

Warbler

Summer Camp
insert included!



Black-throated
Gray Warbler

In this issue...

Two More Marine
Reserves Implemented
See page 4

Call of the Wild
Online Auction
See page 5

Spring & Summer
Camp Registration
begins Jan 16 at 8am
See page 7



Birding at Coon Point, a wheelchair accessible site © Jill Nelson-Debord

Come Celebrate Birds of Prey at the Tenth Annual

RAPTOR ROAD TRIP

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH
9 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

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

How does the road trip work?

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

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



Family with Rose Explorador program
enjoying event © Tinsley Hunsdorfer

Howell Territorial Park, Coon Point, and the Wildlife Viewing Platform — are wheelchair accessible.



Northern Harrier female
photo: Dan Pancamo



Red-tailed Hawk
© Bjorn Fredrickson

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

What will you see?

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

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

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



American Kestrel
photo: Alan Vernon



Bald Eagle © Steve Berliner



Evening Grosbeak at feeder photo: Velo Steve

17th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count!

February 14–17

The Great Backyard Bird Count is a 4-day count held each February with the goal of getting a snapshot of bird numbers and distribution across the globe. As a participant, you commit to **count birds anywhere for at least 15 minutes on one or more of the 4 count days**. Tally the number of individuals of each species you see, and enter your totals at **birdsource.org/gbbc**. Last year was the first-ever global Great Backyard Bird Count with participants reporting birds from all 7 continents, including 111 countries! In Oregon 1,993 checklists were submitted including 233 from here in Portland. Highlights from last year's Portland count include Prairie Falcon, Eurasian Wigeon, Evening Grosbeak, Gray Jay, and Mountain Chickadee!



Bushtits at suet feeder
photo: Peter Catron

The GBBC helps scientists determine trends and identify long-term declines that may call for conservation attention and require further study. Citizen Scientists can make crucial observations and contribute to a dataset the magnitude of which no team of scientists could achieve alone! So start off your Valentine's Day by expressing your true love for birds and participate in this year's count.



Red-breasted Nuthatch
photo: ODFW

Questions? Contact Joe Liebezeit, Portland Audubon's Avian Conservation Program Manager, at **jliebezeit@audubonportland.org**.

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View this Warbler and many past issues in full color on our website! Go to **audubonportland.org/about/newsletter** and enhance your enjoyment of our popular newsletter!



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

From the Executive Director



Meryl Redisch

Time for a Change

Dear Members,

With the deepest of gratitude to you for your wonderful support, I want you to know that I am stepping down as Executive Director to spend more time with loved ones, effective at the end of our fiscal year on June 30, 2014. I know that “spending time with family” is a familiar fallback line, but in this case it’s absolutely true! I remain fully committed to the Audubon Society of Portland’s mission and am exploring with the Board the opportunity for an ongoing role focused on resource development and capacity building. As you may imagine, this was a difficult decision for me to make, but I am confident that this is the right time for new leadership to take Portland Audubon to the next level of organizational, community, and conservation growth. Our Board, senior management team, staff, volunteers, and community supporters are exceptionally strong. The Board will conduct a search for my successor with the goal of bringing her/him on before July 1.

It has been a privilege serving as executive director of a chapter that boasts a rich and rewarding legacy of conservation advocacy and action that goes back a century and stretches across the state. I treasure the many gifts presented to me through my tenure at Portland Audubon: I have a corner office overlooking Forest Park, and a quick noontime stroll for most people is an inspiring walk in the woods for me. I see and hear children and families excited

by seeing their favorite Education Bird on the glove of a volunteer. And most important to me is having had the honor of leading an incredibly talented and devoted staff, who go far beyond their individual job duties every day to ensure that Portland Audubon continues as a community leader in conservation policy and education. Thank you for making this possible.

Although there are big changes ahead, they will not preclude an ambitious agenda. In the coming months, Portland Audubon will be investing in:

- The next generation — by renovating and expanding Marmot Cabin, our outdoor summer camp facility, so that more children can have a deeper experience in nature;
- Protecting common and imperiled birds — by leading a campaign to get lead out of the environment;
- Staff — by increasing internal capacity and improving the physical work spaces at the Forest Park campus;
- Our capacity to care for native birds and urban wildlife — by developing a two-phased approach to build a new Wildlife Care and Education Center.

With nearly 14,000 members, it is impossible to thank everyone personally. Please know that I sincerely appreciate each one of our members who makes space for Portland Audubon in their lives and supports our work every year.

With gratitude,
Meryl A. Redisch

Calendar at a Glance

For the latest information, visit audubonportland.org.

January

1	Wed	—	New Year's Day: Nature Store & Admin closed
2-3	Thu-Fri	Various	Winter Break Classes (see website)
4	Sat	All Day	Portland Audubon Christmas Bird Count (see website)
5	Sun	12:30pm	Bluegrass Jam, Heron Hall
7	Tue	7:30pm	Birders' Night, Heron Hall
14	Tue	7pm	Nature Night: Protecting Arctic Alaska's Breeding Birds , with Joe Liebezeit (p.3)
15	Wed	7pm-9pm	Winter Gull ID class (p.7)
16	Thu	8am	Registration begins for Spring & Summer Camps
16	Thu	7pm	Author Jack Nisbet on: David Douglas (p.8)
16	Thu	7pm	Board Meeting
18	Sat	12pm-3pm	Winter Gull ID field trip (p.7)
20	Mon	—	MLK Jr Birthday: Nature Store Open (Admin closed)
25	Sat	11am-3pm	Kids Day for ages 5-18 (p.2)
30	Thu	6pm-9pm	"Brink" Benefit Show Opening at antler gallery (p.11)
30	Thu	7pm-9pm	Beginning Birding I class, session A (p.7)

February

1	Sat	8am-12pm	Beg Field Birding at Sauvie (p.7)
1	Sat	10am-12:30pm	Grant Butte Wetlands walk (p.2)
2	Sun	9am-11:30am	Beginning Birding I field trip, session A (p.7)
2	Sun	12:30pm	Bluegrass Jam, Heron Hall
4	Tue	7:30pm	Birders' Night, Heron Hall
5	Wed	7pm-9pm	Raptor Road Trip Rev-Up! class in Heron Hall (p.7)
6	Thu	6pm-8:30pm	New Volunteer Orientation (p.9)
6	Thu	7pm-8:30pm	Raptor Road Trip Rev-Up! class at Leach Garden (p.2)
8	Sat	9am-2pm	Raptor Road Trip (p.1)
9	Sun	9am-11:30am	Beginning Birding I field trip, session A (p.7)
11	Tue	7pm	Nature Night: Marbled Murrelets: Recovering a Rare Bird , with Maria Mudd Ruth and Paul Engelmeyer (p.3)
12	Wed	7pm-9pm	Beginning Birding I class, session B (p.7)
13	Thu	7pm-9pm	Winter Waterbirds of the Coast class (p.7)
14-17	Fri-Mon	—	Great Backyard Bird Count (p.1)
15	Sat	8:30am-4:30pm	Winter Waterbirds of the Coast field trip (p.7)
15	Sat	9am-4:30pm	General Volunteer Training (p.9)
15	Sat	9am-11:30am	Beginning Birding I field trip, session B (p.7)
16	Sun	11am-5pm	Wildlife Care Center Open House (p.5)
16	Sun	9am	Wildlife Care Center Online Auction begins (p.5)
19	Wed	7pm-9pm	Identifying Winter Waterfowl class (p.7)
20	Thu	7pm	Board Meeting
22	Sat	9am-4pm	Identifying Winter Waterfowl field trip (p.7)
22	Sat	9am-11:30am	Beginning Birding I field trip, session B (p.7)
23	Sun	9am-12pm	Winter Birds & Botany field trip (p.7)

March

1	Sat	8am-12pm	Beg Field Birding at Sauvie (p.7)
2	Sun	12:30pm	Bluegrass Jam, Heron Hall
4	Tue	7:30pm	Birders' Night, Heron Hall
6	Thu	9pm	Wildlife Care Center Online Auction ends (p.5)
8	Sat	9:30am-12:30pm	Bluebird Monitoring Workshop (p.2)
8	Sat	12pm-3pm	Vulture Awareness Day at Leach Garden (p.2)

FREE EVENT



© Ian Abraham

Audubon Kids Day
Saturday, January 25
11am-3pm

For Kids & Teens ages 5-18
Rain or Shine

Come join Audubon staff and volunteers as we host a day just for kids. We'll have **free** activities and projects based on many of our most popular Summer Camp programs, including Animal Tracking and Archery, and many other nature-based Art Activities. Come join the fun!

Pre-registration will hold a spot for Archery (kids only), but it is not required for other event activities. Pre-register Now! at audubonportland.org.



FREE EVENT!

Welcome Back Vulture Day
is coming to Leach Botanical Garden!

Saturday,
March 8, 2014
Noon - 3 p.m.

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

Ruby the Turkey Vulture
photo: Tom Schmid



Did you notice you see Turkey Vultures in the metropolitan area only in the spring and summer? That's because they migrate to warmer climates in the winter, but it's time to welcome them back. We're lucky to still have good populations of Turkey Vultures in Oregon. Around the world vultures are facing hazards in the wild and their numbers are dwindling. As "Nature's Recyclers," they play an important role in reducing disease — and it's up to us to help save them.



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

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

Come and help us celebrate the beauty of vultures!

Audubon's East Metro Events

February 1 (Sat), 10am-12:30pm
Grant Butte Wetlands

Join **Jim Labbe** and **Steve Engel** for this morning bird walk at in Gresham. We'll take a leisurely stroll along a scenic section of the Gresham-Fairview Trail taking in views of Grant Butte, surrounding wetlands, and avian fauna. We'll also discuss the restoration and conservation efforts of this site for a variety of native species including its unique Painted Turtle and American Bittern populations. Meet at 10am at the Linnemann Station Springwater Corridor Trailhead. Limited to 25 participants; **to sign up, contact Gladys Ruiz** at 503-349-9554 or gruiz@audubonportland.org.

February 6 (Thu), 7pm-8:30pm
Raptor Road Trip Rev-Up at Eastside location!

Leach Botanical Garden
6704 SE 122nd Ave, Portland, OR 97236
We'll learn key field marks and make side-by-side comparisons of similar species of our common wintering raptors. This is a great way to prepare yourself for the Raptor Road Trip extravaganza sponsored by Portland Audubon, Metro, and Oregon Dept of Fish and Wildlife on Sat, Feb 8 at Sauvie Island. **Fee:** \$10 members/ \$15 non-members. Free to active volunteers **To sign up, contact Gladys Ruiz** at 503-349-9554 or gruiz@audubonportland.org.

