

# Warbler



Black-throated Gray Warbler

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Red-tailed Hawk (top), Cooper's Hawk, American Kestrel (center) © Jim Cruce

Scoping raptors © Ann Takamoto

## Sauvie Island Raptor Road Trip

Annual event celebrates birds of prey!

Saturday, February 6th • 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Audubon Education Bird Finnegan, the Peregrine Falcon, and his volunteer handler enrapture onlookers at a previous Raptor Road Trip. © Karen Munday

Great Horned Owl and owlet. © Steve Berliner

Explore Sauvie Island in search of the magnificent Bald Eagles, hawks, and falcons that spend the winter on the island. On this special day devoted to raptors, experienced naturalists and hawk experts will host activities and answer your questions at four locations around the island. Enjoy guided bird viewing, meet live raptors up close, and sharpen your hawk identification skills. Hot drinks and donuts are available in the morning to keep you warm while you breakfast with the birds.

### How does the road trip work?

Begin at **Kruger's Farm Market** and pick up your event map and raptor identification guide. The event fee is **\$10 per vehicle, cash only**, and includes a Sauvie Island Wildlife Area parking permit.

To reach Kruger's, take the Sauvie Island Bridge and continue straight 1.5 miles (past Howell Territorial Park) to the farm entrance on your right. Carpooling is encouraged. Spotting scopes and a crash course in raptor identification will be provided at each of the four viewing locations, along with naturalists to help spot the birds. Bring binoculars and field guides if



Scopers of all ages get good looks during previous Raptor Road Trips. © Ann Takamoto

you have them, and dress for the weather. This event takes place rain or shine! **The road trip is suitable for birders of all skill levels, and families are welcome.**

While you don't have to be an 'early bird' and get up at the crack of dawn to see these birds of prey, you should allow approximately three hours to visit all four locations.

### What will you see?

It all depends on what nature has in store. Frequently sighted raptor species include **Bald Eagle, American Kestrel, Red-tailed Hawk, and Northern Harrier**. With a little luck you might spot a **Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Rough-legged Hawk, or Cooper's Hawk**. Spectacular **Sandhill Cranes, Snow Geese, and Great Blue Herons** are also commonly

seen at this time of year.

No registration is required. For more information, visit our website at [www.audubonportland.org](http://www.audubonportland.org) or call 503-292-6855 ext.122.

Sponsored by Metro, Audubon Society of Portland, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and HawkWatch International.

## New Protections for Birds Pass the U.S. House of Representatives!

by **Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director**

On December 7, 2009, the U.S. House of Representatives took a big step toward ensuring that people who intentionally injure or kill protected birds will face significantly stiffer penalties. The House unanimously passed H.R. 2062, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act Penalty and Enforcement Act of 2009, which will allow courts to impose much more severe penalties on individuals convicted of "aggravated" injuring or killing of protected bird species. The bill is now headed to the U.S. Senate, where we hope for passage in early 2010. Portland Audubon worked with Oregon Congressman Peter DeFazio's office for more than two years to develop this legislation.

Oregon has seen a series of horrific crimes against birds in recent years. In 2007 we learned that members of pigeon clubs up and down the west coast were torturing and killing thousands of birds of

prey that the pigeon enthusiasts were concerned might prey on their free-flying pets. During summer of 2008 two Osprey were shot and left to die on the ground in front of their nests while their young starved to death overhead. During the summer of 2009 our local news channels repeatedly reported that people were driving up and down our beaches, mowing down flocks of seabirds and shorebirds. Most recently in December 2009 a Mallard was found spray-painted and bound with tape after the Oregon State-Oregon football game. Thanks to the unanimous vote in the House of Representatives, we are halfway to ensuring that the people who commit these types of sick crimes will get the punishment they deserve.

Portland Audubon has been working with Congressman DeFazio since 2007 to pass this legislation. Although most native bird species have been protected since passage of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, penalties have been relatively nominal and enforcement



National Audubon Policy Director Mike Dalton (left) and Portland Audubon Conservation Director Bob Sallinger after testifying in support of HR 2062 in Fall 2009. © Portland Audubon

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## Urban Ecology and Conservation Symposium — See page 3



Audubon Society of Portland  
5151 NW Cornell Road  
Portland, Oregon 97210

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# From the Executive Director

## A Life Filled with Books and a Great Deal More!



Meryl Redisch

Nearly seven years ago, Dave Marshall presented Portland Audubon with a remarkable proposal: donation of his personal collection of books, journals, field notes, and magazines. Amassed over six decades of life work in wildlife biology and avian conservation, the Library Project (as it has been dubbed) is a singular collection for the Pacific Northwest that would be nearly impossible to duplicate.

After discussing the many nuances of this offer, the Board of Directors accepted the donation. Since our facilities on Cornell Road lack adequate space for this collection, we began seeking a site to house it. After considerable searching, one option came along that fit the criteria that Dave and Portland Audubon had agreed to: the StreamNet Library. The StreamNet Library serves the scientific community and those working in cooperation with the region's fish and wildlife recovery efforts. The general public is also welcome and can obtain research assistance and take advantage of interlibrary lending, borrowing, and other services. What's more, the library is located close to downtown on the eastside and is accessible by mass transit. With the enthusiastic commitment from StreamNet's Librarian Lenora Oftedahl, Portland Audubon and Dave Marshall secured a place for the foreseeable future in which to house his life's work in its entirety.

**StreamNet Library  
Open House**  
March 6 (Sat.), 3pm–5pm  
729 NE Oregon St., Suite 190



Some StreamNet Library volunteers (left to right): Marianne Nelson, Bill Meyer, Bob Fields, June Fields, Diana Bradshaw, Peg Goldie, Luanne Bye. Seated in front: Dave Marshall. © Portland Audubon

Since our acceptance of Dave's one-of-a-kind collection, many volunteers have contributed hundreds of hours to sort out a variety of issues to make Dave's proposal a reality. Without the tireless help from Marianne Nelson, Luanne Bye, Claire Puchy, Peg Goldie, Bruce Marcot, Peter Paquet, Ron Biava, Bill Meyer, Charles Oldham, Phil Jones, Bob Fields, June Fields, Diana Bradshaw, and Suzanne Gearhart, this project would have not been possible.

More recently, volunteers Luanne Bye and Marianne Nelson spent time completing the cataloging process and prepared the collection for boxing, moving, and reshelving. When asked to sum up their experience, both related that

Continued on page 10

## Field Trips

No registration required — show up at time and place given. Call first if indicated. Beginners welcome!

### January 16 (Sat.), 8am–11am Crystal Springs Rhododendron Gardens

Join leader **Ron Escano** to view the local wintering waterfowl at Crystal Springs. Here is a chance to learn your waterfowl, with close views of most of our Portland-area ducks. We will learn how to identify waterfowl using black and white field marks. Meet at 8am at the Crystal Springs parking lot across the street from Reed College on SE 28th, which can be reached from SE Holgate (turn south on 28th) or SE Woodstock (turn north on 28th). Dress for the weather — beginners welcome!

### January 23 (Sat.), 8am–11am Sandy River Delta

Join leader **Patty Newland** on a walk around this rich riparian area near the Columbia River, looking and listening for raptors, woodpeckers, sparrows, and more. From Portland take I-84 east, take Exit 18. At the stop sign turn right and loop under the freeway, continuing to the entrance to the park. Meet Patty at 8am at the parking

lot by the restroom. Dress for weather, bring binoculars. Beginners welcome!

### February 20 (Sat.), 7:30am–5pm North Tillamook County

Join leaders **Tim Shelmerdine** and **David Smith** to explore sites in coastal Tillamook County including Nehalem Meadows, Wheeler, Rockaway, Barview, Bay City, and Tillamook. Meet David and Tim at the North Plains Chevron Station just north of Hwy 26 at North Plains/Glencoe Rd Exit 57 and plan to depart for the coast by 7:30am. Dress for weather, bring binoculars and lunch/water. We'll return to Portland by 5pm. Beginners welcome!

### February 20 (Sat.), 8am–11am Powell Butte Nature Park

Join leader **Ron Escano** for a walk exploring the unique habitats of Powell Butte. Our objective is to find a Northern Shrike. Meet at 8am at the top of the butte parking lot at the end of SE 162nd. Turn south on SE 162nd off Powell Blvd and drive to the top. Bring binoculars and dress for weather; beginners welcome!



## MAGPIES

...love to go birding during the weekdays. We start a little later, go a little slower, and try to keep a restroom in sight.

### January 7 (Thu.), 9am–11:30am Fernhill Wetlands

Wintering waterfowl, raptors, and sparrows should abound around this annual Magpies walk. Join leader **Dudley Thomas** at the Fernhill parking lot, 200 yards south of the RR tracks. For information and directions, contact Dudley at dbthomas70@gmail.com or 503-244-6496.

### January 14 (Thu.), 9am–11am Summer Lake Park

Join us as leader **Sue Carr** takes us for a look at the wintering waterfowl in this wonderful suburban park! Take Scholls Ferry Rd to SW 130th Ave; follow the road around to the left (to SW Winterlake Dr) to the parking area on the left, and meet Sue there at 9am. Dress for the weather. For information call Sue at 503-649-3360.

### January 26–27 (Tue.–Wed.) Newport

Look for wintering waterfowl and shorebirds on the Central Oregon Coast. Meet leaders **Don Stein** and **Dick Demarest** on Jan. 26 at 9am at the Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport. Trip ends about noon on Jan. 27. Call Dick at 503-704-7912 with questions.

### February 4 (Thu.), 9am–Noon Sauvie Island

Due to narrow roads and limited parking on Sauvie Island, carpooling is encouraged. There is a **\$7 fee per car** for a parking permit on the island. Meet at the gravel parking area just north of the store. We may try the Wapato Greenway area, Oak Island Road, Coon Point, and possibly Rentenaar Road. Dress for the weather. Contact **Dudley Thomas** at dbthomas70@gmail.com or 503-244-6496 for more information.

### February 18 (Thu.), 8am–4:30pm Baskett Slough & Ankeny NWRs

This is a good time of year to see a variety of waterfowl and wintering raptors in the Willamette Valley. Join **Denny Graham** at the NW corner of the Walmart parking lot in Woodburn for a trip to these National Wildlife Refuges. Bring your lunch and rain gear; we'll arrange carpools at the meeting point, and will return there at 4:30pm. Take I-5 to Exit 271; Walmart is just SE of the exit. Contact Denny at 503-659-1245 with questions.

## Wild in the City

### Exploring The Intertwine

**Exploring The Intertwine: Wild in the City** field tours will introduce you to some of the region's most scenic and wildlife-rich natural areas and the ever-growing network of regional trails and parks (visit [www.TheIntertwine.org](http://www.TheIntertwine.org)). Registration for these free trips is limited, so sign up soon at [www.audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult/wic](http://www.audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult/wic). If you don't have internet access, call 503-292-6855 ext.112 to register. **For all bicycle and paddle trips, bring your own equipment — helmets and life jackets are required.** Directions and other details will be sent to registrants. Trip locations, including maps, are highlighted in the recently re-released **Wild in the City: A Guide to Portland's Natural Areas**, available in local bookstores and Portland Audubon's Nature Store.



Paddling Ross Island © Mike Houck

### January 1 (Fri.), Noon–3pm Ross Island Hangover Paddle

Join **Mike Houck**, **Bob Sallinger**, **Travis Williams**, and the **Friends of Ross Island** on a paddle around the Island to celebrate the designation of the Ross Island Lagoon by the Oregon State Marine Board as a No-Wake Zone, and the continuing effort to get the same designation on the entire Holgate Channel. You needn't have partied the night before but if you did, what better way to work off your libations of the previous night than with a brisk paddle around Ross, Hardtack, East, and Toe Islands? Highlights of the trip, in addition to a refreshing wintertime paddle, will be waterfowl, Bald Eagles, and Peregrine Falcons. You'll also get information about the Friends of Ross Island and how you can volunteer with them and the Audubon Society of Portland, Willamette Riverkeeper, and Portland Parks and Recreation on clean-ups and restoration activities.

### January 16 (Sat.), Noon–3pm Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge

Join **Mike Houck** on a bird sight and song walk around 160-acre Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge. The walk is a gentle two-mile stroll on a combination of paved and uneven dirt paths, with two moderate hills. More than 100 species of birds have been seen in Oaks Bottom, Portland's first official urban wildlife refuge.

