA-DAH" moment. It has touched the lives of believers throughout the ages. On Easter day Christ came out of the

tomb and into our lives with power and victory. That is why we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. But too many of us seem unable to connect to that miracle.

One of the stumbling blocks of faith is often our reluctance to accept anything outside of the realm of our experience. When Mary first told the apostles that Jesus was risen, they didn't believe her. It was outside of what they accepted as possible.

It's hard to imagine what the Apostles had been going through during the time between Jesus' death on Friday and his Resurrection on Sunday morning. They must have felt lost and abandoned. But they hadn't been abandoned. They had just forgotten that with God, even the impossible is possible.

Professor Charlie Moule, the famous New Testament theologian once said: "The birth and rapid rise

of the Christian Church... remains an unsolved enigma for any historian who refuses to take seriously the one and only possible explanation to be offered ... the resurrection." It was the truth of the Resurrection that ignited the early Church.

God has given us the miracle of the resurrection so that we can have confidence in the truth of our salvation and enjoy the gift of eternal life.

"Ta-Dah"! Christ is Risen!

Places of Worship

BRIDGEVIEW
COMMUNITY CHURCH
5181 Holland Loop Rd., CJ
541-592-3923
"Come Join the Worship!"
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Sonny Moore
www.kbcc.us

7th DAY ADVENTIST
265 S. Old Stage Rd., CJ
Sabbath School - 9:30 a.m.
Saturday Worship 11 a.m.
Pastor Christian Martin
Church (541) 592-3218
Madrone Adventist School
541-592-3330

IMMANUEL UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
200 Watkins St., CJ
Phone 541-592-3876
Pastor Charles Chase
Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 9:15 a.m.
Child-care for small children

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
Pastor Dave Gordon
113 S. Caves Ave., CJ
Office: 541-592-3896
Email: cbccca@gmail.com
Sunday Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Christian Academy
Pre-K to 12th grade
Awana - Wednesdays - 6 p.m.

ST. PATRICK OF THE FOREST
CATHOLIC CHURCH
407 W. River St., CJ
541-592-3658
Fr. William Holtzinger, Pastor
Mass - Sunday 11 a.m..
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Sunday - 10:30 a.m.
Holy Days TBA

TAKILMA BIBLE CHURCH
10343 Takilma Road, Takilma
Pastor Dan Robinson
Bible Study / Prayer Time
9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m
Wednesday Bible Study
7 p.m

First Baptist Church of Selma
18285 Redwood Hwy., Selma
541-597-4169
Pastor Monty Pope
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Worship - 11 a.m.

GOOD SHEPHERD
LUTHERAN CHURCH
East River Street
& Lewis Court, CJ
Annemarie Richardson
Lay Pastor.
Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 10 a.m.
Church Phone: 541-592-2290
www.goodshepherdlutheraniv.net

VALLEY EVANGELICAL
FREE CHURCH
498 Laurel Road, CJ
P.O. Box 1248
Pastor Marvin Porter
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service - 11 a.m.
evfree@frontiernet.net
541-592-6160

FOUNTAIN OF LIFE
ASSEMBLY OF GOD
451 S. Junction Ave., CJ
541-592-3956
Pastor Mark McLean
Morning Worship
9:30 & 11 a.m.
Wednesday - 7 p.m.
Adult Bible Study

ST. MATTHIAS EPISCOPAL
CHURCH
25904 Redwood Hwy., CJ
541-592-2006
Rev. James Boston
Worship Service - 5 p.m.
1st Sunday of each month

THE CHURCH OF JESUS
CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY
SAINTS
209 S. Junction Ave., CJ
Sacrament Meet - 10 a.m.
Sunday School - 11:20 a.m.
Priesthood, Relief Soc. -
12:10 p.m.
First Councilor
Larry Hammersmith
541-592-3919



LORNA BYRNE MIDDLE SCHOOL YARD & BAKE SALE

FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH

@ LORNA BYRNE MIDDLE SCHOOL

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

RAIN OR SHINE



WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR THE YARD SALE
TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS FROM 10:00 AM TO 11:00 AM
AT A+ STORAGE IN CAVE JUNCTION. TO ARRANGE
SATURDAY PICK UP OR DROP OFF PLEASE CONTACT
HEATHER McLANAHAN 5414500946. ALL FUNDS
RAISED WILL GO TOWARD THE 8TH GRADE MOVING UP
CEREMONY AND FIELD TRIP.

*ITEMS ACCEPTED- GENTLY WORN CLOTHING, BOOKS, TOYS & GAMES,
FURNITURE (PLEASE CALL AHEAD IF DONATING BIG/HEAVY FURNITURE)
HOME DÉCOR & ART WORK, SMALL HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES &
ELECTRONICS, DVDS & CDS, COLLECTIBLES.
*PLEASE NO LARGE APPLIANCES, MATTRESSES OR BOX SPRINGS, BEDDING
OR BROKEN ITEMS.