



Black-throated
Gray Warbler

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Bald Eagle being treated for lead poisoning in the Wildlife Care Center
©Tinsley Hunsdorfer

Time to Get the Lead Out

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

The toxic impacts of lead on humans and wildlife have been known for decades, but lead poisoning remains a serious problem for many bird species. Despite a ban on use of lead in waterfowl hunting in 1991, lead remains legal and commonly used for hunting of game birds and mammals and for sinkers used in fishing. We continue to send a steady stream of toxic lead into our environment and we continue to see eagles, hawks, falcons, vultures, and a variety of other species die from lead poisoning. Lead has been identified as single biggest impediment to California Condor recovery, with teams of biologists now having to track and recapture wild condors to periodically check and treat the birds for lead exposure. With many good non-toxic alternatives now available, we believe that it is long past time to get the lead out of our environment.

In the next few months we will be hiring a new position to convene stakeholders to explore a variety of strategies to address lead in Oregon. The position has been made possible through funding provided by Audubon, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Oregon Zoo. We are open to looking at a variety of strategies including legislation, litigation, education, or some combination of the three... but we are firmly committed to significant forward progress on this issue in the coming years.

The avoidable deaths of federally protected birds from lead exposure are unacceptable. One of the most common avenues of exposure for these birds is through lead-riddled carcasses and gut piles that are left out in the environment. The birds ingest the lead and suffer lead poisoning as the lead moves through their systems. Birds such as raptors, corvids, and vultures that feed on carrion are particularly susceptible. Other birds such as loons, swans, cranes, and diving ducks can pick up lead from sinkers that are left in our rivers, lakes, and wetlands.

A variety of strategies have already been tried in other states and nationally, with varying results. Arizona, working directly with a variety of hunting groups, has adopted a voluntary lead reduction program that relies primarily on outreach as well

as, in some instances, providing free non-lead ammunition to hunters that hunt in the reintroduction range of the California Condor. California has adopted a mandatory ban on the use of lead in Condor reintroduction areas, and a bill introduced by California Audubon and others is currently moving through the California Legislature that would ban use of lead shot throughout the entire state. The Center for Biological Diversity and other conservation organizations have unsuccessfully petitioned the EPA to ban lead shot and sinkers. A coalition of conservation groups have brought suit against the Forest Service in Arizona, claiming that use of lead shot violates laws governing the disposal of hazardous waste. An internet search of state fish and wildlife department websites brings up a plethora of outreach materials aimed at reducing use of lead by hunters and fishermen.

Arguments against lead reduction including lack of data, cost, accuracy of non-toxic shot, and Second Amendment gun rights ring hollow. There is a huge amount of scientific data linking lead shot and lead sinkers to the death of non-target wildlife species. This includes isotope studies definitively tying lead shot to condor lead poisoning. Studies also show that non-toxic shot is every bit as accurate as lead shot. While costs for non-toxic shot can be higher than lead, that will quickly change as the market for non-toxic shot expands. Some proponents of lead shot would like to turn this into a referendum on the Second Amendment. However, this has nothing to do with taking away people's guns. It has everything to do with protecting our wildlife from avoidable exposure to this highly toxic element.

What will work in Oregon? We plan to work aggressively in the coming months and years to identify and implement the most effective strategies. Watch our website for information on the new position and our efforts to reduce wildlife exposure to lead in Oregon.

For more information contact Bob Sallinger, Portland Audubon Conservation Director, at bsallinger@audubonportland.org.



TALON 2013 apprentices, left to right: Shanera Touch, Elijah Hoffman, Tamara Layden, Felipe Guzman, Abel Gerbrezgi, Mustaf Mohamed, Stephanie Hardy (not pictured: Leigh McKinney-Whitcalf, Joe Mendoza, DeeDee Turner, Na'Shay Harrison, Dakota Gaines) © Tinsley Hunsdorfer

The TALON program: an expanded introduction

by Gladys Ruiz, Eastside Conservation Education Coordinator

What is TALON?

Back in March we announced the launch of our new community-based youth program, T•A•L•O•N (*Teach•Advocate•Lead•Observe•Nurture*), which is based out of Portland Audubon's Eastside branch at Leach Botanical Garden. The program trains and employs young adults ages 16–22 in conservation-related fields; all participants live or attend school in East Multnomah County.

Why East Multnomah County?

Since the opening of our Eastside branch in 2010, we have worked to create opportunities for Audubon to extend its mission and programs to rapidly growing East Metro communities, and to a younger, more diverse, and public transit–dependent population. Through programs like Explorador, our community-based day camps, we have inspired grade school–age youth within the ROSE, Hacienda, and Bienestar Community Development Corporations to love and protect nature. TALON was created to further that love for nature and provide young adults with 10 weeks of training followed by summertime employment at Audubon, exposing them to viable environmental career options with an emphasis on engaging youth of color and diverse communities. By introducing a younger and more ethnically diverse population to careers in conservation, wildlife care, and environmental education, TALON aims to help shape the next generation of conservation leaders and carry Audubon Society of Portland's conservation and education mission into the 21st century.

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From the Executive Director



Meryl Redisch

Summer Jobs Can Lead to Conservation-based Careers

Do you recall the “on-the-job” experience you had as a young adult that precipitated your interest in the larger world and really helped shaped the career you have today? Or the realization of finding something meaningful and fun that had the promise of providing you with a reasonable living, especially when coupled with a college or advanced degree?

Sally Jewell, the new U.S. Secretary of the Interior, visited Portland last month to highlight a grants program aimed at providing young adults with meaningful work experience in the outdoors and natural resources sector. The press event was populated by personnel representing city, state, and federal natural resource agencies along with a handful of folks like myself from the nonprofit sector. Aside from the congratulatory remarks from elected officials about new funding for a youth employment program and for Portland’s leadership in sustainability practices, a woman in her twenties shared her personal story with the audience. Hers was an example of how a program like the one featured shaped her thinking about the outdoors

and nature, and influenced the decisions she made later in life. These programs and others like them are essential if we want to build a new generation of people who will fall in love with nature and see the value in protecting it. We need programs that provide some level of pay, so that young adults don’t turn down the opportunities to perform habitat restoration on public lands only because they need money for themselves or their families.

The other side of the equation and the one missing in Interior Secretary Jewell’s remarks is that jobs and career opportunities in the fields of natural resource sustainability, wildlife management and research, and environmental education must be available to ensure that the next generation of conservation practitioners, advocates, and policy makers really does get built. It’s relatively easy for Jewell to speak in Portland, where the city and Metro embrace sustainable natural resource practices and offer good wages to do this work. It’s another thing to go just a few miles east to Damascus where natural resource protections are being upended by elected officials, or to Vancouver, Washington, which has all but decimated their parks department. As a society we must provide both sides of the

equation if we are going to keep this world healthy for people and birds, and provide good opportunities for young adults to gain many different types of experience in conservation and good-paying jobs that put that experience to the test.

I can relate very well to the woman who shared her story about working during the summer to restore habitat on federal lands, because I spent a summer working as a backcountry ranger in Olympic National Park. As a native New Yorker from the city, those three months gave me the confidence to pursue a career in conservation. Today, through the TALON program (see article on page 1), Portland Audubon is trying to give young adults from diverse backgrounds the confidence and opportunity to do the same. By learning and working alongside some Audubon staff to gain hands-on experience in wildlife rehabilitation, land stewardship, habitat restoration, and environmental advocacy, some of these young men and women may find that a career in conservation is a perfect fit for them — and when they are ready, they’ll find that a full-time job is available as well.

The TALON program

Continued from front cover

TALON Training

With TALON’s start date set for March 2013, we began our search for TALON members this winter. Partnering with local high schools and nonprofit organizations throughout East Portland and West Gresham, we received more than 70 applications. From this pool, Audubon staff selected 12 excited, eager, energetic teens. First up for the new TALON members: participating in a 10-week training program that provided a foundation in local natural history, environmental science, and local and regional conservation issues.

For 10 Saturdays, the TALON team set out to learn about botany, birding, tracking, and local conservation efforts. Each week we visited a new greenspace like Foster Floodplain Nature Park, Powell Butte, Nadaka Nature Park, and Tideman Johnson Park, and discussed issues like access to nature and local conservation history. Mustaf, one of our TALON members, shared that his favorite part of training was “learning that bird language can help you in learning more about what’s happening in a forest.” The time Mustaf spent in the Joe Miller Sanctuary was both new and inspiring, and he looks forward to his summer apprenticeship as a summer camp counselor.

In addition to environmental and conservation education, TALON members participated in community outreach,

creating a kid-friendly activity for the annual Children’s Nature Fair at Leach Botanical Garden. TALON members shared their knowledge about Audubon and the TALON program with more than 400 participants from all over East Portland

TALON Apprenticeships

Now that the TALON members have completed their training, they are ready to begin paid apprenticeships. These positions will provide invaluable on-the-job training and real-life work experience as TALON members work closely with Portland Audubon staff in our education, conservation, wildlife rehabilitation, and sanctuary programs for 10 weeks.

Conservation apprentices Tamara Layden and Abel Gerbrezgi will focus on supporting ongoing conservation work in the East Metro region by taking leadership roles with specific projects like Nadaka Nature Park and Green Lents. They will be supported by Jim Labbe, Audubon’s urban conservationist.

Wildlife Care Center apprentice Felipe Guzman will assist in the daily care of injured and orphaned wildlife, working under the instruction of care center operations manager Lacy Campbell and veterinarian Deb Scheaffer.

Sanctuary apprentices Leigh McKinney-Whitcalf, Elijah Hoffman, and Joe Mendoza will work with Tom Costello, Audubon’s sanctuaries director, and other sanctuary staff on a variety of tasks and projects related to the management of a natural area and visitor center. Possible projects include habitat restoration and trail/facilities maintenance.

Environmental Education apprentices Shanera Touch, Mustaf Mohamed, Dakota Gaines, Na’Shay Harrison, DeeDee Turner, and Stephanie Hardy will work as summer camp counselors throughout Audubon’s many camp programs, including onsite camps, excursions, mobile adventures, and community-based camps.

Now that we’ve wrapped up the training portion of TALON, I am so honored to have had the opportunity to get to know and share space with these energetic, passionate, and committed young people. I look forward to seeing them thrive throughout Portland Audubon.

Many thanks to everyone who helped this first year of TALON move forward. TALON members learned from many people, including Audubon staff and local conservation heroes like Steve Johnson. We would also like to thank the many funders of all our community-based youth programs, including East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, Spirit Mountain Community Foundation, John D. Gray Audubon Society of Portland Fund through the Oregon Community Foundation, East Portland Action Plan, the Juan Young Trust, the Jackson Foundation, KEEN, Inc., Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon through the Oregon Community Foundation, Selco Community Credit Union, and Clean Water Services.

If you are interested in helping support our community-based programs like TALON and Explorador, please contact Ann Takamoto at 971-222-6117 or atakamoto@audubonportland.org for more information. You can also sponsor a camper at <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=f11659>.