### February 21 (Sun.), Noon–3pm Ross Island Paddle

Join **Mike Houck** on a paddle around Ross Island to celebrate the Oregon State Marine Board's designation of the Ross Island Lagoon as a No-Wake Zone, and the continuing effort to get the same designation on the entire Holgate Channel. In addition to a refreshing wintertime paddle around Ross, Hardtack, East, and Toe Islands, trip highlights will include waterfowl, Bald Eagles, and Peregrine Falcons. You'll also get information about the Friends of Ross Island and how you can volunteer with them and Portland Audubon on clean-ups and restoration activities.

### February 27 (Sat.), 8am–11am Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge

(See January 16 trip.)

### March 3 (Wed.), 8am–11am Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge

(See January 16 trip.)

### March 6 (Sat.), 10am–1pm Ross Island Paddle

(See February 21 trip.)

The Audubon Society of Portland is a member of Earth Share of Oregon. For more information, contact Earth Share of Oregon at 503-223-9015 or on the web at [www.earthshare-oregon.org](http://www.earthshare-oregon.org).



| SUN   | MON   | TUE   | WED  | THUR   | FRI   | SAT  |
|---|---|---|--|--|---|--|
| Christmas Bird Counts (Dec. Warbler) 27   | Winter Break Camps (Dec. Warbler) 28                              | Winter Break Camps (Dec. Warbler) 29<br>Christmas Bird Counts (Dec. Warbler)  | Winter Break Camps (Dec. Warbler) 30<br>Christmas Bird Counts (Dec. Warbler) | Winter Break Camps (Dec. Warbler) 31<br>Christmas Bird Counts (Dec. Warbler)<br>Nature Store closes at 3pm | Admin Offices and Nature Store closed 1<br>Christmas Bird Counts (p.12)<br>Ross Island Hangover Paddle, Noon (p.2)<br><b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> | Christmas Bird Counts – including Portland Audubon's Count (p.12)<br>Kids' Christmas Bird Count at Portland Audubon, 10am–2pm (p.12) 2 |
| Christmas Bird Counts (p.12) 3<br>Bluegrass Live Music Jam, 12:30pm Heron Hall        |   | Birders' Night 7:30pm Heron Hall 5  |  | Magpies visit Fernhill Wetlands, 9am (p.2) 7   |   |  |
|   | Family Adventures registration begins (p.12) 10                   | Spring Break Camp registration begins (p.7) 11<br>Nature Night: Importance of Public Involvement in Habitat Enhancement, 7pm, Heron Hall (p.8) 12 |  | Magpies visit Summer Lake Park, 9am (p.2) 13   |   | Crystal Springs Gardens Field Trip, 8am (p.2) 15<br>Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge Walk, Noon (p.2) 16                                    |
|   | Admin Office closed 17<br><b>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR'S BIRTHDAY</b> |   | Gulls in Winter Class, 7pm (p.7) 19  | Board Meeting, 7pm Heron Hall 20   |   | Sandy River Delta Field Trip, 8am (p.2) 22<br>Gulls in Winter Field Trip, 9am (p.7) 23   |
|   | Urban Ecology & Conservation Symposium, 8am–6pm (p.3) 24          | Magpies leave for Newport (p.2) 25  |  |  |   | TogetherGreen Volunteer Day, 10am–4pm (p.8) 29   |
|   |   | Birders' Night 7:30pm Heron Hall 1  | Raptor Road Trip Rev-Up, 7pm (p.7) 3   | Magpies visit Sauvie Island, 9am (p.2) 4   |   | Beginning Field Birding & Sauvie Island Exploration, 8am (p.7) 5<br>RAPTOR ROAD TRIP, 9am–2pm (p.1) 6                                  |
| Bluegrass Live Music Jam, 12:30pm Heron Hall 7  |   | Nature Night: Wetlands: A Documentary Film about Art and the Environment, 7pm, Heron Hall (p.8) 8   |  | New Volunteer Orientation, 6pm (p.8) 10  | Great Backyard Bird Count (p.4) 11  | Great Backyard Bird Count (p.4) 12<br>New Volunteer Orientation, 1pm (p.8) 13  |
| Great Backyard Bird Count (p.4) 14<br>Wildlife Care Center Open House, Noon–4pm (p.5) | Great Backyard Bird Count (p.4) 15                                | Wildlife Conservation Lecture at the Oregon Zoo, 7pm: Wild Neighbors (p.12) 16  |  | Magpies visit Baskett Slough & Ankeny NWRs, 8am (p.2) 17<br>Board Meeting, 7pm Heron Hall                  |   | Tillamook County Field Trip, 7:30am (p.2) 19<br>Powell Butte Field Trip, 8am (p.2)<br>General Volunteer Training, 9am (p.8) 20         |
| Ross Island Paddle, Noon (p.2) 21   | Beginning Birding Class, 7pm (p.7) 22                             |   |  |  |   | Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge Walk, 8am (p.2) 26   |
| Beginning Birding Field Trip, 8am (p.7) 28  |   |   | Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge Walk, 8am (p.2) 2                                |  |   | Family Adventure, 9am (p.12) 5<br>Ross Island Paddle, 10am (p.2)<br>StreamNet Library Open House, 3pm–5pm, 729 NE Oregon St. (p.2) 6   |

NOTE: An electronic version of this issue and past *Warblers* is available on our website, [www.audubonportland.org/about/newsletter](http://www.audubonportland.org/about/newsletter)

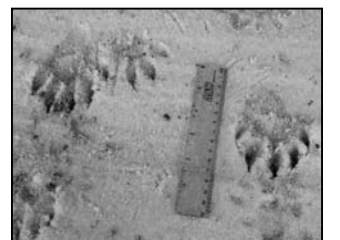
## Urban Ecology & Conservation Symposium January 25, 2010 (Monday), 8:00am–6:00pm

Portland State University's Smith Center Ballroom, 1825 SW Broadway  
To register, go to [www.uerportland.org](http://www.uerportland.org).

**A**bout the UERC: The Urban Ecosystem Research Consortium (UERC) is a consortium of people interested in supporting urban ecosystem research and creating an information-sharing network of people that collect and use ecological data in the Portland-Vancouver area. The symposium is a great opportunity to learn about local ecosystem research as well as to hear keynotes from nationally recognized experts on urban ecosystems.

**2010 Keynote Speaker:** Dr. Paul Beier of the Beier Lab of Conservation Biology and Wildlife Ecology at Northern Arizona University conducts research in wildlife ecology and conservation biology that directly supports conservation planning at landscape scales. His 1988–92 study of cougars is best known for its documentation that during juvenile dispersal, cougars find and use habitat corridors in urban southern California to reach distant mountain ranges where they become breeding adults. Since then he has worked on “missing linkages” efforts in California, Arizona, and elsewhere to promote

collaborative, science-based efforts to maintain landscape connectivity on ecoregional scales. Dr. Beier promotes plans that do not simply slow down the rate of fragmentation, but actually improve connectivity for wildlife and ecosystem processes. Beier was a key member of the Science Committee that led the Western Governors Association to adopt bold new policies in 2008 to conserve key wildlife corridors.



Raccoon tracks  
© Leslie Bliss-Ketchum

# Protecting Birds in the Backyard and Beyond

## Peregrine Thief Gets Jail Time and \$8,600 Fine

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

At almost the same time the U.S. House of Representatives was unanimously passing strong new penalties to deter illegal injuring and killing of protected bird species, the State of Oregon was bringing the hammer down on a group of falconers that illegally took two Peregrine Falcon nestlings from their nest in Port Orford. Most bird crimes are prosecuted under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act, but with the Port Orford case, the State of Oregon has also stepped up and sent a very strong message that illegal take of protected birds can result in serious prosecutions under state law as well.

The Port Orford case began in May 2009. Four falconers drove to Port Orford and one of the group rappelled down the side of a cliff and removed two out of three nestlings from a Peregrine Falcon nest. However, they chose the wrong nest on which to conduct their nefarious activity. To get to the nest, they illegally trespassed across the property of the mayor of Gold Beach. In addition, the nest was a popular viewing site for the public, and the falconer was observed rappelling down the cliff and removing the falcons by a nearby resident who kept a spotting scope in her kitchen trained on the nest.

By the time the falconer returned to the top of the cliff with the birds, the local police were coming up the hill. According to confessions made months later, the birds were stuffed into a bag and hidden in the woods. When the police arrived the falconers claimed that no birds had been removed. All four would maintain that lie for the next couple of months despite the obvious evidence against them. Sadly the ultimate fate of the birds remains unknown — the falconers who confessed now claim that they returned and retrieved the birds later and that they were raised and released. However, there has been no way to verify this story and it comes on the heels of a succession of self-serving lies. That the nestlings were stuffed into a bag and stashed in the woods at all shows a reckless disregard for the lives of these falcons.

Adding to the bizarreness of this case, these falconers actually possessed permits that would have allowed them to legally take falcons from the wild for their sport. Oregon currently issues seven permits every year to allow licensed falconers to take nestling peregrines for the purpose of falconry. That these falconers chose to violate the conditions of their permits, enter an unauthorized nest,



Don't Mess With This Bird! © Bob Sallinger

trespass, lie to police and federal agents, and treat the birds with reckless disregard is truly inexplicable.

Eventually some members of the group grew paranoid about other members ratting them out and confessed. Burt Loessburg of Eugene pleaded guilty to first degree felony theft and was sentenced to 10 days in jail, 36 months of probation, \$8,600 in fines, 250 hours of community service, and revocation of his falconry licenses. Mr. Loessburg has two previous convictions for violating bird protection laws. Wayne Skankey of Beaverton pleaded guilty to first degree misdemeanor theft and criminal trespass and was sentenced to 36 months of probation, a \$2,500 fine, 400 hours of community service, and revocation of his falconry license. Clinton Rand of Terrebonne has pleaded not guilty and faces trial in April. A fourth falconer present at the site was not charged.

The Oregon Falconer's Association expelled all four members and unequivocally denounced their illegal activities. They also worked with Audubon and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to establish much stronger regulations governing the take of peregrines for the sport of falconry in Oregon.

It took more than three decades to recover Peregrine Falcon populations in Oregon. A huge cadre of biologists and volunteers continue to monitor peregrine nest sites to ensure that populations remain healthy. The prosecutions by the State of Oregon send a clear and welcome signal that the state is ready to step up and treat the wanton wasting of native birds with the same serious consideration that has long been afforded to game species.

## New Protections for Birds

Continued from page 1

has been lax. We have simply seen too many protected birds illegally injured and killed over the years while the perpetrators walked with the equivalent of speeding tickets. In 2007 we decided to do something about it. We found a staunch ally in Congressman DeFazio, who was similarly outraged when individuals convicted in the 2007 Roller Pigeon Case — people who had openly bragged about killing Peregrines and other birds of prey on public websites — escaped with minor penalties. We greatly appreciate Congressman DeFazio's perseverance over two years on this legislation, and especially the work of Susan Jane Brown and Travis Joseph in Congressman DeFazio's office, who handled the day-to-day logistics.

The legislation would elevate "aggravated" injuring or killing of protected birds to Class A misdemeanors punishable by up to a year in jail. Second offenses would be treated as felonies punishable by up to two years in jail. "Aggravated" is defined as an act that is "indifferent to the pain and suffering of the bird" or that would "shock a reasonable person." The Act also ensures that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service can offer rewards for information involving the illegal harming and killing of protected birds.

Passage of this legislation is a top priority for Portland Audubon. We see a steady stream of illegally shot birds in our Wildlife Care Center: Peregrine Falcons, Bald Eagles, Osprey, and Herons. We see situations involving mutilation and torture. And we have seen far too many of these crimes go virtually unpunished. In 2007 when the pigeon cases were exposed, we learned that members of these clubs bragged openly on their websites about torturing and killing birds and passed on tips for improving their illegal activities, because they knew that even if they were caught, the penalties would be nominal.

The letters from Portland Audubon members made a huge difference. This bill originates with the sheer outrage that emerged when we learned in 2007 that the pigeon enthusiasts deliberately shot local Peregrines and Red-tailed Hawks. That local outrage garnered national attention, leading to strong support from National Audubon and the Humane Society of the United States. In 2008 an action alert that we collaborated on with National Audubon generated more than 8,000 letters to Congress.