Save the Date!

Prescott Bluebird Recovery Project seeks volunteers for monitoring the Western Bluebird nesting season April through August. The workshop is on **Saturday, March 8** from 9:30am-12:30pm at Champoeg State Heritage Area. Register by email (please include your mailing address and telephone number) at email@prescottbluebird.com.



Audubon Outings — Wild in the City and Beyond

Bring binoculars and dress for the weather — beginners welcome!



= Mostly weekday excursions



= Sign-up needed



= Fee involved

January 8 (Wed), 9am–11:30am Summer Lake Park



Join leaders **Sue Carr** and **Bonnie Deneke** for a look at the wintering waterfowl in this wonderful suburban park! Take Scholls Ferry Road to SW 130th Ave. Follow the road around to the left (to SW Winterlake Drive) to the parking area on the left, and meet there. Call Sue at 503-649-3360 if you have questions.

January 11 (Sat), 7am–5pm Lincoln County Coast

Join **Tim Shelmardine** for a day exploring coastal Lincoln County. We'll look for alcids, loons, and other seabirds at Boiler Bay, check for turnstones and "rockpipers" on Depoe Bay's rocks, then spend most of the day around Newport and Yaquina Bay. Bring rain gear and warm clothes, binoculars (and scope if you have one), and a sack lunch. Please plan to carpool; meet at Lamb's Thriftway parking lot in Wilsonville. From Portland take I-5 south to the 2nd Wilsonville exit (Exit 283). Turn left onto Wilsonville Rd, proceed past two stoplights, and turn left just after Taco Bell into the shopping center. Call Tim at 971-221-2534 with any questions.

January 15 (Wed), 9am–3pm Newport



See Newport's wintering waterfowl and seabirds. Meet at the Hatfield Marine Science Center parking lot and bring lunch. Trip is limited to 20 people; **registration is required** with **Dick Demarest** at 503-407-7912 or rdd@demarests.com.

January 17 (Fri), 8am–10am Whitaker Ponds

Join **Patty Newland** and **Candace Larson** for a bird walk at this hidden urban oasis in NE Portland. We will circle the pond looking for ducks, songbirds, eagles, and owls. Park inside the gated area at the Ponds, 7040 NE 47th Ave (TriMet bus #75). Call 503-231-0933 if you have questions.

January 25 (Sat), 8am–11am Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden

Join **Ron Escano** to view the local wintering birds at Crystal Springs. Learn your waterfowl with close views of most Portland-area ducks; we'll identify waterfowl using black and white field marks. Meet at the Crystal Springs parking lot, accessed from either SE Holgate (turn south on 28th) or SE Woodstock (turn north on 28th), across from Reed College. Call Ron at 503-771-3454 if you have questions.

February 1 (Sat), 8am–11am Whitaker Ponds Nature Park

Join **Dena Turner** and **John Nikkel** as we walk the half-mile loop trail and observe at the pond's docks, viewing wintering waterfowl and maybe the Black Phoebe that's been spotted there. Best park access is from the 7040 NE 47th Ave entrance, a quarter-mile north of Columbia Blvd. TriMet bus #75 stops at NE 47th & Columbia. Contact Dena at 503-236-6937 if you have questions.

February 15 (Sat), 9am–12pm Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge

Join **Patty Newland** and **Candace Larson** as we explore this area's wetlands and woodlands, talk about the history of this amazing wild space, and look for resident songbirds and wintering waterfowl. Meet at the Sellwood Park parking lot on SE 7th Ave at Malden St at 9am sharp. Expect to walk 2–3 miles on both paved and uneven dirt trails. Call 503-231-0933 if you have questions.

February 20 (Thu), 8am–4:30pm Baskett Slough & Ankeny NWRs



This is a good time of year to see migrating waterfowl and wintering raptors in the Willamette Valley. Join **Denny Graham** at the NW corner of Walmart parking lot in Woodburn, and we'll arrange carpools there. Bring lunch and scope if you have one. Take I-5 to Woodburn Exit 271; Walmart is just SE of the freeway exit. **Registration is required** with Denny at 503-659-1245, or call for more information.

February 22 (Sat), 8am–11am Sandy River Delta

Join **Ron Escano** on a walk around this rich riparian area near the Columbia River looking for wintering sparrows and possible rare winter vagrants. From Portland on I-84 east, take Exit 18, and at the stop sign turn right and loop under the freeway. Meet at 8am at the parking lot by the restrooms, and bring binoculars. Call Ron at 503-771-3454 if you have any questions.

NATURE NIGHTS

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

FREE and open to the public!

Protecting Arctic Alaska's Breeding Birds: a 12-Year Adventure

with **Joe Liebezeit**

**Tuesday, January 14
7pm Heron Hall**



Joe Liebezeit © Kevin Pietrzak

Northern Alaska's Arctic Coastal Plain is home to one of the world's most important breeding grounds for shorebirds, waterfowl, and other bird species that return from all corners of the globe to nest during the brief but productive arctic summers. Many of these birds migrate through our region — from Greater White-fronted Geese and Pacific Loons to American Golden-Plovers and Red-necked Phalaropes. Iconic mammals including vast caribou herds, polar bear, and musk oxen roam the vast stretches of North America's "Serengeti."



King Eider at nest © Amy Leist

Yet growing human development activities and a rapidly changing climate are challenging one of North America's last remaining pristine environments. What does it take to study and protect these fascinating animals and their habitat?

Join biologist **Joe Liebezeit** (Portland Audubon's Avian Conservation Program Manager) as he describes this amazing wildlife spectacle and provides both a scientific and personal perspective on his 12 summers spent in Arctic Alaska. Joe's work culminated in significant wildlife protections near

Teshekpuk Lake, a focal point of nesting bird diversity on the coastal plain. He will share stories and photographs of his work as a conservation biologist along with the natural history and ecology of the area's breeding species.



Yellow-billed Loon © Cameron Rutt



Please join us for this informative exploration of field biology and real conservation outcomes!

Dunlin © Cameron Rutt

Joe Liebezeit has over 20 years' experience as a wildlife biologist and conservationist studying birds and other wildlife in diverse habitats throughout the US and internationally. Before joining the staff at Portland Audubon in 2013, he worked for the Wildlife Conservation Society for 12 years leveraging on-the-ground science efforts to protect wildlife from oil development and climate change impacts in Arctic Alaska. Joe received his Bachelor's degree in Zoology from the University of New Hampshire and a Master's degree in Wildlife Management from Humboldt State University.

Marbled Murrelets: Recovering a Rare Bird with Maria Mudd Ruth and Paul Engelmeyer

Tuesday, February 11 • 7pm Heron Hall

Though shy, secretive, and well-camouflaged, the Marbled Murrelet spends a lot of time in the limelight. For 185 years, this Pacific Northwest seabird drew the attention of ornithologists, birders, and naturalists searching the coast for its elusive nests. The murrelet inspired many nicknames including the "enigma of the Pacific," "fog lark," and "buzz bomb," and its nest site was long considered the "greatest ornithological mystery in North America."



Paul Engelmeyer © Mary Scully



Maria Mudd Ruth © Sarah Gevirtzman

The mystery was solved and celebrated in 1974, but worry quickly ensued: that first nest was in an old-growth Douglas-fir. This evidence helped scientists determine that murrelets depended on the mature and old-growth coastal forests for survival and that the continued logging of these forests would doom the murrelet. Lead by Portland Audubon, conservation groups rallied around the murrelet and, in 1992, won protections for it under the Endangered Species Act. Since then, scientists have been studying the murrelet and tracking its declining populations, conservation groups have been battling to save the murrelet's forest and marine habitats, and timber companies have been keeping conservation groups in court and in the news.



Marbled Murrelet chick © Peter Halasz

Join **Maria Mudd Ruth**, author of *Rare Bird: Pursuing the Mystery of the Marbled Murrelet*, and **Paul Engelmeyer**, the Audubon Society of Portland's Ten Mile Creek Sanctuary Manager and Coastal IBA Coordinator, as they share stories and slides of the Marbled Murrelet — its life history, the 1974 nest discovery, recent court victories for the murrelet, and important conservation efforts now under way.

Maria Mudd Ruth is the author of more than a dozen books on natural history for children, young adults, and adults. She first encountered the Marbled Murrelet in 1999 while living in Virginia, then moved to the West Coast in 2001 to research and write *Rare Bird*, reissued in paperback this fall by Mountaineers Books. Maria lives in Olympia, WA, where she is involved in several citizen-science conservation projects and is writing a book on clouds.

Conservationist Paul Engelmeyer has been managing Portland Audubon's Ten Mile Creek Sanctuary, south of Yachats, since 1990. His work includes not only watershed restoration and protection strategies but also marine conservation efforts. He has developed partnerships that have grown into a basin-wide protection and restoration program. In 2012, 80,000 acres were designated a Globally Significant Important Bird Area (IBA) for the Marbled Murrelet. As Portland Audubon's Coastal IBA Coordinator and the statewide conservation representative on the Ocean Policy Advisory Council (OPAC), Paul has worked on the formation of a system of marine reserves at five sites in Oregon's Territorial Sea, including the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve and the Seabird Protection Area just offshore of the Murrelet IBA.

Conservation

Cape Perpetua and Cascade Head Marine Reserves Enter Implementation Phase

by Joe Liebezeit and Paul Engelmeyer, Conservation Staff

On January 1, 2014, the Cascade Head and Cape Perpetua Marine Reserves officially will go from the “designation” to the “implementation” stage. This transition is significant because it means that long-sought protections for marine resources at these sites will go into full effect. It also begins the process to develop plans and actions that will guide management of the reserves. For this to be successful, the input of many constituents including local governments, agencies, business owners, NGOs, and citizens is essential. Without participation from all entities the reserves will be in danger of existing on paper alone.

The Audubon Society of Portland and partners including Surfrider, The Nature Conservancy, and Oregon Shores spearheaded efforts to establish the reserves over the past decade and now they are actively facilitating the implementation process. The recent Cape Perpetua land/sea symposium held in Yachats, organized by Audubon, Surfrider, and the Cape Perpetua Foundation, was an important opportunity to ramp up the marine reserve implementation process. Over 100 people attended the event, which included presentations and discussions that promoted local stewardship efforts, raised awareness about relevant research, and informed folks about how to engage in the marine reserve management plan process. The impressive turnout at the symposium, made up largely of community members, indicates a true interest by the public to engage in this process — a fact recently highlighted in a study by Oregon State University researchers indicating that 70% of coastal residents are in support of marine reserves.

