



Black-throated  
Gray Warbler

Bringing Outdoor  
School to All  
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LED Streetlights:  
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Wildlife Care Center's  
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Summer  
Camp insert  
included



Bald Eagles, immature (top)  
and adult



Rough-  
legged  
Hawk



Northern Harrier



Sharp-  
shinned  
Hawk



Scoping out  
the raptors

Merlin

Come Celebrate Birds of Prey  
at the 11th Annual

## RAPTOR ROAD TRIP

Saturday, February 6th • 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**, where you'll pick up an event map and illustrated 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 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. **The road trip is suitable for birders of all skill levels, and families are welcome. Three of the sites — Howell Territorial Park, Coon Point, and the Wildlife Viewing Platform — are wheelchair accessible.** While you don't

have to be an 'early bird' and get up at the crack of dawn to see these birds of prey, you should allow approximately three hours to visit all four locations.

### What will you see?

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

No registration is required. For more information, visit [audubonportland.org/local-birding/raptor-trip](http://audubonportland.org/local-birding/raptor-trip).

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

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



Finnegan, the Peregrine Falcon  
(an Audubon Education Bird).  
Photo by Deanna Sawtelle



Pileated Woodpecker.  
Photo by Jim Griffiths

## 19th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count

February 12–15

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](http://birdsource.org/gbbc).



Black-capped Chickadee.  
Photo by Tinsley Hunsdorfer

Last year Great Backyard Bird Count participants counted birds all over the world on 6 continents, including more than 100 countries. A total of 147,265 bird checklists were submitted, and the 5,090 species reported represents nearly half the possible bird species in the world! In Oregon nearly 2,000 checklists were submitted, including over 200 from here in Portland. Highlights from recent year's Portland count include Prairie Falcon, Eurasian Wigeon, Evening Grosbeak, Gray Jay, and Mountain Chickadee.

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 celebrate Valentine's Day by expressing your true love for birds and participate in this year's count.

Questions? Contact Joe Liebezeit, Portland Audubon's Avian Conservation Program Manager, at [jliebezeit@audubonportland.org](mailto:jliebezeit@audubonportland.org).

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

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View this Warbler and many past issues in full color on our website! Go to [audubonportland.org/about/newsletter](http://audubonportland.org/about/newsletter) and enhance your enjoyment of our popular newsletter!



# From our Executive Director

## Outdoor School for All: Building Tomorrow's Conservation Movement Today

by Nick Hardigg



Nick Hardigg.  
Photo © Portland Audubon

How does a state become a national leader for conservation? Since about 1970, Oregon's pioneer spirit expressed itself through such landmark pieces of legislation as our nation's first Bottle Bill, Beach Bill, Bike Bill, our Clean Water and Clean Air Acts, State Land Use Bill, and others. We were even the first state to ban CFCs, which started a worldwide movement that saved the ozone layer of the whole Earth!

It wasn't always that way in Oregon. Fortunately there came a turning point when we ceased to view our wild lands as sources of wealth to exploit, but rather as forests and streams where we could explore, admire, wade, and jump: precious sources of health and quality of life.

How did this tremendous change in attitude and action come about? Audubon Society of Portland has been inspiring conservationists since 1902. Yet arguably one of Oregon's most influential conservation triumphs began back in the 1950s with an experimental education program that came to be known as "Outdoor School." Soon after, almost every Oregon sixth grader had the opportunity to attend a week of hands-on science education in the woods. By the 1980s, upwards of 90% of Oregon children were immersed in the state's legacy, learning the critical thinking skills and knowledge of how to be good stewards of this magical place. Since the mid-90s, with passage of Measure 5, school funding has dwindled, and so has funding for Outdoor School. Now just over 50% of students receive a camp experience, while record numbers remain increasingly indoors. Latest studies show the average child spends 9–11 hours a day on a screen!

We can't allow our conservation base to continue to wither behind glowing tablets. At Portland Audubon, our mission

Campers at our Marmot Cabin Outdoor School.  
Photo by Ian Abraham



is to inspire **all people** to love and to protect Nature. Our greatest opportunity in decades to inspire all Oregonians — from all walks of life, all regions, all economic backgrounds — is by providing dedicated and full funding for Outdoor School. Every child needs to experience the beauty and magic of the wild outdoors, and to become an advocate for its protection. Our own school programs and summer camps reach about 12,000 kids annually, but they are just a sliver of what could be achieved through statewide funding.

That's why I have requested, and our board has approved, that Portland Audubon **take a leadership role** in securing funding for **every child** to attend Outdoor School through a statewide ballot initiative this November. The measure will provide up to \$22 million annually from Oregon Lottery proceeds (projected to surpass \$500 million in 2015), while protecting current lottery allocations for conservation and education. If we're successful — and together we can be — more than a half-million students will get to experience Outdoor School over the next decade. Fortunately, polling on the measure looks positive. But it will require your help to collect over 100,000 signatures to get it on the ballot, and to educate the public that they need to vote "yes!" for Outdoor School for All in November.

We'll provide more information in the months ahead about this pivotal campaign for Oregon's future, through the *Warbler* and online. In the meantime, you can find out more at [www.OutdoorSchoolForAll.org](http://www.OutdoorSchoolForAll.org) and add your signature to the list of more than 100,000 we're helping to collect. The next legacy achievement for Portland Audubon lies before us, and 2016 promises to be of historic impact.

## Wild Arts Festival — A First-Timer's View

by Nick Hardigg

The "early birds" at the Wild Arts Festival began arriving at Montgomery Park just after sunrise on Saturday morning. But these weren't your typical shopping crowds: they were Audubon Society of Portland Festival volunteers, with eager smiles and orange neckerchiefs that reminded me of scouting days. All had their role to play: there were greeters and setter-uppers, membership promoters and booth sitters, auction-bid takers, and book ringer-uppers. All told, 250 volunteers banded together to make our 35th Wild Arts Festival a great success, plus the contributors of over 300 works of art. Even use of our beautiful host site — historic Montgomery Park, with its sweeping view of Forest Park — was donated by the Bill Naito Company, after owner Ann Naito-Campbell had enrolled in our Backyard Habitat Program and had an inspiring chat with a *volunteer* board member.

As showtime approached, final preparations were made by artists, authors, and veteran volunteers. Over a hundred Festival attendees were lined up in anticipation of the 6x6 Wild Arts Project sale featuring 210 donated paintings available on a first-come, first-served basis. Above the sound of artists, authors, and festival goers could be heard occasional calls of a Great Horned Owl or a Peregrine Falcon that was perched on the glove of a highly trained and dedicated volunteer.

The Festival weekend itself capped months of preparations, the vast majority overseen by volunteer staff. At Audubon House on Cornell Road, Jay Hall had been transformed into an auction item reception site for weeks, with hundreds of donated works being cataloged, wrapped, and prepped. A week before the sale, I was greeted by book sale volunteer Jill Turner, whose arm was in a cast. "I was actually hit by a falling tree during a storm last week," she said, "but I can still pitch in." We chatted briefly about the risk while moving boxes together. "What were the odds? Perhaps I shouldn't have been hiking on such a windy day." I offered that we can't predict everything, and that nature is a beautiful force to behold during a storm. And Jill's adventurous spirit and dedication were pervasive



Team Leaders for Wild Arts Festival 2015.  
Photo by Nick Hardigg

throughout the Festival. These empowered teams of volunteers were not complacent from the success of past years: they were suggesting and trying new things, tweaking systems, and pushing to make this Wild Arts Festival even better than the last.

I find that inspired and impactful commitment to birds, nature, and Portland Audubon inspiring to me as our Executive Director. While we have much work to be done, and with the constant threats to nature, we also have a very engaged and capable community to make sure our goals are accomplished.

After the Festival ended and the art was distributed, the remaining books shipped back to publishers, and the ledgers completed, our Wild Arts Festival chair Mary Solares and her husband Allan hosted a thank-you dinner at their home for 22 Festival volunteers. Even after another year of dedication and many months of extended hard work, they cooked the most delicious thank-you dinner I've ever been party to: prepared from the heart, for the community, and in celebration of this successful impact for a critical cause — just one more beautiful facet of many that comprise the Audubon Society of Portland.

And so we begin our 114th year protecting the birds and habitat that we all care about and depend on. We wish a Happy New Year to all of the supporters who make this work possible.



Photo: Portland Audubon

## Audubon Kids Day Saturday, February 13 10am–3pm | Free Event

Come join Audubon staff as we host a day just for kids. We'll have activities and projects based on many of our most popular Summer Camp programs, including Animal Tracking, Archery, and many other nature-based Art Activities. No registration required. Come join the fun!

Get a jump on Summer Camp registration: Audubon Kids Day participants can register for our Summer Camp programs.

## FREE EVENT!

## Welcome Back Vulture Day

is coming to Nadaka Nature Park and St. Aidan's Church!

Saturday, March 19, 2016  
Noon – 3 p.m.

Nadaka Nature Park and  
St. Aidan's Church  
17405 NE Glisan St  
Portland, OR 97230



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.



Ruby the Turkey Vulture  
photo: Tom Schmid

### 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!

## Be a Bluebird Monitor

### Prescott Bluebird Recovery Project


seeks volunteers for monitoring the Western Bluebird nesting season April through August. The workshop is on **Saturday, February 27** from 9:30am–12pm at Champoege State Heritage Area. **Especially needed** are monitors who live where the bluebirds are: **Sherwood, Newberg, Wilsonville, Oregon City, Beaverton**. Register at [email@prescottbluebird.com](mailto:email@prescottbluebird.com) (please include your mailing address and telephone number).






# 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 9 (Sat), 7am–4pm Lincoln County Coast

Join **Tim Shelmerdine** for a day exploring coastal Lincoln County. We'll look for alcids, loons, and other seabirds at Boiler Bay, check for turnstones and "rockpipers" at Depoe Bay, then spend most of the day around Newport and Yaquina Bay. This trip will go rain or shine: bring rain gear, warm clothes, binoculars, a scope if you have one, and a sack lunch. Please plan to carpool. Meet 7am at the Wilsonville Lamb's Thriftway parking lot: on I-5 south from Portland, take Exit 283 (2nd Wilsonville exit), turn left onto Wilsonville Rd. Drive past two stoplights, and turn left just after Taco Bell into the shopping center. Questions: Tim at 971-221-2534.

## January 14 (Thur), 9am–11:30am Summer Lake Park, Tigard

Join **Sue Carr** and **Bonnie Deneke** for a look at the wintering waterfowl in this wonderful suburban park. Directions: SW Scholls Ferry Rd to SW 130th Ave, then south on 130th to the parking area on the left; meet at 9am. For information contact Sue at sacarr\_98@yahoo.com or 503-313-8086.

## January 14 (Thur), 9am–11am Fernhill Wetlands

Join **Dick Demarest** in seeking winter waterfowl, raptors, and passerines at the recently improved Fernhill Wetlands in Forest Grove. Meet at the visitors' kiosk on SE Fern Hill Rd, off Hwy 47 about 1/2 mile south of its junction with Hwy 8. Questions: Dick at 503-407-7912 or rdd@demarests.com.

