

Warbler

Summer Camp
insert included!



Black-throated
Gray Warbler

In this issue...

Join us on our
Audubon Outings!
See page 3

Welcome Back
Vulture Day
See page 2

Spring & Summer
Camp Registration
begins Jan 10 at 8am
See page 7



Bald Eagles, immature (top)
and adult



Sharp-
shinned
Hawk

Merlin



Rough-
legged
Hawk



Northern Harrier



Scoping raptors

Raptor Road Trip

Winter 2013

Annual Event Celebrates Birds of Prey!
Saturday, February 9th • 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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

How does the road trip work?

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

To reach Kruger's, turn right off Highway 30 northbound at the Sauvie Island Bridge and continue straight 1.5 miles (past Howell Territorial Park) to the farm entrance on your right. Carpooling is encouraged. Spotting scopes and a crash course in raptor identification will be provided at three island viewing locations, along with naturalists to help spot the birds. Bring binoculars and field guides if you have them, and dress for the weather. This event takes place rain or shine! **The road trip is suitable for birders of all skill levels, and families are welcome! Three of the sites — Howell Territorial Park, Coon Point, and the Wildlife Viewing Platform — are wheelchair accessible.**

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

What will you see?

It all depends on what nature has in store. Frequently sighted raptor species at the three viewing stations include **Bald Eagle, American Kestrel, Red-tailed Hawk, and Northern Harrier.** With a little luck you might spot a **Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Rough-legged Hawk, or Cooper's Hawk.** Spectacular **Sandhill Cranes, Snow Geese, and Great Blue Herons** are also commonly seen at this time of year. At Howell Territorial Park you are guaranteed sightings of **Audubon's Education Birds** as well as fun activities for all.

No registration is required. For more information, visit **audubonportland.org** or call 503-292-6855 ext.119.

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

Raptor Road Trip photos (left to right), top line:
© Bjorn Fredrickson, Jim Cruce, Steve Halpern;
bottom line: © Jim Cruce, Greg7, Ann Takamoto



Finnegan, the Peregrine Falcon
(an Audubon Education Bird)
photo: Deanna Sawtelle



Lacy Campbell examines a Great Horned Owl for eye problems while Leah Rivendell holds. Photo: Tinsley Hunsdorfer

Wildlife Care Center Open House

Sunday, January 27, Noon–4pm

Once a year Audubon's Wildlife Care Center opens its doors and welcomes interested people in to see what goes on behind the scenes in Oregon's oldest and busiest wildlife rehabilitation center. On January 27, from 12 noon until 4pm, the public is invited in to meet wildlife veterinarians, naturalists, and Audubon volunteers to answer your questions about native wildlife and introduce you to the Wildlife Care Center.

Wildlife rehabilitation began at Audubon in the 1930s when the sanctuary caretakers accepted their first injured bird. Built in 1987, the current facility is staffed by 2.5 staff members and over 100 volunteers. It is equipped to perform complete veterinary and rehabilitation services, including intensive and critical care, diagnostic testing, surgery, x-rays, physical therapy, and conditioning to prepare for release back to the wild. The Care Center admits nearly 3,500 animals each year.

Please schedule your Wildlife Care Center tour ahead of time by calling the Care Center on Monday–Friday, 9am–5pm, at 503-292-0304.

Don't miss these unique and fun activities offered at the 2013 Wildlife Care Center Open House!

• **Behind-the-scenes tours of the Wildlife Care Center.** Guided tours will give you a glimpse of what really goes on in one of the busiest wildlife rehabilitation centers in the U.S. This exclusive tour leads you through the animal intake area, food preparation room, laboratory and x-ray rooms, treatment and surgery rooms, and indoor and outdoor caging.

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Birdathon is Coming in May — See page 12



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

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

From the Executive Director



Meryl Redisch

Beginning Our 111th Year in Conservation

This year marks the beginning of Portland Audubon's 111th year in the business of conservation advocacy, environmental education, land stewardship, and grassroots activism. We are the beneficiaries of those early educators, advocates, and conservation leaders. It's now in our hands to build upon and further those gains in protecting wild birds and their habitats, locally and across the state and Pacific Flyway.

This new year is ripe with opportunities to engage new audiences in conservation, expand the number of backyards conducive to native birds, and ensure that key bird and wildlife habitats are protected from wind, wave, and industrial and other hazards.

Based out of our East Portland office at Leach Gardens, we will implement the new TALON Program (*Teach·Advocate·Lead·Observe·Nurture*, to be launched this spring), a paid internship program for underserved youth to learn about civic leadership, advocacy, and environmental education by working side by side with Portland Audubon staff and volunteers. With existing partner Columbia Land Trust, and new partner Clean Water Services, we will look to expand the popular Backyard Habitat Program into Washington County. Not only will we engage and encourage more homeowners to learn about birds, we will aim to create more contiguous areas for wild birds to nest, rest, feed, and breed.

This year will give Portland Audubon a framework for addressing the operation, facility, and programmatic challenges facing the Wildlife Care Center, which supports

the rehabilitation and management of 3,500 native animals annually by staff and volunteers. We will also take specific steps to identify what Marmot Cabin requires. Donated to Portland Audubon about 30 years ago by Dr. Joe Miller, this cabin and the surrounding 90 acres near Sandy is a special place that provides youth with a deeper outdoor experience in nature.

The Audubon Society of Portland now has a stronger relationship with National Audubon Society, and will be seeking innovative ways to collaborate with them on the conservation issues that California, Alaska, Oregon, and Washington share including the decline of migratory seabirds and shorebirds, marine pollution, and manmade hazards in metropolitan centers. Working with Our Ocean partners, we will remain at the table to ensure that Oregon's marine reserve system remains funded and sufficiently managed and that wave energy development is responsibly sited.

Our Nature and Wildlife Sanctuaries have undergone a transformation in recent years with improved trails and access, thousands of native trees and shrubs planted, and new exhibits and furnishings installed in the Interpretive Center at Audubon House. For this year and beyond, our plans include growing our sanctuary stewardship endowment that was started four years ago, eradicating the last remnants of ivy and other invasive plants, and developing an ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act-approved) trail from Cornell Road to the pond in the Pittock Sanctuary.

All of this and much more is possible with your continued investment in our work. Together, we can ensure that the wild birds we see today are enjoyed by future generations.

Calendar at a Glance

For the latest information, visit audubonportland.org.

January

1	..... Tue	.....	New Year's Day: Nature Store & Admin closed
1	..... Tue	.....	Birders' Night, Heron Hall (someone will let you in)
4	..... Fri	.....	Trip to Colombia begins (website)
5	..... Sat	..... Various	Portland Christmas Bird Count (website)
8	..... Tue	..... 7pm	Nature Night: Oregon's Trumpeter Swans, with Gary Ivey (p.3)
11	..... Fri	..... 8am-10am	Whitaker Ponds outing (p.3)
11	..... Fri	..... 9am-11am	Summer Lake Park outing (p.3)
17	..... Thu	..... 7pm	Board Meeting
19	..... Sat	..... 8am-11am	Vancouver Lake outing (p.3)
19	..... Sat	..... 10am-Noon	Winter Gulls class (p.7)
19	..... Sat	..... Noon-3pm	Winter Gulls field trip (p.7)
21	..... Mon	.....	M.L.King Jr Day: Admin closed (but Nature Store open)
23	..... Wed	..... 9am-4pm	Newport outing (p.3)
26	..... Sat	..... 7am-5pm	Tillamook Area outing (p.3)
27	..... Sun	..... Noon-4pm	Wildlife Care Center Open House (p.1)

February

2	..... Sat	..... 8am-Noon	Beg Field Birding at Sauvie (p.7)
2	..... Sat	..... 9am-Noon	Oaks Bottom outing (p.3)
2	..... Sat	..... 10am-4pm	Nature Journaling: Winter (p.7)
5	..... Tue	..... 7:30pm	Birders' Night, Heron Hall
6	..... Wed	..... 6pm-8:30pm	New Volunteer Orientation (p.9)
9	..... Sat	..... Noon-2pm	Raptor Road Trip (p.1)
9	..... Sat	..... 8am-11am	Whitaker Ponds outing (p.3)
9	..... Sat	..... 8am-11am	Powell Butte outing (p.3)
9	..... Sat	..... 10am-4pm	Nature Journaling: Winter (p.7)
11	..... Mon	..... 8am-6pm	UERC Symposium at PSU (p.2)
11	..... Mon	..... 7pm-9pm	Beginning Birding I class (p.7)
12	..... Tue	..... 7pm	Nature Night: Cataclysms on the Columbia, with Scott Burns
13	..... Wed	..... 7pm-9pm	Winter Waterfowl class (p.7)
16	..... Sat	..... 8am-4pm	Winter Waterfowl field trip (p.7)
16	..... Sat	..... 9am-4:30pm	General Volunteer Training (p.9)
17	..... Sun	..... 8am-11am	Beginning Birding I field trip (p.7)
17	..... Sun	..... 10am-3pm	Deciduous Trees in Winter (p.7)
21	..... Thu	..... 8am-4:30pm	Baskett Slough & Ankeny NWRs outing (p.3)
21	..... Thu	..... 7pm	Board Meeting
23	..... Sat	..... 9am-11am	Tualatin River NWR (p.3)
23	..... Sat	..... 9:30am-Noon	Bluebird Volunteer Workshop at Champoege Park (p.2)
24	..... Sun	..... 8am-11am	Crystal Springs outing (p.3)
24	..... Sun	..... 8am-11am	Beginning Birding I field trip (p.7)

March

2	..... Sat	..... 8am-Noon	Beg Field Birding at Sauvie (p.7)
5-9	..... Tue-Sat	.....	NWRA Symposium at DoubleTree (p.5)

Birders' Night

Join us on the **first Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm** in Heron Hall for Birders' Night, a gathering of local birders sharing recent sightings, a slideshow, and discussion.

FREE EVENT!

Welcome Back Vulture Day is coming to Leach Botanical Gardens!

**Saturday, March 16, 2013
Noon - 3 p.m.**

**Leach Botanical Gardens
6704 SE 122nd
Portland, OR 97236
Parking is limited. Please carpool if possible.**

Ruby the Turkey Vulture
photo: Tom Schmid



Did you notice you only see Turkey Vultures in the metropolitan area in the spring and summer? That's because they migrate to warmer climates in the winter, but it's time to welcome them back. We're lucky to still have good populations of Turkey Vultures in Oregon. 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.



Welcome Back Vulture Day is filled with fun and educational activities:

- Meet Ruby, Portland Audubon's Turkey Vulture, up close (along with many of Audubon's other Education Birds)
- Compare your "wingspan" to that of a California Condor
- Make a crafted vulture and mask
- Play "Upchuck Chuck!"
- Learn fun vulture facts
- Find out the differences between Old and New World vultures
- Discover why vultures are important

Come and help us celebrate the beauty of vultures!