Currently five marine reserves have been designated in Oregon covering 9% of state waters that include the thin 3-mile strip that hugs the coastline. Cascade Head and Cape Perpetua are the latest reserves to come into the

implementation phase. The Redfish Rocks and Otter Rock reserves came on line in 2012, and Cape Falcon Marine Reserve will be implemented in 2016. **Marine reserves are closed to development and harvesting so all marine life and associated habitats are protected within their borders.** Adjacent to four of the Oregon reserves are “marine protected areas” that allow only for commercial salmon and crab fishing.

Since the 1970s, over 100 marine reserves have been established worldwide. Nearly 90 peer-reviewed studies have shown that biomass, diversity, and fish size within marine reserves is consistently higher than in surrounding unprotected waters. The increased productivity of fish in marine reserves can then “spill over” through larval dispersal, replenishing surrounding waters that provide an important economic resource for fishermen. Such benefits can develop within 2–5 years of marine reserve establishment and continue to build for decades.

Oregon’s marine reserves were established in areas of high biological diversity including productive rocky reef habitats that are important to many fish species. Sea stacks and islands in the marine reserves provide rookeries and haul-outs for sea lions and seals as well as important nesting habitat for thousands of seabirds. Dozens of seabird nesting colonies are nestled on islands or along the shores of the marine reserves. **Off Heceta Head in the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve over 15,000 seabirds of 11 species breed on the rocky banks including Common Murre, Brandt’s Cormorant, and Tufted Puffin.** A 22-square-mile “seabird protection area” was created in the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve to protect forage fish species important to the threatened Marbled Murrelet



Heceta Head Lighthouse stands on the southern portion of the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve, Marine Protected Area, and Seabird Protection Area © Paul Engelmeyer



Brandt’s Cormorant nesting on the Heceta headland, the southern portion of the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve © Paul Engelmeyer

whose Oregon breeding population is concentrated on the central coast.

During the breeding season forage fish species like sardines, sand lance, and various smelt species are vitally important for growing seabird chicks. Changes in forage fish populations can have dramatic effects on seabird populations. Most recently, evidence suggests the precipitous decline in sardines may be starving Brown Pelicans — a species that only recently left the endangered species list. Commercial fishing for forage fish is growing, mainly to support the booming fish farming industry. **Yet many forage fish species are not regulated, so are without any catch limits or fishery-specific regulations.** At last April’s Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting, Portland Audubon organized public testimony to support greater regulation of forage fish. In June the council officially removed Pacific saury, a forage fish species, from the list of authorized fisheries. This is a step in

Continued on next page

New Year’s Resolution 2014: Successfully Bring Your Outdoor Cat Inside

by Nikkie West, Backyard Habitat Program Coordinator

Have you considered transitioning your cat indoors but haven’t been able to get started? According to the Humane Society, about two-thirds of cats live indoors either all or almost all of the time. As your veterinarian will support, these indoor felines enjoy freedom from a laundry list of perils — **diseases, parasites, automobile traffic, poisoning**, our healthy population of **urban coyotes**, and simply **getting lost**.

Of course, the decision to keep your cat inside or out is deeply personal. But perhaps you attended our **Catio Tour** this fall, or have been following recent reports detailing domestic cats’ devastating impact on urban wildlife, and have been inspired to try giving your cat a new indoor lease on life. This New Year, consider a Resolution that puts the **birds first** in your back yard.

Why Now?

Because there’s no better time than winter to get started! Our friends at the Feral Cat Coalition agree that bitter cold winter temperatures and dreary rain present the perfect opportunity to begin the transition. Cats are naturally **less interested in being outdoors**. This provides an ideal window to make the transition before bird-nesting season begins in March. So, here’s some inspiration and suggestions for making Fluffy or Goliath the happiest housecat on the block. We thank the Humane Society for many of these great ideas.

Start by creating your feline friend’s indoor sanctuary.

A luxurious indoor environment, particularly in the winter, may be all your cat needs to become a convert. While you make the transition to indoor living, introduce items such as:

- a cozy bed in a sunny location,
- a scratching post,
- something to climb and view the indoor and outdoor world from above,
- areas for hiding (such as brown paper bags or cardboard boxes), and
- new toys for indoor enrichment.

Take your time.

You’ll have the most success by making the transition gradual until the new way of life becomes second nature. Be prepared for a little lashing out against the new lifestyle — scratching at doors, clawing at windows, yowling, trying various escape tactics, and other feline performances.

- Start with baby steps, like **always feeding your cat indoors**.
- After meals, instead of letting them out immediately, keep them inside for gradually longer periods each day.
- Keep cats indoors during dawn and dusk hours and gradually increase the amount of indoor time around dawn and dusk.
- For the feline escape artist that’s forever bolting toward open doors, **train or lure them away from the open door**. Run practice trials where you leave the door ajar and squirt them with a water gun or rattle a jar of coins to startle them. Also try luring them the other way by tossing a treat in the opposite direction. **The goal is not to punish the cat but to associate the door with something unpleasant.**

Make indoor life fun!

Cats have been domesticated for thousands of years but they still have wild behaviors deeply encoded in their DNA. Have fun with this by providing varied enrichment that honors your cat’s unique behavior. Ideas include:

- Toys that allow your cat to express instincts such as stalking, chasing, and pouncing. Even simple items like a bottle cap can provide endless entertainment.
- An indoor planter containing feline favorites such as catnip and wheat grass for them to chew on (available at pet supply stores).
- Train him to walk on a cat harness and leash and take him for a stroll.
- Give her lots of your time and attention — set aside play time each day.
- Consider building a “catio” — a **fully-enclosed outdoor cat-patio** — attached to the house where your cat can enjoy an outdoor experience.



Happy house cat inside his catio basks in all the attention during the 2013 Catio Tour © Michael Sulis

Ultimately, do your best not to give in to their requests to go out, and distract them with play. As one out of every four common bird species faces serious population declines, help us keep common birds ‘common’ by decreasing the human-caused hazards they face. Even small steps toward keeping your cat indoors can make a positive impact. For additional support and tips, see the Humane Society website at **humanesociety.org**.

Cats Safe at Home™ is a collaborative effort of **Portland Audubon, Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon, Bonnie L Hays Small Animal Shelter, and Multnomah County Animal Services.**

Congratulations, BHCP!



Backyard Habitat Certification Program managers Nikkie West (on right, Portland Audubon) and Gaylen Beatty (Columbia Land Trust) were thrilled to accept a “Light a Fire, Caring for the Planet Award” from *Portland Monthly* on Nov 11, 2013 © Bob Sallinger



View from the top of Cape Perpetua looking south toward the Marine Reserve, Marine Protected Area, and Seabird Protection Area © Paul Engelmeyer

Cape Perpetua & Cascade Head Continued from page 4

the right direction; nevertheless, other forage fish species remain unregulated.

In December, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the lead agency on marine reserve implementation, held two public meetings focused on ecological components of the Cape Perpetua and Cascade Head marine reserve plans. Audubon was there as the group discussed how best ODFW can communicate ecological results to the community. **This spring there will be more opportunities for public participation in the marine reserve planning process** including how to incorporate community-led projects and how to encourage compliance through rules education. The management plans are due to be complete in the summer of 2014. In 2023, marine reserves will be assessed for their effectiveness — what we do now in this early stage can set us on a successful path. Check out our website at audubonportland.org/issues/statewide/oceans for more information on marine reserves, and stay tuned for ways you can directly contribute to these efforts.

Wildlife Care Center



A benefit for Audubon Society of Portland's Wildlife Care Center

Auction begins: Sunday, February 16 | 9am
Auction closes: Thursday, March 6 | 9pm

View auction items and bid at
pauldubonauction.dojiggy.com



Cougar © Melinda Holland/Oregon Zoo



Pileated Woodpecker © Scott Carpenter

To help pay for the cost of animal rehabilitation at Portland Audubon's Wildlife Care Center, we are pleased to offer experiences that promise to excite, thrill, and chill!

Here are just a few of the unique experiences featured in our 4th annual Call of the Wild auction:

Keeper 'Job-Shadow' at the Oregon Zoo

Shadow Oregon Zoo Keeper Michelle Schireman at the **Cougar and Mountain Goat exhibits**, and help her create an enrichment treat for the Cougars. You'll get to place the enrichment in the cats' exhibit and watch them play with it. We're also auctioning off a **behind-the-scenes tour at the Zoo's California Condor facility**.

Glider Rides

Fly like a raptor as you glide on the whims of the wind in a 2-seater sailplane with commercial pilot Gary Gross. **You'll soar in silent, motor-less flight** as you drink in the magnificent view below.

Wildlife Photography Lessons in the Field

Take your Bird Photography to the next level. You'll join avid birder and **professional bird photographer Scott Carpenter for a full day** of photography and instruction in the field.

Other auction items include **guided bird walks, field trips, and nature hikes**, as well as a **"Learn to be a Tracker"** experience, a **"Raptor Release"** experience, **weekend getaway homes, and more**. Don't miss out! Bid heartily and help save wild animals at the Wildlife Care Center at pauldubonauction.dojiggy.com.

Stories from the Wildlife Care Center

by Lacy Campbell, WCC Operations Manager

When I got back from the IWRC (International Wildlife Rehabilitators Council) Symposium this past November, I came back to the 9th Bald Eagle of the year on its way to the Care Center. As I walked through the door of my house, I received a phone call from our contract staff member Jesse Serna that Audubon's Conservation Director, Bob Sallinger, was currently with his son tracking the bird to bring in. Turns out, their trip was a 2-mile hike in the dark on the beach of West Hayden Island carrying an eagle in hand.

When I first saw this bird, I noticed that she is probably one of the largest, strongest, and best-looking Bald Eagles I have ever seen. However, you could see from her injured eye and droopy wing that she had a story to tell. Judging from the punctures on her massive feet, we think she may have been in a territorial fight with another eagle, both vying for the opportunity to raise young on such a great territory. An x-ray found a pellet, probably from a BB gun, lodged in her right chest; it's impossible to tell how long she has been carrying that around.

