

# Warbler



Black-throated Gray Warbler

MARCH 2010  
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Portland Building Ecoroof © Bob Sallinger

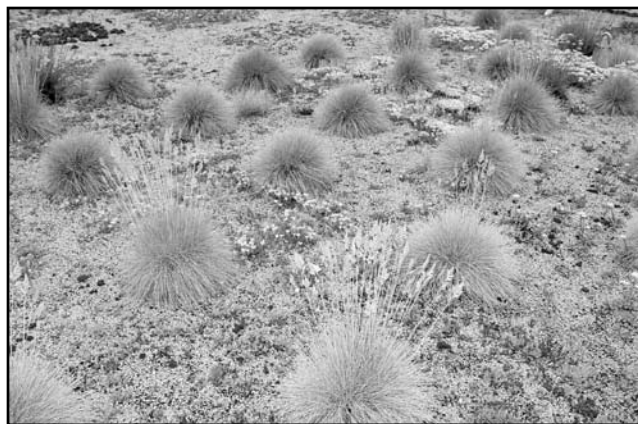


**Fun! Hands-On Learning!  
Adventure!  
Spring Camp &  
Summer Camp 2010**  
See schedules and registration information  
on pages 6 and 7.

## ECOROOFES FOR WILDLIFE

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

Can our urban rooftops provide habitat for wildlife? Much of our urban landscape is covered with structures, and Portland is fast becoming a leader in promoting vegetated rooftops to capture stormwater. Is it possible to go even further and actually create functional wildlife habitat on buildings that will help birds, bats, bugs, and other animals as they traverse our urban landscape?



Broadway Ecoroof © Mike Houck

During the month of March, Audubon will partner with the City of Portland and Urban Greenspaces Institute to explore the possibilities. On March 3rd the Mayor will officially proclaim March “Ecoroof Month,” kicking off a series of ecoroof-related events that will culminate in a lecture by Britain’s Dusty Gedge, a recognized worldwide authority on building ecoroofs to promote biodiversity.

Join us and learn about how ecoroofs can make our urban landscape more sustainable for humans and wildlife — and go to page 4 for an on-the-ground report by Portland Audubon’s Urban Conservationist, Jim Labbe, about ecoroofs in Europe.

Could we restore Nighthawks, which once nested in gravel rooftops, to our overhead skies by adding gravel to the roofs of riverside buildings on the Lower East Side? Could thousands of acres of gray industrial warehouse rooftops in the Columbia Corridor be converted to meadows for rapidly disappearing Meadowlarks and Streaked Horned Larks? Could the tops of our downtown skyscrapers provide a source of insects and a place to rest for migrating songbirds? What can we do on top of our own houses to support local wildlife?

- March 3:** City Hall Ecoroof Proclamation
- March 12–13:** “Ecoroof Portland,” a free two-day event with speakers and vendors; go to [www.portlandonline.com/BES/index.cfm?c=51717&](http://www.portlandonline.com/BES/index.cfm?c=51717&)
- March 27:** Ecoroof Tour of South Waterfront (see Audubon Outings)
- March 30:** Lecture on Ecoroofs by Dusty Gedge at the Oregon Zoo (geared toward the general public) — details on page 12
- March 31:** Dusty Gedge Brownbag Lecture at City Hall (geared toward natural resource and sustainability professionals)
- March 31:** Downtown Ecoroof Tour (see Audubon Outings)

For more information, go to [www.audubonportland.org](http://www.audubonportland.org).

There are already over 200 ecoroofs in Portland, and the city has set a goal of increasing vegetated rooftops to cover at least 39 acres by 2013. In 2009 the city initiated a new incentive program that will provide property owners with up to \$5 per square foot to install ecoroofs.



Monitoring for birds on downtown ecoroof. © Bob Sallinger

## Birdathon 2010: May 7–8 and 14–15 It’s Our 30th Anniversary!

Did you know that over the past ten years alone, Portland Audubon members and their friends and families have **raised over one million dollars to help protect Oregon’s native birds?! Thank you all for helping to make it possible!**

This year especially, you’re encouraged to join in Birdathon 2010 to help us celebrate our 30th anniversary of the event and carry on this fundraising tradition! You’ll have great new opportunities to go birding with your fellow Audubon members, volunteers, staff and board. It’s your chance to get to know them and how each has contributed to making the Audubon Society of Portland one of the most effective voices for wildlife conservation in the nation. Of course, it’s also your opportunity to go on a great birdwatching trip with new or old friends! Look for a complete description of trips coming soon on our website and in the next issue of the *Warbler*.



**Interested in being a Birdathon Sponsor?  
Contact Ann Takamoto at 971-222-6117.**

Also, it’s never too early to mark your calendars for the **Birdathon Banquet: Friday night, June 18.** This will be one party you won’t want to miss!

**New format for trip listings (Audubon Outings) — See page 2**



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

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# From the Executive Director

## Building Habitat and Community



Meryl Redisch

I confess that it's been quite a while since I last pulled out my well-worn "tree planting" Levi's from the back shelves of my closet. I had good reason to. On a cool and drizzly January morning, Portland Audubon launched the first TogetherGreen Volunteer Day of 2010.

Sponsored through National Audubon's five-year partnership with Toyota, this initiative is intended to draw new volunteers in and to make a lasting difference on the ground. Nearly 60 people showed up and for many of them, it was their first visit to Audubon and to restoration work. By lunchtime, I'd say the intended goals were clearly met: introducing people to Audubon and improving local habitat. Outcomes like these are straightforward and measurable: record the number of new and repeat volunteers and count the number of native trees and plants placed in the ground.

While I love solid results that are easily communicated to funders, tracked in our database and used in annual reports and outreach materials, it's the unintentional things that I find most compelling and personally fulfilling. For me, it's scanning the room during orientation and seeing close to 50% of the participants in their 20s. It's getting to know someone like Adrian, a generous and hardworking man that I am guessing is in his late 20s. Now living in Vancouver with his sister and her family, Adrian returned home from Iraq with injuries and intense memories of lost friends. I learned that he has a graduate degree in business communications from Marylhurst University and wants to use his personal and professional skill set for mediation and conflict resolution work.

It's reconnecting with Celia, a curly-haired blonde girl of about 10, whose community mentor has made volunteering together a regular part of their weekend activities, not only for Audubon but for other nonprofits. It's meeting Jim for the first time, a decade's-long supporter of our chapter, who moved to Portland from Olympia to be with his partner and adult son and his family.

For me, it's looking through our wildlife sanctuary to see all kinds of people hacking and hauling thorny blackberry branches and English ivy from their firm grip in the ground to make space for native plants and wildlife. It's hoping and trusting that most volunteers will return with friends and family and be proud of what they helped make possible on a perfect January day.

TogetherGreen Day volunteers, January 30, 2010.  
© Tom Costello



# Audubon Outings

## Introducing Audubon Outings — Wild in the City & Beyond

Beginning with this issue you will find all of our Field Trips, Magpies, and Wild in the City offerings under a new heading: **Audubon Outings — Wild in the City & Beyond**. Listings of all the offerings are chronological. Explanatory icons indicate more information.

- = Weekday birding starting later, going slower, with restrooms in sight
- = Fee involved
- = Wheelchair accessible
- = Sign-up needed

### March 3 (Wed.), 8am–11am 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.

Sign up 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); directions will be sent to registrants.



Osprey nest at Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge. © Mike Houck

### March 6 (Sat.), 8am–11am Vancouver Lake Park

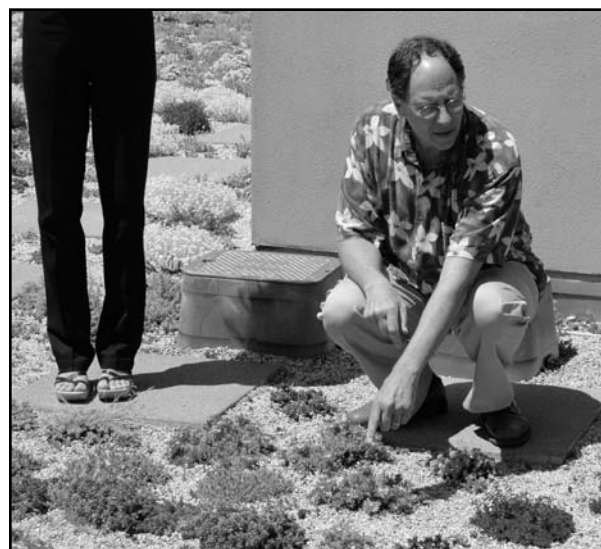
Join leader **Ron Escano** to scope the lake for water birds and explore the riparian woodland for wintering songbirds, including the White-throated Sparrow. Meet at 8am at Vancouver Lake Park. Directions from I-5 north: take Exit 1-D (4th Plain Blvd), go west on 4th Plain through Vancouver onto SR-501 (Lower River Rd). After 3.5 miles on SR-501, continue straight for 0.6 miles to Vancouver Lake Park (possible \$2 entrance fee). Dress for the weather. Beginners welcome!

No sign-up needed.

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

Join **Mike Houck** on a paddle around Ross 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. Highlights on this brisk paddle around Ross, Hardtack, East, and Toe Islands 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 the Audubon Society of Portland, Willamette Riverkeeper, Portland Parks and Recreation, and Friends of Ross Island on cleanups and restoration activities. You are responsible for bringing and maintaining your own kayak/canoe; life jackets are absolutely required.

Sign up 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); directions will be sent to registrants.



Tom Liptan on Portland Building Ecoroof. © Mike Houck

### March 8 (Mon.), 9am–11:30am Jackson Bottom Wetlands

We expect to see waterfowl, raptors, and early songbirds with leader **Sarah McCarty** at this preserve near Hillsboro. Meet in the parking lot and dress for the weather. For directions, see [www.jacksonbottom.org](http://www.jacksonbottom.org) or call Sarah at 503-636-1288.

No sign-up needed.

### March 13 (Sat.), 8am–2pm Hagg Lake

Join leader **Stefan Schlick** for a day at Hagg Lake in Washington County. We'll target wintering waterfowl and songbirds. Meet at 8am at the food mart at the corner of Old Hwy 49 & Scoggins Valley Rd. Directions: From Forest Grove, take Hwy 47 south past Dilley and turn right (west) at the sign for Hagg Lake. The mart is about 1mi down the road, a few miles before you enter the park. Dress for the weather, beginners welcome!

No sign-up needed.