Audubon's East Metro Events — Free! Leach Botanical Garden, 6704 SE 122nd Ave.

Biodiversity Surveys with Laura Guderyahn January 16 (Wed), 7pm-8:30pm

Frog eggs, squirrel nests... Gresham uses volunteers to collect data on the area's amphibian, reptile, bird, and mammal species. Come learn how you can be a part of this effort and how the data collected will prioritize and garner support for restoration and habitat improvement projects.

Raptor Road Trip Rev-Up with Steve Engel January 30 (Wed), 7pm-8:30pm

Join us for this introduction to identifying birds of prey, a great way to prepare for the Raptor Road Trip on Saturday, February 9th at Sauvie Island. We'll learn key field marks for all the local wintering raptors, and make side-by-side comparisons of similar species.

Connecting with Birds with Dan van den Broek February 12 (Tue), 7pm-8:30pm

One of our staff's most experienced birders and an international trip leader, Dan will share photographs of our amazing avian biodiversity. Join us and discover the joys of birds and birding.



Bioswale © Gail Shaloum

Urban Ecology and Conservation Symposium

**Monday, February 11, 2013
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

**Portland State University,
Smith Center Ballroom**

Come to the 11th annual symposium hosted by the Urban Ecosystem Research Consortium. You'll have opportunities to network, build partnerships, and exchange information about urban environmental issues and practical applications of ecological and social sciences in the Portland-Vancouver region. Enjoy presentations, 2 keynote speakers, and more. Information: uercportland.org/?q=node/84. Audubon is a proud sponsor of UERC and serves on its steering committee.


Help Monitor Western Bluebirds


Prescott Bluebird Recovery Project will hold a Spring Volunteer Workshop on **Sat, February 23, 9:30am-Noon** in the Visitor Center at **Champoege State Heritage Area**. Reserve your space by sending your contact phone number to email@prescottbluebird.com, and go to prescottbluebird.com for more information.




Audubon Outings — Wild in the City and Beyond

Bring binoculars and dress for the weather — beginners welcome!

 = Mostly weekday excursions

 = Sign-up needed

 = Fee involved

January 11 (Fri), 8am–10am Whitaker Ponds

Join **Tony DeFalco**, **Candace Larson**, and **Patty Newland** for a bird walk at Whitaker Ponds, a hidden urban oasis in NE Portland. We will circle the pond looking for ducks, songbirds, eagles, and owls. Park inside gated area at the ponds. The entrance is at 7040 NE 47th Ave, 1/4 mile north of Columbia Blvd (TriMet #75 stops at 47th & Columbia).

January 11 (Fri), 9am–11am Summer Lake Park

Join us as leader **Sue Carr** (503-649-3360) takes us for a look at the wintering waterfowl in this wonderful suburban park! Take Scholls Ferry Rd to SW 130th Ave. Follow the road around to the left (to SW Winterlake Dr) to the parking area on the left.

January 19 (Sat), 8am–11am Vancouver Lake Park

Join **Ron Escano** (503-771-3454) to scope the lake for water birds, then explore the riparian woodland for White-throated Sparrow. Meet at parking lot in front of the bathrooms. From I-5 north, take Exit 1-D (4th Plain Blvd), go west on 4th Plain thru Vancouver onto SR-501 (Lower River Rd). After 3.5 miles on SR-501, continue straight for 0.6 miles to the park (\$2 entrance fee).

January 23 (Wed), 9am–4pm Newport

Join **Dick Demarest** (503-407-7912) and Don Stein in Newport on January 23. We will be searching for wintering water birds and raptors at Yaquina Bay, the South Jetty, Seal Rock, and other locales. Dress for wind & rain, bring lunch, and meet us at the Hatfield Marine Science Center parking lot.

January 26 (Sat), 7am–5pm Tillamook Area

Join leader **Tim Shelmerdine** (971-221-2534) on this winter trip to Tillamook County. We expect lots of waterfowl, gulls, raptors, and perhaps sparrows. We'll choose our destinations based on conditions and reports. Meet at North Plains Chevron (10025 NW Glencoe Rd). About 16 miles west of Portland on Hwy 26, take North Plains exit (Exit 57). Turn right on Glencoe Rd; Chevron station is on the left, just past McDonald's. Bring lunch; carpooling encouraged.

February 2 (Sat), 9am–12pm Oaks Bottom

Join **Patty Newland** and **Candace Larson** for a bird walk around Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge. We'll explore wetlands and woodlands, talk about the history of this amazing urban wild space, and look for resident songbirds and wintering waterfowl. Meet at Sellwood Park parking lot on SE 7th Ave at Malden St at 9am sharp. We'll walk 2–3 miles on both paved and uneven dirt trails.

February 9 (Sat), 8am–11am Whitaker Ponds Nature Park

Join **Dena Turner** and **John Nikkel** as we walk the half-mile loop trail around the two ponds and also observe at Whitaker Slough. We'll see a variety of birdlife and wintering waterfowl, and in February it's possible to spot owlets at the Great Horned Owl's nest. Park entrance is at 7040 NE 47th Ave, 1/4 mile north of Columbia Blvd (TriMet #75 stops at 47th & Columbia).

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

Join leader **Ron Escano** (503-771-3454) for a walk exploring the unique habitats of Powell Butte. We'll be looking for winter visitors like the Northern Shrike. **The parking lot at the top of the butte will be closed.** Meet at the Rose Bowling Center parking lot at SE Powell Blvd & 164th Ave. Plan on a longer than usual hike into the park.

February 21 (Thu), 8am–4:30pm Baskett Slough and Ankeny NWR

This is a good time of year to see migrating waterfowl and wintering raptors in the Willamette Valley. Join leader **Denny Graham** at the NW corner of the Walmart parking lot in Woodburn for a trip to Baskett Slough NWR and Ankeny NWR. Bring lunch, rain gear, and scope if you have one. We'll arrange carpools at the meeting point. Take I-5 southbound to Woodburn exit 271; Walmart is SE of the exit. **Registration is required** — contact Denny at 503-659-1245.

February 23 (Sat), 9am–11am Tualatin River NWR

Join leaders **Max Smith** and **Sarah Swanson** at Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge on Hwy 99W near Sherwood. We'll walk the refuge trails to view the waterfowl, raptors, and songbirds that gather here each winter.

February 24 (Sun), 8am–11am Crystal Springs Garden

Join **Ron Escano** (503-771-3454) to view local wintering waterfowl; here's a chance to learn your waterfowl, using black and white field marks, with close views of most of our Portland-area ducks. Meet at Crystal Springs parking lot across from Reed College; the parking lot can be reached from SE Holgate (turn S on 28th) or SE Woodstock (turn N on 28th).

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 or 503-292-6855 ext. 130.

FREE and open to the public!

Oregon's Glorious Trumpeter Swans with Gary Ivey

Tuesday, January 8 • 7pm, Heron Hall

Portland Audubon's Nature Night opens the New Year with an encouraging story about bringing a majestic species back from the brink of extinction. Trumpeter Swans, one of Oregon's native waterfowl, were hunted to near-extinction as market hunting and trapping decimated the species in the 19th century. By the 1920s, less than 100 were found in the wild — and those resided in Yellowstone National Park. In the 1930s, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service began moving trumpeters to several western refuges, including Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, in an effort to rebuild healthy, breeding flocks. The ensuing decades have seen an increase in the Oregon flock, despite setbacks in the 1980s.

A biologist and president of the Trumpeter Swan Society, **Gary Ivey** will speak about the valiant collaborative efforts of several organizations to save this amazing species. Sharing superb photographs and stories, Gary will report on the program and the current status of the breeding flock. Additionally, he will provide tips for identifying trumpeters and discuss the places to find them in summer and winter.

Gary Ivey of Bend, Oregon served as a biologist at several western National Wildlife Refuges for 18 years (including 15 years at Malheur NWR) and is a PhD candidate at Oregon State University. Gary's years of experience working with wetlands, waterfowl, and waterbird management and conservation planning give him a unique perspective on the conservation challenges facing the Trumpeter Swan population.

Cataclysms on the Columbia: The Great Missoula Floods with Scott Burns

Tuesday, February 12 • 7pm, Heron Hall

Have you ever stood atop the east side of Portland's Mount Tabor, looking out over the city of Portland, or on a bluff overlooking the Columbia River Gorge, and wondered how the landscape unfolding at your feet was formed? It was largely shaped by one of the greatest sets of geological events ever to have happened in North America — given the name The Missoula Floods.

Join geologist and gifted communicator **Scott Burns** for a thrilling presentation that tells the incredible story of discovery and development of the idea of these Ice Age floods by geologist J Harlen Bretz. Scott will discuss the effects of the floods — which occurred between 15,000 and 18,000 years ago — on the formation of the terrain of 16,000 square miles of the Pacific Northwest, from Eastern Washington to Astoria and the Willamette Valley.

A 6th-generation Oregonian, Scott is a Professor of Geology and past Chair of the Department of Geology at Portland State University, where he just finished his 22nd year of teaching. He has BS and MS degrees from Stanford University in California, plus a PhD in geology from the University of Colorado, Boulder. Scott has been teaching for 42 years and specializes in environmental and engineering geology, geomorphology, soils, and Quaternary geology. In Oregon his projects include those involving landslides and land use, earthquake hazard mapping, paleosols, loess soil stratigraphy, and The Missoula Floods. He is a prolific writer, having authored over 90 publications, including the recent rewriting the book *Cataclysms on the Columbia: The Great Missoula Floods*.

Whether or not you're a geology buff, you'll be glad you joined us for this fascinating and humorous presentation about our region's natural history.



Photo: Simon Wray/ODFW



Birding Weekends, a final note...

With some conflicted feelings we have decided to discontinue leading Audubon Birding Weekends. Here are some numbers.

Sixteen years ago I began organizing birding weekends in Oregon, first through Oregon Field Ornithologists, and for the last 10 years through the Audubon Society of Portland. I've done 148 trips with nearly 2,200 participants. A total of 683 people have come on a trip; 265 have come back more than once.

Countless new life birds have been seen and enjoyed. The number of potty stops, lost mittens, mosquito bites, and birds misidentified by the leader was not recorded. Temperatures have ranged from 105 to -6 degrees. The camaraderie, good birds, great vistas, new friends, and great laughs have been priceless.

Carol came on board in the middle of this experience and has been there in so many priceless, helpful ways for 72 trips. We want to thank everyone who has participated in a Birding Weekend, whether once or many times, for their enthusiasm and kindness to us. We want to thank the many local co-leaders who provided their expertise to make our trips succeed.