The House has now sent a strong message to criminals, law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and courts alike that these crimes are to be taken seriously and treated with the severity that they deserve. Oregon Senator Jeff Merkley has introduced a companion bill in the Senate. We will be pushing for passage in early 2010.

## Backyard Wildlife and Habitat: Backyard Habitat Certification Program Reaches Out to Baltimore Woods

by Karen Munday, Urban Wildlife Specialist

The Backyard Habitat Certification Program (BHCP) just finished the first part of our Baltimore Woods Project. On Saturday, November 14, we gathered three staff from Audubon Society of Portland and Three Rivers Land Conservancy, eight BHCP volunteers, and a team of nine AmeriCorps volunteers to perform 16 backyard site visits within and around the Baltimore Woods area.

Baltimore Woods is located in North Portland along the Willamette River near the east side of the St. Johns Bridge. It is a unique area with remnant Oregon white oak habitat that is extremely important to wildlife; only a small percentage of the Willamette Valley's original oak habitat remains. The Backyard Habitat Certification Program is working with neighborhood residents to help improve their yards for wildlife,

with a focus on restoring this native Oregon white oak habitat.



Homeowner Michelle Bickley (holding certificate) gets Silver Certified. © Karen Munday



AmeriCorps volunteer crew works in Baltimore Woods. © Karen Munday

With help from a Community Watershed Stewardship Grant from the City of Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services, we organized an Oak Habitat Training for volunteers and staff and coordinated an additional field day in Baltimore Woods. In one day we were able to distribute over 400 oak habitat native plants, and an entire field day of AmeriCorps crew was available to assist homeowners in improving their backyard habitat. By the end of the day we certified five new backyards and are continuing to work with others to reach their goal!

## 13th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count, February 12-15!

The Great Backyard Bird Count is a four-day count held each February with the goal of getting a snapshot of bird numbers and distribution across the continent and in Hawaii. As a participant, you commit to count birds anywhere for at least 15 minutes on one or more of the four count days. Tally the number of individuals of each species you see and enter your totals at [www.birdsource.org/gbbc](http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc). Last year, 208 checklists were submitted from Portland, with 1,420 submitted from around the state. Highlights from last year's Portland count: Red-necked Grebe, Golden Eagle, Streaked Horned Lark, and Northern Shrike!

The GBBC helps scientists to determine trends and identify worrisome declines that may call for conservation attention and require further study. Citizen Scientists can make crucial observations and contribute to a dataset the magnitude of which no team of scientists could achieve alone! That's why it is so important for Oregon's stellar birding community to participate!

Questions? Email the Oregon Coordinator, Seth Reams, at [nepobirds@yahoo.com](mailto:nepobirds@yahoo.com).

## Audubon Conservation Director Receives TogetherGreen Fellowship

by Meryl Redisch, Executive Director

Portland Audubon Conservation Director Bob Sallinger was selected as one of 40 **TogetherGreen** Fellows from across the United States. The **TogetherGreen** Fellowship offers specialized training in conservation planning and execution, the chance to work and share best practices with gifted conservation professionals, and assistance with project outreach and evaluation. Each Fellow receives \$10,000 toward a community-focused project to engage local residents in conserving land, water, and energy, and contributing to greater environmental health.



For his fellowship, Bob will develop a campaign to establish a permanent funding base for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Non-Game Program: a conservation surcharge on birdseed. A 10% surcharge on birdseed could generate more than \$2 million a year, which could go a long way toward protecting native wildlife and habitat. State game programs in Oregon have flourished because of funding sources provided by taxes placed on hunting and fishing gear, but no such mechanisms exist for the non-game program. The non-game program is responsible for managing 88% of the species found in Oregon, but it currently receives less than 2% of the Department of Fish and Wildlife's budget. If passed, the funding would go toward on-the-ground bird conservation projects as well as engage communities on both rural and urban landscapes in avian conservation.

"Bob is the kind of person who can make a real difference in the health of our environment and the quality of our future," said Audubon President John Flicker. "Each of our **TogetherGreen** Fellows demonstrates exceptional environmental understanding and commitment, combined with tremendous potential to inspire and lead others."

"Birding is one of the fastest growing activities in the United States. I am excited that this grant will give me an opportunity to explore how to build stronger connections between birding and conservation," said Sallinger.

National Audubon Society and Toyota launched the five-year **TogetherGreen** initiative in 2008 to build the promise of a greener, healthier future through innovation, leadership, and volunteerism.

### Volunteer to be a Citizen Scientist!

If you want to monitor a Peregrine Falcon eyrie, be a Great Blue Heron rookery steward, or monitor shorebirds or raptors on Sauvie Island, contact Mary Coolidge at [mcoolidge@audubonportland.org](mailto:mcoolidge@audubonportland.org) or 503-292-6855 ext. 111. Citizen Science is a great way to learn, have fun, and contribute invaluable information to our understanding of bird health!



Steve Engel goes over datasheets during a Citizen Scientist training. © Mary Coolidge

### Lights Out Symposium in February

Lights Out campaigns aimed at reducing both outdoor and indoor lighting are under way in San Francisco, Boston, Toronto, Tallahassee, Minneapolis, and Chicago. Extinguishing unnecessary lights and reducing light glare and scatter can be effective at reducing both night-time bird mortality and ecological light pollution, improving stargazing conditions, and increasing energy savings. Numerous cities have also begun passing bird-friendly building regulations for new development as well as strategies to complement LEED Green Building Certifications.

Portland is now poised to join a growing list of bird-friendly cities. A **lunch-hour symposium will be held at the end of February** to discuss the hazards of light pollution and the various benefits of launching a Lights Out campaign in the Portland metro area. Watch our website for more information, or contact Mary Coolidge at [mcoolidge@audubonportland.org](mailto:mcoolidge@audubonportland.org).

# Wildlife Care Center



All seven Education Birds were out during last year's WCC Open House. © Tom Schmitt

## Wildlife Care Center Annual Open House Sunday, February 14, Noon-4pm

What really happens behind the doors of the Wildlife Care Center? **Come to the 2nd annual Wildlife Care Center Open House and see for yourself!**

Wildlife veterinarians, naturalists, Education Bird handlers, and volunteers will be on hand to answer your questions and introduce you to the Wildlife Care Center when it opens its doors to you and your family.

### Behind-the-scenes tours of the Wildlife Care Center.

Guided tours will give you a peek at what really goes on in one of the busiest wildlife rehabilitation centers in the U.S. You'll see the hospital, food preparation area, laboratory — and maybe you'll get a glimpse of a patient!



Deb Sheaffer, Wildlife Care Center Staff Veterinarian, and Mary Dickerson, Volunteer Veterinarian, examine an injured Bald Eagle. © WCC

### Question-and-answer time

with a wildlife veterinarian. Meet Audubon's wildlife veterinarians and try to stump them with your questions.

They in turn will stump you with case studies of actual cases seen in the Care Center.

**Raptor education station.** At the education station in Heron Hall, experience hands-on activities to help you learn more about raptors. Compare wings and feet and other special adaptations of a variety of raptors.

### Kid's Reveling in Raptors Art Show.

Art supplies will be provided for kids to draw their favorite raptors. The pictures will all be displayed on the Audubon website!



Two injured Northern Saw-whet Owls recover in the Wildlife Care Center. © WCC

**Meet our resident raptors.** All of Audubon's resident Education Birds will be out on our sanctuary grounds. Experienced bird handlers will be available to tell you each bird's story and answer questions about them.

Portland Audubon's Wildlife Care Center is the oldest and largest wildlife rehabilitation center in Oregon. Over 3,000 injured or orphaned native wild animals come through the doors and over 15,000 wildlife calls are fielded each year. Come see where it all happens — join us for the Wildlife Care Center Open House on February 14.

## Musings from 2009 in the Wildlife Care Center

by Deb Sheaffer, WCC Operations Manager

I never like to be presented with the question, "Do you want the good news or the bad news?" It seems the good news is never entirely good because bad news is attached. In mulling over the Wildlife Care Center (WCC) in 2009, I keep returning to the good news/bad news equation. Or rather the bad news/good news.

As in every year since we've kept records, the number one cause of Care Center intakes in 2009 are cat-related, whether directly (the cat grabs the fledgling robin) or indirectly (the cat kills the parents and we are presented with orphans). That's the bad news, of course. The good news is that with Audubon's alliance with the Feral Cat Coalition we're reaching more and more cat owners with the collective message to keep your cat indoors. It's good for the cat and good for wildlife.

More bad news: we continue to see animals intentionally injured by humans. One case that stands out is a fledgling Red-tailed Hawk that was shot behind an elementary school in Clackamas. Fortunately the bird survived a fractured leg and was eventually released back to the wild. The good news is that Portland Audubon has worked with Congressman Peter DeFazio to present federal legislation that increases penalties for illegal killing of protected birds. We hope this legislation will pass both houses of Congress in 2010.

More than 3,000 injured or orphaned wild animals coming to the WCC is bad news. However, it is also an opportunity to learn what we can from the animals brought in. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Audubon Society released the "State of the Birds Report" last spring, which declares more than a quarter of our native bird populations are in serious decline. We hope that by investigating and analyzing causes of death, injury, and illness in our



In June a fledgling Red-tailed Hawk was found behind Oregon Trail Elementary School in Clackamas. The bird had been gunshot and had a broken leg. The leg healed and after three months of rehabilitation in the Wildlife Care Center, the hawk was released with two other juvenile hawks at Kruger's Farm on Sauvie Island. © WCC

patients, and how they relate to habitat loss, we can help shed light on the trends and institute meaningful changes to reverse those trends.

Of course, there is a lot more good news. We have over 70 active, dedicated volunteers in the Wildlife Care Center. Among these are 4 veterinarians, an orthopedic surgeon, 4 nurses, a handful of wildlife biologists, and countless other talented people with lots of energy to clean cages, treat patients, and address the public's wildlife concerns. We have great partnerships with the local veterinary community — in particular Dove Lewis Emergency Animal Hospital, Rock Creek Animal Hospital, the Animal Eye Clinic, Gladstone Veterinary Clinic, and the Avian Medical Center — and other animal advocacy groups. We also partner with local, state, and federal wildlife and conservation agencies to encourage successful wildlife stewardship. All of this is truly good news.

# Educational Trips & Tours

## Australia

November 6–20, 2010

Like no place else on Earth, Australia is unique unto itself. Come with Portland Audubon and explore some of the finest regions the island-continent has to offer.

The trip begins in the coastal town of Cairns, where we'll bird the Queensland Coast and the Atherton Tablelands, world-renowned for its avian diversity. We'll be on the lookout for species such as the **Scarlet Honeyeater**, the **Laughing Kookaburra**, and the **Lovely Fairy Wren**. We'll visit the **Mareeba Wetlands** and look for **Royal Spoonbills**, **Black Swans**, and the **Great Crested Grebe**. We will spend two nights at *Kingfisher Lodge*, famous for birds like the stunning **Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher**, and we'll no doubt find the massive **Australian Bustard** as we bird the nearby scrubland. En route back to Cairns, we'll have the magical experience of birding the **Daintree River** at dawn by boat. Within the first week, you will have explored the jungles, wetlands, and dry scrublands of this unique region in search of the 150+ birds we hope to see. Along the way, we'll do our best to add **Brolga and Sarus Cranes** to our list, as well as the elegant **Red-tailed Black Cockatoo** and the very rare **Southern Cassowary**.



Royal Spoonbills. Photo: Djambalawa/Wikimedia Commons

But this is more than just a birding trip. You will also experience the most incredible coral reef ecosystem in the world, the **Great Barrier Reef**. We will spend three days and two nights on the reef, on a certified live-aboard dive boat, complete with sleeping berths and a full galley. We'll snorkel several of the finest reefs (you may scuba dive if desired), where **Sea Turtles**, **Giant Clams**, and a myriad of reef fish abound.



