

September 3rd is Vulture Awareness Day (p.2)



Black-throated Gray Warbler

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# Warbler

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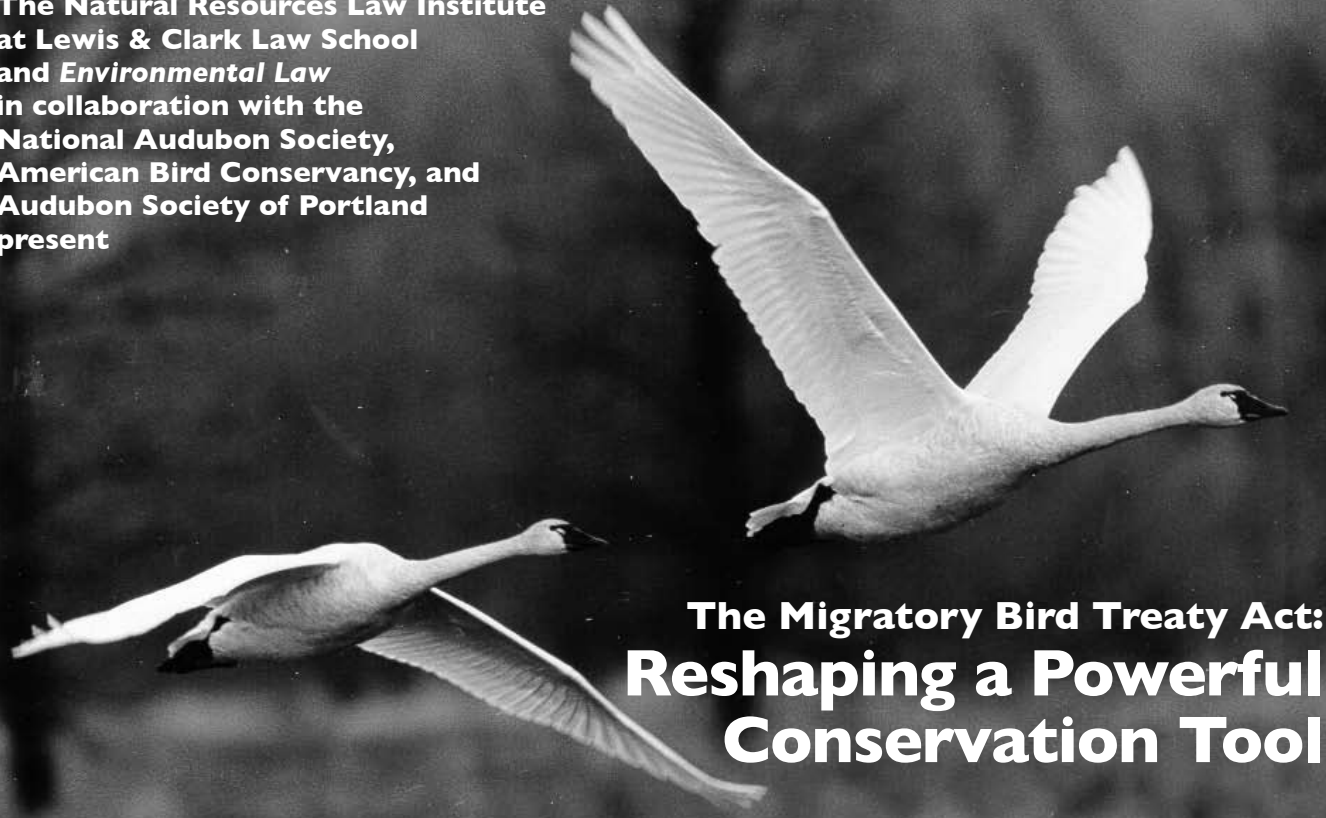
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The Natural Resources Law Institute at Lewis & Clark Law School and Environmental Law in collaboration with the National Audubon Society, American Bird Conservancy, and Audubon Society of Portland present

Tundra Swans © Jim Cruce



## The Migratory Bird Treaty Act: Reshaping a Powerful Conservation Tool

**October 20-22, 2011 Lewis & Clark Law School • Portland, Oregon**

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 is one of the oldest wildlife conservation statutes in the world and is the primary law protecting birds in the United States. The MBTA codifies international treaties signed with Canada, Mexico, Russia, and Japan recognizing our obligation to protect and conserve the bird species that share our borders. It was passed in response to public outrage over the wanton slaughter of many bird species — in particular, decimation of water birds such as herons and egrets whose feathers were valued for the millinery trade, and the extinction of the passenger pigeon, once the most numerous bird in North America, by unconstrained hunting. Today the MBTA protects over 800 North American bird species. The District Court of Tennessee summed up well the intention of Congress when it ratified the MBTA when it wrote the following in 1939:

*"The high purpose of the high contracting parties in the Migratory Bird Treaty to protect these feathered friends of mankind against extermination might be utterly defeated by a narrow construction of the intent of Congress... Congress clearly intended to make real the protection against the holocaustic slaughter of migratory birds."*  
— United States v. Reese (1939)

Nearly a century later, however, serious questions are being raised regarding whether the MBTA is sufficient to achieve these lofty objectives. Recent reports by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Audubon Society, and American Bird Conservancy indicate that one out of every four bird species found in North America is experiencing significant long-term population declines. Our native birds are faced with myriad threats. Habitat loss and fragmentation, collisions with buildings, power lines, and wind turbines, predation by cats, pesticide poisoning, and oil spills lead to the loss of hundreds of millions of birds annually. The time

is right to reexamine the MBTA to determine whether it can protect birds against the threats of the 21st century.

This October, the Audubon Society of Portland, Lewis and Clark Law School, the National Audubon Society, and American Bird Conservancy will bring together national and international bird experts for a first-of-its-kind conference exploring the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and its adequacy to address 21st-century challenges. Highlights include a keynote speech by Special Agent Ed Newcomer discussing his years on the front lines of undercover law enforcement; bird experts from Canada, Mexico, Japan, and the European Union discussing those countries' approaches to avian conservation; and national leaders from the American Bird Conservancy, National Audubon Society, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service offering their perspectives.

Before the conference begins, an optional Thursday morning field trip to the Oregon Zoo Condor Facility and an afternoon session on the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act will help participants frame some of the issues facing birds. The Friday and Saturday sessions will focus in on the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, how it works, and how it might be made more effective. Saturday will include a round-table discussion by all participants on their thoughts about the future of migratory bird protection and the MBTA. Although there will be discussion of the laws protecting birds, the conference is designed for a general audience; all who are interested are welcome to attend.

To register for the conference go to [http://law.lclark.edu/programs/environmental\\_and\\_natural\\_resources\\_law/conferences\\_and\\_lectures/2011\\_bird\\_conference.php](http://law.lclark.edu/programs/environmental_and_natural_resources_law/conferences_and_lectures/2011_bird_conference.php).

For more information contact Bob Sallinger at [bsallinger@audubonportland.org](mailto:bsallinger@audubonportland.org) or 503-292-6855 ext.110.

## Portland Audubon Participates in Murrelet Surveys

On July 13, 2011, Oregon State University Research Wildlife Biologist Kim Nelson presented a summary of recent research and the current status and trends of the Marbled Murrelet (which is listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act) to participants of the 6th annual **Marbled Murrelet Citizen Science Training and Survey**. This two-day event was held in the Yachats area and organized by Paul Engelmeyer, Coastal IBA Coordinator and steward of Portland Audubon's coastal sanctuaries.



Scoping from the Yachats State Park observation site. © Brandi Ferguson

One participant wrote: Nearshore sweeps for Marbled Murrelets are conducted in mid-morning (after a respectable cup of coffee and breakfast at the Green Salmon in Yachats!). Observers with scopes are stationed up and down the coast at advantageous observation posts, conducting a single slow continuous scan of the entire nearshore, in my case from left to right. All sightings of individual Marbled Murrelets are counted as detections, unless a bird is observed moving from one part of the nearshore to another, in which case it would only be counted once. As in the case of the upland observations, nearshore sweep detections provide a snapshot of the presence of Marbled Murrelets at a given time and site.

*"Long-term monitoring of known occupied sites is important for helping to understand the status of Marbled Murrelet populations. Citizen science efforts, such as the surveys put together by the Audubon Society of Corvallis at Cape Perpetua, are a critical and major component of the long-term monitoring surveys that occur in Oregon."*  
— Kim Nelson, OSU Research Wildlife Biologist

For additional information about the Audubon Society of Portland's work on the Oregon coast, see **"From the Director"** on page 2.

## Swift Watch 2011

Portland Audubon volunteers will be present at Chapman Elementary School in Northwest Portland **throughout September** to inform and educate the public about the **Vaux's Swifts** that roost in the school chimney each night during their fall migration. For more information please visit our website at [audubonportland.org/local-birding/swiftwatch](http://audubonportland.org/local-birding/swiftwatch).

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View this Warbler and past issues at [www.audubonportland.org/about/newsletter](http://www.audubonportland.org/about/newsletter).

**Save the Dates: November 19-20 – Wild Arts Festival**



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

# From the Executive Director



Meryl Redisch

## Happenings at Portland Audubon's Coastal Sanctuaries

The 6th annual Marbled Murrelet Citizen Science Training (also see page 1) drew 50 people from across the state. Representatives from Oregon State Parks, Hatfield Marine Science Center, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife, as well as birders and conservation activists, made their way to Yachats, one of Oregon's most beautiful and charming coastal towns.

Paul Engelmeyer, Audubon Society of Portland's Coastal Important Bird Area Coordinator, and Stewardship Manager for Portland Audubon's Ten Mile Creek and Pine Tree Sanctuaries, started this program and organizes it each year. He is happy to see greater numbers of people taking an interest in the plight of these seabirds and equally excited to introduce residents to our coastal sanctuaries that are protected in perpetuity. This unique site is owned by Portland Audubon and has a conservation easement through the McKenzie River Trust. While visually stunning and ecologically significant, Portland Audubon's landholdings sit within the larger landscape that includes the Cummins Creek and Rock Creek Wilderness and are pieces of a much larger conservation success story. Since the mid 1990s, Paul has worked to develop land acquisition and restoration strategies with a focus on the central coast landscape. For example, collaborating with organizations such as The Nature Conservancy, The Wetlands Conservancy, Oregon State Parks, and Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Paul helped secure a deal for the acquisition of a Big Creek parcel valued at over \$4 million. These land deals contribute toward protecting some of our state's most productive natural resources that listed species like the Marbled Murrelet, Northern Spotted Owl, Silverspot Butterfly, Coho Salmon, and Pacific Lamprey need to thrive.

The Central Coast Marbled Murrelet Important Bird Area (IBA) lies within the Yachats basin, Cummins Creek and Rock Creek Wilderness, and together protect 100,000 acres. The Audubon sanctuaries are nestled between these two wilderness areas. IBAs are places that have been voted on as worthy to protect for nesting, migrating, and breeding birds like the Marbled Murrelet. The murrelet is listed under the Endangered Species Act and has a unique life history. This small seabird is linked to old-growth forests for its nesting requirements and to the marine ecosystem for its food needs. Murrelets rely on forage fish such as Pacific smelt, herring, and sardines found in Oregon's nearshore environment. The Marbled Murrelet serves

as an excellent example of why protecting both upland forest and marine habitats are essential. It's why Portland Audubon continues to vigorously push for getting a network of marine reserves and protected areas designated, implemented, and funded in Oregon.

Meg Ruby, a Portland Audubon member who attended the workshop and training, said, "I learned a lot, made some good contacts, and had a great time. I saw Marbled Murrelets displaying circling patterns above presumed nest sites and also saw many in our nearshore 'sweep surveys.' I've got the search image/calls now in my head, which is great!" Oregon State University Wildlife Biologist Kim Nelson presented research and current trends of the murrelet, which unfortunately do not look favorable. Decades of logging and fragmentation of forests are well-known contributors to the downward trend of this bird and other old-growth-dependent species. Declines of forage fish are also viewed as serious contributors to the decline. According to a publication by Oceana entitled "Hungry Oceans: What happens when the prey is gone?" the diet of the Marbled Murrelet in the Monterey Bay ecosystem has drastically been altered over the past century (Becker and Beissinger 2006). Fisheries declines, especially the infamous 1950s collapse of the California sardine fishery, have reduced the availability of fish as food for the murrelet. While this collapse occurred in California, we know that natural and manmade disasters are not limited to arbitrary boundaries. In fact, both Oregon and Washington's marine ecosystem and the immense biodiversity that lives above and below the ocean's surface are strongly influenced by the colder waters of the California Current.