### March 18 (Thu.), 9am–Noon Fernhill Wetlands

Join us for a look at the wintering waterfowl, raptors, and sparrows. Join leader **Sue Carr** at the Fernhill parking lot, 200 yards south of the RR tracks. Dress for the weather. For

more information contact Sue at [sacarr\\_98@yahoo.com](mailto:sacarr_98@yahoo.com) or 503-649-3360. No sign-up needed.

### March 27 (Sat.), 8am–11am Fernhill Wetlands

Join leader **Doug Robberson** for a stroll around these extensive wetlands searching for a variety of waterfowl and raptors. Meet Doug at 8am at the Fernhill parking lot. Take TV Hwy west through Hillsboro and Cornelius to the intersection with Hwy 47. Left on Hwy

47 for about 0.6 miles, then turn left (south) on Fern Hill Rd. Parking lot is on left shortly after crossing RR tracks. Bring binoculars, dress for weather, trail may be muddy. Beginners welcome! No sign-up needed.

### March 27 (Sat.), 1pm–3:30pm Ecoroof Tour of South Waterfront

Join Audubon Conservation Director **Bob Sallinger**, **Mike Houck** of the Urban Greenspace Institute, and City of Portland ecoroof guru **Tom Liptan** for a tour of South Waterfront ecoroofs, green stormwater facilities, and greenways. The new South Waterfront Development includes more than four acres of ecoroofs and many other state-of-the-art green stormwater innovations. As an added bonus, there will be great views from on high of the Great Blue Herons at nearby Ross Island as they go through their nest-building and courtship rituals. This event is part of Ecoroof Month (see cover article).

Fee: \$8 per person, \$12 per family. Sign up 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); directions will be sent to registrants.



# Protecting Birds in the Backyard and Beyond

## Putting Habitat on Rooftops the European Way

### Exploring Biodiverse Ecoroofs in the Old World

by Jim Labbe, Urban Conservationist (on leave)

While on leave from Portland Audubon the last nine months, I have had the opportunity to meet with some of the leading advocates and designers of ecoroofs in Europe. They have included individuals on the cutting edge of new designs and policies promoting biodiverse ecoroofs.

The modern European experience with ecoroofs began in the 1970s with a primary focus on the benefits for urban aesthetics, energy conservation, and air and water quality. Consequently, Europe has a considerable head start over North America in ecoroof design and installation. To put this into perspective, the table shows estimated square footages of ecoroofs in leading European and North American Cities.

#### Estimated Square Footage of Ecoroof by City or Metropolitan Region

| City/Region                  | Est. Ecoroof Area | Year |
|------------------------------|-------------------|------|
| Stuttgart, Germany (Region)  | 10.7 million      | 2009 |
| Dusseldorf, Germany (Region) | 7.86 million      | 2008 |
| Basel, Switzerland (Region)  | 7.53 million      | 2007 |
| London, England (Region)     | 5.38 million      | 2009 |
| Chicago, Illinois (City)     | 534,000           | 2008 |
| Portland, Oregon (City)      | 423,000           | 2009 |
| Vancouver, B.C. (City)       | 320,000           | 2008 |

Sources: Wolfgang Ansel, City of Dusseldorf, Stephan Brenneisen, Dusty Gedge, Green Roofs for Healthy Cities, City of Portland.

Many larger European cities are leading the world in ecoroof design and construction. Many already have effective incentive and regulatory programs that encourage and require ecoroof installation for new development or redevelopment. This was most evident in Germany, where some estimate that 10% of all roofs are landscaped. But square footage should not be the sole measure of ecoroof progressiveness. Some of the most exciting and important innovations in ecoroof design on the European continent involve rooftop greening to support flora and fauna in very dense urban landscapes, including some rare species of birds and insects.

Below are descriptions of my visits to London, England and Basel, Switzerland, along with some reflections on what these visits could mean for the Portland metropolitan region.

#### London's Dusty Gedge

A former street performer and entertainer, **Dusty Gedge** is now one of the leading advocates for ecoroofs in the United Kingdom and a pioneer in designing and promoting ecoroofs for urban biodiversity. Dusty's interest in ecoroofs grew out of his work to conserve the rare Black Redstart, a small ground-nesting member of the thrush family that inhabits urban areas in England and other parts of Europe where greenspace is scarce and healthy natural areas are even scarcer. Many national and local laws increasingly require developers to fully compensate for environmental impacts of land development that otherwise fall on other landowners, the public at large, and future generations. In the U.K., Black Redstart habitat is threatened by redevelopment of urban brownfields, so biodiverse ecoroofs have become a major strategy to conserve and expand their habitat.

Now Dusty is involved in promoting ecoroofs at a number of levels. These include policy, planning, design, research, and installation of ecoroofs in the U.K. and beyond. He is the current president of the European Federation of Green Roof Associations. Dusty and his collaborators are actively designing and installing ecoroofs on everything from garden sheds to corporate bank towers, including the Barclay Bank tower in London's Canary Warf.

But I was most inspired by Dusty's efforts to educate

and encourage ordinary citizens to install their own small-scale residential ecoroofs. While visiting him in London, I attended a do-it-yourself workshop he led with ecoroof designer and installer John Little. The workshop, held at the Kent Wildlife Trust Headquarters southeast of London, included presentations on the benefits of and technical specifications for ecoroof installation. Participants were led through a process of constructing a one-square-foot ecoroof template illustrating basic materials and design. We also received a free copy of

Dusty and John's ***Do It Yourself Guide to Green and Living Roofs***. The inspiring workshop really got folks charged up to build their own ecoroof. Copies of Dusty's DIY guide will be available when he speaks here in Portland in late March. See page 12 of this *Warbler* for details about Dusty Gedge's ecoroof lecture at the Oregon Zoo on March 30.

#### Stephan Brenneisen of Basel, Switzerland

Basel, Switzerland might well be the biodiverse ecoroof capital of the world. "Swiss ecoroof design principles" are synonymous with varied substrate types and depths of the biodiverse ecoroofs I observed in London.

Basel is purported to have the highest per-capita area of ecoroof in the world, in part because the city has had local regulations in place for over a decade that require all new development to incorporate rooftop landscaping where technically feasible.

Basel's progress owes much to the efforts of **Stephan Brenneisen**, who has been researching, designing, and promoting biodiverse ecoroofs for over a decade. He currently leads the Green Roof Centre of Competence at the Zurich University of Applied Sciences Wädenswil, where he conducts research and advises on ecoroof policy and design.

Stephan is actively involved in refining ecoroof policies in Swiss and German municipalities, including development standards that require ecoroofs where



Stephan Brenneisen on the new Stucki Shopping Center ecoroof in Basel, Switzerland. This ecoroof incorporates cobble and gravel substrates meant to mimic floodplain or river terrace habitats. © Jim Labbe

technically feasible on all new buildings. Most recently Stephan was instrumental in developing and adopting Basel's new, first-ever mandate that all ecoroofs incorporate design features which support biodiversity.

Stephan leads the "Ground-Nesting Birds on Flat Roofs Project" at the University of Applied Sciences Wädenswil, where he and others are investigating a number of ecoroofs in Switzerland as potential breeding sites for **Northern Lapwing** and **Little Ringed Plover**. The research focuses on how breeding pairs use ecoroofs, whether young birds survive, and how changes in the design of ecoroofs can improve breeding success.

Stephan took me to a few biodiverse ecoroofs in Basel. One example is the relatively new 376,740-square-foot Stucki Shopping Center ecoroof (see photo) just installed in September 2009. This single ecoroof is almost the size of all the ecoroofs in Portland and was designed to mimic river terrace habitat.

#### Biodiverse Ecoroofs in Portland

Portland is particularly well positioned to learn from the European experience with ecoroofs and the emerging trend of biodiverse ecoroofs. Efforts in the United Kingdom, Germany, and Switzerland

clearly indicate an ecoroof building boom is possible with the right public policies in place. These include adequate incentives and regulation to strongly encourage or require ecoroofs on new development where technically feasible. However, we also need local research to help improve designs of biodiverse ecoroofs adapted to our unique climate, flora, and fauna. Finally, much will be gained by providing the inspiration and technical knowledge to support ordinary citizens interested in installing biodiverse ecoroofs on their homes, garages, and out-buildings.

By investing in and expanding biodiverse ecoroofs in Portland, we can dramatically expand urban habitat diversity, enrich our local and neotropical bird populations, and help keep nature nearby in our densest neighborhoods. In the process we can also lead North America in the construction and design of biodiverse ecoroofs that foster urban communities where people and wildlife flourish together. See "Ecoroofs for Wildlife" article on page 1 of this *Warbler*, and attend Portland's Ecoroof Month activities — including Dusty Gedge's lecture at the Oregon Zoo on March 30 (see page 12) — to learn more about biodiverse ecoroofs.



Dusty Gedge atop one of his biodiverse ecoroofs in London. Dusty is the leading advocate and spokesperson of ecoroofs in the United Kingdom, and will be in Portland in March as part of Ecoroof Month. © Jim Labbe

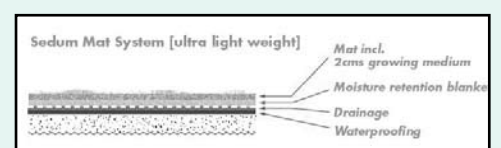
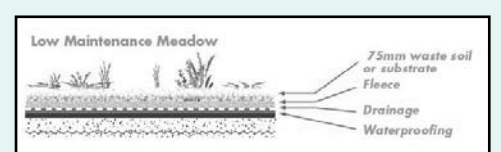
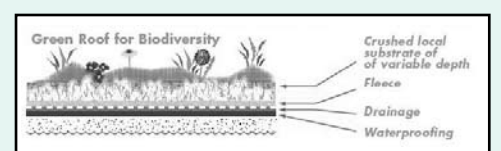


The Black Redstart is a rare ground-nesting bird in the U.K. that frequents green roofs in urban areas. © Livingroofs.org

#### What is an Ecoroof?

An ecoroof or green roof is intentional rooftop vegetation. We tend to use the term "ecoroof" in Portland because of our relatively dry and hot summers. An ecoroof can range from thin, flat mats of sedum and grass growing on shallow soils to deep-soiled roof gardens with large shrubs, lawns, and even trees. Most ecoroofs tend toward low maintenance sedum mats, but a growing trend is to create biodiverse ecoroofs involving slightly more diverse herbaceous plants on slightly deeper soils, ideally composed of varied materials and depths to maximize habitat values.

At right are schematic designs of three ecoroof types described in ***The Do It Yourself Guide to Green and Living Roofs*** by Dusty Gedge and John Little.