## January 16 (Sat), 8am–11am Crystal Springs

Join **Ron Escano** at Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden. Here is a chance to learn your waterfowl. With close views of many Portland-area ducks we will learn to identify waterfowl using black and white field marks. Meet at Crystal Springs parking lot across from Reed College on SE 28th, which can be reached from SE Holgate (turn south on 28th) or SE Woodstock (turn north on 28th). **This walk is LIMITED to 15 participants. Registration required** with Ron at 503- 771-3454.

## January 17 (Sun), 8:30am–12:30pm Smith & Bybee Wetlands

Join **Jason Wolf** for a morning trip at Smith & Bybee Wetlands in North Portland, one of the largest wildlife areas within an urban boundary in North America. Winter is a fantastic time for birding this area. We'll find waterfowl, raptors, and resident birds in abundance, and perhaps get lucky with a few Pacific NW winter specialties. Meet at main Smith/Bybee parking area, 5300 N. Marine Drive. **Registration required** with Jason at wolfjason71@gmail.com.

## January 20 (Wed), 9am–11am Crystal Springs

Join **Kathy van der Horst** and **Sue Carr** to view wintering waterfowl at the lovely Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden. Wood Ducks are a specialty. We'll also watch for passerines, Great Blue and Green Herons, raptors, and several species of geese. Optional walk at the newly landscaped Westmoreland Park. Meet at Crystal Springs parking lot across from Reed College on SE 28th, which can be reached from SE Holgate (turn south on 28th) or SE Woodstock (turn north on 28th). Questions: Kathy at kathyfrans@opusnet.com or 503-233-7143.

## January 21 (Thur), 8:30am–12pm Milwaukie Waterfront

Join **Marilyn Abend**, **Karen Chaivoe**, and **Dena Turner** for birding on the Milwaukie waterfront. We'll look for wintering warblers and water birds at the water treatment plant, in the nearby park, and at Spring Park. Meet at parking lot on north side of Kellogg Creek Water Treatment Plant at 11525 SE McLaughlin Blvd (just past Washington Street, with parking on the river side of the road). Limited to 18 participants. **Registration required** with Dena at denaturn62@gmail.com, or Marilyn at abendlaughter@gmail.com.

## February 4 (Thur), 9am–3pm Newport

Join **Dick Demarest** in exploring the Newport area for wintering loons, grebes, and ducks. Meet at Hatfield Marine Science Center and bring a lunch. Bring two-

way radios if you have them. Limited to 20 participants. **Registration required** with Dick at 503-407-7912 or rdd@demarests.com.

## February 13 (Sat), 8am–11am Vancouver Lake Park

Join **Ron Escano** to scope the lake for water birds then explore the riparian woodland for White-throated Sparrows. Meet at parking lot in front of middle bathrooms. Take Exit 1-D (4th Plain Blvd) from I-5, go west on 4th Plain through Vancouver onto SR-501 (Lower River Rd). After 3.5 miles on SR-501, continue straight for 0.6 miles to Vancouver Lake Park. Limited to 15 participants. **Registration required** with Ron at 503-771-3454.

## February 19 (Fri), 9am–12pm Vanport Wetlands

Join **John Nikkel** and **Dena Turner** for a short walk from Vanport Wetlands through the adjacent wooded area and to Force Lake. We will look for water birds, forest birds, and possibly Great Horned Owls which nest in this area. Take the Delta Park/Exhibition Center exit from I-5. Turn left to Portland International Raceway and Exhibition Center. Turn right at the next stop and left into the raceway. Park about 100 yards from the entrance. Questions: Dena at denaturn62@gmail.com.

## February 25 (Thur), 9am–11am Commonwealth Lake Park

Join **Mary Ratcliff** and **Richard Arnold** for a walk around Beaverton's Commonwealth Lake Park, which has some great wintering birds as well as good numbers of our resident wintering passerines. Meet at corner of SW Foothill Dr and SW Dellwood Ave at the park entrance. Bus service by TriMet 59 to SW Park Way & Dellwood, one block south of Foothill. Questions: Mary at mratclif@aracnet.com, or Caroline Arnold at 650-387-2606.

## March 3 (Thur), 9am–11am Fernhill Wetlands

See website.

## 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!**

### Prowling for Owls! with Scott Carpenter

**Tuesday, January 12, at 7pm  
(Back by popular demand in a special location — Montgomery Park)**

Last year, Scott Carpenter's talk on Owls attracted an overflow crowd, and we were forced to turn people away because of the limited space in Heron Hall. Scott agreed to give another Prowling for Owls presentation at a location large enough to hold a blockbuster crowd! Please join us on January 12 in the lower ballroom at **Montgomery Park, 2701 NW Vaughn St**, Portland, OR 97210, for a comfortable venue with lots of parking and access from public transportation. There will be a small admission charge (\$5 suggested donation). Doors will open at 6pm and the presentation begins at 7pm.

Owls have fascinated us since prehistoric times, representing various things to various cultures — from symbols of wisdom, protection, and good fortune, to omens of doom. Despite our collective captivation, many people have limited firsthand experience with owls. In general, owls are secretive, and most species are nocturnal, making them relatively hard to find. But by learning a bit about their behavior and breeding biology, you can greatly increase your odds of seeing owls, even in the daytime.

Join local birder and photographer **Scott Carpenter** as he shares his insights into finding and enjoying owls in the Pacific Northwest. With the goal of empowering you to have enough information to go out and observe these birds on your own, Scott will share month-by-month suggestions for finding 13 species of owls in Oregon and Washington.

Scott is a self-taught bird photographer based in Portland, Oregon, who began his obsession with birds as a kindergartner in the 1970s. After decades of fast-paced birding and listing, he began using photography as a way to better understand the subjects of his fascination. He now spends as much time as possible capturing images showing the behavior and beauty of birds in the wild. You can see more of Scott's work at scottcarpenterphotography.com.

This will be a delightful evening — and just in time for the start of owling season! If you would like **more information about the alternate location at Montgomery Park**, please contact Pam Meyers at pmeyers@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6130.



Western Screech-Owlets  
© Scott Carpenter



Scott Carpenter. Photo  
by Tammi Carpenter

### Butterflies — Winged Jewels of Oregon and the World with Martin Schwartz

**Tuesday, February 9  
7pm Heron Hall**

Butterflies! Few creatures are more evocative of summer, filling us with delight in their colors and delicate flight patterns. But they are also surprisingly hardy, able to live all over the world in a wide range of environments and altitudes. Their complex life cycle includes a series of transformations that make butterflies one of the most fascinating insects to study. The order *Lepidoptera* (butterflies and moths) comprises one of the largest groups of insects, with over 28,000 species of butterflies alone worldwide. Many migrate, covering distances from a few miles like the Painted Lady, to thousands of miles like the Monarch.

Join butterfly enthusiast **Dr. Martin Schwartz** on February 9 as he explores the natural history of these winged beauties of Oregon and the world. Using photos taken in Oregon as well as in his travels to South America and Asia, Martin will discuss butterfly behavior and ecology, their life cycle and classification, and the relationship between butterflies and moths — as well as some fascinating aspects of butterfly reproduction. Dr. Schwartz will also describe the habitat on which butterflies depend and how their numbers have been impacted by habitat loss.

Martin L. Schwartz, MD, PhD, has been fascinated with butterflies since he began collecting them as a child, then photographing them during the last decade. After receiving his PhD in Biochemistry from Duke University and his MD from Duke Medical School, he was an Obstetrician/Gynecologist here in Portland with Kaiser Permanente from 1977 to 2011. Schwartz currently co-chairs the Multnomah Athletic Club's Walking and Hiking Committee and is a member of the North American Butterfly Association as well as several other conservation groups.

Whether you call them flutterbys or butterflies, please join us for an interesting and colorful evening!



Ecuadorian Metalmark ©  
Martin Schwartz



Martin Schwartz and friend.  
Photo: Marcia Freed



# Conservation

## LED Streetlight Conversion in Portland: Good News or Bad?

by Mary Coolidge, BirdSafe Portland Campaign Coordinator

If you live in Portland, you’ve probably noticed the replacement of our familiar soft yellow streetlights with bright blue-white bulbs. In 2012, Portland City Council approved the conversion of Portland’s streetlights from high pressure sodium (HPS) to light emitting diode (LED) technology. This is the largest energy efficiency project ever undertaken in Portland, and is expected to save the city \$32 million over the anticipated 25-year lifespan of the new lights. LEDs consume less energy than the old bulbs, will last about four times longer, and have lower maintenance costs. Good news, right?

Well, yes and no. While the switch to LED technology will dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions and is prescribed in the City’s 2015 Climate Action Plan, the Plan also stipulates the *use [of] Dark Skies best practices when possible to reduce light pollution and minimize bird strike hazards*. The Portland Central City Plan and Draft Comprehensive Plan also call for bird-friendly building and lighting design. Best practices in lighting design include: proper shielding to keep light focused where it is needed; careful setting of lighting levels (not over-lighting); and thoughtful consideration of the spectral composition of bulbs.

A large body of research shows that light pollution in our cities can have significant negative impacts on human health as well as birds, fish, and wildlife. Most songbirds migrate at night and rely on the moon and stars to navigate. Light emanating from cities drowns out these natural cues, disorienting migrating birds and attracting them into the city, where they face a variety of hazards including deadly and deceptive building glass. Reducing unnecessary overnight lighting can help reduce exposure to these hazards. Many major cities are taking significant steps to address light pollution.

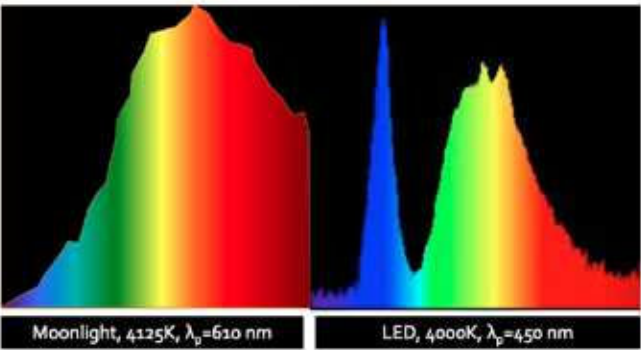
Unfortunately, the 4,000 Kelvin bulbs selected by the Portland Bureau of Transportation emit what is known as blue-rich white light — a spike in the blue wavelength portion of the light spectrum — and do not meet the current International Dark Sky Association’s Fixture Seal of Approval rating (less than 3,000 Kelvin). These

lamps are likely to actually worsen light pollution in the Portland area. Although the new cobra head light fixtures are shielded, the diodes are not recessed into the cobra head mount. Furthermore, blue-rich white light scatters more readily in the atmosphere than longer wavelength light sources, and is known to impact circadian rhythms in humans, plants, and fish & wildlife. It creates significant glare and suppresses melatonin production, which interferes with sleep cycles and may be linked to serious human health problems.

