

Warbler

Kids, Sign up now for Spring Break Camps! See page 9.



Black-throated Gray Warbler

In this issue...

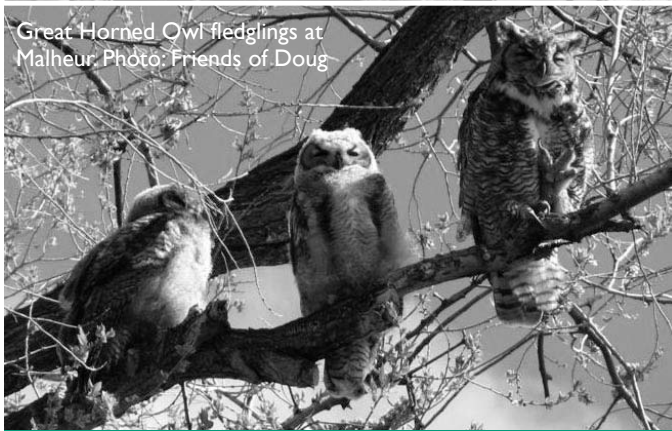
Sign up for Summer Camp!

See page 14 or last issue's insert, call 971-222-6120, or go to audubonportland.org.

Save the Date!
Birdathon
starts May 1
see details below



The Wild Turkeys © Portland Audubon



Great Horned Owl fledglings at Malheur. Photo: Friends of Doug



The Murre the Merrier © Portland Audubon

Birds & Bridges: A Celebration of Portland Peregrine Falcons

by **Bob Sallinger**,
Conservation Director

This spring Portland Audubon will be hosting a series of events to celebrate Portland's Peregrine Falcons and the legions of volunteers that have made this recovery program so successful. The immediate cause for celebration: This year the Fremont Bridge will fledge its 50th peregrine youngster, the first nest in Oregon known to reach this amazing milestone! Please check www.audubonportland.org for information about upcoming events. These will include:

- Special Field Trips
- Expanded Peregrine Watch Program to show people the falcons that nest above OMSI on the Marquam Bridge
- A Peregrine Celebration at BridgePort BrewPub on May 4th
- New interpretive signage for downtown nest sites
- Peregrine presentations throughout the spring
- A website where we will be collecting urban peregrine stories — Please contribute if you have a story to tell!
- An amazing auction full of once-in-a-lifetime experiences to support our ongoing peregrine activities

In 1994 when Peregrine Falcons first began nesting on the Fremont Bridge, the nest site was one of only 26 known peregrine nests in the entire state of Oregon. The falcons, whose populations had been decimated by the pesticide DDT (which caused them to lay eggs with thin eggshells), have been listed as an endangered species since 1993. However, despite more than two decades of intensive efforts to recover the falcons, the state was averaging only a little over one new nest site per year.



Peregrine adult during banding of young on Fremont Bridge © Bob Sallinger

Although there are records of peregrines substituting tall manmade structures for the cliffs on which they naturally nest, the arrival of peregrines in Portland was met with mixed emotions by biologists. On the one hand, it would give people a chance to see these amazing birds flying and nesting overhead. On the other, there was concern that the hazards associated with the urban landscape would preclude their nests from being productive and contributing to the population. There was even discussion in those early years of climbing into nests and removing the nestlings so that they could be relocated to "safer" peregrine nests on Mt. Hood.

Continued on page 5

BIRDATHON 2011



The Audubon Society of Portland proudly presents its 31st Annual Birdathon!

by **Gary Slone**, Birdathon Coordinator

Creeping around a dark forest at 5 a.m. listening for owls is not something most people look forward to doing. But for Audubon members, in particular "Birdathoners," this kind of behavior has become an annual tradition. Each spring, Birdathon entices hundreds of birders looking to do just this sort of thing!

Portland Audubon members continue to make Birdathon the fund-raising success that all other Audubon chapters across the nation are striving to duplicate. Thanks to you — our members, volunteers, friends, and sponsors — last year's Birdathon 2010 raised over \$143,000! We're a dedicated bunch here in Portland. We go birding, we donate, and together we truly do inspire people to love and protect nature.

This year I'm encouraging each and every member to participate in some way. Please make a Birdathon donation, no matter what amount, and you'll be participating in a unique and effective way to support the Audubon Society of Portland. Express your support by pledging one of our Birdathon teams, or if you're feeling adventurous, you can join one of those many Birdathon teams listed below. Consider creating your own team, pledge yourself, or have your friends and family members pledge you. There are so many ways to get involved, and you'll have the satisfaction of knowing the dollars you collect will go directly to help protect our native and migratory birds and their habitat.

Registration and pledging begins on March 15th!
Please go to www.audubonportland.org, click on the Birdathon logo, and join the fun!

BIRDATHON 2011 TEAMS

Below is a partial list of great Half-Day, Full-Day, and Gonzo Trips (2+ days) offered in 2011. Wet your whistle here, then visit our website for more great trips and details.

Half-Day Trips

Whittemore's Whatzits May 1 (Sun), 8am–Noon

Laura Whittemore leads her team to the newly opened 1,049-acre Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge located on the Columbia River, near the town of Washougal, Washington. Waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors, and passerines abound! Laura is a fantastic birder and this trip is perfect for beginners and experienced birders alike!

Full-Day Trips

Creepers Go Coastal! May 1 (Sun), 7am–7pm

Veteran leaders David Smith and Tim Shelmerdine will lead you to a variety of habitats in western Washington County, Killin Marsh, Pacific University, Fernhill Wetlands, and more. Then wrap up your day birding at the coast. Great leaders means lots of species on this trip!

Magpies

May 3 (Tue) & May 4 (Wed), 7am–4:30pm

Slower paced, informative trips with expert leaders Denny Graham and Mike Skinner. Two different trips: Mt. Tabor–Ridgefield and Tualatin Hills–Jackson Bottom. Join one or both!

The Joy of Birding

May 7 (Sat), 6am–10pm

Paul Sullivan, phenomenal birder and leader of Audubon's popular "Bird Song Walks" and "Birding Weekends" leads this sunrise-to-sunset adventure. Visit numerous birding stops from Portland to Tillamook, then along the coast to Cape Meares. A full-day trip, excellent for both beginners and experienced birders! Your team leader will help coordinate carpooling.

More Birdathon Trips on page 16

Family Adventures: Owls and Peregrines! — page 2



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

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View this Warbler and past issues at
www.audubonportland.org/about/newsletter.

From the Executive Director



Calling Attention to Portland Audubon's Board of Directors

Meryl Redisch

This issue presents the slate of nominees who will either join our current Board of Directors, renew for another term, or assume greater leadership roles. Their combined skill, talent, and experience are very impressive and will help Portland Audubon advance our vision "to build a region where people and native wildlife flourish together." This group joins a long roster of incredible people who have been active in shaping, building, and strengthening the organization that you see, experience, and support today.

A nonprofit board is responsible for overseeing the organization's financial health and ensuring that policies align with its mission. As an organization matures and changes, so should its board. For example, a working board is usually identified with an organization that has no paid staff or just a single executive, so board members take on programming and other staff functions to get work done. It's been quite a few years since Portland Audubon was in that category. Today, with more than 25 full- and part-time professional staff, our current board more closely reflects a governance model. Although our board has standing committees, we dropped non-functioning ones and have embraced a flexible structure for getting policy work done.

Regardless of the model it demonstrates, boards should always seek to be more effective and efficient. For Portland Audubon, revising its bylaws helped us do this. Bylaws dictate the internal rules of board operations such as the number of members, term lengths, committee structure, and how meetings are conducted. One change we have made is rescheduling board elections so that new board members had more time to learn about the organizational structure and programs before approving the annual budget. Another example has been the implementation of term limits: Board members can now serve Portland Audubon for two 3-year terms. Another three years of service can be added if board members hold officer positions.

There are nonprofit organizations that don't prescribe to term limits for a variety of reasons. I believe term limits can help by bringing in new perspectives and expanding an organization's circle of influence. I also believe that, just as important as finding the right mix of people to build an organization's future, equally essential is sustaining relationships with past board members who brought the organization to where it is today.

Portland Audubon relies on so many people that continue to care deeply about our work. Here are just few ways in which Portland Audubon's past board members continue building

our future.

• **Martha Gannett** retired from the board in 2008, yet still continues to serve Portland Audubon in a meaningful way. She has chaired the Wild Arts Festival for the last four years, resulting in profits of \$150,000 for general operations. This weekend event draws over 3,000 people and requires 200 volunteers to help. Throughout the weekend, past board members including **Linda Craig, Mary Christiansen, Jane Hartline, Bob Fields,** and **Peg Goldie** all contribute their time and expertise.

• Birdathon is our other big fundraiser, and we could not have grown from \$88,000 in 2003 to \$130,000 in 2010 without people like **Jim Rapp, Charles Oldham, Scott Lukens, Tom Love, Dave Marshall, Mark Greenfield, Jane Hartline, Linda Craig, Lynn Herring, Johnny Powell,** and **Greg Baker** leading teams and raising money through creative bird counting.

• Conservation advocacy work doesn't rest. Board members from nearly three decades ago (**Lynn Herring, Rick Brown,** and **Diana Bradshaw**) help to carry on our policy work in Portland and in Clackamas and Washington Counties. To pass the Wild Bird Conservation Act legislation, we needed a business partner; **Scott Lukens,** owner of Backyard Bird Shops, has enthusiastically stepped in.

• Education is a cornerstone for advancing our mission. The help we continue to get from past board members **Bonnie Shoffner, Norb Leupold, Cindy Rapp,** and **Ann Littlewood** are welcomed and greatly appreciated. To promote these programs, **Don Baccus** continues to provide us with wonderful images for our website and publications.

Peter Paquet and **Claire Puchy** will also retire from Audubon's Board of Directors after serving our organization with dedicated leadership for well over a decade. I know that Audubon can continue to count on them and many others as we mature and meet future challenges.

With deepest appreciation, **Thank You** to all of our volunteer board members.

Portland Audubon invites you to attend our **Annual Membership Meeting on Thursday, March 17, 6pm–7pm** to meet incoming and current board members. Light refreshments will be served.



Great Blue Heron is watching! © Jim Cruce

Keeping You Informed while Walking Our Talk Another step for wise resource management

Are you getting used to this yet? We're just into our schedule of producing 6 issues of the *Warbler* for 2011, because we believe in managing our natural resources and conserving in our use of paper products. For the rest of the year, expect your *Warbler* on the following schedule:

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

Of course, our website will be one of your sources of all the latest news, events, trips, and classes. For the convenience of having information delivered directly to your email inbox, please sign up for our enews, **The BirdWord**, online or by sending your email address to tmiller@audubonportland.org.

If you want to get involved in our advocacy work, please join our action alert list, Audubon Conservation Team (ACT), by visiting www.audubonportland.org/issues/get-involved.

Join the Fun Through Portland Audubon's Online Community

Our Facebook fan page is a hub of activity! Become a fan and be a part of the fun at www.facebook.com/PortlandAudubon. And don't forget to follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/PortlandAudubon and join the chatter!

Get Involved!

Friends and Advocates of Urban Natural Areas (FAUNA)

is an informal group of individuals and local grassroots organizations dedicated to protecting and restoring urban watersheds for fish, wildlife, and people, and more fully integrating built and natural environment in the Portland metropolitan region.

Join FAUNA and you will receive regular updates and action alerts related to protecting and enhancing urban greenspaces and watersheds in our urban (and urbanizing) communities in the Portland metro region.

To become a member of FAUNA, just complete the form at audubonportland.org/issues/get-involved/fauna_form.

The Audubon Conservation Team (ACT)

Additionally, if you care about protecting state and federal forests, marine wildlife and habitat, and Audubon Important Bird Areas, please join the Audubon Conservation Team at audubonportland.org/issues/get-involved/act_form.



Tufted Puffins at Haystack Rock, Cannon Beach, Oregon © Mike Liskay

NATURE NIGHTS

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

FREE and open to the public!

Wolfer — Author Lecture and Signing

Tuesday, March 8
7pm Heron Hall

Carter Niemeyer

has for years been in the middle of the "Wolf Wars" and at the heart of wolf recovery in the West. He is the retired U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service wolf recovery coordinator for Idaho and, as an expert trapper, was a key member of the federal wolf reintroduction team in Canada in the mid-1990s. He has been a trapper, hunter, and wildlife proponent his entire life. Wolves, he believes, add much to the outdoor experience.

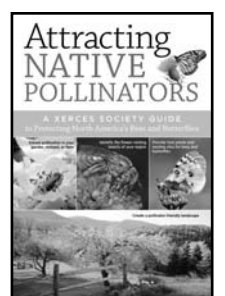


Carter will talk about the misconceptions surrounding wolves and the long road to recovery Oregon faces when it comes to this iconic animal. His recent memoir, *Wolfer*, is for sale in the Nature Store, and tonight he will be signing copies.

Attracting Native Pollinators: Protecting Bees and Butterflies with Eric Mader, Xerces Society

Tuesday, April 12
7pm Heron Hall

Bees and other pollinators are a fundamental part of our environment. Their work is something that touches us all through the food we eat, the clothes we wear, and the landscapes we enjoy — and yet their future is clouded by habitat loss, pesticide use, and introduced diseases. Join **Eric Mader**, Assistant Pollinator Program Director of the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation and lead author of the newly released book *Attracting Native Pollinators*, to learn more about the fascinating lives of these insects and glean information about how you can care for these vital animals wherever you live. Whether you are an urban gardener, a suburban park manager, a working farmer, or just care about where your food comes from, this evening has something for you.



Attracting Native Pollinators is packed with information about bees and other pollinating insects, and guidance on conserving pollinators in all kinds of landscapes: gardens, natural areas, farms, recreation land, even ecoroofs. It is illustrated with hundreds of color photographs and dozens of specially created illustrations. Don't miss your chance to meet the author for a lively discussion and to have him sign your own copy.

Audubon Outings — Wild in the City and Beyond

Bring binoculars and dress for the weather — beginners welcome!



= Birding trips starting later, going slower, with restrooms in sight

March 6 (Sun), 8am–11am Sandy River Delta

Join **Gabriel Forcier** and **Robin Carpenter** on a leisurely exploration of the trails around this rich delta area. We will look for birds in this riparian habitat; hats recommended. **Directions:** From I-84 eastbound, take Exit 18. Turn right and loop under the freeway, continue into the parking area, and meet near the restroom.

March 10 (Thu), 9am–11am Fernhill Wetlands

Join **Dudley Thomas** for an early spring walk around Fernhill Wetlands. We expect to find wintering waterfowl, gulls, sparrows, and raptors, some early migrants, and perhaps some surprises. Meet in the parking lot. For information call Dudley at 503-317-1663.

March 12 (Sat), 8am–11am Vancouver Lake Park

Join leader **Ron Escano** at Vancouver Lake Park. Scope the lake for water birds then explore the riparian woodland for wintering songbirds, including the White-throated Sparrow. **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). Call Ron at 503-771-3454 with questions.

March 17 (Thu), 9am–3pm Tillamook Bay

Meet at 9am at the Barview County Park (the North Jetty) in front of the entrance. First we will be looking for the elusive Wrentit at the park, then we'll drive south and stop

at various points of interest. Lunch is at the Oyster Plant, and the trip ends at Bayocean Spit. For information call **Juergen** at 503-742-2464.