## Harold the Domestic Duck

by Kari Jones, WCC Assistant Manager

Over the last several months the volunteers and staff at the Wildlife Care Center (WCC) have gotten to know a special bird, Harold the duck. Harold is a domestic male mallard with a missing right eye. He is sociable and actually enjoys being held and petted, and is comfortable with his head tucked under a wing, fast asleep in the middle of a busy hospital floor. He is the most friendly, easygoing duck I've ever met, and I have met many ducks! Harold also makes us frustrated and sad, because he reminds us of the widespread and often unrecognized problem of animal abandonment. Like many of the animals brought to the WCC, he is an abandoned pet that was found wandering the streets of Portland.

Unfortunately, many animals that are brought to the WCC each year are pets that have worn out their welcome and have been set "free" in urban parks, greenspaces, and wildlife refuges. Many people would probably be surprised to learn that the act of leaving a domestic animal without continued care is against the law: **Oregon Revised Statute 167.340 (animal abandonment)** states that a person "commits the crime of animal abandonment if the person intentionally, knowingly, recklessly or with criminal negligence leaves a domestic animal... at a location without providing minimum care." Animal abandonment is a Class B misdemeanor punishable by a \$2,500 fine and/or six months in jail.

Domestic ducklings and goslings are sold in feed stores every spring for about \$2 each. They are ridiculously cute and cheap. I have observed people in feed stores

contemplate purchasing a duckling for their children. In one case, I asked a father how he would house the adult duck. He simply told me that they could just release the duck when it grows up into the refuge by their house — that's what they always do. And here lies the problem. Domestic animals typically are not equipped to survive in the wild. They don't know what a predator is and have lost natural fears of people and other animals (many have become accustomed to household pets such as dogs and cats). They haven't been taught how to find or hunt for food in nature and often starve to death without the familiar food bowl.

If they do survive, domestic ducks and geese are detrimental to our already stressed ecosystem. Many of our local parks and natural areas with water features are literally overrun with non-migratory domestic waterfowl. Unlike wild ducks and geese, domestic waterfowl tend not to migrate or move from site to site, but rather take up permanent residence at the sites at which they are abandoned. This leads to overcrowding, which reduces available food sources, degrades water quality, and limits nesting sites. Overcrowding also can lead to unnaturally aggressive male mating behavior. Desperate mother mallards have been forced to nest up to a mile away from water. When her eggs hatch she has to walk her ducklings back to water, a dangerous journey that often necessitates crossing streets and highways. The WCC receives hundreds of orphaned ducklings each spring because the mother was killed by a car. Overcrowding of ducks and geese also fouls our water systems and shores, spreads disease and parasites, causes fighting, and often results in "drake rape" during which males kill female ducks. This is not a pleasant environment for these domesticated animals to be placed into.

The problem isn't limited to waterfowl. Domestic rabbits, doves, peacocks, and turtles are also common victims of animal abandonment.



Harold (right) with another domestic duck. © Wildlife Care Center

As for the domestic mallard Harold, the staff at the WCC is currently seeking a permanent, secure home where he can be treated like the domestic pet that he is.

### What can you do to help:

Remember that acquisition of any domestic animal is a lifetime commitment. If you are unable to provide continued care for an animal, you are responsible to find it a new home or adoption facility.

Discourage your child's school from raising animals unless they have identified a permanent home for the animals.

Inform anyone you see releasing a pet into the wild that it is an illegal activity.

If you have appropriate facilities for abandoned pet ducks and geese, please let us know. We have ongoing need for homes for these abandoned animals.

Talk to your friends and help spread the word about the realities of animal abandonment.

## Window Strike Reports Sought

**Bird Safe Portland** surveys will continue this spring in an effort to assess the magnitude of bird window strikes in our city, a hazard that is estimated to result in 100 million to 1 billion bird deaths in the U.S. every year. We need your reports on locations of dead or injured birds in the greater downtown area that may be the result of window strikes! To report a location, or if you are interested in **walking survey routes in this very important study**, contact Mary Coolidge at [mcoolidge@audubonportland.org](mailto:mcoolidge@audubonportland.org) or 503-292-6855 ext.111.



Golden-crowned Kinglet © Mary Coolidge

## Winter Wrens, Anna's Hummers Plentiful at CBC

by Wink Gross, Compiler, Portland Christmas Bird Count

**"Black-billed Magpie!"** shouted Christopher and Adrian Hinkle in unison. With that lightning-fast identification at the Columbia Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Hinkle twins (age 14) won this year's **"Eagle Eye Award"** for the best bird of the Portland Christmas Bird Count. It was the first magpie found on the Portland count since 1972.

The Portland Christmas Bird Count, held Saturday, January 2, enjoyed surprisingly good weather and good birding. In all, **142 field observers and 53 feeder watchers tallied a total of 118 species**, just two less than last year's all-time record.

The Hinkles had tough competition for the best bird from John Deshler, 'The Bird Master of Forest Park,' who found two **Gray Jays** and three **Northern Pygmy-Owls** way out at the NW edge of the count circle. Other good birds were two **Townsend's Solitaires**, six **Common Ravens**, and the first-ever-for-the-count **Eurasian Collared-Doves**. In addition, many species were found in greater numbers than ever before: 50 **Bald Eagles**, 5 **Red-shouldered Hawks**, 274 **Anna's Hummingbirds**, and an astounding 246 **Winter Wrens**, obliterating the old record of 142 found in 1942! A summary of the entire history of the Portland CBC can be found at [www.audubonportland.org/local-birding/christmas\\_count/84yr](http://www.audubonportland.org/local-birding/christmas_count/84yr).

On the other hand, several waterfowl species were scarce: **American Wigeon**, **Northern Pintail**, and **Green-winged Teal** numbers were low. **Ruby-crowned Kinglet**, **Varied Thrush**, and **Yellow-rumped Warbler** numbers were also below recent averages. Despite excellent coverage



Black-billed Magpie. Photo: Dave Menke/USFWS

in Forest Park the past few years, sadly, we have not found any Ruffed Grouse, which used to be regular.

I want to thank all the field observers and feeder watchers who contributed to making this year's Portland CBC a success. I especially want to thank the area leaders: **John Fitch**, **Pat Muller**, **Lynn Herring**, **Lori Hennings**, **Sam Pointer**, and **Char Corkran**, who did all the hard work organizing the teams and ensuring that everyone had a good time!

### Portland CBC Anna's Hummingbird counts

|      |    |      |     |
|------|----|------|-----|
| 1996 | 20 | 2003 | 90  |
| 1997 | 14 | 2004 | 130 |
| 1998 | 31 | 2005 | 161 |
| 1999 | 31 | 2006 | 188 |
| 2000 | 53 | 2007 | 163 |
| 2001 | 68 | 2008 | 169 |
| 2002 | 38 | 2009 | 274 |



## Turn Your Yard into a Backyard Habitat!

Are you thinking about turning your yard into a backyard habitat, but you need some help? Then sign up now for the Backyard Habitat Certification Program. We can help provide resources and recommendations to help you on your way. Already set to be certified? Great, we would love to come by and get you certified today.

Sign up online at [www.audubonportland.org/backyardwildlife/backyardhabitat](http://www.audubonportland.org/backyardwildlife/backyardhabitat) or contact Karen Munday at [kmunday@audubonportland.org](mailto:kmunday@audubonportland.org) or 503-292-6855 ext.122.

## Monitors Needed

**Volunteer to be a Citizen Scientist!** If you want to count Vaux's Swifts at a local roost, or help with downtown bird window strike surveys, please contact Mary Coolidge at [mcoolidge@audubonportland.org](mailto:mcoolidge@audubonportland.org) or 503-292-6855 ext. 111. Monitoring is a great way to learn, have fun, and contribute invaluable information to our understanding of bird health!

# Educational Trips & Tours

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

## GALAPAGOS ISLANDS September 30–October 6, 2010

4 spaces still available!

Join the Audubon Society of Portland's **Dan van den Broek**, School of Birding Educator, on a journey to the islands that Darwin made famous with his historic work, *The Origin of Species*. See for yourself the many finch species that inspired his theories of adaptation and evolution. Those who make this journey will experience wildlife as they never have before — fearless of humans because large land predators never evolved here.

While on the Islands we should see a great number of the endemic birds including **Galapagos Hawk, Galapagos Dove, Galapagos Mockingbird, and Galapagos Flycatcher**, as well as the famous **Galapagos finches. Marine Iguanas, Land Iguanas, Galapagos Fur Seals**, and the **Galapagos Tortoise** that also await us.



Galapagos Tortoise © Dan van den Broek

We'll stay 4 nights on a small (16-passenger) boat and by day visit Islands such as Espanola, Floreana, and Santa Cruz. We will go to seabird colonies where we may see **Blue-footed and Nazca Boobies, Red-billed Tropicbirds**, and the endemic **Swallow-tailed and Lava Gulls**. While at sea we'll watch for pelagic species such as **Elliot's Storm-Petrel, Galapagos Shearwater, and Galapagos Petrel**, as well as **dolphins and larger whales**. Our route will take us to see the **Galapagos Penguin**, and we'll have opportunities to snorkel so that we may experience the magnificent reefs that fringe the Islands and the unique life they support.

**What is included:** All lodging, all ground and sea transportation, all meals except some dinners, guide fees, and the internal round-trip airfare from the city of Quito, Ecuador, to the Galapagos. A portion of your fee is a tax-deductible contribution to the Audubon Society of Portland. **Airfare from U.S. to Ecuador and return is not included.**

**Fee (double occupancy):** \$3295 members / \$3595 non-members

**Deposit:** \$1600 required to secure your place on the trip

**Group Size:** 14

**Leader:** Dan van den Broek

If you would like more information or to register for this trip, please contact **Dan van den Broek** at [dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org](mailto:dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org) or 971-222-6105.

## WILDFLOWERS AND BIRDS OF Steens Mountain July 21–25, 2010

Spend five days exploring Steens Mountain, one of the most spectacular natural areas in Oregon and adjacent to the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, an Oregon Important Bird Area. Study the botanical and bird life of the high desert environment. At Steens' East Rim overlook we'll scan for the rare **Black Rosy-Finch**, and if we're lucky we'll look down on the backs of soaring **Golden Eagles** and **Prairie Falcons** from our vantage point a dizzying vertical mile above the Alvord Desert. Unique plants we may find include rare species of **Spring Beauty** (Sierran and Alpine) and **Steershead Bleeding Heart** at Fish Lake. Along the way we'll search for larger animals like **Bighorn Sheep** and **Pronghorn**. Visits to Malheur NWR and Alvord Desert locales provide a chance to observe a variety of breeding birds.