Survey protocol for Marbled Murrelets includes monitoring for both visual and audio "detections" which, with certain behavior such as circling or sub-canopy flight, could indicate occupancy/nesting of a particular forest stand. Volunteer monitors are ready well before dawn and record the detections. If the conditions are right (e.g., there is fog so the birds fly low, but not too much fog so that you can't see the birds), observers may see or hear the pairs of birds for a few seconds as they fly over. Because the murrelets are so quick, it can be difficult to distinguish individuals. Birds may also circle repeatedly in and out of view, and therefore observers log each sighting of a Marbled Murrelet as a 'detection' rather than as an observation of an individual bird. The usefulness of 'detections' is limited, but they do provide a snapshot of murrelet presence/occupation of a site on that day.

This workshop and engagement of birding enthusiasts, conservation activists, and state and federal agency and research personnel can contribute toward rebuilding the murrelet population. However, it won't be enough. Portland Audubon will continue to organize and advocate for State Forest management plans that are restorative for fish and wildlife, identify and promote marine reserves and protective areas that meet science and technical guidelines, target critical parcels and secure funding for land and watershed protection, and advance the key components of the Marbled Murrelet recovery plan.

To get involved or learn more about our work along Oregon's coast, please contact Paul Engelmeyer at [pengelmeyer@peak.org](mailto:pengelmeyer@peak.org) or 541-547-4227, or Our Ocean at [ouregonocean.org](http://ouregonocean.org). For general IBA information, contact Mary Coolidge at [mcoolidge@audubonportland.org](mailto:mcoolidge@audubonportland.org).



Hay ride © Kruger's Farm Market

**Audubon Night at Kruger's Farm Market**  
17100 NW Sauvie Island Rd,  
Portland  
Friday, September 23,  
5:00pm – 10:00pm

Welcome the fall migration with fun for everyone at the **2nd Annual Howl at the Moon Harvest Night** at Kruger's Farm Market! Just \$10 per carload benefits Portland Audubon AND gets you:

- Live Music
- Trips through Kruger's Crazy Corn Maze
- Hay Rides with Farmer Don to view migrating birds
- Harvest Bonfire
- Portland Audubon activities

Rain or shine, help us celebrate fall's bounty and **Kruger's 25th Anniversary!** Bring your friends and family for a fun-filled evening that benefits the Audubon Society of Portland. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.



**Mark your calendars for this family-friendly Halloween event!**

**Saturday, October 22, 2011  
4:00pm – 7:30pm**

**\$12.50 for the first participant in your group and \$10.00 for each additional participant (recommended for kids 5-12)**

Celebrate Halloween with Portland Audubon and learn all about the creatures of the night. Come face-to-face with our Great Horned Owl, Northern Spotted Owl, Turkey Vulture, and Raven. **Go trick-or-treating with naturalists and enjoy a night walk to investigate what creatures haunt the sanctuary at night.** This event will happen rain or dry, so dress for the weather.

Pre-registration is required. **Sign up by Friday, October 21**, at [www.audubonportland.org/halloween](http://www.audubonportland.org/halloween) or call 503-292-6855 for more information. Space is limited for event and walks, so register early!

## International Vulture Awareness Day is Coming to Audubon!



Around the world vultures are facing hazards in the wild and their numbers are dwindling. As "Nature's Recyclers," they play an important role in reducing disease — and it's up to us to help save them.

**International Vulture Awareness Day** is filled with fun and educational activities:

- Meet Ruby, Portland Audubon's Turkey Vulture, up close
- Compare your "wingspan" to that of an Andean Condor
- Make a crafted vulture and mask
- Learn fun vulture facts

**FREE EVENT!**  
**Saturday, Sept. 3, 2011**  
**11 a.m. – 3 p.m.**  
**Heron Hall at the Audubon Society of Portland**

- Find out the differences between Old and New World vultures
- Discover why vultures are important
- Make a pledge to help vultures survive

**Come and help us celebrate the beauty of vultures!**

**BirdFest & Bluegrass 2011**  
**October 8-9 (Sat-Sun)**  
[ridgefieldfriends.org](http://ridgefieldfriends.org)

Come to **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge**, just 25 minutes north of Portland, for two days of celebrating nature and bluegrass music! Go on naturalist-led bird, plant, and geology walks and bus tours. Come see **Portland Audubon's Education Birds** (see [ridgefieldfriends.org](http://ridgefieldfriends.org) for schedule) and visit our **Nature Store booth at the Birders' Marketplace**. You can enjoy tasty treats at food booths, and even hear bluegrass music all day Saturday.

Reserve a spot on a tour to view Sandhill Cranes, and

sign up for a guided kayak paddle trip or night hike. See how Native Americans lived, and sample salmon at a traditional salmon bake. Kids can learn about nature at the craft stations, storytelling tent, live raptor shows, and kids' bird walks. There's much more; go to [ridgefieldfriends.org](http://ridgefieldfriends.org) for details.



# 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



= Sign-up needed



= Fee involved

**September 8, 15, 22 & 29 (Thu), 7am–9am**

## Pittock Mansion Fall Migration Walks

Everybody loves spring migration, but actually the most interesting birding of the year at Pittock Mansion is in September. What with all the befuddled immature birds migrating through, you never know what might show up! **Wink Gross** will lead Thursday morning bird walks at the Pittock Mansion, Sept 8, 15, 22, and 29, starting each day at 7am and going to 9am or whenever you have to leave. Meet at the Pittock Mansion parking lot. Follow W 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. West Burnside Tri-Met Bus #20 (trimet.org) stops at Barnes Rd.

**September 17 (Sat), 8am–11am**  
**Cooper Mountain**

Join **Bonnie Deneke** and **Sue Carr** for a bird walk at Cooper Mountain, where we'll look for Cedar Waxwings, Western Bluebirds, and any migrants going through. It is steep terrain at Cooper Mountain. Directions: West on Hwy 26 (Sunset Hwy), south on Murray Blvd to Weir Rd and turn right (west); go up to the top of the hill and turn right on 170th; then left on Kemmer Rd; and at the stop sign cross 175th and continue on Kemmer Rd. The park will be on the left after a short distance. See [www.oregonmetro.gov/index.cfm/go/by.web/id=16016](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/index.cfm/go/by.web/id=16016) for details.

**September 20 (Tue), 8:30am–11:30am**  
**Tualatin River NWR**



Join **Barbara Allen** for an easy 2–3-mile walk through savannah, forest, and wetland habitats. We will be looking for waterfowl, shorebirds, unusual migrants, and local resident birds. Meet at 8:30 in the refuge parking lot at 19255 SW Pacific Hwy (99W). Registration is required; call Barbara at 970-209-9209 for more information (maximum of 15 participants).

**September 24 (Sat), 8am–11am**  
**Mt. Tabor Park**

Join leaders **Toni Rubin** and **Dena Turner** at Mt. Tabor Park as we check out the area for resident songbirds and fall migrants. We will meet at the volcano parking lot on the east side of the park. Come into the park from SE 69th Ave off SE Belmont if coming from the west, or from SE 69th Ave off SE Yamhill if coming from the east. Please google Mt. Tabor Park for further directions. Call Dena at 503-236-6937 or Toni at 503-970-8200 with questions.

**September 28 (Wed), 8am–11am**  
**Ridgefield NWR, Washington**

Join us on a walk on the **Kiwa Trail** at Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge as we look for rails and bitterns. Meet at the Kiwa Trailhead parking lot on the River 'S' Auto Tour Route. The trail is a flat 1.5-mile walk and closes October 1st, so here's the last chance for this year. Call **Ron Escano** at 503-771-3454 for more information or visit [ridgefieldfriends.org/index.php](http://ridgefieldfriends.org/index.php) for map.

**October 1 (Sat), 9am–11am**  
**Birding along Gresham-Fairview Trail**

Join Audubon Society of Portland's **Bob Sallinger** and **Bich Trinh**, and City of Gresham's **Laura Guderyahn**, for a morning bird walk along segments of the Gresham-Fairview Trail in West Gresham. See [audubonportland.org/about/events/gresh](http://audubonportland.org/about/events/gresh).

**October 8 (Sat), 9am–1pm**  
**Upper Johnson Creek Watershed Bike Ride and Urban Natural Area Tour**

Join **Jim Labbe**, Audubon Society of Portland, and **Jason Howard** and **Matt Clark**, Johnson Creek Watershed Council, for a bike ride through the upper Johnson Creek Watershed via the Springwater Corridor Trail. See [audubonportland.org/sanctuaries/ep/jcbike](http://audubonportland.org/sanctuaries/ep/jcbike).

**October 18 (Tue), 9am–Noon**  
**Sauvie Island**



We will meet at the island's General Store. Parking permits are required on the island. If we can meet by 8:30am we can arrange carpooling, as the roads are very narrow. Registration is required; please contact **Dudley Thomas** at [dbthomas70@gmail.com](mailto:dbthomas70@gmail.com) (or 503-317-1663 before 6pm).

**October 22 (Sat), 8am–11am**  
**Rentenaar Road, Sauvie Island**

Join **Ron Escano** for a fall sparrow adventure on Sauvie Island. Meet at the East Side Check Station Parking Lot on the corner of Reeder and Rentenaar Rds. We will walk Rentenaar Rd and back (1.6 miles round trip). All vehicles will need a Sauvie Island parking permit (can purchase at the Cracker Barrel Store just north of bridge). From the Sauvie Island bridge continue north on Sauvie Island Rd about 1 mile and turn right onto Reeder Rd. In about 4 miles at the junction with Gillihan Loop Rd, keep straight ahead on Reeder Rd. In 4.5 miles the Eastside Check Station and Rentenaar Rd are on your left. Allow 25 minutes to drive from the bridge to the check station. Obey speed limit signs and watch for bicyclists. Call Ron at 503-771-3454 for more information.

**October 30 (Sun), 7am–5pm (approx.)**  
**Tillamook County**

**David Smith** and **Tim Shelmerdine** invite you to enjoy a fall day in Tillamook County. We will choose our specific location based on recent sightings, although both North County and the Tillamook area have produced good birds for us in the past. We will be looking for late migrants, as well as early wintering species. As always, dress for weather and bring a sack lunch. We will meet at 7:00am at the Chevron station (10025 NW Glencoe Rd) at Hwy 26's North Plains exit (Exit 57). From Portland, head west on Hwy 26 approximately 16 miles to Exit 57, then turn right on Glencoe Rd. You will see the Chevron station on your left, just past the McDonald's. Please plan to carpool. Questions? Call Tim at 971-221-2534.

## NATURE NIGHTS

Second Tuesday of the month from September to May. If you have a suggestion for a Nature Night presentation, contact Pam Meyers at [pmeyers@audubonportland.org](mailto:pmeyers@audubonportland.org) or 503-292-6855 ext. 130.

FREE and open to the public!

### Sandhill Cranes of Oregon with Gary Ivey, Sandhill Crane Biologist

Tuesday, September 13  
7pm, Heron Hall

Have you been enchanted by the chortles of flocks of Sandhill Cranes wheeling over Sauvie Island and wanted to learn more about these special visitors? Come hear crane biologist **Gary Ivey** speak about the three populations of Sandhill Cranes which breed, stage, and winter in Oregon, with emphasis on the birds at Sauvie Island. Gary will talk about the natural history, communication, breeding, migration, and habitat management of these graceful birds. They dance, flirt, and mate for life (as long as the mate is a good parent!).



© Caroline Herziger

Gary Ivey of Bend, OR, has been working with Sandhill Cranes in the Pacific Flyway for over 30 years, including the population that visits Sauvie Island every year. He is currently the Western Crane Conservation Manager for the International Crane Foundation, and is also a PhD candidate at Oregon State University. His PhD project is a study of wintering ecology of Sandhill Cranes in California. Gary served as a biologist at several western National Wildlife Refuges for 18 years (including 15 years at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, a key Sandhill Crane site in Oregon). Gary's years of experience working with wetlands, waterfowl, and water bird management and conservation planning give him a unique perspective on the conservation challenges facing the Sandhill Crane population.

Please join us for this fun, educational, and thought-provoking presentation. We welcome all "Craniacs" as well as those unfamiliar with cranes!

### Tales from a Northwest Naturalist with Jim Anderson, Lifelong Naturalist and Environmental Educator

Tuesday, October 11  
7pm, Heron Hall

Born in 1928 and raised on a small farm in Connecticut, **Jim Anderson's** seemingly humble beginnings led to a life rich with adventure and wildlife. He arrived in Bend, OR on his 1949 Harley-Davidson, and quickly found work fighting forest fires. Jim's journey brought him to Portland in the 1960s, where he was a naturalist at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI), implementing science camps and outdoor education activities for families, students, and teachers. Jim was also the director of the Children's Zoo, as well as head of Conservation and Education of what is now the Oregon Zoo in Portland.