We want to thank the OFO friends who saw this effort launched and all the staff at Audubon Society of Portland who helped to make these weekends possible. We couldn't have done it without you.

Good birding, everyone,
Paul T. Sullivan & Carol Karlen



Paul & Carol
© Don Roberts

Conservation

West Hayden Island Decision Delayed to 2013

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

On November 27th the Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission decided to delay a recommendation on West Hayden Island into 2013. The Commission unanimously rejected a last-minute effort to force a decision by the end of 2012 before the current City Council term expires.

Bowing to the pressure to move a West Hayden Island decision forward this year would have meant bypassing any sort of meaningful public hearings process. The 80-plus page proposal was not brought forward until the very last minute — too late for meaningful review by either the Citizen Advisory Committee or the Community. Kudos to the Planning and Sustainability Commission for recognizing that this decision, with its huge implications for the health of our communities and environment, should not be rushed.

Opposition to annexation at the two November PSC hearings was overwhelming. It included four tribes, the North Portland Neighborhood Chair Network representing nine neighborhoods and more than 45,000 residents, conservation and social justice organizations including Portland Audubon, Willamette Riverkeeper, Columbia Riverkeeper, Onward Oregon, and Coalition for a Livable Future. More than 350 people attended the two hearings with the vast majority of people opposing. Of the 48 people

who testified at the second hearing, 34 opposed development on West Hayden Island. Of the 14 people that supported development, 6 were Port of Portland staff, 1 was a lawyer representing the Port of Portland, and the other 7 were professional industry lobbyists. We cannot recall a proposal other than coal that has come before City Council that has had such universal public opposition outside of those who have a vested financial interest in seeing it go forward. Thanks to everybody who spoke out!

Next Steps:

The Planning and Sustainability Commission has scheduled a series of work sessions and hearings in the first quarter of 2013. The schedule can be found on the PSC website at portlandoregon.gov/bps/article/425985. Please continue to stay involved — your input is now more important than ever in ensuring that the PSC and new City Council protect this amazing natural area.

For updated information, “friend” our **Save West Hayden Island** page on Facebook.



Peregrine Falcons on West Hayden Island © David Redthunder



Nesting Great Horned Owl on West Hayden Island © David Redthunder

Reflections on Sam Adams:

A Look Back and Forward on Portland's Environmental Agenda

by Bob Sallinger

As we come to the end of Sam Adams' time on the Portland City Council, including four years as Mayor and an additional four years as Commissioner, it is worth taking a few minutes to reflect on the City's environmental achievements over the past eight years. Audubon worked closely with Mayor Adams on a variety of initiatives. While we did not always agree with his decisions, perhaps most notably on West Hayden Island, Mayor Adams brought a willingness to delve deep into the details, a dedication to the environment stewardship and long-term vision that will set a high bar for those who follow. The list of accomplishments in which Sam Adams played a substantial role over the past eight years is remarkable and includes the following:

1 Completing the Big Pipe on time and on budget:

This was the largest public works project in the history of Oregon. It not only leaves the Willamette River substantially cleaner and healthier, but the outstanding implementation of this project over more than a decade also made it possible to move forward on a variety of other environmental projects.

2 Watershed Management Plan and Grey to Green:

Under Sam's watch, the Portland Bureau of Environmental Services developed a long-range vision and plan for green infrastructure and then personally led the effort to move it to on-the-ground implementation through the Grey to Green initiative. Today Portland is recognized worldwide as a leader in integrating the built and natural environments. This is more than just a matter of environmental stewardship, it is also about smart economics. The City's Tabor to the River, which substituted green strategies such as bioswales, green streets, and ecoroofs to shore up our aging sewer system, saved taxpayers approximately \$60 million over traditional pipe-based solutions.

3 North Reach River Plan: Although it remains in limbo due to litigation brought by industrial interests, the River Plan would have put in place critical protections for habitat along the most degraded stretch of the Willamette River while also providing increased flexibility for industry and much-needed access for the general public. Mayor Adams worked for more than a year trying to find a way to make this plan work for industrial stakeholders and then had the guts to stand up to them when it became clear that their goal was simply to gut environmental protections. The Supreme Court of Oregon recently strongly rejected an industry appeal that attempted to make the case that the City was not allowed under law to establish environmental protections for the river in the North Reach.

4 Airport Futures: Developing a long-range plan for Portland International Airport started out as a highly controversial project. Four years later a citizen advisory committee of 30 stakeholders voted unanimously to support the plan which provided significant environmental enhancements for the local community as well as habitat mitigation on Government Island. It is little known, but it was the Mayor's personal diplomacy that kept the plan on track in the final weeks.

5 Tree Code Regulatory Improvement Project:

In 2010, the City adopted a broad-ranging regulatory framework plan to protect and restore its urban tree canopy, an asset recognized to be worth more than \$6 billion.

6 Climate Change Action Plan: In 2009 the City of Portland adopted its Climate Change Action Plan — a roadmap that would put Portland in the forefront of North American cities in addressing the most critical environmental challenge of the 21st century.

7 Equity and Environmental Justice: These concepts have been institutionalized in a variety of places, most notably in the Portland Plan. The City is still struggling with how to really deal with these issues, but they are now squarely part of the conversation.

8 Invasive Species: Addressing invasive species is now a cornerstone of Portland environmental programs. That was not the case eight years ago. It was the Mayor (then Commissioner) that elevated the issue at the first Portland Invasive Species Summit.

9 Superfund: Mayor Adams quietly has sought to maintain the City's leadership role in the Superfund process, even while others want to hang back and hide from reality with the rest of the responsible parties. The Mayor is right — the City as a public entity should be out front, setting a high standard and ensuring that all the public trust issues are adequately addressed.

That's an impressive list and we were pleased to work with Mayor Sam Adams on each of these initiatives. It leaves the City of Portland a far healthier ecological place for people and wildlife than it was eight years ago, and provides vision and guidance for the coming years.

Mayor Hales and the incoming City Council will be greeted with the challenge of building upon this legacy. We would highlight a few issues in particular that we believe are of critical importance in the coming four years.



Sam Adams, Bob Sallinger, and Mike Houck at one of eight City of Portland Great Blue Heron Week Proclamations during the Mayor's tenure on Council © City of Portland

First and foremost, the decade-plus-long Portland Harbor Superfund process will reach its conclusion during this term — Portland needs to be out front setting a high standard for cleanup and mitigation actions that restore the health of the Willamette River for people and wildlife. Second, once legal issues are resolved, Council needs to move forward with implementing the North Reach River Plan and developing plans for the Central and South Reaches. The Big Pipe removed raw sewage from our river, Superfund will remove toxic contaminants, and the River Plan will strategically protect and restore habitat: Only when all 3 are in place will we be able to declare our river to be healthy.

Third, we need a stable strategy for funding parks and natural areas — especially operations and maintenance. The new Mayor brings with him a strong history on this issue, and additional leadership from Commissioner Fish and The Intertwine Alliance make this the right time to move forward on developing new and innovative funding streams. Fourth, we need to continue to institutionalize green stormwater strategies, integrating trees, green streets, bioswales, and ecoroofs into our built landscape. These strategies are proven cost-effective and make our city both livable and ecologically sustainable.

And finally, it is time to put efforts to develop West Hayden Island to rest. The need for development is at best uncertain and more than a decade and a half away. Massive public opposition and unmitigatable impacts on the community and environment demand a new direction for this old conflict.

Transcending all of these issues is the imperative to build upon the commitments made to equity and environmental justice developed over the past four years. Words on the page need to be translated into action on the ground.

We offer our appreciation and best wishes to the outgoing Mayor and look forward to working with the new Mayor and Council on building upon Portland's green legacy.

Streaked Horned Lark Proposed for Listing under Endangered Species Act

by Bob Sallinger

Portland will have an important role to play in recovering a species that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is proposing to list as Threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act. In October, the Fish & Wildlife Service announced in the Federal Register that the Streaked Horned Lark is “at risk of becoming endangered in the near future” and warrants protection under the Act. This is the same status that currently applies to the Northern Spotted Owl and Marbled Murrelet in Oregon.

Streaked Horned Larks are small ground-nesting birds and are easily identifiable by their yellowish throat and underparts, black bibs and facial striping, and notable feather tufts (“horns”) protruding from the tops of their heads.

Historically, Streaked Horned Larks were found from Southern Oregon into British Columbia. However, loss of grassland habitats on which they depend has jeopardized the continued existence of the species. The listing proposal notes that the prairies of South Puget Sound and Western Oregon are part of “one of the rarest ecosystems in the United States” with a 90–95% reduction over the past century. In the Willamette Valley this loss likely exceeds 98%.

Today, the Streaked Horned Lark’s range is contracting from both the north and the south. It has already been extirpated as a breeding species throughout much of its range including all of its former range in British Columbia, the San Juan Islands, the Northern Puget Trough, the Washington Coast north of Grays Harbor, the Oregon Coast, and the Rogue and Umpqua Valleys in Southwestern Oregon. Small remaining populations in the South Puget Sound and along the Southern Washington Coast are declining precipitously, in some places at rates as high as 40% per year. Today there are estimated to be between 1,100 and 1,600 Streaked Horned Larks left on the planet.

Streaked Horned Lark populations remain strongest in the Willamette Valley. Ironically, this species — which likes sparsely vegetated, wide-open grasslands with no trees and few shrubs for nesting — now substitutes grass seed farms, open land around airports, undeveloped industrial sites, and dredge spoil areas along the Columbia River for the once-common prairies that have almost entirely disappeared from our region. The largest known Streaked Horned Lark breeding population occurs at the Corvallis Airport, and breeding populations can also be found in undeveloped parcels at Portland International Airport and in Portland’s Rivergate Industrial Area. In the coming years, Portland will have a prominent role to play in recovering this species. As with salmon and steelhead, Peregrine Falcons and Bald Eagles, the Streaked Horned Lark is a reminder that our

urban ecosystems have an important role to play in protecting and preserving biodiversity.

Audubon has submitted comments on the proposed listing as well as the closely related proposed critical habitat designations. We believe that low and rapidly declining population levels combined with imminent threats to their remaining habitat warrant an Endangered rather than Threatened designation. We also believe that the Fish & Wildlife Service erred by restricting its critical habitat designations almost exclusively to sites where the Streaked Horned Lark currently exists: a species that has already been extirpated from more than half its historic breeding range and which has lost more than 95% of its historic breeding habitat is not going to be recovered by clinging to the status quo.

We will need an aggressive program to protect and restore prairie habitat throughout the Streaked Horned Lark’s historic range. This is critical not only for Streaked Horned Larks but also for a variety of other grassland species. A 2009 report entitled “State of the Birds” released by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service revealed that 48% of grassland bird species in the United States are experiencing significant long-term population declines. Restoring prairies as well as protecting farmland and encouraging conservation practices on farmland is going to be critical to restoring grassland bird species in this country.