Tasmanian Devil. Photo: KeresH/Wikimedia Commons

We'll also find time to explore the cosmopolitan town of Cairns, shop for souvenirs in the charming village of Kuranda, and see incredible **Flying Fox Bats** up-close and personal when we go behind the scenes at a local bat rehab center. We end our trip with two nights in the beautiful city of **Sydney**, where we'll visit the famous **Sydney Opera House** and see the **Harbor Bridge** and other waterfront attractions. We'll also enrich our Australian experience with a tour of the wonderful **Australian Museum**, which has fascinating exhibits on both the cultural and natural history of this unique country.

This trip is designed to please the avid birder and novice naturalist alike, and to give everyone a well-rounded, first-hand experience of natural Australia. NOTE: The extension to **Tasmania** is designed to follow this trip, but may be taken on its own.

**What is included:** All ground transportation in Australia, lodging, excursions (including dive boat), all meals except dinners, fees for local guides, park fees, taxes, and the services of the trip leaders. **Fee does NOT include cost of airfare to, from, or within Australia**, nor does it include tips to guides or at meals (which are always optional). A portion of your fee is a tax-deductible contribution to the Audubon Society of Portland.

**Fee:** \$3,895  
**Group size:** Maximum 14 participants  
**Leader:** Steve Robertson, Education Director

If you have questions or would like to sign up, please contact trip leader **Steve Robertson at 503-292-6855 ext.118**.

## Tasmania!

November 20–27, 2010

One of the most beautiful places on the planet, Tasmania is simply unforgettable. Join Steve Robertson on this week of adventure as you explore some of the island's most popular destinations. Steve has been trekking and researching on this island since the mid-1980s, so plan on getting off the beaten track as well.

Our trip will start in the capital city of Hobart, located on the stunning waterfront of Sullivan's Cove. Then it's off to Bruny Island, where we will spend the next two days birding. With a little luck we'll spot the island's **12 endemic species of birds**, including the rare **Forty-spotted Pardalote**. We'll also see the charming **Little Penguin** — "Fairies" as they are called there — as they come up onto the beach at dusk.

We will then head north up to the center of the island where we'll spend a night at one of the most scenic places in the world, Cradle Mountain. You'll have time to hike and explore the area before we head to Mole Creek, where we'll have the special experience of river rafting to observe the famous **Duck-billed Platypus**. Weather permitting, we'll go on a night drive to a little-known region, one of the last areas where the chance of seeing a **Tasmanian Devil** in the wild is excellent.

This is sure to be a once-in-a-lifetime experience, because there's one thing that Tasmania is not, and that's right around the corner. But who knows, the island's charms may lure you back time and time again. NOTE: This trip is designed to follow the adventure in **Australia**, but may be taken on its own.

**What is included:** All ground transportation in Tasmania, lodging, excursions, all meals except dinners, fees for local guides, park fees, taxes, and the services of the trip leaders. **Fee does NOT include cost of airfare to and from Tasmania**, nor does it include tips to guides or at meals (which are always optional). A portion of your fee is a tax-deductible contribution to the Audubon Society of Portland.

**Fee:** \$1,975  
**Group size:** Maximum 14 participants  
**Leader:** Steve Robertson, Education Director

If you have questions or would like to sign up, please contact trip leader **Steve Robertson at 503-292-6855 ext.118**.

These trips are popular. We recommend that you book early.

## BIRDING IN THE BASIN

June 23–27 2010

The many lakes and wetlands of Southeastern Oregon are host to some of the most amazing congregations of nesting waterbirds in the state. During the breeding season, thousands of waterbirds depend on these lakes, in this otherwise dry region, to raise their young. Our journey begins in Lakeview, where we can easily reach some of the best birding in this part of Oregon. We'll explore the Warner Wetlands, Lake Abert, and Summer Lake as we search for **Eared Grebe**, **Black Tern**, **Black-crowned Night-Heron**, and **Yellow-headed Blackbird**. Shorebirds will abound, including **American Avocet**, **Black-necked Stilt**, and **Wilson's Phalarope**; there is also a chance we may find one of the inland populations of **Snowy Plover** that nest near these alkali lakes. The habitat surrounding these lakes is home to many desert species including **Sage Thrasher**, **Rock Wren**, and the strikingly patterned **Black-throated Sparrow**. We'll search for the **Juniper Titmouse** near Adel, the only place in Oregon where they nest. A visit to nearby mountains may turn up **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** and **Green-tailed Towhee**. A special night-time excursion will be made to see the **Common Poorwill**. Our last night is spent in Bend so we may stop in the Ponderosa Pine forests around Sisters on our way home. This habitat is ideal for **White-headed Woodpecker**, **Calliope Hummingbird**, and **Pinyon Jay**.



Black-throated Sparrow © Elaine Wilson/W.C.

We're sure to see many species of birds as well as wildflowers and butterflies in this remote region of the state. Come along with Portland Audubon to discover and bird this unique part of Oregon.

**What is included:** Transportation by van from Portland, 4 nights double-occupancy lodging, all meals except dinners, and the services of your leaders. A portion of your fee is a tax-deductible contribution to the Audubon Society of Portland.

**Fee:** \$645 members / \$745 non-members  
**Group size:** 14 participants  
**Leader:** Dan van den Broek, School of Birding Coordinator  
Contact Dan at [dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org](mailto:dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org) or 971-222-6105.

## BIRD THE BADLANDS June 3–10, 2010

North Dakota has it all! From Teddy Roosevelt's Badlands to the prairie potholes, from the eastern grasslands to the Turtle Mountains up north, we'll search for about 200 species of breeding birds that call this swath of the Great Plains 'home.' The highly-sought-after **Baird's Sparrow** nests here, as do 13 other sparrows including **Nelson's Sharp-tailed** and **LeConte's Sparrows**. Millions of waterfowl such as **Blue-winged Teal** and **Redhead** utilize the lakes and ponds scattered across the pothole region for breeding, along with **American White Pelican**, **Black and Forster's Tern**, and **Eared Grebe**. The rare **Piping Plover** and **Least Tern** nest along the Missouri River, and **Upland Sandpipers** call out across the grasslands when **Ferruginous Hawks** come into view. **McCown's Longspur** and **Sprague's Pipit** display high overhead while **Bobolinks** burst forth in song from the prairie.

North Dakota encompasses the great transition of biomes from forests to grasslands, and we will do the same on our trip. As we bird our way across the state we'll also take time to explore the rich Native American history of the **Mandan**, **Hidatsa**, and **Arikara** tribes. We'll retrace parts of Lewis and Clark's route, including their winter camp of 1804–05 along the Missouri River. We'll also explore the Turtle Mountains on the U.S.–Canada border and make our way to the majestic grasslands of **Theodore Roosevelt National Park** where Bison, Pronghorn, and Elk graze near Black-tailed Prairie Dog towns. As a young

man, Teddy Roosevelt lived here as a cowboy for two years. He was captivated by this geologic wonderland of buttes and mesas that are colored, as he described, with every hue of the rainbow.



Bull Bison in the Badlands. Photo: Nathan King

The beauty of the northern Great Plains in early summer will captivate you as well. Join **Steve Engel**, Adult Education Coordinator and North Dakota native, on a trip to one of the biologically richest yet least-populated states in the union.

**What is included:** All lodging, ground transportation, entrance fees, all meals except dinners, and the services of your leader. A portion of your fee is a tax-deductible gift to the Audubon Society of Portland. **Airfare is not included.**

**Fee (double occupancy):** \$1195 members / \$1395 non-members  
**Deposit:** \$600  
**Group size:** 9–14 participants  
**Leader:** Steve Engel  
Contact Steve Engel at [sengel@audubonportland.org](mailto:sengel@audubonportland.org) or 971-222-6119.

Upcoming trips include our annual **Malheur Foray** in May!

## HOW TO REGISTER

### Adult Classes

1. Phone or email with your **contact information and the classes** in which you wish to reserve one or more spaces.
2. **Mail in your payment right away.** Make checks payable to Audubon Society of Portland.
3. We'll contact you with **confirmation of payment and class details.**

### Educational Trips & Tours

1. Phone or email to **request a registration packet** for the trips of interest.
2. Complete and sign the **Registration / Waiver Form** and return it with the **required deposit.**
3. We'll contact you with **confirmation of payment and further details.**

**Contact:** Steve Engel, Adult Education Coordinator  
**Email:** sengel@audubonportland.org  
**Phone:** 971-222-6119

**Mail:** Audubon Society of Portland  
 5151 NW Cornell Rd.  
 Portland, OR 97210

**Credit Card Payment:** We accept VISA, MasterCard, and Discover. A 3% processing fee is added to each transaction. Include card number, expiration date, and billing address, or call Steve Engel and pay over the phone.

### Gulls in Winter

**January 20 (Wed.), 7pm–9pm:**  
**Class in Heron Hall**  
**January 23 (Sat.), 9am–5pm: Field Trip**

Do you typically take a “pass” on identifying those gulls when you are out birding? If you feel it is time to take the plunge and learn some tricks for figuring out what kind of gull that is, then join **John Rakestraw**, author of numerous articles and the *Falcon Guide to Birding Oregon*, for a Wednesday evening class on gull identification and natural history. On Saturday we travel to the coast by van (provided by Audubon) and put our newfound knowledge to the test as we look for the dozen or so species that winter along our coast.

**Fee:** \$65 members / \$80 non-members  
**Class only:** \$10 members / \$15 non-members  
**Field Trip limited to 12 participants.**  
**Pre-registration is required.**

### Raptor Road Trip Rev-Up!

**February 3 (Wed.), 7pm–9pm in Heron Hall**

The Willamette Valley is home to a host of hawks, eagles, and falcons. Identifying these birds may seem daunting at first, but sorting through them all isn't so hard when you know what to look for. Join Portland's Adult Education Coordinator, **Steve Engel**, for an introduction to raptor ID. We'll learn the key field marks for all the local wintering raptors, and make side-by-side comparisons of similar species. A great way to prepare yourself for the Raptor Road Trip extravaganza sponsored by Portland Audubon, Metro, and Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife on the following Saturday at Sauvie Island.

**Fee:** \$10 members / \$15 non-members  
**Pre-registration is required.**

### Beginning Birding

**February 22 (Mon.), 7pm–9pm:**  
**Class in Heron Hall**  
**February 28 & March 7 (Sun.), 8am–Noon:**  
**Field Trips**

If you've always wanted to give birding a try, and would like to learn some basics, this class is for you. Designed especially for beginners, topics include finding birds, tips for looking at birds, recognizing behavior and habitats, and identifying bird sounds. Take concepts from the evening program and apply them on two Portland-area field trips. Your instructor will be **Laura Whittemore**. Sign up early — Laura's classes fill quickly!

**Fee:** \$35 members / \$50 non-members  
**Class size: 14 participants**  
**Pre-registration is required.**

### Beginning Field Birding and Sauvie Island Exploration with Greg Baker, Spring 2010

**Saturdays, 8am–12noon**  
**February 6, March 6, April 3**

Saturday morning explorations at one of Oregon's most accessible Important Bird Areas — Sauvie Island Wildlife Area, managed by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife — continue with **Greg Baker!** This field class series is perfect for those interested in developing and sharpening their birding skills under a variety of conditions with the tutelage of an expert birder. Explore different habitats on the island, learn bird calls, and search for waterfowl, songbirds, and raptors. This workshop is limited to 15 people.

**Fee:** \$50 members / \$60 non-members  
**Pre-registration is required.**  
**Participants register for all 3 days.**

### Sparrows & Other 'LBJs' in Winter

**March 11 (Thur.), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall**  
**March 13 (Sat.), 9am–Noon: Field Trip**

'LBJs' are those Little Brown Jobbers that abound in the brush and fields during our Willamette Valley winter. Many of them are sparrows of one kind or another, some of them are wrens, and some just can't be identified! Or can they? **John Rakestraw**, author of numerous articles and the *Falcon Guide to Birding Oregon*, will help you tackle how to identify the birds in that flitting flock in the field with this class and field trip.

**Fee:** \$25 members / \$35 non-members  
**Class-only option:** \$10 members / \$15 non-members  
**Field Trip limited to 15 participants.**  
**Pre-registration is required.**

### Marsh Birds, Herons, and Rails

**March 16 (Tue.), 7pm–9pm in Heron Hall**

Wetlands and marshes harbor some of the most unique and beautiful birds in Oregon. These include rails, bitterns, herons, and cranes. Tonight local expert **Harry Nehls** will share his knowledge of these wonderful birds and their 'marshy' habits. Learn about the rare Yellow Rail, the stately Sandhill Crane, and many more.