Once the bird was stable, we had veterinary ophthalmologist Susan Kirschner come in and take an eagle-eyed look at the eagle's eye. The news was surprising: the Bald Eagle's injury was at least a few months old and she wasn't fully blind in that eye — she could see some shadows but no real detail. This was better news than we expected; because the bird was in great body condition and not at all skinny when she came in, we know that she has been hunting up until her admit. This means she has been successfully living with this injury for some time. There is also evidence that she is perhaps the same resident female on West Hayden Island, the very one whose nest would be bulldozed and turned into a parking lot if West Hayden Island were to be annexed and developed.

However, we are still very guarded with her prognosis. She continues to have the wing droop that is preventing her from flying. Even after our staff veterinarian Deb Sheaffer, 2 radiologists, and 3 other wildlife veterinarians poured over the Bald Eagle's digital x-rays taken by Dr. Barno at VCA Rock Creek, we aren't any closer to finding a reason behind her injury. The next step is to take her to get a CT scan, and hopefully this bird will have a happy ending.

Every animal that comes into the Wildlife Care Center has a story to tell. With over 3,000 animals that pass through the Care Center every year there are a lot of stories — but then again the Wildlife Care Center has its own story. Portland Audubon has been involved with treating injured and orphaned wildlife since the 1930s, before the term 'wildlife rehabilitation' even existed. In the late 1970s Portland Audubon responded to the local community need for a place to treat injured and orphaned wildlife by creating a facility to do just that. Built in 1987, the current facility, staffed by 2.5 staff members and over 100 volunteers, is equipped to perform complete veterinary and rehabilitation services, including intensive and critical care, diagnostic testing, surgery, x-rays, physical therapy, and conditioning to prepare for release back to the wild. While the current Care Center has served us well over the years, we are now looking into possibly building a new state-of-the-art facility to serve our growing community.

Come to the **Wildlife Care Center Open House on Sunday, February 16 from 11am–5pm** for a chance to hear our story. While you are here you can experience:

Behind-the-Scenes Tours of the Wildlife Care Center (see *Note at right). Guided tours will give you a glimpse of what really goes on in one of the busiest wildlife rehabilitation centers in the US. This exclusive tour leads you through the animal intake area, food preparation room, laboratory and x-ray rooms, treatment and surgery rooms, and indoor and outdoor caging. Suggested donation of \$5 per adult or \$10 for a family.

Education Birds Meet-and-Greet. All 8 of Audubon's non-releasable Education Birds will be out on sanctuary grounds. Experienced bird handlers will share each bird's story and information about the species in the wild.

Raptor Education Station. You will be able to learn more about raptors, or birds of prey, with a fun hands-on approach to studying raptor parts. Compare wings



Left to right: Volunteer Susan Miles, Conservation Director Bob Sallinger, contract staff Jesse Serna, and staff veterinarian Deb Sheaffer examine the injured Bald Eagle on intake © Peter Sallinger

and feet and other special adaptations of a variety of raptors. Naturalists will be on hand to answer your raptor questions.

Question-and-Answer Time with a Wildlife Veterinarian. You will meet Audubon's wildlife veterinarians and try to stump them with your questions. In turn they will attempt to stump you with case studies of actual cases seen in the Care Center.

Raptor Art Show. Kids of all ages can draw their favorite raptors.

Wildlife Face Painting. Put your favorite raptor on your face! An experienced face painter will add a bit of wildlife to your appearance.

*Note about **Behind-the-Scenes Tours:** **Be sure to schedule ahead of time** by calling the Care Center at 503-292-0304 on **Monday–Friday from 9am–5pm**. Spaces fill fast so **don't delay!** Registration starts January 1st.

Wildlife Care Center Open House

Sunday, February 16, 11am–5pm

Free — No signup needed, except Behind-the-Scenes Tours require pre-registration (see *Note at right).

Educational Trips

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

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

SOUTH AFRICA November 6–21, 2014 (tentative dates)

Africa... the word alone conjures up images of vast, ancient landscapes teeming with herds of **Antelope, Zebra, Wildebeest** and more. Join us on a journey into the heart of South Africa and witness for yourself one of the most amazing wildlife spectacles on Earth while experiencing the raw nature that is still Africa.

We'll fly first to Johannesburg and then into the **Klaserie Reserve**, famous for the rich diversity of species that roam and/or fly within its borders. **Elephant, Buffalo, Lion** are all active here, as well as the rare **Black Rhinoceros**! Klaserie is also home to literally hundreds of species of birds, and we're likely to encounter the **Southern Carmine Bee-eater**, the **Red-billed** and **Yellow-billed Hornbills**, and the unique **Hamerkop**, just to name a few.

The best way to experience the African bush is on foot, and we'll have the opportunity to do just that when we go on walking safari with one of the most experienced naturalists in South Africa. For 4 nights and days we'll be based at a secluded tent-camp on the banks of the Klaserie River; from here you will experience Africa in a way that few now get to do, with no fence between you and the wild animals that have roamed this land for millennia. We'll even spend a night out, far from camp, bedding down under the African stars, where each of us will take a turn, alone, at fire watch....

The next segment of the trip will take us into **Kruger National Park**, one of the most famous wildlife parks in the world. Staying in comfortable cottages at several different bush camps located within the park, we'll explore Kruger in search of **Lion, Leopard** and any and all species of birds. Kruger N.P. is literally the size of Massachusetts and it often yields wildlife viewing that is simply magical.

Finally, we will spend our last 3 days in **Cape Town**, considered by many to be the most beautiful city of sub-Saharan Africa. We'll bird the city's famous **Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens**, visit local markets, and take the cable car to the top of majestic **Table Mountain**. We'll travel south to **Cape of Good Hope**, visiting the West Coast National Park and a colony of **rare African Penguins** along the way. We'll get a close look at the unique flora of the Cape region, one of the oldest bio-regions in the world. While in Cape Town, we'll dine at some of its most unique restaurants, and you'll have a free day to explore this wonderful city.



White Rhino © Steve Robertson

If you have ever dreamed of experiencing Africa, this trip will deliver. Please call **Steve Robertson** at **503-292-6855 ext.118** for further information.

Leaders: **Steve Robertson**, Education Director, and Local African Guides

Group size: Limited to 10 participants

Fee: \$5375 members / \$5775 non-members

Deposit: \$2000 required to reserve your place

Fee includes: All ground transportation within Africa, all **double-occupancy** lodging, park fees, guide fees, all meals *except some dinners*, fees for all planned excursions, and the services of your Audubon leaders. **Not included:** *Some dinners, and airfare to & from Africa and internal airfares.*

TEXAS GULF COAST

April 9–17, 2014

Every spring, migrant songbirds embark on a 16-hour flight from Yucatan, Mexico to the Texas Coast. There, forested areas beckon to the exhausted birds and they "fall out" in large numbers to rest and refuel. Among them may be over 20 species of warblers, **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Scarlet Tanagers** and more. At the King Ranch we will search for species such as **Green Jay, Tropical Parula Warbler**, and **Audubon's Oriole**. The King Ranch is also perhaps the most reliable location in the U.S. to see the much-sought-after **Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl**.

We will visit coastal wetlands where **Roseate Spoonbill, White Ibis** and **Clapper Rail** share habitat with the **American Alligator**. On the mud flats there may be **Black Skimmer, Royal Tern** and both **Buff-breasted** and **Stilt Sandpipers**. In pine forest habitat near Houston we'll look for **Brown-headed Nuthatch, Bachman's Sparrow** and the pine's rarest inhabitant — the endangered **Red-cockaded Woodpecker**. Please contact **Dan van den Broek** at **971-222-6105** or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org for more information.

Leaders: **Dan van den Broek**, Trip Leader and Educator, and **Patty Newland**, Volunteer Trip Leader

Group size: Limited to 14 participants

Fee: \$2295 members / \$2495 non-members

Deposit: \$1200 required to secure your place

Fee includes: All ground transportation, eight nights **double-occupancy** lodging, meals *except dinners*, fees for all planned excursions, and the services of your Audubon leaders. **Not included:** *Dinners, and airfare to and from Texas.*

Birding the Blues

June 18–22, 2014

The **Blue Mountains** are a wild and scenic part of N.E. Oregon. Travel with Audubon through pine and spruce forests in search of **Northern Goshawk, White-headed Woodpecker**, and **Green-tailed Towhee**. **Eastern Kingbird** and **Yellow-breasted Chat** make their summer homes along the river valleys, along with nesting **Long-billed Curlew** and **Bobolink**. We will make an early evening drive in hopes of finding the local and migratory **Flammulated Owl**. The cliffs above the dry sagebrush country of Picture Gorge, near the world-famous **John Day Fossil Beds**, have nesting **Prairie Falcon, White-throated Swift**, and **Canyon Wren**. A visit to the historic Chinese apothecary in the town of John Day will reveal more of the fascinating history of central Oregon. To register or learn more **contact Dan van den Broek** at **971-222-6105** or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org.

Leaders: **Dan van den Broek**, Trip Leader and Educator, and **Don Coggs**, Volunteer Trip Leader

Group size: Limited to 14 participants

Fee: \$745 members / \$945 non-members

Deposit: \$300 required to reserve your place

Fee includes: All ground transportation, four nights **double-occupancy** lodging, meals *except dinners*, fees for all planned excursions, and the services of your Audubon leaders.

Scotland! April 28 – May 7, 2014

Our trip begins in the northern town of Inverness, 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**. Next we head to the impressive sea cliffs, dunes and woodlands of Handa Island. One of the largest seabird colonies on the British Isles is here with nesting **Common Murre, Black-legged Kittiwake, Arctic Skua** and **Great Skua**.

Heading into the Highlands, The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) preserve at Insh Marsh is host to an array of wetland birds. The highland forest and heath provide habitat for **Crested Tit, Common Redstart** and **Whinchat**, and we may catch a glimpse of the much-sought-after **Scottish Crossbill**.

We'll have plenty of time for a bit of Scottish culture with a visit to the impressive **Eilean Donan Castle** and the famous **Castle of Stirling**. Our trip in Edinburgh where we'll visit the Scottish Sea Bird Center, after which you'll have free time to explore this enchanting city. For details and to register, **contact Dan van den Broek** at **971-222-6105** or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org.