In Portland we will need to consider not only the sites where Streaked Horned Larks currently breed and winter, but also about the best sites for permanent protection and restoration for grassland species. That is why Audubon is currently working with the Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and other partners on protecting and restoring grasslands on Sauvie Island and the Port of Portland on Government Island. It is also why we are fighting to protect grasslands at risk of development on West Hayden Island.

Look to hear a lot more about Streaked Horned Larks and Portland’s important role in the recovery of this species in the coming months and years.



Streaked Horned Lark photo: USFWS

Wildlife Care Center Open House

Continued from cover

- **Education Birds Meet-and-Greet.** All eight of Audubon’s non-releasable Education Birds will be out on sanctuary grounds. Experienced bird handlers will share each bird’s story and information about the species in the wild.
- **Raptor Education Station.** You will be able to learn more about raptors, or birds of prey, with a fun hands-on approach to studying raptor parts. Compare wings and feet and other special adaptations of a variety of raptors. Naturalists will be on hand to answer your raptor questions.
- **Question-and-Answer Time with a Wildlife Veterinarian.** You will meet Audubon’s wildlife veterinarians and try to stump them with your questions. In turn they will attempt to stump you with case studies of actual cases seen in the Care Center.
- **Raptor Art Show.** Kids of all ages can draw their favorite raptors. All pictures will be bound in a “Reveling in Raptors” book for the Wildlife Care Center lobby.
- **Wildlife Face Painting.** Put your favorite raptor on your face! An experienced face painter will add a bit of wildlife to your appearance.

Stop by and join us at the annual Wildlife Care Center Open House on January 27, noon to 4pm!



Barbara deManincor and Candy Plant gavage a Northern Shoveler being treated for Botulism. Photo: Tinsley Hunsdorfer



NWRA Symposium 2013
March 5–9, 2013
DoubleTree by Hilton Portland
Register at NWRAwildlife.org
(click on Symposium 2013)

Portland Audubon’s Wildlife Care Center is hosting the 2013 National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association (NWRA) Symposium in Portland. Hundreds of wildlife rehabilitators, educators, and veterinarians from around the world will attend this extraordinary 5-day educational event. Programs will include presentations, discussions, and hands-on workshops. Space in workshops is limited, so register early.

Wildlife Care Center

Dr. Deb Sheaffer and volunteers Joe Chapman and Briana King examine an x-ray of a Red-Tailed Hawk that had been gunshot. Photo: Tinsley Hunsdorfer



Susanne Chacon and Rie Luft irrigate a beaver’s wounds ©WCC



Shelly Reynolds handles Julio the Great Horned Owl at a program ©WCC



Education Bird Assistants, left to right: Susan Dale (with Finnegan the Peregrine Falcon), Ginnie Ross (Aristophanes the Common Raven), Nancy Fraser (Lillie the American Kestrel), Sherie Salzwedel (Julio the Great Horned Owl), Cecile Velastro (Ruby the Turkey Vulture), and Candy Plant (with Hazel the Northern Spotted Owl) ©WCC

Educational Trips

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

Australia

November 5–19, 2013

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



Southern Cassowary
© Steve Robertson

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

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

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



Sydney Opera House photo: Matthew Field

This trip is designed to thrill the avid birder and novice naturalist alike, and to give everyone a well-rounded, first-hand experience of natural Australia. If you have questions or want to sign up for the trip, please **contact Steve Robertson** at **971-222-6118**.

Leaders: Steve Robertson, Education Director; Mike Houck, Director of Urban Greenspaces Institute; and local guides
Group size: limited to 14 participants
Ground Fee:* \$3995 member / \$4295 non-member
Deposit: \$2000 to secure your place

Tasmania Extension!

November 19–24, 2013

One of the most beautiful places on the planet, Tasmania is simply unforgettable. We'll fly into Hobart then it's off to Bruny Island, where, with luck, we'll spot all of the island's **12 endemic species of birds**, including the **Forty-spotted Pardalote**. We will also see the charming **Little Penguins**, "Fairies" as they are called in Tassie, as they come up onto the beach at dusk. We will then head north to Mole Creek, a region known to be a stronghold for both the *Duck-billed Platypus* and the *Tasmanian Devil*. Then it's up to the World Heritage Area of Cradle Mountain where you'll have time to hike and explore the area before we head back to Hobart to dine along the waterfront of this wonderfully quaint town. Please **contact Steve Robertson** at **971-222-6118** if you are interested or have further questions.

This extension is sure to be a once-in-a-lifetime experience — unless Tasmania's charms lure you back again... and again....

Leaders: Steve Robertson, Education Director; Mike Houck, Director of Urban Greenspaces Institute; and local guides
Group size: limited to 14 participants
Ground Fee:* \$1795 member / \$2045 non-member
Deposit: \$1000 to secure your place

*Fee for Australia and Tasmania includes: All ground transportation in Australia, double-occupancy lodging, excursions (including dive boat), meals *except dinners*, fees and tips for local guides, park fees, local fares and taxes, and the services of your trip leaders.
Not included: Airfare to, from, or within Australia, and tips at meals (always optional).

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.

Portland Audubon's International Tours now include a Carbon Offset contribution that will go directly for the stewardship of our 150-acre Forest Park Nature Sanctuary. A flat fee of \$50 per person is included in 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.

Portland Audubon tours are a lot of things, but one thing they are not are photographic tours... so please, no lens over 400mm.

BIRDING COSTA RICA

April 13–26, 2013

Join Portland Audubon on an epic adventure to the verdant world of Costa Rica, home to more than 800 colorful species of birds. **Boat-billed Heron**, **Fiery-billed Aracari**, and **Scarlet Macaw** await us at the Carara Biological Reserve and we'll also visit the cool Savegre River valley where the **Resplendent Quetzal**, considered by many as the most beautiful bird in the world, may be seen. At the La Selva Biological Station we'll hike the lowland rainforest to seek out mixed-species flocks containing **Snowy Cotinga**, **Streak-headed Woodcreeper**, and **Green Honeycreeper**, to name just a few. In Tortuguero, "the Amazon of Costa Rica," we'll boat along canals where **up to 6 species of kingfisher** may be found. Expect to see over 250 species of strange and enchanting birds on this trip, plus amazing mammals, beautiful butterflies, and fascinating reptiles. Contact **Dan van den Broek** at **971-222-6105** or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org for details and to register.

Leader: Dan van den Broek

Group size: limited to 14 participants

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

Deposit: \$1800 required to secure your place

Fee includes: All ground transportation within Costa Rica, 13 nights **double-occupancy** lodging, meals *except some dinners*, local guide fees & tips, entrance fees, excursions, and the services of your skilled leaders. **Not included:** Airfare to & from Portland and some dinners.

ADVENTURE ALASKA

June 3–13, 2013

Nome, in far west Alaska, is surrounded by stunning scenery and incredible birding opportunities. It also has a great road system for accessing the diverse habitats where we'll search for wildlife during our first 4 days in Alaska. Expect an exhilarating mix of the exotic and the familiar when birding Nome: **Bluethroat** and **Yellow Wagtail** — Asian songbirds of the brushy tundra — breed next to **White-crowned & Golden-crowned Sparrow**. **Harlequin Duck** and **Wandering Tattler** share their riparian breeding grounds with **Arctic Warbler**, a thrush relative that winters in Africa. **Gyrfalcons** compete with **Peregrines** for cliff nest sites. Waterfowl and shorebirds seen only in migration farther south are devoted to full-time breeding activities, revealing a new side of their life history to you. Add a herd of *Musk Ox* on the tundra and the possibility of *Gray Whales* in Norton Sound, and there is indeed no place like Nome!

During our 5 days in south-central Alaska we'll travel by bus deep into **Denali National Park** for excellent chances of observing *Grizzly Bear*, *Moose*, *Dall's Sheep*, *Caribou*, and possibly even *Wolf*. The range of habitat types in the park and the ever-changing scenery will astound you! Back in our van we follow the Denali Highway across a landscape recently emerged from the ice age yet rich in bird life. **White-winged Crossbill**, **Boreal Chickadee**, **Northern Hawk Owl**, and **Three-toed Woodpecker** can be found in the spruce forests. Tundra ponds have nesting **Common & Red-throated Loon**, **Trumpeter Swan**, and ducks galore. Out on the low tundra we'll look for **Long-tailed Jaeger**, **Whimbrel**, and **Smith's Longspur**.

Our last 3 days we experience the rich maritime ecosystem of the **Kenai Fjords National Park** from our base in Seward. A full-day boat trip will bring us close to *Sea Otter*, tens of thousands of nesting seabirds, the toes of tidewater glaciers, and the chance to see *Humpback Whale* and *Orca*. We'll look for **Red-faced Cormorant**, **Kittlitz's Murrelet**, and **Thick-billed Murre** among the thousands of **Black-legged Kittiwakes** and **Tufted & Horned Puffins**. **Contact Steve Engel** at **971-222-6119** or sengel@audubonportland.org for details and to register.

Leader: Steve Engel

Group size: limited to 9 participants

Fee: \$2895 members / \$3095 non-members

Deposit: \$1400 required to secure your place

Fee includes: All ground transportation in Alaska, 10 nights **double occupancy** lodging, all park entry fees, boat and bus tour fees, meals *except dinners*, and the services of your leader.

Audubon's Annual Malheur Foray

June 5–9, 2013

Join us on a 5-day tour of the *Malheur National Wildlife Refuge* located in remote and beautiful Southeast Oregon (see website for details).

Leaders: Candace Larson and Patty Newland

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

Deposit: \$300 required to secure your space

Contact Steve Engel at **971-222-6119** or sengel@audubonportland.org.

Fee includes: All ground transportation from Portland, 4 nights **double-occupancy** lodging, meals *except dinners*, and the services of your experienced Portland Audubon leaders.

Choose one of 3 ways to register for Adult Classes:

1. Register and pay online: Visit class description at www.audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult and follow registration link.
OR: Contact Steve Engel via phone or email to be put on the roster. If class has limited enrollment, wait for confirmation and then...

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

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

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

Be sure to check our website for upcoming classes not listed here!
audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult/classes

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

Class size: limited to 15 participants

Class size: limited to 16 participants

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

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

A few free spaces for active volunteers; contact Steve Engel.

To register: Contact **Steve Engel** at **971-222-6119** or sengel@audubonportland.org.

To register, go to audubonportland.org for online registration or to download a registration form. If you are mailing your form, call 971-222-6120 to save a place. Spring Break Camps run 8:45am–4:15pm unless otherwise noted.