April 2 (Sat), 9am–3pm Columbia River Gorge

The Columbia River Gorge in winter and early spring provides an excellent opportunity to study waterfowl, including Common and Barrow's Goldeneye and Lesser and Greater Scaup swimming side by side. We'll have good chances to study an assortment of gulls, sparrows, and raptors as we travel from Deschutes River State Park to John Day Dam. Meet leader **David Mandell** at the entrance to Deschutes River State Park, off Hwy 206, 17 miles east of The Dalles. **Directions:** Eastbound on I-84, take Exit 97. Westbound on I-84, use Exit 104 at Biggs Junction. Follow the signs on Hwy 206 to reach the park. Contact davidmandell@earthlink.net with questions and for carpool information.

April 3 (Sun), 8am–11am Ridgefield NWR's Carty Unit

Join leaders **Robin Carpenter** and **Gabriel Forcier** on the 2-mile Oaks to Wetlands loop of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge. A good variety of birds can be expected. Many parts of the trail are uneven, rocky, steep, and narrow, and may become slippery when wet. Wear sturdy shoes and use caution to avoid contacting poison oak in some areas. **Directions:** From I-5, take Exit 14; turn left onto Pioneer St (501); go west 3 miles into the town of Ridgefield until Pioneer "Ts" with Main Ave. Turn right on Main and drive north for 1 mile; refuge entrance road is on the left.

April 9 (Sat), 8am–11am Powell Butte Nature Park

Join leader **Ron Escano** for a walk exploring the unique habitats of Powell Butte. Hope is to see some of the uncommon early spring vagrants such as the Townsend's Solitaire or Say's Phoebe that have been found here in the past. **Directions:** Turn south on SE 162nd Ave off Powell Blvd and meet at the parking lot at the top of the butte.

April 21 (Thu), 8:30–Noon Tualatin Hills Nature Park

Join leader **Denny Graham** at the park's Interpretive Center. We will spend the morning looking for songbirds while exploring the many habitat areas of the park. For more information call Denny at 503-659-1245.

April 24 (Sun), 8am–11am Oaks Bottom

Join **Max Smith** for a walk through Portland's unique urban wildlife refuge. We will look for spring migrants, early nesters, and abundant water birds. This will be a great opportunity to practice birding by ear. Participants should expect occasionally steep, muddy trails. Meet in the parking lot at the north end of Sellwood Park where SE 7th Ave curves east into SE Sellwood Blvd.

Coming up: June 7–10 (Tue–Fri) Malheur NWR

Email Shawn at shawnbirder@yahoo.com for information.

Bird Song Walks 2011 7 a.m. Monday – Friday: FREE!

Audubon Society of Portland is proud to sponsor the 2011 season of weekday-morning Bird Song Walks! From beginners to advanced birders, anyone who is fascinated by the sounds of birds should take advantage of these volunteer-guided walks to the metro area's prime spring migration hotspots. By starting with the earliest trips you can become familiar with the songs of the common resident species and then keep pace with the migrants as they arrive.



Lazuli Bunting © Jim Cruce

All walks begin at 7 a.m. No pre-registration is required, and you leave whenever you like. Bring binoculars and a field guide and be sure to dress properly for the weather. Spring mornings can be surprisingly chilly.

Try taking the bus if available. Go to trimet.org or call 503-238-RIDE (7433) for route information. For natural history information, maps, and directions for any of these natural areas, see the book *Wild in the City: A Guide to Portland's Natural Areas*, available at Portland Audubon's Nature Store. Or visit the organization's website for each locale.

MONDAYS

April 4-11-18-25, and May 2-9-16-23-30

Tryon Creek State Park

Leaders: **Rick and Stephanie Wagner**

Directions: Take the Terwilliger Blvd exit off I-5 and head south on Terwilliger toward Lewis and Clark College. Stay on Terwilliger past the intersections with Taylors Ferry Rd and Boones Ferry Rd. At the traffic circle, continue past the entrance to Lewis and Clark Northwest School of Law, and follow the brown sign to Tryon Creek State Park, about 1 mile ahead on the right. Meet at the Nature Center. For more information about Tryon Creek State Park, visit tryonfriends.org.

TUESDAYS

April 5-12-19-26, and May 3-10-17-24-31

Cooper Mountain Nature Park

Leader: **Bonnie Deneke**

Directions: From Hwy 217 take the Scholls Ferry Rd exit and head west on Scholls Ferry well past Murray Blvd. At SW 175th Ave, turn right and go north and uphill about 1.8 miles and turn left on Kemmer Rd. The park entrance is on the south side of Kemmer Rd. From SW Farmington Rd (Hwy

10), turn south on 185th Ave (which will become Gassner Rd), turn left on 190th Ave and left on Kemmer Rd. Cooper Mountain Nature Park is a partnership between Metro and Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District. For more information on Cooper Mountain programming, visit thprd.org.

WEDNESDAYS

April 6-13-20-27, and May 4-11-18-25

Mt. Tabor

Leader: **Gerard Lillie**

Directions: From SE Belmont, go south on SE 69th two short blocks. Just into the park, turn right and drive as far as possible to gate, and park along street. Mt. Tabor Park is closed to vehicle traffic on Wednesdays, so be sure to use this entrance. [Mt. Tabor Tri-Met Bus #15 stops at SE 69th & Yamhill.]. **Be aware of bicyclists on Mt. Tabor! Make room and share the road!** For more information on this and other Portland Parks, visit portlandonline.com/parks.

THURSDAYS

April 7-14-21-28, and May 5-12-19-26

The Nature Conservancy's Camassia Preserve

Leader: **Paul Sullivan**

Directions: Drive south from Portland on Hwy 43 (SW Macadam Ave) through Lake Oswego to West Linn, OR drive south from Portland on I-205 to West Linn Exit #8 and turn left at the end of the exit ramp and pass under I-205. Just before the gas station, turn right onto Willamette Falls Dr, go uphill 1 block then turn left 90 degrees to follow Willamette Falls Dr. Veer right in 1/4 mile onto Sunset Ave, still going uphill; cross I-205, and immediately turn right on Walnut St. The preserve is at the end of Walnut St. For more information on this and other Nature Conservancy preserves, visit nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/oregon/preserves.

FRIDAYS

April 1-8-15-22-29, and May 6-13-20-27

Pittock Mansion

Leader: **Wink Gross**

Directions: Follow West Burnside about 1.2 miles west of NW 23rd and turn right onto NW Barnes Rd. Follow the well-marked signs through the neighborhood for another 0.7 mile to the park. Meet at the Pittock Mansion's parking lot. [West Burnside Tri-Met Bus #20 stop #687 at West Burnside and NW Barnes is the closest stop.] For more information on Pittock Mansion, visit pittockmansion.org.

Audubon Family Adventures:

"Owls Are a Hoot" Sat, April 2



Hazel the Northern Spotted Owl © Don Baccus

"Peregrines: The Birds on the Bridges" Sat, May 7



Finnegin the Peregrine Falcon © Deanna Sawtelle

Join Audubon volunteer naturalists for "Owls are a Hoot" and "Peregrines: The Birds on the Bridges," our newest Audubon Family Adventures designed to offer opportunities for families to enjoy and learn about nature together. Take a guided walk through Audubon's sanctuary to learn about wildlife, enjoy a light snack, and make a take-home craft.

Dates: **Owls:** April 2

Peregrines: May 7

Time: 9 a.m.–Noon (check in on day of event between 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



Julio the Great Horned Owl © Deanna Sawtelle

Space is limited, so get your registration in soon!
"Owls are a Hoot" registration: audubonportland.org/about/events/owls

"Peregrines: The Birds on the Bridges" registration: audubonportland.org/about/events/bridges

Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy hiking shoes. For more information, contact Deanna Sawtelle, Volunteer Coordinator, at 503-292-6855 ext.108 or volunteercoordinator@audubonportland.org.

Conservation

River Plan Update

by Bob Sallinger

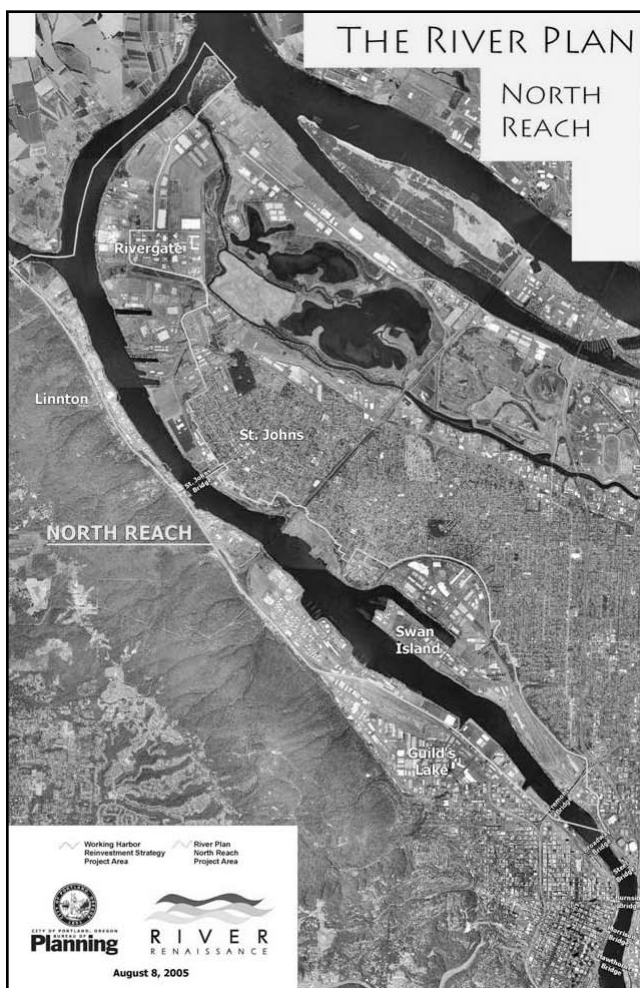
The North Reach River Plan Hearings before City Council during 2009 and 2010 drew hundreds of people concerned about the Willamette River. The plan would have required for the first time that river industries pay to mitigate for their actual impacts on the river and contribute to river restoration activities. Failure to hold industry accountable for their environmental impacts in the past is the primary reason our river is so degraded today. After nearly two years of hearings and a decade of public process, the plan was adopted over the strong objections of river industries.

River industries appealed the plan to the Land Use Board of Appeals in 2010 on a variety of grounds. While LUBA's ruling in January 2011 rejected industry objections to the environmental aspects of the plan, they did agree with industry that the City did not adequately assess the plan's impacts on industrial land supply.

There is no small amount of irony in this ruling in that, while the City always ensures that industry is well represented whenever environmental concerns are considered, it routinely excludes conservation and neighborhood groups when it conducts "public" process involving economic issues. This leads to one-sided decisions that disproportionately favor industry at the expense of the community. For example, many inventories of industrial land discount contaminated sites known as "brownfields"; practically speaking, what this does is to allow industry to contaminate lands to the point where they are unusable — and then industry claims insufficient land for expansion. Rather than providing an incentive to clean up the messes they have made, it promotes industrial expansion onto green, undeveloped sites — basically industrial sprawl. Regardless, the one part of the plan which fell in the LUBA ruling was the one part from which we were excluded from participating. LUBA's ruling was a technical decision, but one which may well take months or even years to resolve.

The media has been rife with pronouncements of "catastrophe" and the River Plan's demise. We see it differently.

First, the River Plan that was ultimately adopted by Council was far different from the one that emerged from the multi-year stakeholder process. In an increasingly frantic two-year-long effort to appease an ever-expanding stream of industry complaints, the Planning Commission and City Council simultaneously weakened the plan and added layers of complexity. Much of the complexity that industry complains about bitterly today is a direct result of their own lobbying backfiring on them. We will seek a return to the simpler stronger plan that emerged from the public process.



Second, one of the things that became clear during the River Plan process is that the existing Greenway Plan (which the River Plan would have replaced), which has been in place for the past 25 years, was weakly administered and even more weakly enforced. While the existing Greenway Plan has significant weaknesses, it was never used to its full potential. During the delay, we will track every permit issued under the existing Greenway Plan and we will go back and look at past permits to ensure that landowners are in full compliance.

Third, we will insist that the City include conservation and community groups in economic and industrial land advisory groups going forward. Those processes affect us all and need to be just as transparent and inclusive as the environmental and recreational planning elements.

Finally, we believe that the community will continue to demand a strong River Plan and a healthy river. We do not believe that the community will accept industry efforts to shield their activities from public review or to avoid accountability for their impacts on the environment. Some companies such as Gunderson and Schnitzer Steel that were most vocal in using the bad economy as a bludgeon against environmental protections are now in the paper prominently announcing their recent economic successes. The same companies that cry poverty when it comes to paying for their environmental impacts seem to have bottomless pockets when it comes to hiring lawyers to help them avoid being held accountable. The River Plan will take longer to implement than we hoped, but we believe that the core principles and strategies remain sound and that the public will ultimately accept nothing less than a healthy river.



Ross Island paddle © Bob Sallinger

Success on Ross Island Holgate Channel No Wake Zone

By Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

On February 17th, the Oregon State Marine Board voted 3-2 to establish a slow/ no wake zone in the southern half of the Holgate Channel (from the north end of the Ross Island Lagoon entrance to the southern tip of Ross Island). This new area joins the no wake zone that was established last year in the Ross Island Lagoon and culminates more than two years of effort to establish a safe, peaceful haven for paddlers and wildlife along the Lower Willamette River.

Thank you to everybody who has written and testified on this issue over the past two years! A huge number of groups and individuals played a role in this decision. Willamette Riverkeeper, Urban Greenspaces Institute, and Portland Audubon were the original petitioners. The City of Portland passed a resolution supporting this effort and Portland Parks Director Zari Santner led off testimony at the February 17th hearing. Neighborhood activists, paddling and rowing clubs, and dragonboaters showed up in droves at every hearing.

Our goal still remains a slow/ no wake zone throughout the entire channel, and we will continue to urge the Marine Board to ensure that there is ongoing monitoring and enforcement in the channel. However, this is a huge step forward — the narrowest and most dangerous part of the channel will now be free of high-speed activity.

Oregon Marine Board member Trey Caskedon spoke eloquently about his decision to vote for the no wake zone. He talked not only about the need to address the concerns that exist today but also about the legions of kids that are taking up paddling, and the need to provide them with a safe place to learn and explore on the Willamette River. He noted that Ross Island is a "special place" and how setting aside this small stretch of river is one of the things that will make Portland unique.

Thanks again to everybody who supported this effort. Happy paddling!

Portland-Area Great Blue Heron Inventory

Portland's official city bird, the Great Blue Heron, is one of the Northwest's most iconic species. Herons nest in large colonies (known as rookeries) which are highly vulnerable to habitat alterations, human disturbance, and natural changes to the environment. The presence of herons on our urban landscape helps to indicate whether we are doing enough to protect local wildlife habitat.



GBH rookery on Ross Island. © Marianne Nelson

Portland Audubon assembles information about the location of Great Blue Heron rookeries in the Portland-Vancouver metro area. We rely on citizens to provide information on rookery locations in Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington, Columbia, and Clark Counties. If you know of a rookery in the metro region, please contact Mary Coolidge at mcoolidge@audubonportland.org with location and number of nests (if known).