© Gary Landers

Jim has studied and banded raptors in Central Oregon for 50 years, specializing in Golden Eagles, Osprey, Ferruginous Hawks, and American Kestrels. While working as the Resident Naturalist for Sunriver Resort, Jim conducted statewide educational programs for children and adults, including continuing education programs for Central Oregon Community College campuses.

He has lived with Australian Aborigines and studied spiders in Melbourne. He managed The Nature Conservancy's Ramsey Canyon Preserve in SE Arizona for three years, and has traveled throughout Arizona and the Northwest conducting a variety of natural history studies, including spiders, condors, hawks, eagles, and owls. Many of Jim's adventures with wildlife are recounted in his book, **Tales From a Northwest Naturalist**. A collection of short stories, the book has been a favorite for family reading.

Families and friends will enjoy an evening with Jim Anderson, who many will remember as the Pied Piper of OMSI. Join us for a delightful presentation as Jim shares his life as a Northwest Naturalist. In addition, special guest **Dr. Matt Maberry**, whose book **Packy and Me** recounts his life with Oregon's most famous elephant, may join Jim, "weather" permitting.

# Conservation

## Lights Out Portland!

Bright city lights lure night-migrating birds into cities, where they encounter deceptive window reflections of trees, shrubs, and sky. Lights Out programs are now under way in over 20 North American cities (Toronto, NYC, Chicago, Detroit, Boston, Minneapolis/St. Paul, San Francisco, and others). This is an easy way to save money, energy, and birds! We are looking for buildings to voluntarily participate during spring and fall migration seasons. Contact Mary Coolidge at [mcoolidge@audubonportland.org](mailto:mcoolidge@audubonportland.org) or visit our website for more information and an online sign-up form at [audubonportland.org/issues/metro/bsafe/lo](http://audubonportland.org/issues/metro/bsafe/lo).



## Raptor Cam Recap

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

*"Raptor Cam has taught me to look up more when I am downtown."* — post on the Raptor Cam Facebook Page

The KGW Raptor Cam has now reached the half-decade mark. Five years ago KGW and Portland Audubon teamed up to install a web camera trained on a pair of Red-tailed Hawks that chose to nest on a downtown Portland fire escape.



Raptor Cam nestlings 2011 © Bob Sallinger

To say the first installation was fast and dirty would be an understatement — we used a cheap camera that was propped up inside a nearby office window with an obstructed view of the nest. The camera would occasionally get bumped by office workers, and viewers would be left with a blurry, even sideways, view of the nest. Nonetheless, Raptor Cam was a hit. We were in fact amazed by the response that first season, more than 40,000 hits on the webpage and not just from people in Portland, but from across the nation and beyond as well. Year two of Raptor Cam brought substantial upgrades thanks to a generous anonymous donation that allowed us to purchase much more sophisticated video technology — and page views multiplied by ten to over 400,000 hits.

Now in its 5th year, Raptor Cam receives as many as 17,000 hits in a single day, and people from all over the nation and the world tune in to watch the trials and tribulations of a pair of Red-tailed Hawks that have made downtown Portland their home. A viewer in Michigan even wrote a song about the hawks and posted it on YouTube at [youtube.com/watch?v=zVkJmVigyGo](http://youtube.com/watch?v=zVkJmVigyGo).

The 2011 nesting season saw the red-tails lay four eggs, three of which hatched between April 20 and 24. Like many local birds, the hawks began their nesting cycle later than usual this year, most likely due to the unseasonably cold and rainy spring. All three young fledged around June 12. This year two of the three nestlings survived the hazardous

fledging process. One bird was rescued by Portland Police, ironically by one of Portland's finest named Officer Byrd, after it was found wandering on foot in downtown traffic, but it was able to be quickly released back to its parents. A second fledgling was struck and fatally injured by a vehicle just a couple of days later. The two surviving fledglings were observed perfecting their flying and hunting skills over our downtown streetscape well into August.

To date, our Raptor Cam red-tails have hatched 13 eggs and laid at least 2 eggs that did not hatch. Of those, 8 of the offspring are believed to have survived through the fledging process, and one additional bird was injured in a collision with a vehicle that made it non-releasable. It will live out its life as an educational bird at the OMSI Field Station in Eastern Oregon.

During the off-season we will be looking into innovations to add to the nest cam. During 2011 we were able to add sound. We will also give the lens a much-needed cleaning — some Raptor Cam viewers have noted a decline in quality (the technical term would be "dirt").

Unlike many hawks featured on web cams, Portland's Red-tailed Hawks have not been given names. A couple of years ago I threw a question about naming the birds out on the Raptor Cam Blog. The strong consensus seemed to be that wild birds don't need names.



"Bag Monster" at City Hall hearing © Bob Sallinger

## City of Portland Bans Single-Use Plastic Bags: Raptor Cam Red-tails Play a Role

*"With so many bad things going on in the world, it is good to know that your City Council took the time and some steps to help save the planet with the passage of this ordinance. Awesome job!"*

— Post on Raptor Cam Blog

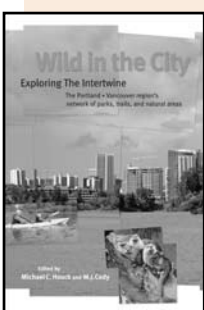
In July the Portland City Council banned single-use plastic bags. The decision had been postponed for a year while the legislature considered a statewide ban, but when Salem failed to follow through, our city council decided to act. The hearing in July at City Hall featured a packed house of supporters of the ban, including several state legislators who testified that Portland's action would pave the way for a future statewide ban. A "bag monster" testified against the ban, stating that his ability to blow about on the breeze and travel the world on our waterways, polluting the planet and killing wildlife, would be severely hampered by the ban. Special kudos to Surfrider Foundation, which did amazing work leading the effort to enact the ban.



Raptor Cam Red-tailed Hawk with eggs and plastic bag © Krista Bradford

Our Raptor Cam Red-tailed Hawks did play a role in this ban. Viewers of Raptor Cam have received a firsthand view of how wildlife interact with plastic. In each of the five years that Raptor Cam has been running, viewers have observed plastic bags in the nest. Early on people thought that the bags were blowing into the nest. As time has gone on, however, it has become clear that in fact the hawks are bringing the bags into the nest themselves. Birds will often incorporate human garbage into their nests, unaware of its potential impacts — in the case of plastic bags this includes ingestion, trapping moisture, and entanglement. Snapshots of our Raptor Cam nest with a variety of plastic bags were featured prominently in the hearings — a series of shots of the young with the bags in their beaks drew visible responses from the council and the audience.

Congratulations to the Portland City Council for their leadership in banning single-use plastic bags! Next up: the Oregon Legislature!



## Wild in the City (revisited): A Guide to the Intertwine

After nearly two years of work, an updated edition of *Wild in the City* (subtitled *A Guide to the Intertwine*) will be available this fall. This is a complete rewrite of the immensely popular *Wild in the City: A Guide to Portland's Natural Areas*, which was published nearly a decade ago. This second edition features new site guides, new natural history essays, and the latest bike, foot, and canoe/kayak wanderings. With more than 100 local and nationally recognized authors, it is sure to quickly become the definitive guide to our region's natural areas. Watch our website for promotions when it hits the shelves!

## Get involved – join FAUNA

Audubon Society of Portland is the most respected conservation advocacy organization in region when it comes to protecting and restoring a place for nature in the urban landscape. Politicians and other public officials listen when we speak because of our historic dedication, expertise, and — most importantly — because we have a large and active membership. In the last year, our advocacy has helped pass City-wide urban tree policy reforms in Portland and adopt land-use safeguards for urban natural areas in the Columbia Slough, Johnson Creek, Mt. Scott-Kellogg Creek, and Tryon Creek Watersheds. We also worked actively in the Legislature to pass bills strengthen laws against those who willfully kill or injure wildlife. We made important strides toward establishing new funding for non-game wildlife in Oregon. We were the leading state-wide conservation group to oppose SB 766, which sought to strip away citizen input and environmental safeguards for industrial development inside urban growth boundaries (UGBs).

While we were not able to kill this bill, our opposition helped limit broader attacks on natural resource protections inside UGBs.



We could not have done all this without the support of our members. We **WILL** need your help in the coming year to advance Audubon Society of Portland's conservation priorities for the urban and urbanizing communities in the Portland metropolitan region. Specifically we will need to:

- Protect West Hayden Island Wildlife Area from being paved for industrial development by the Port of Portland.
- Ensure protection of streams and wetlands in Portland, Fairview, and Troutdale.
- Fight industrial landowner efforts to weaken environmental protections inside urban growth boundaries.



We will need your help again soon to protect West Hayden Island Wildlife Area from industrial development. © Jim Labbe

- Expand access to nature in deficient neighborhoods and sustain public investment to improve access to nature where most needed.

Please get involved by joining Portland Audubon's **Friends and Advocates of Urban Natural Areas (FAUNA)**. Or follow action alerts on Audubon Society of Portland's Facebook Page.

Sign up to get email alerts at [audubonportland.org/issues/get-involved/fauna\\_form](http://audubonportland.org/issues/get-involved/fauna_form).

# Westmoreland Park Duck Round-up

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

In September Portland Audubon, the City of Portland, and USDA Wildlife Services will partner on an effort to capture and find permanent homes for nearly 100 domestic ducks and geese that live at Westmoreland Park in southeast Portland. The “round-up” is part of a larger project being led by the Portland Bureau of Environmental Services to restore Crystal Springs Creek.

Crystal Springs Creek is a tributary of lower Johnson Creek in southeast Portland. The creek originates from a spring near Reed College and flows through Eastmoreland Golf Course and then into Westmoreland Park before eventually joining with Johnson Creek and ultimately the Willamette River. Before development this area provided wetlands which retained excess water from flood events and provided important rearing and refuge habitat for Coho and Chinook Salmon and steelhead trout, and foraging and nesting sites for beavers, birds, turtles, frogs, and other wildlife. The City of Portland and multiple partners are engaged in a multi-year effort to remove culverts, restore a more natural stream channel, and reestablish vegetated riparian buffers. Ultimately what this project will do is cool and clean the water flowing into Johnson Creek and help restore fish and wildlife populations in the heart of southeast Portland.

Significant work has already been completed in Reed College Canyon. In 2012, the City will begin work in Westmoreland Park. Today the creek flows into a shallow, cement-lined pond at the north end of the park and then into a narrow cement-lined channel. The landscape is virtually devoid of vegetation — even the grass is nibbled down to the barest nubs. The creek water warms and becomes polluted as it passes through. Guided by a master plan developed with extensive community input, the pond will be narrowed, and a more natural, narrow meander buffered by extensive plantings will be established.

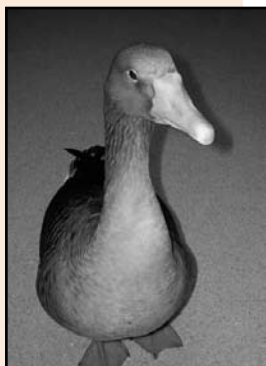
That is where the Duck Round-up comes in. Over the years huge populations of ducks and geese have become established at Westmoreland Park. Many of these ducks and geese are domestic waterfowl that were purchased as



Domestic ducks at Westmoreland Park © Bob Sallinger

## Can You Provide a Home for Domestic Ducks and Geese?

Audubon is looking for good permanent homes for domestic ducks and geese that have been abandoned in our local parks and natural areas. We are looking for farm settings or rural homes with private ponds where these abandoned domestic waterfowl can live out their lives. The Westmoreland duck round-up in September will create a particularly large immediate demand. However, we see a steady stream of these animals throughout the rest of the year as well.



Domestic goose in need of good home © Wildlife Care Center

Please contact us if you have a private pond or an appropriate area on your property for one of more of these birds. Contact Dr. Deb Sheaffer at dsheaffer@audubonportland.org.



Ducks, gulls, and geese being fed bread at Westmoreland Park © Bob Sallinger

ducklings and goslings at pet stores and feed stores and then illegally abandoned when their owners discovered that they grew into noisy, messy, expensive-to-feed adults. Generations of abandoned domestic waterfowl have proliferated at the park. Although often done with good intentions, abandoning domestic ducks in public parks is illegal, inhumane, and destructive to the environment. These ducks are poorly equipped to survive in the wild — they don't have the wild instincts of native birds and many are not even able to fly. They are easy prey for dogs and other predators.