**Fee:** \$10 members / \$15 non-members  
**Pre-registration is required.**  
**This class is FREE for volunteers.**

## SPRING BREAK CAMP 2009 at the Audubon Society of Portland

Spring Break Camp Registration begins on January 12th. We are introducing online registration that allows you to fill out a registration form and pay instantly with a credit card or e-check. Just go to the Spring Break Camp page at [www.audubonportland.org](http://www.audubonportland.org) and click on the “Register Now” link. Questions? Call Sarah Swanson, Camp Director, at 971-222-6120. **Most Camps run from 9am to 4pm.**



| MONDAY, MARCH 22   | TUESDAY, MARCH 23   | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24   | THURSDAY, MARCH 25   | FRIDAY, MARCH 26   |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| <p><b>Bird Buddies</b><br/> <b>2nd–3rd grade</b><br/>                     What is the difference between a hawk and an owl? Do birds only migrate south in the winter? We'll answer these questions and more as we spend the day investigating these amazing winged friends! You will handle actual bird specimens, hike our Wildlife Sanctuary in search of birds, and meet some of our resident raptors from the Wildlife Care Center.<br/>                     Fee: \$60member / \$70non-member</p> <p><b>Clack Attack: Hiking the Clackamas</b><br/> <b>4th–6th grade</b><br/>                     Hop on board as we head over to the wild and scenic Clackamas River for an adventure-filled day of hiking! We'll explore this often-overlooked natural area, looking for Peregrine Falcons near the basalt cliffs and for Beavers swimming in the river. Learn about the plants and animals that call this place home. Grab your hiking shoes and let's hit the trail! Fee: \$70member / \$80non-member</p> | <p><b>Junior Wildlife Vet 101</b><br/> <b>1st–3rd grade</b><br/>                     Join other animal lovers for a day devoted to learning about the care of injured and orphaned wildlife. We'll go behind the scenes of Audubon's Wildlife Care Center with wildlife rehabilitators and find out what this exciting job is all about.<br/>                     Fee: \$60member / \$70non-member</p> <p><b>Surf's Up</b><br/> <b>4th–8th grade</b><br/>                     Join Steve Robertson, Education Director and amateur Marine Biologist, on this day-long exploration of the coast. We'll discover the awesome animals that live in tidepools, explore a few caves, learn some cool geology, and find time to build a sandcastle or two. We guarantee that you'll learn more about the beach in one day than you thought possible, and that you'll have a blast doing it! Note: the camp departs at <b>8:30am</b> and returns at <b>5:30pm</b>.<br/>                     Fee: \$70member / \$80non-member</p> | <p><b>Amphibians Ahoy!</b><br/> <b>1st–3rd grade</b><br/>                     Springtime is frog time. Come with us as we check out the egg masses in Portland Audubon's pond and figure out which frogs laid them. We'll also be on the lookout for another amphibian, the salamander, as we search Balch Creek for salamanders and the insects they love to eat.<br/>                     Fee: \$60member / \$70non-member</p> <p><b>Salmon Search</b><br/> <b>3rd–5th grade</b><br/>                     Run with the salmon up the Columbia River Gorge on this exciting day of exploration and wildlife viewing! We'll hike behind a waterfall, visit a gigantic sturgeon, and watch through a special underwater window as Chinook Salmon swim by. Ospreys and Bald Eagles will also be searching for salmon, and we'll try to find them too.<br/>                     Fee: \$70member / \$80non-member</p> <p><b>Tim and Ian's Mission Impossible (Overnight Wednesday night)</b><br/> <b>5th–8th grades</b><br/>                     Authorities at Portland Audubon's Marmot Cabin have some evidence that people all over the world have forgotten many Naturalist skills that have been used for centuries. Your mission, should you chose to accept it, is to learn and practice these skills within the Joe Miller Wildlife Sanctuary at Marmot Cabin. To do this, you will spend two full days and one night navigating the woods as part of a scout group and finishing the necessary tasks before all is forgotten. Your days will be full of adventure and intrigue, your night full of stories and campfire. As always, should you or any member of your scout group be captured, the Audubon Staff will disavow all knowledge of your actions. This message will self-destruct after you register for this AWESOME adventure. Good luck!<br/>                     Fee: \$130member / \$150non-member</p> | <p><b>Forest Detectives</b><br/> <b>1st–3rd grade</b><br/>                     Throw your detective hat on as you step into our Wildlife Sanctuary to explore and unlock the secrets of the woods. Just like Sherlock Holmes, you'll need a keen eye to look out for the tracks that show you where raccoons roam, and the holes in the tree that tell you which woodpecker was where. Hands-on games, stories, and crafts will help to hone your young detective skills.<br/>                     Fee: \$60member / \$70non-member</p> <p><b>Animal Behavior: Great Blue Herons</b><br/> <b>3rd–5th grade</b><br/>                     Become an expert on the Great Blue Heron, or “GBH” as the birders call it, as you travel to Goat Island to see their amazing nesting colony. Watch the unique territorial and courtship displays of the GBH as you make drawings and notes in your journal, just like a real biologist. We'll make maps so you can come back and check on the baby herons later in the spring!<br/>                     Fee: \$70member / \$80non-member</p> | <p><b>Mysterious Mammals</b><br/> <b>1st–3rd grade</b><br/>                     Cougars, Wolverines, and Bobcats are just a few of the amazing mammals that you will investigate in this camp. Examine the tracks and pelts of Oregon's mammals and learn how to identify them using only a skull as a clue. We'll hike into Portland Audubon's Wildlife Sanctuary to search for animal signs and habitats. It's sure to be a furry fun time!<br/>                     Fee: \$60member / \$70non-member</p> <p><b>Junior Wildlife Vet 102</b><br/> <b>4th–5th grade</b><br/>                     Join other animal lovers for a day devoted to learning about the care of injured and orphaned wildlife. We'll go behind the scenes of Audubon's Wildlife Care Center with wildlife rehabilitators and find out what this exciting job is all about.<br/>                     Fee: \$60member / \$70non-member</p> |

Visit us at [www.audubonportland.org](http://www.audubonportland.org) for more information!

# Nature Store Highlights

## Nature Books Year in Review

by Sally Loomis, Nature Store Book Buyer

Ever wonder what your fellow Audubon members are reading? Here is a list, including both new titles and classics, of the best sellers in the Nature Store in 2009. You may want to consider adding them to your collection, if you don't already own them. Also included here is mention of a few 'sleepers' we suggest that you check out in 2010.

### Adult titles:

**Familiar Birds of the Northwest** – Harry Nehls (Audubon Society of Portland, \$5.00). An all-time Audubon favorite, informative and very affordable.

**Birds of the Willamette Valley Region** – Harry Nehls, et al. (R.W. Morse, \$18.95). The best basic guide to our local birds.

**The Northwest Nature Guide** – James Davis (Timber Press, \$24.95). Entertaining guide to wildlife-viewing opportunities throughout the year.

**Memoirs of a Wildlife Biologist** – David Marshall (David Marshall, \$16.95). The life story of one of Portland Audubon's seminal personalities.

**National Geographic Field Guide to Birds of Western North America** – Jon Dunn & Jonathan Alderfer (National Geographic, \$19.95). Indispensable field guide, the favorite of many of our education staff.

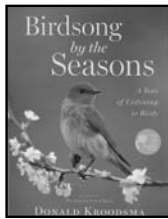
**Backyard Birdsong Guide: Western North America** – Donald Kroodsma (Chronicle Press, \$29.95). A fun way for all ages to learn the songs of many common species.

**Pacific Coast Tree Finder** – Tom Watts (Nature Study Guide Publishers, \$4.00). An easy pocket-sized key to tree identification.

**Wild in the City** – Michael Houck & M.J. Cody (OHS Press/Audubon Society of Portland, \$22.95). A long-time Audubon favorite, newly republished.

**Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Western North America** – David Sibley (Knopf, \$19.95). Highly detailed field guide with superb illustrations.

**Crow Planet** – Lyanda Lynn Haupt (Little, Brown, \$23.99). A wonderful meditation on the relationship between crows, humans, and the urbanized landscape.



**Pirate Quest** – Laura Sams, Rob Sams & Heiner Hertling (Carl R. Sams, \$19.95).

**Eye Like Stickers: Animals** – Black Dog Press (\$6.95).

**Eye Like Stickers: Colors** – Black Dog Press (\$6.95).

**Book of Totally Irresponsible Science** – Sean Connolly (Workman Press, \$12.95).

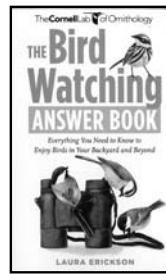
**O is for Oregon** – Winterhaven School Kids (WestWinds Press, \$12.95).

**Bug Book & Bug Bottle Kit** – Hugh Danks (Workman Press, \$13.95).

### Recent publications that deserve more attention:

**The Bird: A Natural History of Who Birds Are, Where They Came From, and How They Live** – Colin Tudge (Crown Books, \$30.00). A wonderful resource for the study of bird evolution and taxonomy, with lots of interesting tidbits.

**Bird Watching Answer Book** – Laura Erickson (Storey Books, \$14.95). Handy Q&A format covering both recreational birding and conservation issues.



**Birdsong by the Seasons** – Donald Kroodsma (Houghton Mifflin, \$28.00). This is a detailed study of bird song for serious ornithologists, complete with 2 CDs.

**Border Songs** – Jim Lynch (Knopf, \$25.95). Novel set at the Washington–Canadian border by Northwest writer Lynch, dealing with bird watching and so much more.

**Dragonflies and Damselflies of the West** – Dennis Paulson (Princeton University Press, \$29.95). Incredibly detailed work on these fascinating insects of our region.



**What We Leave Behind** – Derrick Jensen & Aric McBay (Seven Stories Press, \$24.95). The latest thought-provoking title from controversial, impassioned environmental writer Jensen.

### Children's books... lots of fun, with a focus on the natural world:

**Swiftly's Big Flight** – Lee Jackson & Ryan Alexander-Tanner (Tiger RM, \$7.95).

**Education Birds Coloring Book** – Audubon Volunteers (Audubon Society of Portland, \$3.00).

**Charley Harper's Coloring Book** (AMMO, \$6.95).

**Charley Harper's Memory Game** (AMMO, \$14.95).

## Sanctuaries News

### Boardwalks, Waterbars, and Native Plants

by Tom Costello, Sanctuaries Director

On December 5th, 30 valiant volunteers braved the cold and joined us for another successful TogetherGreen volunteer event. We divided into a few groups to tackle a variety of projects, and at the end of the day it was successes all the way around.

We installed a new boardwalk on the Wren Trail to tackle the problem of a quickly growing sinkhole. From my perspective it seems like a never-ending battle keeping our trails open, passable, and safe. While our beautiful forested slopes are a pleasure to the eye and a welcome home for wildlife, unfortunately they don't hold a trail very well. My favorite thing about this boardwalk is that it was built almost entirely out of salvaged and leftover wood — all I had to buy was a box of nails and a single 2x6!

We also installed 20 or so waterbars on the Jay Trail. Every time it rains, this stretch of trail is regularly 2–3" under water, and these waterbars should go a long way to help keep the trail (and your boots) dry through the winter months.

Of course no volunteer day would be complete without some ivy pulling, and we continued to put a dent in the ivy population on the upper stretch of the Jay Trail. We also

had a small group of volunteers step forward for the heavy task of moving several yards of gravel to help build up a path behind the Wildlife Care Center. This much-needed path will provide safe access to water for our volunteers. Special thanks to those volunteers who carried out this challenging task.

Not to be outdone, our partners Metro and Friends of Trees also defied the frigid early season weather to help restoration efforts in the Collins Sanctuary. I am happy to report that the Collins Sanctuary has been swept clean of invasive holly, laurel, and hawthorn, clearing the way for native understory of shrubs and conifers. Many thanks to Metro and their contractors for performing this important restoration work.

On December 6th, Friends of Trees held their first of many Gift Tree Program Plantings in the Collins Sanctuary. The 275 shrubs and trees that were planted include Pacific yew, western red-cedar, western hemlock, vine maple, and cascara. These species are currently under-represented in the understory, and this planting is a major step in restoring the forest to its natural course of succession.