Portland Audubon assembles information about the location of Great Blue Heron rookeries in the Portland-Vancouver metro area. We rely on citizens to provide information on rookery locations in Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington, Columbia, and Clark Counties. If you know of a rookery in the metro region, please contact Mary Coolidge at mcoolidge@audubonportland.org with location and number of nests (if known).

March is Ecoroof Month in Portland!

by Jim Labbe, Urban Conservationist

Stephan Brenneisen on the new Stucki Shopping Center Greenroof in Basel, Switzerland. © Jim Labbe



March is Ecoroof Month in Portland. Get ready for more tours, presentations, and the vendor fair. This month Portland will host guests that include Stephan Brenneisen of Basel, Switzerland, and hopefully Wolfgang Ansel of Stuttgart, Germany. Stephan is a well-known authority on **biodiverse ecoroofs** in Europe and head of the Green Roof Centre of Competence at the Zurich University of Applied Sciences Wädenswil, where he conducts research and advises on green roof policies and designs. Wolfgang is director of the International Green Roof Association (IGRA) and has extensive international knowledge of ecoroof policy and planning.

Below is a tentative calendar of events. See portlandonline.com/bes/ecoroofpdx for more details.

Thursday, March 3rd

Presentation: Stephan Brenneisen
Details TBD

Tuesday, March 8th

Ecoroof Tour: South Waterfront and OHSU
1pm-4pm

Wednesday, March 9th

Presentation: Jim Labbe, "Some Biodiverse Ecoroofs in Europe"
Portland State University, Cramer Hall 271
4pm-5pm

Saturday, March 12th

Ecoroof Tour: Downtown Walking Tour
9am-Noon

Tuesday, March 15th

River in Focus Brownbag: Derek Booth on urban stormwater
Portland Building, 2nd floor Auditorium
Noon-1pm

Friday, March 18th

Ecoroof Portland — Vendor Fair
Oregon Convention Center, Hall B
10am-6pm

Tuesday, March 22nd

Ecoroof Tour: Pearl District
1pm-4pm

Saturday, March 26th

Eastside Ecoroof Bike Tour
9am-1pm

Peregrine Falcons

Continued from page 1

In the end, it was decided that the birds would be left alone... almost. Portland Audubon committed to establishing a program to monitor, protect, and raise awareness of the falcons. In 1995 we worked with peregrine specialist Joel Pagel of the U.S. Forest Service, and "Peregrine Watch" was born. Over the first decade of Peregrine Watch more than 50% of the young from the Fremont Bridge would be rescued by Peregrine Watch volunteers as they fledged into the river, into Naito Parkway traffic, in front of trains, and crashed into windows. In a particular "Portland-flavored" incident, one young peregrine was even run over by a bike. Disturbance factors ranging from bongo-playing hippies to Hollywood movie crews, to Portland bomb squad training exercises to Bill Clinton's motorcade, were managed. Peregrine

Watch volunteers even prevented a suicide attempt, calling in a bridge jumper who suddenly appeared near the nest during a monitoring session.



Captive Rearing of Peregrines at Audubon © Portland Audubon

Over the years Peregrine Watch has expanded to include not only monitoring and outreach, but also scientific research, captive rearing and release programs, and banding and nest augmentation. A huge array of partners and supporters have participated in the program including Oregon Departments of Transportation and Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, Oregon Zoo, consulting firm Mason, Bruce and Girard, OMSI, BridgePort BrewPub, Clark Public Utilities, PGE, Sternwheeler Rose, businesses on both sides of the river, and a host of others. More than 150 people have volunteered for Peregrine Watch.



Peregrine Watch volunteers below Fremont Bridge © Sallinger

The work has paid off. This year the Fremont Bridge will fledge its 50th youngster — the first site since recovery

efforts began in Oregon known to have reached this milestone. There are now 10 peregrine nest sites in the metro area comprising more than 6% of the known sites in Oregon. We have spent the last year compiling 17 years' worth of urban peregrine data, and there is no doubt that our urban Peregrine Falcons have made a significant contribution to peregrine recovery in the Northwest (see box for more details).

Come celebrate with us this spring, and see and learn more about these amazing birds!

Portland Peregrine Falcon Statistics

- Portland-area peregrine nests represent more than 6% of the known Peregrine Falcon nests in the State of Oregon
- Portland-area nests have produced 140 eyases (peregrine young)
- Portland-area nests average more than 2.4 young per nest per year — above both the state and federal averages for peregrine productivity
- Fremont Bridge has fledged 50 young, more than any other documented site in Oregon
- Fremont Bridge offspring have successfully established their own nests in at least four other locations, and the combined productivity of Fremont Bridge and its offspring exceeds 100 falcons
- More than 150 volunteers have participated in Portland-area peregrine recovery efforts

Wildlife Care Center

Homes Needed for Abandoned Domestic Ducks and Geese

by Kristina Raum, WCC Assistant

Each year our Wildlife Care Center is brought dozens of domestic ducks and geese that have been found in our local parks and natural areas. These are ducks and geese that people have bought in pet shops and feed stores but which have found their way into the wild.

While it is not uncommon for domestic ducks and geese to escape captivity, more often animals that are no longer wanted — fuzzy little ducklings and goslings that have grown into adulthood and become loud, messy, and expensive — are "dumped" in public places to avoid the responsibility of animal ownership. At the heart of it, animal abandonment is not only illegal but also inhumane and ecologically destructive. Many animals that were once pets have not learned skills needed for survival in the wild — skills essential for finding food and escaping predators. Many domestic ducks and geese are not even able to fly. The animals that do survive are often surviving at the expense of the health of the local ecosystem. Domestic waterfowl compete with native wildlife for food and nesting sites. Unlike wild ducks and geese, domestics do not migrate, instead living out their entire lives and proliferating at the location they are abandoned. Over time expanding populations of domestic waterfowl at a local park can have huge impacts on water quality and habitat.

Throughout the year, our Wildlife Care Center sees a steady stream of injured and malnourished domestic ducks and geese rescued from our local parks and natural areas. Many are injured by free-roaming dogs. They also injure each other: overpopulation at a single site leads to aggressive behaviors, especially during breeding season. By the time they reach us, many of these ducks and geese are beyond repair.



Abandoned 'runner duck' at Wildlife Care Center in need of a home © Portland Audubon

The Care Center is looking for permanent homes for rehabilitated domestic ducks and geese that are brought to our center. Generally, domestic ducks and geese require space to exercise and forage, safe housing that provides physical protection from predators, and fresh water for swimming, bathing, and drinking.

If you or someone you know would like to provide a home for domestic waterfowl brought to the Wildlife Care Center, please contact Dr. Deb Sheaffer at dsheaffer@audubonportland.org or call 503-292-6855 ext.125.

Backyard Habitat Certification Program

by Ariana Scipioni, Urban Wildlife Specialist

Spring is near! As temperatures warm and sunlight increases, there are a few practical things you can do to prepare for nesting birds in your yard. **From a bird's view, does your yard offer a fresh source of water and native plants that offer food or shelter?** Indian Plum is one of our earliest bloomers, providing nectar and later drupes (a fleshy fruit with one seed), which are devoured by birds. This shrub relies on insects to pollinate its flowers, which birds will feed upon. In North America, 96% of our land birds utilize insects to feed their babies.

Many baby birds, including owls, American Robins, and Northern Flickers, often spend a few days on the ground after they leave the nest. During this vulnerable period, **you can help by keeping your cats indoors.** If you spot a bird on the ground, please leave it be. Removing a healthy bird from its nest site will lower its chance of survival and unnecessarily stress it.

Are you working on making your yard wildlife friendly, but need more advice? If you live within the City of Portland, **sign up for an hour-long Backyard Habitat site visit.** We'll provide site-specific technical resources and help you develop a plan to remove invasive species, manage your stormwater, and plant natives. Sign up online at audubonportland.org/backyardwildlife/backyardhabitat, or contact Ariana Scipioni at AScipioni@audubonportland.org or 503-292-6855 ext.122.



Audubon Welcomes Three New Staff

by Bob Sallinger

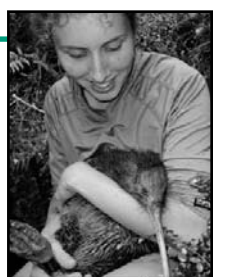
Audubon is pleased to announce the hiring of three new staff people. In doing so, we are filling some vacant positions but also significantly increasing our capacity to address urban wildlife issues and treat wild animals at our Wildlife Care Center.

Debbie Daniels joins **Dr. Deb Sheaffer** in the Wildlife Care Center as our new **Care Center Operations Manager.** Debbie earned her Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine with an emphasis on zoology and wildlife medicine from UC Davis. She brings seven years of experience working at the Wildlife Care Association in Sacramento, has run children's programs at the Sacramento Zoo, and has done an externship with PAWS Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Washington. She brings with her to Portland a passion for playing soccer.

Debbie Daniels (left) with Becky Magnuson © Portland Audubon



Ariana Scipioni is our new **Urban Wildlife Specialist.** Ariana will split her time between managing our rapidly growing **Backyard Habitat Certification Program** and developing programs to working in the Care Center **promoting wildlife stewardship.** Ariana hails from the logging town of Crawfordsville, OR, has past experience working with Kiwi in New Zealand, mist netting Red-capped Manakin in Panama, and participating in research on striped skunk and swift fox in the United States, as well as ably filling a number of temporary positions at Portland Audubon. In her free time Ariana and her new husband Mas enjoy tango dancing.



Ariana Scipioni holding North Island Brown Kiwi. Photo: Tamsin Ward Smith

Kristina Raum will serve as the **Wildlife Care Center Assistant** through the summer, after which she hopes to head off to veterinary school. Kristina will give us some great extra capacity to provide complete coverage during the busiest months and allow us to make improvements to the Care Center including expanding our homecare program, upgrading our physical plant, and potentially adding night shifts during baby bird season. In her free time Kristina enjoys rock climbing.



Kristina Raum in the Wildlife Care Center © Portland Audubon

Audubon's 2011 Legislative Agenda

by Bob Sallinger

The 2011 Legislative Agenda is now in full swing. Portland Audubon is promoting several bills to protect and restore bird populations in Oregon.

Senate Bill 294 — Wildlife Penalty Bill

Oregon continues to have a significant problem with poaching. Rehabilitation centers across the state see a steady stream of illegally shot birds of prey. An Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife study of mule deer in Eastern Oregon showed that illegal take of mule deer is virtually equal to the numbers that are legally taken and that mule deer populations have dropped to 30% below population targets. A significant portion of the marine mammals that show up dead on Oregon beaches have bullets in them.

In 2009 Audubon worked successfully with the Oregon Hunters Association and others to pass legislation to increase damages that the state could collect when certain species are illegally taken. Damages are compensation above and beyond any penalties that are levied. In the case of birds of prey, the allowable damages were increased from \$50 per bird to \$2,000–\$5,000 per bird. This session we are back trying to pass companion legislation which would set minimum penalties for certain crimes including taking 3 times the daily bag limit for any species, or for culpable first offenses involving the taking of birds of prey, mountain goats, mountain sheep, and sturgeon over 6 feet in length.

House Bill 2208 — Defines Single Energy Facility

Audubon and Oregon Natural Desert Association are working to pass a bill which would establish a clear definition for a “single energy facility.” This may sound like esoteric stuff, but it is an important distinction. Currently in Oregon, wind farms 105 megawatts and above go through a rigorous state citing review, but facilities under 105 megawatts are allowed to be sited by the counties — a process which is much more variable and less thorough. The state does not currently have an enforceable definition of what constitutes a “single energy facility.” This allows developers to potentially subdivide their projects to get under the 105-megawatt threshold. We have offered the Association of Oregon Counties and wind developers the opportunity to come up with a mutually acceptable definition of “single energy facility” but thus far they have declined.



Western Bluebird, one of the imperiled species that would be helped by the Wild Bird Conservation Act © Jim Cruce

House Bill 3374 — Wild Bird Conservation Act

The Wild Bird Conservation Act was developed by the Backyard Bird Shops, Portland Audubon, and the Wildlife Society. More than 20 conservation groups are now supporting the bill. The Wild Bird Conservation Act would place a 5 cent per pound tax on birdseed to help protect and restore wild bird populations in Oregon — basically “a nickel for the birds.” Oregon’s bird populations are in tough shape and funding for bird conservation programs is in even worse condition. This bill would establish a stable funding base for bird conservation efforts across the state.

Marine Reserves

(No bill number yet.) In 2009, working with Our Oceans, Audubon helped establish Oregon’s first marine reserves. While the focus of marine reserves is often on fish, these sites are also critically important areas for seabirds which are among our most imperiled bird populations (see this issue’s Important Bird Area of the Month article on Redfish Rocks). The 2011 Marine Reserve Bill would expand the system of marine reserves and provide funding for marine reserves established in 2009.

In addition to the bills listed above, we are also supporting efforts to ban single-use plastic grocery bags and to establish an ordinance that would prohibit the deliberate feeding of bears, coyotes, raccoons, and other easily habituated wildlife. As always there are a number of problematic bills which would weaken environmental protections and we are tracking these as well.

For more information on any of these bills, please contact Bob Sallinger at bsallinger@audubonportland.org.



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- Benefit from intimate areas both indoors and out for breakout sessions and team-building exercises.
- Enjoy breaks outdoors in fresh air; stretch your legs (and minds) on our trails.
- Our sanctuary includes acres of mixed-conifer forest and 4.5 miles of trails, which connects with Forest Park, offering 5,000 acres and 70 miles of trails.

Our Facilities:

Heron Hall – 31 ft. x 31 ft.

- accommodates 75 people if organized auditorium style
- accommodates 50 people if organized banquet style

Rental includes:

- tables and chairs, 27-inch video screen, slide projector and 10x12 projector screen
- kitchen with small refrigerator, microwave, coffee urn, dishes, cups, silverware.
- nature library and natural history display
- use of our sanctuary and trails
- new improved lighting and wi-fi access

Rental Fees:

- \$50 per hour (two-hour minimum)
- \$25 nonrefundable deposit
- Certificate of insurance naming Audubon Society of Portland as additional insured (required at time of deposit)

To rent our facilities, please contact our Sanctuaries Director at 503-292-6855.

Business members receive special discounts. To become a business member call 503-292-6855 and speak to our Development Director.

85th Portland Christmas Bird Count a Spectacular Success

by Wink Gross, Portland CBC Compiler

Looks like it’s going to be a great day for the Portland Christmas Bird Count! That message in a mid-morning phone call from the team in North Portland summed it up very well: they had just ticked both goldeneyes, both scaup, a **Tufted Duck (a new species for the Portland CBC)**, multiple Surf Scoters, and an almost unbelievable **Black Scoter, a bird never before recorded in the Portland area**. And it certainly was a great day: when we tallied it all up, we had found **124 species — four more than the old record set two years ago!** The North Portland/Columbia Riparian team recorded 112 species on its own; five years ago we would have considered that a respectable total for the entire count circle.