Leaders: **Steve Robertson**, Education Director, and **Dan van den Broek**, Trip Leader and Educator

Group size: limited to 14 participants

Fee: \$2995 members / \$3295 non-members

Deposit: \$1500 required to secure your place

Fee includes: All ground transportation within Scotland, all **double-occupancy** lodging, meals *except dinners*, local guide fees, fees for all planned excursions, and the services of your Audubon leaders. **Not included:** *Dinners, and airfare to & from Scotland.*

NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS June 13–20, 2014

Join Portland Audubon on our third visit to **North Dakota** in search of a dozen or more species of sparrow, including **Baird's, Clay-colored, LeConte's**, and **Nelson's Sharp-tail Sparrow**. **Upland Sandpipers** call out across the grasslands whenever **Ferruginous Hawks** come into view. **Chestnut-collared Longspur** and **Sprague's Pipit** display overhead and **Bobolinks** burst forth in song from the prairie. We start with a visit to native tall grass prairie in the eastern portion of the state, then explore westward through the prairie potholes region where millions of waterfowl nest, and travel all the way to **Theodore Roosevelt National Park**, a geologic wonderland of buttes and mesas colored with every hue of the rainbow. We'll search for the endangered **Piping Plover** and **Least Tern** along the Missouri River and learn about the Native tribes of the plains and their interactions with the Lewis and Clark Expedition. For details and to register, **contact Steve Engel** at **971-222-6119** or sengel@audubonportland.org.

Leader: **Steve Engel**, Adult Education Programs Manager & North Dakotan

Group size: Limited to 14 participants

Fee: \$1595 members / \$1795 non-members

Deposit: \$800 to secure your place

Fee includes: All ground transportation, seven nights **double-occupancy** lodging, meals *except dinners*, local guide fees, fees for all planned excursions, and the services of your Audubon leaders. **Not included:** *Dinners, and airfare to & from North Dakota.*

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.

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

Winter Gull ID

Jan 15 (Wed), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall

Jan 18 (Sat), 12pm–3pm: Local Field Trip

We will come right out and say it: Most gulls are actually pretty easy to identify. You just need to know what to look for. Local guide and author **John Rakestraw** will show you how to recognize our local wintering species by size, shape, and plumage. On Saturday we'll visit local gull hotspots to practice our new skills.

Class & Field Trip Fee:

\$25 members/ \$40 non-members.

Limited to 14 participants.

Class-Only Fee:

\$10 members/ \$15 non-members

Beginning Birding I (Session A)

Jan 30 (Thu), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall

Feb 2 & 9 (Sun), 9am–11:30am: Local Field Trips

Join **Laura Whittemore** for an introduction to bird watching. 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.

(Session B): Feb 12 Class; Feb 15 & 22 Field Trips

(Session C): May 29 Class; June 1 & 8 Field Trips (8am–11am)

Class & Field Trip Fee:

\$45 members/ \$60 non-members.

Limited to 14 participants.

Class-Only Fee:

\$10 members/ \$15 non-members

Beginning Field Birding & Sauvie Island Exploration

Feb 1, March 1, April 5 (Sat), 8am–12pm: Field Trips

Saturday morning explorations at one of Oregon's most accessible Important Bird Areas — Sauvie Island Wildlife Area, managed by Oregon Dept of Fish and Wildlife — continue with **Greg Baker**! This field class series is perfect for those interested in developing and sharpening their birding skills under a variety of conditions with the tutelage of an expert birder.

Fee:

\$65 members/ \$80 non-members. Limited to 15.

Raptor Road Trip Rev-Up!

Feb 5 (Wed), 7pm–9pm in Heron Hall

We'll learn key field marks and make side-by-side comparisons of similar species of our common wintering raptors. This is a great way to prepare yourself for the Raptor Road Trip extravaganza sponsored by Portland Audubon, Metro, and Oregon Dept of Fish and Wildlife on Sat, Feb 8 at Sauvie Island.

Fee:

\$10 members/ \$15 non-members.

Free to active volunteers.

Winter Waterbirds of the Coast

Feb 13 (Thu), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall

Feb 15 (Sat), 8:30am–4:30pm: Field Trip to Coast (transportation provided)

Loons, grebes, cormorants, and alcids winter along our coast. In non-breeding plumage they present a challenge to birders of all levels of experience. Add the several species of sea ducks, plus many gull species, and you have a situation that would benefit from some expert help! Join **Shawneen Finnegan** to learn more about these black, white, and gray groups.

Class & Field Trip Fee:

\$70 members/ \$85 non-members.

Limited to 12 participants.

Class-Only Fee:

\$10 members/ \$15 non-members

Identifying Winter Waterfowl

Feb 19 (Wed), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall

Feb 22 (Sat), 9am–4pm: Field Trip (transportation provided)

The Willamette Valley is the winter home of thousands of ducks, geese, and swans. Local guide and author **John Rakestraw** will help you learn to identify our local waterfowl by shape, plumage, habits, and habitats. On Saturday practice your skills at some of the best spots in the Willamette Valley.

Class & Field Trip Fee:

\$70 members/ \$85 non-members.

Limited to 12 participants.

Class-Only Fee:

\$10 members/ \$15 non-members

Winter Birds & Botany

Feb 23 (Sun), 9am–12pm: Field Trip

Have you ever wanted to bird watch with someone who knows how to ID the birds **and** the bushes? Join birder **Laura Whittemore** and botanist **Sage Jensen** for this new twist in birding. By the end of the morning you should know how to recognize an alder *and* a kinglet, a wild rose *and* a towhee, a Doug fir *and* a nuthatch.

Fee:

\$15 members/ \$20 non-members. Limited to 14.

Free to active volunteers.

Nature Journaling the Spring

Led by Jude Siegel

March 29 & April 5 (Saturdays), 10am–4pm: Class in Heron Hall

Nature Journaling is a wonderful blend of writing, drawing, watercolor, and more. We'll approach our journaling by practicing first to notice, then how to translate what we see to paper, in a relaxed way, finding freedom from needing to be literal. You can add details later and improve your observation as well as your skill of drawing and painting the plants, birds, and other life around us. No art experience needed, just enthusiasm!

Class Fee:

\$75 members/ \$90 non-members. Limited to 16.

The World of Birds 2014

The World of Birds

is the Audubon Society of Portland's program for birders who want to increase their ID skills *and* their knowledge about birds. Each series consists of three Classes and three Field Trips. **Visit our website for details on upcoming summer and fall classes: Understanding Bird Song, Theories on Migration, Bird Names.**

Registration for Spring & Summer Camps begins Thurs, January 16 at 8:00am

Find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/audubonkidspdx

MONDAY, MARCH 24	TUESDAY, MARCH 25	WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26	THURSDAY, MARCH 27	FRIDAY, MARCH 28
<div><div>Newts and Boots</div><div>1st–3rd grade</div><div>Strap on your mud boots and head out to Portland Audubon's own Balch Creek in search of salamanders and reptiles. Springtime is truly amphibian time and we'll search for the egg masses in Portland Audubon's pond to figure out which salamander and frog laid them. We'll also be on the lookout for other native amphibians and reptiles, and we'll safely collect, study, and release them into the wild.</div><div>Fee: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member</div></div> <div><div>R.O.U.S.'s (Reptiles of Unusual Size)</div><div>4th–8th grade</div><div>This camp will be like a journey back through time to the era when Mega-Reptiles ruled the earth. You'll travel with Steve Robertson, Education Director, to Brad's World of Reptiles in Corvallis, Oregon where you'll get to see and handle some of the largest reptiles in the world. Help hold (with at least 12 other kids) a 15-foot-long python. Pet a giant Snapping Turtle while expert handlers hold it, and see a massive King Cobra. Learn the threats facing these impressive creatures and what can be done to save them</div><div>Fee: \$65 member/ \$75 non-member</div><div>Trip Leader: Steve Robertson, Education Director</div></div>	<div><div>Aquatic Art</div><div>1st–3rd grade</div><div>What creatures live in your local creeks and ponds? We'll look in Balch Creek and the pond in Audubon's own Wildlife Sanctuary to find mayflies, trout, and maybe even a crayfish! Get to know the plants and animals that live in this watershed and turn your observations into imaginative paintings and clay sculptures.</div><div>Fee: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member</div></div> <div><div>Jr. Raptor Road Trip</div><div>4th–8th grade</div><div>Grab your binoculars — we'll bring the scopes and treats! Join us for a road trip through Sauvie Island as we trace the path of the annual Raptor Road Trip put on by Portland Audubon and other organizations. Our trip explores all of the Road Trip's sites in search of the magnificent Bald Eagles, hawks, and falcons that spend the winter in the Portland area. Learn the route and all the cool things that raptors have to teach us so you can lead your family on the official Raptor Road Trip in February!</div><div>Fee: \$65 member/ \$75 non-member</div><div>Trip Leader: Tim Donner, Naturalist-Educator</div></div>	<div><div>Junior Wildlife Vet 101</div><div>1st–3rd grade</div><div>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.</div><div>Fee: \$65 member/ \$75 non-member</div></div> <div><div>Coil Basketry</div><div>4th–8th grade</div><div>Have you ever wanted to make something beautiful using all-natural materials? Learn to create an elegant basket simply from ponderosa pine needles gathered from the forest floor! In this ancient art of basket making, pine needles are assembled into bunches and sewn in spiraling coils that gradually grow into a unique basket. Spend a day at Portland Audubon's Wildlife Sanctuary, adventuring through the forest, playing games, and of course creating your very own basket to take home!</div><div>Fee: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member</div><div>Trip Leader: Laura Newton, Naturalist-Educator</div></div>	<div><div>Forest Mask-arade</div><div>1st–3rd grade</div><div>Come dressed in your own camouflage as we investigate how animals hide themselves in the forest. We'll learn new skills as we search our Sanctuary for hidden homes of forest creatures. Make and take home your very own forest mask.</div><div>Fee: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member</div></div> <div><div>AMBUSH!</div><div>1st–3rd grade</div><div>To ambush, to lie in wait, to surprise or to be in a concealed position. This will be our goal as participants divide into clans and use the Audubon Sanctuary to focus on the art of disappearing. We'll sneak through the woods trying to stay undetected by other clans, as maps that lead to bounty guide our way. Come with us for a sneaky adventure into the art of camouflage.</div><div>Fee: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member</div></div> <div><div>Junior Wildlife Vet 102</div><div>4th–8th grade</div><div>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.</div><div>Fee: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member</div></div>	
<div><div>THURSDAY, MARCH 27 – FRIDAY, MARCH 28</div><div><div>Corps of Discovery</div><div>Can you imagine traveling across the United States on foot and by canoe? In 1805, a small team led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark set off, traveling thousands of miles, experiencing lands, rivers, and peoples that no Americans ever had before. Come join us as we spend two days along the Oregon Coast learning about their adventurous journey as we visit some of the sights and walk in the footsteps of these iconic explorers. We'll visit Fort Clatsop and the Salt Works, and hike along Ecola State Park. After a fun-packed day we will spend the night in cabins as we make our own salt to flavor our food! We look forward to having you as part of our expedition that will help history come alive!</div><div>Fee: \$125 member/ \$145 non-member</div><div>Trip Leaders: Tim Donner, Naturalist-Educator, and Laura Newton, Naturalist-Educator</div></div><div><div>6th–9th grade</div></div></div>				

www.audubonportland.org

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2014

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Nature Store Highlights

by Sally Loomis, Book Buyer

“Insatiable Voracity”: Telling David Douglas’s Story through Birds

See Author Jack Nisbet on January 16th!

