

Evening grosbeaks visit



BIRD-WATCHING
EH Van Blaricom



Courtesy photo/EH Van Blaricom

A grosbeak photographed some years ago on Hurricane Creek. Recently a half-dozen Evening Grosbeaks visited the feeders at Joseph's Alpine House.

I was pleasantly surprised to see five or six Evening Grosbeaks at my bird feeders here at Alpine House. They were gorging on sunflower seeds but they were only here for two or three days and were gone.

I think they were on their way to the forests of Northern British Columbia which are their nesting grounds, and only made a pit stop here for lunch. They spend their winters in California, Arizona and New Mexico.

Like all grosbeaks, they have stout beaks for cracking seeds, although they do eat several insects such as beetles during

summer. However, in the winter they quite often travel in flocks and are unpredictable in their wanderings. They will eat juniper and mountain ash berries that can be found right here in Wallowa County.

Like many other wilderness

birds, they don't seem to fear humans and I photographed this male grosbeak just a few feet from our kitchen window when we lived on our five acres along Hurricane Creek.

Their song is kind of a jerky warble that starts low and increases in volume, then ends suddenly like they are all out of breath. Their nests are on the lower limbs of coniferous trees and bushes. They lay three or four eggs, but very few of their nests are ever found by man since they nest in the dense forests of Canada where humans seldom visit.

CJD Court 1st twice

The 70th Annual CJD Court took first place in the Equestrian division of two recent parades.

The CJD Court, which includes Queen Addie Kilgore and Princesses Marli Tracy Mallory and Jesse Woodhead, traveled to Spokane, Wash., on May 15, to participate in the Lilac Festival. There the trio won first place out of all Equestrian entries.

Their next stop was the Eastern Oregon Livestock Show (EOLS) parade and rodeo held June 12 where they also took home the first place entry.

The girls dazzled the crowd at both parades in their stunning all-white sueded created by Denise Kuppinger. At the EOLS parade the girls were joined by the CJD directors and were followed by the beautiful pickup donated for the girls to use for the summer by Main Street Motors and the official CJD horse trailer. The girls got to do their first run-ins and looked just as great on their horses as they did off.



Courtesy photo

The CJD Court at the Eastern Oregon Livestock Show. From left: Princess Jesse Woodhead, Queen Addie Kilgore, Princess Marli Tracy-Mallory.

26th **OREGON MOUNTAIN CRUISE** 2015

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Another Great Car Show Weekend!

Bank promotes Witherrite, Shelton

Community Bank recently promoted two employees of its Joseph Branch.

Diane Witherrite, most recently the bank's Joseph Branch manager, has been

promoted to business development officer for Wallowa, Union, and Baker counties. Her tenure with Community Bank has spanned 26 years. Her wide array of banking knowledge will allow her to work with lenders and branch staff to deepen and strengthen customer relationships throughout the three counties. She will also continue to work with small business loan customers in Wallowa County as

she does today.

Kate Shelton has been promoted to branch manager of the Joseph Branch. She has been employed at Community Bank nearly seven years, most recently serving as the customer service manager. Shelton recently completed a rigorous bank-sponsored retail bank management program in Seattle, facilitated by the Oregon and Washington bankers associations. The program develops

high-performing bank employees and prepares them for a position in bank management.

"Both Diane and Kate are committed to the long-term success of our customers," stated Community Bank President and CEO Tom Moran. "These promotions strengthen our very talented Joseph team, and allow Diane specifically to share her 25-plus years of banking experience with a broader group of customers and employees."

BIKE RODEO!

It's the Watershed Festival and children can learn some valuable bike safety info at the Bike Rodeo in the parking lot of Community Connection on Friday, June 26th from 1pm to 4pm!

Children will need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian to sign a permission slip/waiver. There will be helmet fitting, a bike check including a brake check and air for tires, and a law enforcement officer will talk to kids about the "rules of the road". There will be several stations to check their skills at riding a bike: an intersection, crosswalk, straight away as well as an obstacle course with jumps if they are able to pass the other stations. Bike not supplied.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION OF WALLOWA COUNTY

CARS: Event a success

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Event organizer, Chuck Garrett, was very pleased with the event. "We registered 272 cars. That was 272 cars parked on Main Street for display," Garrett said. While it was not a record year for entrants, Garrett said the show attracted the most registered entrants for at least the last decade.

