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WILD ARTS FESTIVAL
Presented by Backyard Bird Shop
NOVEMBER 23–24

Now in its fourth decade, the Wild Arts Festival — the Northwest’s premier show and sale celebrating nature in art, crafts, and books — continues to attract artists, authors, and fans. Again this year, the Festival will be held at Montgomery Park at 2701 NW Vaughn in Portland, on the weekend before Thanksgiving (Saturday, November 23 and Sunday, November 24). Festival hours on Saturday are 10am to 6pm; hours on Sunday are 11am to 5pm. Tickets are $6 (16 and under free) and two-for-one coupons can be found on page 12 and on our website at wildartsfestival.org.

Once again, Festival organizers have gathered together a stellar group of authors and artists, along with a complement of exciting additional attractions.

Authors & Books
As always, we are thrilled to welcome Ursula K. LeGuin back to the show with her new, two-volume collection of short stories, _The Real and the Unreal_. She’s joining lots of old friends with new titles, including Oregon Poet Laureate Paulann Petersen with _Understory_; Brian Doyle with _The Thorns Grown of It_; Nikki McClure with _How to Be a Cat_; Jane Kirkpatrick with _One Glorious Ambition_; and Kathleen Dean Moore, with a new Northwest Reprints edition of _Holdfast_. Joining us for their first visit to the Wild Arts Festival are _Christine Finlayson with Tip of a Bone_; Sarah Swanson and Max Smith with _Must-See Birds of the Pacific Northwest_; Lisa Manning with _Falcons in the City_; Scott Elliott with _Temple Grove_; and Virginia Morrell with _Animahcive_. We always look forward to the presence of authors from the Portland Audubon family, this year including James Davis, Ann Littlewood, and Harry Nehls. Sold yet? Well, be warned — this is just a fraction of the 35 authors who will be at the show! For a full list, check out wildartsfestival.org.

Artists & Artwork
The Art Fair is a core component of the Wild Arts Festival, and this year a wide variety of arts and crafts will be represented, from weaving to ceramics, sculpture to glass art, photography, print-making, fine art, and more. Among the many Festival favorites attending will be Ann Cavanaugh (glass), Dave and Boni Deal (ceramics), Dean Crooser (acrylics and watercolors), Paulina Brie Kriebel (textiles/fabric), Kathleen Otley (mixed media), and Tanya Harvey (textiles, pencils, watercolors). In addition, we are pleased to welcome a number of artists who are here for the first time, including ceramicist Walt Bensman, jeweler Deb Steele, metal sculpturist Lauren Osmsloki, mixed media and recycled artist David Jessup, and photographer Scott Carpenter. Find the complete list at wildartsfestival.org.

Silent Auction
The Silent Auction features a huge variety of items available for bid, including stays at beach homes and B&Bs (textiles/fabric), kayaking trips (acrylics and watercolors), and much more. Over 75% of Festival artists donate a piece of their art — and, for the first time, this year’s auction features classes, talks, and walks with some of our authors and artists: Lisa Manning (Falcons/watercolor/crystals; Sarah Swanson and Max Smith (Must-See Birds of the Pacific Northwest) will lead a bird walk; and Marcy Houle (One City’s Wilderness: Portland’s Forest Park) is doing a sign-up for her walk through Forest Park. In addition, you can bid on a class from glass artist Ann Cavanaugh and Mike Houk’s popular Sing, Wine, and Dine, which ends with food and wine at Serrato’s Restaurant.

6×6 Wild Art Project
Returning for its seventh year is the 6×6 Wild Art Project, a collection of “tiny” and affordable 6-inch-square canvases created by an assemblage of delightful aspiring artists along with some of the Festival headliners. This exhibit is a popular focus of the show and the art goes fast, so it’s a good idea to get there in time for the 10:30am opening.

In addition, we’ve added some new elements to the Festival this year:
- Check out Oregon Botanical Artists (OBA) on the third floor near the Silent Auction. They will be presenting a visual timeline of the history of botanical art and a few examples of local contemporary art, along with demonstrations by OBA artists.

Continued on page 12
From the Executive Director

End-of-Year Highlights

I am writing this on one of those magnificent autumn days when cerulean blue skies are a backdrop to the brilliant red, orange, and gold canopy of trees and it’s still warm enough to bike in shorts. By the time this issue of the Wreath comes to you, the chances are that the leaves and temperatures will have fallen, the clear blue skies will have shifted to gray, and we’ll be shifting our sights to the holidays and next year’s “to do” list!”

With that in mind, I wanted to take a moment and share with you just some of what was on Portland Audubon’s “to do” list this past year and what we were able to accomplish with your wonderful show of support and confidence. We:

• Succeeded in passing another Bond Levy to restore and improve our regional parks. These funds contribute to overall management of the thousands of acres of wildlife habitat, improve visitor and volunteer services, and expand programing to connect thousands more youth and underserved communities to local nature.

• Kept West Hayden Island in front of the public and media by soliciting hundreds of letters of public testimony opposing annexation and development of this irreplaceable natural asset.

• Surpassed participation and revenue goals at our annual Audubon Arts Festival.

• Successfully expanded our Birding 101 educational series with the addition of a new program, “Birding at Sunset,” which highlights the beauty of the Willamette River during the golden-hour, and increased our offerings of bird walks and public outings.

• Succeeded in shutting down eleven timber sales and prohibited cutting old-growth and occupied Murrelet habitat in Oregon’s State Forests.

• Launched TALON, a mentorship and apprentice program for young adults, and hired the first graduating class to work with Audubon staff. TALON graduates spent their first summer building trails and restoring riparian sanctuaries, helping teach kids to enjoy nature at home and camp, and learning the discipline of rehabilitating wild birds and animals.

• Surpassed participation and revenue goals at our signature fundraising events. Birdathon and the Willamette River’s Migrator Prize for a non-profit leader under the age of 35.

• In partnership with the Columbia Land Trust, we will receive the Light a Fire Award for the Backyard Habitat Certification Program. Since this program’s inception in 2009, 11,000 native trees and shrubs were planted on nearly 1,700 private properties.

• The TALON program was recognized at the national level with a Toyota Green Fellowship Award and locally with the Willamette River’s Migrator Prize for a non-profit leader under the age of 35.

• The Portland Audubon’s staff and programs received accolades from Portland Audubon’s Central Coast Marbled Murrelet Important Bird Area Program and is contiguous to our own Ten Mile Creek Sanctuary. This milestone was celebrated by hundreds of coastal and inland residents and lauded by elected leaders at county, state, and federal levels.

The Portland Christmas Bird Count wants YOU...

...to count birds on Saturday, Jan 4, 2014! Whether spending an entire day in the field or even just an hour watching your bird feeder, you can contribute significantly to our knowledge of birdlife in the Portland area — even if you’re a beginning birder. The Audubon Christmas Bird Count is the longest running “citizen science project” in North America. The results have provided critical information on the status and changes in bird populations over the 114 years it has been conducted. Please consider helping out this year!

Begun in 1900 as an alternative to the traditional wanton slaughter of anything that flew during Christmas Day “side hunts,” hundreds of Christmas Bird Counts are now conducted throughout the Western Hemisphere, and they continue to contribute valuable scientific data to the longest existing record of bird population trends. Naturally, everyone likes the idea of contributing to science, but the real reason they’re exploded in popularity? They’re so much fun!

All over the Americas, birders will be participating in one-day counts between Dec 14, 2013 and Jan 5, 2014. This year, our 8th Portland CBC will be held on Saturday, Jan 4. The Audubon Society of Portland conducted its first Christmas Count in 1926. Last year a record 238 field observers and 152 feeder watchers found 130 species, also a record. Those 300 participants made the Portland CBC the largest in the U.S. and second only to Edmonton in the Americas. Please join us this year!

The best way to participate in the Christmas Bird Count is as a field observer. It’s a great way for birders of all levels to enjoy a day outdoors and sharpen their birding skills. You will also have the opportunity to meet others who share your interest in birds and you’ll discover some good local spots to find birds. And you will contribute to scientific knowledge. In fact, the Christmas Bird Count is an excellent way for the amateur birder to advance ornithology. The data are sent to the Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell University, where over the years Christmas Bird Count records have been used to study changes in bird populations and wintering ranges. A quick searching bibliography of Christmas Bird Count research and the entire historical record of all Christmas Bird Counts may be found at birds.audubon.org/data-research.