Wild Arts Festival 2013: Save the Dates!

The 2013 Wild Arts Festival, presented by the **Backyard Bird Shop**, is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, **November 23 and 24**, at Montgomery Park (2701 NW Vaughn). After banner years in 2011 and 2012, we are looking toward another outstanding Festival in 2013!

The eagerly awaited Wild Arts Festival is the Northwest’s premier show and sale of nature-themed art and books. It features over 100 of the region’s favorite artists and authors, along with our outstanding Silent Auction. The artists’ jury has now been held, and the author list is nearing completion. For a complete and up-to-date list of artists and authors, visit the Wild Arts website, wildartsfestival.org.

The success of the show has already attracted a first-rate list of sponsors. Besides the Backyard Bird Shop, our Presenting Sponsor, the Festival’s sponsors currently include Selco Community Credit Union, Northwest Natural, Regence Blue Cross Blue Shield, Dave’s Killer Bread, Elk Cove Vineyards, Ferguson-Wellman Capital Management, and Sauvie Island Coffee, along with a growing list of businesses and individuals who are members of the “40 Friends of Wild Arts.”

The Wild Arts Festival engages the Audubon community more than any of our other activities, and even at this stage there are many ways to get involved:

Sponsor. If you or someone you know would like to become a sponsor, there are many levels available. For information, please check the Sponsors webpage at wildartsfestival.org/sponsors.

Volunteer. If you would be interested in volunteering, go to the WAF website above, or email our volunteer coordinator at wafvolunteers@gmail.com.

Donate to the Silent Auction. You can donate items such as those listed below. However, we will not be taking used items, with the exception of a small number of high-quality items which may be accepted on an individual basis, such as nature themed limited-edition prints or original art. We welcome your generous gifts of donations such as:

- Birding trips & classes, bird houses, feeders, binoculars
- Kayaking, canoeing, biking & hiking trips
- Getaways to B&Bs, hotels, beach houses, mountain cabins
- Pottery, jewelry, books



Wild Arts Festival 2012 © James Colhoff, Jr.

You can drop off your donation at the Audubon office **after October 1**. All donations must be in our office by November 12. If you have questions about donations, contact Marilyn Scott at mswestlinn@comcast.net or 503-722-8136.

But most of all, we hope you will mark your calendars for the weekend before Thanksgiving: Saturday, November 23rd, 10–6; and Sunday, November 24th, 11–5. See you there!

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

July 6 (Sat), 7am–3pm
Mt Hood National Forest

Need a birding fix over the July 4th weekend? Join leader **Tim Shelmerdine** for this new trip to Timberline Lodge and areas around the Mt Hood National Forest. We will look for montane species such as Clark’s Nutcracker, Gray Jay, Cassin’s Finch, several species of warblers and flycatchers, and more. Meet in the parking lot at Clackamas Fred Meyer, on the north side (toward Elmer’s). Carpooling is encouraged. Please bring lunch, sunscreen, and layered clothing. Directions: From I-205 in Clackamas, take Exit 12 (Hwy 212/224). Head east toward Estacada and turn right on SE 82nd Dr. Turn right into the Fred Meyer parking lot at the first opportunity and bear right. Call Tim at 971-221-2534 for more information.

July 9 (Tue), 10am–Noon
Planning Meeting

The Magpies will hold our annual planning session in the Jay Conference Room at Portland Audubon. We will be planning the walks and trips and assigning Leaders for the 2013–2014 birding season. For information contact **Dudley Thomas** at 503-244-6496 or dbthomas70@gmail.com (Subject: Planning).

July 13 (Sat), 7am–10am
Sandy River Delta

Join leader **Ron Escano** on a walk around this rich riparian area near the Columbia River. We will be looking for cottonwood bottom nesters like the Bullock’s Oriole and Red-eyed Vireo. Directions: I-84 east, take Exit 18, at the stop sign turn right and loop under the freeway. Meet at the parking lot by the restrooms. Call Ron at 503-771-3454 if you have questions.

International Vulture Awareness Day is coming to Audubon!

FREE EVENT!
Sat, September 7
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. • Heron Hall

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

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

- Meet Ruby, Portland Audubon’s Turkey Vulture, up close, along with the other Education Birds
- Compare your “wingspan” to that of an Andean Condor’s silhouette
- Make a crafted vulture and mask
- Learn fun vulture facts
- Find out the differences between Old and New World vultures
- Discover why vultures are important
- Make a pledge to help vultures survive

Come and help us celebrate the beauty of vultures!

Ruby the Turkey Vulture
© Tom Schmid

SAVE THE DATE
4th Annual “Howl at the Moon Harvest Night” at Kruger’s Farm

Friday, September 20, 5pm to 10pm

Howl at the Moon! Harvest Night

July 16 (Tue), 8am–3pm
Timberline Lodge Area

Interested in exploring the timberline habitats on the slopes of Mt Hood? Chance to see Cassin’s Finch, Calliope Hummingbird, and Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch. We will hike the trails above and around Timberline Lodge. **We’ll leave at 8am** from Clackamas Town Center parking lot off Sunnyside Rd (off I-205). **Registration is required** with **Ron Escano** at 503-771-3454 or call for more details.

July 25 (Thu), 7am–4pm
White River Area

Early in the day we will be visiting a number of sites in the foothills ponderosa woodlands and oak savanna areas around Wamic and Tygh Valley. Woodpeckers will be a special focus. By midday we’ll drop down into the White River Canyon between White River Falls State Park and the Deschutes River. Meet **Dwight Sangrey** and **Jake Stone** in the parking lot at the Sportsman’s Pub and Grub on White River Rd in Wamic, OR. Bring lunch, sunscreen, insect repellent, and a scope if you have one. Maximum group size is 15. **Registration is required** with Dwight at 503-675-2616 or dasangrey@comcast.net, or contact him for details.

August 10 (Sat), 8am–1pm
Steigerwald Lake NWR

Join **John Nikkel** and **Dena Turner** in a walk through the cottonwood riparian corridor and riverine flood plain at Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Directions: Drive east on Washington SR-14 past Camas and Washougal. Watch for the sign on the right of the highway at about MP 16 marking the Columbia River Gorge Scenic Area. Shortly past that, also on the right, you’ll see a large Steigerwald Lake NWR sign at the entrance to the trailhead and parking lot, where we’ll meet. Contact Dena at 503-236-6937 for more information.

August 24 (Sat), 7am–10am
Vancouver Lake Park

Join leader **Ron Escano** at Vancouver Lake Park to scope the lake for water birds then explore the riparian woodland for early fall migrants. Directions: From I-5 north, take Exit 1-D (4th Plain Blvd), go west on 4th Plain through Vancouver onto SR-501 (Lower River Rd). After 3.5 miles on SR-501, continue straight for 0.6 miles to Vancouver Lake Park (\$3 entrance fee). Meet at parking lot in front of middle bathrooms. Call Ron at 503-771-3454 if you have any questions.



Bullock’s Oriole
© Jim Cruce

Thanks, Bird Song Walk Leaders!

Portland Audubon says Thank You! to all the leaders of our Morning Bird Song Walks. For 5 mornings each week throughout April and May and into June, these volunteers were there to help you clue into who’s singing at some of our birdiest and most accessible natural areas: Tryon Creek, Cooper Mountain, Mt Tabor, Camassia Preserve, Leach Botanical Garden, and Pittock Mansion.

On behalf of all who attended the walks this year, we say *THANK YOU* to Rick & Stephanie Wagner (Tryon), Bonnie Deneke, Dena Turner, Sue Carr, and Lynn Krupa (Cooper Mountain), Gerard Lillie, Tom McNamara, Christopher & Adrian Hinkle (Mt Tabor), Jackie Wilson, Ray Michimoto & Don Brown (Camassia), Wink Gross, Shawneen Finnegan & Dave Irons (Pittock Mansion), and Ron Escano (Leach Botanical Garden) for sharing your time and expertise, and for your dedication and enthusiasm in connecting people with nature.

Lazuli Bunting
© Jim Cruce

Calendar at a Glance				For the latest information, visit audubonportland.org .			
July				August			
1–3	Mon–Wed	Various	Summer Camps (website)	3	Sat	7am	Theories on Migration field trip (p.7)
2	Tue	7:30pm	Birders’ Night, Heron Hall	3	Sat	10am	Nature Journaling the Seasons (p.7)
3	Wed	7pm	Understanding Bird Song class (website)	5	Mon	6pm	New Volunteer Orientation (p.8)
4	Thu	—	Independence Day: Admin and Nature Store closed	5–9	Mon–Fri	Various	Summer Camps (website)
5	Fri	Various	Summer Camps (website)	6	Tue	7:30pm	Birders’ Night, Heron Hall
6	Sat	7am	Audubon Outing (p.3)	7	Wed	7pm	Theories on Migration class (p.7)
8–12	Mon–Fri	Various	Summer Camps (website)	9	Fri	6:30pm	Butterflies of the Cascade Mountains class (p.7)
8–12	Mon–Fri	Various	Day Camps with Lake Oswego Community Schools (p.7)	10	Sat	7am	Theories on Migration field trip (p.7)
9	Tue	10am	Magpie Outing Planning Meeting (p.3)	10	Sat	8am	Audubon Outing (p.3)
13	Sat	7am	Audubon Outing (p.3)	10	Sat	9:30am	Butterflies of the Cascade Mountains field trip (p.7)
13	Sat	9am	Old-Growth Tree Climb (audubonportland.org/sanctuaries/climb)	12–16	Mon–Fri	Various	Summer Camps (website)
15–19	Mon–Fri	Various	Summer Camps (website)	17	Sat	9am	General Volunteer Training (p.8)
15–19	Mon–Fri	Various	Day Camps with Lake Oswego Community School (p.7)	19–23	Mon–Fri	Various	Summer Camps (website)
16	Tue	8am	Audubon Outing (p.3)	24	Sat	7am	Audubon Outing (p.3)
16	Tue	7pm	Finches, Tanagers & Buntings class (p.7)	26–30	Mon–Fri	Various	Summer Camps (website)
17	Wed	7pm	Autumn Shorebirds class (p.7)	September			
18	Thu	7pm	Board Meeting	1	Sun	10am	Give Me Shelter class (p.7)
20	Sat	7am	Autumn Shorebirds field trip (p.7)	2	Mon	—	Memorial Day: Admin and Nature Store closed
21	Sun	10am	Bug’s-Eye View of Birds class (p.7)	3	Tue	7:30pm	Birders’ Night, Heron Hall
22–26	Mon–Fri	Various	Summer Camps (website)	4	Wed	7pm	Theories on Migration class (p.7)
24	Wed	7pm	Theories on Migration class (p.7)	5	Thu	7pm	Oregon North Coast Shorebirds class (p.7)
25	Thu	7am	Audubon Outing (p.3)	7	Sat	7am	Oregon North Coast Shorebirds field trip (p.7)
27	Sat	7am	Autumn Shorebirds field trip (p.7)	7	Sat	7am	Theories on Migration field trip (p.7)
27	Sat	7am	Theories on Migration field trip (p.7)	7	Sat	11am–3pm	International Vulture Awareness Day (p.3)
27	Sat	10am	Nature Journaling the Seasons class (p.7)	8	Sun	Noon–4pm	Catio Tour (p.4)
28	Sun	12:30pm	Trees and Shrubs in Summer class (p.7)	Birders’ Night			
29–8/2	Mon–Fri	Various	Summer Camps (website)	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.			
31	Wed	—	Final day to Go Paperless with NW Natural to Benefit Audubon (p.10)				
31	Wed	7pm	Theories on Migration class (p.7)				

Conservation

Cats and Wildlife: Things are Different Here...