Although a number of cars return year after year, 77 brand-new entrants arrived for this year's show. New entrant Bret Butcher, of Pasco, Wash., won the coveted King of the Mountain Award with

his 1937 Suburban.

Brian and Kathy Hill, of San Ramon, Calif., won the Jim "Ragman" Tuschhoff Memorial Award, given in honor of the late OMC co-founder. The family chooses the vehicle they think Tuschhoff would have liked best. Jim Tuschhoff's daughter-in-law, Kim Tuschhoff, said the family thought the car's smooth lines, coupled with its driveability, put it over the top of other contestants.

The story of the combination 1939 and 1941 Ford Woodie, with orange paint and wood panels of maple burl veneer, is an adventure in itself. Hill, a first-time OMC entrant, literally built the car from the ground up with only some drawings for guidance. Hill also had no previous woodworking experience. "It took me two-and-a-half years, and I did all the work myself, except the paint and the upholstery. I cut the original drawing out of a magazine and taped it to my welder for the next couple of years," Hill said. He built the frame and chassis from scratch and shaped and welded the sheet metal for the rest of the car — including the elaborately curved fenders. The engine is a V-8 Chevy 350.

Despite the car's unique nature, the Hills drive the car regularly, not only from the Bay area to Enterprise, but even across country to Indianapolis to drive on the speedway. Hill said his wife was very patient through the building process.

Asked if he planned to return for next year's Cruise, Hill laughed. "I guess I kind of have to, now that I'm on the T-shirt."

Happy with the OMC for this year, Garrett did say the dates would change slightly for next year's Cruise because of the graduation of his daughter from the University of Oregon. He also said he planned to make the new dates available as soon as possible.

Garrett also has other changes he'd like to see. "I'd like to see more local volunteers get involved, so Pam (Garrett's wife) and I can step away from this event, but we'd like to keep it going. We're looking for people to volunteer all year long, not just the weekend. A lot of the people who help plan and organize aren't even from the area, so we

need more locals involved."

In the end, Garrett said he didn't hear a single complaint all weekend, and he himself felt pleased. "I really don't remember one being better than this one," Garrett said.

Show Results:
King of the Mountain – Brett Butcher, 1937 Chevrolet Suburban.

Ragman Memorial Award – Brian Hill, 1939 Ford Woodie.

Kids' Choice – Dave Osborn, 1973 MG GT.

Ladies' Choice and People's Choice – Larry Gladwell, 1925 Dodge Paddy Wagon.

Category Awards:
Hot Rod – 1st, Frederick Dyson/1933 Ford 2-door sedan. 2nd, Brian Hill/1939 Ford Woodie. 3rd, Cris McMann/1932 Ford 3-window coupe.

Modified/Custom Car – 1st, John Emacio/1957 Pontiac Chieftain. 2nd, James Gruetzke/1939 Chevy Coupe. 3rd, Dan Pini/1932 Ford Cabriolet.

Modified Custom Truck – 1st, Dan Habberman/1941 Ford COE. 2nd, Barney Hobbs/1937 Chevy truck. 3rd, Tim and Janice Carey/1937 Ford pickup.

Classic Restored Car – 1st, Ross Getchell/1956 Ford Crown Victoria. 2nd, Patricia Dunning/1960 Chevy Impala. 3rd, Brian Mace/1958 Dodge.

Classic Restored Truck – 1st, Donald Wells/1956 GMC pickup. 2nd, Travis Perry/1977 GMC truck. 3rd, Ray Nelson/1969 GMC pickup.

Sports Car – 1st, Barney Hobbs/1961 Chevy Corvette. 2nd, Guy Blakeslee/1962 Austin Healey 3000 Mark II. 3rd, Richard Taie/1956 Ford Thunderbird.

Moonshine Runner – 1st, Patrick Parsons/1935 Plymouth Taxi. 2nd, Bob Carter/1940 Ford Coupe. 3rd, Steve Cockrell/1939 Chevy flatback sedan.

Rat Rod – Greg Richardson/1939 Dodge COE. 2nd, Jim Knight/1931 Ford Coupe. 3rd, Gene Taylor/1947 Ford ratrod.

Other Awards:
Club Participation – 1st, Rose City Classics/10 cars. 2nd, VIP Classics/10 cars.

Golf Cart Course Winner – Paul Smead.

Hard Luck Award – Derek and Nancy Smith – Blew two tires on 1961 Chevy Impala.

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