Steens Mountain Thistle. © Christopher Christie

**What is included:** Van transportation to and from Portland, 4 nights lodging at the charming Frenchglen Hotel, breakfasts, lunches, and field instruction. Dinners are not included. A portion of your fee is a tax-deductible contribution to the Audubon Society of Portland.

**Fee:** \$645 members / \$695 non-members (based on double occupancy)

**Group size:** 9–14 participants

**Leader:** Steve Engel

Contact Steve at [sengel@audubonportland.org](mailto:sengel@audubonportland.org) or 971-222-6119.



Lesser Scaup © Steve Berliner

## MALHEUR FORAY

Our annual foray to visit the world-class Malheur National Wildlife Refuge still has some spaces open!

**Dates:** May 26–31

**Fee:** \$645 members / \$695 non-members

**Leader:** Steve Robertson

Visit our website for trip description.

## A few spaces may still remain in these 2010 trips:

- Bird the Badlands: June 3–10
- Birding in the Basin: June 23–27
- Australia: November 6–20
- Tasmania: November 20–28

Visit our website for trip descriptions.

## SPRING BREAK CAMP 2010 AT THE AUDUBON SOCIETY OF PORTLAND

Our new online registration 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 Spring Break Camps run from 9am to 4pm.**

VISIT US AT  
[WWW.AUDUBONPORTLAND.ORG](http://WWW.AUDUBONPORTLAND.ORG)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION!

| MONDAY, MARCH 22   | TUESDAY, MARCH 23   | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24  | THURSDAY, MARCH 25   | FRIDAY, MARCH 26  |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| <b>BIRD BUDDIES</b><br>2nd–3rd grade<br>Fee: \$60member / \$70non-member                       | <b>JUNIOR WILDLIFE VET 101</b><br>1st–3rd grade<br>Fee: \$60member / \$70non-member | <b>AMPHIBIANS AHOY!</b><br>1st–3rd grade<br>Fee: \$60member / \$70non-member   | <b>FOREST DETECTIVES</b><br>1st–3rd grade<br>Fee: \$60member / \$70non-member                  | <b>MYSTERIOUS MAMMALS</b><br>1st–3rd grade<br>Fee: \$60member / \$70non-member      |
| <b>CLACK ATTACK: HIKING THE CLACKAMAS</b><br>4th–6th grade<br>Fee: \$70member / \$80non-member | <b>SURF'S UP</b><br>4th–8th grade<br>Fee: \$70member / \$80non-member               | <b>SALMON SEARCH</b><br>3rd–5th grade<br>Fee: \$70member / \$80non-member  | <b>ANIMAL BEHAVIOR: GREAT BLUE HERONS</b><br>3rd–5th grade<br>Fee: \$70member / \$80non-member | <b>JUNIOR WILDLIFE VET 102</b><br>4th–5th grade<br>Fee: \$60member / \$70non-member |
|  |   | <b>WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24 – THURSDAY, MARCH 25</b><br><br><b>TIM AND IAN'S MISSION IMPOSSIBLE (Overnight Wednesday night)</b><br>5th–8th grades<br>Fee: \$130member / \$150non-member |  |   |

## HOW TO REGISTER

### Adult Classes

- NEW** — register and pay online! Visit class description on our website.
- OR** — contact Steve Engel via phone or email to be put on the roster, then make your payment as soon as he confirms availability. Only your payment holds your spot.
- Mail your check** payable to Audubon Society of Portland **or call** with your credit card information.

### Educational Trips & Tours

- Phone or email to **request a registration packet** for the trips of interest.
- Complete and sign the **Registration / Waiver Form** and return it with the **required deposit**.
- 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.

### 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.**

### Birding By Ear — Resident Birds

**April 5 & 19 (Mon.), 7pm-9pm: Classes in Heron Hall**

**April 11, 18, 25 (Sun.), 7am-10am: Field Trips**

Laura Whittemore offers her popular "Birding By Ear" class in two formats this year. The April class will focus on learning the songs and vocalizations of our **resident birds** such as Song Sparrow, Spotted Towhee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, American Robin, and others. This allows you to learn in a less "crowded" aural environment and should be helpful for those just exploring birding by ear. A separate class in May will focus on all the **migrant birds** who have arrived. See website for more details on "Birding by Ear — Migrant Birds" class.

**Fee:** \$75 members / \$85 non-members

**Class size: 14 participants**

**Participants sign up for all 2 classes and 3 field trips.**

**Pre-registration is required.**

### Hummingbirds: Facts, Flowers & Feeders

**April 8 (Thu.), 7pm-8:30pm**

Learn the most effective ways to attract hummingbirds to your yard and garden. Local hummingbird expert **Abby Crouch** will share her tips on the best plants for hummers year round and the easy and safe approaches to feeding. Her bird-friendly yard has been profiled in *Sunset Magazine* and featured on Metro's *Natural Gardens Tour*. Class includes a multi-page handout on plants and feeders.

**Fee:** \$10 members / \$15 non-members

**Funds raised by this class support the Wildlife Care Center!**

**This class is FREE for volunteers.**

### Wildflowers of the Memaloose Hills

**April 21 (Wed.), 8am-4:30pm**

Join wildflower enthusiast **Angie Moore** for a walk in the Memaloose Hills east of Mosier. Spend the day hiking among the balsamroot discussing Columbia River Gorge geology, history, and plant identification techniques for the amateur botanist. Plant list provided. Bring your cameras, lunch, and plenty of water; there may be ticks and poison oak. Participants must be capable of moderate hiking, 4-6 miles, with 700' of elevation gain.

**Fee:** \$25 members / \$35 non-members

**Class size: 12 participants**

**Pre-registration is required.**

### Spring Shorebird Migration

**April 29 (Thu.), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall**  
**May 1 (Sat.), all day: Field Trip to Grays Harbor, WA**

An evening class focusing on shorebird identification and ecology with **John Rakestraw** on Thursday is followed up with a trip to the Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge near Hoquiam, Washington for an all-day Saturday outing. We'll explore the many Grays Harbor birding sites during the afternoon as the tide is rising, and depart from the main viewing platforms at Bowerman Basin about 4:30pm to arrive back in Portland at sunset.

**Fee:** \$75 members / \$95 non-members (transportation provided by Audubon)

**Field Trip group size limited.**

**Class-only option: \$10 members / \$15 non-members**

**Pre-registration is required.**

### REGISTER FOR SUMMER CAMPS TODAY!

You can now register online and pay by credit card or e-check. Go to [www.audubonportland.org](http://www.audubonportland.org), then the Summer Camp page and click "Register Now." You may also register in person at 5151 NW Cornell Rd, Portland, OR 97210. Spaces will no longer be saved without payment. Questions? Call Sarah Swanson, Camp Director, at 971-222-6120.

## AUDUBON 2010 SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE

| GRADES ENTERING: |                         | 1ST                     | 2ND - 3RD   | 4TH - 5TH                                   | 6TH - 8TH  | 9TH - 12TH                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| WEEK 1           | JUNE 28 - JULY 2        | THINGS WITH WINGS       | WILD ART ADVENTURE                                  | JR. WILDLIFE VET 102 SESSION 1<br>BIRDZILLA | FIRE AND ICE<br>JUNE 27-JULY 2 · SUN-FRI                               |  |
| WEEK 2           | JULY 5-9                | ANIMAL HOSPITAL         | BACKYARD BIRDS                                      | SKETCHING FROM NATURE                       | HERPETOLOGY 103  | BELIZE ADVENTURE<br>JULY 6-16 · TUES-FRI       |
| WEEK 3           | JULY 12-16              | FROGS AND FRIENDS       | JR. WILDLIFE VET 101 SESSION 1<br>WATER WONDERS ART | STAYIN' ALIVE OVERNIGHT WED-FRI             | FIELD ORNITHOLOGY<br>SAN JUAN 1<br>JULY 11-16 · SUN-FRI                |  |
| WEEK 4           | JULY 19-23              | TRACKS AND SNACKS       | JR. WILDLIFE VET 101 SESSION 2                      | NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY                          | WILD IN THE CITY   |  |
| WEEK 5           | JULY 26-30              | CREEPY CRAWLERS         | MEGA MAMMALS<br>BERRY BERRY FUN 1                   | HERPETOLOGY 102                             | OPAL CREEK 1   | SAN JUAN 2<br>JULY 26 - AUG 1 · MON-SUN        |
| WEEK 6           | AUGUST 2-6              | ANIMALOLOGY             | ALL ABOUT BUGS<br>HERPETOLOGY 101                   | OPAL CREEK 2                                | WORLD OF WATERCRAFT OVERNIGHT THURS-FRI                                |  |
| WEEK 7           | AUGUST 9-13             | PREDATORS OF THE FOREST | JR. WILDLIFE VET 101 SESSION 3<br>NATURE DETECTIVES | BERRY BERRY FUN 2                           | SAN JUAN 3<br>AUGUST 8-13 · SUN-FRI                                    |  |
| WEEK 8           | AUGUST 16-20            | RAPTOR RAMA             | HIT THE TRAIL                                       | HIDDEN HIKES OVERNIGHT THURS-FRI            | FOREST ODYSSEY OVERNIGHT THURS-FRI                                     | DESTINATION: GLACIER<br>AUGUST 15-21 · SUN-SAT |
| WEEK 9           | AUGUST 23-27            | WET AND WILD            | PORTLANDIA  | JR. WILDLIFE VET 102 SESSION 2              | FIRE, STICKS & STONES  |  |
| WEEK 10          | AUGUST 30 - SEPTEMBER 3 | GNOME HOMES             | CREATURE FROM THE BALCH LAGOON                      | HOOD TO COAST CUISINE                       | JR. WILDLIFE VET 103<br>WAYS OF THE ANCIENTS<br>AUG 29-SEP 3 · SUN-FRI |  |

= ONSITE   
 = EXCURSION   
 = MOBILE ADVENTURE   
 = MARMOT CABIN

# Sanctuaries News

## January 30 TogetherGreen Volunteer Day a Big Success Work party focuses on restoration in and around our pond

by Tom Costello, Sanctuaries Director

Fifty-nine volunteers helped us mark our largest yet TogetherGreen volunteer day on Saturday, January 30. We were particularly fortunate to have three of our long-serving sanctuaries committee members — Bonnie Shoffner, Brian Vaughn, and Kyle Spinks — available to lead crews. Meryl Redisch, our Executive Director, was also on hand getting muddy and pulling weeds.

Photos from the 1930s show that the area that is now our pond had been cleared of its expected forest cover and that grasses and small shrubs dominated. The area is now dominated by a deciduous canopy of Red Alder, Big-leaf Maple, and Black Cottonwood. Eventually these relatively short-lived tree species will begin to die off, and it's important that a healthy understory of native shrubs and conifers be established to allow the natural forest succession to occur.