Each Christmas Bird Count attempts to count all the birds in a 15-mile-diameter circle on one given day. In addition to the Portland CBC, roughly 50 other Counts will be conducted in Oregon and SW Washington during the 3 weeks surrounding the holidays. A list of Counts in NW Oregon and SW Washington can be found at audubonportland.org/local-birding/cbc — and it’ll be updated regularly as Counts are added, so check often!

Christmas Bird Count

by Wink Gross, Portland CBC Compiler

The Portland Christmas Bird Count records have been used to study changes in bird populations and wintering ranges. A quick searching bibliography of Christmas Bird Count research and the entire historical record of all Christmas Bird Counts may be found at birds.audubon.org/data-research.

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The Resource Guide for Bird-Friendly Building Design that we developed in response to the billion bird strikes that occur in U.S. cities each year was praised by Portland Mayor Hales and City Council. They have unanimously passed a resolution that encourages the development and planning community to incorporate innovative and bird-safe building designs.

After years of collaboration among local stakeholders, 193 acres of forest, freshwater stream, grasslands, and riverine estuary habitat along the central Oregon Coast was protected for threatened and imperiled species. The newly protected Big Creek Conservation Area is contained within Portland Audubon’s Central Coast Marbled Murrelet Important Bird Area Program and is contiguous to our own Ten Mile Creek Sanctuary. This milestone was celebrated by hundreds of coastal and inland residents and lauded by elected leaders at county, state, and federal levels.

There is no shortage of anti-environmental policies to change or kids who should get outdoors but don’t have the means. There is no dearth of invasive plants that need removing or critical habitat that needs protecting. In other words, Portland Audubon will always have a “to do” list that is based upon our mission “to promote the enjoyment, understanding, and protection of native birds and wildlife and their habitats.” My hope is that Portland Audubon always remains on your list.

On behalf of the Audubon Society of Portland, please accept my deepest appreciation and thanks for all of your support and investment in our work. Best wishes for a healthy and nature-filled holiday season!

For up-to-date Christmas Bird Count info, see audubonportland.org/local-birding/cbc.
November 7 (Thu), 9am–Noon Crystal Springs & Reed Canyon
Meet Marilyn Burke and Kathy van der Hoorst at the Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden parking lot at 6015 SE 28th Ave, Portland. Wear appropriate shoes for a side trip to nearby Reed Canyon. We will finish at noon unless R.C. is very productive. Information: Marilyn at mbbirdnerd@gmail.com or Kathy at kathyfarnum@opunet.com.

November 8 (Fri), 8am–10am Whitaker Ponds
Join Patty Newland and Candace Larson for a bird walk at Whitaker Ponds, a hidden urban oasis in NE Portland. We will circle the pond looking for ducks, songbirds, eagles, and owls. Park inside gated area at the Ponds, 7040 NE 47th Ave (TriMet #70). Information: Candace at acerandace@gmail.com.

November 9 (Sat), 9am–Noon Oaks Bottom
Join Candace Larson and Patty Newland for a bird walk around Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge in SE Portland. We’ll explore wetlands and woodland, and look for resident songbirds and the beginning of fall migration for waterfowl. Meet at 9am sharp at the Sellwood Park parking lot on SE 7th Ave & Malden St. Expect to walk 2–3 miles on both paved and uneven dirt trails. Information: Candace at acerandace@gmail.com.

November 13 (Wed), 9am–11am Cooper Mountain
Join leaders Sue Bar & Bonnie Denke for a walk in this 231-acre park overlooking the Tualatin River Valley. For directions call Sue at 503-649-3360 or visit http://library. oregonmetro.gov/files/driving_map.pdf.

November 16 (Sat), 8am–11am Vancouver Lake Park
Join leader Ron Escano at Vancouver Lake Park. Scope the lake for waterfowl then explore the riparian woodland for other wintering birds. Meet at parking lot in front of middle restrooms. 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 the park ($3 entrance fee). Information: Ron at 503-771-4345.

November 21 (Thu), 9am–Afternoon Tillamook Bay
All-day trip. Meet Ken Chamberlain and Dick Demarest at the Safeway Parking lot (NW corner) at the corner of 4th St and Stillwell Ave in Tillamook. We will bird some or all of the following: Barrow’s Jetties, Three Arch Rocks, Oyster Plant, Fenk Road, Bayocean Spit. Target species include Western, shorebirds, ducks, raptors, and late fall migrants. Bring water and lunch. The Bayocean Spit part of the trip will require walking over uneven but mostly flat terrain. Trip limited to 10. To sign up, contact Dick Demarest at 503-407-7912 or rdd@demarests.com.

November 23 (Sat), 8am–11am Sauvie Island
Join leader Tim Shelmerdine for a morning trip to Sauvie Island. We will visit several spots, looking at many species of waterfowl as well as raptors, gulls, and sparrows. Meet at the parking area at the end of the Sauvie Island Bridge. Although we plan on carpooling, anyone driving will need to purchase a Sauvie Island day parking permit (available at the nearby store — please purchase this before the meeting time). Information: Tim at 971-221-2534.

December 1 (Sun), 9am–11am Westmoreland Park
Join leaders Max Smith and Sarah Swanson for a morning walk through southeast Portland’s Westmoreland Park. Meet at the northwestern corner of the park near the corner of SE 22nd and Bybee Blvd. Information: Max at 503-729-9730.

December 11 (Wed), 9am–11am Crystal Springs
Join Mary Ratcliff and Caroline & Richard Arnold for a stroll through Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden to look for the wintering waterfowl that come to this lovely location. This is an excellent site for seeing lots of Wood Ducks and other dabbling ducks. Meet at Crystal Springs Garden parking lot at 4015 SE 28th Ave, Portland, OR 97202. Pre-register (no limits) with Caroline at carolinerathold@gmail.com or 503-387-2460.

December 14 (Sat), 8am–11am Vancouver Lake Park
Join leader Ron Escano at Vancouver Lake Park. Scope the lake for waterfowl then explore the riparian woodland for other wintering birds. Meet at parking lot in front of middle restrooms. 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 the park ($3 entrance fee). Information: Ron at 503-771-3454.

NATURE NIGHTS
Second Tuesday of the month from September to May. If you have a suggestion for a Nature Night presentation, contact Pam Meyers at pmeyers@audubonportland.org or 503-772-6855 ext.150.

Fire and Forests: East of the Cascades with John Marshall
Tuesday, November 12
7pm Heron Hall
Fire has always been a primal force in shaping the healthy ecology of the forests of the Pacific Northwest, but especially along the eastern slope of the Cascades and in the Blue Mountains, where it was historically a frequent visitor. How do forests regenerate after a fire? What is the timing of plant and wildlife restoration? What effect does fire suppression have on forest ecology?
Join photographer and biologist John Marshall as he explores the answers to these questions. For the past 19 years, John has been following fires that happen after fires through repeat photography of specific sites. Marshall’s beautiful photography will accompany the discussion of the ecology of the forest’s eastern Cascades. He will treat the audience to photographs of wildlife and plant response, along with a special series taken from lookout sites shown alongside the same views from the 1930s.

John Marshall grew up on wildlife refuges including Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon and became interested in the effects of forest fires as a child, while picking huckleberries on Mt. Hood. He earned a B.S. in Fishery Science from Oregon State University, and an M.S. degree in Wildlife Resources from the University of Idaho. John has been a professional photographer for the past 30 years, with several books to his credit. He has also worked in the fisheries field, most recently with an evaluation of fisheries and nutrients in the Wenatchee River watershed. Since 1994, Marshall has been following forest recovery at 60 sites that burned in the Tyee and Rat-Hatchery Creeks Fires in the eastern Cascades in Washington. He has recently been contracted by the U.S. Forest Service to repeat historic panoramic photography from lookout sites in Washington and Oregon.

Please join us for this fascinating exploration of forests and fires!