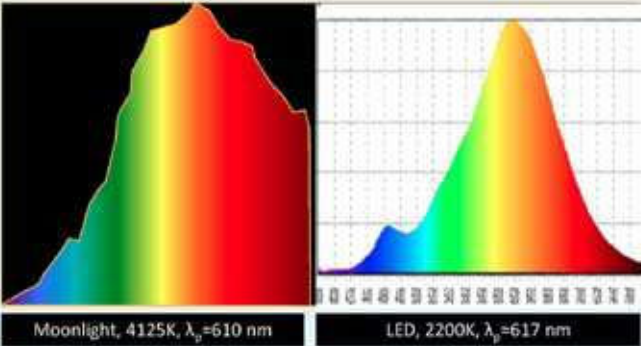
Portland’s Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) claims that the city is rolling the conversion out slowly to allow for public input. Yet, only two LED pilot projects were ever developed in the city, with limited opportunity for public input; only 49 surveys were completed in response to pilot projects. Seventy-five percent of the city’s 45,000 cobra head fixtures have already been converted, with an estimated project completion date of December 2016. Representatives at PBOT are eager to say that the 4,000 Kelvin LED fixtures *may seem* brighter than their HPS predecessors, but that they actually approximate moonlight. Not true! The spectral composition of moonlight is most closely approximated by a 2,200 Kelvin bulb. Furthermore, Portland’s 55,000 total streetlight fixtures will shine brighter than moonlight every night of the year! Darkness provides important habitat and is home to many nocturnal species that have long-evolved natural histories linked to darkness, which is rapidly vanishing across the globe.

Although PBOT is touting that the selected streetlights are dimmable, residential units are already set to their lowest output level of 29 watts, and can dim no further. PBOT is currently evaluating test fixtures with recessed diodes and with 3,000 Kelvin bulbs, but where and how these fixtures might be put to use remains unclear.

Public outcry about conversion to 4,000 Kelvin streetlights in the cities of Davis, Honolulu, and Phoenix have resulted in project adaptations that utilize lower Kelvin and/or lower wattage bulbs. Cities like Tucson, Boston, and Cambridge have demonstrated interest in the evolving story around LED



Moonlight and 4,000K bulbs have very different spectral outputs, with a significant spike in the blue wavelength part of the spectrum.



The spectral composition of moonlight and 2,200K bulbs are much more similar.

Graphs provided by Chris Monrad, courtesy of International Dark-Sky Association

conversions, and have committed to dimmable technology and lower Kelvin lamps. LED is a rapidly advancing technology; comparably energy-efficient lamps designed to minimize blue light are now available at equivalent cost.

At a time when many major North American cities are taking steps to reduce light pollution, Portland is lagging behind and in some cases going the wrong direction altogether. Too many recent Portland projects have suffered from garish lighting that blocks out the night sky and reduces the ecological health of our communities. Citywide conversion and update projects like this provide opportunities to think about ways that we design with nature as our region grows. Audubon Society of Portland is committed to working with the City of Portland and the development community to ensure that we are designing our built landscape for ecological resilience into the future. We urge our members to track local projects and insist on ecologically responsible lighting and building design.

For more information, contact Mary Coolidge at [mcoolidge@audubonportland.org](mailto:mcoolidge@audubonportland.org) or consult our Bird Safe webpage at [audubonportland.org/issues/hazards/buildings](http://audubonportland.org/issues/hazards/buildings).

## Jim Labbe Migrates

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

Portland Audubon has been fortunate to have a number of visionary conservation leaders over its history. Jim Labbe’s 13 years with Portland Audubon perpetuate that legacy. As Jim moves off staff to get married and work with his brother Ted on natural resource issues, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on Jim’s time with Audubon.

Like many of Audubon’s strongest leaders, Jim came up through the ranks. He started out as a volunteer, then worked on contract with Mike Houck and Ron Carley on natural resource planning, and finally joined Audubon’s staff as our Urban Conservationist in 2002. Throughout his time with Audubon, empowering the community has always at the core of Jim’s vision, and he played a lead role in expanding the way Audubon and the larger community in general think about what that means.

Jim’s early work focused on advocating for a strong Goal 5 natural resource program for the metropolitan region. A byzantine process if ever there was one, the Goal 5 program took the better part of a decade to develop and adopt and was heavily opposed every step of the way by well-funded development interests. Jim’s advocacy skills, technical expertise, and community organizing were what kept the plan on track even as political leadership buckled.

Perhaps most impressive was Jim’s ability to turn out hundreds of people to provide detailed, passionate, eloquent testimony month after month, year after year, on a process that was so complex and remote. It is one thing to get people to feel passionate about protecting a wetland or opposing an environmentally destructive development; it is entirely another to get people to turn out to advocate for strong land use plans. Jim’s finest moment may have come, however, at a hearing where there was no testimony



Jim Labbe (left) worked with activists and community members developing a vision for Nadaka Nature Park. Photo by Bob Sallinger

— sensing that all that could be said had been said, Jim pulled out his guitar and had the assembled masses serenade the Metro Council with a rousing rendition of “What is the Nature in your Neighborhood?” (sung to the tune of Sesame Street’s “Who are the People in your Neighborhood?”).

The term “Goal 5” probably means very little to people today, but the outcomes of those efforts are written across the landscape. They include the regulations that protect our streams, wetlands, and floodplains. The Goal 5 process also led directly to the 2006 greenspace bond measure which protected thousands of acres of natural area. Finally, it led directly to the Metro Nature in Neighborhoods Program which has provided leadership in integrating nature into the built landscape and funding for natural resource projects in underserved communities.

Jim was an early leader in promoting the importance of equity and diversity in the local conservation movement, insisting that we focus harder and deeper on communities that have been left behind. He did groundbreaking work in helping develop the Coalition for a Livable Future’s Equity Atlas, and authored the Atlas’ chapter on access to parks and natural areas. He was one of the lead advocates who recognized that natural area acquisition rarely occurs in our most urbanized and underserved neighborhoods,

and he successfully fought to have \$15 million set aside from the 2006 greenspace bond measure to fund natural resource projects in underserved communities. He led Audubon’s efforts to establish a satellite office in East Portland and helped develop Audubon’s TALON Program to provide paid environmental training, leadership, and job opportunities to underserved youth.

Perhaps the best representation of Jim’s commitment to equity and diversity is at Nadaka Nature Park, where he worked with a local community to create a nature park in an underserved neighborhood in Gresham — a project that is notable not only for providing access to nature for the local population, but also for its innovative community-based approach to funding, design, and management of the natural area.

I remember sitting down with Jim, Mike Houck, and Meryl Redisch for one of our first official meetings after Jim was hired. For three hours we filled white boards with long lists of projects and priorities that were far flung across the metro region. Jim grew increasingly quiet as the list expanded. Finally Meryl asked Jim if he was doing okay. He looked up and asked rather plaintively, “Well, can I ride my bike... because that’s really important. I would not want a job where I can’t ride my bike.” Over the past 13 years, the community has gotten very used to seeing Jim pedal up to meetings and hearings — and our urban landscape, especially some of its most underserved communities, are better for it.

### A Farewell Message from Jim Labbe

December 22 was my last day serving as Urban Conservationist at Audubon Society of Portland after 13 years. It has been a tremendous honor to serve at Portland Audubon and help carry forward a century of conservation advocacy in Oregon and in the Portland Metropolitan Region. I am excited about the changes

Continued next page





Trudi Stone with Jack, the American Kestrel, at the 2015 WCC Open House © Portland Audubon

## Wildlife Care Center Open House

**Sunday, February 14  
11am–4pm**

Come to the Wildlife Care Center Open House on February 14th for a chance to experience Oregon's largest wildlife rehabilitation center. Please join us for:

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

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

**Raptor Education Station.** Be enraptured by raptors! You will be able to learn more about these birds of prey with a fun hands-on approach to studying raptor parts. Compare wings and feet and other special adaptations of a variety of raptors. Naturalists will be on hand to answer your raptor questions.

**Question-and-answer time with a wildlife veterinarian.** You will meet Audubon's wildlife veterinarians and try to stump them with your questions. In turn they will attempt to stump you with studies of actual cases seen in the Care Center.

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

**Sanctuary Scavenger Hunt.** Using a guide booklet, search the sanctuary for hidden treasure boxes in this nature-themed scavenger hunt.

The Open House is free to the public with a suggested donation of \$5/person or \$10/family for behind-the-scenes tours of the Wildlife Care Center.

**Make sure to schedule your Behind-the-scenes tour ahead of time by calling the Wildlife Care Center at 503-292-0304, Monday–Friday 9am–5pm. Spaces fill fast so don't delay!**

under way as Portland Audubon strives — through its Unified Diversity Strategy — to create a diverse, inclusive organization that can better both serve and more fully represent the community and effectively advance its vision for a region where people and wildlife thrive together.

I know my relationship with Audubon Society of Portland will continue in my future endeavors. In the near term, I am getting married, moving to a new residence in Portland, and starting work with my brother's natural resource consulting firm. I also hope to have time to do some writing, continue to learn the Russian language, and maintain my involvement in the Nadaka Nature Park and Garden Project. Portland Audubon is helping expand access to and the local constituency for urban parks, trails, and natural areas and I greatly hope it can continue to do so.

Again, a big thank you to staff, board, members, and volunteers for the chance to serve at Portland Audubon as it started its second century. My time at Audubon Society of Portland has been an immensely rich and rewarding experience.

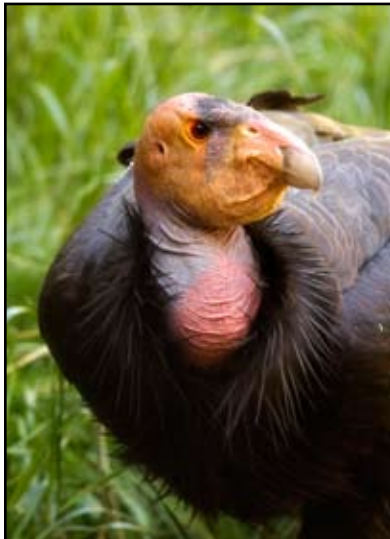
# Wildlife Care Center



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

**Auction begins: Sunday, February 14, at 9am  
Auction closes: Monday, March 7, at 9pm**

**View auction items and bid at  
[portlandaudubon.tofinoauctions.com/callofthewild](http://portlandaudubon.tofinoauctions.com/callofthewild)**



California Condor © Oregon Zoo



Photo by Sandy Tamiesie

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 6th annual Call of the Wild auction:**

### Rare behind-the-scenes tour of the Oregon Zoo's California Condor Recovery Facility

**Head Condor Keeper Kelli Walker** will take you on a fascinating tour that highlights the extensive effort that goes into the recovery of the California Condor. This is an amazing opportunity — the Oregon Zoo's California Condor breeding program is one of only four in the country!

### 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.

### Metolius River Cabin

**Come with family and friends to a wonderful Forest Service cabin on the beautiful Metolius River in Camp Sherman, Central Oregon.** You and your guests can take advantage of nearby river trail hiking, fishing, nature and bird watching.

Other auction items include **guided bird walks, field trips and nature hikes, a "Raptor Release" experience, weekend get-away homes, and much more.** Don't miss out! Bid heartily and help save wild animals at the Wildlife Care Center at [portlandaudubon.tofinoauctions.com/callofthewild](http://portlandaudubon.tofinoauctions.com/callofthewild).

## The Elusive Mountain Beaver

**by Ali Berman, Communications Manager**

Ever heard of a Mountain Beaver? Most people, even in the Pacific Northwest where these animals are endemic, have neither seen nor heard of this elusive species.