Unfortunately the historical disturbances to this area of the Sanctuary have given invasive plants somewhat of an advantage. So we spent the morning removing invasive plants from the areas immediately surrounding the pond, with English Ivy and Himalayan Blackberry the primary focus. A small but persistent patch of *Vinca* (Periwinkle) was also removed. This can be thankless, tiring work but our volunteers were fantastic, leaving behind some substantially large piles of invasives in their wake.

In the afternoon the focus turned to planting. In the week before the event we had drained the pond to typical summer levels so we could access its seasonally wet areas. We planted two species of native wetland grasses in this area, Rice Cutgrass and Common Rush. We also planted Wapato and False Hellebore, which are native perennial



TogetherGreen volunteers plant natives at Audubon's pond. ©Tom Costello

wetland plants. Above the high-water mark we planted Red Flowering Currant, Indian Plum, and Red Osier Dogwood. Together these plants will help establish a vegetated perimeter around the pond, creating better shelter and habitat for our resident birds and amphibians. We had several Rough-skinned Newts and a Red-legged Frog excitedly watching over our work.

Just upland of the pond we planted a small number of two shade-tolerant native conifers, Grand Fir and Western Hemlock. These conifers should slowly grow and thrive in the understory of the existing deciduous canopy. As the older maples, alders, and cottonwoods begin to die off, the conifers will establish themselves in the canopy, creating more of a mixed conifer/deciduous canopy that you find in the rest of our sanctuaries.

We will continue our work in this area at our next **TogetherGreen volunteer event on Saturday, March 20, 10am–4pm. Please join us** for a day of invasive plant removal and tree planting, and help us continue the success of January 30.

## Nature Store Highlights

by Nancy Mattson, Nature Store Manager

### Hummers are Here!

Rufus Hummingbirds are back in town and ready to nest. The hardy Anna's Hummers who spent the winter have been joined by their snowbird cousins. To welcome them all, the Nature Store has scoured the country for great All-American hummingbird feeders to nourish Mom & Pop & all the little flitters. Our choice selection includes **Perry's Smokey Mountain Hummingbird Feeders** crafted in Pigeon Forge, Tenn. They range from a beautiful but affordable **window-mount for \$20** (\$18 for members) to an elegant ruby-red **Rocco double feeder at \$45** (\$40.50 for members). Each handcrafted feeder features solid copper hangers with colorful brass green leaf and red flower details.



A festive line of new hand-painted ceramic hummingbird feeders has also arrived from **Lone Wolf Pottery** in Albuquerque, New Mexico. These easy-to-maintain **drip-free** gems are shaped like natural gourds and painted in sunny colors to attract the eye of even the most discerning hummer. We also sell **Easy Mix Nectar** from **Songbird Essentials**.

### Yikes! Hungry Babies!

When feathered folks want to give their new offspring a high-protein meal, what do they look for? **Bugs, bugs, and more bugs!** But if the evening hatch leaves something to be desired, where can they pick up that quick protein boost? Right at their friendly neighborhood feeder, if their favorite friendly feeder filler (try saying that with a mouth full of bugs) has added **Mealworms To Go** to their offerings. These easy-to-handle tasty treats are **100% natural freeze-dried mealworms** with a bit of fruit flavoring added. You can add a handful to your mixed seed/sunflower feeders or put some out 'a la carte' in a little bowl. Yum!



recipe comes in **easy-to-handle pellets** made of vegetable oil, wheat flour, peanut flour, and wheat starch. If you are a purist, avoid the mixes containing mealworms and pick the plain suet or raisin blends. They work fine in a mixed seed feeder added to your favorite blend or used alone. Or just set them out in a little bowl and watch them quickly disappear.



### Now for Something Entirely Different:

We just "rediscovered" an old favorite: the beautiful handmade sculptures of **American artist George Carruth**. These lovely pieces are **cast in stone** for use indoors or out. Though George's studio is located in Ohio, he says he gets his best inspirations while enjoying his Pacific Northwest retreat on Orcas Island in the San Juans. He is also a frequent visitor to Portland where his daughter, **Libby Carruth Krock**, resides (see **Children's Author Events on page 12**). Stop in to see George's nature-inspired wall plaques and freestanding designs as well as the two lovely pieces created by daughter Libby.



Audubon Society of Portland gratefully acknowledges these thoughtful gifts:

### In Memory

**Alan Budner**  
Miriam Bronstein  
Barbara Fox Casella  
Sue Deutsch  
Marshall Goldberg  
Janet Guggenheim  
Lisa & Lewis Horowitz  
Hilary Marcus  
Susan Moser  
Michael Z &  
Gloria Borg Olds  
David Paulson  
Gloria & Alan Russakov  
Philip Sower  
Amy Weissfeld  
Delia & Bill Whitney  
Betsy & David Wice  
Nathaniel Wice

**Phronsie Ruth McFarling**  
John & Chris Boles  
LeAnn & Dale Smith  
Patricia Stires

**Jan Myers**  
William Armes  
Fran Daggett  
Garnet & Robert Lester  
Bertha Saiget  
Susan Thurston  
Emily Wright

**Neil Parlee**  
Donna Talus

**Herman "Dutch" Schneider**  
Becky Helen Short  
Mr & Mrs Lynne Timmermann  
Robert Rothrock

**Virginia Steve**  
Jennifer Klump

**Douglas Swanson**  
Roberta Lampert &  
James Piper

**Naoto Takamoto**  
Ann Takamoto

**Lillian & Ben Chinitz**  
Richard Schwartz &  
Francine Chinitz

**Esther Enyart**  
Sandy Tamiesie

**Karen Gooing**  
Ray Saunders

### In Honor

**Dad & Peggy**  
Katherine Babash

**Pete & Helen**  
Elsa Ostergaard

**Rufino the cat**  
Ignacio Gonzalez-Reyes &  
Stacie Hall

**Zoe Arnaut-Hull**  
Genevieve Arnaut

**Barbara & Michael Cobb**  
Amy Coulter

**Mimi Epstein**  
Carol Herron

**Wilma & Rhod Fraser**  
Nancy Fraser

**John Hill**  
Michael & Marie Ryan

**Mike Houck & Bob Sallinger**  
Janet Slobin

**John Immonen**  
Eric Hildebrand

**Skip & Sandi Kinsley**  
Lisa Kinsley

**Richard & Bonnie Lee**  
Chris Schmitt

**Brynne Alexandra Larsen**  
Dan Larsen

**John Lewis**  
Megan Murray

**Martha May**  
Virginia May

**Richard Meeker**  
Henry Kantor

**Janice Mercure**  
Diana Deshler

**Kathleen & Raymond Merritt**  
Mildred Donoghue

**Virginia Oliver**  
Terry Oliver

**Marty Parker, Tessa St. John, Rachel Wold**  
Ethan Beckley

**Lillian Pollens**  
Janet Feldman

**Claire Puchy**  
Ann Werner

**Ginnie Ross**  
Robert Erwin

**Barb Strack**  
Marilyn Thamert

**Cherry Sweeney**  
Becky & Leonard Magnuson

**Lee & Margie Turlington**  
Susan Houser

**Tuesday morning WCC shift**  
Susan Dale

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:

- David Copeland for a collection of 85 field guides
- Ginnie Ross for a blender for the Wildlife Care Center
- James Davis & Sally Loomis for a refrigerator
- Alan Locklear for 2 jugs of bleach & 1 jug of detergent for the Care Center
- Anita Van Koch for various dishes donated to the Wildlife Care Center
- Gretta Grimala for a 50' water coil hose

### 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.

## Conspicuous Corvids Frequent Portland Area

The **Western Scrub-Jay**, **American Crow**, and **Steller's Jay** are local representatives of the Corvid family. They are bold and conspicuous, will eat most anything, and are quite used to humans. Humans on the other hand either like and enjoy them or consider them predators and troublemakers. There are many stories on how ingenious these birds are, but most people know little about them.

The Scrub-Jay is a fairly common and widespread resident in the Portland area, but was not always so. At one time it was fairly common northward in the Willamette Valley to about Salem and rarely seen north of there, except for an active colony on Sauvie Island that sent wanderers occasionally to nearby Columbia River bottomlands.

From about 1958 Scrub-Jays began expanding throughout the Willamette Valley, becoming fairly common in the Portland area. In recent years they have spread northward and now are increasing in the Puget Sound lowlands, along the coast, and through Central Oregon and into Central Washington.

Scrub-Jays are resident in deciduous woodlands and brushy areas. They are rarely found in coniferous forests. Although considered a non-migratory species, many gather into flocks each fall and wander extensively. Some of these flocks are sometimes seen away from their regular range.

The Steller's Jay is a bird of coniferous forests, but often is found in small conifer groves in city parks and wooded neighborhoods. They are not as noticeable as the Scrub-Jay but can be vociferous at times. They seem attracted to humans walking in their habitat, often following by flying from tree to tree just overhead. Despite the many habitat changes over the years, the Steller's Jay seems to maintain a fairly constant resident population. They also gather into flocks at times and move about the area, and are occasionally seen in deciduous or open woodlands.



Western Scrub-Jay © Jim Cruce

Crows are the most abundant and widespread of the Corvids. They are open country and woodland birds, but often use thick forests for roosting. Owls and other bird species often use the large sturdy Crow nest when vacant. Most everyone knows the Crow and their cawing calls, which are variable and can be interpreted as to their meaning and have been described by scientists. The caw is

the most recognized, but Crows give a wide variety of calls that do not resemble the familiar cawing.

Though always fairly common and widespread, starting about 1971 people began noticing a sharp increase in Crow numbers in the Portland area. Neighborhood Crows soon recognize local human residents and become trusting. The late afternoon flights toward their evening roosts are often conspicuous and attract attention.

Recently a fourth Corvid species has become fairly regular in the Portland metro area. **Common Ravens** are uncommon residents in the foothills of the Coast and Cascade Mountains, with some wandering into nearby lowlands. They are fairly common in winter in the southern Willamette Valley but not farther north. The 2006 Portland Christmas Count recorded two Ravens, the first in many years. The next summer up to five could be seen on Sauvie Island. Since then they have become fairly regular at Sauvie Island, Ridgefield NWR, and Portland's Forest Park. On April 30, 2008, Jeff Schwilk found a Raven's nest near the northern edge of Forest Park.