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

Across the nation, in community after community, debates between cat advocates and bird advocates about how to address cat overpopulation issues have grown increasingly ugly and rancorous. Amid this maelstrom, the Portland metro region has been gaining increasing attention for the simple fact that our local bird advocates and cat advocates actually get along. In fact we actually work quite closely together and we have done so for a long time. We wanted take a little space in the *Warbler* to explain why things are different here and to encourage you to become involved.

The issue of cat predation on birds is not new. One of the founders of Portland Audubon, William Finley, wrote in his seminal work *American Birds* (1907) that cats are one of the “most persistent enemies that birds have.” We have records from our Wildlife Care Center dating back to the 1930s highlighting cat predation as a key cause of intake. Today, nearly 40% of the animals brought to our Wildlife Care Center have issues that are cat related — either caught by cats, orphaned by cats, or fledglings “rescued” by the public to prevent imminent cat predation. Over the past 20 years, we have treated more 20,000 cat-caught animals, representing more than 100 local species. These animals have some of the lowest survival rates of any of the injuries we see, and we only see a small sample of what is happening out on the landscape. These are our birds in our neighborhoods — creatures that our communities are working hard to protect and restore.

Habitat loss and fragmentation is by far the most significant cause of bird population declines, and Audubon spends the vast majority of its resources focused on habitat-based initiatives. However, at a time when one out of every four bird species is experiencing serious long-term declines, we also cannot afford to ignore other major causes of bird mortality such as window strikes, pesticides, power lines, poaching and yes, cat predation. The question is not whether we need to address cat predation, but rather what the most effective strategies are going to be moving forward.

The trend nationwide has been to focus debate on a strategy known as Trap, Neuter, and Return (TNR), in which feral cats are trapped, spayed (females) or neutered (males), and then returned to colonies where volunteers provide food as the cats live out their lives. There has also been a related focus on reducing the number of cats killed at animal shelters, with some shelters adopting the extreme approach of simply releasing cats that are not able to be adopted. Some national cat advocacy organizations have taken to denying that the impacts on birds even matter. Bird conservation organizations have rightfully been alarmed by initiatives that often seem indifferent to the impact that cats can have on native wildlife.

At the same time, cat advocates have been reacting to persistent calls by some bird advocates to simply round up and kill feral cats. Beyond the moral and ethical considerations raised by industrial-scale killing

of America’s favorite pet, there are also practical considerations. Killing cats has been the dominant paradigm of cat control strategies for a century and it has not worked. There are more free-roaming cats today than at any time in our history — and there is no reason to think that doubling down on killing cats is going to make the world a significantly better place for birds.

We have taken a hard look at this issue and we think there is a better way forward for *our* community. The Audubon Society of Portland has always had a strong relationship with the local animal welfare community, and we have developed a particularly strong relationship with the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon (FCCO) since its founding in 1995. This relationship is built on a common agenda of reducing the number of free-roaming cats in Portland. It is also built upon a mutual respect and appreciation for one another’s missions — their mission to humanely reduce cat overpopulation through TNR and ours to protect local bird biodiversity. Over the years we have heard from our members that they want both reduction in bird predation and humane strategies to get there. Since the late 1990s Audubon and the FCCO have worked together on a variety of initiatives including joint public service announcements about responsible pet ownership.

Some have suggested that our approach, and specifically our relationship with a group that promotes TNR, is heresy akin to waving the white flag on cat predation. We see it exactly the opposite. We believe that the Portland area has the potential to make real headway on an issue that has seen little evidence of success anywhere in the United States over the past century. We have a community that cares passionately about its animals, we have outstanding and well-supported domestic and wild animal advocacy organizations, and we have an aggressive agenda to reduce cat overpopulation. We believe that by adopting a range of strategies which include TNR, by working together and focusing on results, positive change is within our reach.

Strategies

The following are some of the strategies we view as critical to this effort.

- **Safe at Home Campaign:** Promoting responsible pet ownership focused on keeping pet cats from roaming — the most important thing we can do in both the short and long term to both protect our pets and reduce predation on wildlife.
- **Landscape-scale reduction of cat overpopulation:** Promoting reduction of free-roaming, stray, and feral cat populations through a variety of methods including spay and neuter programs; Trap, Neuter, and Release (TNR); shelter-based strategies, euthanasia in some situations, and targeting outreach and enforcement toward chronic sources of cat abandonment.



© Bob Sallinger

- **Removal of cats from designated natural areas and designated critical habitat areas:** Recognizing that certain locations have been set aside specifically for wildlife and prioritizing those locations for removal of free-roaming, stray, and feral cats.
- **Safeguards for property owners who want to protect wildlife on their land:** Maintaining nuisance laws that provide property owners and managers with effective, legal methods to address cats that come onto their property.
- **Indemnity for native predatory species that may prey upon free-roaming, stray, and feral cats:** Impacts on free-roaming cats should not be recognized as a legitimate basis for the trapping, relocation, or lethal control of native predator species such as coyotes and raccoons.
- **Scientific Research and Adaptive Management:** Ongoing rigorous assessment and evaluation of our impacts on cat overpopulation and on the behaviors and perceptions of the public around this issue.

At the end of the day, our success will be measured by real change on the ground: reduction in the number of free-roaming cats.

We are proud that we have found common ground on this difficult issue. We recognize that both cats and birds have value, and we have worked hard to develop a variety of strategies to address cat overpopulation challenges in ways that are both ecologically responsible and humane. Some of the things we are trying will be controversial — they will run counter to the traditional rhetoric espoused by one side or the other in this debate. However we believe that new strategies, new ideas, and new collaborations are necessary to make real progress that has eluded cat and wildlife advocates for more than a century. We are learning as we go and we are sure that course corrections will need to be made, but we are committed to moving forward **together** on this issue to find solutions that are good for cats and good for wildlife.

To learn more about the Cats Safe at Home Campaign, go to audubonportland.org/wcc/urban/cats.



Feral cat colonies at Springwater Corridor © Bob Sallinger

Catio Tour

Sunday, September 8,
Noon–4pm

Audubon and the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon are teaming up to bring Portland a tour of some of the coolest backyard cat enclosures. See and learn about what people are doing to provide their cats with safe enclosed outdoor play areas that also protect wildlife. Go to feralcats.com for more details.

May 2013 Election Success!
Area voters solidly pass the
Regional Natural Areas Levy —

Again, Audubon Society of Portland contributes significantly to conserving regional natural areas

In the May special election 56% of voters in the Portland metropolitan region voted to pass Measure 26-152, the regional natural areas levy. Measure 26-152 will raise \$53 million over 5 years, largely to enhance and restore regionally significant natural areas purchased with funds from regional bond measures voters passed by large margins in 1995 and 2006. A portion of funds will also go to expand access to these natural area gems, helping connect our communities and especially our children to our unique natural heritage.

Passage of Measure 26-152 will also get more people involved in making these stewardship and access improvements by expanding the very successful but previously underfunded “Nature in Neighborhoods Restoration & Enhancement” community grant program. Between 2006 and 2012 the program awarded over \$1.7 million to the most competitive environmental stewardship and education projects in the Portland metro region. Community projects removed invasive species, planted native vegetation along local

creeks and wetlands, educated school-age children about natural history, supported environmental monitoring, and more. These projects help build local and neighborhood capacity to improve water quality and wildlife habitat in our neighborhoods. However, the program could fund only 1 out of 9 proposals. Passage of Measure 26-152 means that the annual grant program will award \$750,000 annually over the next 5 years. That is almost three times the amount awarded annually since 2006.

56% of Portland metro-area voters said yes to Measure 26-152 and a remarkable 60% voted yes in Multnomah County! This is a very significant electoral victory for an operating levy in a low-turnout special election and during a still-recovering economy. Indeed, early polling showed voter support at only 53%. The strength of the victory can surely be attributed to the success of the campaign. And as in



Passage of Measure 26-152 will fund restoration and stewardship work on numerous regional natural areas purchased by the 1995 and 2006 natural area bond measures. Miles of riparian corridor and hundreds of acres of upland forest and woodlands will be enhanced and restored for the native biodiversity of the region. Photos © Metro (left) and Jim Labbe (right)



1995 and 2006, Audubon Society of Portland played a key role in the conservation victory. Portland Audubon staff, board, volunteers, and members raised money and spread the word through our social media, in the *Warbler*, and by word-of-mouth to our friends, neighbors, and co-workers. We hosted phone banks and turned out for canvassing. We want to thank everyone who helped make this a solid victory for conservation and sustaining nature that makes our region such a spectacular place to live.

Measuring Impact
— Every Backyard
Habitat Counts

How much impact do small greening projects, such as a backyard, really have on bird populations? A recent study conducted in Boston by Michael W. Strohbach (University of Massachusetts) grappled with this question. Strohbach studied the effect of small-scale urban greening projects on birds and released the following findings. One, greening projects on average had marginally more species richness than randomly selected sites in their vicinity. Two, the relative size of these habitat patches explains most of the population and species richness differences. Just a tiny increase of 0.04 acres resulted in one more species occupying a site, while larger sites, particularly those with mature trees, were considerably more impactful. Three, small greening projects appeared to be most valuable for urban biodiversity when they targeted the increase and connection of existing green space.



Molly Chidsey and Tony DeFalco gain gold certification © Nikkie West

Frankly, this all seems intuitive enough. But there's value in recognizing that no yard is an island; rather, each is significant provided the habitat pocket is large enough standing alone or is near parks, greenspaces, or other backyard habitats. Strohbach's research sets the stage to announce our results of last month's “Backyard Habitat — 50 Yards Challenge.”

Six weeks ago, we issued a challenge: we aimed to backyard habitat certify 50 yards in Portland and Lake Oswego in honor of World Environment Day on June 5th. Apparently everyone loves a good challenge, and May proved to be the busiest month since the program launched citywide in 2009. Backyard habitats have sprung up wildly including 27 silver level certifications, 34 gold level certifications, and 11 platinum level certifications. That's 72 backyard habitats — far exceeding our goal! These properties alone span about 12 acres, and on them property owners installed more than 3,800 new native trees and shrubs.