The situation has been further exacerbated by extensive intentional feeding of the ducks, geese, gulls, and crows that inhabit the park. It is virtually impossible to visit Westmoreland Park without observing somebody tossing a small mountain of bread to the birds — so much so that the park is perpetually covered in a carpet of moldy, soggy bread. While again done with the best of intentions, feeding these birds has exactly the opposite result. It causes the birds to congregate in unnaturally large numbers — far more than the limited habitat can support. Wild ducks and geese are drawn to the site for the handouts and can quickly lose their natural instincts to move from location to location and then migrate. Bread is basically junk food for birds and it can cause a variety of nutritional problems. Perhaps the most visible problem is a condition known as “angel wing,” in which the outer tips of the wings appear to have flipped upside down. This condition is a direct result of growing ducks that have been fed too high a protein diet such as bread while they were developing. It is incurable, prevents flight, and is almost entirely associated with ducks that live in parks.

Duck feeding leads to many additional problems as well. Unnaturally large congregations of ducks and geese decimate vegetation and degrade water quality. They also display unnaturally aggressive behaviors toward one another, especially during breeding season. Each year our Wildlife Care Center takes in dozens of female park ducks



Duck, geese, and bread at Westmoreland Park. Notice also the cement edges surrounding the pond. © Bob Sallinger

that have suffered gruesome injuries including broken legs, backs, and wings, and lacerated scalps and backs as a result of hyper-aggressive male courtship competition. In order to escape from the males, females nest far from water, sometimes up to a couple of miles. They then need to lead their flightless young on foot back to water through the hazardous urban streetscape. In recent years our Care Center has experienced huge increases in the number of orphaned ducklings that have become separated from their mothers during these hazardous traverses — peaking at nearly 400 in 2010.



Degraded habitat, geese, and bread at Westmoreland Park © Bob Sallinger

Sadly, these conditions are not unique to Westmoreland Park. Park ponds throughout the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan region are experiencing similar challenges.

When Crystal Springs is restored to more natural conditions in 2012, the existing duck and goose populations will be displaced. The native ducks and geese will be able to fly to new and appropriate locations, but the domestics — many of which are unflighted, lack natural instincts and are almost entirely dependent on human handouts — will be stranded.

Audubon, working with the City and USDA Wildlife Services, will trap between 70 and 100 domestic ducks and geese from Westmoreland Park in mid-September. Using temporary fencing, we will funnel the waterfowl into a large box trap. Any native ducks and geese will be released, but domestic waterfowl will be captured, examined, and then transported to pre-selected permanent homes where they can live out their lives. The hope is that by the time restoration activities begin in 2012, the park will be virtually free of domestic waterfowl. The longer-term vision is of a restored Westmoreland Park in which native ducks and geese visit, breed, and forage in more natural numbers — a situation that will be far healthier and more humane than the conditions that exist today.



Bread litters the beach at Milwaukie Riverfront Park — the problems are not limited to just Westmoreland © Bob Sallinger

## Other Ways You Can Help

- Only purchase ducks and geese if you are truly able to provide a permanent home for these animals. Understand the needs of these animals before you acquire them.
- Discourage your children's class from raising animals unless they have identified appropriate permanent homes before the project begins.
- Never abandon a domestic duck or goose in the wild — it is illegal, inhumane, and bad for the environment.
- Report any sightings of people abandoning animals in parks to the local park authority.
- Please do not feed the waterfowl — even with the best intentions, it does real harm!

# Educational Trips

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](http://www.audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult).

## Whales & Wildlife of the Sea of Cortez

March 18–24, 2012

Spend six days exploring the Sea of Cortez with Portland Audubon as we cruise the whale-rich waters north of La Paz. Whale biologists all agree that there is no better place in the world to see a greater variety of whales than the Sea of Cortez, also known as the Gulf of California and the Vermillion Sea. Here the marine food chain is so rich with krill that the largest and second largest whale species in the world, **Blue Whale** and **Fin Whale**, are encountered regularly in the spring along with **Humpback** and **Bryde's Whales**. We may also find **Orca** (Killer Whale), **Common and Bottlenose Dolphin**, **Pilot Whale**, and **Sperm Whale**, and in past trips we've even glimpsed the rare Beaked Whale.



Magnificent Frigatebird female and male. Photo: Balabiot

This area is part of the International Biosphere Program and is characterized by desert islands rising abruptly from marine depths close to the Baja Peninsula. Endemic species of birds, reptiles (rattleless rattlesnakes!), and plants are found here, just as in the famed Galapagos Islands of Ecuador. Bird life is rich with marine species such as **Brown and Blue-footed Booby**, **Magnificent Frigatebird**, **Black Storm-Petrel**, **Xantus's Murrelet**, **Heermann's Gull**, **Elegant Tern**, and the endemic **Yellow-footed Gull**. While hiking arroyos lined with desert vegetation of Mesquite, Copal, and Cardon cactus, we might watch **Verdin**, **California Gnatcatcher**, **Northern Cardinal**, **Costa's Hummingbird**, and **White-winged Dove**, with a possibility at seeing the endemic **Xantus's Hummingbird**.

Our daily itinerary will be flexible to take advantage of the best opportunities and will include cruising in search of marine wildlife, hikes on beautiful desert islands, beach combing, and opportunities to kayak and snorkel. Accommodations are in comfortable cabins aboard the 80-foot-long *M/V Don Jose*. Built specifically for wildlife trips in the Sea of Cortez, the *Don Jose* will be our floating home for the entire expedition. This trip is limited to 14 participants. See also our **San Ignacio Lagoon Post-Trip Extension** opportunity to view *Gray Whales* up close and personal.

**Fee:** \$2295–\$2495 members / \$2595–\$2795 non-members

**Deposit:** \$1200

**Group size:** 14 participants

**Leader:** Steve Engel, Adult Education Manager

**Fee includes** 6 nights of accommodations aboard the *M/V Don Jose* and one night in Loreto, all meals beginning with breakfast on March 19 (day 2) through lunch on March 24 (day 7), all beverages while shipboard, the guide services of Audubon Society of Portland staff, and a Conservation Passport allowing you to visit protected areas in Mexico for one year. **Not included:** Airfare to and from Portland, airport shuttles, some meals, and gratuities for ship's crew.

Contact **Steve Engel** at 971-222-6119 for a registration packet and further details on our ship's accommodations, suggested flight itinerary, etc.



Common Eider male.  
Photo: Ross Elliott

## BIRDING MAINE

June 3–14, 2012

Small bays and inlets with vast coastal estuaries attract many birds along the beautiful Maine shoreline. While exploring the coast from Scarborough to Acadia and Lubec, we'll search for **Common Eider**, **Little Blue Heron**, and **Nelson's Sparrow**. We'll take a boat to the nesting seabird colonies of **Machias Island** where the air is filled with the raucous calls of **Atlantic Puffins** and **Razorbills** as well as both **Common and Arctic Terns**. Also included is a visit to Mt. Washington for eastern warblers, **Boreal Chickadee**, and the enigmatic **Bicknell's Thrush**.

**Fee:** \$2195 members / \$2495 non-members

**Deposit:** \$1100

**Group size:** 14 participants

Contact **Dan van den Broek** at 971-222-6105 or [dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org](mailto:dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org) for more information or to register.

Portland Audubon's International Tours now include a Carbon Offset contribution that will go directly for the stewardship of our 150-acre Forest Park Wildlife Sanctuary. **A flat fee of \$50 per person** will be added to the cost of these tours and will be used to maintain our trails, plant trees to help grow our native canopy, and sustain this special place for future generations. Thank you.



Antonio's Ecotours cabanas © Kelly Sarvela

## San Ignacio Lagoon Post-Trip Extension

March 24–27, 2012

Join us for a once-in-a-lifetime experience in the world-famous **San Ignacio Lagoon**. Located on the west coast of the Baja Peninsula, this is the winter destination of thousands of **Gray Whales** that come to mate and give birth. The shallow, warm, protected waters shelter the nursing newborn whales until they have the strength to swim north with their mothers to the Arctic Ocean. We see them pass by the Oregon coast twice each year — now come and see where they spend their winter. While here we will take several trips by skiff among the whales, we'll bird mangrove swamps, and we'll relax in our unique desert surroundings.

San Ignacio Lagoon is one of those natural environments that is so foreign to our day-to-day lives here that it seems like we are on another planet. The land is flat as can be but with mountain ranges hovering mirage-like on the horizon. It is a stark landscape but rich in colors of blue, green, white, and red as ocean waters greet desert shores. In the morning after a sumptuous Mexican-influenced hot breakfast buffet, we depart in a skiff for a brief ride to the whale-viewing area. Here mothers are nursing calves and training them for the long swim north that is soon to come. Our experienced guide and skiff driver knows these whales well and will help us understand the many behaviors we are sure to witness. We return to our accommodations for lunch and relaxing and then venture out again in the afternoon for more whale watching and birding a nearby mangrove habitat. Our cabanas are ideally situated at water's edge with restaurant, cantina, and an awe-inspiring waterfront view.



Another close encounter © Kelly Sarvela

**Fee:** \$595

**Deposit:** \$300

**Group size:** 14 participants

**Leaders:** Steve Engel and local guides

**Fee is based on double occupancy and includes** round-trip transportation by automobile between Loreto and San Ignacio Lagoon Cabanas, 2 nights lodging in San Ignacio Lagoon Cabanas; 2 dinners, 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches; and 3 skiff rides (about 90 minutes each) among the whales. Your stay in Loreto on March 24 is included as part of your Whales and Wildlife of the Sea of Cortez trip. **Not included:** meals on March 27, transportation to the airport from hotel in Loreto, and gratuities to local staff.

## BIRDING COSTA RICA

Two spaces left!

January 28 – February 12, 2012

Costa Rica is renowned for the high diversity of plants and animals. Our tour includes the most exciting destinations to see birds and wildlife: **Savegre** for the **Resplendent Quetzal** (considered to be the most beautiful bird in the world), **El Copal** for the best birding in Costa Rica, **Tortuguero** where much of our birding is done by boat, and the unique **Celeste Mountain Lodge**.

**Fee:** \$3595 members / \$3895 non-members

For more information or to register, please contact **Dan van den Broek** at 971-222-6105 or [dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org](mailto:dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org).

Resplendent Quetzal.  
Photo: Peter Forster



## 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](http://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](mailto:sengel@audubonportland.org) or 971-222-6119.

### Beginning Birding I

**Sept. 12 (Mon), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall**  
**Sept. 18 & 25 (Sun), 8am–11:30am: Local Field Trips**

Join **Laura Whittemore** for her ever-popular introduction to bird watching. You will learn about field gear such as binoculars and field guides, how to recognize birds by groups, and how to identify species by their field marks, behavior, and sound. This is the perfect class for you if you've ever wanted to "get started" in bird watching. This class is likely to fill quickly, so don't hesitate to sign up!



Photo: Bill Thompson/USFWS

**Fee:** \$45 members / \$60 non-members

**Class size:** Limited to 14 participants

### Beginning Birding 2

**Oct. 16 & 23 (Sun), 8am–11:30am: Local Field Trips**

**Oct. 29 (Sat), 8am–5pm: Field Trip (transportation provided)**

Take your new birding skills to the next level with **Laura Whittemore**. This class is designed for those wanting more time in the field practicing and improving their birding abilities. Two morning field trips to local sites and an all-day van trip will help familiarize you with some of the best places to visit for bird watching in town and further afield. Transportation provided by Audubon for all-day field trip only.

**Fee:** \$75 members / \$95 non-members

**Class size:** Limited to 12 participants



Cooper's Hawk.  
Photo: Don DeBold

Sharp-shinned Hawk.  
Photo: Steve Berardi



### Identifying Hawks in Flight

**Sept. 21 (Wed), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall**  
**Sept. 24 (Sat), 9am–5pm: Field Trip to Bonney Butte (transportation provided)**

Each fall large numbers of birds of prey — hawks, eagles, falcons, osprey — fly south across the continent as they migrate to their winter homes. Individual birds seek out landscape features that help them stay aloft and avoid those features that don't. The result is concentrations of migrating birds at predictable times and places during the migration season. Helping beginning bird watchers recognize and identify hawks in flight is the focus of this class. A Saturday field trip to Bonney Butte, a hawk migration study site near Mt. Hood, will provide an opportunity to see many migrating birds and practice newly learned identification skills. Instructor **Steve Engel** spent four seasons at the Goshute Mountains in Nevada as an observer, counting migrating raptors for HawkWatch International.