Finding and Photographing Hidden Nature in Your Neighborhood with Scott Carpenter
Tuesday, December 10 • 7pm Heron Hall
Join local birder and photographer extraordinare Scott Carpenter for a presentation on finding and photographing breeding birds in the Portland metro area. Scott will share photos and videos that he captured at nesting sites of many of Portland’s fascinating birding species, and as his strategies for finding and observing these nesting birds while minimizing disturbance to them.

Scott will focus on four of his favorite Portland area locations: Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge, Forest Park, Tryon Creek State Park, and his neighborhood. That’s right — Scott’s typical urban/suburban Portland neighborhood is teeming with nesting birds (he’s confirmed 14 breeding species so far, and is still counting!), and your area probably is too. After attending Scott’s presentation, your daily walk will never be the same.

You might be surprised at the amount of joy you can experience, and knowledge you can gain, from observing birds for extended periods, with only a camera. Scott will share what he learned from studying over 80 hours observing six different Anna’s Hummingbird nests one spring. He’ll also share videos and photos from the dozens of hours he has spent observing other species, including Northern Pygmy-Owls in Forest Park, Barred Owls in Forest Park and Tryon Creek State Park, and the many nests he found while walking his dog in his neighborhood.

Scott Carpenter is a self-taught bird photographer based in Portland, Oregon. He began his obsession with birds as a kindergarten in Texas in the 1970s. After decades of fast-paced birding and listing, Scott began incorporating photography into his bird obsession so that he could get to know the subjects of his fascination. He now spends as much time as possible photographing birds, primarily in the Pacific Northwest, attempting to capture images showing the behavior and beauty of birds in the wild, under natural conditions and lighting. You can see more of Scott’s work online at www.scottcarpenterphotography.com.

No experience necessary to enjoy this fun and informative evening!

Save the Dates for the Nature Store Holiday Open House!
Saturday, Dec 7, 10am–6pm
Sunday, Dec 8, 10am–5pm

Please come to and enjoy free treats and entertainment, a cozy fire in the fireplace, and lots of festive holiday decorations. We’ll have nature-related holiday ornaments and cards, calendars, gifts, toys, and much more! See details in the December “holiday” issue of the Warbler and on the website, or call the Nature Store for more information at 503-292-9453.
Conservation

Some Big Victories for Wildlife and People in Portland
by Nickkie West and Bob Sallinger, Conservation Department

Thirty years ago there was virtually no recognition that urban conservation matters. But we suspect that people have always felt it in their soul; that their actions, even in the city, have an intricate and powerful impact on ecosystem health.

Over 25% of North American bird species, including our local species, are facing significant long-term population declines. The primary cause of these declines is habitat loss and fragmentation. However, a variety of very significant declines. The primary cause of these declines is habitat loss and fragmentation. But on that same day, despite our realized our success... the Rufous Hummingbirds and Golden-crowned Sparrows....

Backyard Habitat Certification Program Awarded Prestigious Honor

In 2009, Audubon and Columbia Land Trust launched a joint program to promote habitat certification for backyards. The program has been a tremendous success, with nearly 1,700 properties certified! This year, Audubon worked with the City of Portland to produce a book guide to backyard birding. The guide is now available as a free download from our website.

Portland City Council Adopts Resolution to Promote Bird-friendly Design and Practices

In 2012, Audubon worked with the City of Portland and the City Council to adopt a resolution encouraging the exploration and use of bird-friendly design and practices in city plans and policies. This resolution has been a significant victory for bird advocates in Portland.

Colwood Golf Course as it passes through Colwood Golf Course

Commissioner Dan Saltzman who sponsored the resolution, said, “Portlanders have such an affinity for nature and wildlife, and building design is one area where we can have an impact. Raising awareness is the first step.”

With this Resolution, Portland joins the ranks of several other U.S. cities including San Francisco, Chicago, and New York, which are taking progressive steps to better integrate the built and natural environments and minimize hazards to urban birds. Check out your Bird Safe Cities page at audubonportland.org/issues/urban to learn about what you can do at your home and business to help address this problem — and consider taking our Lights Out Pledge to reduce night lighting, which is a primary driver of many bird strikes.

Colwood Golf Lake Course to be Permanently Protected for People and Wildlife

Five years ago Audubon joined with the local community to fight a proposal by the owners of Colwood National Golf Course which would have converted the vast majority of this open space to industrial use. Colwood Golf Course has tremendous natural resource value, including two arms of the Columbia Slough which bisect this 140-acre parcel. It is also located in one of the most diverse, underserved, and park-deficient neighborhoods in Portland. Audubon has prioritized protecting and restoring nature in our most blighted and underserved neighborhoods for more than 30 years. Working with the local neighborhood — the people most affected by this proposed conversion — we successfully turned back this effort at industrialization.

Looking Forward

Portland Audubon has long been recognized as a pioneer in the field of urban conservation. Today we build upon that legacy with programs that protect our most valuable urban natural areas, promote ecologically sustainable neighborhoods, and address the most significant wildlife hazards.

The next challenge: Protecting West Hayden Island from Industrial Development!

The Columbia Slough as it passes through Colwood Golf Course.
Migratory Birds in Klamath Left High and Dry... Again
by Joe Liebezeit, Avian Conservation Program Manager

This fall marks yet another season of drought in the Klamath Basin and another year of hard times for migratory birds on the Pacific Flyway. Klamath National Wildlife Refuge, our nation’s first waterfowl refuge — at one time considered the “crown jewel” of the refuge system — was allowed to go bone dry in late summer. In the adjacent Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge, over 7,000 waterfowl died during a botulism outbreak in late August. This situation was likely exacerbated by overcrowding as birds packed into the few patches of viable wetlands left. Last year a similar situation resulted in an outbreak of Avian Cholera that killed over 15,000 waterfowl. In both cases, water only began flowing into Lower Klamath Lake after huge public outcry.

The six-refuge complex in the Klamath Basin supports up to 80% of the Pacific Flyway waterfowl that migrate along the Pacific Flyway each spring and fall, making it one of the most important staging grounds for waterfowl in the United States. In addition, approximately 500 Bald Eagles winter in the Klamath Basin, making it the largest eagle wintering ground in the lower 48 states. Historically, these wetlands supported millions of waterfowl and other waterbirds. The highest ever observed one-day count of 6 million waterfowl in the Klamath Basin refuges occurred in the fall of 1958. In the mid-1950s Klamath Basin NWR managers described this abundance as “the greatest concentration of waterfowl in North America and probably the world.”

Today, however, approximately 80% of the Klamath Basin region’s historic wetlands have been converted to farmland. This includes over 22,000 acres of public lands on Lower Klamath and Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuges that are leased out for commercial agriculture. Even as Lower Klamath Lake has gone completely dry, adjacent lease-lands have continued to receive water.

With serious over-allocation issues and a growing water demand, there is no simple answer to resolving water needs in the Klamath Basin. What is clear is that the U.S. Department of Interior’s continued support of commercial land and private agriculture on refuge lands is a problem. This practice is antithetical to the recognized mission of national wildlife refuges which places waterfowl conservation and management before other refuge uses. If the Department of Interior began a program to phase out leased lands, the water could be used to restore the wetlands and take pressure off other water users in the basin.

The Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement (KBRA) negotiated in 2010 was heralded as the panacea to the water conflicts in the region. However, under this agreement the Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge still would receive only a fraction of the water needed in drought years. The agreement also lacks in existing levels of lease-land farming for another 50 years. The agreement’s price tag — somewhere between $550 million and $1 billion depending on how you crunch the numbers — has been the sticking point with the large agricultural interests. Legislation to fund the agreement has never moved forward. Senator Ron Wyden recently convened a task force to jumpstart the agreement, but those efforts appear to be fracturing. Even if it could get through a highly divisive Congress, we question whether it actually would represent a real solution.

In the coming year, Portland Audubon will be refocusing resources on the Klamath. We were founded more than a century ago in part to help establish the Klamath National Wildlife Refuges. Restablishing the health of these refuges is of paramount importance to birds along the Pacific Flyway. You will be hearing much more about these issues in the coming months and we ask you, our Audubon membership, to follow this issue and weigh in — the birds are counting on you!