East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District gets platinum certified © Nikkie West

And they're not alone. These yards join the ranks of about 1,600 additional yards that are either certified as backyard habitats or actively pursuing certification by enhancing conditions to meet the needs of

feathered and furred friends. With this kind of critical mass on our side, not one of these yards is an island. Instead, their cumulative impact contributes to a more connected, permeable landscape for insects, birds, and other wildlife.

The Backyard Habitat Certification Program is a collaborative effort of Portland Audubon and the Columbia Land Trust. For more information contact Nikkie West at nwest@audubonportland.org or 503-292-6855.

Wildlife Care Center

Wildlife Care Center Testing All
Birds of Prey for Lead Exposure

by Deb Sheaffer and Lacy Campbell, WCC staff

You probably know about the dangers of lead poisoning in people, but did you know it's equally dangerous to wildlife? People often use toxic lead ammunition for hunting, and when a shot animal is eaten by another animal, the one feeding may die from lead poisoning. Predators and scavengers will eat tainted meat when gut piles aren't buried after cleaning a kill, or if an animal is shot and escapes and dies. But you never really realize the prevalence of a problem until you start testing for it.

Thanks to a grant from the Oregon Zoo's Future for Wildlife Grants Program, Audubon's Wildlife Care Center has been able to purchase a state-of-the-art lead testing machine. Prior to acquiring this machine, the Care Center had to send blood samples out to labs for expensive and time-consuming testing. We were only able to test those birds that showed strong indications of lead poisoning, and the delayed timeframe for diagnosis meant that valuable hours and days could be lost initiating treatment. Having a lead testing machine in-house means that we can test far more birds and get an accurate diagnosis in minutes. This is particularly critical with lead poisoning because it is often extremely difficult to diagnose based on external symptoms.

Starting January 1st of this year we began testing the blood of every raptor, vulture, and raven that comes in through our Care Center. We have already performed over 90 tests this year! While it is too soon to talk about the results, we can say that we have already seen quite a few birds with significant lead exposure and moderate to severe lead poisoning.

One such bird is a Bald Eagle we received in May. A pair of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife field staff doing a fish survey in the Abernathy Creek area of Longview, Washington stumbled across a downed adult Bald Eagle who was reluctant to move when they approached it. After crossing a creek and making a path to the bird through dense salmonberry, WCC Operations Manager Lacy Campbell and volunteers Marilyn Abend and Amber Breeding found the lethargic bird. It was easily caught and precariously transported back across the creek and then to the Care



Lead-poisoned Bald Eagle recovering in the care center © Tinsley Hunsdorfer

Center, where staff Veterinarian Deb Sheaffer examined the bird, took x-rays, and drew blood. Visually there was nothing physically wrong with it, no fractures, no bruising, nothing. The bird was a very impressive, well-fleshed adult male. Next step was to test the blood. Bingo! High lead level in the blood — in fact, the level was so high that it actually exceeded the highest levels registered by our machine. The x-ray also showed that the eagle had metal fragments in its stomach.

Due to the rapid lead test result, the staff was able to start treatment immediately. In addition to supportive care, the bird was treated by administering a chelating agent, which binds to the lead so it can be excreted from the body. The treatment is intense — twice-a-day injections for several days and then every three days until the lead values drop to acceptable levels. Staff and volunteers have seen improvement in the bird's strength and attitude as the bird recovers from the poison.

A later x-ray showed the metal had passed. Fortunately the Bald Eagle was otherwise healthy, so we are hopeful he will recover completely and be released back to the wild.



Lacy Campbell prepares to load rescued Bald Eagle into carrier for transport to Wildlife Care Center © Marilyn Abend

Other animals aren't so lucky. Sometimes the animal is found too late and the lead poisoning is too severe. A Red-tailed Hawk brought to the Care Center in April also showed very high lead levels. Although we were able to start treatment immediately, it was too late and the animal died before the next morning. Most animals that have been poisoned by lead are never found.

The lead testing machine has become a very important diagnostic tool. Because symptoms of lead toxicity (ataxia, lethargy, muscle tremors) can look like other injuries, it is often difficult to diagnose. With this machine we are able to give better care to the animals that come into our facility by being able to start treatment much sooner, while also adding to the growing body of data about the impacts of lead on our wildlife populations. We plan to report on the results of the first year of comprehensive testing in early 2014.

Read our blog at audubonportland.org/wcc/currentanimals.

Educational Trips

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

India

February 18 – March 6, 2014

India

... a country like no other, with a land and culture unique unto itself. The land of Kipling conjures up a myriad of images... everything from jungle laborers atop Asian Elephants to the crowded city streets of Delhi to jungle-cloaked temples where tigers still roam. Join experienced naturalists from Portland Audubon and local guides on this 16-day adventure through some of the finest National Parks in the country.

We arrive in Delhi, after which we head to the south of India, into the state of Kerala and the mountains of the Western Ghats. A visit to this region should produce **22 species of endemic birds** that are only found in this world-renowned biodiversity hotspot. Our first stop in this region will be the evergreen rainforest of the Thattakad Bird Sanctuary to seek out the **Gray Junglefowl, Malabar Pied Hornbill, Malabar Trogon, White-bellied Treepie, Purple-rumped Sunbird** and, with luck, we hope to see the rare and nocturnal **Sri Lankan Frogmouth**. Then we gain elevation to get to the rolling hills of the Western Ghats and the town of Munnar. In the high sholas, a habitat of scrub and grassland in the Erikulam National Park, the rare and endemic **Nilgiri Tahr**, a close relative of the Ibex, finds one of its few remaining strongholds. While here we will search for **Jerdon's Baza, Black-and-Orange Flycatcher, Nilgiri Pipit, and Crimson-backed Sunbird**. We then continue south into the Cardamom Hills and the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, where we will seek out such specialties as **White-bellied Woodpecker, White-cheeked and Malabar Barbets, Pompadour Green Pigeon**, and the **Banded Bay Cuckoo**. We should also find endemic primates such as **Nilgiri Langur** and the rare **Lion-tailed Macaque**.

We return to Delhi for a night then travel by air to the world-famous Kaziranga National Park, home to the world's single largest population of the **Greater One-horned Rhinoceros**. Early one morning, we'll travel into the park *on Elephant* to experience these incredible animals close up. Kaziranga is also home to one of the highest densities of **Bengal Tiger** in the world, and seeing this magnificent cat in the wild is simply awe-inspiring. We will be on jeep safari through one of the largest savannah and wetland systems remaining in India, where herds of **Swamp and Hog Deer** as well as wild **Asian Elephants** and the **Asiatic Wild Buffalo** still roam freely. A boat trip on the sacred Brahmaputra River could produce a life-sighting of the **Ganges River Dolphin**. We'll see a wide variety of water birds here too, including **Bar-headed Goose, Asian Openbill, Black-necked Stork, and Spot-billed Pelican**. As we further explore Kaziranga National Park, we'll keep an eye open for the rare **Hoolock Gibbon**, with its strange and haunting call, and the elusive **Great Hornbill**, both found in a nearby patch of moist forest.

Finally, we will return to Delhi then head south to Agra, where you'll see for yourself the most majestic monument in all of India, the **Taj Mahal**. This trip is sure to be an unforgettable and exotic experience. **It is likely that this trip will fill very quickly; please call Steve Robertson at 971-222-6118** (or Dan van den Broek at 503-292-9855 ext.105) if you would like to register for this tour.

Leaders: Steve Robertson, Education Director, and Dan van den Broek, Trip Leader and Educator
Group size: Limited to 12 participants
Fee: \$4295 members / \$4595 non-members
Deposit: \$2200 required to secure your place

Fee includes: All ground transportation within India, all **double-occupancy** lodging, meals *except some dinners*, local guide fees and gratuities, fees for all planned excursions, and the services of your skilled leaders. **Not included:** Airfare to & from India, domestic Indian flights.



Taj Mahal © Portland Audubon



Asian Openbill
photo: Dhruvahaj

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 unless approved beforehand by trip leader.

Birding Banderas Bay

March 9–16, 2014

Explore the tropical jungles, mountain forests, and coastal beaches of the Banderas Bay region (Nayarit and Jalisco states) in Western Mexico with Portland Audubon board member **David Mandell** and **Steve Engel**, Adult Education Program Manager. We'll stay 5 nights at our lovely hotel in the quiet coastal village of San Francisco (affectionately called San Pancho) just an hour north of Puerto Vallarta. We will also spend time with Luis Morales, the director of the San Pancho Bird Observatory, to learn about the important conservation work they are doing and observe their bird banding activity.



Orange-fronted Parakeet
photo: Charlene Wood

During our days exploring forest, field, and coast we'll have our first introductions to such resident species as **Golden-checked Woodpecker, Rufous-bellied Chachalaca, Cinnamon Hummingbird, Red-billed Pigeon, Squirrel Cuckoo, Orange-fronted Parakeet, Mexican Parrotlet, Social Flycatcher, and Scrub Euphonia**. These residents will be joined by wintering birds such as **Bell's Vireo, Yellow-breasted Chat, and Black-headed Grosbeak**.

A day trip to the village of San Blas and a boat trip through a mangrove-lined estuary should bring us views of **Bare-necked Tiger-Heron, Limpkin, Common Black-Hawk, Snail Kite, and Laughing Falcon**. The mangroves could also yield **Rufous-necked Wood-Rail, Mangrove Cuckoo**, and the distinctive "**Mangrove**" sub-species of **Yellow Warbler**. We'll also search for the roost sites of **Boat-billed Heron** and **Northern Potoo**. We will take a break from our boat ride to have lunch at La Tovar, a lovely shaded spot at the source of the river, before returning to the dock.

For our final 2 days and nights we head inland to the historic and picturesque village of San Sebastian del Oeste, founded in 1605. The cool oak and pine forests above San Sebastian will provide a completely different offering of birds than we saw in San Pancho: **White-eared, Berrylline, and Magnificent Hummingbirds; Crescent-chested, Grace's, and Red-faced Warblers; Painted and Slate-throated Redstarts; Red-headed, Hepatic, and possibly Flame-colored Tanagers**, to name just a few. In the morning, the beautiful song of the **Brown-backed Solitaire** will echo through the forest.

David Mandell has been making winter visits to San Pancho with his family for many years and has assisted the San Pancho Bird Observatory in its work. He is thrilled to co-lead the first Portland Audubon trip to the area and we are very excited to offer this opportunity. For more information and to register **contact Steve Engel at 971-222-6119**.

Leaders: Steve Engel, David Mandell, and local guides
Group size: Limited to 14 participants
Fee: \$2495 members / \$2695 non-members **Deposit:** \$1200 required to secure your place

Fee includes: All ground transportation, 7 nights **double-occupancy lodging**, all breakfasts and lunches, some dinners, all entry fees, a donation to the San Pancho Bird Observatory, gratuities for local guides, and the services of your leaders. **Not included:** Airfare to & from Portland.