The “2010” Portland Christmas Bird Count, held Jan 2, 2011 was one for the record books, and not just for number of species seen. **A record number of birders participated: 146 field counters and 121 feeder watchers** contributed their time and expertise to the effort, making the **Portland count one of the top 5 on the continent**. There were many highlights. In addition to the rare ducks, the North Portland team also found a **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**, another new species for the Portland count. Lake Oswego contributed with a **Glaucous Gull, Evening Grosbeaks**, and an out-of-season



Bushtits and Chestnut-backed Chickadee at Suet Feeder © Steve Berliner

Western Sandpiper. Northwest Portland found a **Common Raven** in Forest Park. The only **Ring-necked Pheasant**, at one time an abundant bird on the Portland CBC, was at Oaks Bottom. Beaverton contributed the only **Hutton’s Vireos**, four of them, as well as two of the three **Saw-whet Owls** found. A remarkable five **Barred Owls** were heard or seen.

Thanks to our feeder watchers, all-time highs were set for Cooper’s Hawk, Northern Flicker, Steller’s Jay, Black-capped Chickadee, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Bushtit, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, Pacific (Winter) Wren, Townsend’s Warbler, Song Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, and Lesser Goldfinch. A complete summary of the 85 years of Portland Christmas Counts with details for the last 5 years can be found at audubonportland.org/local-birding/5yr.

Dave Irons won the “**Eagle Eye Award**” for the Black Scoter, which he picked out of a huge flock of scaup on the Columbia River. He actually had a lot of competition — from himself! Dave also found the Tufted Duck and the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. Congratulations, Dave!



Black Scoter (upper right) found on the Columbia River. The other birds are Greater Scaup. © Dave Irons

As always, the Portland Christmas Bird Count is a team effort. I am most grateful to area leaders **John Fitchen, Pat Mueller, Lynn Herring, Lori Hennings, Char Corkran, and Sam Pointer** for their hard work ensuring that all the birding hotspots were covered and that everyone had a great time.



Saw-whet Owl. Photo: Gary Stolz/USFWS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
	27	28	1	2	3	4	5
		Birders' Night 7:30pm Heron Hall		Ecoroof Month event (p.4)	Caswell Gallery event 5pm-9pm (p.11)		
Sandy River Delta outing (p.3)	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Bluegrass Music Jam 12:30pm Heron Hall		Ecoroof Month event 1pm-4pm (p.4)	Ecoroof Month event 4pm-5pm (p.4)	Fernhill Wetlands outing 9am (p.3)		Vancouver Lake Park outing 8am (p.3)	Ecoroof Month event 9am-Noon (p.4)
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Ecoroof Month event Noon-1pm (p.4)		Tillamook Bay outing 9am (p.3)	Ecoroof Month event 10am-6pm (p.4)	Together Green Volunteer Day 10am-4pm (p.12)	
		Insect Gatherers class 7pm-9pm (p.9)		Annual Membership Meeting 6pm-7pm (p.2&10)			
		Board Meeting, 7pm Heron Hall					
Death Valley camp begins 7:30am (p.9)	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		Ecoroof Month event 1pm-4pm (p.4)				Ecoroof Month event 9am-1pm (p.4)	
Spring break Camps 9am-4pm (p.9)							Wildflower Walk 9am (p.9)
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
				Owl Prowl 5:30pm (p.9)	Bird Song Walk 7am (p.2)	Family Adventure 9am-Noon (p.3)	
						Columbia Gorge outing 9am (p.3)	
Ridgefield NWR outing 8am (p.3)	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Bluegrass Music Jam 12:30pm Heron Hall	Birding By Ear class 7pm (p.9)	Birders' Night 7:30pm Heron Hall		Owl Prowl 5:45pm (p.9)	Little Brown Birds field trip 8am (p.9)	Powell Butte outing 8am (p.3)	
				Little Brown Birds class 7pm (p.9)			
Bird Song Walks 7am (p.2)							
Birding By Ear field trip 7am (p.9)	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		Nature Night: Pollinators 7pm (p.2)		Seeking Refuge book signing 7pm (p.11)			
Bird Song Walks 7am (p.2)							
Birding By Ear field trip 7am (p.9)	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Birding By Ear class 7pm (p.9)		Among Penguins presentation 7pm (p.11)	Tualatin Hills Nature Park outing 8:30am (p.3)	Spring Butterflies class 6pm (p.9)	Wildflower Walk 9am (p.9)	
				Board Meeting 7pm Heron Hall		Spring Butterflies field trip 10am (p.9)	
Bird Song Walks 7am (p.2)							Together Green Volunteer Day 10am-4pm (p.12)
Birding By Ear field trip 7am (p.9)	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Oaks Bottom outing 8am (p.3)					Spring Shorebird Migration class 7pm (p.9)	Texas trip begins (p.8)	
Bird Song Walks 7am (p.2)							Spring Shorebird Migration field trip (p.9)
						Nature Journaling 10am (p.9)	
Birdathon Teams (p.1)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bluegrass Music Jam 12:30pm	Birding By Ear class 7pm (p.9)	Birdathon Team 7am-4:30pm (p.1)	Birdathon Team 7am-4:30pm (p.1)			Birdathon Teams (p.1)	
		Birders' Night 7:30pm Heron Hall				Family Adventure 9am-Noon (p.3)	
Bird Song Walks 7am (p.2)							

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

SAVE THE DATE! Migratory Bird Treaty Act Conference October 20-22, 2011

In October 2011, Portland Audubon will team up with the Lewis and Clark Law School, National Audubon Society, and American Bird Conservancy to host a national conference focused on the United States' premier wild bird conservation law, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The Act, which was passed in 1918, codifies treaties signed between the United States and Mexico, Canada, Japan, and the former Soviet Union in order to protect migratory birds.

A century later with approximately 25% of North American bird species experiencing significant long-term population declines, we need to ask ourselves whether the Migratory Bird Treaty Act is still sufficient to achieve this objective. This conference will bring together national and international experts on avian conservation and wildlife law.

Information will be posted soon on the Audubon website. For more information on the conference or to become



Snow and Ross's Geese © Steve Shrunk

involved in the planning, please contact Bob Sallinger at bsallinger@audubonportland.org.

Educational Trips & Tours

These trips are popular. We recommend that you book early. Trip deposit required to secure your place on the trip.

A portion of your fee is a tax-deductible donation to the Audubon Society of Portland. View more International and Domestic trips at www.audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult.

TEXAS ON THE RIO GRANDE

April 30 – May 7, 2011

Join experienced naturalists on this 8-day adventure to the remarkable Big Bend National Park and the Chihuahuan Desert Region of Texas. Encompassing 800,000 acres (1200 square miles), Big Bend National Park is an area where over **450 bird species** — more than any other national park in North America — have been reported.



Elf Owl. Photo: Dominic Sherony

This unbelievable desert area sits along 118 miles of the Rio Grande River, on which we will have a half-day rafting adventure. The park has diverse habitats that attract many bird specialties such as the **Colima Warbler**, **Common Black Hawk**, **Zone-tailed Hawk**, **Elf Owl**, **Grey Vireo**, and **Lucifer Hummingbird**. In addition to Big Bend National Park we'll visit the volcanic Davis Mountains in pursuit of the beautiful **Montezuma Quail**. We'll also be on the lookout for **Common Poorwill**, **Curve-billed Thrasher**, **Pyrrhuloxia**, and **Scaled Quail**. And we'll check out Lake Balmorhea, which is a mecca for migrating shorebirds and waterfowl.

This adventure will be very memorable for the beautiful scenery, great variety of wildlife, and unique history of the region. The tour will begin and end in Midland, Texas and will be limited to 14 participants with 2 guides.

Fee: \$1495 members / \$1795 non-members
Deposit: \$700 required to secure your place
Group size: Limited to 14 participants and two guides
Leaders: Steve Runnels and Audubon staff

Fee is based on double occupancy and includes all lodging, ground transportation, park entry fees, scheduled tours, breakfasts, lunches, and the services of your leaders. Fee does **not** include dinners, tips for local guides, or airfare to and from Texas.

England: Birding the Land of the Bard

June 10–21, 2011

Our journey takes us from London to sunny and dry **East Anglia**. The vast flatland here stretches out to the sky and meets the sea in a thin strip of coastal marshes. The coast is dotted with quaint fishing villages, and the marshes offer some of the best wildlife viewing in the country. We plan to visit many of the RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) reserves and other birding hotspots in this part of the Island. The comfortable Briarfield Hotel situates us right next to our first stop at the Titchwell RSPB Reserve, where we will look for **Eurasian Marsh Harrier**, **Eurasian Avocet**, and the **Bearded Tit**, to name a few. Snettisham RSPB Reserve harbors nesting colonies of **Common Terns** and **Black-headed Gulls**.

A visit to the elegant gardens of Sandringham House, owned by the Royal Family, may turn up some interesting birds of the countryside. We will take a short boat trip to the Island of Blakeney to sample a small colony of **Sandwich Terns** as well as get close-up views of **Common and Grey Seals**. We'll visit Cley Marshes, one of the finest birding locations in England, with numerous pools and scrapes that attract avian visitors from near and far. While there we will search for **Common Pochard** and **Tufted Duck**. We will make a couple of woodland stops to search for specialties such as **Lesser Spotted Woodpecker**, **Golden Oriole**, and **Hobby** in the Holkham Estates and the Lakenheath scrub.

Join us in East Anglia — a place of rich history, medieval churches, lavender fields, and the best sandy beaches in Great Britain! If you would like more information, please call **Dan van den Broek** at 503-292-6855 ext.105.

Fee: \$2795 members / \$2995 non-members
Deposit: \$1200 required to secure your place
Group size: Limited to 12 participants and 2 guides
Leaders: Dan van den Broek and local guides

Fee is based on double occupancy and includes all lodging, all ground transportation, all meals except a few dinners, and all guide fees. Fee does **not** include tips for local guides, or airfare to and from England.



Bearded Tit. Photo: Chris Romeiks/vogelart.info, commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Panurus_biaromicus_r_CHR3927.jpg

Birding Washington

Aug. 29 – Sept. 2, 2011

Late summer is a great time to visit the coast and mountains of Washington. Many species of gulls, terns, and shorebirds can be found along the coast feeding on the abundant food while they gather strength to continue their journey south. In the mountains small mixed-species hunting parties move through the forest, feeding on the late summer seeds and insects in preparation for their migration.



Pine Grosbeak. Photo: 72426950scott

Our tour begins along the rich estuaries of Willapa Bay and Gray's Harbor and on the beaches of coastal Washington. During late August the southbound migration will be well under way, with flocks of shorebirds staging at traditional sites where we should encounter impressive numbers of **Marbled Godwit**, **Short-billed Dowitcher**, **Western** and **Least Sandpiper**, plus possible **Pectoral** and **Baird's Sandpiper**, to name a few. This time of year is also good for more unusual birds that may show up such as **Bar-tailed Godwit** and **Buff-breasted Sandpiper**. We'll keep an eye out for the occasional **Parasitic Jaeger** strafing the gulls to steal a morsel of food while we search for loons, ducks, and shorebirds migrating offshore. After a few days of enjoying the maritime climate we head east to the mountains. We'll take a ferry across Puget Sound and look for **Rhinoceros Auklet** and other alcids along the way.

Along the border of Canada lofty rugged peaks, cut by ancient glaciers, line the horizon — the North Cascades. Large carnivores such as **Grizzly Bears**, **Wolverines**, and **Wolves**, though rarely seen, still call these mountains and forests home. We'll spend extra time birding the subalpine slopes searching for **Northern Pygmy-Owl**, **Pine Grosbeak**, and **Boreal Chickadee**. There may still be some great wildflowers to see in the alpine meadows while we search for **Horned Lark**, **American Pipit**, and **Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch**. If you would like more information, call **Dan van den Broek** at 503-292-6855 ext.105.

Fee: \$795 members / \$895 non-members
Deposit: \$400 required to secure your place
Group size: 9–14 participants
Leader: Dan van den Broek

Fee is based on double occupancy and includes all lodging (four nights), all ground transportation and ferry ride, all meals *except dinners*, and the services of your expert leaders.

AUTUMN ON Steens Mountain

October 5–9, 2011

Steens Mountain is one of Oregon's most spectacular natural areas and is beautiful in the fall. Rising to almost 10,000 feet high in the southeast corner of the state, it presides over alkali desert, oceans of sagebrush, and the wildlife-rich marshlands of the Malheur basin. From our base in Frenchglen, we'll spend three full days exploring this diverse landscape by van and on foot as we venture around all sides and on top of the mountain itself. On past trips we've seen approximately 80 species of birds including **Townsend's Solitaire**, **Mountain Bluebird**, **American Pipit**, **Horned Lark**, **Northern Goshawk**, **Golden Eagle**, and **Prairie Falcon**. We search for and often spot **Bighorn Sheep** along the high peaks of the mountain, sometimes distant and sometimes near. **Coyotes** and **Mule Deer** are often sighted and you never know when a **Porcupine** is going to waddle into view. Conditions permitting, we will venture out to Borax Lake, home of the unique and endangered **Borax Lake Chub**, and we'll visit the Alvord Desert.



Kiger Gorge on Steens Mountain. © Marilyn Stinnett

Fee: \$695 members / \$795 non-members
Deposit: \$400 required to secure your place
Group size: Limited to 14 participants
Leader: Steve Engel

Fee is based on double occupancy and includes all lodging (four nights at the Frenchglen Hotel), all ground transportation, all meals *except dinners*, and the services of your leaders.

Malheur Foray

May 18–22, 2011

Join us on a 5-day birding excursion to Malheur National Wildlife Refuge!

Fee: \$695 members / \$795 non-members

A few spaces remain!



American Avocet © Greg Gillson

HOW TO REGISTER

Choose one of 3 ways to register for Adult Classes:

1. Register and pay online: Visit class description at www.audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult and follow registration link.

OR: Contact Steve Engel via phone or email to be put on the roster. If class has limited enrollment, wait for confirmation and then...

2. Mail in your check: make payable to Audubon Society of Portland. Include with payment: class name, your name(s) and, if this is your first class with us, your full contact information.

3. Credit card payment: Call Steve Engel (971-222-6119) or our Nature Store (503-292-WILD) to pay over phone. We accept VISA, MasterCard, and Discover (3% fee charged).

Contact Steve Engel, Adult Education Manager, at sengel@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6119.

Insect Gatherers

March 15 (Tue), 7pm–9pm

Insect-eating birds covered in tonight's program include agile swallows, swifts, and hummingbirds that feed on insects in addition to nectar. Discover the unique behavior and identification of these aerial insect predators. **Harry Nehls**, local expert and author of *Birds of the Willamette Valley Region*, shares his knowledge on the topic. Class includes slides, lecture, and handouts.

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

Free for active volunteers!

Spring Wildflower Walks at Catherine Creek

March 26 (Sat), 9am–2pm

April 23 (Sat), 9am–2pm

May 21 (Sat), 9am–2pm

Join local naturalist and Audubon volunteer **Marsh Sly** on 1, 2, or 3 hikes to this premier Columbia River Gorge wildflower site. From grass widows to balsamroot, the wildflower display is ever changing between March and May. Join all three hikes to see the seasonal progression of life in these dramatic hills. The pace is slow but you should be able to hike 3–4 miles round trip with a significant change in elevation.

Fee per hike: \$20 members / \$30 non-members

Fee for series: \$50 members / \$70 non-members

Size limit: 12 participants per hike

Owl Prowls with John Deshler

March 31 (Thu), 5:30pm–9:30pm

April 7 (Thu), 5:45pm–9:45pm

(Register for each separately)

As dusk falls you and your small band of nocturnal explorers become enveloped in darkness deep in Forest Park. **John Deshler** knows these woods well from his years of studying the diminutive yet fierce Northern Pygmy-Owls that live here. Be prepared to hike up to 3 miles on sometimes muddy trails and steep inclines. Actual starting times and trailhead locations will be determined the week before each outing.