Wildlife Care Center

Care Center Deluged with Birds Hitting Windows
by Lacy Campbell, WCC Operations Manager

Fall is a time of change. Leaves start falling from trees and the days get shorter. For the Van’s Swifts at Chapman School, the dozens of Turkey Vultures circling over Portland, and the various songbirds that call this place home for the spring and summer months, fall is the time of migration. The act of migration is very taxing for birds; they must make incredible journeys on the wing with little storage capacity and barely any stops. Not only do the birds make these amazing journeys but many of them do it at night using celestial clues. Night migration helps birds avoid predation and lets them maximize daytime foraging.

Migration, next to spring baby bird season, is the second busiest time in the Wildlife Care Center. We often see big bursts of different species that we don’t usually see during the rest of the year. The main reason we see birds in the Care Center during this time: window strikes. Bright city lights can confuse migrating birds by obscuring their navigation and can have them enter urban areas. Once in the urban area they get trapped in the maze of windows and will often collide with them. This doesn’t just happen with large buildings, homes as well. Unfortunately, many do not survive their collisions and it is estimated that between 100 million and 1 billion birds die each year from collisions with windows.

In just six weeks the Wildlife Care Center received over 90 migrating songbirds; 50 of them were one species: Swainson’s Thrush. This 30-gram bird spends its spring and summer in parts of the western United States (including Oregon) and Canada. Around September it migrates as far south as Bolivia and Argentina to spend the winter. When a Swainson’s Thrush, or any other migrant, comes to the Care Center, time is of the essence. Suddenly, routine treatments like broken bones can mean that a bird has to stay in our care and miss migration. This means that we can’t release the animal until next migration season which is not until next March. Fortunately, many of the birds that survive their coincisions are able to be released after only staying a few days and can continue on their migration.

Luckily there are things that we can all do to reduce this number of injured migrating songbirds. You can make sure that your exterior light fixtures are well-shielded and not adding light to the sky. You can also draw your blinds orcurtains to cut down on the amount of light spilling out and contributing to sky glow. But it isn’t just up to the residents to do their part; businesses can also cut down on their lighting and energy costs. Lights Out Portland is a voluntary program in which building owners turn off unnecessary overnight lighting during migration season to minimize bird strikes and fatalities. Lights Out programs help to prevent birds from being attracted into urban areas. In Chicago, One Lights Out building showed an 80% decrease in strike rates after joining.

Make your backyard a habitat birds will flock to!

The Backyard Habitat Certification Program provides assistance and incentives to residents on lots sized less than one acre, within the cities of Portland and Lake Oswego, to restore native wildlife habitat in their backyards. There are four program elements: removal of aggressive weeds, naturescaping with native plants, stormwater management and wildlife stewardship. To learn more, visit audubonportland.org/issues/backyardhabitat

Please sign up to become an Audubon Activist today and help protect our wildlife and wild places both here in the city and across the state. There is nothing more powerful than people standing up and speaking out to protect the health of our community and our environment. We have huge challenges ahead in the coming year: Close to home we need to protect West Hayden Island and ensure that industrial polluters are held accountable at the Portland Harbor Superfund Site. Across the state we are working to protect old-growth forests, restore Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, ensure adequate water supplies for the Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuges, and establish Oregon’s first Marine Reserves. To sign up go to audubonportland.org/issues/get-involved/activists-form.

www.audubonportland.org

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2013

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

**Texas Gulf Coast**

April 9–17, 2014

Each year, migratory songbirds reach the Texas Gulf Coast after a 416-hour flight from the distant shores of Yucatan Mexico. Under certain conditions, the exhausted birds “fall out” into forested areas of the coastline. It is a thrilling experience for the bird watcher to see hundreds and hundreds of birds flitting among the trees and shrubs, all attempting to refuel for the next leg of their journey north. Among them are Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Scarlet Tanager, Dickcissel, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Wood Thrush, and over 20 species of warblers.

Our trip begins at the King Ranch, among the world’s largest ranches with 825,000 acres. This ranch still preserves diverse habitats where we will search for species at the northern edge of their range such as Great Jay, Tropical Parula Warbler, and Audubon’s Oriole. The King Ranch is perhaps the most reliable location in the U.S. to see the much-sought-after Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl.

Along the coast we will visit wetland and inter-tidal marshes at Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge where Roseate Spoonbill, White Ibis, and Clapper Rail share habitat with the American Alligator. On the mud flats we will look for Black Skimmer, Royal Tern, and both Buff-breasted and Stilt Sandpipers. Any of the riparian woodlands, as well as the famous High Island and Boy Scout Woods, may harbor an assortment of migrants.

We will make an excursion to pine forest habitat near Houston to look for Brown-headed Nuthatch, Bachman’s Sparrow, and the rarest inhabitant of the pines, the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker.

Join us on the Texas coast as we visit these world-famous birding hotspots during the peak of spring migration. For details and to register, contact Dan van den Broek at 971-222-6105 or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org.

**Ice Age Floods**

April 13–19, 2014

Join the Audubon Society of Portland as we explore the route of the Ice Age Floods from Missoula to Portland and witness the many kinds of evidence they left on the landscape, from giant current ripples to slack-water deposits known asothyrians. April is a beautiful time of year to be on the path of the floods and we’ll make plenty of time for hiking, botanizing, and wildlife viewing. Contact Steve Engel at 971-222-6119 or senge@audubonportland.org for more information.

**Portland Audubon’s Annual Malheur Foray**

May 28 – June 1, 2014

Join us on a 5-day tour of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge located in remote and beautiful Southeast Oregon.

- **Detailed Fees**
  - Airfare: $725 members / $825 non-members
  - Deposit: $300 to secure your space

**Portland Audubon’s International Tours**

- **Deposit:** $1500 required to secure your place
- **Fee:** $2295 members / $2495 non-members
- **Deposit:** $1200 required to secure your place

**Tuition includes:** All ground transportation, 8 nights double-occupancy lodging, all breakfasts and lunches, park entry fees, and the services of your leaders. Not included: Airfare to & from Texas, and dinners.

**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/」
- **Portland Audubon’s International Tours now include a Carbon Offset contribution that will go directly for the stewardship of our 150-acre forest.**
  - A flat fee of $15 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.

**Tours Available:**

- **Scotland! April 28 – May 7, 2014**
  - Our trip begins in the northern town of Inversness, where we team up with one of Scotland’s premier birders to assist us on our quest for the Razorbill, Atlantic Puffin and Arctic Loon. We’ll also traverse the famous Highlands of Scotland as we search for the Red Grouse, a rare endemic subspecies of the Rock Partridge.
  - The woodlands and estuaries surrounding Inverness will offer a nice introduction to the bird life of Scotland, and some of our first encounters may include Buzzard, Eurasian Siskin, Treecreeper, Blackbird, Chaffinch and the European Robin.
  - Next we head to the northwest with its impressive sea cliffs, dunes and woodlands of Handa Island. One of the largest seabird colonies on the British Isles is found here with over 75,000 birds. Nesting season will be just beginning when we arrive and we should see Common Murre, Black-legged Kittiwake, and the kleptoparasitic Arctic Skua (Parasitic Jaeger) and Great Skua. Nearby, we’ll search for Eurasian Oystercatcher as well as both Common and Arctic Terns, Eurasian Shylock, Stonechat and Wheatear. A woodland copse may harbor Willow Warbler and Chiffchaff, while Eurasian Golden-Plover nest on the moors. With some luck we will see the majestic White-tailed Eagle when we visit the Isle of Skye.