MONDAY, MARCH 25	TUESDAY, MARCH 26	WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27	THURSDAY, MARCH 28	FRIDAY, MARCH 29
<p>Newts and Boots <i>1st-3rd grade</i></p> <p>Strap on your mud boots and head out to Portland Audubon's own Balch Creek in search of salamanders and reptiles. Springtime is truly amphibian time, and we'll search for egg masses in Portland Audubon's pond to figure out which salamander and frog laid them. We'll also be on the lookout for other native amphibians and reptiles, safely collecting, studying, and releasing them into the wild. Fee: \$60 mem/ \$70 non-member</p> <p>Junior Wildlife Vet 102 <i>4th-8th grade</i></p> <p>Join other animal lovers for a day devoted to learning about the care of injured and orphaned wildlife. We'll go behind the scenes of Audubon's Wildlife Care Center with wildlife rehabilitators and find out what this exciting job is all about. Fee: \$65 mem/ \$75 non-member</p>	<p>Family Gorge Getaway <i>1st-99th grade!</i></p> <p>Bring the entire family along on this field trip to investigate a true geologic "gem" of the Northwest. People travel from around the world to experience the magnificence of the Columbia Gorge, yet we often take this backyard treasure for granted! Board an Audubon school bus and let an inspiring Naturalist open the eyes of your entire family to the awesome ancient story that the landscape reveals. The Columbia River is the most powerful river in the Northern Hemisphere, and we guarantee this family field trip will be a fun and educational experience that will be just as mighty! This trip is appropriate for people of all ages but will include one short hike of just less than 1 mile. Leader: Tim Donner, Naturalist-Educator Fee: \$65 mem/ \$75 non-member (per participant)</p> <p>Bullseye! <i>4th-8th grade</i></p> <p>The bow is one of the oldest tools still used in its original form and it dates back over 10,000 years. We'll begin to master the skills of shooting a bow and spend part of the day traveling the trails of Audubon's own Wildlife Sanctuary. Learn proper form and technique for shooting a bow and arrow, a skill that will last you a lifetime. Leader: Ian Abraham, Camp Director Fee: \$65 mem/ \$75 non-member</p>	<p>Bird Art <i>1st-3rd grade</i></p> <p>Hike along forest trails winding through woodpecker, owl, and songbird habitat. Use your observations of birds and their habitat to create boldly colorful, wildly imaginative drawings and sculptures using oil pastel, graphite, colored pencil, and clay. Fee: \$60 mem/ \$70 non-member</p> <p>Hawks, Herons & Hummingbirds <i>4th-8th grade</i></p> <p>Spend the day at Savvie Island, one of Portland's birding hotspots, as we search the skies and scan the fields for some of the 250 species of birds that can be seen at this Important Bird Area. We will watch Herons build nests at their rookeries, witness Sandhill Cranes dancing in the farmlands, and spot all kinds of raptors like Bald Eagles, Red-tailed Hawks, and Kestrels. After our day of birding and exploring, we'll finish the adventure by sipping hot cocoa while sketching and researching some of the animals encountered on the island! Fee: \$65 mem/ \$75 non-member</p>	<p>Junior Wildlife Vet 101 <i>1st-3rd grade</i></p> <p>Join other animal lovers for a day devoted to learning about the care of injured and orphaned wildlife. We'll go behind the scenes of Audubon's Wildlife Care Center with wildlife rehabilitators and find out what this exciting job is all about. Fee: \$65 mem/ \$75 non-member</p> <p>Animal Tracking <i>4th-8th grade</i></p> <p>Have you ever wondered where the original stories of the land come from? Have you ever wandered through the woods looking at tracks and wanting to understand their meaning? Learn how to be a detective, finding clues throughout the woods that were left behind by animals that call this area home. Come along as we spend the day unraveling the mysteries of animal tracking through track identification and gait interpretation. Leader: Tim Donner, Naturalist-Educator Fee: \$65 mem/ \$75 non-member</p>	<p>Aquatic Art <i>1st-3rd grade</i></p> <p>What creatures live in your local creeks and ponds? We'll look in Balch Creek and the pond in Audubon's Wildlife Sanctuary to find mayflies, trout, and maybe even a crayfish! Get to know the plants and animals that live in this watershed and turn your observations into imaginative paintings and clay sculptures. Fee: \$60 mem/ \$70 non-member</p> <p>Natural Navigation: Map, Compass, and Beyond <i>4th-8th grade</i></p> <p>Come spend the day at Portland's Mt Tabor Park to learn how to use a topographical map and compass. Discover the hidden art of field navigation as we learn how to read contour lines, understand map scale, and orient a map to the landscape. Combined with compass skills, we will learn some tips and tricks on using your observation skills, awareness, and internal compass to help find your way. With treasure map in hand, your team will navigate to hidden treasures and clues on Portland's only extinct volcano. Trip Leader: Tim Donner, Naturalist-Educator Fee: \$65 mem/ \$75 non-member</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27 – FRIDAY, MARCH 29</p> <p>Marine Biology and Coastal Ecology <i>13-17 years old</i></p> <p>Join experienced naturalists from Portland Audubon on this 3-day study of the Oregon Coast. Learn about the incredible forces that created an ideal habitat for a multitude of species. Go in search of the beautiful Tufted Puffin as you bird the coast with binoculars and spotting scopes and head out to sea in hopes of spotting the massive Gray Whale. A visit to the Hatfield Marine Science Center and "town time" in Newport will round out our coastal adventure. We'll spend our nights in the cozy confines of Neskowin Valley School, pouring through field guides to complete our species lists. Trip Leaders: Steve Robertson, Education Director, & Andrea Constance, Educator Fee: \$125 mem/ \$145 non-member</p>				

Sanctuaries

Feeling Winter

by Tom Costello, Sanctuaries Director

“Life is not a spectator sport.” Somewhere in my brain I have a memory of this slogan — I think it is an old advertising line for an athletic shoe company. I remember liking it, replaying it in my head, sort of a mantra for my youth. Though for me it was less about sports, though I played my share; it was more a call to the outdoors. Often this phrase would bounce through my thoughts as I would strap on my running shoes (apparently those advertisers knew what they were doing!) and head outside to find a quiet stretch of trail for a long jog or bike ride. A spectator I was not, a doer I was... or so I thought.

Over time I came to realize that my frequent forays into the woods were not so much about doing anything. Once on the trail I would find the rhythm of my breath, the sound of my feet drumming on the soft ground, the beating of my own heart — these would all melt into the stillness of the woods around me. Despite the constant movement of my body, there was actually very little doing, and mostly observing. I was a spectator of a different sort.

On these little adventures I found my senses alive. My eyes scanned the trail ahead, first for safety and direction, but more, as I settled into my rhythm, for the flutter of a wing, the waving of a branch, the stillness of a rock or a log, whatever there was. The sounds of my own feet on the trail and the rushing of my breath gave way to the gentle sounds of wind through the branches, a bird call, the rushing of a stream. The smell of spring blossoms, summer pollen, the musty smells of fallen autumn leaves. Even tastes, the taste of sweat, rain dripping on my face when it fell, or even the taste of a humid New England summer day, a taste I cannot describe yet forever remember. After awhile the five senses would all melt into one feeling until with every footfall, every breath, I could feel every sound around me, feel the landscape with my body as much as my eyes.

At some point the realization came that there need not be a difference between watching and doing, or even between



Audubon Pond photo: Rick Meyers

seeing and feeling for that matter. As far as I can remember this was the first time I became aware of the limits of dualistic thinking, the idea that something is either A or it is B. I still remember the aching feeling in my head when I realized that life is too complex, too elusive, to be boiled down to a set of relative values.

In my last article I referenced the work of social activist Tema Okun, who listed either/or thinking as one of the 4 essential traits to the set of cultural values which ultimately “destroy ourselves and our world — spiritually, physically, environmentally, and psychologically” (*The Emperor Has No Clothes*, page 9). But what do we do in the absence of relative values, without the wide variety of categories and subjects we use to manage the increasingly complex world around us? What do we do in the absence of any concrete understanding of whether or not there is anything absolute in this world?

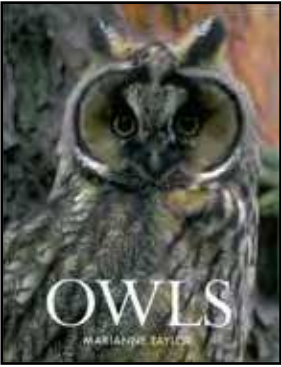
Something about this time of year, when the days are shortest and the weather coldest, something about the season brings me back to these questions. Something about being outside in the forest this time of year, raining one minute, sunny the next; trees bare and the ground littered with the mottled yellows and browns of rotten leaves, trunks alive with mosses and lichens of varying hues of vibrant green; the quiet, cold moist air wrapped in fog, the steam of my warm breath against the cold of my cheek. Something about this forest this time of year answers all of my questions, without a single word.

Nature Store Highlights

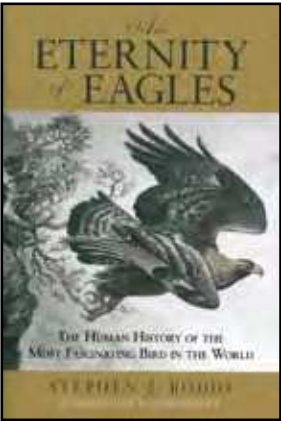
by Sally Loomis, Book Buyer

In honor of the upcoming Raptor Road Trip on February 9th, this issue I’m highlighting some recent titles on birds of prey. These books, whether a celebration of a particular species or family of birds, or a detailed field guide, will heighten your appreciation of these amazing birds.

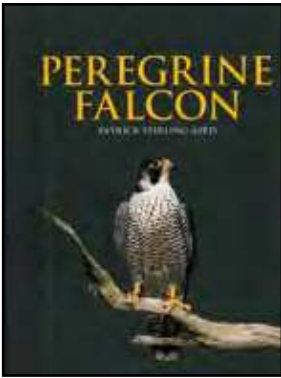
The book *Owls* by Marianne Taylor (Cornell University Press, \$35.00) presents a wonderful collection of species descriptions and photographs of owls of North America and beyond. While also containing useful information on owl anatomy and behavior, the photographs are the real attraction here, with the charisma of the birds really in evidence.



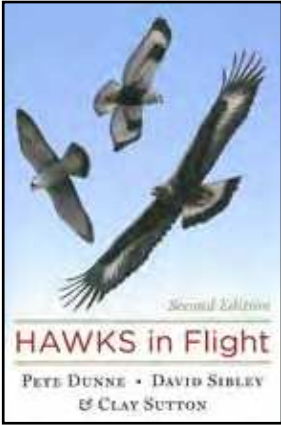
Stephen J. Bodio’s *An Eternity of Eagles: The Human History of the Most Fascinating Bird in the World* (Lyons Press, \$26.95) captures the complex relationship between humans and these very iconic birds. Eagle species from around the globe are depicted, both as biological entities and as subjects of mythology and art. Current conservation issues are also examined.