**Class & Field Trip Fee:** \$50 members / \$70 non-members (transportation provided)

Field Trip limited to 12 participants. A second van may be added if needed.

**Class Only option:** \$10 members / \$15 members / FREE for volunteers



Common Loon. Photo: Ano Lobb

### Birding Oregon Hotspots — Tillamook Bay

**Sept. 22 (Thu), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall**  
**Sept. 24 (Sat), 8am–5pm: Field Trip to Coast (transportation provided)**

An easy daytrip from Portland, the area around Tillamook Bay has a great diversity of habitats, which attracts a great diversity of birds. Mudflats, rocky outcrops, forests, estuaries, and views to the ocean for those occasional near-shore pelagic species are literally just minutes apart. We will look for three Cormorant species and have good chances for as many Loon species. We'll also seek "Rockpipers" and Sandpipers, Raptors, Wrentit, Waterfowl, and early arrivals of wintering Gull species. Join *Birding Oregon* author and guide **John Rakestraw** for an exploration of this prime birding destination along the Oregon Coast. In the evening class we will learn about the best birding sites in the area and review some of the expected species. On Saturday we'll visit these sites to experience the autumn migration firsthand.

**Class & Field Trip Fee:** \$75 members / \$95 non-members (transportation provided)  
Field Trip limited to 12 participants

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

### Nature Journaling with Jude Siegel Recording Impressions of Nature with Drawing, Notes, and Watercolor

**Oct. 8 & 15 (Sat), 10am–4pm: Classes in Heron Hall & Sanctuary**

Whether you have some art experience — or none at all — you are welcome to join in this special two-day class. Simple exercises will be given, in an encouraging atmosphere, to relax into nature and record sights, sounds, and impressions in our Journals. With lots of time to learn to observe closely, we will then draw simply and add a bit of watercolor to our pages. Some fun pen work and watercolor instruction will be given, as well as ways to enhance your pages with borders, plant pressings, and more. With two days of instruction, your skill and confidence levels will grow as your individual style emerges. Jude's one-day class on April 30 was filled and very well received: "*Jude is a wonderful, encouraging instructor who really helped me learn more about the subject.*" —Amy Doyle, student

**Fee:** \$75 members / \$95 non-members (plus materials)

**Class size:** Limited to 14 participants

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



Image: Nicola Rolla

# Adult Classes



Ring-necked Duck © Steve Berliner

### Beginning Field Birding & Sauvie Island Exploration with Greg Baker, Fall 2011

**Saturdays, 8am–Noon**  
**Oct. 1, Nov. 5, and Dec. 3\***

Saturday morning explorations at one of Oregon's most accessible Important Bird Areas — Sauvie Island Wildlife Area, managed by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife — continue with **Greg Baker!** Greg's class has been filling twice a year for 20 years now, and for good reason. This field class series is perfect for those interested in developing and sharpening their birding skills under a variety of conditions with the tutelage of an expert birder. Explore different habitats on the island, learn bird calls, and search for waterfowl, songbirds, and raptors.

**Fee:** \$60 members / \$75 non-members

**Class size:** Limited to 15 participants

\*Participants pre-register for all 3 days.

### Portland Audubon's School of Birding 2012

There is still space in the 2012 year of the School of Birding. Learn the natural history, identification, and best places to find Northwest birds. Class size is limited to 16 participants, so register soon. The following schedule includes dates for classes and **field trips** (*in bold italics*).

#### Winter

January 4, 7, 11, 18, **21**

February 8, **11**, 22, 29

March **11**

Overnight field trip **January 13, 14, 15 to Coastal Olympic Peninsula**

#### Spring

March 14, 17, **21**, 28, **31**

April 4, 7, 18, **21**

May 16, 23

Overnight field trip **May 18, 19, 20 to John Day**

#### Summer

July 18, **21**, 25, **28**

August 1, 4, 8, 15, **18**, 22

Overnight field trip **August 24, 25, 26 to Coastal Washington and Ocean Shores**

**Fee per quarter is \$495 and 20 hours of volunteering at Portland Audubon.**

Online registration is now available. For more information or to register, contact Dan van den Broek at 971-222-6105 or [dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org](mailto:dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org).

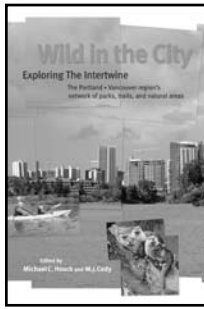
### Winter fun is just around the corner!

Look for the Winter Break Camp schedule in the November/December Warbler. We'll have programs for students in grades 1–8.

# Nature Store Highlights

by Sally Loomis, Book Buyer

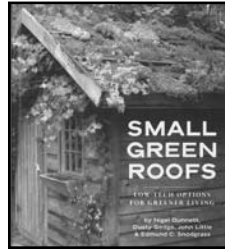
Our big news in the Nature Store is the coming publication of the second edition of *Wild in the City!* This totally updated version, subtitled *Exploring the Intertwine* (the Portland-Vancouver region's network of parks, trails, and natural areas), features over 100 contributing authors. It's a cooperative venture between Audubon Society of Portland and Oregon State University Press, with an expected release in late October or early November. We'll have lots of hoopla and celebration for its release, so keep an eye out on our website, our e-news, and the next *Warbler* for news on events and promotions.



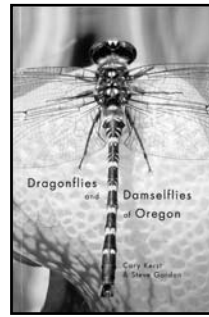
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$21.00) and Dunne's *The Art of Bird Finding* (Stackpole, \$14.95) are chock full of tips and strategies for improving your birding skills.



Portland Audubon strongly supports efforts to increase wildlife habitat by developing green roofs on urban buildings. While starting such a project might seem overwhelming to the average urban dweller, *Small Green Roofs: Low-Tech Options for Greener Living* by Dunnett et al. (Timber Press, \$24.95) breaks down the process into easier chunks to encourage you to add a green roof to your garage, shed, or even home. Plus there are lots of photographs and descriptions of successful projects to give you plenty of inspiration.



*Dragonflies and Damselflies of Oregon: A Field Guide* by Cary Kerst and Steve Gordon (Oregon State University Press, \$24.95) is a comprehensive guide to these fascinating insects across the state. The authors' previous volume for the Willamette Valley was a longtime hot-selling title for our Nature Store, and we're anticipating this will also be a useful and popular book.

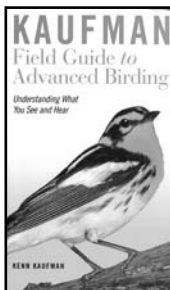


Finally, here's a reminder that the autumn months are a great time to learn our native trees and fungi. We have a wide selection of books on both topics, so please drop by and take a look. Then take your new field guide for a walk in the woods — you'll find all sorts of treasures overhead and underfoot.

Alaskan author and naturalist Hank Lentfer comes to Heron Hall on Thursday, **November 3rd at 7:00pm** to give a presentation on his new work, *Faith of Cranes: Finding Hope and Family in Alaska* (Mountaineers Books, \$16.95). A meditation on hope and despair, the author tries to answer the question "How can you bring children into a world filled with uncertainty and ecological peril?" framed by his growing fascination with Sandhill Cranes. Author David James Duncan writes, "Faith of Cranes is a love song to the beauty and worth of the lives we are able to lead in the world just as it is, troubled though it be.... The writing is honest, intensely lived, and overflowing with heart: broken, mended, and whole."



Serious birders should obtain the new works from veteran birding authors Kenn Kaufman and Pete Dunne. *The Kaufman Field Guide to Advanced Birding*



# Sanctuaries Happenings

by Tom Costello, Sanctuaries Director

As summer draws to a close we begin to pick up the pace on our sanctuaries work projects. While summer is a high activity season for most, the Sanctuaries department usually tries to keep a low profile; our projects often tend to get messy and we prefer to do the bulk of our work in the offseason.

## Building Bridges

But as we approach press time we have two significant trail projects happening: the replacement of two bridges on the outer reaches of the Jay Trail. The first will see the replacement of a short and severely sloped bridge just beyond our old-growth area, with a longer bridge that will keep a relatively flat slope — much safer in the rainy months. The second will see the replacement of a soon-to-be-failing bridge at the farthest reach of the Jay Trail; this project will help a local scout earn his Eagle Badge. Both bridges should be complete by press time.

## Planting Trees

We are also working with another scout on a significant ivy removal project and tree planting off the Al Miller Trail in the Uhtoff Sanctuary. This is the first Eagle Badge project that we have done that involves restoration work — and it is a privilege to be working with a scout that has the motivation and interest to undertake a project of this nature. The plan is to spend two days removing a dense patch of ivy that covers approximately one acre just south of the Al Miller Trail, then follow up with a day of planting 500–600 native trees and shrubs. We are looking to complete this project in January or early February, depending on the availability of bare root stock for planting.

We're excited to be planning for another year of **Gift Tree Plantings** with our good friends at Friends of Trees. As you may know, each year Friends of Trees hosts two large plantings in our Collins Sanctuary. This year's plantings

will take place **Sunday, December 11, 2011**, and **Sunday, March 25, 2012**. To support this wonderful program and purchase a tree for planting, search for "Gift Tree Planting" on our website (in the "Support Us" section) or inquire at the Nature Store.

In addition, we are happy to coordinate another planting with Friends of Trees in the Pittock Sanctuary this year by serving as host for their annual crew leader training. This is the third year we have hosted this training for FOT and this has proved to be a fantastic partnership. We are happy to provide a convenient location for FOT to train their cadre of volunteer leaders, and of course we are doubly happy to benefit from the installation of 300 or so native trees and shrubs. This year's planting will target the areas immediately adjacent to the renovated trail sections just beyond the pond.

## Closing Meditation

I've been enjoying the sunny days of late, and have had some good opportunities to spend some time in the sanctuaries planning projects for the coming year. As I walk the trails I see some of our recent work: shiny (well, almost shiny) new bridges, clean new sections of trails, recently planted trees. I also see washouts, old bridges beginning to rot, downed trees. I see flowers giving way to fruit and leaves beginning to yellow, and I see shelf fungus and woodpecker holes in rotten old snags. It is all a good reminder that everything changes, and nothing is permanent. But in the moment, everything is perfect, just as it is. I hope you are enjoying every moment of your summer! Cheers!

*After writing my article and closing meditation I went down the trail to capture a photo to accompany the closing meditation. To my great surprise I found someone had composed 4 short poems about our sanctuaries and taped them to posts, signs, and railings along the trail (see image) — what a wonderful, serendipitous discovery, so fitting for my thoughts today.*

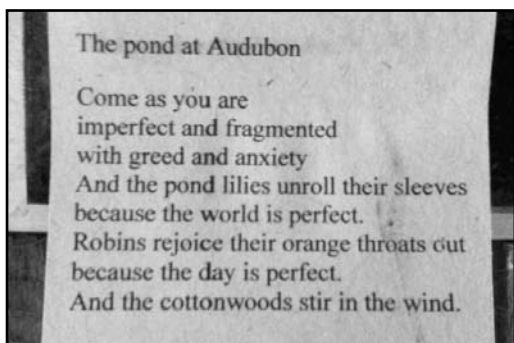


Photo © Tom Costello

# Swarovski Digiscoping Workshops

With Clay Taylor of Swarovski Optik

3 Days of Free Seminars and Field Trips!  
Sept. 29 and Oct. 1 and 2

**Thursday, Sept. 29, 6:30pm–8:30pm in Heron Hall: Sighting Scopes & Digiscoping Equipment**



Join us for a talk focused on evaluating and selecting sighting scopes for nature observation. Clay will cover compatible equipment used for taking digital photos including camera adapters, cameras, and tripods.

**Saturday, Oct. 1, 10am–Noon in Heron Hall: Digiscoping Workshop**

Bring your equipment to Audubon for a hands-on workshop on digiscoping techniques, or give ours a try. You'll learn how to achieve the best results with your equipment, with an emphasis on proper camera settings. Then we'll go outdoors to practice. There's an optional afternoon carpool to digiscope in the Portland area from 1pm to 4pm.

**Sunday, Oct. 2, location to be announced**

Full-day digiscoping field trip with Clay Taylor. Limited to 10 participants.

To register or for more information contact Nancy Mattson, Nature Store Manager, at nmattson@audubonportland.org or 503-292-9453.