- **Ice Age Floods April 13–19, 2014**
  - We’ll have plenty of time for a bit of Scottish culture as well when we visit the impressive Eilean Donan Castle and the famous Castle Eilean Donan Castle and the famous Castle

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Beginning Birding 2
November 3, 10, 17 (Sun), 8:30am-11am
Local field trips
Take your birding skills to the next level with Laura Whittemore. This class will focus on morning field trips is designed for those wanting more time in the field practicing and improving their birding abilities. These trips to local sites provide you with opportunities to practice your ID skills under Laura’s guidance and learn great places to go birding in the future. There is no evening classroom instruction for this program.
Fee: $50 members / $80 non-members
Class size: Limited to 14 participants

The Art of Bird Observation for Fledging Artists
November 16 (Sat), 8:30am–4pm in Heron Hall
Are you convinced your drawing ability will never advance beyond the stick-figure level? Does your Killdeer look like a Great Blue Heron? With a little help, anyone can draw birds. Come join nationally known bird artist Shawnee Finnegan as she helps demystify the art of drawing birds. You will become a better observer as you study the shapes and structures that distinguish different species. Heron Hall is a perfect place to hold this class, where we have access to photographs, birds coming to feeders, and mounted specimens. This one-day class is designed to help you improve your own observation skills through sketching. No artistic ability needed.
Fee: $45 members / $60 non-members
Limited to 16 participants

Gulls of the Pacific Northwest
November 19 (Thu), 7pm-9pm in Heron Hall
Another great class with Harry Nakle, author of Famous Birds of the Pacific Northwest, Birds of the Willamette Valley Region, and Birds of the Inland Northwest and Northern Rockies, as well as the voice of the Rare Bird Alert — Harry knows it all! From the dainty Rompaut’s Gull’s to the buoy Western Gull, Northwest gulls are entertaining to watch and confusing to identify. Harry will provide insight on the identification and distribution of our local gulls.
Fee: $10 members / $15 non-members
Free to volunteers.

Marine Mammals of Oregon
December 4 (Wed), 7pm-9pm in Heron Hall
Ever wonder what it takes to enter the world of “Marine Mammaldom”? It is not easy, yet many types and species of mammals have successfully made their ocean homes. The Northeast Pacific Ocean is rich with Cetaceans, Pinnipeds, and Fissipeds. With a Portland Audubon Naturalist as your guide and find out who these creatures are that live on and off our shores, and how they do it. Steve Engel will take you into the lives of whales from the smallest to the largest and give a showcase of the seals and sea lions that hug our shorelines. Oregon has a rich assortment of marine mammals — isn’t it time you met them?
Fee: $10 members / $15 non-members
Free to volunteers.

Cookin’ at the Cabin
December 10 (Sat), 2pm-5pm in Heron Hall
Create colorful drawings, imaginative sculptures, and clay sculptures. Instructors: Steve Robertson, Tim Donner & Laura Newton
Fee: $70 members / $80 non-members

Homing In on Habitats
January 5 (Sun), 8am-9:30am in Heron Hall
Join other animal lovers for a day devoted to learning about the care of injured and orphaned wildlife. We’ll go behind the scenes of Audubon’s Wildlife Care Center with wildlife rehabilitators and find out what this exciting job is all about.
Fee: $60 members / $70 non-member
Free to volunteers

Audubon’s Winter Rangers
Grades: 1–3
Bring your camouflage as we explore and discover the amazing stories of one of the most beautiful forests around. Spend your day becoming a Winter Audubon Ranger! Learn to be a quiet presence in the forest, venture deep into the Audubon Sanctuary to learn the secrets of local plants and animals. Hear the amazing stories about the history of the Audubon forest and become an expert on how to stay safe in the outdoors. If you love playing outside, learning about nature, and finding where this adventurous camp is for you! Come join the ranks of the Winter Audubon Rangers!
Fee: $60 members / $70 non-member

Junior Wildlife Vet 102
Grades: 4–8
Join other animal lovers for a day devoted to learning about the care of injured and orphaned wildlife. We’ll go behind the scenes of Audubon’s Wildlife Care Center with wildlife rehabilitators and find out what this exciting job is all about.
Fee: $60 members / $70 non-member

Marine Mammals of Oregon
Grades: 3–5
Join other animal lovers for a day devoted to learning about the care of injured and orphaned wildlife. We’ll go behind the scenes of Audubon’s Wildlife Care Center with wildlife rehabilitators and find out what this exciting job is all about.
Fee: $60 members / $70 non-member

Wildlife Care Center with wildlife rehabilitators to learn more about the care of injured and orphaned animals. Hear the amazing stories about the history of the Audubon forest and become an expert on how to stay safe in the outdoors. If you love playing outside, learning about nature, and finding where this adventurous camp is for you! Come join the ranks of the Winter Audubon Rangers!
Fee: $60 members / $70 non-member

Winter Wildlife Art
Grades: 1–3
See some amazing animals that live in our forest sanctuary in winter. Develop your observations of winter wildlife by creating imaginative drawings, animal masks, and clay sculptures.
Fee: $60 members / $70 non-member
Instructor: Susan Leeb

Snowshoe Hares to Polar Bears
Grades: 1–3
Have you ever wondered how the smallest birds handle the winter weather? Would you choose to have feathers or fur to survive harsh conditions? Journey within the Audubon Sanctuary as we explore the amazing adaptations that animals use to cope with the harsh winter weather. We’ll scour the woods for animal burrows and dens, track animal trails we can track, and end the day with the Audubon specimens that can teach us the most about the wonderful world of winter animal survival.
Fee: $60 members / $70 non-member

Ducks and Doughnuts
Grades: 4–8
Become a Junior Ornithologist and expert doughnut connoisseur for a day as we seek out and identify bird species at hidden wild wetlands in and around Portland. We’ll see Herons, Bufflehead, Green-winged Teal and if we’re lucky, maybe even a Bald Eagle as we travel to Sauvie island on this birding adventure.
Fee per person: $65 member / $75 non-member
Instructor: Gladys Ruiz

Bounty of Bats
Grades: 1–2
Experience these mysterious mammals of all the night from a new perspective as we study bats from all over the world. We will have hands-on experience with specimens of some of the most common bats of Oregon, get a chance to learn more about the myths & legends that these flying mammals have inspired. Don’t forget, we will hike around the wildlife sanctuary and check on the two new bat houses that just went up! Any other bat enthusiasts?
Fee: $60 member / $70 non-member

Winter Forest Bird Art
Grades: 3–5
Hike through the forest, home to many species of birds in winter. Observe a variety of birds and discover some of their amazing adaptations. Create colorful drawings, imaginative sculptures, and a mixed media mobile construction during this full day of art and nature!
Fee per person: $60 member / $70 non-member
Instructor: Susan Leeb

Creatures of the Night
Grades: 1–3
Do you ever wonder what animals roam the Audubon Sanctuary at night? Hike along the trails of our own Wildlife Sanctuary searching for tracks and signs of this nocturnal wildlife. Learn about these captivating creatures and create a colorful art project based on your observations.
Fee: $60 member / $70 non-member

Expedition: Winter Gnomes
Grades: 1–3
Step into the world of the fabled Gnomes of the Pacific Northwest as we explore the mystery and folklore of these mythical creatures. Prepare yourself to scour the forest searching for the elusive woodland Gnomes, build homes to attract these little creatures, and make your very own Gnome Hat. Equipped with magnificent glasses, Gnome Detectors, and field guides, you’ll search Audubon’s Sanctuary for any and all signs of Gnomes and learn how these fantastic woodland creaturescope with the difficulties of the winter season.
Fee: $60 member / $70 non-member

Snowshoe & Hot Cocoa Adventure
Grades: 4–8
Join Education Director Steve Robertson and our Naturalist-Educators on this adventure as we journey onto the snow-covered slopes of Mt Hood on our shores, and how they do it. Steve Engel will take you into the lives of whales from the smallest to the largest and give a showcase of the seals and sea lions that hug our shorelines. Oregon has a rich assortment of marine mammals — isn’t it time you met them?
Fee: $10 members / $15 non-members
Free to volunteers.