S pokane author and naturalist **Jack Nisbet** will be appearing in Heron Hall on Thursday evening, **January 16th at 7:00pm**. His talk will discuss the **Scottish naturalist David Douglas**, who was a lifelong bird enthusiast. During the course of three different visits to the Pacific Northwest from **1824–1834**, Douglas sent numerous study skins back to England. This slide presentation will focus on the avian behavior Douglas recorded, the scientific and human context of his travels, and what his bird records reveal about the landscape we live in today. The event is free and open to the public. Nisbet will be available to sign books for you after his talk. Call the Nature Store at 503-292-9453 if you would like to reserve a copy.



Jack Nisbet photo: James Nisbet

Author Jack Nisbet presents a slide show on 19th century naturalist David Douglas

Thurs, January 16 at 7:00pm in Heron Hall

Free and open to the public



David Douglas lithoprint

Jack Nisbet has written several books that explore the human and natural history of our region. His recent focus on David Douglas resulted in ***The Collector*** (Sasquatch, \$16.95), a 2010 Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association Book of the Year, and ***David Douglas: A Naturalist at Work*** (Sasquatch, \$27.95), which is an illustrated collection of essays that explore various aspects of Douglas’s time in the Northwest.

“A Naturalist at Work” is also the title of a museum exhibit curated by Nisbet and his wife Claire that is currently on display at the Washington State History Museum in Tacoma.

The Wildwood Trilogy Concludes

We are eagerly awaiting the publication of the third volume in the Wildwood Chronicles series from Portlanders Colin Meloy and Carson Ellis. ***Wildwood Imperium*** (Balzer & Bray, \$17.99) is due for release on February 4th. Having had the pleasure of reading an advance copy, I can tell you that the story comes to a satisfying conclusion after many more adventures for Prue, Curtis, and the rest of the Wildwood characters.



Special Limited Edition Greeting Card

We are honored to have a limited edition greeting card available in the Nature Store, the result of collaboration between Oregon Poet Laureate Paulann Petersen and graphic artist Beth C. Ford. Released to debut at the Wild Arts Festival, the card, selling for \$5.00, is a special fundraiser for both Portland Audubon and the Oregon Cultural Trust. Beautifully hand printed on high quality paper, Petersen’s verse “Wingbeat” was specially written for us, accompanied by Ford’s lovely Barn Swallow artwork. Come by and take a look!



New Edition Coming from David Sibley!

We are looking forward to the March release of a new edition of ***The Sibley Guide to Birds*** (Knopf, \$40.00). Why buy the new version? It’s thoroughly updated from the original, with revised taxonomic order and most current common names for every species. All of Sibley’s beautifully rendered illustrations are reproduced 15–20% larger for better detail, and there are 700 updated range maps. Every serious birder will want to have this.



Camp Director Ian Abraham cautiously treads on a rarely frozen Audubon Pond © Tammi Miller

Sanctuaries Happenings

A Winter Wonderland Meditation

by Tom Costello, Sanctuaries Director

The dark days of winter have always fascinated me. Amid all the hustle and bustle of the holiday season I would often find myself stealing away from the warm fire, savory treats, and endless conversations of family gatherings for some quiet time in the cold, dark nights of December. The quiet stillness of these solitary moments seemed so much more fitting for the season than the joyful but somewhat hectic array of gatherings and celebrations that mark this season in our culture.

Our recent cold snap brought back a flood of memories from this childhood ritual. The bike paths and natural areas that are part of my daily travels were devoid of people, leaving me glimpses of those sensations of cold, quiet, and peaceful stillness. The Audubon Sanctuaries on Cornell Road were particularly lovely during this stretch. The other day I took a walk, maybe 45 minutes or so along Balch Creek, and did not see another person. It is times like these that I find new meaning in the word ‘sanctuary’ — in the cold and quiet my mind slows, errant thoughts vanish, my to-do lists become less than a distant memory. My mind, for a short time, is clear, like the blue skies and brisk air of this winter moment.

In the little canyon of Balch Creek, the wind does not blow in this moment. The half-decayed leaf litter of maple and alder lie, clinging to the ground, in a frozen mat. The trail is frozen solid; not even the smallest pebble shakes loose as

I walk, my footsteps silent on this temporary tundra. For a few moments the only sound I can hear is my breath, until my feet find a patch of frozen moss that crinkles and crumbles as I make my way over the old log it is growing on. Soon I come to the creek, but even the sounds of its small bubbling cascades are muted by the thick ice that covers most of the surface.

I scramble over some rocks and under the bare branches of the creekside vine-maple; I’m on my way to my secret spot, perhaps not so secret anymore, a little place I go when I seek the full and deep embrace of this forest sanctuary. In places I can walk across the ice, but for the most part the creek ice is not thick enough to safely carry me. I hop from rock to frozen rock in a slow, methodical rhythm with my breath, feeling the ice and frost beneath me, concentrating, balancing. I take a moment to look up through the bare branches of alder and maple — and there is a flicker of thought as I remember the wonder I felt as a child watching the oaks, elms, and maples stand, branches bare, in silhouette against the gray winter skies. I think of all the wildflowers that will dot this forest floor come spring but for now bide their time below the frosted ground. Here in this moment nature seems to echo the feeling I carry with me this time of year, that feeling of rest and quiet contemplation as I wait for the light to return.



A frozen Balch Creek — truly an uncommon sight © Tom Costello

Time to move on, I find my way to the sanctuary pond, now frozen solid. As my feet slide over the frozen water, the thin layer of frost above the ice is wiped away, leaving a clear view through the ice to the bottom of the pond. I make my way over to the little island, happy for the chance to explore this little nook that is usually out of reach. Finding a small patch of ivy on the island, I try to pull it free, unsure when I may have this opportunity again, but the ground is too frozen; the vines will not budge. Yes, this moment is not the time for work — that will come soon enough. For now, for a few more moments, I let the stillness of this winter day wash over me.

Thank You to:

- Barbara Beebe for a Swarovski 20-60x lens ATS Scope 80mm and Bogen Tripod 3001 for the Education Program
- Jim Cruce for 27 11x14" wildlife photos with plastic & boards; 17 8x10" photos with plastic & boards; and 2 8x10" framed wildlife photos
- Dave’s Killer Bread for 16 loaves of bread for the 2013 Wild Arts Festival
- Carol Frischmann for *Birds of North America*, the Complete Encyclopedia, for the Education Department
- Barbara Jennings & Richard Teutsch for an ergonomic office chair for the Development Department
- Judy Lightfoot & Bill Lightfoot for 2 In Focus projectors and 2 Dell laptop computers for the Education Department
- Christine Nelson for a large bag of towels and clean rags for the Wildlife Care Center
- Deanna Sawtelle for a Nikon digital camera body; 300mm lens & 70mm lens; batteries & charger; 3 memory cards & a camera bag
- Deanna Sawtelle for 750 handmade birthday and thank you cards for Volunteers
- James Stringer for an Oberwerk 100mm Binocular telescope and 3 eyepieces (38,25,60) and a wooden tripod

Our Wish List

For East Portland Office:
10 Binoculars

For Sanctuary:
Loppers • Hand saws
Work gloves

For Wildlife Care Center:
Science Diet Kitten Growth • Bleach
Dawn Dishwashing Detergent

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.

Check Each Bird in a Flock for Unexpected Strays

When Mark Wilkinson visited Dawson Creek Park October 30 he found a brightly plumaged **Rusty Blackbird** among a blackbird flock near the Hillsboro Public Library. It remained and numerous photos have been taken of this fairly tame colorful bird.

After hearing of this find, birders began checking blackbird flocks in their areas. Soon reports of Rusty sightings came from the Monmouth Sewage Ponds, Newbry Park in Talent, and in the farm fields near La Grande. So far there’ve been no reports from Sauvie Island where one or two Rustys probably winter each year among the large flocks there.

Rusty Blackbirds breed from northern New England across Canada and into most of Alaska. The main migratory route is east of the Rocky Mountains to the main wintering area in southeast United States. West of the Rocky Mountains

Sightings

During November water birds began congregating on the Columbia River in North Portland. All three scoters were reported. On November 14 Dwight Porter reported a **Pacific Loon** off Broughton Beach. Andy Frank saw a **Harlequin Duck** there November 20. Adrian and Christopher Hinkle found a **Red-breasted Merganser** there November 26. On November 7 Lyn Topinka photographed a **Pelagic Cormorant** on the Columbia River from the Red Lion Inn on Hayden Island.

Volunteering at Audubon Is Fun and Rewarding!

The Audubon Society of Portland’s mission is to “promote the understanding, enjoyment, and protection of native birds, other wildlife, and their habitats,” and it’s what our volunteers do every day! As one of the Northwest’s leading conservation organizations, we offer 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 native 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, International Vulture Awareness Day, and Swift Watch.

New Volunteer Orientation is **Thursday, February 6, 6pm–8:30pm**. Before attending Orientation, participants are required to complete a Volunteer Application at **<http://audubonportland.org/about/volunteer/volapp>**. Those who wish to volunteer in a capacity *beyond special events* must also attend General Volunteer Training on **Saturday, February 15, 9am–4:30pm**.

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, Volunteer Manager, at **dsawtelle@audubonportland.org** or **503-292-6855 ext.108**.



Volunteer Pat Crane leads a sanctuary tour. Photo: Deanna Sawtelle



Carol Enyart does some “fluffing” on her volunteer shift at the Nature Store. Photo: Deanna Sawtelle

Rusty Blackbirds are not out-of-range stragglers, but are regular migrants and winter visitors in very small numbers. There are numerous Oregon sightings, with only a few reported to the Rare Bird Committee.

