



SEPTEMBER 2024

Did Summer go in the blink of an eye? Looking forward to some cooler weather. The Larks held a picnic hosted by Nancy on August 10. The food was of course plentiful and delicious, the company was great and it was a chance for some visiting and camaraderie. We had a fun discussion on books we each have been reading. Thank You Nancy!!! Which leads into my next request.

If you have read any good books lately and want to share that with the rest of us, send me a short book review, Title, Author, and a few lines of what it is about.

Parliamentarian Workshop. Patty Benskin our President is a Parliamentarian Guru. She held a workshop at the library on August 14. There were attendees from Civic League, X-JWC, and Karen Kent and me from Meadowlarks. It was a fabulous and fun workshop and we all learned so much about conducting meetings, Robert's Rules of Order, Bylaws, Standing Rules, and many other subjects related to proper Parliamentarian procedures. We had many good questions and lively discussions. Thank You Patty!



Birthdays this month are Sandy on the 2nd and Patty on the 22nd. Happy Day Ladies!

How Our Ego Sometimes Misjudges A Person: A Short Story of A Couple Who Founded One of the Most Prestigious US Universities.

A lady in a faded grey dress and her husband, dressed in a home-spun suit walked in timidly without an appointment into the Harvard University President's outer office. The secretary could tell in a moment that such backwoods, country hicks had no business at Harvard and probably didn't even deserve to be at Harvard.

"We want to see the President," the man said softly. "He'll be busy all day" the secretary snapped. "We will wait" the lady replied. For hours the secretary ignored them, hoping that the couple would finally become discouraged and go

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away. They didn't and the secretary grew frustrated and finally decided to disturb the president. "Maybe if you see them for a few minutes, they will leave," she said to him. The president, stern-faced and with dignity, strutted toward the couple.

The lady told him "We had a son who attended Harvard for one year. He loved Harvard. He was happy here. But about a year ago, he was accidentally killed. My husband and I would like to erect a memorial to him, somewhere on campus."

The president was not touched... He was shocked. "Madam," he said, gruffly, "We can't put up a statue for every person who attended Harvard and died. If we did, this place would look like a cemetery."

Oh, no," the lady explained quickly "We don't want to erect a statue. We thought we would like to give a building to Harvard."

The president rolled his eyes. He glanced at the gingham dress and homespun suit, and then exclaimed, "A building! Do you have any earthly idea how much a building costs? We have over seven and a half million dollars in the physical buildings here at Harvard."

For a moment, the lady was silent. The president was pleased. Maybe he could get rid of them now. The lady turned to her husband and said quietly, "Is that all it costs to start a university? Why do not just start our own?" Her husband nodded. The president's face wilted in confusion and bewilderment.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stanford got up and walked away, traveling to Palo Alto, California where they established the University that bears their name: "Stanford University" a memorial to a son that Harvard no longer cared about.

*Moral of The Story: Never judge anyone through his or her outer appearance.
Source: LifeLords, Best Short Stories for Adults That Will Change Your Life Forever.*

***Did You Know?** This summer we had the usual visitors, American Robin, Western King, Northern Flicker, Hermit Thrush (he didn't stay), Rufous Hummingbirds, of course Meadowlarks, and Blue Birds that passed through and others. But our*

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biggest highlight this year was the Bullock's Oriole. Mainly because the Bullock's has come in the past few years but has not stayed. This year the male arrived, his mate came a bit later, and they stayed and nested. We were thrilled. We even got to see one of the babies, he looked just like his dad. We heard a new beautiful sweet song and figured it was the Bullock's. Both the male and female sing, and the male has a sweeter song.

The Bullock's Oriole is a small New World blackbird and oriole hybrid that is related to the Baltimore Oriole. It is named after William Bullock, an English amateur naturalist. It is the most widespread oriole in the West and nests in tall trees along streams and rivers. The male resembles the male Baltimore Oriole but has an orange face, more white in his wings, and a different tail pattern. Bullock's weave a pouch-like nest that hangs from a limb. Look for them in Cottonwood trees. (We have looked for the nest but will probably have to wait until the fall when the leaves fall to be able to see it).

Bullock's Orioles often take nectar from flowers, and they will sometimes raid hummingbird feeders for their sugar water. (This is exactly what happened at our house, they were constantly on the hummer feeders.) Bullock's migrate in small flocks. Fall migration begins early, with many birds leaving northern breeding areas by the end of July (They did). They winter mostly in the tropics around the forest edge and semi-open country.

BULLOCK'S ORIOLE



BALTIMORE ORIOLE



Source: Cornell Lab, All About Birds; Audubon Society

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NEXT EVENTS:

Coalition for the Homeless Thankful Thursday Fund Raiser. Thursday, September 19. If you want to donate an item to be auctioned off, contact Darlyn at 630-2603. The Larks are supplying a basket, Pamper Me theme. Get your feel good items such as lotions, balm, facial masks, nail polish, etc to Patty and she will build the basket. Items need to be delivered to Patty by Sep 18.

Meals for Hope: The Larks will participate in meal packing for the Meals of Hope September 25 from 5pm to 7pm at 1st Christian Church on 27th and O'Neil. Meals of Hope is currently \$700 short on providing 10,000 meals so if you know of any business or individuals who might want to make a donation contact Lynn. For more information contact Lynn Montoya at 630-2249.

Dues: If you have not paid your dues yet please do. They are \$35, due Sep 1 and can be sent to:

Julie Gliem, 1805 Warren Ave, Cheyenne WY 82001

Habitat for Humanity Lunch – Wed Sep 18, deliver food to build site by 11AM. See separate email sent Aug 31 for directions to build site.

FWWC Wyoming Fall Workshop – more info to come via Patty. Saturday Oct 5 in Casper.

Next Lark Meeting – Wed Sep 18 at 5 pm, location TBA.

Stay Safe and “See Ya” next month.



THANK YOU Sandy for providing this shark watermelon for the picnic!!

Bird Note: For those who may have hung Hummingbird Feeders and had no Hummers visit --- Don't give up! My first year I had none. My second year I did, and they have come back every year. If you hang them, they will come.