Homing In on Habitats
Grades: 1–3
Spend a day with an Audubon Naturalist as we adventure through our Wildlife Sanctuary in search of the different habitats around Balch Creek. Your leaders will explore some of the smallest and some of the largest homes that are in our woods. We’ll be on animal adaptations, taking the time to learn how and what we like to do.
Fee: $60 member / $70 non-member

Wolf Watch
Grades: 4–8
We experience the thrilling world of Wolves as we travel as a pack to the Wolf Haven Sanctuary located near Tenino, Washington. With a Portland Audubon Naturalist as your Wolf Alpha and wolves in hand, you will learn about these majestic predators in an up-close and personal way. We’re sure to have a howlin’ good time!
Fee: $60 member / $75 non-member
Instructor: Tim Donner

Cookin’ at the Cabin
Grades: 4–8
The holiday season lends itself to treats and sweets. Prepare your stomachs for a day of fun and food as we head to Portland Audubon’s Marmot Cakes for two days and one fun-filled night of this popular favorite. Cookin’ at the Cabin will spend one day baking, making the building blocks to explore various cooking methods on an open fire. Anyone up for orange cakes, western hamloaf, and homemade breads, and a snowball fight on a stick?! Once we’ve tried our hands at making a campfire open flame, we’ll return to the kitchen to delve into more culinary delights such as bread baking, canning preserving and much more! Parents, your child is sure to return home with tasty homemade treats for the whole family to enjoy!
Fee: $130 member / $150 non-member
Pick Up & Drop Off at Upper Marmot Park
Instructors: Tom Donner & Laura Newton
Types and Causes of Avian Albinism

Speaking of pelicans, on September 1 Scott Carpenter checked the flock of White Pelicans that have been at the Fernhill Wetlands all fall and found at least two were banded. On checking with U.S. Fish and Wildlife he found that one was banded July 11, 2011 at the new Miller Island colony near Astoria. The other was banded June 28, 2013 in the Klamath Basin. Both were young birds.

Extremely large numbers of swallows and swifts were in the Willamette Valley and the Portland area in late September when the week-long storm system arrived. Large numbers of swallows were reported dead or in very weak condition following the storms. However, most local birds appeared in good shape, but a number of distressed birds were reported from Ridgefield NWR.

The unsettled weather brought some unexpected birds to the area. On September 3 Adrian and Christopher Hinkle observed a Black Swift over Mt. Tabor Park. Jeff Hayes saw one September 15 over Oaks Bottom, and John Gaetzelt observed three over Sauvie Island September 24. The Hinkles reported a Grasshopper Sparrow September 1 at the Sandy River Delta.

Volunteer of the Month: Harry Nehls by Tammi Miller and Steve Engel

Portland Audubon member since he was a teenager, Harry Nehls’ love of birds has inspired him to decades of service to Portland Audubon. He began Christmas Bird Counting in 1965 and has not missed a count since. In that same year, he began his popular “Field Notes” column in Audubon’s Warbler newsletter. He has served on our Board of Directors in the 1970s, and is one of the original members (1978) of the Oregon Bird Records Committee, for which he has served as Secretary since 1990.

Harry’s dedication to promoting the understanding and enjoyment of birds is evidenced by several popular books he has authored and co-authored: Familiar Birds of the Pacific Northwest (1981), Birds of the Willamette Valley Region (2004), and Birds of the Inland Northeast and Northern Rockies (2008), as well as by being Senior Contributor to the encyclopedic Birds of Oregon: A General Reference (2003).

As he has for decades, Harry also shares his passion and knowledge of Oregon’s birds with his popular series of classes that run every other month from March to November. During each class he focuses on a group of birds (e.g., diving birds) and reviews all the species of the group that occur in the state. Harry shares information on identification and habits, and also relates anecdotes and stories based on personal experience that help bring the birds to life. On November 19 he will present one of his most popular projects on the Gulls of the Pacific Northwest (see page 7 — and please join us!).

In addition to all the above, Harry is also widely known as the voice of the Portland Audubon Rare Bird Alert. Since 1977 he has compiled notable bird sightings in the state and brought the tape recordings up to date for the Portland Audubon Rare Bird Alert. This information can be accessed by calling 503-233-3976 or online at our website under Local Birding Information.

With his comprehensive knowledge of Oregon’s birds, Harry is the man we turn to with challenging bird identification questions or to confirm whether a sighting is indeed unusual. Local birders acknowledge and appreciate his manner of teaching with tributes like the following:

“Harry never puts anyone down when they ask questions and always imparts his wisdom and teaching in a gentle way, no matter how off base the original ID was. He has gently set me back on the right path so many times over the past 25 years, I could not begin to tally them.”

—Bill Clemmons

“Harry has mentored and influenced thousands of birders around the state and inspired those of us who have followed in his footsteps to pass along our knowledge in a similar fashion.”

—Dave Irons

With his finger on the pulse of Oregon bird activity for more than 50 years, Harry Nehls is a treasured and invaluable resource. Thank you, Harry, for your many years of remarkable service to Portland Audubon.

A Snag in the Plan by Tom Costello, Sanitories Director

This past month I attended a natural resources workshop at Silver Falls State Park that explored a recently completed forest thinning project in the 55 acres closest to the main offices, visitor center, and day use areas. The park managers had the difficult task of dealing with a dense second growth forest ripe with many hazard trees growing above park structures, parking areas, and picnic areas. While from an ecological perspective it would be best to let these trees fall naturally or remain standing as snags, from the risk management perspective these trees needed to be removed to protect the historic structures of the park and the one million visitors that pass through this area every year.

The project was completed this winter, and despite the fact that felling trees in a natural area is rarely a popular undertaking, the project was completed without any significant debate or causing white spots in otherwise regular plumages. If the bird obtains a proper diet before the next molt, the new feathers will return to their proper coloration.

The Portland area produces a fairly high number of robins that are white spotted. Occasionally a different species will produce a number of birds with whitish plumages for a few years then return to normal. Recently many Black-capped Chickadees have been seen with whitish plumages.

Those birds that have problems with melania deficiency are not true albinos. Some may have pure white plumages, but their eyes and legs are dark. These birds are called leucistic, or what most people call partial albinos.

The strong storms during late September struck while peak numbers of migrants were still moving through the Portland area, causing some problems for the birds. It probably pushed some to move on.

Large kettles of Turkey Vultures were reported before and after the storm moving southward over the Willamette Valley. On October 3 Tammi Miller saw a good-sized kettle over Sauvie Island. On October 6 Jeff Dillon reported two flocks near Clackamas.

Not all kettles are vultures though. On October 3 Grant Carpenter watched as up to 800 White Pelicans flew from Smith/Bybee Lakes and formed a kettle as they passed southward over Portland. About noon that day Karen Devoll saw a large kettle of birds pass along the Willamette River over midtown Portland. A bit later Stephanie Savenkov in south Portland photographed a large kettle over the river. As she watched, small groups broke off, formed V formations, then continued southward. The photos show that these birds were pelicans. Apparently most of the local pelicans that have been reported all fall have moved out.

Speaking of pelicans, on September 1 Scott Carpenter checked the flock of White Pelicans that have been at the Fernhill Wetlands all fall and found at least two were banded. On checking with U.S. Fish and Wildlife he found that one was banded July 11, 2011 at the new Miller Island colony near Astoria. The other was banded June 28, 2013 in the Klamath Basin. Both were young birds.

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The unsettled weather brought some unexpected birds to the area. On September 3 Adrian and Christopher Hinkle observed a Black Swift over Mt. Tabor Park. Jeff Hayes saw one September 15 over Oaks Bottom, and John Gaetzelt observed three over Sauvie Island September 24. The Hinkles reported a Grasshopper Sparrow September 1 at the Sandy River Delta.

Two Whimbrel were at Broughton Beach September 6. One was at Ridgefield NWR and one was at Smith/Bybee Lakes September 16. Andy Frank saw two Sanderling at Broughton Beach September 15. The Hinkles found two at Smith/Bybee Lakes September 15 and 22, and another on Sauvie Island September 17. Skip Russell spotted a Brown Pelican at Broughton Beach September 14, but it disappeared before other birders arrived.

The Hinkles found a Forster’s Tern at Broughton Beach September 14 and another on Sauvie Island September 17. They spotted seven Common Terns September 3 at Smith/Bybee Lakes, then another September 14 at Broughton Beach. Tim Shelmeregine found eight at the Fernhill Wetlands September 15.

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T
here are lots of new birding books migrating into the Nature Store, for all kinds of readers and levels of birding skill. Drop by and see the titles featured here and more!

1001 Secrets Every Birdier Should Know: Trips and Trivia for the Backyard and Beyond by Sharon ‘Birdchick’ Stiney (Running Press, $20.00) is full of interesting tidbits, geared at beginning birders but with lots of fun facts for experienced birders as well! The backyard birdier will also enjoy Gardening for the Birds: How to Create a Bird-Friendly Backyard by Stephenp and Whittle (Princeton University Press, $24.95). Directories of both plants and birds can be cross referenced, so you can plan the wildlife habitat in your backyard. Participants in our Backyard Habitat Certification Program will find lots of helpful information in this book.