Peregrine Falcon by Patrick Stirling-Aird (Firefly Books, \$24.95) takes an in-depth view of a single species, first looking at them in context with other falcons, and then focusing on the Peregrine itself. Anyone who has spent time with our Education Bird Finnegan, or watched the bridges in town for sightings of the local wild population, will enjoy the fascinating photographs and text here.



Finally, if you’d like to tune up your raptor ID skills and get a handle on the various morphs and plumages, here’s a solution, just in time for Raptor Road Trip! Long-time popular birding guide authors Pete Dunne, David Sibley, and Clay Sutton have teamed up for the second edition of *Hawks in Flight* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$26.00). The book gives you extensive examples of different field marks to watch for, with copious photographs and drawings, plus explanatory text that should clear up any raptor confusion you might experience.



Audubon Society of Portland gratefully acknowledges these thoughtful gifts:

In Memory

Bette Cassard
Christopher Cassard

Stephen Eckert
Elizabeth Caro

George Rasmussen
Bridget O'Rourke

Ron Spencer
Jerry Knechtel
Scott Lukens
Meryl Redisch
Marilyn Stinnett

David Yanity
Michael & Marie Ryan

In Honor

Rose Avery
Nann & Rob Nichols

Ginnie Ross
Robert Erwin
Deanna Sawtelle

Zora Berkeley
Friends & Family of Zora

Michael P. Ryan
John Hill

Tanya Cecka
Leigh Cecka

Bob Sallinger
Bert Brehm

Dave Helzer &
Traci Friedl
Caitlin & Jeremy
Bennett-Boyer

Deanna Sawtelle
Ginnie Ross

Dawn Jansen &
Alan Kiphut
David, Russann, Ethan
& Evan Jansen

Valarie Smith
Christine Guro

Sharon Marshall
Michael & Marie Ryan

Loran Starr
Penny & Frank Starr

Marsie Nufer
Elysabeth Hall

Sandy Tamiesie &
Gary Gallahe
Jenelle Huber

Beth Parmenter
Jim Miller

Nanci Tangeman
Emily Watrous

James Rapp
Kathleen Myers

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

A Message from Nature Store Staff

At the beginning of the New Year, we’d like to extend a very heartfelt “Thank you!” to all the members, volunteers, and shoppers who make the Nature Store possible. Looking back at 2012, we’re grateful you’ve stuck by us during a year with roller-coaster swings in bird seed prices due to weather events way beyond our control. You’ve been regular shoppers and first-time visitors. You’ve shared nature moments, both poignant and wacky, with us whenever you visit the sanctuary.

If we are doing our job right, we are providing you with all the tools and toys you need to enjoy and protect nature, whether in your own back yard or the most off-beat parts of the globe. We hope to provide you with merchandise of high quality for all ages and levels of birding skill, complementing the education and conservation goals of Portland Audubon, and in doing so, also financially support those goals. Whether it’s keeping Audubon’s lights on, the telephones working, or the Education Birds fed, you make it possible with your support. We encourage your suggestions on how we can better serve your needs (although, alas, Free Binocular Day probably won’t happen). Let’s hope for a great year ahead in 2013!

Thanks again from the Nature Store staff —
Nancy, Marilyn, and Sally

Coming Soon — The Nature Book Blog!

Check our website for updates on new releases and reviews for books in the Nature Store!

Irruptions Continued through End of 2012

Noticeable irruptions of several species during 2012 enhanced birding especially west of the Cascades. One dictionary describes an irruption as when a natural population undergoes a sudden upsurge in numbers.

The 2012 irruptions began during the summer when small numbers of **Evening Grosbeaks** remained in the lowlands instead of moving into the mountains to nest. These small flocks visited Willamette Valley feeders throughout the summer and fall.

Also during the summer **Red Crossbills** swarmed into the coastal lowlands, steadily increasing to unusually high numbers by fall. Some nesting activity was noted. Smaller numbers drifted into the Willamette Valley. During September large numbers of **Pine Siskins** moved into Western Oregon steadily increasing so that during October and November, 100 or more were gathered at many feeders. On November 13 John Gatchet counted 302 at his feeders in Gresham. Larger flocks were reported in the woodlands away from feeders.

It's not unusual to see an occasional **Mountain Chickadee** away from the mountains, but beginning in mid-October this fall individuals or pairs appeared well scattered throughout Western Oregon, with many visiting Portland-

area feeders. Mike Houck reported the first Portland bird in Northwest Portland October 21, the same day two were seen at Bonneville Dam. In all, by late November nine Portland feeders hosted Mountain Chickadees in addition to the more regular **Black-capped & Chestnut-backed Chickadees**. There was some indication that Chestnut-backs were also in higher than usual numbers.

The **Snowy Owl** is the most familiar irruptive species. In its nesting range in the Arctic it is also irruptive, moving from year to year where adequate food is available. When there is too much competition for what is available, many move southward into more southerly areas where there is more to eat. The winter of 2011 was apparently a major irruptive year and it appears that this year there is an echo flight. On November 10 Heather McCoy photographed a Snowy Owl in Lake Oswego. Several were reported from the mouth of the Columbia River later in the month.

Sightings

On October 7 Karen Henninger saw two **Common Redpolls** at McIver State Park near Estacada. They may have been part of the Pine Siskin irruption as they are often found with them. On November 25 Christopher and Adrian Hinkle found a **Cassin's Finch** at Powell Butte Park in Gresham.

On November 22 Jay Withgott observed a **Brown Pelican** flying over Northwest Portland. It was most likely blown inland from the heavy southward movements taking place along the coast. Bob Flores saw a **Parasitic Jaeger** harassing gulls over Vancouver Lake November 4. Andy Frank noted about 150 **Bonaparte's Gulls** at Smith & Bybee Lakes October 24. A **Snowy Egret** was there during November.

During October among a large gathering of hawks near the Erratic Rock Wayside west of McMinnville were an adult and immature **Ferruginous Hawks**. John Fitchen saw one November 26 at Eagle Creek near Bonneville Dam. A **Prairie Falcon** was seen at Fernhill Wetlands November 13 by Steve Nord. Steve also noted there a **Ross's Goose** November 1, a **Stilt Sandpiper** October 6, and a **Brant** on October 4.

On November 3 Bill Bradford and Lora Minty saw a **Long-tailed Duck** at Smith & Bybee Lakes. Adrian and Christopher Hinkle saw two **Red-breasted Mergansers** at the mouth of the Sandy River November 18 and an adult and a hybrid **Tufted Ducks** off Broughton Beach November 22. These may be the two Tufteds that wintered in that area last winter. The Hinkles also noted a flock of 62 **Hooded Mergansers** near the Troutdale Airport November 18.

Most irruptions are caused by the search for something to eat. Either the regular food supplies are low or after several good nesting seasons the birds produce more young than the available food can satisfy. Other natural events can also trigger an irruptive response.



Mountain Chickadee
photo: Dave Menke/USFWS

During the fall migration **Surf Scoters** moving from their nesting sites in interior Canada cross through Oregon to reach the coast. Exhausted birds are often seen on interior lakes and reservoirs. Beginning about mid-October this fall much larger than normal numbers were reported at inland locations. Several were reported on local bodies of water. On October 26 Jay Withgott observed a group of 16 on Hagg Lake south of Forest Grove.



Harris's Sparrow on Rentenaar Road © Scott Carpenter

Lars Norgren reported a **Red-breasted Merganser** at Fernhill Wetlands November 11. Bob Archer found a female **Barrow's Goldeneye** November 24 in Reed College Canyon in Southeast Portland. The canyon is part of the Eastmoreland and Westmoreland complex, and is an excellent place to look for migrants and unexpected birds.

Late **Ospreys** were reported by Steve Nord November 9 at Fernhill Wetlands and November 16 by Adam Baz at Ridgefield NWR. Jay Withgott and Dwight Porter saw a late **Sandhill Crane** flying southward over Northwest Portland November 5.

On November 7 Christie Holmgren photographed a male **Black-throated Blue Warbler** from her kitchen window in North Portland. Christopher Adlam reported a **Blue Jay** in Willamina October 20–21. Bob Flores saw a late **Western Tanager** in Ridgefield November 16. Ann Shalas is hosting a wintering **Black-headed Grosbeak** at her feeders in Northwest Portland. Darian Santner found a dead **Common Poorwill** October 29 near SE 15th and Ramona St in Portland. A **Harris's Sparrow** was first seen by Don Baccus November 30 on Sauvie Island's Rentenaar Road, about halfway down the road. It could be the same bird that wintered at this location last year.



Gary Michaelis assisting customers in the Nature Store. Photo: Deanna Sawtelle



Jean Schoonover and Brigitte Robb ready for International Culture Awareness Day. Photo: Deanna Sawtelle

Volunteering at Audubon is Fun and Rewarding!

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

- Help restore habitat in our wildlife sanctuary.
- Be a conservation activist!
- Care for and feed injured wildlife at the Wildlife Care Center. (There is often a wait list for this volunteer opportunity.)
- Help visitors find the perfect gift, bird guide, or pair of binoculars by being a clerk at the Nature Store.
- Lead school groups through a fascinating exploration of our nature sanctuary.
- Be a voice for Audubon by volunteering as a receptionist or an Audubon Docent.
- Help make Audubon's special events successful, like the Wild Arts Festival, the Native Plant Sale, and Swift Watch.

Volunteer of the Month: Gary Michaelis

by Nancy Mattson, Nature Store Manager

This month the Nature Store would like to introduce you to one of our favorite volunteers: **Gary Michaelis**. Gary has volunteered with our Audubon chapter since his training in September 2008. The very next month he offered to begin working a regular shift for the Nature Store. Because Gary is one of those special people who works full time yet is still willing to fit volunteering into his busy schedule, the shift he works is on Saturday afternoons.

During the week Gary is a banker working at Wells Fargo in their International Bank Notes Business Line. It's a job that is a world away from the work he does here at the Nature Store, and he likes that just fine! Where many people would be overwhelmed with the amount of public contact our store work requires, Gary finds it to be a refreshing change of pace. Besides enjoying his job as one of our most "public faces" here at the Audubon Nature Sanctuary, Gary has especially enjoyed getting to know our staff and other volunteers. In fact he says that he has enjoyed everyone he's worked with!

Our Education Department has also benefited greatly from Gary's commitment to Audubon. According to Ian Abraham, "Last year, when Gary wasn't hard at work at his day job or volunteering at Audubon's Nature Store, he seized an opportunity to apply for a grant offered by Wells Fargo's Diversity Council. Gary's work with Wells Fargo allowed him to submit an application for a grant given to a non-profit organization. He chose Portland

Audubon's Explorador Summer Camp program. The grant was awarded and we are so thankful for Gary's efforts and support."