JAMAICA January 10–19, 2014

2 spaces remain

Beaches of endless white sand... warm, turquoise-blue water... unforgettable sunsets and the hot, tropical sun are not all that await you in this island paradise: Jamaica is also home to no less than **28 endemic species of birds**, making it a paradise for birders as well.

We begin our trek in Montego Bay, then travel around the entire island, spending time on the coast, birding inland wetlands and the Blue Mountains on our quest to find all 28 endemics, which with a bit of luck should be no problem. On this 10-day birding adventure, we'll also spend time with Dr. Ann Hayes-Sutton, author of *A Photographic Guide to the Birds of Jamaica*, and stay in her historic estate called Marshall's Pen. We'll also bird local hotspots like the **Royal Palm Reserve, the Great Black Morass, and the famous Ecclesdown Road**, one of the best birding "roads" in the world, where we should be able to "clean up" on any of the endemics we may have missed, including the unique **Jamaican Tody**.



Jamaican Tody photo:
Dominic Sheronoy

Leaders: Education Director **Steve Robertson** and local guides
Group size: 14 participants + leaders
Fee: \$2695 members / \$2895 non-members **Deposit:** \$1250 secures your place

Fee includes: All ground transportation, all **double-occupancy** lodging, meals *except some dinners*, local guide fees and gratuities, park fees, and planned group activities. **Not included:** Airfare to & from Portland.

STEENS MOUNTAIN & ALVORD DESERT

October 9–13, 2013

Contact Steve Engel at 971-222-6119.

2 spaces remain

Scotland!

Join us in May 2014

Contact Steve Robertson at 971-222-6119.

HOW TO REGISTER

Choose one of 3 ways to register for Adult Classes:

1. Register and pay online:

Visit class description at www.audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult and follow registration link.

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

2. Mail in your check:

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

3. Credit card payment:

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

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

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

Harry Nehls on:
Finches, Tanagers & Buntings

July 16 (Tue), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall

Big beaks! That is what ties these groups of songbirds together. But is there more to it than that? And what separates them from each other? Which ones live here all year and which migrate south for the winter? Which group has a confusing trifecta of species that trouble even experienced birders to make the ID? Join local birding expert **Harry Nehls** for another of his enjoyable and educational presentations, and find out the answers to these questions and more!
Fee: \$10 members / \$15 non-members
Free for active volunteers.

Autumn Shorebirds

July 17 (Wed), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall
July 20 & 27 (Sat), 7am–2pm: Local Field Trip

The southbound shorebird migration begins early and goes late, from July to October, with changes every week. Fall begins with adult birds sporting worn plumage arriving in the Northwest as early as July. Juveniles follow weeks later and increase numbers and diversity. Join local author and guide **John Rakestraw** for an evening class to learn how to identify these long-distance migrants, then take part in 2 half-day field trips to local hotspots.
Class with Field Trips: \$65 members / \$85 non-members
Field Trips limited to 14 participants.
Class-only option: \$10 members / \$15 non-members

Bug’s-Eye View of Birds

July 21 (Sun), 10am–2pm: Class in Heron Hall and Outside

Ever wondered what all those birds are doing as they flit through the tops of trees, climb tree trunks, and kick around in the leaves? Many birds are all about finding invertebrates to eat and feed their young. **Cader Olive** will put you in the bird’s world for a day. Learn about the many kinds of invertebrates in different habitats, and how the birds and bugs interact in trying to eat and not be eaten. You’ll never see a bird or a tree the same way again.
Fee: \$20 members / \$30 non-members / \$10 active volunteers

Nature Journaling the Seasons: Summer

July 27 & Aug 3 (Sat), 10am–4pm in Heron Hall & Sanctuary

Come enjoy the forest at fullness! We will practice a relaxed way of drawing and explore simple techniques with watercolor to record our impressions and experiences in the sanctuary. Learn to see in a different way, and express your unique style in a journal format. In this class we’ll practice writing and sketching as ways of recording in our journals what charms the eye in nature. No art experience needed! We will work inside and out as we relax into the beauty of the place. **Jude Siegel** is the author of *A Pacific Northwest Nature Journal* and has taught her techniques for Nature Journaling for over 30 years. “Jude is a wonderful, encouraging instructor who really helped me learn more about the subject.” —Amy Doyle, student
Fee: \$75 members / \$95 non-members (*plus materials*)
Limited to 16 participants.
See website for instructor bio, materials list, and more class details.

© Jude Siegel

Trees and Shrubs in Summer

July 28 (Sun), 12:30pm–4:30pm: Class in Heron Hall & Sanctuary

Spend an afternoon learning some basic terminology, identification tips, and fun facts about native Northwest deciduous trees and shrubs. Plant knowledge is a great way to feel connected to where you live — and a very useful tool for describing to your birding companions where a bird is. Instructor **Sage Jensen** is an Ecologist who works with plant and wildlife species throughout the Northwest. Sage taught our Trees in Winter class this year and has been leading plant identification workshops in Oregon for the past 7 years. **Steve Engel** will assist with the field portion of the class.
Fee: \$25 members / \$40 non-members
Limited to 30 participants; a limited number of spaces are available free to active volunteers — contact Steve Engel.

Butterflies of the Cascade Mountains

August 9 (Fri), 6:30pm–7:30pm: Class in Heron Hall
August 10 (Sat), 9:30am–3pm: Field Trip

Join local butterfly expert **Bill Neill** for an evening class followed by a field trip to Lookout Mountain in the Cascade Range just east of Mt Hood. The field trip will explore meadows between 4,000 and 6,000 feet elevation in search of Sulphurs, Blues, Coppers, Fritillaries, Checkerspot, Parnassians, Angelwings, Satyrs, Tortoiseshells, and Swallowtails. From High Meadow at the end of the road we’ll walk an abandoned roadway one mile to the summit. The group meets near Lookout Mountain at 9:30am, about 2 hours from Portland. Bill Neill is the author of *Butterflies of the Pacific Northwest*.
Class with Field Trip: \$25 members / \$40 non-members
Field Trip limited to 15 participants.

Give Me Shelter

Sept 1 (Sun), 10am–5pm

There are some very simple ways to provide adequate shelter to stay warm and dry under almost any conditions. **Cader Olive** has spent years camping and wandering all over the country. In this class he offers his experience in building quick simple shelters for a variety of different conditions out of materials at hand. Whether you want to be ready for an emergency or just enjoy the challenge of minimalist camping, these skills will serve you well.
Fee: \$50 members / \$70 non-members
Limited to 12 participants.

Oregon North Coast Shorebirds

Sept 5 (Thu), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall
Sept 7 (Sat), 7am–5pm: Field Trip (transportation provided)

Local author **John Rakestraw** presents an evening class on identifying shorebirds, then leads an all-day field trip to the Oregon coast, transportation provided, to check on the ever-changing shorebird migration.
Class with Field Trip: \$75 members / \$95 non-members
Field Trip limited to 12 participants.
Class-only Option: \$10 members / \$15 non-members

Beginning Birding I

Sept 9 (Mon), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall
Sept 15 & 22 (Sun), 8am–11am: Local Field Trips

Join **Laura Whittemore** for her ever-popular introduction to bird watching. You will learn about field gear such as binoculars and field guides, how to recognize birds by groups, and how to identify species by their field marks, behavior, and sound. This is the perfect class for you if you’ve ever wanted to “get started” in bird watching. This class is likely to fill quickly, so don’t hesitate to sign up!
Class with Field Trips (*limited to 14 participants*): \$45 members / \$60 non-members
Class-only Option (*limited to 14 participants*): \$10 members / \$15 non-members

Adult Classes

The World of Birds: Beyond Identification

Take a new and deeper look at the World of Birds. This exciting new program is for birders who want to increase not just their ID skills, but also their *knowledge of birds*. Each series of 3 classes and 3 field trips covers one or more ornithological concepts such as taxonomy, migration, breeding behavior, avian physiology, feathers, plumage, and more. Each class includes lecture and discussion on selected concepts followed by review of targeted species in preparation for the Saturday morning field trip.
Classes: 7pm–9pm in Heron Hall
Field Trips: 7am–11am; locations and carpooling to be announced
Fee (per series): \$145 members / \$175 non-members
Class size: limited to 16 participants

Bird Taxonomy and Zoogeography

Classes: July 24, 31; August 7
Field Trips: July 27; August 3, 10

Learn a framework of classification based on the latest science and explore the biogeography of Oregon bird families.

Theories on Migration

Classes: September 4, 11, 18
Field Trips: September 7, 14, 21

Explore the mysteries of bird migration — movement, direction, distance, timing, trigger, and weather — as fall migration is occurring.

For more information or to register, contact **Dan van den Broek** at 971-222-6105 or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org.

Day Camps with Audubon and Lake Oswego Community Schools

Portland Audubon is partnering with Lake Oswego Community Schools for several fun weeklong day camps!

Audubon Nature Camps for students entering 2nd or 3rd grade

July 8–12: Jr. Wildlife Vet
Join us on field trips to local animal rehabilitation facilities, and learn what you can do to help the wildlife in your own neighborhood.

July 15–19: Wild Art Adventure
Create wonderful wild art inspired by your observations of amazing wildlife and plants around Lake Oswego.

Audubon Nature Camps for students entering 4th or 5th grade:

July 8–12: Fire, Sticks & Stones
Can you make a campfire without using any matches? Learn survival skills and how to feel at home in the woods.

July 15–19: Wild in the City
Explore unique and surprising greenspaces around Lake Oswego. Even savvy urban naturalist travelers will be amazed!

To register for these Audubon Nature camps, please contact **Lake Oswego Community School**, 503-534-2302 ext.1, or go to losdcommunityschool.com (click Summer 2013 Programs, then Math/Science/Engineering Programs). Questions: Contact **Tim Donner** at 971-222-6135 or tdonner@audubonportland.org.

www.audubonportland.org

JULY/AUGUST 2013

7

Field Notes

by Harry Nehls

Many years ago the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Canadian Wildlife Service established the “**Breeding Bird Surveys**” (BBS). The BBS are randomly distributed roadside routes scattered throughout North America that are run once a year by volunteer observers. There are 122 established routes in Oregon. Not all are consistently run, but the more often the survey is conducted, the more accurate are the results.

The main purpose of the BBS is to establish the population trends of many North American breeding birds. It has been very successful in this endeavor, but one of the main results of the BBS is the detailed mapping of many species’ exact ranges. Not only does the BBS mapping show the full range of a species, but it also notes the range expansion and contraction as the species’ population varies.

During the nesting seasons of 1995–1999, members of the state birding group Oregon Field Ornithologists (now called Oregon Birding Association) conducted the *Oregon Breeding Bird Atlas*, an organized survey of the Oregon breeding bird population which is much more extensive than the U.S. Fish

Breeding Bird Surveys Provide Valuable Species Data

and Wildlife surveys. This survey provided information on the ranges of the species, which included data of proven nesting and probable nesting along with data of birds apparently not nesting.