The Warbler Guide by Stephenp and Whittle (Princeton University Press, $29.95) is a great comprehensive guide to the 56 species of warblers found in the U.S. and Canada. The detailed descriptions include sonograms of songs, plumage variations, and photos of comparison species.

California Condors in the Pacific Northwest by D’Elia and Haig (Oregon State University Press, $19.95) is an extensively researched history of these charismatic birds in our region, and explores the possibilities of reintroducing them to the Northwest. This could be an important conservation focus for Audubon in the future.

Who was the Wilson of Wilson’s Warbler or Wilson’s Phalarope? Find out in the richly illustrated biography Alexander Wilson: The Scout who Founded American Ornithology by Burt and Harris (Harvard University Press, $35.00).

Finally, a little birding humor is the focus of John James Audubon meets Dr. Seuss by Sally Loomis, Book Buyer, (Running Press, $20.00) is full of interesting descriptions include sonograms of songs, plumage variations, and photos of comparison species.

Fascinated by Feathers Everyone loves the beauty of feathers. That’s proven by the continuing popularity of our books Bird Feathers by S. David Scott and Casey McFarland, the definitive guide to North American bird feathers, and Thor Hanson’s Feathers, a captivating book about the human fascination with the beauty, form, and function of feathers. The collection of real feathers is prohibited in the U.S. to protect migratory bird species. Luckily, Portland has a new resident artist offering “feathers” to collect and enjoy that are both exquisite and legal.

Margaret Greene, of Frittin’ Around, LLC., is a glass artist who captures the inspirational beauty of nature — the color of a leaf, the feel of a feather, the curve of a twig. Using glass and heat, Margaret and co-creator Cheryl Czane fuse together layers of color that, when exposed to light, express the beauty they see in our environment. The Nature Store will be featuring Margaret and Cheryl’s glass feathers and feathers of the U.S. birds during the months of November and December.

Marking Time It’s time of year when the new 2014 calendars have arrived! But don’t wait until January to get started jotting down all the upcoming Audubon activities on your schedule. Our new Through the Seasons engagement planner is a 16-months-arranged-weekly calendar, starting this fall and running through December 2014. If you are really well organized, try the companion 2-year-plus pocket planner, good now through December 2015. Of course, we also have all the great Audubon bird, wildlife, and nature wall calendars plus many colorful new selections, including National Geographic Ovrs. On your work desk, Sibley’s page-a-day Birdier’s. Start with 300 color illustrations will help you learn your birds with its key identification features for each species and seasonal range maps. Stop by to see our full 2014 collection!

Telling Time Our new Paper Scissors Rock timespieces spring from the creative imagination of Pam Corwin, a Washington artist with a love of color and delightful sense of whimsy. In our digital world, it’s fun to tell time the “good old-fashioned way” with moving clock hands instead of bland flashing digital numbers. Don’t be alarmed, you don’t have to time-travel back to the 20th century. But, do be alarmed by Pam’s wonderful 2-inch travel alarm clocks with floating second hands that magically fly around the edge of the clock. Flapping crows, gliding owls, or a flower fluttering past a hummingbird. Of course, the Early Bird Alarm features the proverbial worm. Pam’s big colorful 6- and 8-inch wall clocks look deceptively like ceramic tiles but are actually colorful prints decorated onto black foam board and heat-sealed with a protective laminate, making them lightweight and easy to hang with just a push pin. The quartz movement runs on a single AA battery and comes with a lifetime manufacturer’s warranty.

We’re Stylin’ New t-shirt shipments from Liberty Graphics and Wild Cotton just hit the store. We have cool new designs, some with long sleeves, that all carry the Audubon Society of Portland logo. We have designs for both adults and youth with nature themes and fun graphics designed to inspire wearers to love and protect nature.

Sanctuaries Happenings

by Nancy Mattson, Nature Store Manager

Nature Store Highlights

by Sally Loomis, Book Buyer

controversy. There was some interesting discussion at the workshop about the project, particularly in regard to the idea of leaving standing snags in lieu of felling some trees. This is a concept I have embraced, as standing snags and habitat value.

In this particular project only two trees were left as standing snags. According to the forester in charge of the project, there are enough snags in the surrounding 5,000 acres of park providing habitat that it would not be worth the additional cost to create snags in the relatively small project area. Two snags were left in high visible areas, as there can be significant value in raising awareness of the value of dead wood in natural ecosystems. However, the ecological benefit of standing snags was not considered in the overall context of this project, and the snags that were left in place were not cut in a way that would be specifically conducive to wildlife habitat or educational purposes.

With 5,000 acres of adjoining forest, budget limitations, and a short project window, this was a reasonable approach to the project. But the considerations change when we consider the value of leaving wildlife snags in parks, natural areas, and even residential settings in the urban landscape. For too long, tree removal was considered the only option for dealing with problem trees in the urban and suburban landscape. As with many other elements of a functional ecosystem, dead wood is severely lacking in our cities, parks, and suburban areas.

A State of Washington publication, Snags – The Wildlife Tree, states that trees can actually provide more habitat for wildlife dead than when they were alive.” Snags provide broken tops and holes that can be used as nest sites and shelter by birds, raccoons, songbirds, and squirrels. Hollows in the bark and rotten wood inside the

wildlife snags contain insects which provide food for many species of birds as well as providing the service of converting the biomass of the tree into nutrients that can be used by other nearby plants.

Professional arborist Brian French, co-founder of Ascending the Giants and fellow organizer of this summer’s Tall Tree Tour at Portland Audubon, has been busy researching best practices for creating wildlife snags and putting these practices to use for clients. “There’s no question that there has been a great loss of wildlife habitat in our urban communities — the question is how do we create it again,” says French. “The natural process can take hundreds of years; however, recognizing the potential that ‘trees to be removed’ offer gives us a unique opportunity to explore methods to speed up that process. Imagine the day when ‘Wildlife Habitat Creation’ is a common service advertised by practicing arboriculture companies nationwide.”

The creation of wildlife snags is a currently underutilized option for creating and enhancing wildlife habitat in our cities. Of course we love all of our lovely, living trees — but snag creation is a viable alternative to tree removal in the case of dead, drying, or hazard trees in the urban landscape. If you are interested in learning more about the creation and benefits of wildlife snags, contact Brian French at Arboriculture International: at brianfrench@gmail.com.

www.audubonportland.org

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2013
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 us this year and helping us to grow.

November 30 - Noon
Birders’ Night: Finding and Photographing Hidden Nature in Your Neighborhood (p.7)
1 Sun 8:30am–11am Beginning Birding 2 (p.7)
3 Sun 9am–Noon Audubon Outing (p.3)
4 Thu 7:30pm Nature Night: Photographing Hidden Nature in Your Neighborhood (p.3)
6 Sat 8am–10am Audubon Outing (p.3)
10 Sat 9am–11am Audubon Outing (p.3)
12 Mon 7pm Nature Night: Finding and Photographing Hidden Nature in Your Neighborhood (p.3)
15 Sat 8am–11am Audubon Outing (p.3)
17 Thu 7pm–9pm Pacific of the Northwest (p.7)
21 Sat All Day Audubon Outing (p.3)
24 Thu 7:30pm Birders’ Night, Heron Hall
25 Mon 7pm–9pm Marine Mammals of Oregon

December 1 Wed 1pm New Year’s Day Nature Store & Admin closed
3 Sat All Day Portland Audubon Christmas Bird Count (p.3)
5 Wed 7-9pm Birders’ Night, Heron Hall

Get our free newsletter.
To subscribe to newsletter, please go to audubonportland.org.
Portland Audubon Eastside Conservation Education Coordinator, Gladys Ruiz, is honored with a 2013 Skidmore Prize

The Skidmore Prize program is a community involvement initiative sponsored and administered by Willamette Week. Each year since 2004, several businesses in the Portland area have come together to recognize the efforts of outstanding young adults who devote their work and time to charitable nonprofit organizations that directly benefit the Portland community. Winners are selected through an application and interview process and receive a one-time cash grant in recognition of their achievements.