Audubon Society of Portland gratefully acknowledges these thoughtful gifts:

## In Memory

**Doris L. Cleary**

Allison Hall  
Bill & Nancy Meyer  
Susan & Alan Miller  
Daniel, Dana & Jacob Miller

Evelyn Munding  
Steve & Linda Rodeman  
Ruth Ross  
Delores Sanders  
Frances Schueler  
Timothy Schueler  
Jim & Maria Teeter

**Prudence Denney**  
Sue Friedman

**Marie E. Drew**  
Anita Alexander  
Marcia & Gregory Brown

**Millie Gilbert**  
Kay Parr  
Bob & Shirley Peebles

**Barbara Gulette**  
Richard Shaw

**Lisa Gulette**  
Richard Shaw

**Grandpa Hong**  
Jessica Elliott

**Kathryn LaFollette**  
Becky Taylor  
John & Susan Turner

**Ron Mack**  
Joe Fruge

**Marilyn Mandelblatt**  
Cynthia Sulaski

**Jack Poff**  
The Friends of Jack Poff

**Marlin R. "Smitty" Smith**  
Euro RSCG Edge

**Patricia Wessinger**  
Susan & Greg Goodman

## In Honor

**Charlie Armstrong**  
Alexis Moidel  
Benjamin Orth  
Maureen Wagner

**Tom Booth**  
Anne Booth

**Liz Bryan**  
Lynn Reer  
Claire

**Nancy Fadeley**  
Dallas Cole

**Malena Keys**  
Abigail Birsh

**Kristina Raum**  
Maggie Lee Post  
Karen Thomas

**Cheryl Reeves**  
Kathryn DelGatto

**Jennifer Richter**  
Claire Hawk

**Bella Glastra Van Loon**  
Stephanie, Guy, Samantha  
& Elisabeth Wettstein

You can honor a special person with a gift to Audubon Society of Portland. Your gift will help fund a future of inspiring people to love and protect nature. You can make an Honor or Memorial gift online at [www.audubonportland.org](http://www.audubonportland.org) or by calling 971-222-6130. A songbird card acknowledging your thoughtful gift will be sent to the honoree or family.

## Volunteer of the Month: Rochelle Teeny

by Debbie Daniels,  
WCC Operations Manager

If you were to ask **Rochelle Teeny**, she would smile and tell you that she loves what she does for Audubon. While she would add that she's only one member of the team, Rochelle's dedication (she has volunteered 360 hours in one year) and skills have made her an integral part of the Wildlife Care Center.

In 2010, Rochelle began entering data for the care center. She thought the format was cumbersome, so offered to revamp the entire data system, making it user friendly and including the data from previous years. In the stroke of a key, the WCC can now easily access data such as the number of animals that were shot between 1998 and 2010, or an evaluation of the number of ducks taken in over sequential years. Reconfiguring the system takes an in-depth knowledge of the program and programming, while keeping up with the Wildlife Care Center's 3,000 yearly intakes takes dedication and hard work.



Photo: R.T.

Additionally, Rochelle was deeply involved in the care center's online auction and is willing to do anything else that is needed. Rochelle sat on the committee for the auction, created the auction website, and wrote most of the descriptions that enticed people to bid on the once-in-a-lifetime experiences. Her ability to make the experiences sound as uniquely amazing as they actually were and her hard work made the WCC's first online auction a huge success. And when the WCC needed more volunteers during the busy "baby bird season," Rochelle stepped up, doing laundry, washing dishes, holding crows, cleaning cages, answering the phone, and even going to the laundromat when the washer broke. While none of these jobs is glamorous, they are essential to allowing the care center to run smoothly. Rochelle does each job with a smile on her face.

Raising three kids, Rochelle knows how to work hard and be patient. Putting her unique skills to work, Rochelle has allowed the WCC to function more effectively. Her job might keep her behind the scenes, but we would like to put her in the spotlight and thank her for everything that she does. She is a shining example of how people with unique skills can find a place at Portland Audubon and how one person can make a huge difference. **Thank you, Rochelle**, for your positive attitude, hard work, and dedication, and for everything that you have done for Portland Audubon!

## Wish List & Thank Yous

### Thank you to:

- Jane Coombes & Magnolia Manor for bird feeders, bird houses, bird-themed decorative items and native plants
- Jim Cruce for two hundred 4x6" photos in an album and nine 4x6" photos matted and framed
- Waltraut Fischer for a framed "Oriental Cuckoo" painting by John Picher
- Donald Klopfenstein for bleach for the WCC
- Alan Locklear and Marie Valleroy for 6 new loppers and 8 jumbo paper towel rolls
- Janet Plog for ten Bird and Nature books
- Virginia Ross for Exact baby bird food, Science Diet food, and a transport carrier for Jack Sparrowhawk for the WCC
- Paula Squire for 25 three-qt bottles of bleach for the WCC

### Our Wish List:

#### For Education:

Laptop computer  
Powerpoint Projector  
Flat Screen Monitor

#### For Sanctuary:

Loppers  
Hand saws  
Work gloves

#### For Wildlife Care Center:

Science Diet Kitten Growth • Bleach  
Dawn Dishwashing Detergent • 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.

## Monk Parakeet Escapee Colonies

On September 10, 1977, Samuel Moore was dove hunting in the Rivergate area of North Portland when he flushed and shot a dove. On retrieving the bird he saw that it was not a dove at all but a bird he did not recognize. He showed it to the ODFW and was told that it was a Monk Parakeet. Two days later he returned to the area and flushed another parakeet but did not shoot it.

The **Monk Parakeet** is a common bird from Bolivia and Brazil and south to Uruguay and Argentina. They prefer dry open savannas and woodlands but are attracted to, and are most common around, human habitation. In South America they are quite sedentary with only a limited amount of dispersal. They form small to medium-sized colonies of usually fewer than 20 individuals. They regularly abandon the nest and build new ones nearby. In South America they nest from October to late December.

Colonies in North America quickly adjusted to nest April through July. This is expected, as lengthening daylight in spring initiates the nesting cycle.

During the fall of 1977 two Monk Parakeets escaped from captivity in southeast Portland and built a stick nest on a power substation. A fair-sized colony was soon formed and the nest increased in size. By 1980 there were parakeet colonies reported in several parts of Portland with



Monk Parakeet female. Photo: BerserkerBen

successful nesting apparent at most sites. When a colony reaches a certain population level it breaks up, with birds moving to another site and forming a new colony.

Most of these colonies were short-lived and soon disappeared. The most successful colony built its nest in large oak trees near the Portland Airport. Over the years the colony broke up several times with new nests built nearby. The original nest served up to about 24 birds through most of its existence.

The Monk Parakeet population in the Portland area reached a peak about 1988 and the numbers remained fairly steady. Although reproduction was obvious, the population remained rather low and unstable. The Oregon Bird Records Committee was reluctant to add the species to the Official State List and did not do so.

Parakeet numbers remained fairly steady through 2002 then suddenly dropped. The birds became scarce and hard to find, but a few individuals hung on in northeast Portland. Bob Stites and Andy Frank reported the last Portland-area sighting on February 14, 2007.

Small colonies were established in other cities and towns in western Oregon and Washington during this period. Although reports have been less frequent in recent years, they do continue to occur.

## Sightings

The wet, cold weather we endured this spring probably adversely affected the birds nesting during the unsettled period. However, by mid-July juvenile birds were very conspicuous. Despite this there were reports of out of place non-breeding birds all summer.

Many Portland-area birders were pleasantly surprised to hear the distinctive "peent" of **Nighthawks** flying about overhead throughout the month of June. Most were late-arriving migrants heading for their mountain clear-cut nesting sites. It has been many years since Nighthawks have nested in the Willamette Valley.

On May 30 Tom Shreve photographed a very distinctive female **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** in Tigard. Grant Canterbury reported another female Rose-breasted at the Tualatin River NWR June 23. On June 14 Rob Conway found a singing male Rose-breasted at the Riverview Cemetery in SW Portland. On June 19 Jim Danzenbaker was visited by a singing **Ovenbird** at his home near Washougal.

A bit less spectacular but unexpected was the **Black-throated Sparrow** that stopped at Ridgefield NWR June 8 and was seen by several visitors. The refuge had several good finds this spring and summer. On July 27 the three summering **White Pelicans** increased to 42 as new birds arrived. Up to eight **Redheads** were seen on the refuge, but may not have nested.



Rose-breasted Grosbeak female ©TomShrevePhotography

Randy Hill, Ridgefield NWR manager, reports that two pairs of **Black Phoebes** nested this year on the refuge, with one pair attempting a second nesting. In addition both **Eastern and Western Kingbirds** nested on the refuge's Bachelor Island. Both kingbirds were nesting again this summer at the Sandy River Delta. On June 27 Brad Vrilakas observed a visiting **Lark Sparrow** in the Delta.

During recent summers small flocks of **Great Egrets** have been found foraging in Scappoose Bottoms. These were assumed to be possibly nesting in the large heron colony on Bachelor Island. On June 30 Darrel Whipple and John Byrd kayaking at the north end of Scappoose Bottoms observed a **Great Egret** feeding young in a nest at the heron colony there.

The slowly maturing Vanport Wetlands in North Portland contained nesting **Redheads**, **Ruddy Ducks**, and **Blue-winged Teal** this year, along with a swarm of **American Coots**. On June 11 Trask Colby spotted a male **Greater Scaup** in the wetlands.

Up to 13 **White Pelicans**, four **Western Grebes**, and two **Clark's Grebes** remained at the Fernhill Wetlands this summer. The water there remained very high through most of the period with few shorebirds until late July. On July 18 Mark Wilkinson reported an early **Red-shouldered Hawk** at Dawson Creek Park in Hillsboro.

## Portland Audubon's East Metro Region Events

All events are free! Please RSVP to [btrinh@audubonportland.org](mailto:btrinh@audubonportland.org) or call 971-222-6139.

**August 31 (Wed), 7pm-8pm**  
at Leach Botanical Garden Manor House  
**Vaux's Swifts with Steve Engel**

Steve Engel, Portland Audubon's Adult Education Manager, will inform you about the swifts' biology and habits, and things to keep in mind when viewing them.

**September 24 (Sat)**  
**Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood**  
**Re-greening Biking and Walking Tour**  
**Bike ride: 10:30am-2:30pm**  
**Walking tour: 3pm-5pm**

Meet at Raymond Park for both ride and walk; tour and discuss opportunities to expand access to nature in and around the Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood.

**September 27 (Tue), 6:15pm-6:45pm**  
at Leach Botanical Garden Manor House  
**Backyard Birds with Cathy Schar**

Photos and sounds of about 25 common backyard birds in the Portland area, including resident and migratory species from hummingbirds to scrub jays.

**September 27 (Tue), 7pm-8pm**  
at Leach Botanical Garden Manor House  
**Johnson Creek Floodplain Restoration for Biodiversity**

Join our guest **Maggie Skendarian** for the rescheduled presentation, "Johnson Creek Floodplain Restoration for Biodiversity."

**100 Toyota Cars for Good Update:  
We Won a  
New Vehicle!  
Thank you all for making  
this possible!**

**by Ann Takamoto,  
Development Director**

Five hundred nonprofits from around the country were chosen through application process to compete for a brand new Toyota vehicle, and five nonprofits each day were up for a Facebook vote over the course of 100 days. Our big day was August 12, a Friday, and a beautiful one at that! Voting opened at 6:00am EST, and by the time one of our staff voted at 4:00am, we were in second place. What transpired throughout the rest of the vote (to 11:59pm EST) was truly wonderful! While we were concerned as we watched our status unchanged throughout the day — the sun was out, people were out, people were away from their computers — we shifted the standings right about 5pm!

The voting was close, but you pulled out the stops! It was a veritable race to the finish as we chatted with you on Facebook, encouraged you yet again to repost and ask your friends to vote, sent updates to other organizations' walls... what an amazing outpouring of support!

**Thank you, members, volunteers, friends, family, partners — and Toyota!** You all made this happen! We are grateful for the new vehicle that we'll use to rescue injured wild animals, transport food and medical supplies needed to feed and care for them, take our Education Birds to outreach events, and take kids to amazing natural areas to see and learn about nature.



This Bald Eagle was released to the wild after being rehabilitated at the Wildlife Care Center. ©Tom Schmid

Thank you to our friends, Friends of Trees, Forest Park Conservancy, Cascades Raptor Center, Olivia's Bird Illustrations, Oregon Humane Society, National Audubon Society, and Audubon California for posting calls to votes for us!

Again, thank all of you for your amazing support! We'll let you know when we have details about our new vehicle!