Fee: \$15 members / \$20 non-members

Group size limited to 12 participants

Birding By Ear — Resident Birds

April 4 & 18 (Mon), 7pm–9pm: Classes, Heron Hall

April 10, 17, 24 (Sun), 7am–10am: Field Trips and/or

Birding By Ear — Migrant Birds

May 2 & 16 (Mon), 7pm–9pm: Classes, Heron Hall

May 8, 15, 22 (Sun), 7am–10am: Field Trips

See audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult/ classes for details.

Fee for each: \$75 members / \$85 non-members

Class size limited to 14 participants

Little Brown Birds

April 7 (Thu), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall

April 8 (Fri), 8am–3pm: Field Trip

(Note: April 9 Field Trip is full; April 8 Field Trip has been added.)

In this class, local author and guide **John Rakestraw** will help you learn the field marks and behaviors that make all these birds unique. On the Field Trip, we will visit some local "sparrow patches" to see and hear these birds in person.

Class & Field Trip Fee: \$25 members / \$40 non-members

Class Only option: \$10 members / \$15 non-members

Field Trip limited to 12 participants

Spring Butterflies

April 22 (Fri), 6pm–7pm: Class in Heron Hall

April 23 (Sat), 10am–2pm: Field Trip,

Deschutes River area

Watch the early spring butterflies that flock in the sunny Deschutes River canyon in April. You'll see up close Blues, Checkerspots, Orange Tips, Hairstreaks, and Swallowtails. They'll be basking on the wet sand, stopping at wildflowers, courting, mating, and laying their eggs. We'll meet at 10am near Sherar's Bridge, then drive downstream on a gravel road, stopping at hot spots. **Bill Neill**, author of *Butterflies of Pacific Northwest*, teaches this class.

Fee: \$35 members / \$45 non-members

Class Only option: \$10 members / \$15 non-members

Field Trip limited to 10 participants

Adult Classes

Spring Shorebird Migration

April 29 (Fri), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall

April 30 (Sat), all day: Field Trip, Oregon Coast

An evening class focusing on shorebird identification and ecology with **John Rakestraw** on Friday evening is followed by an all-day field trip (**transportation provided**) to the north Oregon Coast. We'll search a variety of habitats for migrating shorebirds between Tillamook Bay and the Columbia River.

Class & Field Trip Fee: \$75 members / \$95 non-members

Class Only option: \$10 members / \$15 non-members

Field Trip limited to 12 participants

Nature Journaling with Jude Siegel

April 30 (Sat), 10am–4pm

Come spend a delightful day with Jude creating a personal record of your experiences in our Sanctuary. Working in journal format, with drawing, writing your observations, and adding a little watercolor, you will create your pages. We'll work in classroom and outside, where Jude will share information about many of the plants and how they have been used for food, medicine, tools, and ceremony. No art experience is needed. Take your new skills home and use them in your garden, in fieldwork, or while traveling or looking out a window as you add to your journal.

Fee: \$45 members / \$65 non-members (**plus materials**)

Class size limited to 14 participants

See website for instructor bio, materials list, and more details on the class.

Finches, Tanagers & Buntings

May 17 (Tue), 7pm–9pm in Heron Hall

Join local bird expert and author **Harry Nehls** to learn about colorful songsters like the Purple Finch, Western Tanager, and Lazuli Bunting. Harry will cover their behavior, how to recognize different species, and where to look for them. Harry is co-author of several regional birding books including *Birds of the Willamette Valley Region*.

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

Free to active volunteers.

View these and additional adult classes at www.audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult.

Spring Break Camp 2011 at the Audubon Society of Portland

MONDAY, MARCH 21	TUESDAY, MARCH 22	WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23	THURSDAY, MARCH 24	FRIDAY, MARCH 25
<p>Homing In on Habitat: Art & Nature 2nd–3rd grade Instructor: Susan Leeb Hike through the forest, along the creek, and near the pond observing animal habitats and looking for signs of wildlife. Create colorful drawings and imaginative clay sculptures inspired by the places animals call home in the Audubon Sanctuary. Fee: \$60 mem/ \$70 non-member</p> <p>Animal Behavior: Great Blue Herons 3rd–5th grade Become an expert on the Great Blue Heron, or "GBH" as the birders call it, as you travel to Goat Island to see their amazing nesting colony. Watch the unique territorial and courtship displays of the GBH, and make drawings and notes in your journal, just like a real biologist. We'll make maps so that you can come back and check on the baby herons later in the spring! Fee: \$65 mem/ \$75 non-member</p>	<p>Art in the Park 1st–2nd grade Instructor: Susan Leeb Search for amazing animals and the forms, shapes, and patterns of nature as we hike the trails of Audubon's Wildlife Sanctuary. Create wildly colorful drawings and fanciful animal masks inspired by your observations and discoveries. Fee: \$60 mem/ \$70 non-member</p> <p>Escape to Bird Island 2nd–4th grade Escape to the birdiest island around: Sauvie Island. Spring brings a great mix of new birds like swallows and swifts, and wintering ones like the beautiful Sandhill Crane. Search for the nests of Bald Eagles and have a picnic with the birds as we explore all that Bird Island has to offer. Fee: \$65 mem/ \$75 non-member</p> <p>Surf's Up 4th–8th grade Start/End Times: 8:30am–6:00pm Join Steve Robertson, Education Director and amateur Marine Biologist, on this day-long exploration of the coast. We'll discover the awesome animals that live in tidepools, explore a few caves, learn some cool geology, and find time to build a sandcastle or two. We guarantee that you'll learn more about the beach in one day than you thought possible, and that you'll have a blast doing it! Note: This camp departs at 8:30am and returns at 6:00pm. Fee: \$65 mem/ \$75 non-member</p>	<p>Junior Wildlife Vet 101 2nd–3rd grade Join other animal lovers for a day devoted to learning about the care of injured and orphaned wildlife. We'll go behind the scenes of Audubon's Wildlife Care Center with wildlife rehabilitators and find out what this exciting job is all about. Fee: \$60 mem/ \$70 non-member</p> <p>The River Wild 4th–6th grade Hop on board as we head over to the wild and scenic Clackamas River for an adventure-filled day of hiking! We'll explore this often-overlooked natural area, looking for Peregrine Falcons near the basalt cliffs and for Beavers swimming in the river. Learn about the plants and animals that call this place home. Grab your hiking shoes and let's hit the trail! Fee: \$65 mem/ \$75 non-member</p>	<p>Where the Wild Things Walk 1st–2nd grade We'll walk through the woods watching for wild woodpeckers, wrens, and woodrats, and learning to read the signs that animals leave behind. Learn to walk like a fox, balance like a heron, and listen like a deer. Play animal games and touch real pelts of wild things, including a wolverine, a wolf, and a black bear! If you'd like, bring your favorite stuffed animal to go wild with. Fee: \$60 mem/ \$70 non-member</p> <p>Raptor Wonderland 3rd–5th grade Who has eyes that are bigger than their brain? Who flies faster than a racecar? Who builds a nest big enough for a person to sit in? Who says "hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo?" Learn the answer to all these raptor riddles as you meet Audubon's Education Birds, then travel to Sauvie Island to look for birds of prey like nesting Bald Eagles and hovering American Kestrels. Fee: \$65 mem/ \$75 non-member</p>	<p>Amphibians Ahoy 2nd–3rd grade Springtime is frog time. Come with us as we check out the egg masses in Portland Audubon's pond and figure out which frogs laid them. We'll also be on the lookout for that other amphibian, the salamander, as we search Balch Creek for newts and the insects that they love to eat. Fee: \$60 mem/ \$70 non-member</p> <p>Junior Wildlife Vet 102 4th–6th grade Join other animal lovers for a day devoted to learning about the care of injured and orphaned wildlife. We'll go behind the scenes of Audubon's Wildlife Care Center with wildlife rehabilitators and find out what this exciting job is all about. Fee: \$60 mem/ \$70 non-member</p>
MARCH 20–26				
<p>Life in Death Valley 6th–9th grade Start: 7:30am, Sun, March 20 End: 5:00pm, Sat, March 26 Trip Leaders: Tim Donner & Ian Abraham</p> <p>Journey to a land of extremes where daytime temperatures can reach 134°F and overnight temperatures drop to 15°F. Stand in Badwater Basin, the lowest point in North America, and then travel to 5,000 ft. elevation to the highest point in Death Valley for a view that is as magnificent as the Grand Canyon. We'll travel during the mild spring season with expert Naturalists to explore the unique life that thrives in Death Valley, focusing on extreme animals' adaptations and discovering how they survive in such a harsh climate. We'll track Roadrunner, Grey Fox, and the mysterious "sailing stones" in the salt pan of the National Park. Leave the wet Oregon climate behind for this week-long spring break adventure that also includes a visit to a ghost town, a search for the elusive Pupfish, and views of the famous Joshua Trees in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Fee: \$445 mem/ \$465 non-member</p>		<p>Keeping kids in touch with nature!</p>		
<p>To register for Spring and Summer Camps, go to audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/camps for online registration or to download a registration form.</p> <p>Call 971-222-6120 to save a place if you are mailing your form.</p> <p>Spring Break Camps run from 9:00am–4:00pm unless otherwise noted.</p>				

2011 Board Elections

CANDIDATES FOR 2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS *Statements edited for brevity*

BOARD OFFICERS

Josh Cerra, President

I am an environmental designer and senior ecologist at Herrera Environmental in Portland. With a background in science and design, I've focused my career on urban ecological assessment and planning to provide working, connected places for fish and wildlife in cities. Last year I served as Board Vice President at Portland Audubon, and I'd like to continue assisting the organization in promoting sustainable city practices that protect and enhance high quality habitats in the Portland metro area, while improving quality of life for its citizens.

John Fitchen, Vice President

John Fitchen, MD is an Emeritus Professor of Medicine at Oregon Health & Sciences University and former CEO of Najit Technologies. An active birder for 25 years, he wrote "Birding Portland and Multnomah County" (Catalyst Publications, 2004). His writings on birding have been published in *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Birding*, *Oregon Birds*, and *Attu: Birding on the Edge*. A long-time participant in Portland Christmas Bird Counts, John served as an Area Leader for the past five years. Having researched and written a book on local birding sites, he is keenly aware of habitat destruction in and around Portland and eager to find ways to reverse the trend. He joined Portland Audubon's board in 2008 and has served on the Executive Committee.

Wink Gross, Secretary

I have been birding since I was a child, growing up literally within sight of the Massachusetts Audubon headquarters. 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. I have compiled the Portland Christmas Bird Count for the past six years, during which time we have become one of the continent's five largest counts. Portland Audubon 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.

Candy Plant, Treasurer

Candy has been a Wildlife Care Center volunteer since 1991, an Education Bird Assistant, Wild Arts Festival Finance Committee Member, and past Volunteer Council Member. Employed as a Staff Accountant for a local CPA firm, she holds a license from IRS as an Enrolled Agent. She has been in the public accounting industry for 35 years, working with nonprofit organizations, having a complete understanding on principles of accounting and the annual Form 990 filing requirements. "As Board Treasurer I will Chair the Finance Committee, assist in tax filing requirements, and act as a liaison to the Board Members on Audubon's finances. As a long-time volunteer I have had the privilege of working closely with so many of Portland Audubon's outstanding staff and will give them my support as a Board Member."

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Noelwah Netusil

A Professor of Economics at Reed College, Noelwah specializes in environmental and natural resource economics, focusing on estimating how property values are affected by environmental amenities and disamenities. She holds a BS in Chemistry and Economics and a PhD in Economics. She serves on the steering committee of the Urban Ecosystem Research Consortium and the Mercy Corps Northwest board, currently serving as board chair. "I really admire Portland Audubon's work in the community and feel that my expertise in environmental and natural resource economics may help the urban conservation staff with their initiatives. Portland Audubon's education programs are of great interest — I live in the newly incorporated city of Damascus and see the need to educate property owners about ecosystem services and urban wildlife."

Julie Wilson

A Senior Environmental Scientist with GSI Water Solutions, Julie holds a PhD in Environmental Sciences (NYU), a BS in Biology, and MS in Radiological Physics. She has over 30 years' experience in environmental, land use, and natural resource issues and currently serves as District 3 Representative to the Clean Water Services Advisory Committee. "I am at a point in my career where I feel I can spend more time giving back to the community, and being able to volunteer in an area where I have built a career, and leverage that knowledge and understanding, as well as the connections and contacts I have, would feel very meaningful to me, and I think benefit the community."

David Mandell

David is Research Director of the Children's Institute, a nonprofit focused on early education policy in Oregon, and holds a PhD in Political Science. An active birder since he was age five, he's led birding trips for nearly a decade off Oregon's coast for "The Bird Guide, Inc." Since moving to Portland 12

years ago, David has been a participant and co-leader of the A-Grebe-able Birdathon team. "As the father of a five-year-old, the legacy we leave to our children has taken on a new significance for me. Audubon's leadership in conservation and environmental education is key to preserving that legacy. I believe that my experience in public policy and nonprofit work will help advance Audubon's mission."

Karen O'Connor Kruse

I would like to continue my service on Portland Audubon's Board. My family has been involved with Audubon for a number of years, including visits to the Wildlife Care Center and Nature Store. After a trip to Costa Rica, I became a committed (though amateur) birder and have taken many of Audubon's classes, and my children often attend Summer and other Camps. Having benefited from the wealth of Audubon's offerings, I would like to keep serving on the Board to give back to an organization that greatly enriches Oregon with its multi-faceted focus on conservation and nature. I feel a personal affinity for Audubon, and would be honored to continue serving as a Board member.

Koto Kishida

A Nonpoint Source Specialist for DEQ's Watershed Management Section, Koto is a long-time member of Audubon, birder, and Birdathon volunteer. Her area of expertise is environmental regulations and programs (related to water quality, forestry, and agriculture). She serves on the Executive Board of Oregon AFSCME Council 75. "Having worked in the environmental field for over a decade, I appreciate Portland Audubon for providing habitat conservation supporters a united voice in public processes. I also support children's education programs that Audubon provides for our community. I believe that exposing children to natural habitats is the... best way to ensure that they will become... good stewards of their environment."

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 in each *Warbler* issue. Thank you for joining our vibrant and growing community!