Where else at Audubon might you see Gary lending a hand? He has participated in Sanctuary trail maintenance projects, he's on the events committee for Flight Night (our annual Halloween Event), and this year he took responsibility for selecting and helping to transport all the items sold in our Nature Store booth at the Festival of the Birds in Sellwood Park. And because Gary is a family man, he even recruited his wife, Barbara, to assist this year at our booth at Ridgefield NWR's Birdfest event.

Gary's interest in the work we do at the Wildlife Care Center has even been passed on to the next generation. His son, Geoffrey, whom Gary brought to visit the WCC as a child, is now in the Veterinary Technician program at Portland Community College with an eye to attending veterinary school in the future. As a family man, employee, and volunteer, Gary's compassion and values bring a wonderful perspective to all his interactions. We feel so lucky to enjoy the benefits of working with Gary. He says that he always feels that the staff of Audubon is thrilled to have our volunteers working here. And that's absolutely true! Thanks, Gary, for all you do!



Ginie Ross and Claire Carter volunteering in the Wildlife Care Center. Photo: Deanna Sawtelle

If you would like to donate some of your time and energy to the Audubon Society of Portland but have questions, please contact **Deanna Sawtelle** at **dsawtelle@audubonportland.org** or **503-292-6855 ext.108**.

2012 Wild Arts Festival
— a Stellar Year!

by Mary Solares, Wild Arts Festival Chair

The buzz is out that the Wild Arts Festival is no longer just an Audubon event. It has grown to become... a Portland event!



The 32nd year of the Wild Arts Festival broke all records. Attendance was up. Sponsorship was up. Sales of new memberships doubled. And most importantly, the amount raised to benefit Portland Audubon was beyond our best hopes. We netted nearly \$83,000 — an increase of 40% from last year’s \$60,000.

On a gray and cool weekend 4,500 eager Festival attendees turned out to explore three stories of the Montgomery Park atrium resplendent with bright sponsors’ banners, Audubon’s colorful bird mobiles, and the wares of our handpicked selection of the Northwest’s finest artists and authors.

69 artists filled the hall with colorful booths full of paintings, photographs, ceramics, textiles, glass and wood work, metal sculptures, and jewelry. Many of the artists broke their 2011 sales records.

36 Northwest authors signed books, connected with other writers, and met their readers. Book sales were strong once again.

The always popular 6x6 sale of original paintings had eager buyers lining up to get first crack at the 161 canvases created by local artists. A large poster displaying photos of all the canvases was raffled off.

The Silent Auction brought in a record \$20,000 with donated artwork from artists as well as nature-themed items and adventure outings from Audubon members and local businesses.

For the first time ever, we welcomed a “Presenting Sponsor” — Backyard Bird Shop — which provided generous support at \$10,000. Overall sponsorship increased dramatically from \$12,600 in 2011 to \$32,600 this year as we also welcomed new sponsor levels at Eagle: SELCO Community Credit Union; at Hawk: Beaverton Toyota, NW Natural, and Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon; and at Great Blue Heron: Dave’s Killer Bread, Elk Cove Vineyards, Sauvie Island Coffee, and St Honoré Boulangerie.

The Wild Arts Festival’s marketing and advertising broadcast the event far and wide through articles in local newspapers, publicity on 20 TriMet buses, 16,000 postcards, color ads in the Oregonian, Facebook and Twitter posts, and radio and TV spots. KGW’s Drew Carney featured the Festival and Wildlife Care Center in his morning segments.

Wish List & Thank Yous
Thank you to:
• Peter Armstrong for two HP laptop computers
• Pat & Joe Campbell for Elk Cove Vineyards wine for the 2012 Holiday Party
• Dave’s Killer Bread for bread for the Wild Arts Festival
• Gregg Everhart for 90 four-inch native plants & 9 one-gallon native plants
• Jennifer Famulare for a large aquarium/tank for the Wildlife Care Center
• John & Judie Hammerstad for Carabella wine for the 2012 Holiday Party
• Michael Miller for a transport carrier & towels for the Wildlife Care Center
• Annie & Scott Shull for Raptor Ridge Winery wine for the 2012 Holiday Party
• David & Sandy Smith for an ergonomic mesh office chair

Our Wish List:
For East Portland Office: 10 Binoculars
For Sanctuary: Loppers • Hand saws Work gloves
For Wildlife Care Center: Science Diet Kitten Growth • Bleach • Dawn Dishwashing Detergent • Water bottles & exercise wheels for small rodents
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.



Book Fair authors James Davis, Mike Houck, MJ Cody, and Harry Nehls © James Colhoff, Jr.



Wild Arts Festival Committee Chairs:Wink Gross, Molly Marks, Roberta Lampert, Mary Solares,Anne Woodbury, Bob Gandolfi, Martha Gannett (not shown: Candy Plant). Photo:Allan Solares

As always, Portland Audubon’s “Education Birds” were stars of the show, drawing crowds of children and adults as they listened to our handlers share these fascinating birds’ stories.

Over 160 volunteers did a stellar job. This event showcases their energy, enthusiasm, teamwork, camaraderie, and commitment to Audubon’s mission of promoting the enjoyment, understanding, and protection of native birds and other wildlife. This is best captured in the resounding compliments from the artists about our volunteers: “They are the best part of the show,” “Sooo outstandingly helpful,” “They are the best of all the shows I do,” “Off the charts.”

Planning for the Festival begins in January by a core group of volunteers chairing major committees. This talented group makes sure that each facet of the event runs like clockwork. On behalf of the Audubon Society of Portland, a special thanks to our Committee Chairs: Martha Gannett, Wink Gross, Roberta Lampert, Molly Marks, Candy Plant, Mary Solares, and Anne Woodbury. Many of these folks were at the Festival starting on Friday for set up and continuing through Sunday at take down. A special thanks to Bob Gandolfi, a talented event producer contracted by Audubon, whose insight and expertise has guided the Festival for the past 6 years.

Additional thanks go to Linda Craig, Heather Chrisman, Anne Eakin, Laurie Garretson, Gay Gregor, Barb Macomber, Karen Matheson, Rick Meyers, Beth Parmenter, John Plant, Mary Ratcliff, Toni Rubin, Bruce Schneider, Marilyn Scott, Allan Solares, Marilyn Stinnett, Jill Turner, Rusty Whitney, and Bob Wilson.

And a huge thank you to the other 150 volunteers who rounded out the Festival with their enthusiasm, dedication, and hard work. We couldn’t have done it without them.

Be sure to mark your calendar for next year’s Wild Arts Festival — as always held the weekend before Thanksgiving — November 23–24, 2013.



Admirers line up to buy 6x6 canvases © James Colhoff, Jr.



Silent Auction bidders have many choices © James Colhoff, Jr.

We want to thank and acknowledge our generous sponsors:

Sponsors including Presenting Sponsor Backyard Bird Shop, Hawk NW Natural, Regence, Great Blue Heron Elk Cove Vineyards, Sauvie Island Coffee, St Honoré Boulangerie, Media Sponsor The Oregonian, and Owl Audubon Society of Portland.

40 Friends of Wild Arts

- Bob Gandolfi Event Production
- Elisa Malin and Jenny Jones
- Garden Fever
- Grow Construction Inc.
- Ivey Jacobson and Company
- JD Fulwiler Insurance
- Judith Stevens
- Kruger’s Farm Market
- Marks Family
- Marsha Henry, Realtor
- Mary and Allan Solares
- McDonald Jacobs
- Meryl Redisch
- Portfolio 21
- sparktank
- Vern and Carol Edwards
- William and Rachel Parmenter
- XtabayVintage Clothing
- Mary Taylor
- Sue Thomas
- Judy Thompson
- Alma & Nora Valls
- Suzanne Vanslyke & Stephen Heard
- Karla Voigt
- Lily von Mosch
- Elizabeth Wadsworth
- Thomas Walsh
- Terri Wanke
- Pamela Washington
- Richard & Karen Weinbender
- Carl & Stephanie Weiss
- Jody Westerman
- Gretchen Weston
- Bill Wheeler
- Sarah Winter Whelan
- Agnes White
- Georgia Wier
- Baxter Wilson Jr.
- Erika Wong
- Doug Woods

Welcome, New Members!

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

Members listed in Warbler format, including Gay Abdon, Juliana Crouch, Michele Johnson, Mary Oakes, Marci Stafford, etc.

Court Halts Clearcutting in Murrelet Habitat on Oregon State Forests

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

In late November, we received some great end-of-the-year news on our efforts to protect threatened Marbled Murrelets in Oregon State Forests. A federal court judge granted a preliminary injunction requested by Portland Audubon, Cascadia Wildlands, and Center for Biological Diversity, stopping 11 planned timber sales and any further logging activities in occupied Marbled Murrelet sites in the Tillamook, Clatsop, and Elliott State Forests until a case filed by the three groups is fully resolved in federal court. As reported previously in the *Warbler*, the case asserts that the state’s logging practices are harming the federally protected seabird in violation of the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

Since the case was filed, Oregon has voluntarily suspended timber sales on more than 1,700 acres of older forest in Marbled Murrelet habitat in the three State Forests. In her ruling, Chief Judge Ann Aiken concluded the voluntary suspensions do not go far enough, writing, “**Because the suspension of logging activities may be lifted at any time with 60 days’ notice, and due to the imperiled status of the Marbled Murrelet, the status quo includes an imminent threat of irreparable injury under the ESA.**”

This is an important ruling. It ensures not only that the existing timber sale suspensions will stay in place until this case is resolved, but also prevents any additional sales in key Murrelet areas. The State of Oregon’s forest practices are the most reckless in the Pacific Northwest and are pushing the Marbled Murrelet closer to extinction. This ruling should send a signal to the leadership of Oregon that balanced forest plans are critically needed to truly protect the Marbled Murrelet.

Murrelet populations are declining steadily, as is their breeding habitat. Oregon has the opportunity to provide for these birds while also ensuring timber jobs through either thinning young plantations or entering into an agreement called a “habitat conservation plan” with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Oregon recently abandoned its decade-long attempt to develop habitat conservation plans for the Clatsop, Tillamook, and Elliott State Forests which would have given the State a federal permit for limited impacts to Marbled Murrelets in exchange for habitat protection measures



Clearcutting on Tillamook State Forest © Bob Sallinger

designed to enhance the bird’s conservation. Instead, the State drastically increased the cut on all three forests.

Hopefully we will see a full victory in this litigation, resulting in permanent and meaningful reform of the State’s logging practices in the coming year. Until that time, however, at least we know that the State’s aggressive and destructive clearcutting practices will be curtailed.