## Volunteering at Audubon is Fun and Rewarding!

by Deanna Sawtelle,  
Volunteer Coordinator

"Inspiring people to love and protect nature." That's Audubon's mission and it's what our volunteers do every day! The Audubon Society of Portland is one of the Northwest's leading conservation organizations, offering a wide range of natural history and environmental activities to members, the community, and especially volunteers. Whatever your interests or talents, there is a volunteer position for you. These include many regularly scheduled volunteer opportunities, as well as special projects and event positions:

- Help restore habitat in our wildlife sanctuary.
- Be a conservation activist!
- Care for and feed injured wildlife at the Wildlife Care Center. (There is currently a wait list for this volunteer opportunity.)
- Help answer the community's appetite for nature history information by being an assistant at the Nature Store.
- Lead school groups through a fascinating exploration of our sanctuary.
- Be a voice for Audubon by volunteering as a receptionist or an Audubon Docent.
- Help make Audubon's special events successful: Wild Arts Festival, Native Plant Sale, and Swift Watch.

New Volunteer Orientation is **Thur., February 11, 6pm–8pm** OR **Sat., February 13, 1pm–3pm**. And volunteers who wish to serve in a capacity **beyond special events** must also attend General Volunteer Training on **Sat., February 20, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.**

If you would like to donate some of your time and energy to the Audubon Society of Portland, please contact Deanna Sawtelle at [volunteercoordinator@audubonportland.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@audubonportland.org), or 503-292-6855 ext.108.

## NATURE NIGHTS

Second Tuesday of the month from September to May. If you have a suggestion for a Nature Night presentation, contact Catherine at [chalpin@audubonportland.org](mailto:chalpin@audubonportland.org) or 503-292-6855 ext. 129.

Free and open to the public!

### Importance of Education & Public Involvement in Habitat Enhancement

Tuesday, January 12  
7pm Heron Hall

This lively presentation by **Patrick Willis** will help change the way you view habitat enhancement and community engagement.

Five different case stories will be discussed that provide examples of local habitat projects, place-based education, and public involvement that improve communities. Both philosophical and pragmatic approaches will be covered in this search for paradigm shifts that improve our ecosystems and our lives.



Photo © Pat Willis

### Wetlands: A Documentary about Art and the Environment

Tuesday, February 9  
7pm Heron Hall

**Wetlands** is a feature-length documentary film collaboration between painter **Deborah DeWit** and filmmaker **Carl Vandervoort**. It tells the story of a year in the studio and a year in a small piece of the natural world — the site of a former dairy farm, a "postage-stamp wilderness" surrounded by suburbia, adjacent to a sewage treatment plant — that has been both Deborah's inspiration and a major subject of her work since the early 2000s. Her voice weaves the narrative thread, her paintings provide many of the visuals, and her ideas about art and life form the philosophical core of this story. Alongside this aesthetic approach to exploring our need for nature, the film examines the scientific and practical restoration process, the goal of which is to enhance and protect our native habitat.

**TogetherGreen Volunteer Day**  
Sat., January 30, 10am–4pm • Native Tree Planting

## Subspecies of the Cackling Goose

The Willamette Valley is a major wintering area for many birds, and with the wintering waterfowl population very high, one of the most conspicuous is the **Cackling Goose** (recently split from the Canada Goose). Most people are familiar with the species, but what do you really know about them?

There are four subspecies in the Cackling Goose complex: Cackling Goose, Aleutian Goose, Taverner's Goose, and Richardson's Goose. All are small dark geese, except for the pale Richardson's of eastern Canada. They are usually found in large tight flocks that are habitually moving steadily over the fields as they forage. Migration pathways and wintering areas are often moved to take advantage of changes in the environment or food supplies.



Aleutian Goose.  
Photo: Rob Lowe, USFWS

They then fly south over the ocean to the mouth of the Columbia River, from which most fly inland to their wintering areas in the Willamette Valley. They move in two waves, the earliest about the first of October with most stopping in the Sauvie Island–Ridgefield area before moving farther south. The second larger wave arrives during late October, bringing wintering numbers to the Willamette Valley.

The **Aleutian Goose** nests on islands in the Aleutian Island Chain. The population almost became extinct when foxes were introduced to the breeding islands. Massive efforts by the Fish and Wildlife Service removed the foxes from most of the islands and successfully reintroduced the geese. Today the population is about 30,000 individuals.

The **Cackling Goose** nests in a ten-mile-wide strip along coastal Alaska between the Kuskokwim and Yukon Rivers. They maintain a population of about 300,000 individuals so the nesting areas are probably rather tight. After the late summer molt, most move to Bristol Bay to fatten up before migration.

In migration these birds move southward over the ocean, making landfall in northern Washington to continue southward along the Oregon coast, then moving inland to the Central Valley of California. A small number winter in

Oregon amid the Cackling Goose flocks in the Willamette Valley and on the coast near Pacific City.

For many years the majority of wildlife biologists considered the **Taverner's Goose** to be a darker version of the Lesser Canada Goose, the two thought to be the same species. DNA testing has proved that the Taverner's Goose is distinctly part of the Cackling Goose complex and the Lesser is part of the Canada Goose complex. It is a case of evolutionary convergence.

Both of these two subspecies breed at suitable inland sites throughout Alaska, the Taverner's more to the west and the Lesser farther east. A few years ago many of both subspecies were neck banded with white collars in Alaska. Wintering white-collared birds in the Willamette Valley all proved to be Taverner's. The collared Lesser Canadas wintered in the Columbia Basin east of the Cascades.

A few of the more eastern **Richardson's Goose** are occasionally reported from the West Coast, but little is known of them in this area. All races of geese tend to wander, so it is not surprising that some do occur out of their regular ranges.

## Sightings

A rather strong storm reached the Oregon Coast November 5, but was too weak to push coastal birds inland though it did stop many westward-bound migrants in the valley. On November 9 Ed McVicker and Stefan Schlick found a **White-winged Scoter** and five **Surf Scoters** on Hagg Lake south of Forest Grove. On November 1 a **Red Phalarope** appeared at the Fernhill Wetlands. There was also a surge of inland sightings of **Bonaparte's Gulls**.

Then during the night of November 22 a stronger storm moved into Oregon, pushing many coastal birds inland. A moribund **Northern Fulmar** was picked up in Milwaukie and brought to Portland Audubon's Wildlife Care Center. Another **Red Phalarope** appeared at the Fernhill Wetlands and two were at Westmoreland Park in southeast Portland. Also at Fernhill were 15 **Heermann's Gulls** and a **Black-legged Kittiwake**!

A bit farther afield on that day, Carol Karlen and Paul Sullivan saw a **Leach's Storm-Petrel** over the Columbia River near Clatskanie, Stuart Johnston and Kathy Flick found a **Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel** at the mouth of Hood River, and a **Heermann's Gull** got as far inland as the John Day Dam.

On November 11 Rhett Wilkins found a late **Say's Phoebe** at Jackson Bottom in Hillsboro. Dennis Manzer reported a **Gyr Falcon** there November 27. It is shaping up as a good year for **Gyrs** and **Northern Shrikes**. On November 13 Tom Shreve found a conspicuous **American Tree Sparrow** at the Fernhill Wetlands. It remained into December.

On November 18 Em Scattaregia and Christopher and Adrian Hinkle saw a **Goshawk** and a movement of 104 **Varied Thrushes** at Mt. Tabor Park in Portland. Adrian observed a late **Tree Swallow** at Smith & Bybee Lakes November 22. On November 27 Denny McMahan reported a **Mockingbird** at Bethany Pond north of Beaverton.

On October 31 and November 1 Henry Horvat saw a **Broad-winged Hawk** flying about Scappoose Bottoms. On November 1 Bob Archer reported one flying over Willow Bar on Sauvie Island. This species is a rare but apparently regular migrant through this area.



Broad-winged Hawk.  
Photo: Julie Waters, Wikimedia Commons

## Outstanding Volunteer Program Award

How do 25 full- and part-time staff people successfully accomplish everything the Audubon Society of Portland does? They're a dedicated group of people, of course. Their efforts are supported, though, by **Portland Audubon's Volunteer Program, which has been recognized as the 2009 Outstanding Volunteer Program by the Association of Fundraising Professionals!** Made up of almost 450 volunteers, many of whom dedicate over 100 hours a year to help Audubon successfully meet its mission of "Inspiring people to love and protect nature," Audubon's volunteers are the center of many of our accomplishments. In fact, that mission statement is proudly printed on the back of the volunteer uniforms that showcase these amazing individuals as the passionate people they are.



Deanna Sawtelle and Meryl Redisch with award.  
© Ann Takamoto

The 34,879 hours given by our volunteers last year effectively increased our manpower by 17.5 full-time people! Put in fiscal terms, that amounted to \$680,490 worth of manpower. What's more amazing is that we've seen an increase of 22% in volunteer hours since the 2007–08 fiscal year.

"In the past few years, we have just seen a stronger commitment of people who have continually taken on more challenges and more time," says Meryl Redisch, Executive Director. "Our volunteers are spanning the spectrum of all the things we do — from the Wildlife Care Center, conservation, and advocacy, to education, the sanctuary, and the Nature Store."

Our volunteers want to be the best representatives they can be, so they "flock" to take **trainings offered to give them the background they need**, including general volunteer training, Wildlife Care Center basics and rehabilitation classes, bird monitoring, sanctuary tour trainings, and other opportunities.

Central to the Volunteer Program is the Volunteer Council that is made of up nine volunteers who represent the various volunteer opportunities available. Meeting monthly with volunteer coordinator Deanna Sawtelle, these terrific volunteers help the Volunteer Program continue to grow by developing new trainings and volunteer-based programs.

Although staff members have received congratulations for receiving the Outstanding Volunteer Program Award, **please join us in congratulating — and giving our heartfelt thanks to — our amazing volunteers who make it all happen!**

## Volunteer of the Month: Pam Meyers

by Mary Coolidge, Assistant Conservation Director

Without a lick of exaggeration, it's hard to find a program at Audubon that doesn't have Pam Meyers' fingerprints all over it. In fact, when I started asking staff about the projects she's involved in, it became clear why I see her as often as I see many of my coworkers. Shortly after moving here from Texas, Pam and her husband Rick encountered Ruby, our nonreleasable Turkey Vulture, in the Interpretive Center — and they were hooked. Since September 2008, Pam has logged 700 hours getting pulled in every conceivable direction, devoting herself to volunteerism in Conservation, the Wildlife Care Center, Membership Development, the Nature Store, and Education!

Pam was already a Peregrine Monitor when she attended the Citizen Science Training we offered last May, and her involvement in monitoring since can only be described as a runaway snowball effect. Pam first joined the Point Count Team at Oaks Bottom, soon after joined the Point Count Team at Wapato State Access Area on Sauvie Island, and this past fall became a swift roost monitor at Chapman Elementary School. When Pam raised a hand to join the Oak Island Point Count Team, I cautioned her not to get burned out with too many early-morning, late-evening, multi-hour commitments. She just laughed. All this bird monitoring was nothing but exhilarating, she assured me, especially because her frequent immersion in the language of birds was rapidly sharpening her birding-by-ear skills.



Pam Meyers and Julio. © Deanna Sawtelle

Pam came to Audubon as a lifesaving fill-in receptionist, quickly becoming a welcome and familiar face of Audubon. Today, she's an Education Bird Handler for both Julio and Jack, a devoted Sanctuary Tour leader, and a weekend Care Center volunteer. Pam is tireless. She's enthusiastic. In her many commitments to us, her demeanor is unwaveringly flexible and gracious: she'll do anything to help. Pam has helped with creation of the Nature Store online shopping site, hosted at Membership events, and has accepted an 18-month position on the 9-member Volunteer Council. She's a Volunteer Coordinator Assistant, making her an immeasurable asset to Deanna. She's been indispensable at the Wild Arts Festival and the Halloween event, did research for the development of docent cards, and is currently refining Tom's Sanctuary History presentation for February's Volunteer Training. Pam tables, sells memberships, attends Care Center releases, attends classes and lecture offerings, and in all that she does, she builds community.