## Sightings

This year the Willamette Valley seems to be an ideal place for birds to spend the winter, including some unexpected species. On the December 26 Forest Grove Christmas Count, Bob Stites, Pamela Johnston, and Ed McVicker found a bright **Hooded Oriole** coming to a hummingbird feeder in Gaston. It remained into February. Scott Murray spotted a **Common Redpoll** at Hagg Lake, and Lars Norgren saw a possible **Arctic Loon** on the lake.



Hooded Oriole © Linda Tanner

On the January 2 Portland Count, John Deshler found two **Gray Jays** in Forest Park. Six **Ravens** were counted along with a **Black-billed Magpie** spotted by Adrian and Christopher Hinkle. This count also recorded 274 **Anna's Hummingbirds**.

On December 3 Bob Flores reported eight **Cinnamon Teal** at Ridgefield NWR. Don Coggsell saw three in Scappoose Bottoms January 8. Rie Luft reported a male **Blue-winged Teal** near Ross Island, and Chris Peckler saw one January 27 at the Fernhill Wetlands. Jim Danzenbaker reported a **Bewick's Tundra Swan** at Ridgefield NWR December 22. A flock of 11 **Trumpeter Swans** were at Ridgefield January 7.

Wilson Cady and Eric Bjorkman reported a **Rusty Blackbird** near Vancouver Lake December 27. Bob Flores reported two **Short-billed Dowitchers** at Ridgefield January 11.

On January 21 Jeff Young spotted a **Brant** among a **Cackling Goose** flock in Bethany Wetlands Park north of Beaverton. On January 12 Stefan Schlick counted 259 **Canvasbacks** in Jackson Bottom Wetlands, and a **Tree Swallow** was there December 21. Lars Norgren reported three **Black-crowned Night-Herons** at Fernhill Wetlands after dark January 9, and Rie Luft saw a **Tree Sparrow** at Fernhill December 27. Adrian and Christopher Hinkle saw one on Sauvie Island January 16.

On December 6 Garrett Gregor saw a **Clay-colored Sparrow** in the St. Johns neighborhood. Dave Helzer reports that about 40 **Eurasian Collared-Doves** are regularly coming to a grain elevator near Kelley Point Park in North Portland. Part of that group was seen on the Portland Count. On December 23 a **Great Gray Owl** was photographed along Gresham Butte Trail in Gresham.

## Thank You, Laura!

by Steve Engel, Adult Education Coordinator

For the last eight years, Portland Audubon and its members have enjoyed the good fortune of experiencing **Laura Whittemore's** enthusiasm and dedication to making birdwatching available to everyone. On top of teaching her ever-popular classes in beginning birding and birding by ear, holding down a full-time job with the Backyard Bird Shop, and doing her own thing, Laura has also found time to coordinate our Field Trip offerings. These free outings, several each month, are open to Audubon members and the public and led by a crew of equally dedicated and enthusiastic volunteer trip leaders.

We want to say a big Thank You! to Laura for her time and energy over all these years and the numerous outings she helped get off the ground and into the field. We wish her the best in whatever new endeavors she takes up in her "free time." Good birding to you, Laura!

## Volunteers of the Month: Ginnie Ross, Carol Mitchell, and Irene McIntosh

by Deb Sheaffer, WCC Operations Manager

The Volunteer of the Month for March happens to be a team of three volunteers. **Ginnie Ross**, **Carol Mitchell**, and **Irene McIntosh**, while serving on the Volunteer Council, wondered what they could do to help staff members and volunteers of Audubon's Wildlife Care Center (WCC). Results of a survey sent to all volunteers showed many felt they could use more training in the day-to-day operations of the WCC. As a result, this team created a practical and constructive workshop, the Wildlife Care Center Basics Training Course, for WCC volunteers. It's structured as a refresher course for veteran volunteers and an orientation for those less experienced. The class was first offered twice in September 2009. In all, about 80% of the Care Center's 65 active volunteers attended. It's set up to be offered three times per year to catch all the newer volunteers. Reaction from participants has been overwhelmingly positive, and a common response to the course survey was "I wish you'd done this sooner!"

The WCC Basics Training Course is especially successful due to the experience and expertise of the three instructors. First and foremost, there is no question they've spent many hours in the WCC. Irene started



Ginnie handling Jack Sparrowhawk, the American Kestrel, at the 2009 Migratory Bird Festival. © Patricia Buescher

volunteering in 1991, Ginnie and Carol in 2005. Together they've logged over 7,000 hours cleaning cages, treating sick wildlife, and answering wildlife phone calls!

In addition, they each bring their own skills to the team. As a longtime and permitted wildlife rehabilitator, **Irene** touches on the hands-on aspects of volunteering in the Care Center. In a practical way, she demonstrates safe animal handling, basic treatments, and feeding. **Carol**, as a nurse, is able to tackle medical aspects of wildlife rehabilitation. She successfully trains volunteers on medications and injections, duties not everyone is comfortable with.

Before retiring, **Ginnie** worked in education. She started her profession teaching and later in her career became a labor relations consultant for schools. Her background shows in her ability to keep the volunteers engaged and



Carol volunteering at last year's Night Flight Halloween event. © Deanna Sawtelle

interested, even when going over paperwork and explaining how Audubon's complicated telephone system works.

Ginnie, Carol, and Irene are also just great Audubon volunteers. All three have served on Audubon's Volunteer Council; all three are on the Wild Animal Rescue Team (WART) and are called on to transport or rescue injured wildlife. Ginnie and Carol are both Education Bird handlers, and Irene helps train volunteers on basic wildlife rehabilitation. The list is long, but suffice it to say all three are tremendous assets to Portland Audubon. Organizing and implementing the WCC training course only demonstrates the initiative and time they have given to Portland Audubon. **Carol, Ginnie, Irene: Thank You!**



Irene moving a sick (and heavy) beaver in the Wildlife Care Center. © WCC staff

# 2010 Board Elections

## CANDIDATES FOR 2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### BOARD OFFICERS

#### Pat Campbell, President

"I am a fourth-generation Oregonian and a dedicated environmentalist. In 1973, my husband Joe and I founded Elk Cove Vineyards with the goal of sustainably farming without insecticides. We now farm 150 acres of wine grapes and market our wines in 48 states. In 1998, during a trial-by-fire experience, I went on a 'Gonzo Birdathon' trip with Portland Audubon. In 2001 Joe and I began our semi-retirement. We spent the next four winters in Arizona, where I honed my birding skills as an active member of Tucson Audubon. We now live in Portland full time. It has been a privilege to work as a board member with Portland Audubon. It was exciting to put my business, promotion, and leadership skills to work for this great organization. I am a member of Portland, Tucson, and National Audubon, The Nature Conservancy, 1000 Friends of Oregon, and Friends of the Columbia Gorge."

#### Josh Cerra, Vice President

"I am an environmental designer and senior ecologist at Herrera Environmental in Portland. With a background in both science and design, I have focused my career on urban ecological assessment and conservation planning to provide working, connected spaces for fish and wildlife in cities. These are rapidly evolving fields; to stay abreast, I serve as a steering committee member for the Urban Ecosystem Research Consortium here in Portland and on the Ecological Design Center at University of Oregon. Last year I served an interim appointment on the Board of Directors of the Audubon Society of Portland. I am seeking election this year to serve again on the Board, and I am also running as a candidate for Vice President of the Board. As an active birder and volunteer in the community, I would like to expand

my role on the Board of Directors to assist the organization in promoting sustainable city practices that protect and enhance high-quality habitats in the Portland metro area, while providing access to nature for its citizens."

#### Wink Gross, Secretary

"I have been birding since I was a child, growing up literally within sight of the Massachusetts Audubon headquarters, where I spent many hours learning to appreciate the natural world. After graduating from Harvard and MIT, I pursued a career in engineering management with Tektronix and Maxim Integrated Products. Now retired, I go birding every day, most often in my Portland neighborhood. I have been the compiler of the Portland Christmas Bird Count for the past five years, during which we have become one of the ten largest counts on the continent. Audubon Society of Portland is embarking on an exciting period of growth and outreach to under-served neighborhoods. I believe my management skills, both project and personnel, can help with this effort. I ask for your vote to elect me to a second term as Secretary of the Audubon Society of Portland. Thank you!"

#### Ken Ivey, Treasurer

Ken has served on Portland Audubon's Finance Committee for the past three years and welcomes the opportunity to continue chairing the Committee and serving as Board Treasurer. A CPA for over 30 years, Ken has helped nonprofit organizations, including the Lake Oswego Rotary and Foundation, Cat Adoption Team, and Portland Community College Foundation at the finance committee and treasurer level. Ken's practice (Ivey, Jacobson & Company, LLC) is located in Lake Oswego.

### MEMBERS AT LARGE

#### Dan Rohlf

"I am interested in joining Audubon's board for many reasons. Conservation and protecting the natural world are among my most important personal values. I have been fascinated by the natural world throughout my life, and occupy much of my free time with outdoor pursuits, including birdwatching. I have also dedicated my career to conservation and environmental education, and have been on the environmental law faculty at Lewis and Clark Law School for over 20 years. As co-founder and Clinical Director of Lewis and Clark's environmental law clinic, I have long been active in efforts to protect natural areas and wildlife. I deeply admire Portland Audubon's efforts toward these same goals, and I see it as one of the most effective conservation advocacy organizations in the state."

#### Kristina Gifford

Kristina has served on the Board since 2006. She is an active volunteer at Portland Audubon, working a regular shift at the Nature Store, participating on the Conservation Committee and Birdathon Committee, and helping out with the Wild Arts Festival. Kristina is a native of the Pacific Northwest, and an environmental and land use planner at Herrera Environmental Consultants in Portland. Kristina states: "I am honored to be on the Board of Portland Audubon. The staff and volunteers are so talented and dedicated to the mission here. It's just a great organization to be involved with, and I hope to be involved for many years to come."

#### Barbara Hill

"I have served the last three years on the Board of Audubon Society of Portland and would greatly like to continue my service to this great organization. During my time on the Board I chaired the committee that significantly updated and revised Portland Audubon's bylaws to make them more current, relevant, and meaningful for the Chapter's organization, priorities, and purpose. I have also volunteered for a number of fundraising and development efforts for the Chapter such as the Wild Arts Festival, Christmas Bird Count, and sponsorship of tables at the membership events at Elk Cove Vineyard. My lifelong career as a professional wildlife biologist involved in land management also provides me with experience and skills that contribute to the Board and Chapter's efforts for wildlife and habitat conservation."