Birders regularly carefully check flocks of waterfowl, warblers, sparrows, and other birds for unusual or unexpected species, but seldom closely check blackbird flocks. That is unfortunate as the flocks often contain an odd bird or two.

The large flocks of blackbirds that winter on Sauvie Island are made up primarily of **Brewer’s Blackbirds** and **Red-winged Blackbirds** with smaller numbers of **Brown-headed Cowbirds**. Individual **Yellow-headed Blackbirds** are occasionally found, mostly in immature or female



Rusty Blackbird in Hillsboro © Matthew Olson

plumages. Somewhat more regular, but harder to pick out and identify, are small groups of female type **Tricolored Blackbirds**. **Starlings** are often found in or near blackbird flocks, but seldom join them at the roost or resting areas.

Identification of some of these birds can be a problem since most are in less conspicuous winter or immature plumages. Even the more common species show quite a variation in their plumages. Such birds challenge the birder and make it a more enjoyable day.

As all birds feel safer among a flock, stray birds regularly join whatever flock is available. Most wintering flocks have one or more of these strays. It is well worth the effort to check each individual bird in a gathering.

Smith and Bybee Lakes in North Portland continued to produce interesting birds. On October 25 David Smith flushed a **Long-eared Owl** from the woods there. Phil Gaddis observed a “blue phase” **Ross’s Goose** October 14 among the goose flocks there.

Ross’s Geese made a good showing this fall. On October 9 Bob Flores reported one along Lower River Road north of Vancouver. Scott Carpenter saw one in the fields behind the dog kennels at Coon Point on Sauvie Island November 13. One has been seen hanging out at Blount Slough near Canby and another on Vancouver Lake in Vancouver. All have remained and may winter.

On October 4 George Neavoll observed hundreds of **Barn Swallows** flying about Coon Point on Sauvie Island. The same day Grant Canterbury found over 1,000 flying about Smith and Bybee Lakes. One late bird was reported by David Leal in North Portland December 1.

Scappoose Bottoms regularly produces interesting sightings. By October 12 the wintering **Rough-legged Hawk** returned to its favorite corner along Honeyman Road. On November 25 Don Coggsell reported a highly unexpected **Tropical Kingbird** at the Crown Zellerbach Trail in the bottoms. The next day Jay Withgott saw a **Tree Sparrow** in the same area.

On November 18 Ken Hemberry saw a **Gyr Falcon** in Woodland Bottoms, Washington. Beverly Hallberg found an adult **Heermann’s Gull** October 27 at Willamette Park in southwest Portland. Joy Pendergrass photographed a **Blue Jay** October 23 at her feeders in the Hillsdale section of southwest Portland.



Blue Jay photo: Manjith Kainickara

Steve Jagers saw a **Red-naped Sapsucker** October 22 in Gladstone. Steve Nord reported a **Swainson’s Hawk** at the Fernhill Wetlands October 3. Steve reported a **Red-necked Grebe** in Oaks Bottom November 2. Bobby Wilcox and Andy Frank found a **Harris’s Sparrow** there October 30.

On November 25 George and Cindy Mayfield observed a female **Vermilion Flycatcher** in Ridgefield NWR. It was well photographed and enjoyed by many birders. On October 14 Lona Pierce found a dead **Poorwill** on a dirt roadway near Warren.

Volunteer of the Month: Mary Ratcliff

by Sally Loomis, Nature Store Clerk

Mary Ratcliff makes things happen. As a volunteer, she brings great analytical skills and a wealth of computer experience to Audubon. But far more importantly, she has a deep love of birding and unquenchable enthusiasm.

How has Mary contributed to Portland Audubon? Here’s just a partial listing. She is a key part of the stellar Wild Arts Festival Book Fair Committee. She regularly participates in Birdathons and Christmas Bird Counts. She eagerly signs up to represent Audubon at off-site events like the Ridgefield BirdFest or the Festival of the Birds at Sellwood Park. She has been a participant in the Swift Watch program at Chapman School. She has just recently started leading some mid-week adult field trips, and wants to learn to assist with point counts. Oh, and she has a regular Tuesday afternoon shift in the Nature Store.

Her love of birding began years ago when she was celebrating attaining her Master’s degree in computer science by spending a trip with friends in Southern Mexico. There she met a woman whose birding expertise piqued her interest in the natural world. She found that the birding community was a fun and refreshing change from the very structured computer culture she was immersed in. Joining Portland Audubon in 1995, she proceeded to (in her words) “take all the classes. Go on all the trips.”

In her working life, she had a career as a computer software engineer and project manager at IBM and other companies. Even in the years where work had her based in San Jose, California, she maintained her Portland Audubon

membership, as she knew that the Portland area was home. After retirement, she returned to her house

in Lake Oswego, dove headfirst into volunteering, and hasn’t slowed down since. The Wild Arts Festival (WAF) committee and the Nature Store in particular are grateful for Mary’s number crunching and spreadsheet skills. For her part, she emphasizes how much she enjoys her volunteerism. “WAF is fun! I love working in the store!”

A recent high point for Mary was participating in Audubon’s trip to Colombia, led by Dan van den Broek. This was particularly meaningful to her because she was born in Colombia during a time her geologist father was based in the country. She attempted while there to find the family home in Bogotá, but was unsuccessful. However, it was wonderful to have the opportunity to experience the culture and learn about the richness of the bird life.

Aside from all the things Mary does for Audubon, she is active in Lake Oswego’s local government as a member of the city’s Sustainability Advisory Board, including a stint as co-chair. She is also the mother of a grown son, Anthony, who is an assistant professor at California State University–Northridge.

Thanks, Mary, for all you do for Portland Audubon!



Photo: Tinsley Hunsdorfer

2013 Wild Arts Festival — A Show-Stopper!

by Mary Solares, Festival Chair, and Claire Wilson, Book Fair Committee

The transformation of Montgomery Park on the eve of the Wild Arts Festival is truly incredible. On Friday, the whole building starts buzzing with artists, authors, volunteers, and Audubon staff. At first, it may look like a chaotic jumble of boxes, hand trucks, ladders, and folding screens, but slowly the careful observer will start to notice an underlying harmony: people lending a hand, hugging the friends they haven't seen since last November, and oohing and aahing over all the treasures. And — voilà! By Saturday morning, the space is utterly transformed: three stories packed with gorgeous art, beautiful books, breathtaking birds, exciting finds at the Silent Auction, the exquisite mosaic that is the 6x6 display, and people smiling.



Admissions volunteers kept busy!



All three floors bustled with activity.



Finnegan the Peregrine Falcon had lots of admirers.

Photos © Anna Campbell

These smiling people are a wonderful part of the Festival. Because what makes Wild Arts special is not *just* the talent of our fabulous artists and authors: it's the way the community comes together. It's the joy of seeing old friends, meeting new ones, and celebrating the magic that happens when art and nature intersect.

But you don't have to take our word for it; over and over again, we get wildly positive feedback from the artists and authors. Comments like **"This has become one of my very favorite shows to gear up for, such a great vibe and great cause."**

Here are just a few facts and figures to give you a taste of what a remarkable event this was:

First of all, we are thrilled to announce that close to **\$150,000** was raised for Portland Audubon!

In addition, **69 artists** working with paint, cameras, clay, metal, wood, and more had some of their **highest sales ever**.



35 Northwest authors arrived ready to sell and sign their latest books (and we **sold out** of more than a few titles!).

Sarah Swanson and Max Smith, authors of *Must-See Birds of the Pacific Northwest*

People were once again lined up for the much anticipated **6x6 Wild Art Project sale** of original paintings; this year's theme was "urban birds." There were **171 pieces** submitted and they sold fast!

The **Silent Auction** had over **200 items**, including incredible trips, gorgeous artwork, and opportunities to learn from some of our artists, authors, and other Festival all-stars.

160 attendees became new members or renewed their memberships! This is particularly exciting, as members are the heart of the organization, and this figure represents a **four-fold increase** over the last three years.

The **Education Birds** were a big hit, as usual; it was rare to see one without a crowd of 10 or 20 admirers brandishing cameras, soaking up the wisdom from our wonderful volunteer handlers, and marveling at the opportunity to see one of these magnificent creatures up close.

We had lots of new faces at the Festival this year. We partnered with the **Oregon School of Arts and Crafts**, and talented students from the metal shop created copper and silver rings onsite for eager buyers. The **Audubon Nature Store** sold nesting boxes and books, and volunteers were on hand to answer questions. In addition, the **Oregon Botanical Artists** provided information about their organization, sharing their enthusiasm and gorgeous art.

Thank you, sponsors!

Many people and organizations come together to make the Wild Arts Festival possible, but we are particularly thankful to our generous sponsors. Our heartfelt thanks go out to the **Backyard Bird Shop**, which stepped up once again to become our "Presenting Sponsor" at the \$10,000 level. We topped Sponsorships this year to over \$33,000.

Presenting Sponsor

Eagle Level Sponsor

Hawk Level Sponsors

Great Blue Heron Level Sponsors

Board of Directors

Owl Level Sponsors

ELK COVE VINEYARDS

FERGUSON WELLMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

MILLER NASH ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Thank you, friends and supporters!

Thank you also to the wonderful 40 Friends of Wild Arts and our fabulous Community Supporters; we couldn't do this without you.

40 Friends of Wild Arts			Community Supporters
Bob Gandolfi Event Production	Kruger's Farm Market	Judith Ramaley	Garvey Schubert Berer Law
Vern and Carol Edwards	Roberta Lampert and Jim Piper	Meryl Redisch	Gloria Solares
Garden Fever	Elisa Malin and Jennifer Jones	the sparktank	Judith Stevens
Bill Gaylord and Linda Eyerman	Marks Family	St. Honoré Bakery	Amy Winterowd
Marsha Henry	Rachel Parmenter	Xtabay Vintage Clothing	Evie Zaic
	Portfolio 21		

Audubon Society of Portland gratefully acknowledges these thoughtful gifts:

In Memory

Elaine Bennett Pamela Bloom The Mitchell Family Marvin & Peggy Rue The Simonatti Family	Jan Klinefelter Mary Chapman John & Cheryl Courtnage Shirley Fisher George & Peggy Graves Patricia Justice
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Guests of the Cherokee Rose Inn Sandra Miller	Samantha Stashin Jonathan Barnes
Luke Hammar Donna Hammar	Trudi Stone Philip Nemer & David Brannon Annette Levin Fay Levinson & Joe Vela Mimi & Bob Sorkin Sheila & Bruce Stern
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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.