Good Earth Farm Michael & Valerie Abbott Alan Allred Gary & Melody Ansell Erika Baern Peter & Virginia Barbur Stephanie Bartelt Debbie Bartoli Sarah Bascue Glaydis Basinger Deva Beach Conor Bennett Heidi Berg Camille Bergot Elaine Blatt & Ryan Bliss Annabelle Boesch Andrew & Alexis Bohnet Frankie Borison Jim Bosket Scott & Hilary Boudreaux Family Josefine Brasser Leona Breckenridge Todd Brennan Amanda Briles Margaret & Donald Brown Bill & Marilyn Brown Karina Brown Wendi Broyles Terry Campos John & Angela Carr Julie Carter Jerome Casey Greg Chapman Andrew Clelland Deborah Cohen Paul Coleman Carol Coleman Tim & Karen Cook Jenni Cramer Donovan Crosby Clifford & Mary Davis Gin & John DeCamp Debra Ann Degenshein Patricia Demartini Takako Dixon Eric & Carolyn Downey Katherine Dreyfus James & Teri Duncan Randall and Laurie Dunn John Dwork Larry Dybala Ilona Edens Joel Eichengrun Collette Evrard Christine Ferrante Meagan Flynn Nina & Jacob Fox Sarah & Roger Friedel Kristine Gardner Michaela Gianotti Nathan Gibson Tasha & Jed Gilchrist Jennifer Gilden Willis Gill Gail Gleason Andrew Glines Holly & Jim Gosewehr William Graeper Emma & Steven Gray Bob & Shirley Grew Gwen Grossmiller Josh, Ben & Adam Guggenheim Donna Hammar Nguyen Thi Hanh Julie Hanson Geist Don Harker Debra Harrison Molly Haynes Kevin & Carol Healy Nancy Hesselman Michael Hevron Tim Himes Jacqueline Hopp David Horne Jennifer & Charles Howd Justin & Ross Huffman-Kerr	Jeremy Hutchinson Judith Hylton Mori Irvine & Jay Boelter Ricardo Ismach John & Karen Jennings Erik & Mary Jensen Ajit & Laura Jetmalani Dr. Karen Johnson Ken & Kathryn Johnson Lisa Johnston Sue Johnston Hayley Jones Samuel & Sarah Judas Edie & Sean Kahrhoff Anne Kaplan Dan Kearl Reynold Keeler Tom Kelly John Kent Jocelyn Kimmel Lucy King Heather Kingham Cynthia & Kenneth Kissler Jan Kitchel Jamie Knight Amy Kocourek Harsha Krishnamurthy Garey Kurtz Glenn Lairmore Russ & Crystal Langbehn Kathy Lawrence Karly & Doug Lefferts Ken Lerner & Katherine McDowell Michael & Anne Licurse Jon & Kristin Lieber Ernest & Judith Lindahl Randyl Longmire Patricia Lovejoy Ken & Trina Lundgren Sarah Lundy Frances Lynch Nicholas & Anna MacDonald Jan MacKenzie Jim Maloney Deborah Marbach Michael Marshall Kim Martin & Addie Bradley Kim McGarry Carol McMaster Nathan Mealey Colin Meloy & Carson Ellis David Menashe Barbara Meyers & Jacky Bonnet Sandy Miller Russell Miller & Laurie Peterson Diane Mills Craig Mitchell Nichole Moore Katie Morrissett & Derek Slagle Renee Moulun & Bart Brush Celeste & Scott Munden Andrew Nacrelli Matisse Nash Sophie Newton Elizabeth Nordeen Jordan & Erin Nuccio Michael & Virginia Ogden Damon Ogle Nate Olken Kenzie Olsen Mary O'Malley & Wayne Moyer Sal Orso Brian & Emily Owendoff Katherine Parker Terri Pedigo Constance Person Paula Peterson Cathy Peterson Karen Petzing	Charlotte Pfeiffer Daniel Pittenger Bonnie Prunk Natalie Puha Rhian Radley Beatrice Randall Lynn Regelin Jeanne Reich Grace Reichenberger Andrew Robin Family Gina Rodondi Peter Roome Krista Rosen Jim Rosenfeld Sandra Ruff Jennifer Sanford Darlene Sauer Donald Schloth Stacey Schubert Paul Schwejda Sheila & Gary Seitz Bonita Sells Jennifer Shafer Namascar Shaktini Jim and Faye Sibert Daniel & Elizabeth Silver Ian Simpson Ian Smethurst Shawn Smith Todd Smith Jerry & Donna Smith Rachel Sohn Amy Solana Michelle & James Song Mikala Soroka Jonathan Spitz Fred & Claudine Stock Wayne & Jackson Strouhal Gwen & Dirk Sullivan Kendra Sundt Charles & Karla Surfus Mary Sweeney Linda Taggart Julia Tai Allen Taylor & Stacia Kimbell Laura Taylor Sam Tetzakian Krista Thie Karen & Damon Thomas Louise Tippens Melinda Todd Linda Toenniessen Jeremy Tolonen Nikki Tracy Wayne Traver Jack & Diane Trenhaile Rick & Sharon Troxel Tim & Christine Truszkowski Mark & Elizabeth Tschantl Mark Voss Kathy Walter John Webb Elizabeth Weil Janice Weinstock Rhett Wilkins Laurie & Mitchell Wilson Julie & Patrick Wilson Beth Wolfson Jean Yates Jamie Zartler Per Zeeberg Haruki Zemsky Shawn Zimmerman Mei Zuch
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If you would like to join us or have any questions about membership, please contact Catherine at chalpin@audubonportland.org or 503-292-6855.

2011 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 March 17, 2011**. Please mail to:

Board Nominations Committee
5151 NW Cornell Rd
Portland, OR 97210

Members may choose to vote in person at the March Birders' Night or Nature Night. Come to our Annual Membership Meeting on Thursday, March 17, 6pm-7pm.

(a) term ends 2012 (b) term ends 2014

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) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Josh Cerra |
| Vice President (a) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | John Fitchen |
| Secretary (a) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Wink Gross |
| Treasurer (a) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Candy Plant |
| Member (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Noelwah Netusil |
| Member (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Julie Wilson |
| Member (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | David Mandell |
| Member (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Karen O'Connor Kruse |
| Member (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Koto Kishida |

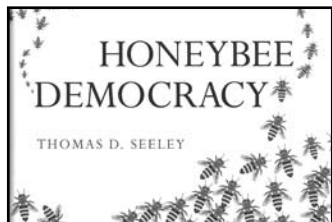
Nature Store Highlights

by Sally Loomis, Book Buyer

There is a rich new crop of books out today regarding the infinitely complex relationships between humans, agriculture, and the honey bee. While this April's Nature Night presentation focuses on the crucial role of native pollinators, here we highlight books dealing with their hive-dwelling cousins, including their intertwined cultural history with humans and the devastating implications of Colony Collapse Disorder.



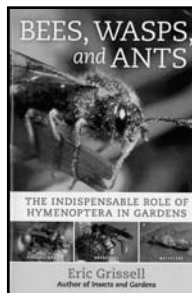
Why Do Bees Buzz? Fascinating Answers to Questions about Bees by Evans and Butler (Rutgers University Press, \$21.95) takes a Q & A format to explain a wide range of topics about bee physiology and behavior. It makes a good introduction for an older child or adult just starting to learn about bees.



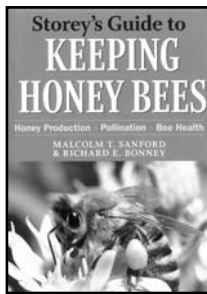
Thomas D. Seeley's **Honeybee Democracy** (Princeton University Press, \$29.95) looks at the decision-making process for these social insects. How do bees know when to swarm?

Or where to swarm to? How do honey bees reach consensus? With incredibly complex communication systems, they use dances, pheromones, and other chemical clues to share information. Seeley makes the science research here come alive for a general reader.

Readers looking for a field guide and more of bees and their kin should look for Eric Grissell's **Bees, Wasps, and Ants: The Indispensable Role of Hymenoptera in Gardens**



(Timber Press, \$27.95). The book gives a great overview of a variety of species and the unique behavioral adaptations they have devised for their ecological niche. It also makes the case for welcoming these creatures into our gardens, instead of trying to control them.

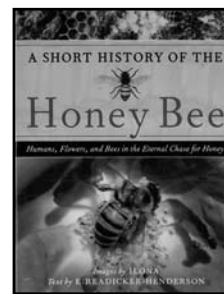


Following the increased interest in keeping backyard chickens, backyard beekeeping may be the next wave for those seeking a sustainable lifestyle. If bees in the backyard intrigue you, **Storey's Guide to Keeping Honey Bees** by Bonney and Sanford (Storey, \$19.95) gives you all the essential information to keep your hive buzzing and your honey jar full.

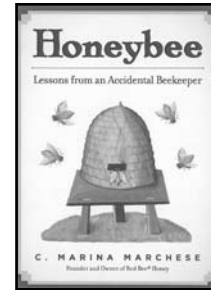


Colony Collapse Disorder is a potential environmental disaster, and two fine books of investigative journalism take aim at the problem. **A Spring without Bees** by Michael Schacker (Lyons Press, \$16.95) and **Fruitless Fall: The Collapse of the Honey Bee and the Coming Agricultural Crisis** by Rowan Jacobsen

(Bloomsbury, \$15.00) are both highly readable detective stories of what has gone wrong with bees in industrial agriculture, and some startling conclusions about what to do next. Anyone concerned about our food supply should read one of these titles.



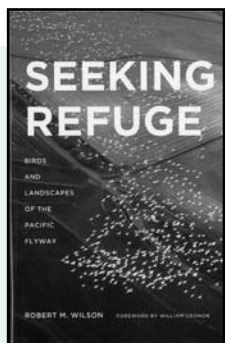
Finally, some more whimsical titles include **A Short History of the Honey Bee: Humans, Flowers, and Bees in the Eternal Chase for Honey** by E. Readicker-Henderson and **Hona** (Timber Press, \$19.95) as well as **Honeybee: Lessons from an Accidental Beekeeper** by C. Marina Marchese (Black Dog, \$14.95). These books include such topics as a listing of various types of honey and their flavor characteristics, uses of beeswax, and recipes, as well as historical tidbits about human-bee relations and beekeeping advice. These might bring a little sweetness to your day!



Noah Strycker with Adelie Penguin chick.
© Kirsten Lindquist

Among Penguins Presented by Noah Strycker

On April 20 (Wed) at 7pm in Heron Hall, prominent Oregon birder Noah Strycker, author of the newly released **Among Penguins: A Bird Man in Antarctica** (Oregon State University Press, \$19.95), will give a free presentation on his research in Antarctica among the Adelie Penguins. In the harshest of landscapes, Strycker spent three months among more than a quarter million penguins. Learn about his adventures at this event sponsored by the Nature Store.



Robert Wilson Booksigning

Join us in the Nature Store on **Thursday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m.** for a presentation and book signing by **Robert Wilson** of his book **Seeking Refuge: Birds and Landscapes of the Pacific Flyway** (University of Washington Press, \$35.00). (No, not longtime Portland Audubon staffer Bob Wilson, but rather Robert Wilson, assistant professor of geography at Syracuse University!) His book explores the history of the refuge system in the West, including birding hotspots like the Klamath Basin, Malheur, and other Audubon favorites, and focuses on conservation issues crucial to our organization.

Audubon Society of Portland gratefully acknowledges these thoughtful gifts:

In Memory

Steve Armitage
Caroline Parr

Virginia Covey
Barbara Covey

Kathy Daehler
Marianne Phillips

William Finnegan
Mary Weese

Barbara Gulette
Donna Reynolds

Lisa Gulette
Angela Blizzard
Karen Casey & Family
Molly & Marty Marks
Donna Reynolds
Judith Stevens
Shawn & Dave West
Jane Wright

Nell Jenkins
Richard Herring
Rick Brown & Ruth Robbins

Jim Kimball
Ron Carley & Mary Rose
Navarro

Mark Levin
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Marilyn McMahan
Judith Hvam

Patti McMeen
Brian Brink

Patrick Murphy
Chris Buchholdt
Mary Chalkiopoulos
Barbara & Donald Forni
Robert Lytle
Charlie Martin
Chris, Barbara & Jackie Scherer
Mark Sheppard
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Eileen & Amy Lorber

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Lance Buhl

Luanne Bye
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Eryn Cang

Lillian & Ben Chinitz
Francine Chinitz & Richard Schwartz

Thomas Crane
Kris & Jim Gupitill-Seibert

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Island Marketing & Judy Goehler
Zach King

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Jay Dumont

Paul Kern
Mollie & Richard Swift

Marvin Addison Lincoln
Rachel Sohn

Phillip Lockwood
Patricia Johnston

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Diana Deshler

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Katherine Shaver

Margaret Reis
Ron Carley & Mary Rose
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Kenneth Rhoads
Kazuo, Sharon & Miya Nakazato

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David Rich

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Lynda Hill

Mike, Sean, Lauren, Nick, Chloe, Mariah, Kaitlin
Eleanor Tippens & Peter West

Momo
Shantel M. Mackey

Ginnie Ross
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Bob Sallinger
Jamie Zartler

Richard & Susan Schubert
Stacey Schubert

Bob & Ruth Scott
Nikki & Richard Tracy

Kyle Spinks
Scott Spinks

Paul Sullivan's Bird Song Walks
Bo & Ellen Nonn

Roger Warren & Rebecca Lowe Warren
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Krissy & Aaron Yetman
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Ken & Lynda Collmer
Kelly, Pam & Ben Edwards
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Rick & Pat Fowler
Mike & Jan Hand
Bill & Allyson Harris
Judy & Michael Heumann
Zak & Andrea Hoffelt
David Hogan
Frederick & Mildred Jackson
Dori Jones
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Janis Langenhuisen
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Anne Lipsitz & Bill Malloch

Billie Manning
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Heather McDowell & boys
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William & Kieren Porter
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Roger Smith
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Joe & Robbie Weber
Patricia Wetzel
Mark Winslow

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 or by calling 971-222-6129. A songbird card acknowledging your thoughtful gift will be sent to the honoree or family.

More Together Green Volunteer Days at Audubon!

by Deanna Sawtelle,
Volunteer Coordinator

The Audubon Society of Portland is pleased to have received a grant from National Audubon and Toyota to help “spruce up” our sanctuary, and we’ll be doing just that on **Saturdays, March 19 and April 23**. These aren’t your usual sanctuary work parties! We start each Together Green Volunteer Day with a **continental breakfast and a short program at 10 a.m.** Then it’s off to the sanctuary for some major sanctuary and trail restoration projects. We’ll break for lunch around **1 p.m., when pizza and pop will be provided**, and then it’s back to the sanctuary to finish up the projects.

During our December and January Together Green Volunteer Days, approximately 25,750 square feet of invasive plants were removed and replaced with native plants, almost 100 feet of flooded trails were restored so visitors are able to access previously inaccessible areas of our main sanctuary, and the leaky pond has been fixed! All because our great volunteers were enthusiastic, had a lot of energy, and weren’t afraid to get a little dirty and wet! Now it’s time to enlarge and enhance our native plant nursery.

Together Green Volunteer Days
Saturdays, March 19 & April 23, 10am–4pm
Register with
volunteercoordinator@portlandaudubon.org or
503-292-6855 ext. 108

In addition to volunteering individually, this is a terrific opportunity for small groups and businesses who want to do some **community service and team building**. If you have a community group that would like to get involved in one or more of the Together Green Volunteer Days, or if you’d like to volunteer **individually or with your family** (minimum age 14; all 14- to 16-year-olds must be accompanied by an adult volunteer), please contact Deanna Sawtelle, Volunteer Coordinator, at volunteercoordinator@audubonportland.org or 503-292-6855 ext.108.

Volunteers of the Month: Audubon’s Volunteer Council

by Deanna Sawtelle,
Volunteer Coordinator

When you look at the growth in Audubon’s volunteer program over the last four years, it’s not hard to realize the impact the Volunteer Council’s leadership has had on that growth. Charged with the mandate to develop training programs and new volunteer opportunities, they are a delight to work with. We’d like to recognize them as Volunteers of the Month.