#### Ron Spencer

Ron is a long-time volunteer who has participated in a wide range of activities at Audubon. He has been a Board member since 2003, and has served as Board Treasurer. Ron has also served on the boards of the United Way and Tualatin Riverkeepers. Prior to retirement 12 years ago, he was Director of Accounting at Freightliner. Ron states: "I will draw on my business and financial background to help guide Audubon in those and other areas. As an active birder and a strong supporter of Audubon's education and conservation programs, I look forward to continuing to be an active and contributing member of Audubon's Board."

## 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!

Chris & Jim Abrams  
Michelle Alberts  
Ebru Alpay  
Jack Appleton  
Zoe Arnaut-Hull  
Sarah Austin  
Sara Baker  
Linda Baptiste  
Roxy Barnett  
Jim Bauer  
Debbie Beasley  
Isabel Beaton  
Ethan Beckley  
Mark Bernhard  
Mike Bezner  
Josephine Bilbao Bourke  
Gerald & Margaret Biondi-Channell  
Carrie Bleiweiss  
Hannah Britain-Jones  
Douglas Brown  
Dan Bruland  
Heather Camp  
David Capolarello  
Samuel Carl  
Darlene & Donald Carlson  
Christine Caurant  
Frank Chestnut  
Eric F. Christenson Family  
Leviticus Cole  
Jim Connet  
Timothy Cornwall  
Owen Corser  
Amy & Brian Coyle  
Douglas & Katherine Crane  
Patrick Crotty  
Pete Danko  
Cheryl Dieter  
Peter & Leslie Dinsdale  
LeAnna Dolan  
Holly Dornan  
Andrew DuPont  
Sean Duron  
Deborah & Dennis Eaton  
Robert C. Ehelebe  
Miles Ellenby  
Kim & Chris Elliott  
Elizabeth Etsey  
Steven Fallon  
Janet Feldman  
Kelli Fine  
Jim Fisher  
Jed Floding  
Barbara L. Florence  
Morelle Forster  
Ann Garcia  
Pam & Lee Gardiner  
Laurie Garretson  
Mary Gemmell  
Cary & Roberta Gluesenkamp  
Jay & Alison Graves  
Anne & Michael Green  
Gregg Gudmunson  
Denise Hare  
Shawna Hartung  
Greg & Gale Hawes  
Lynn Hayden  
Jenny Helms  
Renee Henry  
Emily Hicks & Nick York  
Jaqi Hinkle  
Emily Hitchcock  
Nancy Hitchins  
Anne Hogan & Timothy Brown  
Sheryl Horwitz  
Don Hunter  
Barbara Isaacs  
Deborah Jacobsen  
Aundre James  
Marjorie Janove  
Pat Janowski  
Greg & Ginny Jensen  
Larry Jeter & Sandra Robertson  
Hannah Kapell & Lennan Day-Reynolds  
Lisa & Scott Kaplan  
Andrea Kelly  
The Keller Boys  
Gurucharan Khalsa  
Lee Klinger  
Donna Kolberg & Sharon Perigo  
Barbara Kommer  
Anne & Judd Koppel Conway  
Thomas Kuhlman  
James Laden  
Adam & Stacey Lake  
Wade & Stacy Lange  
Lazzara Family  
Gina Leichner  
William L. Leonard  
Sarah Leoni  
Ella Lieberman  
Joey Lieberman  
Lori Livingston  
Jacqueline Logan  
Charlotte Long

Lora Looney  
Deborah Lopardo  
Joseph & Patricia Luckeroth  
Debra Lukan  
Richard G. Lynch  
Katie Mapes  
Janan Markee  
Leslie Martin  
Bruce & Dianne McCamman  
Stephen & Lucinda McCarthy  
Megan McCloskey & Tony Ratel  
Kelly McNiece  
Victoria McOmie  
Nancy Meyer  
Jeffrey Miller  
Davis Miracle  
Nora Mullane & David Hallberg  
Laura Mullen  
Lisa Muma  
Celia Murray  
Michael Musto  
Amanda Nelson  
Colin Nelson  
John & Lacie Newcomer  
K Nicholson  
Scott Nickell  
Linda Niedermeyer  
Marilyn Nunemaker  
Marcia Ohlemiller  
Terry Oliver  
Shay O'Neil  
Maxfield Parson-Scherban  
Vicki Perrett  
Brennan Peterson  
Susan Peterson  
Rachelle Pishney  
Avery Pittock  
Russell & Kimberly Poloson  
Anne Pope & William Greene  
Layne Prest  
Bernardo Prince  
Nancy Prindle  
Randy Rapaport  
Elliot Reinstein  
Eileen Richey  
Keith Ricker  
Peter Riehl  
Jon & Erin Robertson  
Sean Rooney  
Jack Rye  
Melissa Sandoz  
Franklin Scheu  
Hermann Schneider  
Peter Schulze & Shauna Whidden  
Donna L. Schuurman  
Richard Schwartz & Francine Chinitz  
Christopher Scott  
William Scott Ness  
Bonita Seubert  
Stephen & Micky Shields  
Marion Shimoda & Paul Ricker  
The Sibilla Family  
Darren Singer & Jennifer Kearsley  
Monica Soren  
Patti Spooner  
Marny Spoons  
Duane & Susan Stanley  
Rachel Starck  
Linda Steingraber  
Joyce Stoeckel  
Lee Stone  
David & Michael Taylor  
Marjorie Taylor  
Michelle & Barrett Taylor  
Stephen & Elizabeth Teater  
Carol M. Thomas  
John Thomas  
Michael Thomas  
David Thompson  
Dorrit Thomsen  
Richard Till  
Peter Torres  
Kelly Trujillo  
Marty Uman  
Holly Van Dyk  
Corine Van Raden  
Martin Hibbert Vitz  
John Von Schlegell  
Mike Voss  
Ann Wagoner  
Jeff & Christy Webster  
Randy Weisberg  
Marcia Westlund  
Mark Whitesell  
Lynn Wiechmann  
Valen Wilcox  
David Williams  
Lisa Willis  
Cheryl Wilson  
Ed Wilson  
Lenore Wolfe  
Christie Wright  
Lisa Wright  
Michael Yates  
Rebecca A. Youngstrom

### 2010 Board of Directors Election Ballot

If you are a current Audubon Society of Portland member, you are eligible to vote for the organization's officers and directors. If you are an Individual Member, you are entitled to one vote per candidate. If you have a Family Membership or higher level, you are entitled to two votes for each of the candidates. You must sign your ballot for it to be counted. Write-in votes will be disregarded.

Members may vote by mail, but we must receive your ballot by **6:30pm on April 15, 2010**. Please mail to:

**Board Nominations Committee**  
5151 NW Cornell Rd  
Portland, OR 97210

Members may choose to vote in person at the March and April Birders' Nights or Nature Nights.

(a) term ends 2011 (b) term ends 2013

Your Name (please print):

Your Signature:

Membership Level:

- Individual (entitled to one vote per candidate)  
 Family or higher (entitled to two votes per candidate)

#### Position

- President (a)  Pat Campbell  
Vice President (a)  Josh Cerra  
Secretary (a)  Wink Gross  
Treasurer (a)  Ken Ivey  
Member (b)  Dan Rohlf  
Member (b)  Kristina Gifford  
Member (b)  Barbara Hill  
Member (b)  Ron Spencer

# Important Bird Area of the Month

by Mary Coolidge, Assistant Conservation Director

## Alsea Bay

Of the nearly 100 Important Bird Areas in Oregon, 14 are bays and estuaries — productive, dynamic, biologically rich mixing zones of fresh and saltwater ecosystems. Birds abound where this tidally influenced billowing occurs, and **Alsea Bay** is no exception. Encompassing more than 2,500 acres, this IBA captures a full 5 of the 150 birding sites designated along the Oregon Coast Birding Trail, boasting high-value habitat for shorebirds, waterfowl, waders, pelicans, terns, and raptors, as well as elk, deer, river otter, and harbor seals. The estuary has also been identified as an **Important Aquatic Bird Area** to be surveyed as part of the Oregon Coordinated Aquatic Bird Monitoring Program, a joint effort led by Klamath Bird Observatory. The area's habitat diversity — open water, exposed mudflats, emergent salt marshes, aquatic beds, and the adjacent Siuslaw National Forest — provides outstanding avian value and associated birdwatching opportunities.

The Alsea River watershed drains approximately 475 square miles of land, and the estuary it feeds is considered one of the more pristine estuaries on the Oregon Coast, though a legacy of anthropogenic impacts from logging, overgrazing, overfishing, draining and filling of wetlands, chemical pollutants, and diking practices have all taken their toll. Although Oregon Department of State Lands exercises authority over tidelands with a mandate to conserve water quality for human consumption, wildlife, fish, and aquatic life, it takes collaboration by conservation nonprofits, agencies, and private landowners to ensure adequate estuary protection and restoration here.

**Coming to Portland's Waterfront Park on June 26**

### Staving Off Extinction: The Lost Bird Project by Dan Viens

The Lost Bird Project is a collection of strikingly beautiful sculptures by artist Todd McGrain honoring the lives and loss of five extinct birds. Portland Audubon is working with McGrain to bring the dramatic installation to Portland's waterfront for a six-month exhibition.

The sculptures include oversized bronze renderings, **5–7 feet tall**, of the **Passenger Pigeon, Carolina Parakeet, Heath Hen, Great Auk, and Labrador Duck**.

"It's difficult to read stories about extinct birds and not conclude we're missing something by not having these birds anymore," McGrain says. He hopes the Lost Bird Project will stave off another extinction, "the extinction of memory."

The Audubon Society of Portland wants to take the artist's vision a step further by eliminating the extinction of appreciation. Through the tragic stories of these five lost birds, Portland Audubon believes we can cultivate a deeper sense of recognition, obligation, and wonder for the birds we share our world with today. The Lost Bird Project is a creative way to broadcast our mission of protecting wildlife and habitat. With 25% of bird species in Oregon suffering long-term declines and 11% critically imperiled, getting this message out to the masses through public art is a unique opportunity that we had to utilize.

We are currently fundraising to bring the Lost Bird Project to Portland and have received a generous project grant of \$5,100 from the Regional Arts and Culture Council (RACC) to get the ball rolling. We welcome patrons interested in this story to participate.

Through a deeper understanding of what we've lost, those who experience the Lost Bird Project will cultivate a stronger appreciation and sense of urgency for those birds that remain. Please contact Ann Takamoto at [atakamoto@audubonportland.org](mailto:atakamoto@audubonportland.org) or 971-222-6117 for more information.