Combining the Oregon birding survey, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Breeding Bird Surveys for Oregon, and other less extensive surveys, the (then) Oregon Field Ornithologists published a CD-ROM in 2001 called the *Oregon Breeding Bird Atlas*, in which “Data and hundreds of maps provide a baseline against which future broad-scale changes in bird distribution may be measured.”

Breeding bird surveys must be conducted over several years, as ranges and population levels are not stable and vary yearly. During periods of good breeding successes and high population, a species will expand to cover all its range and even spread into new breeding territories. During periods of poor reproduction and reduced population, the species will contract back toward its primary population centers. For widespread species there may be many population centers, some of them isolated enough that the birds might develop into a new species.



Nesting Snowy Plover photo: K Castelein/USFWS

Today there appears to be a disturbing problem in many birds, as the number of breeding pairs is dropping. The underlying causes of these population decreases are not known, but because the declines are so widespread and involve so many species, the causes must be general in nature. The birds might be readjusting to changes in the environment caused by seasonal variations or the general warming trend now taking place. Hopefully these readjustments will be satisfactory and things will settle down soon.

Sightings

When farmers first plow their fields in Spring they often expose large numbers of rodents. It is not unusual to find large numbers of hawks, ravens, crows, and other rodent eaters attracted to the feast. One such group near McMinnville during March attracted a **Ferruginous Hawk**.

On April 30 David Irons noticed a large gathering of hawks on a freshly plowed field along Stoller Road near Lafayette. Among the group were 5 **Swainson’s Hawks**. West of the Cascades this species is a rarity so a flock is highly unusual. On April 24 Joe Blowers noticed a **Swainson’s Hawk** over Beaverton. Adrian and Christopher Hinkle saw one over a residential area near Mt Tabor Park May 6.

An unusual movement of **Eared Grebes** occurred through western Oregon in April. On March 31 Steve Nord noted 15 at the Tualatin River NWR and 10 at Fernhill Wetlands. On April 4 Steve noted 21 at Fernhill and 40 at the Tualatin River NWR on April 2.

Small groups of **Red Crossbills**, **Pine Siskins**, and **Evening Grosbeaks** visited local neighborhoods and backyard

feeders this spring. Perhaps the bright **Redpoll** Lonnie Geck photographed April 17 at her feeders in Carlton was part of this movement. In contrast, **American Goldfinches** were rather scarce this spring



Red Crossbill photo: Dave Menke/USFWS

On April 22 David Irons found a **Pectoral Sandpiper** near the McMinnville Airport. John Gatchet reported a **Red-naped Sapsucker** in Gresham April 29. Jimbo Beckman observed a **Black Swift** flying over Washington Park June 2. Tait Nitens reported 2 **Mountain Bluebirds** at the Troutdale Airport April 12.

The Tualatin River NWR was outstanding this Spring. On April 26 Ted Bueger found an **Avocet** and 4 **Black-necked Stilts** there. Jeff Dillon reported a **Great-tailed Grackle** April 26. On May 3 Steve Nord found 4 **Whimbrel** and Tom Love noted a **Marbled Godwit**. Up to 17 **White Pelicans** were there that day.

On April 4 Christopher and Adrian Hinkle found a **Brewer’s Sparrow** and **Long-billed Curlew** at the Troutdale Airport. On April 12 they saw an **Arctic Tern** at Bonneville Dam. They located a **Black-and-white Warbler** on Mt Tabor May

26. Jeremy Breese reported a **White-rumped Sandpiper** at Ridgefield NWR. Scott Carpenter identified a **Hudsonian Godwit** May 26 at Jackson Bottom in Hillsboro. Claire Carter saw a nice **Black-throated Sparrow** May 25 at her Sellwood feeders.

On April 4 Aileen Miller and Larry Clark reported a dead **Cassin’s Auklet** on a trail under some trees at Mt Tabor Park in Portland. It had an injured wing and was underweight. It was most probably picked up by a predator elsewhere and dropped on the trail where it was found.



© Nikkie West

Volunteer of the Month: Kendall Core

by Nikkie West, Backyard Habitat Program Coordinator

Kendall Core called us in February to RSVP for our annual Backyard Habitat Certification Program Volunteer training. It was obvious she was going to be fantastic when she exclaimed “*I just can’t stop looking at plants, and I can’t stop thinking about plants.*” Kendall is a recent graduate with a Fine Arts degree who is fascinated by the nexus of art and habitat. She even wrote her thesis on Heritage Trees.

Since that initial phone call, Kendall has contributed dozens of hours to the program in just a few short months — from attending trainings and becoming a Volunteer Certification Technician to making follow-up calls to more than 50 program participants, answering their questions and supporting their progress. She even swooped in at the last minute to help fill an empty shift at the Annual Naturescaping for Backyard Habitats Yard and Garden Tour — and saved the day by dragging her partner along as well.

And did I mention that she had her own yard gold certified in June? It came as no surprise that it’s also a delightful work of art. Thank you, Kendall, for jumping right in and being a stellar volunteer for Portland Audubon!

Volunteering at Audubon is Fun and Rewarding!

by Deanna Sawtelle, Volunteer Manager

“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.

New Volunteer Orientation is **Mon, August 5, 6:00p.m.–8:30p.m.** Participants are required to complete a Volunteer Application at audubonportland.org/about/volunteer/volapp before attending Orientation. Volunteers who wish to volunteer in a capacity *beyond special events* must also attend General Volunteer Training on **Sat, August 17, 9:00a.m.–4:30p.m.**

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.



Crystal Clark © Deanna Sawtelle



Pat Crane © Deanna Sawtelle

The Wonders of Old-Growth Forests

by Tom Costello, Sanctuaries Director

In preparing for our upcoming Tall Tree Tour I have had many conversations about old-growth trees and forests. Regardless of where these conversations begin, they invariably lead us to the point of needing to define our terms: what benchmarks exist to determine whether a tree is considered old growth? Does the presence of old-growth trees constitute an old-growth forest? Like the forests we are looking to define, the answer has many layers.

When talking about an individual tree, say a Douglas-fir, definition is fairly simple, with the general consensus being that an individual Douglas-fir becomes an old-growth tree somewhere between 100 and 200 years of age. Trees of this age can exist anywhere — city park, backyard, remote forest; really the only criteria is that no one cuts the tree down. Remnant giants such as these are not uncommon.

Many of the forest lands in the Pacific Northwest that were previously logged during the initial timber rush of the late 1800s are now boasting stands of Douglas-fir of at least 100 years of age. Some of these forests also host some remnant ancient trees that for one reason or another were spared the blade of saw and ax. Our own sanctuaries in NW Portland fall into this category.

Despite the presence of significantly old trees, these forests still lack many of the defining characteristics of the truly primitive forests that serve as the best barometer for defining an old-growth forest. These primitive forests typically boast a diversity of tree species that have reached old age; in our Pacific Northwest forests we would expect to see Western Red-cedar and Western Hemlock, and perhaps Grand Fir reaching the same age and proportions to the Douglas-fir. Due to the growing conditions required by these species, it can take 500 to 1,000 years for this level of stand diversity to develop.

At this age the forest also starts to exhibit many other hallmark characteristics of an ancient forest: significant breaks or openings in the canopy where giant, old trees once stood; the trunks of these former giants in varying stages of decay on the forest floor; standing snags, the still-erect trunks of dead trees; an understory of trees and shrubs at a variety of heights and ages; and a highly varied topography that speaks of the alterations to the landscape that develop after generations of trees grow and eventually fall due to old age or natural disturbance. And of course we also know of many species of wildlife that depend on old-growth habitat and can be considered indicator species, such as Northern Spotted Owls and Marbled Murrelets.

While these characteristics begin to hint at the complexity of an old-growth ecosystem, the connections and inter-workings of these characteristics reveal some truly astounding stories. There is the lichen which grows only on the upper branches of old-growth Douglas-firs, *Lobaria oregana*, which converts nitrogen from the atmosphere into usable nutrition for the tree; in fact the lichen from one old Douglas-fir can supply the nitrogen needs for an entire acre of forest. And the lichens themselves are no simple plant — they are the symbiotic synthesis of a fungus and an alga, each providing the other with key nutrients.

And there are the mycorrhizal fungi which send millions of miles of small root-like hairs called hyphae from each root of a mature Douglas-fir. These mycorrhizae receive sugars and vitamins from the tree roots that are produced during photosynthesis and in turn provide a far-reaching supply of water and minerals to the tree. In the process the mycorrhizae produce a glue-like substance that binds the soil in such a way as to make a porous, aerated habitat for thousands of varieties of microbes and insects. These little critters in turn play an

Sanctuaries



One of the majestic 300-year-old Douglas-firs of our sanctuary © Portland Audubon

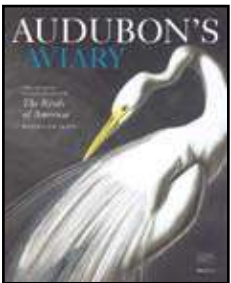
essential role in converting dead and decaying plant material into usable nutrients for living plants.

More than age or tree size, it is the presence of these complex, functional relationships that define a functional old-growth ecosystem. These relationships provide resilience for the individual trees and for the forest as a whole, facilitating fast recovery from natural disturbances such as fire, windfall, flood, and landslides.

Special Summer Sale on Nature Art Books!

We have some gorgeous oversized nature art books on a special **30% off sale** while supplies last. Whether or not you have a coffee table, these are beautiful additions to your library. Please come in and see the full selection, but a few noteworthy titles are listed here. Contact the Nature Store at 503-292-9453 for more information.

America's Other Audubon by Joy M. Kiser, regularly sells for \$45.00, now \$31.50. Tells the story of Genevieve Jones, an Ohio artist and naturalist who created a companion to John James Audubon's works, focusing on the eggs and nests that he left out.



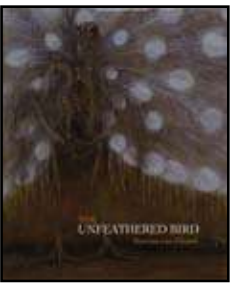
Audubon's Aviary: The Original Watercolors for The Birds of America regularly \$85.00, now \$59.50. Takes a fresh look at the original watercolor artworks that became the basis for the prints in *The Birds of America*.

Charley Harper's Animal Kingdom regularly sells for \$100.00, now available at \$70.00. An endlessly fascinating collection of Harper's graphic artistry.



More Than Human by Tim Flach, regularly \$65.00, now \$45.50. Moving photographs from the animal kingdom.

The Unfeathered Bird by Katrina van Grouw, regularly \$49.95, now \$34.95. A fascinating look at bird anatomy.



A World in One Cubic Foot: Portraits of Biodiversity by David Liittschwager, regularly \$45.00, now \$31.50. Captures the wonder of the vast number of life forms that can exist in different habitats, with vivid photographs.