We are proud to announce that our own Gladys Ruiz is one of four winners of this year’s Skidmore Prize. Gladys Ruiz is an inspired leader who has honed her love of nature and her passion for mentoring young people into a personal mission of nurturing environmentalism in youth of color. Gladys took flight from New York City’s projects through nature, going to an environmental high school and becoming an Urban Park Ranger working with at-risk youth.

Portland Audubon is included in Willamette Week’s Give!Guide for a fourth year!

We are excited to promote our inclusion in Willamette Week’s 2013 Give!Guide. The Give!Guide is a holiday season fundraiser that serves as a unique vehicle for generating donations for a collection of Portland-area nonprofit organizations.

The goals of the Give!Guide are:
• to encourage people age 18–35 to get involved in philanthropy,
• to attract new donors and/or volunteers to these causes, and
• to provide publicity and exposure to a variety of local nonprofits.

The organizations included in the Give!Guide represent a cross section of nonprofits across the following sectors: Animals, Arts, Community, Education, Environment, Social Action, Wellness, and Youth.

Last year the Give!Guide raised $1.97 million for 120 local nonprofits. This year the goal is to break $2 million raised for 130 area nonprofits. Willamette Week wants everyone to get in the spirit and offers fun incentives, swag and cheer, like discounts from local merchants, gift bags, and the chance to win $1,000 for donors 35 and under, and much more — check out the entire list at www.giveguide.org.

A big congratulations to Gladys Ruiz! Gladys will be celebrated with the other Skidmore Prize winners at the Willamette Week Give!Guide Kick-Off Party on Tuesday, November 5. This year, Portland Audubon is offering our own incentives including weekly drawings for a chance to win a unique Audubon experience like a bird walk, Education Bird presentation, behind the scenes tour of our Wildlife Care Center, and coupons from our business partners, Backyard Bird Shop and Sauvie Island Coffee Company. An extra added incentive is provided by our good friends at Backyard Bird Shop, who will match the first $1,000 of donations!

We were not accepted in the 2012 Give!Guide, so this year, we want to pull out the stops! Follow us on Facebook for announcements and incentives, facebook.com/portlandaudubon.

Donations are accepted from the date of the Give!Guide’s publication (Wednesday, Nov. 6) through midnight on Saturday, Dec. 31. Make your contributions online via the Give!Guide website, www.giveguide.org. Look for Audubon Society of Portland in the “Environment” category, and spread the word!

Members Receive a Discount at the Nature Store!

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

Nikon Monarch Madness Savings Event

The Monarch has long been Nikon’s most popular full-sized sports binocular. The Nature Store has carried the basic Monarch model, now called the Monarch 5, for many years. We also carry the new Monarch 7, a premium binocular with enhanced ED glass and a wider field of view. Now through November 17, 2013 Nikon is offering great instant savings. During the Monarch Madness Savings Event you’ll save $50 on the Monarch 5 or save $100 on the Monarch 7! Both models are available in both 8x and 10x magnification. Both are lightweight and feature Nikon’s DirectView High-Reflective Multiplier Prism Coatings which help display exceptionally accurate color reproduction and a clear, natural-looking image. Both have ED (Extra low Dispersion) glass lenses that are designed to compensate for chromatic aberrations to provide images of superior contrast and outstanding resolution. Stop by to see which model is best for you!

Nikon Kowa iPhone adapters are here!

Got a new iPhone? Would you like to take highly magnified iPhone photos using your binoculars or scope? Now we’ve got both Kowa iPhone & iPhone 5 adapters. And they work with a number of optics made by other manufacturers as well. iPhone fun!

A recent couple has decided to match their views with their own resources by leaving a planned gift to Portland Audubon. Ruth Morton and Hal Busch are intentional about the way they live, and they share a common philosophy: “Nature and conservation need to matter more to people,” says Ruth, because conservation of the earth’s resources is vital to our human experience. The couple has decided to match their views with their own resources by leaving a planned gift to Portland Audubon.

Ruth and Hal both grew up in small, spiritually cohesive communities in the Midwest where nature appreciation was part of life. The idea that nature needed to matter more came later. Hal worked as a global mining and construction executive in Asia, Australia, and North America for 37 years. In the mid-1980s, he began to observe a disturbing pattern: government-supported development that was intended to lift people out of poverty was doing the exact opposite. Entire ecosystems were being devastated by development projects that left the land bare and burnt, while indigenous people and animals were being sickened by bad air and tainted water. Something was not working.

Hal Busch felt driven to find a better way. In 1987 he came upon the organization The Natural Step and began to spread the word about sustainability. At first he thought he would reach out on a global scale, as he had throughout his career, but gradually shifted to wanting to make a difference locally. Vegetable gardening, public service, and engaging young people in conservation became priorities. The couple became long-term members at Portland Audubon, National Audubon, and Tacoma Audubon, and Hal took up a position on the North Clackamas Urban Water Council Board.

Ruth Morton is the kind of nature lover who experiences a morning bird walk as a kind of spiritual thrill. She remembers the sense of awe she felt at a six-year-old, when her church-trained singing voice couldn’t match the sounds in recorded birdsong. Now she works as an executive at Northwest Natural and leads groups in direct experiences in nature when she can. To commemorate her sixtieth birthday, she embarked on a Big Year to see 400 species, and topped her goal with 432.

When reviewing their estate plan in 2012, the couple felt drawn to the unique blend of conservation and education they saw in Portland Audubon. They liked the active and ongoing recruitment effort and the willingness to stand up for conservation. “We want this to continue for others, and to give back by giving habitat for humans and birds,” says Ruth. And Hal says, “It’s important to help people understand the designs of nature; we decided we need to support this.” The couple updated their will, leaving part of their estate to Portland Audubon.

Portland Audubon welcomes Ruth and Hal into the Legacy Circle, and thanks them for the many ways they choose to make a difference for nature and conservation.
WILD ARTS
FESTIVAL
Continued from front cover
• Next to OBA, Portland Audubon’s Nature Store will have a display and sale of a variety of nest boxes—as a great way to check out what might work in your area for nesting birds.
• Finally, we’re pleased to welcome Oregon College of Art and Craft as our educational institute art booth. In the past we’ve worked with Sabin and Buckman schools. Students and faculty members from OCAC will be presenting art for sale.

Special Thanks to our Sponsors
We are delighted this year to welcome a large group of dedicated sponsors, from our Presenting Sponsor, Backyard Bird Shop, to our grassroots supporters, the “40 Friends of Wild Arts.” Other large supporters are Selco Community Credit Union, NW Natural, and Regence Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oregon. We also thank Dave’s Killer Bread, Sauvie Island Coffee, Elk Cove Vineyards, Morel Ink, Ferguson Wellman Capital Management, and Miller Nash, LLP.

A full list can be found on the Festival website. We are extremely grateful to all!

Getting Involved
There are lots of ways to get involved with the Festival, including the following:
• Keep posted by visiting the Festival website at wildartsfestival.org.
• or visit the Wild Arts Festival’s Facebook page for photos, links, and more updates. (Be sure to “Like” us!)
• The Wild Arts Festival is one of Portland Audubon’s best volunteer opportunities. If you’re interested in being a volunteer, visit the volunteer page on the Festival website or check with our Festival volunteer coordinator, Roberta Lampert, at wafvolunteers@gmail.com.
• Consider sponsoring the Festival as one of the “40 Friends of Wild Arts.” Contact Development Director Ann Takamoto at ann.takamoto@audubonportland.org for more information.

And be sure to mark November 23rd and 24th on your calendar and join us at Montgomery Park. We’ll see you at Wild Arts!

Audubon Society of Portland

Inspiring people to love and protect nature since 1902
Audubon Society of Portland promotes the enjoyment, understanding, and protection of native birds and other wildlife and their habitats. We focus on our local community and the Pacific Northwest.

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

SANCTUARIES
Dawn to dusk every day
NATURE STORE
9am to 6pm, Mon. – Sat.
10am to 5pm on Sunday
WILDLIFE CARE CENTER
503-292-0304
9am to 5pm every day
INTERPRETIVE CENTER & LIBRARY
Same hours as store

RARE BIRD ALERT
503-292-6855 • www.audubonportland.org

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