The name seems fairly descriptive, usually leading people to believe that the mammal is a type of beaver which solely lives in the mountains. And yet, neither of those things is true. The *Aplodontia rufa* — that's the species' scientific name — is the oldest member of the rodent family currently living on earth and is in no way related to the beaver. As for the mountains? They can actually be found in a wide range of habitats including down at sea level. The general public, even experienced hikers, rarely see this species because they live in underground burrows.

In September, an injured *Aplodontia* was brought to the Wildlife Care Center for treatment. The animal suffered from abrasions on its feet and was observed walking in circles, signs that led our veterinarian Deb Sheaffer to suspect it had been hit by a car and sustained a head injury. Staff and volunteers kept their expectations low, fearing that the damage might be too severe for the animal to recover.

And then, over the next few weeks, the *Aplodontia* — which, we will admit, fascinated everyone here at Audubon Society of Portland with those long teeth, that furry coat, and a never-ending supply of whiskers — began to display great signs of improvement. It stopped walking in circles and was moved to an outdoor enclosure where it began to burrow, a fantastic development that showed staff this mammal was ready to head back out into the wild.

Normally our Wildlife Care Center staff or volunteers would release the animal in the place where it was found. However, because this individual was dropped off at Multnomah County Animal Services, we had no way of knowing where it came from. The WCC worked with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to figure out an appropriate release site. As it turned out, we already had access to the perfect piece of habitat. On a planned trip up to Marmot Cabin (one of our educational facilities, located on our 91-acre Joe Miller Sanctuary), our education department staffers Ian Abraham, Tim Donner, and Marissa Duncan took on the task of returning this *Aplodontia* to the wild.



Mountain Beaver © Portland Audubon

Following Deb's instructions on how to release the *Aplodontia*, the education team found a great spot that was close to food and water, and was a distance from any evidence of others of the same species. They set down the carrier and covered it with ferns and other plant life.

"Deb suggested we leave the carrier out there and camouflage it so it had a home base as it started figuring out its new territory," explained Tim Donner, an environmental educator. "Just a place where it would potentially come back to and have some semblance of shelter until it could actually create its own burrow and its own home."

While the ferns were being placed on the carrier, the *Aplodontia* was showing its curiosity about its new surroundings by looking around and smelling the air. And then, it came time to open the door.

"As it came out of the carrier, it started working all of its senses," said Ian Abraham, Portland Audubon's Camp Director and Onsite Programs Manager. "To me the most impressive thing was to see it not only start to survey the area with its nose by smelling the land but it literally started to map the area around it using its sensory hairs and its whiskers, to walk around and figure out its new home."

The *Aplodontia* ventured farther from the carrier and then circled back, gave its enclosure another sniff, and then went back out into the woods.

Tim and Ian both confessed it was incredible to see the mammal figuring out its new habitat and to be a part of its release. When future children head up to Marmot Cabin we know these two educators will be sharing the story of the injured *Aplodontia* now living in those very woods, all thanks to a Good Samaritan and the dedication of our Wildlife Care Center.

You can see more photos of *Aplodontia* at [audubonportland.org/wcc/currentanimals/a-mountain-beaver-heads-back-to-the-woods#sthash.J00ZW5Go.dpuf](http://audubonportland.org/wcc/currentanimals/a-mountain-beaver-heads-back-to-the-woods#sthash.J00ZW5Go.dpuf).



# Educational Trips

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

## TEXAS: RIO GRANDE VALLEY

February 14–21, 2016

Spaces  
remain!

Join us for a winter trip to southern Texas and the Rio Grande Valley, one of the hottest birding regions in the country. This subtropical part of the U.S. is famous for being the northern limit for many tropical species, including the **Great Kiskadee**, **Plain Chachalaca**, and the beautiful **Green Jay**. This gateway to the neotropics is sure to impress the most avid birder and beginner alike! Contact Eric Scheuering at **971-222-6119** or **escheuering@audubonportland.org** for more information.

**Leaders:** **Eric Scheuering**, Adult Education Programs Manager & **Patty Newland**, Portland Audubon Trip Leader

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

**Deposit:** \$1200 required to secure your place

## DEATH VALLEY April 4–8, 2016

Death Valley National Park is the lowest, driest, hottest place in North America, and the largest National Park in the lower 48 states. Within this unique, striking landscape lie hidden pockets of flora and fauna. While birding, we'll take time to focus on the area's spectacular geology and the adaptations of the drought-tolerant plants. Outside the park, we'll visit the Spring Mountains and Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, two of the region's premier wildlife viewing areas. Contact Eric Scheuering at **971-222-6119** or **escheuering@audubonportland.org** for more information.

**Leader:** **Kirk Hardie**, Portland Audubon Trip Leader

**Fee:** \$1395\* members / \$1595\* non-members

**Deposit:** \$700 required to secure your place

2 spaces  
available!

## France April 30 – May 14, 2016

Join us for this tour of charming and picturesque southern France during spring migration. We'll explore the vast wetlands of the **Camargue**, the oak forests and verdant plains of **Les Alpilles**, the spectacular canyons of the Tarn, and finally the majestic and bird-rich eastern **Pyrénées**. We'll conclude the trip in Paris, the City of Lights. Contact Eric Scheuering at **971-222-6119** or **escheuering@audubonportland.org** for more information.

**Leaders:** **Eric Scheuering**, Adult Education Programs Manager & **Steve Robertson**, Education Director

**Fee:** \$4375\* members / \$4675\* non-members

**Deposit:** \$2200 required to secure your place

## JOHN DAY FOSSIL BEDS May 6–8, 2016

Take a journey through time with Portland Audubon as we explore the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument. The Blue Mountains offer one of the most fascinating geological wonderlands in America, displaying ancient lavas, volcanic mudflows, and ash deposits that form a colorful landscape around the John Day River and its tributaries. Sixty million years of prehistoric animals and plants have been preserved as fossils in the geologic strata. We'll visit the Painted Hills, Blue Basin, and more. The focus will be on geology, but along the way we'll be sure to keep an eye out for birds, wildflowers, and other interesting aspects of the region's natural history. Contact Eric Scheuering at **971-222-6119** or **escheuering@audubonportland.org** for more information.

**Leader:** **Dr. Ivan Phillipsen**, Portland Audubon Trip Leader

**Fee:** \$445\* members / \$545\* non-members

**Deposit:** \$200 required to secure your place

## OAXACA, MEXICO December 2016

Oaxaca straddles the biological border that separates the ranges of northern temperate and tropical birds, and as a result is home to well over 600 species! In addition, Oaxaca is renowned for its colorful markets, vibrant native cultures, and its relaxed, friendly atmosphere. The full Trip Description will be in the March/April *Warbler*, but you may sign up now for what is sure to be an incredible adventure. Contact Eric Scheuering at **971-222-6119** or **escheuering@audubonportland.org** for more information.

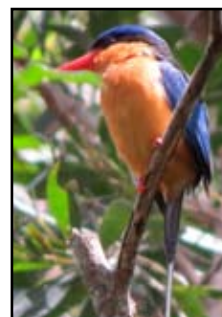
**Leaders:** **Eric Scheuering**, Adult Education Programs Manager & **Candace Larson**, Portland Audubon Trip Leader

**Fee:** To be determined

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

## Australia!

Buff-breasted Paradise  
Kingfisher. Photo by  
Steve Robertson



November 12–23, 2016

(depart U.S. on Nov. 10 if not on the Tasmania Pre-trip)

This awesome trip begins in Cairns, Northern Queensland, where we'll bird the stunning coastline and the Atherton Tablelands, regions world-renowned for their avian diversity. We'll keep an eye out for **Scarlet Honeyeater**, **Laughing Kookaburra**, and the **Lovely Fairy Wren** as we traverse the countryside with our local guide. **Royal Spoonbills**, **Black Swans**, and **Great Crested Grebes** are a few of the species we'll seek out when we visit the Mareeba Wetlands, and we'll search for the unique **Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher** and massive **Australian Bustard** in nearby forests and scrub. Within the first week, we are likely to have seen 150 or so of the world's most beautiful birds including, with luck, the very rare **Southern Cassowary**.

But we will do more than bird on this trip. We'll venture out to sea for *three days and two nights* on a certified, live-aboard dive-boat to experience the awesome beauty of the **Great Barrier Reef**. We will snorkel several of the reef's finest coral groves (you may scuba dive if desired), where **Sea Turtles**, **Giant Clams** and a myriad of colorful fish abound.

We'll also have time to explore Cairns, shop for souvenirs, and see **Flying Fox Bats** on a tour of a fruit bat rehab center. We'll end our trip with two nights in the beautiful city of **Sydney**, where we'll bird the **Botanical Gardens**, see the famous **Sydney Opera House**, and enjoy a little free time before heading home. This trip is designed to thrill the avid birder and novice alike. Please contact Steve Robertson at **503-292-6855 ext.118** or **srobertson@audubonportland.org** if you have questions.



Sydney Opera House.  
Photo by Shannon Hobbs

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

**Fee:** \$3895\* members / \$4195\* non-members

**Deposit:** \$2400 required to secure your place

## Tasmania Pre-trip

November 5–12, 2016 (depart U.S. on Nov. 3)

Tasmania is simply enchanting. We'll fly into Hobart, dine on the waterfront, then head off to Bruny Island the next day in hopes of spotting all the island's *12 endemic species of birds*, including the **Forty-spotted Pardalote**. On Bruny, we will also witness the charming **Little Penguins** as they come up onto the beach at dusk. We then head north to Mole Creek, a region known as a stronghold for both the **Duck-billed Platypus** and the endangered **Tasmanian Devil**. Finally, we'll visit **Cradle Mountain**, a World Heritage Area, where we'll have time to hike and explore before we head to Queensland. This charming island is often our participants' favorite part of their trip to Australia. Please contact Steve Robertson at **503-292-6855 ext.118** or **srobertson@audubonportland.org** if you have questions.

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

**Fee:** \$1995\* members / \$2195\* non-members

**Deposit:** \$1000 required to secure your place

## Northeast Oregon June 12–17, 2016

Rugged Northeast Oregon is full of scenic beauty with spectacular mountains and gorges. A few of the birds we may see include **Calliope Hummingbird**, **Bobolink**, and **Yellow-breasted Chat**. We will be based in Enterprise for three nights and spend our last two nights in Union. From here we will visit Ladd Marsh, where many species of waterbirds nest, including **American Avocet**, **Black-necked Stilt**, **Canvasback**, and **Sandhill Crane**. The nearby Grande Ronde River hosts nesting **Gray Catbirds** and **Veery**, and is one of the best places in Oregon to find these species. 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 &

**Dr. Ivan Phillipsen**, Portland Audubon Trip Leader

**Fee:** \$995\* members / \$1195\* non-members

**Deposit:** \$500 required to secure your place

## MALHEUR FORAY June 4–8, 2016

Join us on our annual tour of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, a world-class birder's paradise located in remote and beautiful SE Oregon. Contact Eric Scheuering at **971-222-6119** or **escheuering@audubonportland.org** for more information.

**Leader:** **Patty Newland**, Portland Audubon Trip Leader

**Fee:** \$845\* members / \$1045\* non-members

**Deposit:** \$400 required to secure your place

\*Fee includes: Ground transportation, **double-occupancy** lodging, meals *except dinners*, entrance fees for planned activities and the services of your leaders.