*Special thanks to GINETTE Marberry, videographer, for creating our profile video and helping with the strategy, to Cascades Raptor Center for their valuable advice, and to Liz Healy-Kay for marketing expertise!*

**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 **Saturday, September 17**. This isn't your usual sanctuary work party! We start the Together Green Volunteer Day with a continental breakfast and a short program at **9 a.m.** Then it's off to the sanctuary for some major sanctuary and trail restoration projects, and we'll be finished at noon. **That's just three hours to really make a difference!**

During our past 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, the leaky pond has been fixed, the bridge over Balch Creek was torn out in preparation for a beautiful new one, and our native plant nursery was refurbished! All because our great volunteers were enthusiastic, had a lot of energy, and weren't afraid to get a little dirty!

In addition to volunteering individually, this is a terrific opportunity for small groups and businesses who want



Volunteers building potting stations and maintaining trails © Deanna Sawtelle

**Together Green  
Volunteer Day  
September 17 (Sat),  
9am-Noon  
Contact 503-292-6855  
ext.108**

to do some community service and team building. If you have a community group that would like to get involved or if you'd like to volunteer individually or with your family (minimum age 14; 14-16-year-olds must be accompanied by an adult volunteer), please email **Deanna Sawtelle**, Volunteer Coordinator, at **volunteercoordinator@audubonportland.org** or call **503-292-6855 ext.108**.



Lewis's Woodpecker feeding chick © Steve Berliner

**Join the Portland Audubon Legacy Club**

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

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

We would be glad to discuss your giving options with you in confidence and with no obligation. **Contact Ann Takamoto, Development Director, at 503-292-6855 ext.117.**

**Welcome, New Members!**

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

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Randy Albright                     | Antonia Martinez                       |
| Karla & Neil Antonini              | Carlos Martinez                        |
| Mustafa Ashurex                    | Lillian Massonie                       |
| Kay Bailey                         | Katherine Matheson                     |
| Lani Baker                         | Jared David May                        |
| Erick Banks                        | Edward Maze                            |
| Tom & Vlasta Barber                | Cassandra McGary                       |
| Lynn Benton                        | Steven Minichiello                     |
| Valentine Berlin                   | Ann & Kevin Nagle                      |
| Mayrn Boess                        | Mohandas & Charu Nair                  |
| Phyllis Bottomly                   | Andrew & Carroll Nielson               |
| Darren Brayson                     | Leanne Nishi-Wong                      |
| Sue Brenton                        | Melissa Nixon                          |
| Roger & Miryam Brewer              | Chelsea Norton                         |
| Anna Briscoe                       | Theresa O'Hollaren                     |
| Perry & Eileen Broughton           | Douglas Pachico                        |
| Jennifer Brown                     | Andrew Perkins                         |
| David & Lisa Burke                 | Bradley Peterson                       |
| Kristan Burkert                    | Jeffrey Petrillo                       |
| Dana & Stefan Bussey               | Heather Pinney                         |
| Matt & Paula Butzin                | Jan Poujade                            |
| Jeremy & Teri Carter               | Kathleen Priebe                        |
| Donna Challinor                    | Princeton Property<br>Management, Inc. |
| Timothy Chapman &<br>Nancy Candee  | Lisa Ramsey Barnes                     |
| David Chen & Jill Price            | Sarah Richmond                         |
| Stephanie Clafin                   | Pamela Riggs                           |
| Molly Clarey                       | Nathan Ringquist                       |
| Brenden Clenaghan                  | Hannah Ringquist                       |
| Suzanne Cordes                     | Will Risser                            |
| Ruth & Andy Cotugno                | Karen Roberti                          |
| Larry & Paulette Crawshaw          | Paula Roberts                          |
| Ralph Currey                       | Katie & Kevin Rompala                  |
| Richard & Bobbie Danielson         | James Rotramel                         |
| Morgan Dean                        | Cary Russell                           |
| Judith Deffebach                   | Deborah Rutt                           |
| Joe & Debie Delsman                | Jamie Ruzicka                          |
| Robert Derrick                     | Laurie Sadler                          |
| Carol Dodson                       | Gordon Sage                            |
| Lesley Dodson                      | Jennifer Sanders                       |
| D'Ann Donald                       | Diane Schendel                         |
| Whitney Dorer                      | Gary Schlickeiser                      |
| Gayle & Larry Eaton                | Lois Serres                            |
| Valerie Elachi                     | Karen Sexton                           |
| Jessica Elliott                    | Sharon Sexton                          |
| Karen & Mark Endresen              | David & Marliiss Shelton               |
| Colleen English                    | Joseph Sherry                          |
| Dawn & Ian Fabik Family            | Ruby Sis                               |
| David & Barbara Faulk              | Charles Sitzes                         |
| Josh & Wendy Fedderly              | Eileen & Tony Sleva                    |
| The Figueiredo Family              | Naja Smidt                             |
| Kelly Fisher                       | Frederick Smith                        |
| Kathleen Fisher                    | Eric Smith                             |
| Nancy Flynn & John Laurence        | Colleen Sorenson                       |
| Angela Fojtik                      | Paul Spencer                           |
| Michael Gentry                     | Linda Stanton                          |
| Girl Scout Troop #40404            | Linda & Robert Stephenson              |
| Doris Gleason                      | Pamela & Keith Steven                  |
| Wendy Gordon &<br>Michael Gottlieb | Seana Stong                            |
| Gary Gutierrez                     | John & Carol Stull                     |
| Sharon Hajny                       | William Swanson                        |
| Frances Hanckel                    | Marsha Swanson                         |
| Kira Hannum                        | Valerie Thompson                       |
| Ann Haroun                         | Gabriel Tofoya                         |
| Abby Harris                        | Chelsea Tuning                         |
| Stina Harris                       | Wayne & Suzanne<br>Turkheimer          |
| Nikki Hatton                       | Frederik & Charlotte<br>Van Veen       |
| Shawn & Helen Hegerberg            | Lori & Alfonso Vazquez                 |
| Peggy & Norman Henwood             | Jane Walker                            |
| Terry Hodge                        | Katrina Watson                         |
| Susan Hoelzer                      | Darcy Weaver                           |
| Flora Huber                        | Paul Wendlick                          |
| Anne Huffington-Carroll            | Kamila White                           |
| Ward & Shannon Huffman             | Tracy Wild                             |
| Willard & Patrice Hulburt          | Chris Wille                            |
| Tim & Jill Hurtley                 | Thomas Wilson &<br>Margot Moore-Wilson |
| Stephen James                      | Brandon Wilson                         |
| Kara Johnson                       | Dan & Kathryn Wilson-Fey               |
| Jesse Jones                        | Michael & Annette Wolfe                |
| Donna Kennedy                      | Suzanne Wood                           |
| Linda Kitson                       | Peter & Cynthia Wood                   |
| Jill Kolek                         | Heidi Yorkshire &<br>Joseph Anthony    |
| Walter Lamb                        | Bonnie Yosick                          |
| Tom Lindsay & Christina Wong       | Lynn Zartman                           |
| Ellen Lippman                      | Lynette Zuercher                       |
| Jennifer Lord                      |  |
| Christina Lund                     |  |
| Michael & Jerusha Majors           |  |
| Lori Malone                        |  |

If you would like to join us or have any questions about membership, please contact Pam at **pmeyers@audubonportland.org** or 503-292-6855.

# Important Bird Area of the Month

by Mary Coolidge, Assistant Conservation Director

## Tahkenitch Creek Estuary

Oregon boasts 140 miles of sand dunes along its 310-mile coastline, the largest stretch of dunes occurring in the 55 miles between Coos Bay and the Sea Lion Caves. I recently decided to revisit this part of the state, which I hadn't experienced since I was a college-prospecting high-schooler on an Oregon vacation. I opted to start with the **Tahkenitch Creek Estuary** trail, and found the trailhead parking lot pleasantly deserted and the grinding of OHVs just distant enough to fade into passing Highway 101 traffic.

Tahkenitch is a Native American word meaning many-armed or many-fingered, and the sprawling lake and estuary were well named by the Siuslaw and Kuitich tribes that once inhabited this region. Artifacts found in the area date back 8,000 years! The trail itself meanders along the tranquil Tahkenitch Creek, through a lush coniferous coastal forest, over forested ridgeline, through undulating dunes, past willow marshes and grassy meadows, and across deflation plains, to eventually open onto a dry sand beach (warning: a landslide currently has this trail closed just shy of the beach).

Tahkenitch was designated as an Important Bird Area (IBA) for the **Western Snowy Plover** (WSP), a small shorebird with pale brown upper parts, dark patches on shoulders and head, white forehead and supercilium, and dark gray to blackish legs. Snowy Plovers forage in the wrack line (the line of debris deposited at the high tide line), on salt pans, and at the edges of salt marshes, salt ponds, and

lagoons. Tahkenitch is one of 8 seasonal WSP closure areas along the Oregon coast, five of which occur within the Siuslaw National Forest and Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area. Nesting closures are in effect from March 15 through September 15, which coincides with the most intensive period of human beach use. Off-road vehicles, horseback riding, kite flying, and dog walking near nesting birds can all cause nest abandonment, and garbage left on the beach attracts predators dangerously close to nesting areas.

Snowy Plovers require flat, open, sandy areas for nesting. Introduction of European beachgrass in the early 1900s for sand stabilization caused buildup of high foredunes, which blocks sand from being blown inland and effectively eliminates regeneration of broader dune areas. European beachgrass can survive burial, producing new roots and growth at joints. As plants begin to colonize here, dynamic dune activity is replaced by plant succession, which decimates Snowy Plover nesting area and also provides habitat suitable for their wily predators (ravens, crows, foxes, raccoons, and feral cats).



Tahkenitch Creek © Mary Coolidge

suggest that WSP once nested in 29 locations along the Oregon coast, of which only 8 remain. That's a 72 percent reduction in nesting locations. Of the 8 current Critical Habitat nesting locations in Oregon, 6 of these have been designated as Important Bird Areas: Sutton Beach, Siltcoos Estuary, Coos Bay, New River, and Bay Ocean Spit in Tillamook Bay. Good news: in March, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed to increase the designated critical habitat for plovers, adding the following sites in Oregon: Columbia River Spit (in an IBA), Necanicum River Spit, Nehalem River Spit, Netarts Spit (in an IBA), Sand Lake, Umpqua River Spit (in an IBA), Elk River Spit, and Euchre Creek.

In addition to **Western Snowy Plover**, the species list for Tahkenitch includes, among others, **American Crow, Bald Eagle, Belted Kingfisher, Brown Creeper, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Great Blue Heron, Oregon Junco, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Red Crossbill, Rufous Hummingbird, Song Sparrow, Swainson's Thrush, Tree Swallow, Turkey Vulture, Varied Thrush, Vaux's Swift, Violet-green Swallow, Western Tanager, Wrentit.**

### If you plan to go:

Tahkenitch Creek trailhead is off Highway 101, about 8 miles north of Reedsport and 12 miles south of Florence near milepost 204. Pull west into the lot. Expect to pay a parking fee (currently \$5). The area is open to hikers only, closed to OHV use, and is not currently open all the way to the beach due to a landslide!



Balch Creek © Deanna Sawtelle



Western Snowy Plover. Photo: Mike Baird

### Ornithological Significance

The Pacific coast population of the WSP is listed as threatened under both federal and state Endangered Species Acts. Their population has reportedly ranged from 72–208 adults since their 1993 listing. Historical records

## Creating a Healthy Old-Growth Forest

*It's Another Match for our Wildlife Sanctuaries!*

We're pleased to announce that for the third year, the Collins Family has offered a challenge match to continue building our Sanctuaries Endowment Fund. From now through November 30, the Collins Family will match up to \$25,000 of donations raised dollar for dollar. This is another opportunity to raise \$50,000 to steward our beautiful Sanctuaries here on Cornell Road!

For the past two years you have answered the call, building the fund to over \$100,000 today. At the end of this challenge in November, we will have raised over \$150,000 towards our \$250,000 goal.

If you have walked our trails this summer, you will have noticed the many improvements to trails and bridges and have seen the native plantings where invasives have been removed. We are continuously working to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for you and all visitors to our Wildlife Sanctuaries, and our Sanctuaries Endowment Fund will enable us to maintain the experience for years to come.

Please help us rise to this wonderful challenge put forth by the Collins Family, and consider making a gift today to the Audubon Society of Portland Sanctuaries Endowment Fund. Your donation will be doubled, working to create a healthy forest for your children and grandchildren to enjoy!