Jean Baecher Brown represents education and sanctuary volunteers. Having worked 30 years in settings that kept her indoors, she was looking for an opportunity that addressed her love of nature when she retired. Audubon filled the bill.

Lee Savinar is the Council’s Board representative. In addition to her Board work, Lee was a member of the Development Committee where she helped brainstorm and develop ideas to attract new members and help get the word out about Audubon.

Originally volunteering to lead sanctuary tours for school groups, **Jill Nelson-Debord** has branched out to the Backyard Habitat Certification Program and Speakers’ Bureau where she can share her love of birds and Audubon. Thanks to Audubon, she now calls herself “an official birder.”

Pat Crane began volunteering at Audubon in 2007 and routinely leads sanctuary tours and joins Jill as a member of Audubon’s Speakers’ Bureau. Not having enough to do already, Pat is looking forward to handling her first Education Bird soon!

Martin Dick actually started in the Wildlife Care Center last year doing laundry! Now he donates time weekly to help injured wildlife (yes, he’s graduated beyond laundry). “I’ve done so much in the ten months



Lots of volunteers have accomplished numerous projects at past Together Green events — and more are welcome! © Deanna Sawtelle

Changing with the Seasons, Growing with the Forest

by Tom Costello, Sanctuaries Director

With an alleged 450-word allotment, six times per year, I usually like to reserve my precious **Warbler** space to celebrate our achievements and successes with our sanctuaries and facilities projects. However, a critical element in managing a successful and sustainable program is to also take time and reflect on projects and efforts that have not been 100% successful. At our recent Together Green Volunteer Day event in January, I was given such an opportunity for reflection by one of our regular Together Green participants.

This volunteer was frustrated with some of our recent restoration efforts down at the pond; his primary complaint: we were trampling some of the more recently planted trees as we were going through to control some regrowth of invasives. While there is always a challenge involved in having your methods questioned, and particularly challenging to hear that a volunteer felt as though our efforts were wasted, I sincerely appreciate his coming forward and expressing his feelings on the matter. I also believe that the resulting conversation was fruitful and enlightening for both of us, and it inspired me to share the conversation with the entire group of volunteers before we set off to do our work of the day.

The conversation was also quite timely, as I have recently assessed our restoration efforts that have occurred in my nearly four years at Audubon and have come up with a new plan of attack for the coming few years.

When I began at Audubon in Spring 2007, much of our 150 acres of sanctuary was moderately to severely infested with invasive plants, which degrade habitat quality, soil stability, and water quality. Our monthly volunteer work parties were the primary method to address the problem, but with few volunteers participating, these work parties were failing to make a dent in the invasives.

We began addressing the problem by focusing our work in the Pittock Sanctuary. With grant funding through Metro, BES, and National Audubon, we were able to utilize

AmeriCorps teams to start the restoration work while slowly but surely building our volunteer program through the Together Green Volunteer Days. Over the past three years we have had over 60 days of AmeriCorps team service and have logged nearly 2,000 volunteer hours per year, a stark increase over previous years’ efforts.

This influx of resources has proven to be fairly effective, with major populations of non-native ivy and blackberry removed, and thousands of native plants installed in previously cleared areas. Success has been limited in some regard, however, by inaccessible terrain and certain invasive species that are resistant to efforts at manual removal. After three solid years of restoration work, I would estimate that 60% of the needed restoration work has been completed in the 22 acres of the Pittock Sanctuary.

Comparing this to the efforts that Metro has put into the 86-acre Collins Sanctuary during the stabilization process has been a revealing process. In two years, and with a comparable influx of dollar resources, Metro has been able to reach a level of over 90% effectiveness of invasives control using hired contractors to perform the work. Keeping in mind the difference in area and effectiveness of the control methods, I would estimate that Metro’s efforts have a 5- to 10-fold increase in effectiveness per dollar spent, while leaving the area ready for restoration planting and with less need for heavy followup maintenance.

To this end we have shifted the focus of our restoration efforts and are looking to leverage financial resources to bring in contractors to perform the remaining invasive plant removal work in the Pittock Sanctuary. Volunteer efforts will shift to restoration plantings, followup monitoring and maintenance, native plant nursery work, and trail-building projects. It is my hope that this shift will facilitate the more efficient restoration of our property while providing a more diverse selection of volunteer opportunities for our growing pool of sanctuary volunteers.

I’ve been at Audubon. I look forward to what’s ahead.”

Another Care Center representative, **Tara Lilley** began her shift four years ago and has since helped on the “Peregrines and Pinot” fundraising committee and become an Education Bird Assistant. Tara says she “really loves handling the Education Birds and teaching people about them.”

Luanne Bye is our “volunteer historian” who began volunteering in 1986 in the Wildlife Care Center. Today you’ll find Luanne in the Education Department and helping with Audubon Family Adventures and “Ovenbird Outings.” Aside from constantly learning about nature, Audubon provides Luanne with “an opportunity to play in the woods, something she never wants to lose.”

Carol Goldberg has been a regular in the Wildlife Care Center for several years and uses her laboratory experience to help care for the animals there. Carol likes to be in on the ground floor by helping in the development of our Halloween Event and our upcoming International Vulture Awareness Day.

Toni Rubin has been leading sanctuary tours and helping in the Nature Store and our youth camp program for



Volunteer Council (left to right): Pat Crane, Pam Meyers, Lee Savinar, Jill Nelson-Debord, Toni Rubin, Tara Lilley, Luanne Bye, Jean Baecher Brown (not pictured: Martin Dick, Carol Goldberg). © Deanna Sawtelle

almost two years and continues to take on new volunteer leadership roles. She’s on the Wild Arts Festival Book Fair Committee and the Education Committee, and recently agreed to act as the East County Volunteer Liaison.

Pam Meyers has been volunteering since 2008 when she and her husband moved to Portland. She began as a volunteer receptionist and then developed her skills leading sanctuary tours, tabling, and docenting. A “lifelong amateur naturalist,” some of Pam’s favorite volunteering involves surveying local bird populations.

In addition to all of this, these outstanding volunteers offer their time to help with special events like Birdathon, the Wild Arts Festival, Raptor Road Trip, the Native Plant Sale, and the “Night Flight” Halloween Event.

Thank you, Volunteer Council — past and present members. You have led the Volunteer Program to new heights. You are always inspiring and amazing!

Lesser Goldfinches Showing Strong Comeback in Willamette Valley

In recent years the population of **Lesser Goldfinches** has greatly increased in the northern Willamette Valley and the Portland area. Up to 2002 the annual Portland Christmas Bird Count recorded the Lesser Goldfinch at fewer than 50 individuals and often missed them entirely. There has then been a steady increase each year to the 412 recorded on the 2010 count.

The Lesser Goldfinch is a southern species favoring rather dry conditions. It ranges northward to southern Washington, but is most established north to the Rogue Valley and Klamath, Lake, and Harney Counties. To the north they are more local and variable.

There are two distinct groups, the green-backed "*hesperophilus*" and the black-backed "*psaltria*." The green-backed birds range from Washington, Oregon, and Nevada southward into Baja California. The black-backed birds range from Colorado, Utah, and Oklahoma southward into Mexico. There is an overlap zone of intergradation in Utah and Arizona.

Gabrielson and Jewett in 1929 and 1940 called the species quite common in summer and irregular in winter in the Portland area. Later birders found them locally uncommon

and hard to find throughout the year. Today they are locally fairly common in winter and locally uncommon in summer. They are more regular on the dryer west side of the valley and at elevations above the valley floor.

With increases in the population, sightings in Western Washington have increased and the established breeding colony around Lyle has increased and is spreading. In Eastern Oregon, where they are rather rare and irregular, sightings are also increasing. In the established breeding populations in Klamath, Lake, and Harney Counties, most leave in winter.

Lesser Goldfinches are somewhat nomadic and erratic with yearly variations in local populations. In certain years very bright black-backed birds are seen at Fields and elsewhere in southern Harney County that could be considered pure black-backed birds.

Among both groups the coloration of the back is rather variable. Many in the black-backed group have greenish backs with wide dark streaks. Many in the green-backed group often show pale gray backs with black streaks. On January 25, 2011 Barbara Smith photographed a gray-backed Lesser Goldfinch in Beaverton.



Lesser Goldfinch © Steven R. Halpern

The Lesser Goldfinch has a light pleasing song, but it often adds imitated parts of other species' songs. The species has not been studied much by scientists so its migration, post-breeding dispersal, and erratic behavior are little known, as is the exact extent of the breeding range.

The next time you see a flock of Lesser Goldfinches, look for these plumage variations and listen closely to the songs.

Sightings

On February 4 Rhett Wilkins sighted an immature **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** in his wooded Sellwood yard. Showing others the bird the next day he found a very unexpected **Cassin's Vireo**.

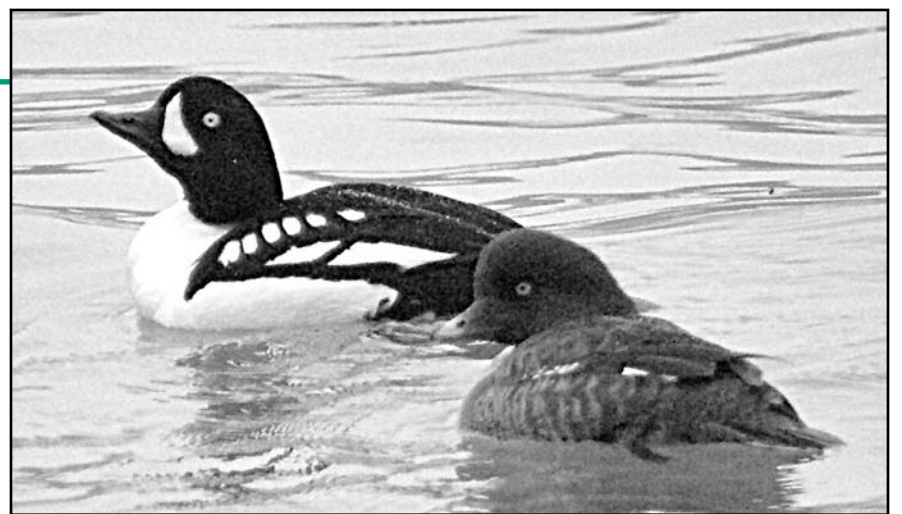
The spectacular water bird show on the Columbia River continued through the winter. On January 22 David Irons and Shawneen Finnegan estimated 4,720 **Lesser Scaup** and 490 **Greater Scaup** off Broughton Beach near the Portland Airport. The next day they checked Hood River and found 130 **Lesser** and 740 **Greater Scaup**.

Birders checking the Columbia River in the Portland area during the winter found **Surf** and **White-winged Scoters**, one or two **Long-tailed Ducks**, one pure and one hybrid **Tufted Ducks**, and a **Red-throated Loon**. On January 19 Art Clausing saw three **Barrow's Goldeneyes** on the Willamette River between the Steel and Broadway Bridges. On January 30 he found six pairs in the same area.

Tree and **Barn Swallows** have been reported in small numbers through the winter in Western Oregon. On January 24 Wilson Cady saw three '**Trees**' at Steigerwald NWR near Washougal and Greg Gillson found two, along with a **Barn Swallow**, at Jackson Bottom in Hillsboro

February 1. On February 4 David Leal saw a **Barn Swallow** among 14 **Tree Swallows** at Smith & Bybee Lakes. The 100 **Tree Swallows** and 50 **Violet-green Swallows** Erik Knight saw at Ridgefield NWR February 5 were most likely regular spring migrants.

Two very conspicuous **White Pelicans** were seen on Hedges Creek Marsh in mid-town Tualatin from mid-January into February. Three have been seen in the North Portland-Ridgefield area during the winter. Christopher and Adrian Hinkle reported **Glaucous Gulls** January 16 at Clinton Park in Southeast Portland and January 22 at Westmoreland Park. Jim Allen and Mary Reese saw one on the Columbia Slough near the airport January 17.



Barrow's Goldeneye pair. Photo: Donna Dewhurst/USFWS

Ridgefield NWR. He saw a **Ross's Goose** there January 27. The Delta Park **Acorn Woodpecker** remained through the winter. A wintering **Black Phoebe** was located near the old Pellet Plant site on Sauvie Island.

Christopher and Adrian Hinkle have been reporting **White-breasted Nuthatches** on the east slope of Oaks Bottom for some time. On January 22 John Deshler saw seven frolicking together there. **White-breasted Nuthatches** have become rather rare in the Portland area.

And here's a sure sign of spring: on February 5 Ginny Rosenberg observed an **Anna's Hummingbird** sitting tight on a nest at Oaks Bottom.



White Pelican. Photo: John Foster/USFWS

On January 24 Randy Hill spotted a **Blue-winged Teal** with three **Cinnamon Teal** at



Anna's Hummingbird and chick in nest © Steve Berliner

If you include the Audubon Society of Portland in your estate plans, please let us know! By joining the Audubon Society of Portland's Legacy Club, you will be supporting our important work now and into the future, joining a long and vital tradition of protecting wildlife and habitat right here where we live.

For more information on planned giving options at Portland Audubon, please call Ann Takamoto at 971-222-6117.

Wish List & Thank Yous

Thank you to:

- Linda Craig for a Sedma by Zen-Ray spotting scope and a Canon Image Stabilizer 10x30 binoculars.
- Nancy Guitteau for a framed Audubon print, Havell Edition, Plate LLXCIII.
- Paula Squire for 12 bottles of bleach for the Wildlife Care Center.
- Marina Strabic for five 3" white vinyl binders & eight 1.5" white vinyl binders.
- Lori Whittaker for bleach for the Wildlife Care Center.

Our Wish List:

For Education:	For Sanctuary:
Laptop computer	Loppers
Powerpoint Projector	Hand saws
Flat Screen Monitor	Work gloves

For Wildlife Care Center:

Science Diet Kitten Growth • Bleach
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.

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Planned Giving with the Audubon Society of Portland can provide benefits for you and your family, as well as helping fulfill your philanthropic goals. You can plan your gifts to benefit Portland Audubon *now* while protecting your assets, or to benefit yourself or a loved one *now* and Portland Audubon *later*. A variety of planned giving vehicles offer you tax benefits that fit your lifestyle and your current and future needs.

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THANK YOU, Audubon Volunteers!

by Deanna Sawtelle, Volunteer Coordinator

April is "Volunteer Month" so the Audubon Society of Portland would like to thank all our volunteers who contribute their valuable time and talents. Their efforts help us fulfill our mission to inspire people to love and protect nature. We are deeply indebted to the individuals who give graciously of their energy in order to ensure that people and native wildlife flourish together. We would not be able to accomplish the work we do without their help.

This list includes Portland Audubon's key volunteers who dedicate a substantial amount of time, weekly or monthly. We also appreciate the many volunteers who help out on annual events and one-time projects, though space limitations prohibit us from listing them here.

- Marilyn Abend
- Pamela Aldrich
- Joan Amero
- Jennifer Amie
- Harriet Anderson
- Keelin Anderson
- Julie Apple
- Charles Aubin
- Katherine Averill
- Loba Azul
- Jean Baecher Brown
- Matthew Baird
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- Davy Crockett
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- Bob Wilson
- Dean Wilson
- Jackie Wilson
- Tom Wnuk
- Phyllis Wolfe
- Cat Wright
- David Wynn
- Ann Zawaski

We would also like to thank the following veterinary hospitals that volunteer their time and services:

- Avian Medical Center
- Cornell Center Animal Hospital
- Dove Lewis Emergency Animal Hospital
- Gladstone Veterinary Clinic
- Rock Creek Veterinary Hospital
- Susan Kirschner, The Animal Eye Doctor

Audubon Society of Portland Summer Camp 2011

Register for Summer Camps today!