HOW TO REGISTER

Choose one of 3 ways to register for Adult Classes:

Adult Classes

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

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

**3. Credit card payment:** Call Marissa Duncan (971-222-6131) or our Nature Store (503-292-WILD) to pay over phone.We accept VISA, MasterCard, and Discover.

Contact Marissa Duncan, Education Program Assistant, at [mduncan@audubonportland.org](mailto:mduncan@audubonportland.org) or **971-222-6131**.

Check our website for upcoming classes not listed here!  
[audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult/classes](http://audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult/classes)

**Winter Twig I.D.**  
**Jan 14 (Thur), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall**  
**Jan 16 (Sat), 9am–1pm: Local Field Trip**  
The natural world is mostly dormant and quiet in the depths of winter. Deciduous trees and shrubs have dropped their leaves, ceasing photosynthesis until next spring. You may think it’s difficult to identify these plants in winter. But each species has telltale characteristics that you can learn to recognize. Naturalist **Ivan Phillipsen** will help you get your bearings in the winter woods by presenting information on how to identify the bark, buds, and overall shapes of leafless trees and shrubs. Some species covered will be bigleaf maple, red alder, Oregon white oak, beaked hazelnut... and many more!  
**Class with Field Trips**, *limited to 14 participants*:  
\$45 members / \$60 non-members  
**Class-only Option**: \$14 members / \$20 non-members

**Nature Journals:**  
**Add birds to your pages!**  
**Jan 16 (Sat), 10am–3pm: Class in Heron Hall**  
Explore ways to add birds to your nature journal with **Jude Siegel**. Discover easy ways to see and get the essence of that bird! Learn how a combination of simple drawing techniques, bits of watercolor, writing, and other fun ways create a unique and interesting journal page. Add to your birding experience with a handmade record. ***No art experience required***, just enthusiasm and willingness.  
**Fee**: \$45 members / \$65 non-members  
*Limited to 16 participants.*

**Beginning Birding I**  
**(Session A):Jan 28 (Thur), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall**  
**Jan 31 & Feb 7 (Sun), 9am–12pm: Local Field Trips**  
**(Session B):Feb 11 (Thur), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall**  
**Feb 14 & 21 (Sun), 9am–12pm: Local Field Trips**  
Join **Laura Whittemore**, long-time birder and teacher, for an introduction to bird watching that takes the mystery out of the country’s most popular hobby. You will learn to recognize birds by shape, behavior, plumage, and more, as well as how to use binoculars and field guides to zero in on the identity of that mysterious little bird. Learn about birds with the patient guidance of an experienced birder.  
**Class with Field Trips**, *limited to 14 participants per session*: \$55 members / \$75 non-members  
**Class-only Option**: \$14 members / \$20 non-members

**Beginning Field Birding & Sauvie Island Exploration**  
**Saturdays, 8am–12pm**  
**Feb 6, Mar 5, and Apr 2: Local Field Trips**  
Saturday morning explorations with **Ricky Allen** at one of Oregon’s most accessible Important Bird Areas — Sauvie Island Wildlife Area. This class series is perfect for those interested in developing and sharpening their birding skills under a variety of field conditions. Explore different habitats, learn bird calls, and search for waterfowl, songbirds, and raptors.  
**Fee**: \$80 members / \$100 non-members  
*Limited to 15 participants.*  
**Pre-registration required — participants register for all three days.**

**The Art of Illustrating Insects**  
**Feb 17 & 24, Mar 2 & 9 (Wed), 6:30pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall**  
This workshop will focus on the scientific illustration of insects with an emphasis on conveying anatomical structure and creating aesthetically pleasing images. Exercises will allow participants to practice drawing techniques as they work toward a finished piece. Nature illustrator **Stacey “Zebith” Thalden** received a BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design and an MFA focusing on Painting & Entomology from Goddard College.  
**Fee**: \$95 members / \$115 non-members (includes \$15 for supplies)  
*Limited to 12 participants; 10 minimum.*

**Advanced Waterfowl I.D.**  
**Feb 18 (Thur), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall**  
**Feb 20 (Sat), 8am–12pm: Local Field Trip**  
Most male ducks in breeding plumage are pretty easy to identify, but can you identify the females? Lesser and Greater Scaup? Tundra and Trumpeter Swan? Can you tell a Taverner’s Cackling Goose from a Ridgway’s Cackling Goose? Join local guide and author **John Rakestraw** for this class that will focus on these challenges and more.  
**Class with Field Trips**, *limited to 14 participants*:  
\$45 members / \$60 non-members  
**Class-only Option**: \$14 members / \$20 non-members

**Sketching Birds and their Surroundings: Easy ways to capture the essence!**  
**Feb 27 (Sat), 10am–3pm: Class in Heron Hall**  
Artist and author **Jude Siegel** provides simple approaches for anyone who likes birds and wants to record them easily on paper! Along with some writing, try different ways to capture the ‘gesture’ (pose) of a bird, explore “less is more” with your drawings, and play with a little paint to add some color as you place your bird in its environment. We will use pen, graphite, and watercolor, simply and effectively, to create a handmade record of your love of birds. No art experience needed!  
Fee: \$45 members / \$65 non-members  
Limited to 16 participants.

**More classes coming!**  
**See details at [audubonportland.org](http://audubonportland.org).**

**Waterfowl I.D. for Beginners: Mallards to Wood Ducks**  
**Mar 2, 5 & 12**

**Lichens, Mosses, & Ferns**  
**March 16 & 19**

**Little Brown Birds**  
**March 24 & 26**

Spring Break Camps run 8:45am–4:15pm unless otherwise noted.

MONDAY, MARCH 21 – FRIDAY, MARCH 25			THURSDAY, MARCH 24	FRIDAY, MARCH 25
<b>Tails of the Forest:</b> <b>Mammals (Mon), Raptors (Tues), Amphibians (Wed), Birds (Thur), Habitats (Fri)</b> <b>1st grade</b> During this week-long camp, you’ll learn about all the tails of the forest and the animals they belong to. Each day we will focus on a different theme as we tell tales about animals, play animal games, and make art projects inspired by what you learn.We will be sure to spend lots of time in Audubon’s wildlife sanctuary searching for bushy squirrel tails, slippery newt tails, and spiky woodpecker tails. <b>All 5 days: \$240 member/ \$260 non-member</b> <b>Single days: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member</b> <b>Pick up/Drop off Location: Audubon</b>			<b>Newts and Boots</b> <b>2nd–3rd grade</b> Strap on your mud boots and head out to one of Portland’s best wetlands in search of salamanders and reptiles. Springtime is truly amphibian time and we’ll search for egg masses and pollywogs.We’ll be on the lookout for native amphibians throughout the day and will safely collect, study, and release them back to the wild. <b>Fee:</b> \$65 mem/ \$75 non-mem <b>Pick up/Drop off Location:</b> Upper Macleay Park	<b>Forest Mask-arade</b> <b>2nd–3rd grade</b> 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. <b>Fee:</b> \$60 member/ \$70 non-member <b>Pick up/Drop off Location:</b> Audubon
MONDAY, MARCH 21	TUESDAY, MARCH 22	WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23	<b>Coil Basketry</b> <b>4th–8th grade</b> Have you ever wanted to make something beautiful using all-natural materials? Learn to create an elegant simple basket 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! <b>Fee:</b> \$65 mem/ \$75 non-mem <b>Pick up/Drop off Location:</b> Audubon <b>Leader: Laura Newton, Naturalist-Educator</b>	<b>Junior Wildlife Vet 102</b> <b>4th–8th grade</b> 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. <b>Fee:</b> \$65 member/ \$75 non-member <b>Pick up/Drop off Location:</b> Upper Macleay Park
<b>The Art of Invisibility</b> <b>2nd–3rd grade</b> To ambush, to lie in wait, to surprise, and to hide in plain sight... these will be our goals as we use the Audubon Sanctuary to focus on the skill of disappearing.We’ll sneak through the woods trying to stay undetected, play games, and follow maps that lead to delicious bounty. <b>Fee:</b> \$60 member/ \$70 non-member <b>Pick up/Drop off Location:</b> Audubon <b>Trip Leader: Laura Newton, Naturalist-Educator</b>	<b>Junior Wildlife Vet 101</b> <b>2nd–3rd grade</b> 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. <b>Fee:</b> \$65 mem/ \$75 non-mem <b>Pick up/Drop off Location:</b> Audubon	<b>Wild Art Adventure</b> <b>2nd–3rd grade</b> Spend a day exploring the forest, pond, and trails surrounding Portland Audubon and let your creativity run wild! Come join us while we paint, draw, construct, and adventure to our hearts’ content! <b>Fee:</b> \$60 member/ \$70 non-member <b>Pick up/Drop off Location:</b> Audubon <b>Trip Leader: Laura Newton, Naturalist-Educator</b>	<b>Keeping kids in touch with nature!</b>	
<b>Surf’s Up</b> <b>4th–8th grade</b> Join Audubon’s Educators on this day-long exploration of the coast.We’ll discover the awesome animals that live in tidepools, explore a few caves, learn some cool geology, and find time to build a sandcastle or two. Note: the camp returns at <b>5:00 PM</b> . <b>Fee:</b> \$65 member/ \$75 non-member <b>Pick up/Drop off:</b> Upper Macleay Park <b>Leader: Tim Donner, Naturalist-Educator</b>	<b>Birding the Buttes</b> <b>4th–8th grade</b> Spend a day traveling to many of our local east side mini-volcanos. We’ll grab binoculars and hand lenses to learn about the geology of Portland’s volcanic vents, while searching out the birds that call these greenspaces home. <b>Fee:</b> \$65 mem/ \$75 non-mem <b>Pick up/Drop off Location:</b> Upper Macleay Park	<b>Map, Compass &amp; Beyond</b> <b>4th–8th grade</b> Come spend the day at Portland’s scenic Mt. Tabor Park to learn how to use a topographical map and compass. We’ll discover the hidden art of field navigation as we learn how to interpret a topographic map and how to use a compass. Learn how to read contour lines, understand map scale, and orient a map to the surrounding landscape. WWith treasure map in hand, your team will navigate to hidden treasures and clues on Portland’s only extinct volcano.The search is on! <b>Fee:</b> \$65 member/ \$75 non-member <b>Pick up/Drop off Location:</b> Upper Macleay Park <b>Leader: Tim Donner, Naturalist-Educator</b>		



# Field Notes

by Harry Nehls

## Invasion of the Mountain Chickadees

Birders were pleasantly surprised this fall when good numbers of **Mountain Chickadees** dropped down into the Willamette Valley. Apparently well scattered, numerous backyard feeders in the Portland area were visited by one or more of these interesting visitors. Why this sudden influx and where did they come from?

Mountain Chickadees are permanent residents of high elevation coniferous forests. During the summer months their chief sources of food are insects. In fall they switch to mainly coniferous tree seeds. Conifers do not produce seeds every year so the amount of available seeds varies from year to year.

## Sightings

**Sandhill Cranes** regularly stop on Sauvie Island during migration and are regularly seen passing over Portland, but Bobbett Pierce observed a spectacular occurrence October 2 in Scappoose Bottoms. “I have never seen so many cranes flying. For more than an hour chains of them were flying southeast as I was walking on the Crown-Z trail in Scappoose Bottoms. I spotted far off cranes high up and in long loose chains as far as I could see. We were there a solid hour and they continued the entire time. One chain had a good thousand and there were continuous chains spread out on the horizon. I was surprised when unseen hundreds rose up close and headed toward the cranes that looked like they were going a long way.”