On a recent visit to my office, Pam said, "I've never had so much fun making no money in my life!" I can only wonder if she devotes herself as tremendously to her volunteerism down the hill at the Forest Park Conservancy. Summarizing Pam's work at Portland Audubon sounds like hyperbole, but every department here has lent testimony to her boundless contributions. **A thousand thank yous, Pam, from all of us.**

# Wild Arts Festival 2009 a Resounding Success

by Martha Gannett, Wild Arts Festival Chair

Spirits were high at this year's Wild Arts Festival and the final results of the event reflected that enthusiasm. The renewed Festival is hitting its stride, and the media coverage this year no doubt contributed to the increased attendance on Sunday. Overall, our revenues were up 40% from last year and each component of the Festival — art, books, and silent auction — contributed to that success.

We received wonderful feedback from artists, authors, sponsors, and attendees alike. Many of the comments tell us that people enjoy our diverse mix of artists; the popularity of our authors brings people back year after year; our Education Birds never cease to amaze; and that our volunteers are the best.



The Wild Arts Festival would not be possible without the dedication of our volunteers and support from Portland Audubon staff. Thank you to our staff members for their participation and ongoing support.



Thank you to the nearly 200 volunteers who help produce the Festival, and particular thanks to the WAF steering committee for their significant time and commitment over the months leading up to the event. It truly is a team effort!



Snapshots from Wild Arts © Susan Bexton

## Steering committee members:

Heather Brunelle, Bob Gandolfi (event producer), Martha Gannett, Kristina Gifford, Jenny Jones, Barb Macomber, Molly Marks, Candy Plant, Marilyn Scott, Carson Smith, and David Wynn.

## A sincere thank you to our 2009 sponsors

### Kingfisher Level:

Backyard Bird Shop

### Swift Level:

Barran Liebman

### Community Supporter:

Auctions Director  
Bob Gandolfi Event Production  
Elk Cove Vineyards  
McDonald Jacobs

### 40 Friends of Wild Arts:

Aurora Landscape  
Linda S. Craig CPA, LLC  
Garden Fever  
Marsha Henry, Realtor  
Herrera Environmental Consultants  
Ivy, Jacobson and Company  
JD Fulwiler Insurance  
Mirabella Senior Housing  
Oregon Litho  
Paloma Clothing  
Pearl Hardware  
In memory of Bill Pearson  
Portfolio 21 Investments  
Dr. David Renton  
St. Honore Bakery

### Supporter:

Dr. Jeffrey Sessions  
Judith Stevens

### 6x6 Wild Art Project:

Art Media  
Urban Grind

## Welcome, New Members!

Portland Audubon is a force in conservation thanks to its strength in membership, standing together since 1902. We appreciate each and every one of our members and celebrate our membership by welcoming our new members monthly. Thank you for joining our vibrant and growing community!

|                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Peggy Accuardi & Family   | Andrea & Daryl Goodwin   |
| Marcy Anhaltzer           | Carole Graney            |
| Kenneth & Ellen Armstrong | Pam Greenough-Corrie     |
| Robert & Andrea Armstrong | Pam Griffith             |
| Marvin Bame               | Steven Guy               |
| Alex Bannon               | Kristen Guy              |
| Ann Barkley               | Hope Hadley              |
| Heidi Bates               | Beverly Hallberg         |
| Carol Baumann             | & Floyd Skloot           |
| Laura Bliet               | Reid Hanson              |
| Jim & Karen Brunke        | Gilbert Heath            |
| Virginia Butler           | Dorthalee Herman         |
| Barbara Caldwell          | Laura Herrera            |
| Jan Cameron               | David Hiltner            |
| Randy Carnahan            | Deborah Holland          |
| Erin Chatard              | Carol Irwin              |
| Elsa Chaves               | Sharon Johnson           |
| Margaret Christenson      | Sue Joyce                |
| Sharon & Bob Cram         | Molly Kellogg            |
| Larry & Mary Crawley      | Noah Kite                |
| Ruth Cummings             | Tina Krause              |
| Phil & Linda Dean         | John Krause & Debby Hunt |
| Mary Delay-Goodstein      | The Laison Family        |
| Jenna DeRungs             | Doug & Crystal Lauritsen |
| Elizabeth Dodd            | Cynthia Lee              |
| Carol Donnelly            | Shaul Levi               |
| Helen Duetel              | Eric Liskay              |
| Tooba Durrani             | Cheryl Mack              |
| Dina Eaglestone           | Dru Martin & Amy Mori    |
| Janice Elven              | Ida Meury                |
| Jules Evens               | Kate Mitchell            |
| Pat Ferguson-Steger       | Marianne Morris          |
| Carolyn Fleming           | Janet Muller             |
| Ruth Frankel              | David Neumann            |

|                                 |                       |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Genie Newell                    | Mary Sullivan         |
| Jim O'Connor                    | Gabrielle Tanner      |
| Doug O'Loughlin                 | Carol Terry           |
| Rob & Robin Ostermann           | Ross Teuksbury        |
| Katie Pate                      | Stephanie Jo Thompson |
| Susette Payne                   | Julia Tomes           |
| Tova Peltz & Patrick Van Duser  | Gloria Trunk          |
| Shelley Peters                  | Zoe Van Baaren        |
| Sue Phalen                      | Joe Walicki           |
| Terri & Justin Douglas Phillips | Curt Weber            |
| Thomas Phillips                 | Nicolette Wiles       |
| Jack Pomatto                    | Kathi Williams        |
| Adrian Poole                    | Gina Wilson           |
| Joan Quinn                      | Amber Wimsatt         |
| Mary Reinhardt                  | Michael Wotte         |
| Betsy Riddell                   | Rachel Zahnd          |
| Mauricio & Jenni Romano         | Heather Zieser        |
| Beverlee Ryan                   |                       |
| Judy Salvilio                   |                       |
| J. M. Sanders                   |                       |
| Mark Savarese                   |                       |
| Stephen & Jeanne Schapp         |                       |
| Jill Schwab                     |                       |
| Debra Semrau                    |                       |
| Gordon Shearer                  |                       |
| Caryn Shetterly                 |                       |
| Judy Shiprack                   |                       |
| Ethan Skye                      |                       |
| Steven Smith                    |                       |
| Christine Steel                 |                       |

If you would like to join us or have any questions about membership, please contact Catherine at [chalpin@audubonportland.org](mailto:chalpin@audubonportland.org) or 503-292-6855.

## From the Executive Director

Continued from page 2

spending time among Dave's collection of books, journals, and field notes was a wonderful experience because the compilation included many of Dave's handwritten notes from when he was in the field, including notes from Mt. Tabor in 1940.

Luanne's attention was also captured by books autographed by noted authors and other contributors, such as *Birds of the Pacific Northwest*, which features 56 color plates by artist R. Bruce Horsfall from 1923. For Marianne, it was the 1855 *Exploration and Surveys to Ascertain the Most Practicable & Economic Route for a Railroad, Vol. I: Mississippi River to Pacific Ocean* that sparked her interest.

To say that Dave Marshall was well versed on the plight of the Northern Spotted Owl would be an understatement. He worked for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in Washington, D.C. when the Endangered Species Act of 1973 was passed and was the Wildlife Biologist in charge when the Spotted Owl was listed. Volumes of information about this rare bird are included in this collection. Both women claimed that it took them nearly twice as long to record key data because they were spending so much time enjoying the books and journals, as well as Georgia Marshall's hospitality!

Luckily for the rest of us, we can take as long as we need when we visit the StreamNet Library to read through Dave's collection. To help acquaint Portland Audubon's membership with the StreamNet Library and Dave's wonderful collection, an Open House with light refreshments is scheduled for **March 6 at the StreamNet Library** in Portland's Lloyd District. More information about the library is available at [www.streamnet.org](http://www.streamnet.org).

Thank you, Dave, for this incredible gift to Portland Audubon, the StreamNet Library, and future generations of conservationists.

Audubon Society of Portland gratefully acknowledges these thoughtful gifts:

### In Memory

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Rose Coffman</b><br>Anna Jamison            | <b>Herman "Dutch" Schneider</b><br>The Class of 1956<br>Richard & Marlene Dietrich<br>Meredith Holmes<br>Sharon & Keith Lewis<br>Jane Rabe |
| <b>Margaret Henderson</b><br>Anna Jamison      | <b>Agnes Sted</b><br>Raegen Takahata   |
| <b>Al Miller</b><br>Mary Weller                | <b>Mike Uthoff</b><br>Mary Weller  |
| <b>Marge Radovanovic</b><br>Bob & Doris Cleary |  |

### In Honor

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Doug Buck</b><br>Marcie Buhl                             | <b>Rex &amp; Dede Jamison</b><br>Janet Slobin          |
| <b>Carolyn Buhl</b><br>Fran Daggett                         | <b>Kim Kelly</b><br>Karen Berry                        |
| <b>Janie Cowan</b><br>Coworkers at Multnomah County Library | <b>Scott Lukens &amp; Molly Evans</b><br>Darlene Betat |

You can honor a special person with a gift to Audubon Society of Portland. Your gift will help fund a future of inspiring people to love and protect nature. You can make an Honor or Memorial gift online at [www.audubonportland.org](http://www.audubonportland.org) or by calling 971-222-6129. A songbird card acknowledging your thoughtful gift will be sent to the honoree or family.

## Wish List & Thank you's

### Thank you to:

- Joseph Brinton Designs for a donation of jewelry to the Nature Store
- Ann Hadley for a bird feeder and bird seed
- Coral Walker for 2 small animal heating pads
- Jim Cruce for 2,756 digital wildlife images

### Our Wish List:

- For Education:** Laptop computer • Powerpoint Projector
- For Sanctuary:** Loppers • Hand saws • Work gloves • Watering wand hose attachment
- For Wildlife Care Center:** Science Diet Kitten Growth • Aquariums • Kiddie Pools • Dawn Dishwashing Detergent • Welding Gloves • Camper/Trailer • Untreated Wood: 2x4, 4x4, 4x8

If you can donate these items, please first contact Audubon Society of Portland at 503-292-6855 ext.102, Mon-Fri, to arrange a time for delivery/pick-up.

# Important Bird Area of the Month

by Mary Coolidge, Assistant Conservation Director

## Malheur National Wildlife Refuge

In 1908, when conservationist William L. Finley visited the Harney Basin to photograph birds and wildlife, he discovered the carnage of **Great Egrets** stripped of their feathers by plume hunters in order to satisfy a demand for feathered hats. The decimation of the egret population and the reduction of tern, ibis, and grebe colonies spurred him to lobby President Theodore Roosevelt to add Malheur to the growing list of National Wildlife Refuges. Thus, it became the third NWR in Oregon, and the 19th of 51 refuges that Roosevelt would designate during his presidency.

Today, **Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)** is 187,000 acres of protected rivers, wetlands, wet meadows, playas, alkali flats, and lakes in the Northern Great Basin ecoregion, a diversity of habitats supporting 320 bird species, 58 mammal species, and 10 native fish species. A combined concentration of visiting birders and outstanding bird habitat along the Pacific Flyway has afforded Malheur what may be the highest all-time bird list of any location in Oregon!

### Walking Our Talk: Another step for wise resource management

It's 2010 already! That means we are now into the *Warbler's* new eight-issue schedule, managing our natural resources and conserving our use of paper products. The *Warbler* will be delivered to your mailbox on the following schedule:

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| January/February | July/August      |
| March            | September        |
| April/May        | October/November |
| June             | December         |

Don't worry, all the information you need to stay informed on issues, classes, camps, events, and activities will be readily available to you. Besides the *Warbler*, you can find more information at [www.audubonportland.org](http://www.audubonportland.org) and through our e-newsletter, **the BirdWord**. You can sign up for the BirdWord on our website or by sending your email address to [tmiller@audubonportland.org](mailto:tmiller@audubonportland.org). You can also view *Warblers* on our website; click on About, then Newsletter.

**Join the discussion and fun through Portland Audubon's online community.** We are building a vibrant online community through our Facebook fan page, [www.facebook.com/PortlandAudubon](http://www.facebook.com/PortlandAudubon) — if you haven't already, please log in and become a fan. By the time of this issue's printing, we should be well above 1,000 fans and growing — indicative of how many people care about wildlife and wild places. Our fan page is very interactive: you can share your photos and observations and get the latest news. Be a part of the conversation!