PNW Old-Growth Forest posters now available!

New Vortex Ultra-Compact Spotter!

Vortex Optics' newest addition to their spotting scope line is the ultra-compact, ultra-lightweight Razor HD 11-33x50mm Scope. Weighing only 25 ounces, this little gem is great for a backpacker or any nature lover wanting to minimize the weight they carry. The HD (High Density) extra-low dispersion glass delivers clear bright images. The APO (field flattening) lenses and dielectric multi-layer prism coatings offer bright, clear, color-accurate images with crisp focus throughout the viewing field. It's waterproof, fog-proof, and comes with a custom view-through case. Retail \$778 (\$699.99 member price).



Vortex Razor HD 11-33x50mm

New Zen-Ray Full-size Full-Featured Scope!

For a big, bright objective lens, check out the new Zen-Ray Prime HD 82mm Scope. This well-crafted viewer features field-flattening lenses and HD glass, and is available with 2 different zoom eyepieces. Choose either a standard 20-60 zoom or 25-50 wide-angle zoom. The responsive dual-adjustment focus knob offers both fine and coarse adjustments. A leave-on viewing case is included. Zen-Ray Prime Scope with 20-60x zoom retails for \$1299 (\$1169 for members), or with 25-50x wide-angle zoom it's \$1499 retail (\$1349 for members).



Zen-Ray Prime HD 82mm

More Wide-Angle Viewing!

Not to be outdone, Kowa has also brought out a new wide-angle eyepiece for the 77mm & 88mm Kowa Prominar Scopes. With any of these wide-angle eyepieces, you should expect to get about a 20%-wide field of view throughout the common magnification range. Kowa wide-angle retails for \$739 (member price \$665).

by Nancy Mattson, Store Manager

Vortex Razor 85mm owners who have always wanted a wide-angle eyepiece will be happy to hear that the Zen-Ray eyepieces (see Zen-Ray entry at left) also fit the full-size Vortex Razor. The Zen-Ray 25-50 wide-angle eyepiece purchased separately is \$499 retail (\$449 for members). Note: Since the Zen-Ray eyepiece fits the Razor, that means the Razor's digiscoping adapters also fit the new Zen-Ray Prime!

New Vortex Entry-level Scope!

This spring Vortex Optics brought out a pair of affordable scopes designed to allow the budget-minded shopper to add a new scope to their birding toolkit. The Diamondback Scope features a 20-60 zoom eyepiece with either a 65mm or 80mm objective lens. Lenses are fully multi-coated and the scopes are waterproof and fog-proof. Of course, they are covered by Vortex's unbeatable "You drop it, we fix it!" lifetime guarantee. Diamondback 60mm has a \$445 retail price (\$399.99 for members), and 80mm is \$556 retail (\$499.99 for members).

Redesigned & Upgraded Nikon Monarchs!

Nikon's newly redesigned Nikon Monarch 5 full-size binoculars are here. Always our lightest weight full-sized binocular, Nikon has managed to shave off almost an ounce with their new design! The 8x42 weighs only 20.8 oz and the 10x42 weighs 21.2 oz. The glass has been upgraded to ED (Extra-low Dispersion) for superior contrast and outstanding resolution. Retail for the 8x42 runs \$334 (\$299.99 for members), and the 10x42 runs \$367 (\$329.95 for members). Look for the redesigned mid-sized Monarch 5 to arrive later this summer.



Nikon Monarch 5

Out and About?

Planning to do some wildlife viewing from your vehicle? Swarovski has a new scope window mount with a handy, compact ball-head lever design (no handle to get in your way). This mount can be used with any brand of scope. Retail price is \$92 (members \$82.80).

Mamie Campbell Award Winners

Mamie Campbell was an important figure in Audubon’s early years. A long-time and active volunteer herself, Mamie was instrumental in establishing the Jr. Audubon Club in Portland. An ardent conservationist, Mamie helped distribute environmental brochures to area schools in the early 1900s. She was also a tireless leader of the Lucy Club, which organized Portland Audubon Society social and special events and was named after Lucy Audubon (wife of James Audubon).

The Mamie Campbell Award is the highest honor given to Audubon volunteers, and it recognizes the dedication and service each recipient has tirelessly given. This year, Audubon staff presented this prestigious award to seven deserving volunteers at the Annual Volunteer Banquet.

Tony DeFalco is a member of the Portland Audubon Board as well as the Diversity Committee. He champions our work to continue to build the Audubon Society of Portland as an inclusive organization that celebrates diverse people and perspectives. Our Executive Director, Meryl Redisch, is grateful for Tony’s efforts to “push us to always do more.” Tony uses his birding knowledge to count bird species during the annual Christmas Bird Count and leads the “Feathers of Color” Birdathon team every year.

Mary Solares began volunteering in 2010 and has already taken on an important leadership role in Audubon’s organization. Not only has she stepped up in big ways to lead events like the “Lost Bird Project” in 2010 (just a few months after she began volunteering), she’s also a Board Member and was the chair of the Wild Arts Festival last year and continues in that role. It’s a family affair with Mary, as she engages her husband Allan, her son Luke, and other family members in Audubon events. According to Meryl Redisch, “Mary is the consummate ambassador on behalf of Portland Audubon’s mission.”

Since 2006, **Carol Mitchell** has donated over 200 hours every year to Audubon. She’s at her 4-hour shift in the Wildlife Care Center almost every week and shares her knowledge by co-teaching the Wildlife Care Center Basics Class. She’s a current Ed Bird handler and a past Education Bird Assistant, often substituting now in that position. Carol has been on the Volunteer Council and participates in Birdathon every year. The Care Center staff says that “Carol always has a smile on her face. We can ask her to do anything, and if she doesn’t like it, you’d never know. She’s a natural leader and a wonderful person to be around.”

Claire Carter has been in the Wildlife Care Center for over 11 years donating almost 2,500 hours there as a Care Center volunteer and an Ed Bird handler. She participates in Birdathon with the Red-breasted Winesuckers every year, and we can always count on her to help with Raptor Road Trip and “Night Flight,” Audubon’s Halloween event. According to Lacy Campbell, Wildlife Care Center Operations Manager, “Claire is great with baby birds! She’s a natural when it comes to caring for the little ones — and whenever there is a bird identification question, we go to Claire first.”

Susan Dale served on the Wildlife Care Center “Call of the Wild” Online Auction committee that raised over \$7,000 this year for the Care Center. She can be found there almost every Tuesday morning as she cares for the animals, or you can find her handling one of the Education Birds and presenting them to the public. She’s a past Ed Bird Assistant and still substitutes in that role. By looking at her 389 volunteer hours last year, you can tell that Susan is a hard worker, and the Care Center staff often sees how she “inspires her shift-mates by following through to make sure everything gets done.”

Sue Carr has co-led Portland Audubon’s “Road Scholar” trips to the Oregon coast for over 10 years, helping to make them the most popular birding trips offered. Formerly known as Elderhostel, the Road Scholar program benefits from Sue’s time and energy as she leads 20 participants on these week-long, dawn-to-dusk birding programs. Steve Engel, our Adult Education Programs Manager, states that he loves to go on the coast trips “because I know Sue will be there. She’s a dedicated and terrific birder and is wonderful with people.” In Sue’s spare time, she shares her birding expertise by also leading Magpie outings and helping her Birdathon team count lots of species.

Denny Graham began leading tours and trips for Audubon in 2002. He’s a Master Birder so tour participants really value Denny’s leadership and knowledge. Along with Sue Carr, he’s been an important part of the staff on our coast



Back row, left to right: **Mamie Campbell Award winners** Claire Carter, Susan Dale, Denny Graham, Mary Solares. Front row: Lucian Himes (**Youth Leadership Award winner**), Carol Mitchell. Not pictured: Tony DeFalco, Sue Carr. © Deanna Sawtelle

Road Scholar program for many years, and frequently leads Magpie outings. Denny’s level of consistency and excellence is a welcome addition to our programs. He also uses his outstanding birding skills to help with bird population surveys and to spot birds during his team’s Birdathon trip.

Please join the Audubon staff in congratulating our 2013 Mamie Campbell Award winners.

Audubon Society of Portland’s Youth Leadership Award Winner

Established in 2012, the Audubon Society of Portland Youth Leadership Award is given to young volunteers who demonstrate leadership and a deep commitment to learning about and caring for the environment. This year we are recognizing **Lucian Himes** (pictured with Mamie Campbell Award winners). Lucian exemplifies the youth of today who are learning about the environment and sharing their knowledge with others. Just last year, he donated over 100 hours sharing that knowledge with other young people through leading sanctuary tours and helping with children’s classes.

According to Ian Abraham, our Onsite Programs Coordinator, “*Lucian’s growth as a sanctuary tour leader has been impressive! He has become adept at working with students his own age and younger. His understanding of the Natural History of the Audubon Sanctuary is a true asset to the sanctuary tour program, and we thank him for his tremendous work and commitment to Portland Audubon.*” Congratulations, Lucian, and thank you for your service.

Cars for Birds!

Kestrel photo: Jim Cruce

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**.

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Go Paperless with NW Natural to Benefit Audubon

Save time, reduce bill clutter, and cut paper waste by signing up for paperless billing with NW Natural. **If you enroll by July 31**, you can vote for Portland Audubon to receive a portion of \$25,000. Sign up at **nwnatural.com/paperless** and cast your vote! The \$25,000 donation from NW Natural shareholders will be divided among 4 eligible nonprofits according to the percentage of votes received. If you already have paperless billing, you can still cast a vote online.

Audubon Society of Portland gratefully acknowledges these thoughtful gifts:

In Memory

Cascade Anderson Geller Tia Regan	Robert Ross Rogers Marylou Alberdt Edward & Kathleen Allison Ladan Atai Phoebe Atwood Richard & Susannah Goff BJ Noles Hope Hughes Pressman Claire Puchy Halle & Rick Sadle Kathleen Newton Shafer Thomas & Barbra Smithgall Mary Tonkin
Terrie Murray Karen Pazuscha & Larry Morandi	Yvonne Taylor Dana Walker
Christine Jordan Patricia & Mark Annee Carole & Robert Elder Mary & Robert Lung Dianna Shaffer Janet & Steven Stevens	“Pineapple,” beloved cat of Pennie Lane Trumbull Ann Takamoto
Alice Popp Peggy Henwood	
James Case Madelon Case	Marcia Lepley Her team at Columbia Sportswear
Katy Ehrlich Kyna Rubin	Becky Rose Robert & Julia Marie Rose
Candace Larson & Patty Newland Robert & Mary McWilliams	

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.

Our Wish List

For East Portland Office:
10 Binoculars

For Sanctuary:
Loppers • Hand saws
Work gloves

For Development Department:
Medium-sized ergonomic office chair in good condition.

For Education:
Laptop with dual core processor or greater
Powerpoint Projector

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.