Not as spectacular, perhaps, several other interesting birds were reported this fall. On October 17 Jay Withgott spotted a **Pygmy Nuthatch** in the trees in Gabriel Park. Ed McVicker found two there a couple of days later. The birds remained for others to enjoy. On November 3 Bob Flores found a **White-faced Ibis** at Vancouver Lake. Later it moved to be seen along Lower River Road.

Vancouver birders reported several good birds. Bill Bradford and Lora Minty found a **Summer Tanager** November 1 in Woodland Bottoms. On November 2 a **Costa’s Hummingbird** visited Terry Porter’s feeder in Battleground. On November 24 Bob Flores watched a flock of 14 **Barn Swallows** and two **Violet-green Swallows** flying over

During the winter months most of the population move about the breeding ranges gathering at the available food. There is no migratory movement but during the post-breeding dispersal some individuals drop down into lower elevations. A couple of these strays are regularly reported in the Willamette Valley.

In years of poor seed production, when the chickadee population becomes higher than the available food, the young birds are forced to move to lower elevations away from breeding areas. There is

Vancouver Lake. On November 29 Barry Woodruff reported a **Wilson’s Warbler** at Ridgefield NWR.

On November 14 Cody Smith found an **Emperor Goose** at Warren. By November 19 it had moved to Scappoose Bottoms and remained for birders to check it out. Wink Gross recorded a **Pine Grosbeak** at the Pittock Mansion November 20. The next day Rhett Wilkins spotted a **Broad-winged Hawk** flying over Portland. For the exotic, Tim Burdick photographed a **Mandarin Duck** November 28 in Beaverton.

On November 6 Andy Frank spotted a **Lapland Longspur** among the **Horned Lark** flock at Broughton Beach. Jay Withgott found a **Black-bellied Plover** there November 2. Off Hayden Island November 18 were 94 **Western Grebes**. A **Surf Scoter** was there November 3, and two were on Sauvie Island the next day. On November 14 Stefan Schlick saw a **White-winged Scoter** on Hagg Lake, and Bob Flores reported two on Vancouver Lake November 18.

Swarms of **Pine Siskins** were reported from the Portland area. On October 26 Jeff Hayes reported over 200 in SW Portland. On November 10 Lauretta Young reported swarms of hundreds in Beaverton. There were several reports of **Short-eared Owls** which might indicate an invasion year.

Mountain Chickadee  
© Scott Carpenter



no regular cycle, but every few years higher numbers move into the Willamette Valley.

In recent years large numbers were reported in Western Oregon and in the Portland area during the winters of 2000–2001, 2007–2008, and 2012–2013, and now during 2015–2016.

These movements arrive in the lowlands during late September and remain through the winter to late April. This fall early birds arrived in early October. These lowland visitors usually remain well scattered, but on October 13 Jay Withgott counted 10 individuals as a pure flock of Mountain Chickadees moved through Multnomah Village trees.

Although Mountain Chickadees range from British Columbia south into Mexico, only Oregon is reporting this year’s lower-elevation movement. As persistent winter residents it is fairly safe to say that the Willamette Valley birds are from the Oregon Cascade Mountain population.



Short-eared Owl ©  
Jim Cruce

## 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!



Tim Irving and Jenna Lundmark force-feed a goose in the Wildlife Care Center. Photo by Deanna Sawtelle

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, but *seasonal positions will soon be available for “Baby Bird Season.”*)
- 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 Culture Awareness Day, and Swift Watch.

New Volunteer Orientation is **Wednesday, February 10, 6pm–8:30pm**. Before attending Orientation, participants are required to complete a Volunteer Application at **[audubonportland.org/about/volunteer/volapp](http://audubonportland.org/about/volunteer/volapp)**. Individuals who wish to volunteer in a capacity ***beyond special events*** must also attend General Volunteer Training on **Saturday, February 20, 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](mailto:dsawtelle@audubonportland.org) or 503-292-6855 ext.108.

## Volunteers of the Month: Receptionists in the Administration Building

by Keia Booker, Office Coordinator and Executive Assistant

I’ve only been at Portland Audubon for a few months, but all of the receptionists have made me feel like family since day one. The volunteer receptionists are all so unique and interesting that I am hard pressed to call out just one for this special honor. Here is a brief tribute to our Admin Receptionists and some of what they do for their community, the city of Portland, and the family here at the Audubon Society of Portland.

**Susan Bexton** has put in over 3,000 hours and over 20 years of service to the Audubon Society of Portland. She is an avid photographer and has shared other creative talents with us as well. Susan has given us her keen eye and brought in woodland life from her home to help welcome guests to Audubon.

**Carol Evans** is a mover and shaker. Carol is always supporting art events around town whether it be *Ain’t Misbehavin’* at Portland Center Stage or a WWII exhibit at the Oregon Historical Society. She definitely keeps me in the know about what’s going on around town.

**Nancy Fraser** knows her birds. I now have a collection of about 25 native birds as my screen saver thanks to Nancy and they all have names added to them to accentuate my osmosis education.

**Linda Gipe** is a jack of all trades. Linda keeps us fully stocked with vegetables from her garden. Her cherry tomatoes this year were like candy to welcome visitors and staff alike.

**Carol Gross** is, well, one of the most compassionate and humble people I’ve ever known. When she is not

volunteering at Portland Audubon, she is the Cascades Region Disaster Mental Health Advisor. It’s all in a day’s work for Carol Gross.

**Marie Hutchinson** is a spitfire. She really enjoys talking with people and she is a zealous birder. She has educated me immensely on some of our native wildlife in the sanctuary. Her enthusiasm is infectious.

**Lee Jaszlics** is new to the Audubon Society of Portland. She recently returned from her old home in Sydney, Australia and brought back some titillating stories about teenage cassowaries.

**Kathlene Kelley** loves animals. When she is not assisting people at Portland Audubon with questions about native wildlife, she is taking hikes and walks with her family of K9s every week.

You can count on **Susan Little** to help keep us organized and on some serious baked goods. She has baked pumpkin bread for the staff as well as bestowing jars of candied nuts on her fellow receptionists that covered shifts in the fall.

**Carol Macleod** is one of the sweetest people you will ever meet and one of the smartest. She has spent most of her career doing molecular biology research for cancer and is Professor Emeritus at the University of California San Diego. She has volunteered as a receptionist since 2013 and will soon begin volunteering in the Nature Store.

**Melinda McCoy** is an adventurous lady who likes to travel. When she is not volunteering at Audubon or traveling, she helps out the otters and other marine life at the Oregon Zoo.



# Nature Store Highlights

## Squirrel-Resistant Feeders



The dead of winter has arrived. Deciduous trees and shrubs are bare, and we've all got a nice clear view of our feeders out the back window. What do we see? Well, most likely a squirrel eating all our birdseed. Dang!

In our never-ending quest to outwit squirrels, the Nature Store has added a new line of squirrel-resistant feeders. The Nuttery is a British company founded in 1990 by Leslie Lipton, an architectural designer. Leslie had watched the BBC program "Daylight Robbery," which showed how squirrels can overcome obstacles to reach food left out for the birds. Then he set out to design a bird feeder with his own unique architectural styling that would baffle even the brainiest squirrel.

The Nuttery feeders come in both suet and seed models. The colors are strikingly original with cherry red, robin's egg blue, and mint green as our favorites. Oval, lantern, and softly rounded shapes predominate and all are designed with European flair. We all love watching squirrels, but we don't love watching them eat all our birdseed!

## Thank You to:

- Dan Aberle for an office chair
- Roger Bond for a San Disk Ultra II Solid State Drive and four 19-foot Rackmount shelves
- Jim Cruce for professional wildlife photographs including 3 8x10 and 104 11x14 photos with boards and covers
- John Drain and Parrot Mountain Group llc for 28 "Penguin's Smile" tote bags for the Nature Store to sell
- James Dykes for a 5x5 projection screen for Education
- Morning Star Mice for food for the raptors at the Wildlife Care Center
- Boone Ogden for a generous discount on catering for the Land/Sea Symposium in Yachats
- Patricia Wheeler for a Nikon Fieldscope ED50 with eyepiece for Education

## Our Wish List

**For All Departments:**  
Ergonomic Office Chairs

**For Sanctuary:**

Loppers  
Hand saws  
Work gloves

**For Wildlife Care Center:**

Science Diet Kitten Growth Bleach  
Dawn Dishwashing Detergent  
Exam gloves (latex or latex-free)  
Paper lunch bags  
Small leather work gloves  
Kevlar animal handling gloves

**If you can donate these items, please first contact Audubon Society of Portland at 503-292-6855 ext. 102, Mon-Fri, to arrange a time for delivery/pick-up.**

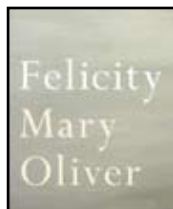
## Thank You for Your Patronage!

Looking behind at 2015 and ahead at 2016, the Nature Store Staff would like to thank our dedicated volunteers, members, and customers for your support, encouragement, and patronage. We understand that there are other choices available to you for places to spend your time and money, and we appreciate that you choose us. We look forward to continuing opportunities to supply you with quality, well-curated optics, books, toys, feeders, and more. Your purchase dollars stay here in the community, helping fund Audubon's conservation and education programs as well as supporting our general operations. Thank you!

### New Books for the New Year

We received some new books in December that arrived too late to be featured in our special holiday issue but still seem gift-worthy, or perhaps worthy of spending a cold winter's evening with. Please consider the following new titles:

*Felicity* is Mary Oliver's newest poetry collection (Penguin Books, \$24.95). Oliver has long been the Nature Store's best-selling poet, and she continues to deliver thought-provoking works steeped in the natural world.



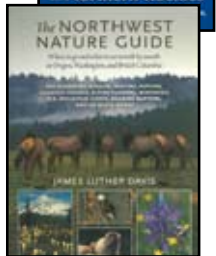
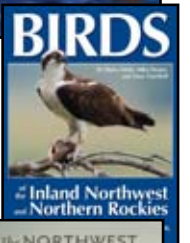
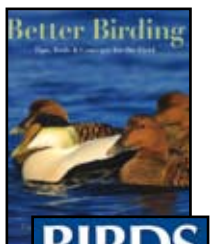
Graphic novels are a thriving part of the publishing world, and nature topics are increasingly being explored in this visual format. Experience the thrill of mountain climbing in Jeremy Collins' *Drawn: The Art of Ascent* (Mountaineers, \$24.95). And the tragedy of encounters between European explorers and Northwest Native peoples are poignantly depicted in *The Captive of Friendly Cove* (Fulcrum Publishing, \$25.95) by Rebecca Goldfield and Mike Short.



## Winter Storytime!

Because of the New Year's holiday and other activities on the Audubon campus, we will be on a reduced schedule for Storytime during January and February. Please join us on **January 16** in the Interpretive Center at 12:30 for a **free** seasonally appropriate children's activity celebrating nature. Audubon volunteers will lead a story, plus a matching craft or activity, suitable for kids 4–8 years old. We're still deciding what story to feature, so please check either the Audubon website or call the Nature Store for more information at 503-292-9453.