The Bayview Oxbow, adjacent to Alsea Bay, is an area proposed for natural hydrology restoration. © Roy Lowe, USFWS

An Alsea Bay Action Plan was written in 2004 to define conditions in a bay that has seen a 40–60% loss of intertidal habitat, and to identify conservation issues and set priority target areas. A number of conservation success stories initiated by various partners have occurred around Alsea Bay since the penning of that Action Plan. The Lint Slough was identified as a priority, and recent dike and levee removal now allow for natural (pre-1963) hydrological function of the Slough. The Wetlands Conservancy (in cooperation with the Central Coast Land Conservancy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program, and Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board) has acquired 240 acres of high-priority estuarine marsh habitat along the Bayview Oxbow, as well as tidal marshlands and forested uplands along Starr Creek at the northeast end of the bay. The Siuslaw National Forest Service has also acquired a significant tidal marsh parcel along the lower Drift Creek, a priority area containing some old-growth riparian forest. Restoration in this watershed goes a long way toward improving avian and salmonid habitat values in what was once one of the best coho salmon spawning rivers in Oregon!

### Ornithological Significance

The Alsea Bay IBA was nominated primarily for substantial congregations of **Caspian Tern** and **Brown Pelican**, as well as for thousands of migratory shorebirds and waterfowl. Estuaries along the coast provide feeding and resting areas in spring and fall, relative shelter in winter,



Caspian Tern. Photo: Lee Karney, USFWS

and feeding grounds for offshore nesting seabirds in spring and summer. Possible sightings at Alsea Bay are listed below by season.

October: **White-fronted Goose, American Widgeon, Mallard, Ring-necked Duck, Brandt's Cormorant, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Belted Kingfisher, Common Merganser, Horned Grebe, Merlin, Bald Eagle, Black-bellied Plover, Black Turnstone, Least and Western Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Dunlin, and Ring-billed, California, and Western Gull.**

Winter: **Surf Scoter, Northern Pintail, Canvasback, Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Hooded Merganser, Greater Scaup, Red-breasted Merganser, Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Common Loon, Pied-billed and Eared Grebe, American Widgeon, Ring-necked Duck, Pigeon Guillemot, Belted Kingfisher.**

Spring: **Surf Scoter, Greater Scaup, Bufflehead, Pelagic Cormorant, Mallard, Common Loon, Western Gull, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Pigeon Guillemot, Common Merganser, Brown Pelican, Greater Yellowlegs, Black Turnstone, Belted Kingfisher, and Eared, Pied-billed, and Western Grebe.**

Summer: **Pigeon Guillemot, Common Murre, Canada Goose, Mallard, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Osprey, Least Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Belted Kingfisher, Bald Eagle, and Western, Ring-billed, and California Gull.**

### If You Go

Visit the Oregon Coast Birding Trail website at [www.oregoncoastbirding.com](http://www.oregoncoastbirding.com) for more information on coastal birding sites, or contact Mary Coolidge at [mcoolidge@audubonportland.org](mailto:mcoolidge@audubonportland.org). With assistance from the National Park Service's **Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program**, the Port of Alsea designed the Alsea River Water Trail Guide for non-motorized boaters. Information is available at [www.portofalsea.com](http://www.portofalsea.com). Kayak rentals are available through the Waldport High School Kayak Shack (541-563-4445).

### The Nature Store presents Nikon Birding Weekend Sat., April 3 & Sun., April 4 Heron Hall at the Audubon Sanctuary

Mark your calendars for this opportunity to meet **Mike Freiberg, Birding Market Specialist for Nikon Sport Optics**. Mike's job takes him all over the U.S. teaching bird ID and optics. He will be joined by **Nikon ProStaff representative** and Portland Audubon member **Shawneen Finnegan**. This will be a rare opportunity to learn from two nationally known birding experts. We have three fun events to choose from!

#### Optics Through a Birder's Eyes (10am–11am Saturday)

Do you find optics selection a bit intimidating? There are a few key points to know which will increase your skills tenfold. Mike will share his insights into many simple yet helpful clues that will advance your understanding of binoculars and spotting scopes. He'll discuss basics of the selection game that allow the average birder to make a comfortable decision at the purchase counter.

#### Advanced Optics: Fieldsopes, Digiscoping & More (1pm–2pm Saturday)

Ready to move up to a sighting scope? Not completely satisfied with your current scope? Curious about



Mike Freiberg  
© Nikon Optics



Shawneen Finnegan  
© David Irons

digiscoping and the special equipment it requires? Discover what you really need to know before making a major scope purchase. Our experts have the answers, so bring along your questions!

#### Field Birding with the Nikon ProStaff Team (Sunday morning)

We'll select a local birding hot spot and carpool for a morning of fun. You'll have the opportunity to learn how to get the most out of your optics equipment while collecting great tips on birding techniques and ID. **To register, contact Nancy Mattson at [nmattson@audubonportland.org](mailto:nmattson@audubonportland.org) or 503-292-9453.**

Stop by the Nature Store to see all our great **Nikon** optics, including the newly redesigned **Monarch ATB** full-size binoculars. And remember, **Portland Audubon members always receive a 10% discount off regular prices.**



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

## Celebrate Children's Authors & Illustrators with the Nature Store!

In March we've invited an author and illustrator, both local residents, to visit the Audubon Interpretive Center to discuss their books and sign copies. Please join us for these fun family events.

### Meet Susan Blackaby!

On **Saturday, March 6th, 11:00am-1:00pm**, the Nature Store presents children's writer and Portland resident **Susan Blackaby**, author of the newly published *Nest, Nook & Cranny* (Charlesbridge, \$15.95). Her new book is a lively collection of poems describing various types of animal habitat, from deserts to woodlands, illustrated by Maine artist Jamie Hogan. Blackaby has been active as a children's author for over 25 years, creating texts for the school market as well as the popular picture book *Rembrandt's Hat*. Kids who enjoy both nature and the magic of word play will be delighted by this new book.



Susan Blackaby © Scott Rappaport



### Meet Libby Carruth Krock!

On **Saturday, March 27th, 11:00am-1:00pm**, Portland illustrator **Libby Carruth Krock** will be here presenting her book *The Boy Who Loved Birds* (Too Much Fun, \$15.95), a work done in collaboration with her father, Ohio author and sculptor George Carruth. A fanciful bedtime story about a boy who dreams of being a bird, Krock's colorful artwork captures the delights of bird life (flight) as well as the slightly ickier parts (eating juicy worms — yum!). Younger children will enjoy this gentle story of bird and family life.



## 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

Sign up at [www.audubonportland.org/about/volunteer/family](http://www.audubonportland.org/about/volunteer/family). Space is limited, so register soon! Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy hiking shoes.



## 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 Shiels 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, March 30, 7pm Oregon Zoo's Banquet Center Dusty Gedge on 'Skyrise Nature': An entertaining talk on ecoroofs, birds, bees, and bugs



Dusty Gedge © Jim Labbe

A worldwide authority on ecoroofs, Dusty Gedge has been campaigning to get green roofs installed for biodiversity in London for over 15 years. Currently he is director of Livingroofs.org — the United Kingdom's independent green roof organization — and the current president of the European Federation of Green Roof Associations.

Dusty is recognized as a leading authority on green roofs and biodiversity and has written a number of papers and articles on the subject over the years. He also wrote a seminal paper that led to the introduction of a distinct green roof policy in the Greater London area. In 2005 he won the Andrew Lees Memorial Award at the British Environment and Media Awards.

### Coming in April...

### Tuesday, April 27 • Urban Coyotes Stanley Gehrt, Ph.D., Assistant Professor and Extension Wildlife Specialist at Ohio State University



The howl of coyotes echoing across our urban landscape has become an increasingly common occurrence in recent years. In fact, coyotes can be found even in the most urbanized areas of our city. Come learn about the animal that Navajo sheep herders once called "God's Dog." Dr. Stanley Gehrt recently completed a study of urban coyotes in Chicago that has been described as "The most ambitious work of its kind in the country." Dr. Gehrt tracked 220 radio-collared coyotes in Chicago over the course of his six-year study. His work is fascinating and will provide valuable insights for wildlife lovers, wildlife professionals, and neighborhoods learning about urban coyotes.

**Cost:** \$8 for members of Audubon Society of Portland, Oregon Zoo, World Forestry Center, students, and seniors; \$10 for all others.

**Location:**  
Oregon Zoo

Go to [www.oregonzoo.org/Education/adults/adults\\_lecture.htm](http://www.oregonzoo.org/Education/adults/adults_lecture.htm) for information.



## 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

503-292-0304  
9am to 5pm every day

### RARE BIRD ALERT

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

### Board Officers

President.....Peter Paquet  
Vice President.....Pat Campbell  
Secretary.....Wink Gross  
Treasurer.....Ken Ivey

### Board Members

|                    |                      |              |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Josh Cerra         | Kristina Gifford     | Claire Puchy |
| Nancy Jane Cushing | John Hammerstad      | Lee Savinar  |
| Tony DeFalco       | Barb Hill            | Ron Spencer  |
| Katy Ehrlich       | Bob Liddell          |              |
| John Fitchen       | Karen O'Connor Kruse |              |

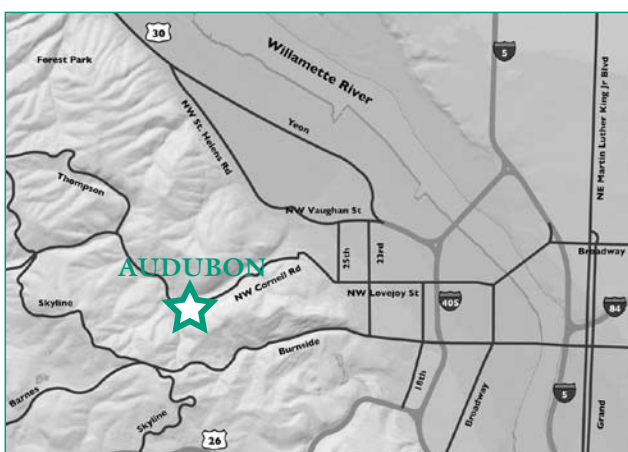
Board Member Emeritus - Dave Marshall

### Committee Chairs

Conservation.....Lynn Herring  
Education.....Vacant  
Executive.....Peter Paquet  
Finance.....Ken Ivey  
Membership & Development.....Nancy Jane Cushing  
Sanctuaries.....Ann Littlewood

### Staff

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Membership Assistant.....Pam Meyers  
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Camp Director/Onsite Programs Specialist.....Sarah Swanson  
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Ten Mile Sanctuary Manager.....Paul Engelmeyer  
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Wildlife Care Center Assistant Manager.....Kari Jones  
Nature Store Manager.....Nancy Mattson  
Nature Store Assistant.....Marilyn O'Grady  
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