The conservation organizations are represented by outside counsel Daniel Kruse of Eugene, Tanya Sanerib and Chris Winter of the Crag Law Center, Nick Cady of Cascadia Wildlands, Scott Jerger of Field Jerger LLP, and Susan Jane Brown of the Western Environmental Law Center.

Design Your Legacy

The Importance of Estate Planning

Estate planning will help you achieve your personal and family goals now and after you are gone. Estate planning ensures that your wealth and property go where you want them to go, providing for others according to your values. **Every adult should have a will.** If no will is present, state law will dictate how your assets are distributed. If possible, seek professional advice to find the best option that will work for your needs now and into the future.



American Coot with young © Jim Cruce

The Audubon Society of Portland Legacy Circle

Leave your legacy — a gift from your estate will carry forward your compassion and love for Oregon’s amazing birds. When you name the Audubon Society of Portland in your will, you provide for the future environmental health of our region and the future of the programs, services, and activities we provide.

For over 110 years, the work of Portland Audubon members has resulted in the abundance of parks, forests, and other natural areas we enjoy now. Over the years we have seen how important a bequest can be. **Literally thousands of native birds and wildlife have benefited from estate gifts,** providing us with strategic resources for education programs, for renovating and enhancing our wildlife sanctuary, and for funding our conservation work and Wildlife Care Center. Your legacy gift will help us serve Oregon into the next 110 years.

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.**

Building Habitat on a Budget: Propagating Native Shrubs in Your Backyard

by Nikkie West, Conservation Program Assistant

The drab, gray winter is settling in and this incessant rain means ample time for post-holiday ponderings, garden planning, and New Year’s resolutions. This year, like nearly all those in the past decade, I set my sites on living more simply: reducing and reorienting daily expenditures and activities to embrace the minimal so that spring blooms, new bird songs, and great seasonal foods remain the truest luxuries. So, how can we implement this ethic in the garden? How can we transform our yards and build great backyard habitat while keeping it simple and not breaking the bank? Propagating native plants at home, beginning with hardwood cuttings, is the perfect entry point.

Propagating native shrubs from hardwood cuttings is easy, will save you money, and will benefit the birds. But, perhaps most of all, propagation helps us reestablish a deeper connection to Willamette Valley native plants and the individuals, behaviors, and bloom times in our gardens. Here are a few easy steps:

- The dead of winter is the perfect time for taking cuttings. Take cuttings from healthy individuals, preferably in the morning. Select branches of this year’s or last year’s growth which are straight and have a minimum diameter of a pencil. Use a sharp, thin-bladed pocket knife or pruning shears. Cuttings are generally 4–6 inches long, and you can make many cuttings from one branch.
- Native shrubs that grow almost effortlessly from hardwood cuttings include any native willow (though



Adapted from *Gardening in Western Washington: Hardwood Cuttings and Live Stakes* © WSU Cooperative Extension (gardening.wsu.edu/text/nvcuthw.htm)

do your research to be sure your yard is large enough and appropriate for willows — many urban yards are not), Western or Douglas Spiraea, Red Osier Dogwood, Twinberry, Salmonberry, and Ninebark.

- Insert the cuttings one-third to one-half their length either directly into your garden, or into a pot of soil. Soil should be low in fertility, and well-drained to provide sufficient aeration. Do not insert the cuttings upside down — sounds silly but it’s true! Leave the cuttings outside in moist indirect light, which shouldn’t be too difficult to find this time of year.

Want more information? Go to gardening.wsu.edu/text/nvcuthw.htm — and our Backyard Habitat Certification Program will host another “Propagating with Native Cuttings Workshop and Plant Material Exchange” this February. Contact Nikkie West at 503-292-6855 ext.126 for more information.

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

This month we are delighted to introduce **Nature’s Nuts Wild Bird Products**, from Chuckanut All Natural Products of Jefferson, OR. While looking for a new mixed-seed supplier, we were delighted to find a great company located in the Willamette Valley. We’ll be carrying **8 different Nature’s Nuts mixed seed blends** so you can offer your backyard friends an exciting, varied, and tasty menu.

If you’ve been feeding Merry Mix to your backyard birds for years, they’ll quickly flock to try the **Deluxe**

Bird Lover’s Blend! It’s a super-premium mix with **over 50% Sunflower Seed** combined with Pumpkin Seed, Peanuts, Sunflower Hearts, Millet, Corn, and Safflower Seed. It is guaranteed to gather a wide variety of birds to your feeders.



Have some special friends? We’ll also be carrying species-specific diets like **Chickadee Delight, Dove & Quail Blend, Woodpecker Fruit & Nut, and Wild Finch Blend.** All come in double-layered reclosable bags that seal out oxygen and moisture while locking in the nutrients.

Tempted to try some new varieties? We are offering **10% off all Nature’s Nut blends** through the end of January (**that’s 20% off for members!**) so — give in to temptation! Your backyard birds will thank you!

Kestrel photo: Jim Cruce

Cars for Birds!



Your tax-deductible vehicle donation helps protect birds across Oregon. It’s easy to rid yourself of that unwanted car or truck! Running or non-running, your vehicle can benefit you with a charitable tax deduction *AND* support Portland Audubon’s conservation and education programs. For information contact **Ann Takamoto** at **971-222-6117** or **atakamoto@audubonportland.org**.

PORTLAND AUDUBON’S NATURE STORE

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

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

Birdathon 2013
Counting Birds because Birds Count!

by Ann Takamoto, Development Director

The biggest, baddest Birdathon this side of the Mississippi is just around the corner. We are excited to bring the 33rd Annual Birdathon to its spring migration peak and hope that you join in the fun!

We know you love birds — you want to know that the birds you love to see will be here now and here for future generations. Your participation in Birdathon will help protect birds and habitats across Oregon. A fund-raiser for our conservation and education programs, Portland Audubon hosts one of the most successful Birdathons in the nation, raising nearly \$140,000 in 2012.

If you have Birdathon'd in the past, thank you so much — Birdathon is a success because of you! Please join our Birdathon 2013 flock. If you are new to Birdathon and have been thinking about soaring in, this is the year! You can join our guided trips, organize your own trip, or count independently.

Birdathon is like a walk-a-thon, but instead of counting miles, we count bird species. Participants ask friends and family to pledge a donation to Audubon Society of Portland on either a fixed or “per-species” basis.

There are teams to suit anyone’s fancy — for all abilities and ages! You don’t have to be an expert to participate and to have a good time. All trips are led by seasoned birders and are a great way to make new friends and connect with other bird lovers. Or, you can participate simply by making a Birdathon donation! Watch for trip descriptions in the March/April issue of the Warbler, since registration will open mid-April 2013 for this May event.

Transitions

Birds do eventually fledge and such is the case with Gary Slone, who has been coordinating Birdathon for the past 9 years. Gary Slone has led Birdathon to great heights — helping to grow this amazing community to the powerhouse fun(d)-raising event that it is today. He will not be a stranger, though, as he’ll continue to lead our “Cream



of the Crop” team. We wish Gary well and at the same time we welcome our new Birdathon Coordinator, Mark Fitzsimons. Mark is an experienced trip leader and event manager, and of course he comes with a love of birds and the great outdoors.

Birdathon is Good For Business!

Birdathon provides an excellent opportunity for businesses to participate through Event Sponsorship, gaining visibility to thousands of people on our website and in the Warbler. In addition, company owners and employees can form their own Birdathon teams with leaders provided by Portland Audubon, or they can sponsor one of our many dynamic teams.

For information about becoming an Event Sponsor, creating a company team, or specific levels and benefits of event sponsorship, contact Ann Takamoto, Development Director, at atakamoto@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6117.

An Opportunity to Join the Birdathon Planning Committee!

The Birdathon Planning Committee is presently seeking 2–3 additional volunteers to join in and help plan this great event. The opportunity is available to enthusiastic birders and non-birders alike. Committee meetings are held approximately once every 6–8 weeks until the Birdathon Banquet on June 21, 2013. If you’re interested and want to know more, please feel free to contact Mark Fitzsimons at mark.birdathon@gmail.com or 503-756-7534.



Ron also helped with banding hawks. Photo: Spencer family

A Tribute to Ron Spencer

February 27, 1934 – November 30, 2012

by Meryl Redisch, Executive Director

It is with great sadness that I share with you the passing of Ron Spencer, who generously gave his time, talents, and treasures to help build the Audubon Society of Portland into a successful and financially healthy organization. Ron was on our Board of Directors when I arrived at Portland nearly ten years ago, and he served as Portland Audubon’s Treasurer during a time of considerable organizational change, transition, and financial insecurity. He devoted countless hours and worked tirelessly to help make possible our current state of solid financial stability and health.

Ron was more than a numbers and budget guy! He loved to go birding locally and was tagged often to lead trips for the Magpies — the dedicated group of weekday birders whose motto was to start later, go slower, and always know where the restrooms are! Ron also demonstrated his desire in nurturing the next generation of birders and nature lovers by leading Sanctuaries walks here and by sharing “what’s in the scope” with kids and families during the Raptor Road Trip event on Sauvie Island. Ron’s commitment to Portland Audubon was broad and deep, and he will be greatly missed.

A beautiful and sturdy wooden bench, dedicated to Ron by his daughter Tammy Spencer, is ideally located just outside of Audubon House. I am sure that he would want you to sit for a while, and enjoy all that nature has to offer.

The Spencer Family will celebrate Ron’s life in late February. They wish to have donations in his memory made to Portland Audubon, to the Ron Spencer Conservation Fund.

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
WILDLIFE CARE CENTER
503-292-0304
9am to 5pm every day
NATURE STORE
503-292-9453
10am to 6pm, Mon. - Sat.
10am to 5pm on Sunday
INTERPRETIVE CENTER & LIBRARY
Same hours as store
RARE BIRD ALERT
503-292-6855 • www.audubonportland.org
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.

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Nature Store Clerk..... Sally Loomis
Sanctuaries Director Tom Costello
Sanctuaries Assistant..... Greg Kurtz
Sanctuaries Maintenance Technician.....Rick Meyers

BUSINESS ALLIANCE
Through their business practices and financial contributions, the following businesses are helping advance our mission and protect Oregon’s birds, natural resources, and livability. If you would like to become a member of the Audubon Society of Portland Business Alliance, please contact our Development Director at 971-222-6117.

NW Natural
www.nwnatural.com
SELCO COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION
PGE
Portland General Electric
ELK COVE VINEYARDS
LEUPOLD AMERICA'S OPTICS AUTHORITY
Backyard Bird Shop
Beaverton Toyota
Bob's Red Mill
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McCoy Foat & Company PC, CPAs
Morel Ink
NePo Suet Company
NW Natural
Portland Audubon Nature Store
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Sauvie Island Coffee Company
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Vernier Software