Take some time this winter to brush up on your birding skills, courtesy of George Armistead and Brian Sullivan. Their new book is *Better Birding: Tips, Tools & Concepts for the Field* (Princeton University Press, \$29.95). The book is organized by topics such as waterbirds, large shorebirds, and skulkers, with a detailed examination of key field marks, plumages, and behavioral clues for easier identification in the field.



### Last Chance Book Titles

We have a limited supply of **James Davis's Northwest Nature Guide** (Timber Press, \$29.95) and **Birds of the Inland Northwest and Northern Rockies** by **Harry Nehls** (RW Morse, \$19.95). **These wonderful resources have unfortunately gone out of print, so don't delay picking up a copy.**

### Natural Perfumes from Ring Botanicals

We carry a variety of essential oils from Northwest distiller and farmer Jessica Ring. This month we have three new scents to offer from her collection of natural, sustainably cultivated perfumes and colognes. Formulated with pure botanical extracts and free of irritating synthetics, these are impressively wearable and gentle on the senses.



Jessica Ring of Ring Botanicals (submitted photo)

**Oregon Amber:** Comforting and warm, perfect for banishing the winter chill. This perfume carries light hints of vanilla, sweet tree balsams, and musk.

**Lavender Spruce:** Tangy, citrusy, and crisp. This perfume develops sweet and peppery notes the longer you wear it.

**Lewis & Clark:** An exploration of the scents of our Northwest landscape, from grassy plains to old-growth forests. Conifers, sage, and native herbs are imbued with subtle hints of smoke and clean damp earth.

In February, we will be on hiatus so you and your family can take part in the Raptor Road Trip on February 6 (see page 1), and have fun at Audubon Kids Day on February 13 (page 2). Or consider becoming an Audubon Volunteer at the training on February 20 (page 8). We will return in March with our regular schedule, featuring Storytime on the first and third Saturdays of each month.

# Sanctuaries Happenings

## Changing the Dialogue on Invasive Species

by Tom Costello, Director of Operations

Still remember the morning 15 years ago when I stepped into Forest Park and participated in my first English Ivy removal project. I was leading a team of 10 AmeriCorps members and we were scheduled to spend the week pulling ivy with Sandy Diedrich, who at the time coordinated the "No Ivy League" effort in Forest Park. Sandy was a rock star, for sure — she could relate to anyone and made everyone feel welcome. And her introductory talk on ivy was dynamic to say the least: Sandy would embody the ivy, act out its destructive crawl over the forest floor and up the trees, and then beg for violence — against the ivy, of course. It was always a funny talk, and I remember on many occasions thinking to myself that this is the kind of talk to emulate.

Looking back, however, despite the volume of ivy removal projects I have led in the intervening years, I have made no effort to emulate this animated and impassioned speech against the ivy. In fact I make a concerted effort to veer away from the standard "ivy is bad so we have to kill it" dialogue that is pretty common in the world of habitat restoration, especially when working with students and younger volunteers. I find this over-simplified dialogue can be harmful both to the student's understanding of the

ecological situation as well as the student's relationship with nature and the natural world.

While Sandy's talks were always appreciated by me and the entire AmeriCorps team, over time I felt more and more that these types of impassioned pleas for violence against the evil, invading ivy could be counter-productive. While these types of motivational talks tap into the readily accessible cultural memes that make Hollywood movies so successful, they do not accurately represent the ecological situation. The motivation gained to pull ivy for a few hours in the rain fades quickly, and volunteers are often left with this false image or idea of a sentient, malicious plant that must be dealt with. People start to see the fictional, caricatured portrayal of ivy in the *Wildwood* books as the reality, and this is not healthy.

This image can create a lot of dissonance in the minds of younger students, particularly students raised in a culture that has lost a good deal of its connection with the natural world. In getting kids outside and attempting to foster a connection with the natural world, I think we run the risk of putting too much pressure on them to fix the problems

which they have themselves inherited from us. We tell them that the natural world has value that must be protected with our efforts, while we also paint a picture of plant communities at war with one another.

I think we need to shift the dialogue to one that praises ivy for what it is: a wonderfully strong and resilient plant with an amazing ability to take care of and propagate itself; a plant with ecological value in its native range; a plant with such strong growth patterns that it can interrupt forest succession when it is planted in areas outside of its natural range. I also believe we need to be careful that we do not anthropomorphize or vilify ivy or other invasive plant and animal species that we find ourselves working to control — or we run the risk of alienating, rather than connecting, youth to nature.

Is ivy bad? Good question to sit on....  
Photo © Portland Audubon





# The 2015 Wild Arts Festival — Another Wildly Successful Year!

Silent Auctioneers  
© Portland Audubon

Truly a community event, the 35th Wild Arts Festival once again transformed Montgomery Park into a beautiful, creative space where thousands of people came together to view amazing art and peruse book titles, converse with artists and authors, and to celebrate nature. The crowds were robust but comfortable as 4,300 attendees flocked to the venue to do a little pre-holiday shopping for themselves and loved ones while supporting local artisans and the programs of the Audubon Society of Portland.

It takes a lot to put on a show like this — a lot of heart and heft with the help of an amazing crew of volunteers and staff. In advance of opening, late Friday afternoon the artist booth spaces were laid out on the main and mezzanine levels, and then a parade of the 64 artists’ wares on volunteer-powered trolleys carried on late into the evening until every booth was in place. All the while volunteers set up over 250 Silent Auction items on the third floor and carefully stacked the books of 30 authors on the main floor. By the time the Festival opened at 10am Saturday morning, everything was meticulously in place.

By 9:30am that sunny Saturday, November 21, the crowds were already lined up at admissions, waiting for the Wild Arts Festival to finally open and to get their chance at one of the 206 6x6 canvases, donated by artists both local and from afar.

Volunteers welcomed each attendee, asking if they were members and if not, would they like to add their voice to one of the most effective environmental organizations in Oregon. During the course of the weekend, 247 agreed and either renewed their memberships or joined anew.

Throughout the weekend, volunteer handlers shared the stories of Portland Audubon’s Education Birds, which enchanted visitors of all ages, as the Nature Store sold nest boxes, and Oregon College of Art and Craft students showcased their art.

By 3:30pm Sunday, November 22, the Silent Auction closed with a record-breaking \$26,000 in sales. And by the close of the show, the 64 artists sold a total of \$205,000 in wares, contributing 10% of their sales back to the Festival. The Book Fair brought in \$29,000 and the 6x6 project made a record \$7,500. Admissions and membership fees added \$26,500 and while the expenses are still being finalized, it looks like the 2015 Wild Arts Festival will be very close to netting last year’s record-breaking \$110,000.



Part of the welcoming committee. Photo by Susan Bexton

### Thanks to Our Volunteers

While planning for the Festival is nearly year-round, during that weekend over 250 volunteers powered the 2015 Wild Arts Festival. From setup to tear down, volunteers loaded in and loaded out artists’ wares, took admissions and memberships, cashiered at the Book Fair and 6x6 project, sold Nature Store goods, acted as “booth sitters” to give artists a break, handled Portland Audubon’s Education Birds, stocked the volunteer break room, registered Silent Auction bidders and processed their winning bids... and of course, shopped!

Special thanks to **Mary Solares**, Festival Chair, and to other Committee Chairs including Carol Enyart, Martha Gannett, Wink Gross, Molly Marks, Maureen McCormick, Jill Nelson-Debord, Candy Plant, and Mary Ratcliff. Additional thanks go to Darlene Carlson, Linda Craig, Anne Eakin, Laurie Garretson, Gay Gregor, Dianne Harris, Susan Hartner, Ann Littlewood, Gary & Barbara Michaelis, Beth Parmenter, Steve Pearson, John Plant, Toni Rubin, Bruce Schneider, Marilyn Scott, Allan Solares, Jill Turner, Rusty Whitney, Bob Wilson, and Claire Wilde.

We are sending a very heartfelt thank you to **Bob Gandolfi**, who has contracted with Audubon Society of Portland since 2007. Bob is retiring after serving as the Wild Arts Festival Event Producer for nine years. Bob was instrumental in



Booth-sitting volunteers allow artists to take breaks © Portland Audubon



Mary Solares and Bob Gandolfi © Portland Audubon

revitalizing the Festival and bringing it back to Montgomery Park. His experience and insight has made it one of the premier art festivals in Portland. Bob is known and loved for his collaborative and grounding influence on all those who worked with him. His spirit and vision will be greatly missed and we wish him our best.

Next year’s Wild Arts Festival will be held, as always, the weekend before Thanksgiving, so mark your calendars for the 2016 Wild Arts Festival on **November 19–20, 2016**.

## Members Receive a Discount at the Nature Store

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

### Swarovski Optik introduces new EL family with FieldPro Package

Mid-December brought a new version of Swarovski EL binoculars with a full set of new accessories called the FieldPro Package. They sport a newly designed carrying strap, new connection for the new quick adjustment strap, and new integrated objective covers. The quick catch button on the strap easily adjusts to an ideal length within seconds. The new soft rubber ocular cover has greater flexibility and noise reduction. And the field bag has been completely redesigned!



New Swarovski FieldPro EL

These new ergonomic design improvements come with a modest (about \$20) price increase for the full-sized models and none for the mid-sized models. **However, would you like to pay a lot less for a pair of ELs with exactly the same superb optics?** Then this is your chance. Swarovski has dropped MAP prices on their older models and the Nature Store is offering them at “**clearance prices**” while our limited stock remains: **EL 8x32, \$1899** (regular price \$2443), **10x32, \$1999** (regularly \$2554), **8.5x42, \$2129** (regularly \$2810). Sorry, 10x42 is sold out. Hurry in before our stock is depleted.

### Nikon offers rebate on the Monarch 7

And to celebrate the New Year, Nikon Sport Optics will be featuring their top-of-the-line **Nikon Monarch 7 binoculars** in a special promotion from January 1 to February 3, 2016. All models, both full-sized (8x42 and 10x42) and mid-sized (8x30 and 10x30), will receive an “**instant rebate**” of **\$50**. The Monarch 7 is famous for its extra-wide field of view and super clear high-density glass.



Nikon Monarch 7 10x30

### Thank you, sponsors!

Our gratitude goes out to the **Backyard Bird Shop**, which stepped up once again to become our **Presenting Sponsor**. We extend our gratitude to the following organizations and individuals:

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An extra special thanks also goes to **Bill Naito Company** for generously donating the use of Montgomery Park for the Wild Arts Festival.



# Donna Wiench Joins Portland Audubon Staff

Portland Audubon's newest staffer is donor relations manager **Donna Wiench**. Donna was development director for Daybreak Youth Services, Columbia Land Trust, and Reclaiming Futures at Portland State University. Earlier in her career, she was a reporter/host for KPLU, the NPR affiliate in Seattle, and was a reporter for KOIN-TV when she was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities journalism fellowship to the University of Michigan. She also was an advisor for China Central Television in Beijing.

But being in nature helps Donna feel grounded and at home, and she finds it fulfilling to work with donors who want to help Portland Audubon educate young people, care for injured wildlife, preserve habitat, and protect the natural world that many of us most value. Donna has hiked and skied for decades and recently backpacked the Wonderland Trail around Mt. Rainier, and she went on her first Portland Audubon birding adventure a few months ago.

