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Issue No. 11.13

November 1, 2013



"Nature News" from Wild Birds Unlimited at Moana Nursery (Chickadee)

[Winter Sparrows: Bird-of-the Month](#)



**New Foods, New Birds, New Fun**

Whether they are preparing for fall migration or the onset of winter, birds need foods that are high in fat and calories. Meet their needs with a variety of our Specialty Bird Foods including Bird Food Cylinder, suet, mealworms and Jims' Birdacious® Treats.

During our Mix & Match Specialty Bird Foods Sale, buy 4 specialty bird foods and get a 5<sup>th</sup> item for 1 penny.

It's a great way to try new foods and to save while providing your birds with much-needed nutrients.

**Mix & Match Specialty Bird Foods Sale:**

**Buy 4; get one for 1 penny\***

\*Buy any four specialty food items, get the fifth item of equal or lesser value for 1 penny.  
 One discount per purchase. Offer not valid on previous purchases or sale items. Offer expires 11/15/13. Coupon not required.



**Moana Nursery/Wild Birds at Moana Lane  
Christmas Preview Open House  
9 am - 8 pm  
Thursday, November 7, 2013**

Please join us for a wee bit of holiday cheer and be inspired for your Christmas shopping! We'll be decorated and stocked with a wide array of unique gifts and decorations. A plethora of Moana Elves will be available to assist you.

**15 Minute How to Demos**

Morning:

10:00: Wreath Decorating  
10:30: Winter Containers  
11:00: Miniature Gardens  
11:30: Ideal Birdfeeding Station

Afternoon:

1:00 Wreath Decorating  
2:00 Winter Containers  
3:00 Miniature Gardens  
4:00 Ideal Birdfeeding Station

**Gift Drawings**

All Rewards Member purchases will be entered into a drawing for 24 gifts. Winners will be notified the following day.

**Refreshments**

Throughout the day, enjoy hot cider, coffee and cookies. From 5:30 to 8:00 wine and light snacks will be served.

**Live Music**

Enjoy the Galena High School Core Jazz Vocal Ensemble from 6:00 to 8:00 pm

**New Arrivals . . . perfect for stocking stuffers and Christmas gifts:**

- **Rascal the Raccoon, Preston the Penguin & Buttons the Snowman Seed Cylinders**
- **Wheelhouse Design Socks** with seasonal designs, made in USA
- **Folkmanis Puppets** - these unique, handcrafted puppets are sure to become beloved companions for life. The puppets encourage imaginative play, a love of nature, and endearing hugs for children of all ages.





## November's High Desert Bird-of-the-Month:

### White-crowned & Golden- crowned Sparrows

Late fall and all of winter provide an opportunity to see beautiful members of the sparrow family in your backyard. White-crowned Sparrows are a winter resident and a common sight

in yards all over the Truckee Meadows.

White-crowns are a large sparrow with a long tail. They are easy to identify with the crisp black and white crown stripes of the adults and their pink or yellow bill. First winter (immature) birds sport buff and brown head stripes. White-crowned males are one of the few birds you will hear singing in the winter; their song is described as a series of clear whistles followed by buzzy notes. Female birds will sometimes sing, also.

This bird spends the summer on tundra or in boreal forests of Canada and Alaska. During summer they supplement a seed diet with insects, grains and fruit.



[Click here to read all of Jacque's complete Bird-of-the-Month article.](#)

## Local Bird Sightings by Jacque Lowery



What glorious fall colors we have had this year! The pyracanthas are loaded with brilliant orange berries; the fruit is abundant on flowering crabapples.

All the winter-time avian visitors have arrived; the morning air is full of the song of the White-crowned Sparrow. Why they sing in non-breeding season I don't know, but it is a joy to have bird song during dark dreary days of winter. The juveniles are just now getting the hang of their song and sometimes sound like they are singing under water.