Thank you, WAF volunteers!

Planning for Wild Arts begins in January, with a talented group of volunteers chairing major committees. Special thanks to **Mary Solares, Festival Chair**, and to **other Committee Chairs** including Candy Plant, Carol Enyart, Cindy von Ofenheim, Martha Gannett, Molly Marks, Roberta Lampert, and Wink Gross.

Additional thanks go to Allan Solares, Ann Littlewood, Anne Eakin, Barb Macomber, Beth Parmenter, Bob Wilson, Bruce Schneider, Claire Wilson, Gay Gregor, Jill Turner, John Plant, Laurie Garretson, Linda Craig, Marilyn Scott, Mary Ratcliff, Rusty Whitney, Susan Hartner, Tammy Spencer, and Toni Rubin... not to mention the other 200 volunteers who made this Festival a success.

Finally, a very special thanks to **Bob Gandolfi**, a talented event producer contracted by Portland Audubon, whose insight and expertise has guided the Festival for the past seven years.

Next year's Wild Arts Festival will be **November 22–23**, so be sure to mark your calendars!

Leaving your Legacy

Estate Planning 101

What are the basics of estate planning? Philip Jones, an estate planning attorney with the firm of Duffy Kekel LLP in Portland, agreed to answer some questions about the estate planning process. He is a former member of the board of directors at the Audubon Society of Portland, and gives periodic estate planning seminars at Portland Audubon.

Why is a plan important and when should a person start?

Adopting an estate plan is important to ensure that your assets pass to the beneficiaries of your choice, such as family members or charities. An estate plan also helps you to minimize estate taxes, and to select the person you prefer as executor. If you don't have a will or trust, your assets will pass by law to certain members of your family as specified by state laws, and that might not be exactly what you want. The best time to start an estate plan is now, rather than waiting.

How do you start a process of estate planning?

Make a list of your assets, including bank accounts, investments, real estate, life insurance, and retirement accounts. Indicate the approximate value of each asset and the owner: yourself, you and your spouse, etc. Then make an appointment with an attorney who specializes in estate planning.

What are the basic elements of a plan?

Most estate plans include a will or trust, a power of attorney, an advance directive for medical decisions, and beneficiary designations for life insurance and retirement accounts. It is important that all of these elements coordinate with each other.

How big are the tax repercussions of various decisions?

With a well-drafted estate plan, your taxes can be reduced, postponed, or even eliminated. The federal estate tax rate is 40% after an exemption of \$5,250,000. The Oregon estate tax exemption is \$1,000,000, and rates above that vary from 10% to 16%. In many cases, those taxes can be eliminated through the proper use of exemptions and deductions provided by law. But with no estate plan or one that is not well-drafted, the taxes can be very significant.

Where do things go wrong in planning?

Things often go wrong when a person attempts to prepare their own estate plan without professional assistance, or when a person gets professional guidance but does not implement the plan.

Do you want to leave us with a "last word" of advice?

Getting your estate plan in order is a wonderful gift you can give to your family, and to any charities that you might like to benefit. You can give yourself peace of mind, knowing that you have a good plan in place.

Thinking about including Audubon Society of Portland in your estate plans? Contact Ann Takamoto, Development Director, at 971-222-6117.



Philip Jones © Duffy Kekel LLP

Join us at “Brink,” the 2nd annual Audubon Society of Portland benefit show at antler gallery!

We are so pleased to announce that on Thursday, January 30, **antler gallery** will open their second annual Audubon Society of Portland benefit show, titled “**Brink.**”

15 artists have been asked to make works that focus on either an extinct or an endangered species. **These new, original pieces will be on display for one month, January 30 – February 25, 2014,** and 20% of all sales will be donated to the Audubon Society of Portland.

Participating artists include Josh Keyes, Josie Morway, Annie Owens, Brin Levinson, J. Shea, Ashley Mackenzie, Susannah Kelly, Brett Superstar, Neil M. Perry, Lisa Ericson, Kevin Sloan, Heidi Elise Wirz, Vanessa Foley, and Juan Travieso.

antler gallery, which recently relocated into a larger space in the Alberta Arts District, showcases many artists who use wildlife and the natural world as inspiration in their work. Audubon Society

of Portland's mission to protect birds, wildlife, and habitat resonates with gallery founders and curators Susannah Kelly and Neil Perry, who feel it is important to support wildlife conservation across Oregon.



Whooping Crane ©Vanessa Foley

In addition to the donation from sales there will be other fundraising events at the gallery during opening night, including the release of a limited edition print of a piece by Josh Keyes.

Please join us for a fun evening of art and libations! Dogwood Distilling of Forest Grove will be serving cocktails crafted to suit the theme of the show.

“Brink” Benefit Show Opening
Thursday, January 30, 6pm–9pm
antler gallery and store
2728 NE Alberta St
Portland, OR 97211
antlerpdx.com

Members Receive a Discount at the Nature Store!

Audubon Society of Portland's Nature Store is the headquarters for naturalists in the Portland-Vancouver metro area. We feature nature books, hiking & field guides, 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 7 Mid-Sized Binos are Here!

Nikon has expanded their top-tier Monarch 7 ED line to include mid-sized binoculars. Available in both 8x30 and 10x30, like all Monarchs, they are super-light and ergonomically friendly. They feature Extra-low Dispersion glass for bright sharp images and dielectric high-reflective multilayer prism coatings for accurate color reproduction.



Monarch 7 8x30

In addition, the 8x takes our title of “widest field of view” for a 30mm, with an astonishing 435 feet (8.3°).

Our Apologies!

So sorry to have run out of Opticon Oregon 8x32 binoculars during the holiday season! Their selection by Cornell Labs as a “Best Buy” caught everyone off guard and the factory quickly ran out of stock. The 2014 model will be available in January with stock shipping direct from their new US Headquarters in Huntersville, NC rather than “across the pond” from the UK.

Manfrotto Redesigns their 190X Tripod Line!

Manfrotto continues to refine and redesign their 190X line, the first choice of our birding/nature observation community. Look for slightly taller tripods with both 3- and 4-section leg options. The compact collapsed design of the 4-section makes packing for travel much easier.

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!

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Jim Abeles & Katherine Topaz | Martha Koenig |
| Judith Albert | Anita Lacy |
| Amanda Allen | Linda Larson |
| Dave Allen | Suzanne LaRuffa |
| Judy Alleruzzo | Candace Laska |
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If you would like to join us or have questions about membership, please contact Pam Meyers at pmeyers@audubonportland.org or 503-292-6855.

40th Anniversary of the Endangered Species Act

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

2013 marked the 40th anniversary of the Endangered Species Act, one of the most important and powerful wildlife protection laws ever enacted. Chief Justice Warren Burger of the United States Supreme Court wrote the following in the landmark Endangered Species Act case, TVA v. Hill:

Examination of the language, history, and structure of the legislation under review here indicates beyond doubt that Congress intended endangered species to be afforded the highest of priorities. As it was passed, the Endangered Species Act of 1973 represented the most comprehensive legislation for the preservation of endangered species ever enacted by any nation.

As we enter a new year, we thought we would a look at some of the species in our region whose survival has depended upon the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

Past Successes

Bald Eagles and Peregrine Falcons: Driven to the brink of extinction by the pesticide DDT, Peregrine Falcons and Bald Eagles were among the first animals listed under the ESA. Today both species have made spectacular comebacks. Peregrines were removed from the list in 1999 and Bald Eagles were removed in 2007. Once absent from our skies, we can now see both species nesting in downtown Portland! Audubon continues to actively monitor Peregrine Falcons.



Peregrine Falcon photo: Kevin Cole



Bald Eagle photo: Dave Menke/USFWS

Ongoing Challenges

Northern Spotted Owls and **Marbled Murrelets** were listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act in 1990 and 1992 respectively, both due to loss and fragmentation of old-growth forests. Portland Audubon played a key role in both listings. In the case of the Marbled Murrelet, Portland Audubon contracted for the status review that led to the listing and served as chief petitioner. Today, the populations of both species continue to decline due to inadequate enforcement of the ESA and new emerging threats. Audubon continues to fight for their protection and recovery, most recently litigating against the State of Oregon for violations of the ESA on State Forest Lands.



Northern Spotted Owl photo: USFWS



Marbled Murrelet photo: R.Lowe/USFWS

Emerging Challenges

The **Streaked Horned Lark**, a bird that depends on grassland habitat and which finds its last strongholds in the Willamette Valley including undeveloped industrial lands in North Portland, was listed under the ESA in 2013. **The Greater Sage-Grouse**, iconic species of Eastern Oregon which is imperiled by loss and fragmentation and development in sage-steppe habitat, will be reconsidered for listing in 2015. Audubon has a direct role to play in recovering the Streaked Horned Lark right here in Portland, while the implications of listing the Greater Sage-Grouse could impact protections of our desert ecosystems on par with what Northern Spotted Owls have done for our forests.



Streaked Horned Lark photo: Rod Gilbert/USFWS



Greater Sage-Grouse photo: USFWS

Birdathon 2014

by Mark Fitzsimons, Birdathon Coordinator

What, Birdathon already? Yes! We are deep in planning to make **Birdathon 2014** the biggest, baddest Birdathon of all time! We did break some amazing records in 2013 — 34 teams, including 7 new teams, with 280 participants and over 2,000 donations totaling an amazing \$157,000 raised to protect birds across Oregon!



Can we top this? Of course we can! Mark your calendars for **Birdathon registration on March 15**. We'll be giving updates in the March/April *Warbler* and at our website. Be sure to follow us on Facebook for the latest information.

- Want to take it to the next level? How about creating your own Birdathon team?
- Your Birdathon team can be you and a group of **friends** getting together for a morning of bird watching.
 - Your Birdathon team can be you and your **family** enjoying a special day of birding at your backyard feeders.
 - Your Birdathon team can be you introducing a group of **co-workers** to your favorite birding spot.
 - If you're an experienced field trip leader, why not **lead your own** team to your favorite birding locations?

The success of our Birdathon lies in the depth and growing diversity of our Birdathoners — all of you! So join the fun! For information about creating a Birdathon team, contact me at **mark.birdathon@gmail.com**.



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.

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5151 NW Cornell Rd • Portland, OR 97210
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9am to 5pm, Mon. – Fri.

SANCTUARIES

Dawn to dusk every day

NATURE STORE

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

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



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



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



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