We are excited to welcome Donna to our team and look forward to reaching out to more of our members and supporters.



Donna Wiench (submitted photo)

# Nature Literacy is for Kids

## Donor's love for nature and learning converge

**Ellen Fader** devoted her library career to helping young people reach their potential through books and learning. When an inheritance prompted a conversation with the Audubon Society of Portland, she found a whole new way of opening young minds to future opportunity.

Ellen believes in special outreach to jumpstart learning. As director of youth services for Multnomah County libraries, she brought in grants to expose the very young to literacy as a ramp to lifelong achievement. Likewise, she sees early exposure to science and nature as a critical foundation.

When the 2012 gift from her mother made a tax-advantaged donation to charity possible, Ellen thought of her love for birds. She had been uneasy with wild things as a child in New York City, and discovered the joy of birding only as an adult. She liked the idea of nurturing an environmental awareness in the young and underserved that might eventually lead to a career.

As it happened, Portland Audubon was on the cusp of launching the TALON (Teach, Advocate, Learn, Observe,

Ellen Fader © Katy Erlich



Nurture) program of experiential learning for young adults of color. Her donations have helped to sustain the TALON program for the last three years.

Now retired and able to spend more time on birding and travel, Ellen thinks hard about the future. "The Portland Audubon mission of connecting people and nature will only become more difficult as Portland grows," Ellen said. She hopes that TALON will help to produce a diverse set of leaders ready and able to meet the challenge.

# Join us at BRINK, the 4th annual Audubon Society of Portland benefit show at antler gallery and store

Regionally and nationally celebrated artists offer their work in the 4th annual benefit show, **BRINK**. **antler gallery and store**, which showcases artists inspired by wildlife and the natural world, hosts this unique show that focuses on the theme of extinction — species either over the *brink* or teetering on the edge.

**These new, original pieces will be on display for just over a month, January 14 – February 22, 2016**, and 20% of all sales will be donated to the Audubon Society of Portland. antler gallery and store founders and curators, Susannah Kelly and Neil M. Perry, believe strongly in Portland Audubon's mission to protect birds, wildlife, and habitat. Over the past three years, the gallery has raised more than \$7,500 to support wildlife conservation across Oregon.

**BRINK Benefit Show**  
**January 14 – February 22**  
**antler gallery and store**  
**2728 NE Alberta, Portland**  
**antlerpdx.com**  
**Opening Night Events:**  
**Thursday, January 14, 6pm–9pm**

Christina Mrozik, one of the artists whose work will appear in the show, said "It's really exciting to be a part of Audubon Society of Portland. It was instilled in me from a very young age that it's valuable and important to play an active role in your habitat and be aware of what's going on. I'm just really excited to be a part of the show."

Participating artists include Jacob Gagnon, Miranda Meeks, Scott Listfield, Brin Levinson, Sabrina Jackson, Scott Musgrove, Laura Ball, Jon MacNair, Nick Sheehy, Adam Batchelor, Zoe Keller, Susannah Kelly, Vanessa Foley, Natalie Erickson, Neil M. Perry, Chris Valkov, Christina Mrozik, Mark Rogers, David Rice, and Audrey Pongracz.

In addition to the donation from sales, there will be other fundraising events at the gallery during opening night and throughout the show.

**Please join us on opening night of BRINK, January 14, 6pm–9pm, 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 artist © Portland Audubon

# Audubon Society of Portland gratefully acknowledges these special gifts:

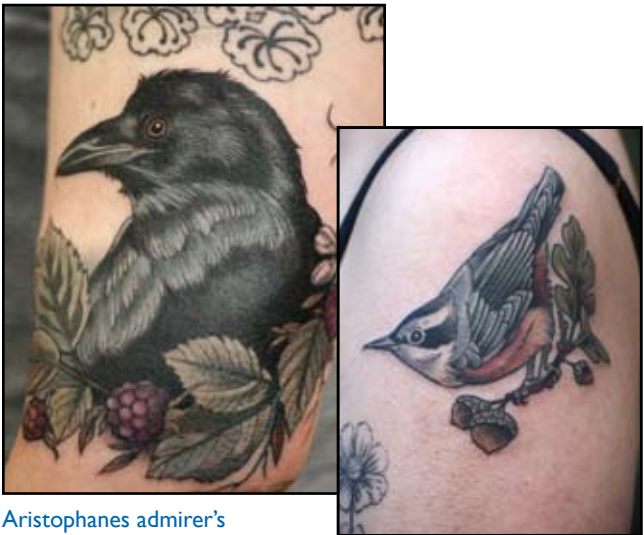
## In Memory

<b>Ken Barron</b> Renee Barron	<b>Leta Markley</b> Anonymous
<b>Steve Brocoum</b> Alice Brocoum	<b>Rick Miller</b> Honora Miller
<b>Joyce Hamreus</b> Anonymous Thomas Bricker	<b>George &amp; Marguerite Rasmussen</b> Bridget O'Rourke & Family
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## In Honor

<b>Contributors to the Warbler</b> Marilyn Stinnett	<b>Ginnie Ross</b> Deanna Sawtelle
<b>Laurie Garretson</b> Judy Washbond	<b>Deanna Sawtelle</b> Ginnie Ross
<b>Sally Loomis &amp; James Davis</b> Barbara Loomis	<b>Ann Takamoto</b> Jeff & Mari Johansen
<b>Marsie Nufer</b> Elysabeth Hall	<b>Kathy &amp; Frans van der Horst</b> Ann Grusin

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



Aristophanes admirer's tattoo by Alice Kendall. Photo © Portland Audubon

Red-breasted Nuthatch by Kirsten Holliday. Photo © Portland Audubon

# Wonderland Tattoo Gives 'Avian Ink' in Support of Audubon Society of Portland

On a chilly day in November, dozens of people waited outside Wonderland Tattoo studio hoping to get their very own avian-themed ink. The much-loved tattoo parlor in Southeast Portland put the word out on social media that they were offering bird tattoos and that all the proceeds would benefit Audubon Society of Portland. Thanks to the talented artists who donated their time and the folks who came out, Wonderland Tattoo raised \$5,850 in support of our work!

Owner of Wonderland, Alice Kendall, said about her motivation for the fundraiser, "Wonderland Tattoo is proud to support the Audubon Society of Portland! We love birds and supporting our community through fundraising, outreach, and promotion. Thanks so much for coming out to support a great organization that provides vital services to local wildlife."

In preparation for the event, artists from Wonderland Tattoo came out to our sanctuary to gather real-life inspiration and images of the resident Education Birds including Aristophanes the Raven, Finnegan the Peregrine Falcon, and Jack the American Kestrel.



Tattoo artist Kirsten Holliday puts a bird (Spotted Towhee) on it. Photo © Portland Audubon

Blake Brady came down from Olympia, Washington, leaving her home at about 6:30 a.m. to be one of the first in line for a bird tattoo. "I like the fact that the tattoo shop and the Audubon Society of Portland came together. It's a really cool collaboration and something unique that you're not going to find anywhere else. I love birds. I love all different types of birds. I think these artists are definitely the ones to see if you want that type of tattoo."

Kelly Babbitt got her tattoo in memory of her grandmother. "She was an avid birder and Audubon member, and we used to bird together. She passed away a couple of years ago, but I wanted to come today to try and get a bird tattoo in memory of her."

Thank you so much to Wonderland Tattoo and all the people who came out to support birds and their habitat!



Join Our Flock — Become a Member

Your membership dollars support our Conservation, Education, and Wildlife Rehabilitation Programs! Memberships help us protect native birds and their habitats, and come with perks such as discounts on classes, camps, and trips and in our Nature Store. You can join online at [audubonportland.org/support/membership](http://audubonportland.org/support/membership), in our Nature Store, or send in this handy form.

- ☐ I want to become a member  
☐ Please renew my membership

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
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- ☐ Sign me up for the monthly e-newsletter, The BirdWord.

- ☐ I want to give a Gift Membership to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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We will send a card to the new member notifying them of your gift.

Membership Levels:

- ☐ \$35 Individual      ☐ \$250 Warbler  
☐ \$45 Family      ☐ \$500 Owl  
☐ \$60 Wren      ☐ \$1000 Great Blue Heron  
☐ \$100 Goldfinch      ☐ \$25 Living Lightly (student, senior)

Payment Method

- ☐ My check, payable to Audubon Society of Portland, is enclosed.  
☐ Please charge my: ☐ Visa      ☐ MasterCard  
   ☐ Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Birdathon 2016 — Counting Birds because Birds Count!

by Mark Fitzsimons, Birdathon Coordinator

What, Birdathon already? Yes! We are deep in planning to make Birdathon 2016 again the biggest, baddest Birdathon of this side of the Mississippi! 2015 was a wonderful year — 30 teams, including 4 new teams, with more than 300 participants and over 2,100 donations totaling a wonderful \$161,000 raised to protect birds across Oregon!

Besides raising essential funds for Audubon Society of Portland’s conservation and education programs, Birdathon raises awareness for birds and their habitat, and builds a community of bird and nature lovers.

Mark your calendars for Birdathon registration on March 15. We’ll be giving updates in the March/April *Warbler* and on our website. Be sure to follow us on Facebook for the latest information.

- Take it to the next level and create your own Birdathon team, where:
- You and a group of friends get together for a morning of bird watching
  - You and your family enjoy a special day of birding at your backyard feeders



Millennial Falcons. Photo by Tinsley Hunsdorfer



Soggy Bottom Birders. Photo by Andie Amour

- You introduce a group of co-workers to your favorite birding spot
- You... let your imagination take flight with spring migration and hatch your own Birdathon plan

Join the fun! The success of our Birdathon lies in the depth and growing diversity of our Birdathoners — all of you!

For information about creating a Birdathon team, contact our Birdathon Coordinator, Mark Fitzsimons, at [mark.birdathon@gmail.com](mailto:mark.birdathon@gmail.com).

We hate goodbyes... Marilyn Stinnett, Warbler Editor, heads for new habitat

The person behind the magic of the *Warbler* newsletter for over 9 years, **Marilyn Stinnett**, is fledging our Audubon nest. This Jan/Feb 2016 issue is the final one that will have her indelible mark. Marilyn is one of those unsung heroes who, working with graphic designer Clyde Bailey, tenaciously managed deadlines and numerous contributors, busy schedules and last-minute changes, mastheads, photo credits and spelling errors — all while striving to hit subscribers’ mailboxes on time and with no important errors or omissions. Not only our *Warbler* editor, Marilyn had been an active volunteer, helping out at several Wild Arts Festivals and Christmas Bird Counts.

Marilyn has traveled our journey from eleven issues to seven, from one executive director to her third, and from Sherwood to our offices on NW Cornell Road, all with a smile and lots of enthusiasm for messaging our work to our members. Now she has traveled literally, from the Portland area to Sisters, Oregon, where she is living her dream. She remains a Portland Audubon member and will be viewing future *Warblers* from the “other side” of the publication. We wish Marilyn all the best in this new chapter, and we will miss working with her. Thank you, Marilyn, for all you have done for the Audubon Society of Portland!



Marilyn Stinnett (submitted photo)



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.

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Dawn to dusk every day

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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](http://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](http://www.earthshare-oregon.org).



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NW Natural®  
[www.nwnatural.com](http://www.nwnatural.com)



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