Thank You to:

- Linda Barkus for 4 pairs of binoculars for Education Department
- Lisa Clairmont for a heating pad and 2 hot pads for WCC
- Leupold & Stevens, Inc. for 12 new Leupold Model #56441 tripods
- Ann Littlewood for 18 one-gallon and 53 four-inch containers of native plants for Sanctuary
- Alan Locklear & Marie Valleroy for 8 pots of native plants for Sanctuary
- Christine Nelson for a large bag of towels and washcloths for WCC
- Candy Plant for “Pizza Prizes” for WCC Birdathon teams
- Tom Potts for a Sony camera for Wildlife Care Center
- Bruce Richards for a map of the Ice Age Floods and the book *Cataclysms on the Columbia* for Education Department
- Ginnie Ross for refreshments and supplies for Wildlife Care Center Basics class, and blueberries for the WCC
- Deanna Sawtelle for “Pizza Prizes” for Wildlife Care Center Birdathon teams
- Zachary West for a large plastic bin and towels for Wildlife Care Center

Portland Audubon Legacy Circle
Lorene Farrar and Kenneth
Hague Legacy Gift

Lorene Farrar grew up roaming the sagebrush hills of Washington State, free and fascinated with everything in nature. She learned to recognize the distinctive song of the Western Meadowlark but was 9 years old before she finally saw one. “It was on top of a fencepost singing its heart out, and I was in love,” says Lorene. Seventy years later, she can still whistle the song so well that they answer back.

In her late 60s after marrying, raising three nature-loving children, and divorcing, Lorene was surprised by another love that grew from a shared passion for nature. She met Kenneth Hague on a group hike up Mt St Helens, and the two were together until the end of Kenneth’s life.

While consulting a financial advisor in 2005, Lorene and Kenneth each decided to leave a portion of their estates to the Audubon Society of Portland and to become part of the Legacy Circle. “We believed in Portland Audubon’s concept of conservation and activism plus the birding itself,” says Lorene. “We really believed in the whole program — it’s a niche that only Audubon can fill. There are fantastic people there who work very hard and have made a big difference in Portland through their dedication and sticking with it — forever. I think it’s very admirable.”

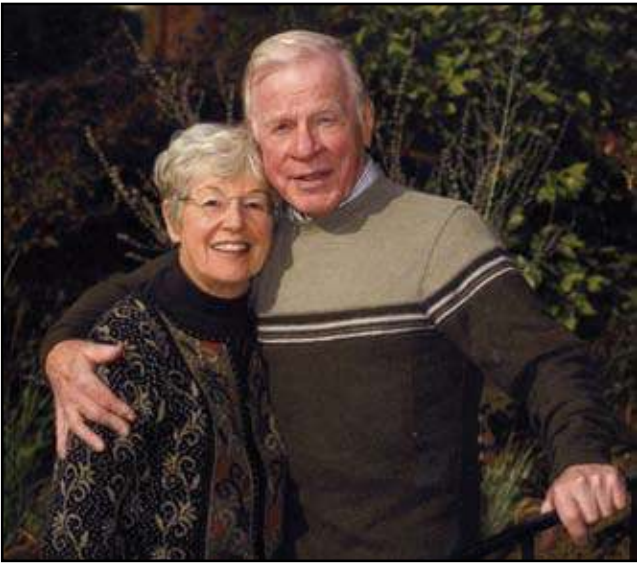


Photo credit: Lorene Farrar

Lorene enjoys bird watching in the garden wonderland Kenneth planted in their yard and she turns 80 in August. But that doesn’t mean you will find her at home. She’s just as likely to be out on a beach walk, off on a birding trip, cradling her first great-grandchild, or telling others about Portland Audubon’s Legacy Circle. “I think everyone should do this,” says Lorene.

Thank you to Lorene and Kenneth for this inspiration and for their thoughtful support of Portland Audubon’s many programs and conservation efforts.



©Tinsley Hunsdorfer

Sponsor a Camper

Connect kids with amazing experiences in nature with Audubon Society of Portland’s Community Summer Camps! Make it possible for a deserving young person to have fun and learn about the environment this summer. For some of these kids, a Portland Audubon Community Camp is their very first experience with nature! Your generous gift of \$36 will provide one day of camp, and \$180 will give a child a complete week of natural history fun.

Whatever you give, it will help connect deserving kids to impactful opportunities in nature. Sponsor a camper at <http://bit.ly/14xkUcn> or use this form:

Sponsorship Amount:

☐ \$25☐ \$36☐ \$180☐ Other \$_____

Donor Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone:

Payment Method:

☐ Check enclosed☐ Mastercard

☐ Visa☐ Discover

Card#:

Exp:



- Elizabeth Price
Dorothee Pruessner
Jane Puhn
Brenda Quint-Gaebel
Mabel Quinto
Elizabeth Radavich
Gerry Raining Bird
Gibran Ramos
Sherrill Ranew
Ellie Rapp
Janice Rapp
Lynne Rathnam
Kathleen Reid
George Reiner
Maureen Relyea
Elaine Rhodes
Julie Richardson
Benjamin Richardson
William & Lisa Roberts
Mary Lu Roszko
Elizabeth Ruiz
Jessica Rutledge
William & Susan Sack
Stephen & Teri Sall
Goran Samojlovski
Trudy Sargent
Rich & Iris Sasaki
Kristi Schaefer
Matthew Scharr
Reyna Schlichten
Angela Schmidt
Dick & Ann Schnibbe
Liz Schober
Erika Schroeder
Lani Searl
Donna Severson
Anna Shepard
Elizabeth Wren Shiffler
Susan Shipman
Scott Shumaker
Reve Shuman
Gretchen Sicard
Maria Silvagnia
Elizabeth Simons
Natasha Siores
Kimberly Sloop
Wendy Smith
Fred & Christine Smith
Stan & Kathy Smith
Michelle Smith
Deborah Smith
Leighton Staehle
Kristen Stallman
Cara Stallman
James & Patty Standing
Erica Steiert

Tye & Joan Steinbach
Sammy & Alaina Stephenson
Cindy Stevens
Pamela Still
Charles Stock
Rachel Stone
Deborah Stopper
Lucille Switzer
Thomas & Wendy Talbot
Diana Talcott
Claire Teasdale
David Thibeau
Julianne Thompson
Mark Thompson
Jenny Tsai
Ron & Annie Tubby
Mike Unger
Noa Upfeld
Tim Valenti
John Van Staveren
Deborah Van Wickle
Amanda Vasconcellos
Robert Villasenor
JoAnn Wadkins
Joan Wadlow
Susan Wainwright
Dana Walker
Patrick Walsh
Linda & John Warwick
Dana Welty
Mary West
Randy West
Rebecca Wetherby
Don & Linda Wheatley
Mark Wheaton
Kathy Wheeler
Kim Whitney
Marlies Wierenga
Catherine Wille
Jan Wilson
Amanda Wineman
Brette Greenwood Wing
Catherine Winterfox
Amy Winterowd
Elaine Woehlert
Chris & Wendy Wojda
Laura Wood
Carole Woodrich
Penelope Wortham
Jim Wyllie
Kamala Wymore
Hong Xiao
Jean Yamamoto
Kathleen Young
Christie Zerfing
Robert Zurcher

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!

- Michael Abbate
Mary Abrams
Frank Africa
Diane Allen
Robert Allen
Carolea Anderberg
James Anderson
Dana Anderson
Kerri Anderson-Linde
Sonja Andreas
Aaron Angel
Carol Anton
Kristi Arnold
Gabriel Aron
Mary Auvil
Sandy Ayers
Ashkan & Michele Babaie
Timothy Babalis
Karen Babbitt
Ruth Baker
Deborah Baker
Paula Barnes
Geoffrey Beasley & Jim Sampson
Debra Beers
Marie & Bob Behnke
Allison Belcher
Deborah Bell
Laura Belson
Ann Berkley
Alicia Bermudez
Taryn & Timothy Berry
Paulette Bethune
Joel Bettridge & Liz Ceppi
Jeanne Beyer
Caitlin Blethen
Janet Bliss
Holly Boime
Chris Boon
Carmen Borlet
Angela Bowden
Elisabeth Bowers
Tiffany Yelton Bram
Michael Breen
Anne Brown
Michael Brown
Brownie Troop 45620
Melinda Burpo
Thomas Burrows
Vicki Bye
Matt Calvert
Bruce Campbell
Jerry & Kathy Cang
Robert & Antonette Caren
David Caress
Lynda Carey
Mike & Robbi Carey
Lillian Carlson
Sean Carr
Terri Carter
Bill Caughey
Dale & Gail Cerven
Alivia Cetas
Carolyn Charney
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YOU DID IT — Birdathon
2013 Breaks All Records!

The Biggest, Baddest Birdathon this side of the Mississippi, all right — more teams, more participants, more donations, more fun!
A huge Audubon thank you goes to everyone who helped make Birdathon 2013 the most successful ever, achieving our goal of raising an amazing \$150,000 to protect birds and habitat across Oregon — we cannot express our gratitude enough! And, as we are still collecting pledges, we'll have icing for our cake!

Thank you to over 280 Birdathon participants. Your bird-watching, pledge-gathering efforts provide vital funding to the Audubon Society of Portland's important conservation work.

A big, bad thank you to Birdathon Team Leaders for finding the time to include Birdathon in your busy schedules. Birdathon depends upon your generosity, expertise, and leadership:

- Ian Abraham, Darlene Betat and Skip Russell, Ron Carley, Scott Carpenter, Linda Craig, James Davis, Kris Day, Tony DeFalco, Bonnie Deneke, Jennifer Devlin, Tim Donner, Steve Engel, Brenda Enyart, Mark Fitzsimons, Allison Goerl, Dennis Graham, Mark Greenfield, Wink Gross, Barb Grover, Lynn Herring, Adrian Hinkle, Christopher Hinkle, Mike Houck, Koto Kishida, Gerard Lillie, David Mandell, Tom McNamara, Micah Meskel, Jennifer Miller, Deanna Mueller-Crispin, Patty Newland, Cindy Pederson, Susie Peterson, Candy Plant, Steve Robertson, Gladys Ruiz, Skip Russell, Dwight Sangrey, Deanna Sawtelle, Tim Sheldermine, Gary Slone, Max Smith, Paul Sullivan and Carol Karlen, Sarah Swanson, Dena Turner, Dan van den Broek, Laura Whittemore, Phyllis Wolfe

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- Andie Armour, Ron Carley, Anne Eakin, Mark Fitzsimons, Pam Meyers, Tom Potts, Ann Takamoto

And a special thank you goes to Gary Slone and Nancy Johnson for their help and support this year.



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Paddy Wagon © Deanna Sawtelle



Bicycling Birdo's Bingo © Tammi Miller

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BUSINESS ALLIANCE section with logos for Backyard Bird Shop, NW Natural, Regence, Bob's Red Mill, and St Honore Boulangerie, along with a list of partner businesses.