You can now register online and pay by credit card or e-check. Go to 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 Ian Abraham, Camp Director, at 971-222-6120.



Grades entering:	1st	2nd - 3rd	4th - 5th	6th - 8th	9th - 12th
June 27-July 1	Slugs and Bugs	Jr. Wildlife Vet 101 Session 1	Birdzilla	Olympic Adventure June 26 - July 1 (Sun-Fri)	Into the Woods Mon-Fri
July 5-8 (Tues-Fri)	Frogs and Friends (full day)	Backyard Birds Feather, Beak and Tweet: Bird Art	Jr. Wildlife Vet 102 Session 1	Wild in the City	
July 11-15	Raptor Rama	Jr. Wildlife Vet 101 Session 2	Sketching from Nature Forest to Farm overnight Thurs-Fri	San Juan 1 July 10-15 (Sun-Fri)	
July 18-22	Animal Hospital	All About Bugs Herpetology 101	Berry Berry Fun 1	Rod, Reel and Sea overnight Wed-Fri	San Juan 2 July 24-30 (Sun-Sat)
July 25-29	Critter Construction (full day)	Bery Berry Fun 2	Nature Photography Fantastic Four 5th - 8th grade	Jr. Wildlife Vet 103	Redwoods July 31-August 5 (Sun-Fri)
August 1-5	Tracks and Snacks	Portlandia	Herpetology 102	Paddles and Boots overnight Wed-Fri	
August 8-12	Things with Wings	Nature's Art Supplies Animal Tracking	Jr. Wildlife Vet 102 Session 2	San Juan 3 August 7-12 (Sun-Fri) Earth Keepers	
August 15-19	Big and Furry	Hit the Trail	Get Your Feet Wet overnight Thur-Fri	Reptiles and Raptors August 14-19 (Sun-Fri)	
August 22-26	Wet and Wild	Mega Mammals Jr. Wildlife Vet 101 Session 3	Stayin' Alive overnight Wed-Fri	Fire and Ice August 21-16 (Sun-Fri)	
August 29-September 2	Gnome Homes (full day)	Creature from the Balch Lagoon	Jr. Wildlife Vet 102 Session 3	Ways of the Ancients August 28-Sept 2 (Sun-Fri)	

For full descriptions and and more details, please visit www.audubonportland.org

Important Bird Area of the Month

by Mary Coolidge, Assistant Conservation Director

Redfish Rocks

“Wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain... an area retaining its primeval character and influence.”

— Wilderness Act of 1964

Along the rugged southern Oregon coast, a cluster of five bare-rock islands known as **Redfish Rocks** jut out of the Pacific Ocean south of Port Orford. This cluster, which teems with breeding seabirds, is among 1,854 rocks, reefs, islands, and headlands included in the Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), a refuge which spans 320 miles of Oregon’s coastline and supports a large percentage of the over one million seabirds that nest in Oregon! **Wilderness protection** is provided to all but one acre of the 371 total acres of islands within the NWR, an area that is closed to human visitation as a means of protecting wildlife and supporting the refuge conservation mission.

Redfish Rocks, along with 10 other colony rock clusters and headlands within the Oregon Islands NWR, was designated in 2003 as an **Important Bird Area** for superb seabird nesting habitat. Most notably, breeding Common Murres have exceeded 20,000 birds. The IBA designation includes the five breeding rocks and an additional buffer area of surrounding waters, an area which provides for foraging and loafing for breeding birds during nesting season, and represents a rich marine ecosystem that supports both migrant and resident seabirds throughout the year.

In 2009, Redfish Rocks gained new prominence in the marine conservation arena when it became one of Oregon’s first two pilot **Marine Reserves**. Instrumental in this designation, the local nonprofit **Port Orford Ocean Resource Team** collaborated to develop and forward the Redfish Rocks Marine Reserve proposal, which was accepted along with the independently developed Otter Rock Marine Reserve near Depoe Bay.

The Redfish Rocks Marine Reserve (MR) established a 2.6-square-mile area around the colony rocks, within which no extraction activity may take place, a restriction which protects valuable habitat and conserves biodiversity. The adjacent 5-square-mile Marine Protected Area (MPA) to the east is less restrictive than the MR, but still affords partial ecosystem protections. Given mounting pressures on our marine environment — from ocean acidification to invasive species and overfishing — such sanctuaries are critical for allowing marine life to breed and flourish, and provide for the many seabirds that rely on Oregon’s rich nearshore ocean resources. MRs have been shown to result in dramatic and measurable increases in size, biodiversity, and abundance of marine life. This is a conservation tool that both builds resilience into our marine ecosystems and provides opportunities for scientific research.

The **Redfish Rocks Community Team** — a group of fishermen, business owners, conservationists, and elected officials — was developed to work with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) scientists to draft a management plan for the MR and the adjacent MPA, a plan which addresses biological research and monitoring goals as well as socioeconomic goals. It may take years to detect anticipated changes in community structure, but baseline data being collected now will help to characterize the current ecology of the site based on various measures, including presence of indicator species, presence of rare and endangered species, pH, and salinity. Decades of USFWS aerial surveys of nesting seabirds may also provide important information about the impact of changing habitat conditions on seabird productivity. This site is among the first to provide a model for scientific research on MR effectiveness and to help guide management decisions both here and elsewhere.

Back in 2002, then-Governor John Kitzhaber endorsed the establishment of marine reserves off Oregon’s coast. It will now be up to the state legislature to review the three newest Marine Reserves brought forward by ODFW — at Cape Falcon, Cascade Head, and Cape Perpetua (which falls within the Central Coast Marbled Murrelet IBA) — for designation and funding, and to the current



Redfish Rocks. Photo: David Ledig/USFWS

governor to sign on to their passage. If approved, the five reserves and marine protected areas would still comprise less than 10% of Oregon’s ocean, leaving most of our waters open to fishing and other activities while protecting marine health and productivity.

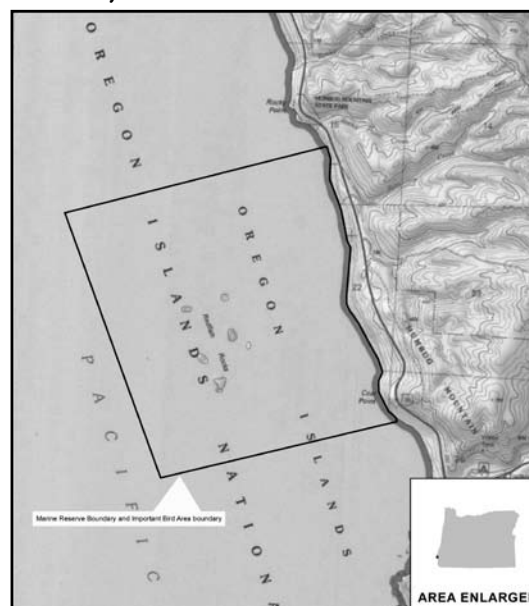
Ornithological Significance

The five Redfish Rocks nesting colonies host most predominantly **Common Murre** and **Pelagic Cormorant**. Other species that have bred here include **Brandt’s Cormorant**, **Western Gull**, **Tufted Puffin**, **Pigeon Guillemot**, and **Black Oystercatcher**. The thriving

nearshore marine ecosystem provides not only for foraging birds during the breeding season, but also provides for the many **pelicans, shearwaters, murrelets, storm-petrels, terns, cormorants, gulls, grebes, scoters, and loons** that migrate along or overwinter on our coastline.

Access

The only publicly accessible part of Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge that is open to the public is Coquille Point near Bandon, but many of the colony nest islands can be seen from land. Redfish Rocks can be seen from Humbug Mountain State Park off Highway 101, 6 miles south of Port Orford.



Map showing Redfish Rocks Marine Reserve and Important Bird Area boundaries. Courtesy Audubon Society of Portland, prepared in collaboration with Portland State University Geography Department student volunteers and American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing PSU Student Chapter.



Harvest (detail) © Julie Cudahy

“Birds of a Feather” Art Exhibit benefits Portland Audubon

Featuring images of birds and their habitats

The Caswell Gallery celebrates Spring with an exhibit dedicated to birds — and will donate 10% of the “Birds of a Feather” exhibit sales made during March to Audubon Society of Portland’s Wildlife Care Center, just in time for Spring’s baby bird season!

Art and bird lovers converge for the “Birds of a Feather” show in Troutdale at Rip Caswell’s art gallery, featuring beautiful works of art by Julie Cudahy, Anne John, Brad Lorang, Peter Mathios, and Rip Caswell. The Caswell Gallery has become a landmark destination in the Portland area, and hosts one of the area’s most anticipated events each month during the Troutdale First Friday Art Walk.

The gallery is located at 201 W. Historic Columbia River Hwy; hours are Mon to Sat 10am–5pm, and Sunday Noon–5pm. Join us at the artists’ reception on March 4 (Friday), 5pm–9pm, for fine wine, appetizers, and live music with guitarist-vocalist Ron Hughes. For more information visit RipCaswell.com.

Members Receive a Discount at the Nature Store!

Audubon Society of Portland’s Nature Store is the headquarters for naturalists in the Portland-Vancouver metro area. We feature nature books, hiking & field guides, birding software, CDs, DVDs, binoculars and spotting scopes, bird feeders and seed, plus gifts & toys for adults & children, all with a nature theme. **Portland Audubon members receive a 10% discount off regular prices.**

Leupold Angled Kenai HD Scope is here!

It’s been a full year since we saw the prototype. Finally Leupold’s new angled Kenai has arrived. Worth the wait? We give it a rousing **two thumbs up!**

Featuring a 20–60 zoom and a 30x wide angle fixed lens! No big deal you say: all the better scopes have those options. But with the Kenai **both lenses are included in the purchase price!**

Loaded with features! Everything you want in a quality observation optic: **High Definition** glass, big **80mm objective lens**, lightweight **magnesium body**, fully waterproof /fog-proof, BAK4 prisms, and generous eye-relief. And the close focus is a backyard-bird-friendly



Leupold Kenai Scope

12 feet! A bit of eye candy, too: sleek but compact (only 14”) grey and black body with generous **rubber armoring**. A black **neoprene carrying case is included** to add to its portability.

All this for well under \$1000? Yes! With a retail price of \$889, **your member discount gets you this great scope for only \$799.99!**

Other Sighting Scope News

Swarovski Optik Anniversary Sale! Includes all High Definition 65mm & 80mm scopes and eyepieces, including their new wide-angle zoom! Save up to \$750 off regular prices of scope/eyepiece combos!

PORTLAND AUDUBON’S NATURE STORE

5151 NW Cornell Road • Portland, OR 97210
503-292-9453 • store@audubonportland.org

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

BIRDATHON 2011

Continued from front cover

Mult Madness

May 7 (Sat), 6am-7pm

Join leaders **John Fitchen**, author of "Birding Portland and Multnomah County," and **Wink Gross**, Portland CBC compiler, on a unique tour to the birding hot spots in Multnomah County. Visit Smith & Bybee Lakes, Larch Mountain, Eagle Creek, Sandy Delta, and Sauvie Island—and expect 100+ species!

Lean Green Birding Machine

May 7 (Sat), 7am-9pm

Join Audubon board president **Pat Campbell** for a full day of birding and an evening of celebration! You'll carpool in "lean green" hybrid vehicles and visit productive birding sites from Portland to the coast. Finally, enjoy a no-host dinner at Pastini's with your teammates and top it all off with wine from Elk Cove Vineyards.

The Bus Passerines

May 13 (Fri), 7am-6pm

Join **Steve Engel**, Audubon's Adult Education Manager, on an all-day tromp via public transportation to prime birding sites in the greater Portland area. By MAX, bus, streetcar, and good old feet, you'll visit Important Bird Areas and other sites throughout the Portland metro area. All levels of birding experience are welcome. Bring your binoculars, an All-Zone/All-Day transit pass, and sturdy walking shoes!

A-Grebe-able Bunch

May 14 (Sat), 4:30am-1pm

Travel with three incredible Audubon birders, **Peg Goldie**, **Tom Love**, and **David Mandell**, for a dawn-to-dusk birding adventure! Begin before sunrise listening for owls on Mt. Tabor, then work your way west to Forest Grove and finally over to Tillamook. You'll learn a lot with this team and see record numbers of birds!



Spotted Towhee © Steve Berliner



Photo © Gary Slone

The Murre the Merrier

May 14 (Sat), 7am-8pm

Sarah Swanson and **Max Smith** will lead a tour of the diverse habitats of NW Oregon. Begin by birding Dawson Creek Corporate Park, then head west to visit wetlands, beaches, and bays of the North Coast. We'll look for as many species as possible while moving at a leisurely pace to enjoy the birds and stunning scenery of the region. **(This team is full.)**

Raven Maniacs

May 27 (Fri), 6am-10pm

Steve Robertson, Education Director, and **Dan van den Broek**, School of Birding Coordinator, lead a complete day of birding the city to the sea! You'll visit at least a half dozen "primo birding locales" between Portland and Tillamook. Bird the coast until dark, then enjoy a relaxing dinner back in Tillamook. Transportation by Audubon van is provided.

Soggy Bottom Birders

May 27 (Fri), 8am-3pm

Join Portland Audubon Education staffers **Ian Abraham** and **Tim Donner** for birding the wetlands of the Willamette Valley. You'll explore Basket Slough and Ankeny National Wildlife Refuges and, of course, Oaks Bottom. A waterfowl extravaganza!

Gonzo Trips: 2+ Days

Retailed Hawks

Date TBA

Go birding with the knowledgeable staff from **Backyard Bird Shops**. On this 2-day trip you'll travel by van down the Oregon Coast to Klamath Falls and then over to Summer Lake. Transportation and lodging are provided. A minimum of \$600 in pledges is required to participate on this team. Only 3 spaces left! Contact **Gary Slone** directly to register at gary.audubon@gmail.com.

Cream of the Crop

May 7 (Sat), 7am - May 8 (Sun), 3pm

Gary Slone, Birdathon Coordinator, leads this 2-day bird quest to the coast. Transportation, lodging in Neskowin, and Sunday breakfast are provided. Transportation and lodging are provided. A minimum of \$600 in pledges is required to participate on this team. Only 2 spaces left! Contact Gary Slone directly to register at gary.audubon@gmail.com.

The Wild Turkeys

May 20 (Fri), 6am - May 22 (Sun), 8pm

Join **Mike Houck**, **Ron Carley**, and other notorious birders for the ultimate gonzo Birdathon experience. Transportation and lodging are provided. Limited to 24 participants. A minimum of \$600 in pledges is required to participate on this team. Only 3 spaces left! Contact Ron Carley directly to register at ron@clfuture.org.

Thank You to our Birdathon Sponsors!



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Dave's Killer Bread

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Red Mill

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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

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

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Same hours as store

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RARE BIRD ALERT

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Through their business practices and financial contributions, the following business members help Audubon Society of Portland fulfill its mission. If you would like to become a business member, please contact our Development Department at 971-222-6117.

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NW Natural

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