We are also twittering at [www.twitter.com/PortlandAudubon](http://www.twitter.com/PortlandAudubon), so please follow us there, and we're working on our Flickr photo-sharing page, so keep an eye out. Important issues will be at the forefront in 2010, so you'll want to keep all channels open.

### Join the Portland Audubon Legacy Club

Leave a legacy that will last for generations to come. A planned gift to the Audubon Society of Portland will carry forward your compassion for birds and our natural spaces.

Gifts of stock or property, bequests in your will, gift annuities, or charitable remainder trusts may help you achieve certain financial goals while providing substantial support for Portland Audubon's mission.

We would be glad to discuss your giving options with you in confidence and with no obligation.

Contact **Ann Takamoto, Development Director**, at 503-292-6855 ext.117.

While it is one of the premiere properties in the refuge system, Malheur is not free of complex and controversial challenges. This Refuge is currently undergoing a public Comprehensive Conservation Planning process (CCP) to draft a new Management Plan which will guide the next 15 years of wildlife, habitat, public use, and cultural resources management. Management of the Refuge involves over 500 water control structures, an invasive carp problem that's stifling avian productivity on the lake, invasive plant species, elevated water temperatures in the channelized Blitzen River (before it ever enters the Refuge), mounting fuel costs associated with moving staff and equipment between three substations, and budgetary constraints influencing all of this.

Refuge Manager Tim Bodeen has reached out to outside organizations (Oregon Audubon Chapters, High Desert Partnership, the Burns-Paiute Tribe, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Harney County Court, Ducks Unlimited, Harney County Chamber of Commerce, Sierra Club, and others) and has held numerous public meetings about the CCP throughout Oregon. He has convened a "Carp Coalition" to address carp solutions, is working to build relationships in Harney County, and is thinking about the value of a landscape approach to the Blitzen Valley as a whole.



Great Egret © Jim Cruce

A sign of the times in Oregon, and of particular conservation interest, is the proposal to run a wind energy transmission line across the Refuge, a proposal that will soon undergo a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service compatibility assessment to determine whether such activity supports the National Wildlife Refuge System mandate — that the original purpose of the Refuge not be undermined. While Audubon supports alternative energy development, we are concerned both about the siting of wind facilities near Steens Mountain and placement of transmission lines across miles of sensitive wildlife habitat including, but not limited to, Malheur.

### Ornithological Significance

The avian resources at Malheur NWR are staggering. Malheur is important to the **Watch-listed Western Snowy Plover, Long-billed Curlew, Franklin's Gull, Short-eared Owl, Bobolink, and Trumpeter Swan**, all of which breed here. The Refuge has **one of the highest Breeding Bird Survey counts for the Watch-listed Brewer's Sparrow**, and its riparian habitat supports the highest



Malheur NWR © Marilyn Stinnett

known densities of **Willow Flycatcher**. Malheur supports up to **20% of the world population of White-faced Ibis**, up to 1,500 pairs of breeding **American White Pelican**, and **20% of Oregon's breeding population of Greater Sandhill Crane**. **Up to half of the entire population of Watch-listed Ross's Geese** migrate through here.

The Refuge regularly supports hundreds of thousands of migrating waterfowl, including **Snow Geese, Green-winged Teal, Mallard, Northern Pintail, Northern Shoveler, Canvasback, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, and Ruddy Duck**. Breeding populations include **Green-winged Teal, Northern Pintail, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Canvasback, Redhead, Lesser Scaup, and Ruddy Duck**.



Prairie Falcon © James Davis

August concentrations of up to 25,000 **Ring-billed Gulls** have been recorded on the Refuge, and **Forster's Tern, Franklin's Gull, Black Tern, and Caspian Tern** all breed here. During spring and fall migration, Harney and Malheur Lakes have hosted up to 25,000 **Western Sandpipers**, 350 **Pectoral Sandpipers**, 35,000 **Long-billed Dowitchers**, 15,000 **Wilson's Phalaropes**, 15,000 **American Avocets**, and 200 **Black-necked Stilts**. Up to 400 **Western Snowy Plovers** have nested at Harney and Stinking Lakes. **Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, and Black-crowned Night-Heron** all breed on Malheur NWR.

**Rough-legged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Northern Harrier, American Kestrel, and Bald Eagle** have all been recorded during Christmas Bird Count. **Golden Eagle** and **Prairie Falcon** are present year-round.

### If You Go

Located 30 miles south of Burns in Harney County; thousands of birders visit Malheur NWR each year to witness the sheer spectacle. Driving directions are available at [www.fws.gov/malheur/driving.html](http://www.fws.gov/malheur/driving.html). For volunteer or internship opportunities, contact Carey Goss, Volunteer Coordinator, at 541-493-2612.

### Thanks for a Great Year!

January is the month when we always pause to offer **thanks to everyone who shopped this year at the Nature Store!** One hundred percent of our profits directly benefit Portland Audubon's sanctuaries, programs, and conservation advocacy. We are most grateful for your continuing support.

Congratulations to all the lucky folks who took advantage of Nikon's \$50 rebate closeout on the popular **Nikon Monarch ATBs**. Our stock was gone by December. The empty shelves will be filled with a new **updated version in early 2010**.

In the meantime, we've taken advantage of the open "real estate" in our display case by adding the excellent new **Nikon Monarch X** in both full-size models. **Low light? Next to no light? Almost dark?** These new top-quality affordable optics utilize the **dielectric layered prism technology** debuted by Nikon in their top-of-the-line EDG series 2 years ago. This specialized process makes

Monarch X 8.5x45

**every last second** of your birding time count with uncompromised low-light performance.



The magnification of the "X" has been upsized to **8.5x and 10.5x** with a corresponding increase in the objective lens diameter to 45mm. And even with this visual boost, Nikon has maintained an **easy-to-handle weight of less than 26 ounces** in both models! What else do you get? An **ergonomically redesigned body** with an **enlarged focus knob** for incredibly quick focus (only 1¼ turns for the full range). And, of course, you get Nikon's famous No Fault (*You drop it, we fix it!*) Warranty.

Stop in for a look on one of our dark winter days. You'll be astonished at how much you can see!



PORTLAND AUDUBON'S NATURE STORE

5151 NW Cornell Road • Portland, OR 97210  
503-292-9453 • [store@audubonportland.org](mailto:store@audubonportland.org)

Open 10am–6pm Monday through Saturday  
10am–5pm Sunday

# Audubon Family Adventures: "Nature's Recyclers!"

Audubon is pleased to announce a new program designed for families to enjoy and learn about nature together. Join Audubon volunteer naturalists to learn about "Nature's Recyclers." What's a decomposer? What's a scavenger? Take a guided walk through Audubon's sanctuary to find them out in nature, enjoy a light snack, make a take-home craft — and meet Ruby, the Turkey Vulture, up close.

**Date:** Saturday, March 6, 2010  
**Time:** 9 a.m.–Noon (on day of event, please check in 8:45–9:00 a.m.)  
**Place:** Audubon Society of Portland, Heron Hall  
**Target age:** 5–9 years (an adult must accompany every 1–3 children)  
**Cost:** \$10 per participant  
**Online registration begins January 11 at [www.audubonportland.org/about/volunteer/family](http://www.audubonportland.org/about/volunteer/family). Space is limited!**  
 Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy hiking shoes.



## Christmas Bird Count Continues Jan. 1st–3rd

With **special event for kids on Sat., January 2, 10am–2pm**, at Audubon House on Cornell Road. **Portland's Count is on January 2;** for all CBC details, see [www.audubonportland.org/local-birding/christmas\\_count/cbc09](http://www.audubonportland.org/local-birding/christmas_count/cbc09).

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| <b>January 1 (Friday)</b>                  | _____                  |
| <b>Cowlitz-Columbia</b>                    | <b>Santiam Pass</b>    |
| <b>January 2 (Saturday)</b>                | _____                  |
| <b>Columbia Hills-Klickitat Valley, WA</b> | <b>Portland</b>        |
| <b>Coquille Valley</b>                     | <b>Umatilla County</b> |
| <b>January 3 (Sunday)</b>                  | _____                  |
| <b>Eugene</b>                              | <b>Hood River</b>      |



**30th anniversary Birdathon events on May 7, 8, 9 — watch for details!**

## Wildlife Conservation Lecture Series at the Oregon Zoo

**Wildlife Conservation on Urban Landscapes** is the theme of this year's Wildlife Conservation Lecture Series, hosted by the Audubon Society of Portland, Oregon Zoo, and World Forestry Center. The lecture series is held at the Oregon Zoo and is presented by PGE and Shields Obletz Johnsen. The host organizations hope the lecture series will strengthen the community's knowledge base on ecological systems and environmental issues — motivating people to make a difference in the environmental future of the region.

**Tuesday, February 16, 7pm**  
**Oregon Zoo's Banquet Center**  
**Wild Neighbors — Living with Wildlife on Urban Landscapes**

**John Hadidian, Ph.D., Director of Urban Wildlife, Humane Society of the United States**

Wildlife is back! Though it may seem contradictory to say "urban wildlife," many species of wild animals are finding city and suburb to be to their liking. Populations of synanthropes (city-loving wild animals) sometimes seem to be exploding, and conflicts this can create also lead to controversy. Communities debate ways to control flooding caused by beaver, stop deer from eating petunias, or respond to the occasional black bear wandering down Main Street.



John Hadidian ©  
Michael Durham

Tonight's talk will look at some of the types of conflicts wildlife in cities can cause, discuss humane solutions, and identify challenges we face within the context of urban ecology. The idea that cities are ecosystems and amenable to natural law may hold the key to the future of human-wildlife relationships, healthier cities, and a more positive future for people and wild animals both. Among other accomplishments, Dr. Hadidian is principal author of the book *Wild Neighbors: The Humane Approach to Living with Wildlife*.

Cost: \$8 for members of Audubon Society of Portland, Oregon Zoo, World Forestry Center, students, and seniors; \$10 for all others.  
 For more information, go to [www.oregonzoo.org/education/adults/adults\\_lecture.htm](http://www.oregonzoo.org/education/adults/adults_lecture.htm).

### Future Conservation Lectures

**March 30**  
**Green Roofs and Living Walls for Wildlife**

Dusty Gedge, World-Renowned Expert on Creating Habitat on Urban Rooftops

**April 27**  
**Coexisting with Urban Coyotes**  
 Stanley Gehrt, Ph.D., Assistant Professor and Extension Wildlife Specialist, Ohio State University



## Audubon Society of Portland

**Inspiring people to love and protect nature since 1902**  
 Audubon Society of Portland promotes the enjoyment, understanding, and protection of native birds and other wildlife and their habitats. We focus on our local community and the Pacific Northwest.

### ADMINISTRATION OFFICES

5151 NW Cornell Rd • Portland, OR 97210  
 503-292-6855 • Fax: 503-292-1021  
 9am to 5pm, Mon. - Fri.

### SANCTUARIES

Dawn to dusk every day

### NATURE STORE

503-292-9453  
 10am to 6pm, Mon. - Sat. • 10am to 5pm on Sunday

### INTERPRETIVE CENTER & LIBRARY

Same hours as store

### WILDLIFE CARE CENTER

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### RARE BIRD ALERT

503-292-6855 • [www.audubonportland.org](http://www.audubonportland.org)

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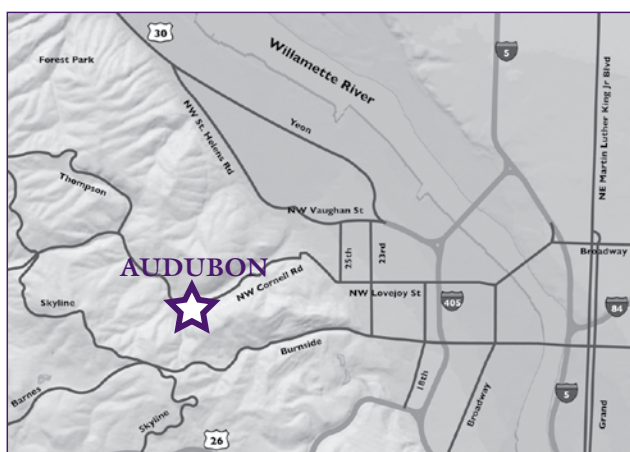
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