White-crowned Sparrows

This is a great time for variety in our backyard birds. Now is a good time to evaluate your feeding station to see if you are providing the proper buffet tables for all the possible species. Suet feeders will attract not only the resident woodpeckers and wrens, but also the wintering Yellow-rumped Warbler and the occasional Bushtit gang. Black oil sunflower or a WBU seed blend with sunflower is the best choice for tube feeders or hopper feeders.

[Click here to read the rest of Jacque's article.](#)

### November Nature Happenings

- \* Project Feeder Watch starts and extends until April, [www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw](http://www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw)
- \* Average temperature: 36.2°F, Average precipitation: 0.52"
- \* The onset of winter snow and cold in the higher elevations can often bring "irruptions" of mountain species into the valley and plains.
- \* Steller's Jays, the beautiful black-crested jay of the mountain forests, may relocate to lower altitudes.
- \* The resident Western Scrub-Jays will squawk their resentment of the Steller's, as they all search for high-energy nuts and oil seeds.
- \* Pinon Jays, normally found exclusively in the southern pinon/juniper lands, may move further north in search of winter food.
- \* Pine Siskins may move in large numbers to lower regions, and will socially join flocks of American Goldfinches to visit finch feeders.
- \* Juncos become common at feeders.
- \* Waterfowl migration peaks this month.
- \* Mule Deer bucks go into rut.
- \* Open water is important if there's an early freeze. Put out heated bird baths for a winter water source.
- \* Leonid meteor shower is mid-month

## Upcoming Meetings & Events:

### Lahontan Audubon Society

#### Field Trips

- [Saturday, November 2, 2013 - Damonte Ranch Wetlands, Reno](#)
- [Saturday, November 16, 2013 - Sierra Valley Expedition](#)
- [Saturday, December 7, 2013 - Crystal Lake, Reno](#)

The nearby Plumas Audubon Society also has field trips scheduled that area birders may find of interest. For more details please visit <http://www.plumasaudubon.org/>

[For information on the Lahontan Audubon Society, click here](#)

### Animal Ark

November 3, 2013 - Last Day until March of 2014 except for holidays, weather permitting

#### November 29 & 30, 2013 - 11 am to 3 pm: Thanksgiving Weekend

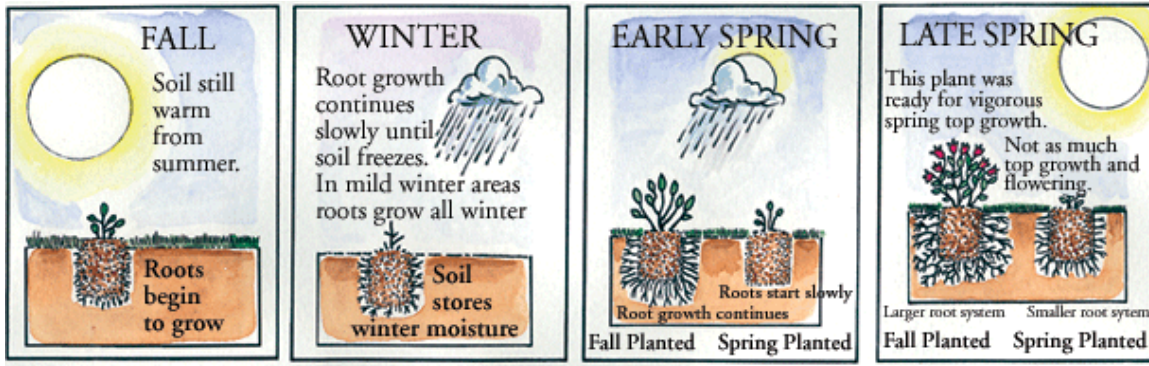
If you are not wild about hitting the malls for the annual holiday shopping frenzy after Thanksgiving, why not drive out to Animal Ark? Have family in town? You can enjoy our animals when they are active in the cooler temperatures of late fall!

[For more information about Animal Ark click here.](#)



'Autumn Blaze'  
Flowering Pear

**High Desert plants from our farm ... Moana-Grown for quality. Hardy for the high desert!  
Bird Approved!  
Special "Last of ... Fall is the Best Time to Plant" Savings ... see them all here.**



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