## 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, binoculars & spotting scopes, bird feeders & seed, plus gifts & toys for adults & children, all with a nature theme. **Portland Audubon members receive a 10% discount off regular prices.**

### \$50 Nikon Rebates!

Nikon's Monarch Madness runs from July 31 until September 17. Purchase **full-size 42mm Nikon Monarch ATB binoculars** and get a **\$50 rebate, direct from Nikon**. Lightweight body and dielectric prism coatings make these one of our most popular binoculars. What does ATB mean? **All Terrain Binocular**, of course, ready to hit the toughest birding trail.

### Save over \$500!

Always wished for a pair of **Swarovski EL binoculars**? It's easier now that Swarovski has added the popular **8 x 32 ELs** to their on-going **Anniversary Sale**



Swarovski EL 8 x 32

(yes, ATM scopes are still available at savings from **\$500–\$700 off list prices**). These great mid-size binoculars list at \$2143.33, but during this special sales event, you can pick up a pair for only **\$1639**. These **ergonomically designed, open-bridge** binoculars offer a **full 420-foot field of view**. And at **21 oz.**, they are so light you'll want to take them along everywhere!

### \$10–\$40 Manfrotto Rebates!

From August 1 to September 30, Manfrotto is offering **\$10 rebates on most tripod heads, \$25 off all aluminum legs, and \$40 off all carbon fiber legs**. Now is the time to upgrade your equipment!



Manfrotto tripod

## 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

# Volunteers Needed for Portland Audubon's Biggest Show

The Wild Arts Festival, the Audubon Society of Portland's most elaborate production, will be here in just a couple of months. It goes up at **Montgomery Park** in NW Portland on **Saturday, November 19 at 10am, and closes on Sunday, November 20 at 5pm** — and the best way to get a backstage look at the event is by volunteering!

**Volunteers are needed to set up** Wild Arts on Friday, November 18; to **run the event** on Saturday and Sunday; and to **strike the set** on Sunday afternoon and evening. Over 150 volunteers are needed during the course of the weekend, with tasks as diverse as **helping artists load in**; helping to **check in volunteers**; working in the **break room**; staffing the **6x6 Wild Art Project exhibit**; **booth-sitting** for artists; working the **admission desk**; helping with the **Book Fair**; and filling a couple of dozen **other volunteer slots**. For up-to-the-minute information on volunteer needs, contact Portland Audubon's Volunteer Coordinator, Deanna Sawtelle, at **503-292-6855 ext.108** or **volunteercordinator@audubonportland.org**.

## Other Ways to Help

Don't have time to volunteer... or you would like to do more? Not to worry. Other ways you can support the Wild Arts Festival are suggested below:

- Consider **sponsorship**: become one of Wild Arts' **"40 Friends."**
- If you're a business owner or an individual who loves the Wild Arts Festival as much as we do, consider **sponsoring the event at a higher level**.
- **Donate to the Silent Auction**. If you have access to weekend getaways, event tickets, gift certificates to intriguing restaurants or stores, items of interest to naturalists, or appropriate *objets d'art* lying around the house, consider a donation to the Silent Auction.
- **Visit our Facebook page**. "Like" us, and share your thoughts and Wild Arts experiences.
- And of course, **mark your calendar for November 19 and 20**, and don't forget to see the show!



Visit our website at **www.wildartsfestival.org** for information on volunteering and other ways to help.

Bushtits and Chestnut-backed Chickadee at suet feeder © Steve Berliner

## SAVE THE DATE!

The Portland Christmas Bird Count will be held on **Saturday, December 31, 2011**. We'll be needing both field counters and feeder watchers. Watch for details in the November/December issue of the *Warbler* and on our website.

Calendar at a Glance

For the most up-to-date information, visit [audubonportland.org](http://audubonportland.org).

AUGUST			
29-31	Mo-Wed	Varies	Summer Camps continue
31	Wed	7pm-8pm	Vaux's Swift talk at Leach Garden (p.9)
SEPTEMBER			
1-2	Thu-Fri	Varies	Summer Camps end
1-30	Daily	Evenings	<b>Swift Watch at Chapman School (p.1)</b>
3	Sat	11am-3pm	Vulture Awareness Day Event (p.2)
5	Mon	—	<b>Labor Day: Admin closed (Nature Store open!)</b>
6	Tue	7pm	Birders' Night in Heron Hall
8	Thu	7am	Pittock Mansion Walk (p.3)
12	Mon	7pm-9pm	Beginning Birding I class (p.7)
13	Tue	7pm	<b>Nature Night: Sandhill Cranes of Oregon (p.3)</b>
15	Thu	7am	Pittock Mansion Walk (p.3)
15	Thu	7pm	Board Meeting
17	Sat	8am-11am	Cooper Mountain outing (p.3)
17	Sat	9am-Noon	<b>Together Green Volunteer Day (p.8)</b>
18	Sun	8am-11:30am	Beginning Birding I field trip (p.7)
20	Tue	8:30-11:30am	Tualatin River NWR outing (p.3)
21	Wed	7pm-9pm	ID Hawks in Flight class (p.7)
22	Thu	7am	Pittock Mansion Walk (p.3)
22	Thu	7pm-9pm	Birding Hotspots: Tillamook Bay class (p.7)
23	Fri	5pm-10pm	<b>Howl at the Moon at Kruger's Farm (p.2)</b>
24	Sat	8am-11am	Mt. Tabor Park outing (p.3)
24	Sat	8am-5pm	Birding Hotspots: Tillamook Bay field trip (p.7)
24	Sat	9am-5pm	ID Hawks in Flight field trip (p.7)
25	Sun	8am-11:30am	Beginning Birding I field trip (p.7)
27	Tue	6:15-6:45pm	Backyard Birds talk at Leach Manor House (p.9)
27	Tue	7pm-8pm	Johnson Creek Floodplain Restoration talk (p.9)
28	Wed	8am-11am	Ridgefield NWR outing (p.3)
29	Thu	7am	Pittock Mansion Walk (p.3)
29	Thu	6:30pm-8:30pm	Digiscoping VWorkshop (p.8)
OCTOBER			
1	Sat	8am-Noon	Beginning Field Birding (p.7)
1	Sat	9am-11am	Birding along Gresham-Fairview Trail (p.3)
1	Sat	10am-Noon	Digiscoping VWorkshop (p.8)
2	Sun	12:30pm	Bluegrass Music Jam in Heron Hall
2	Sun	All Day	Digiscoping Field Trip (p.8)
4	Tue	7pm	Birders' Night in Heron Hall
8-9	Sat-Sun	Various	<b>BirdFest &amp; Bluegrass at Ridgefield (p.2)</b>
8	Sat	9am-1pm	Johnson Creek Watershed Bike Ride (p.3)
8	Sat	10am-4pm	Nature Journaling class (p.7)
11	Tue	7pm	<b>Nature Night: Tales from a NW Naturalist (p.3)</b>
15	Sat	10am-4pm	Nature Journaling class (p.7)
16	Sun	8am-11:30am	Beginning Birding 2 field trip (p.7)
18	Tue	9am-Noon	Sauvie Island outing (p.3)
20-22	Thu-Sat	Various	<b>Migratory Bird Treaty Act conference (p.1)</b>
22	Sat	8am-11am	Rentenaar Road walk, Sauvie Island (p.3)
22	Sat	4pm-7:30pm	<b>Night Flight Family Halloween Event (p.2)</b>
23	Sun	8am-11:30am	Beginning Birding 2 field trip (p.7)
29	Sat	8am-5pm	Beginning Birding 2 field trip (p.7)
30	Sun	7am-5pm	Tillamook County day trip (p.3)
NOVEMBER			
1	Tue	7pm	Birders' Night in Heron Hall
3	Thu	7pm	<i>Faith of Cranes</i> author presentation (p.8)
5	Sat	8am-Noon	Beginning Field Birding (p.7)
19-20	Sat-Sun	10am-5pm	<b>Wild Arts Festival (p.12)</b>

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



## Audubon Society of Portland

**Inspiring people to love and protect nature since 1902**

Audubon Society of Portland promotes the enjoyment, understanding, and protection of native birds and other wildlife and their habitats. We focus on our local community and the Pacific Northwest.

### ADMINISTRATION OFFICES

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

### SANCTUARIES

Dawn to dusk every day

### NATURE STORE

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

### INTERPRETIVE CENTER & LIBRARY

Same hours as store

### WILDLIFE CARE CENTER

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

### RARE BIRD ALERT

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

### Board Officers

President..... Jim Rapp  
Vice President ..... Kristina Gifford  
Secretary ..... Wink Gross  
Treasurer ..... Candy Plant  
Past President ..... Pat Campbell

### Board Members

Tony DeFalco	Bob Liddell	Dan Rohlf
Katy Ehrlich	David Mandell	Ron Spencer
John Hammerstad	Noelwah Netusil	Julie Wilson
Barb Hill	Karen O'Connor Kruse	
Koto Kishida		

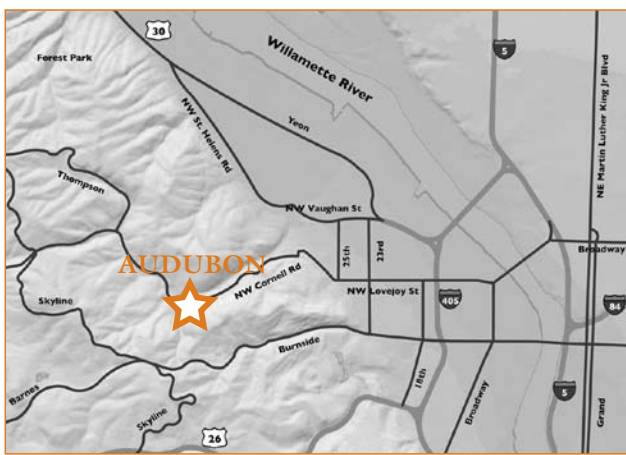
Board Member Emeritus - Dave Marshall

### Committee Chairs

Board Affairs ..... Kristina Gifford  
Conservation ..... Lynn Herring  
Education ..... Karen O'Connor Kruse  
Executive ..... Jim Rapp  
Finance ..... Candy Plant  
Membership & Development ..... Katy Ehrlich  
Sanctuaries ..... Ann Littlewood  
Volunteer Council ..... Jill Nelson-DeBord

### Staff

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Office Manager ..... Tammi Miller  
Development Director ..... Ann Takamoto  
Bookkeeper ..... Jill Hartzell  
Birdathon Coordinator ..... Gary Slone  
Membership Development Coordinator ..... Pam Meyers  
Membership Development Assistant ..... Jane Christensen  
Education Director ..... Steve Robertson  
Adult Education Manager ..... Steve Engel  
Camp Director/Onsite Programs Specialist ..... Ian Abraham  
Master Birder/Adult Trip Coordinator ..... Dan van den Broek  
Environmental Educator ..... Tim Donner  
Environmental Educator ..... Andrea Constance  
Urban Naturalist ..... Mike Houck  
Conservation Director ..... Bob Sallinger  
Assistant Conservation Director ..... Mary Coolidge  
Conservation Program Assistant ..... Nikkie West  
Urban Conservationist ..... Jim Labbe  
Ten Mile Sanctuary Manager ..... Paul Engelmeyer  
Volunteer Coordinator ..... Deanna Sawtelle  
Wildlife Care Center Operations Manager ..... Debbie Daniels  
Wildlife Care Center Veterinarian ..... Deb Sheaffer  
Nature Store Manager ..... Nancy Mattson  
Nature Store Assistant ..... Marilyn O'Grady  
Nature Store Clerk ..... Sally Loomis  
Sanctuaries Director ..... Tom Costello  
Sanctuaries Assistant ..... Greg Kurtz  
Sanctuaries Maintenance Technician ..... Rick Meyers  
Backyard Habitat Certification Technician ..... Robin Jensen  
East Portland Community Coordinator ..... Bich Trinh



## BUSINESS MEMBERS

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.

### Business Benefactor

NW Natural

### Business Guarantors

Backyard Bird Shop  
Portland General Electric

### Business Partners

Barran Liebman, LLP  
Columbia Sportswear  
Forest Park Federal Credit Union  
NatureBake & Dave's Killer Bread

### Business Supporters

Enterprise Rent-A-Car  
Leupold & Stevens, Inc.  
Portland Audubon Nature Store

### Business Friends

Bob's Red Mill  
Bob Gandolfi Event Production  
Elk Cove Vineyards  
Jackson Welch Mediation/  
Arbitration PLLC  
Kruger's Farm Market  
NePo Suet Company  
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**NW Natural**

[www.nwnatural.com](http://www.nwnatural.com)



2465 N.W. Thurman, Portland, Oregon 97210  
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