Audubon Summer Camp: Creating Connection

By Ian Abraham, Camp Director

Early each spring, long before the first camper arrives ready for an Audubon Summer, we host a two-week training for our summer seasonal staff of Environmental Educators, college-aged interns, and high-school-aged Counselors and teach them how we run weeklong Portland Audubon Summer Camps. We focus on curriculum development, safety protocols, and first-aid training; work together to develop practices that ensure each program is of high quality, safe, and fun as possible and has a huge helping of natural history; and we work to ensure that each camp is experimental, inspirational, and science-based, with problem-solving and thought-provoking challenges presented daily. Whether we are developing new curriculum for our Audubon East Explorers (new east Portland expansion, see page 7) or redeveloping popular trips like All the Way to Monterey or Destination: Redwoods (page 7), the quality of the program begins and ends with Environmental Educators and their focused intention to inspire students of all ages.

During training, our Environmental Educators focus on the themes of their week-long camps to develop schedules and activities that enhance the personal character and growth of each participant, and they discuss, share, and develop new and exciting ways to connect Audubon campers to the natural world. This brainstorming enables us to create the most inspiring programs possible, and the teamwork and camaraderie that results is, in many ways, the backbone of our high-quality programs.

During these curriculum days, we discuss the effects that journaling activities might have on campers. We start our training with these activities to inspire our educators to not only journal for themselves, but to use journaling in their camps. By using reflective writing activities and/or drawings with different art mediums (depending on camper age), we help campers create a log documenting their nature experience. With each camp, we ask the campers to create their own journal and then draw or write about certain camp events in the best way they know how.

There is something quite amazing about a group of twelve third-graders sitting silently in the forest, crouched over their journals, pencils in hand, drawing or writing about the day’s happenings. These journals help campers preserve their memories for a lifetime.

An Audubon Environmental Educator must consider how children feel about themselves and their time in nature to ensure positive memories—how students feel about their experiences during and after the program affects what they do with what they’ve learned. If campers feel safe and comfortable in the forest while at camp, they are much more likely to return to the woods of their own accord. We help each student build real and meaningful relationships with the natural world. Simply put, we want children to be fond of nature, not afraid of it. If successful, we accomplish Audubon’s larger vision to inspire people to love and protect nature.

For one writing activity, I gave the campers a start: I recognize that Orcas are special, and if I had one story to tell them... The goal was for them to write as much as they could in fifteen minutes. The following was written during an Audubon camp in the San Juan Islands just hours after a sighting of about 22 Orcas moving through the Salish Sea. We thank Reed for sharing his journal entry.

An Orca’s Tale
By Reed Wester-Ebbinghaus, Seventh Grade

I recognize that Orcas are special, and if I had one story to tell them... It would be that of the history of humanity, a story very appropriate to tell due to their likeness to men. I would tell tales of how humans had created powerful empires but were still always at the mercy of the seas. I would explain the story of the city of Atlantis and of how it was so suddenly destroyed the night the sea rushed in and reclaimed the land and the lives of many men. I would even tell of how

Comment on the Portland Harbor Superfund Clean-up Plan

Portland is known as a green city, but its dirty little secret is that both its air and water are highly polluted. Air toxics have been in the news recently, but residents will also soon have an opportunity other than a toxic river, and the strategy being proposed by the EPA is likely to leave our river contaminated for generations to come.

Sixty days is far too short a public-comment period for an issue this complex and this important. We are particularly disappointed in the City of Portland—it has joined with other parties responsible for the pollution in a pattern of working to delay and disrupt this process and intimidate the EPA into adopting a plan that puts the interests of polluters above the health and safety of our community and our environment. Audubon will be requesting a longer comment period, but regardless of length, it will be critical that the people of Portland send comments directly to the EPA and demand a healthy and safe river. Clean air and clean water are basic rights, not things to be compromised to serve the financial interests of polluters. Please speak up for our river! To receive updates on how to get involved, go to http://bit.ly/1QgmG5m

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

My wife and I celebrated eleven years of marriage yesterday by taking a long, evening hike in Forest Park. Unencumbered by kids or technology, we wanted to reconnect with each other and the wilderness that brought us together a dozen years before.

Back then, we both had conservation jobs at the Grand Canyon. Karen had invited me on a trip to Portland to meet her parents, see her hometown, and experience the beauty of Oregon. She also brought me for one of my first hikes in a tempestuous rainstorm. I can vividly recall her inhaling deeply and asking, “Can you smell that? That’s the scent of Oregon woods...I just love that!” Having come from the desert, the air seemed thick with moisture, with oxygen, with health. We named that scent “tree breath” and imagined uprooting ourselves from the desert to Portland.

I fell further in love with Karen, and also with Portland. Here, I sensed beautiful nature as well as community, and a need for conservation that exceeded the gateway Park Service communities I’d seen. Within six months, Karen and I were all-in: engaged to be married, resigned from our jobs, and loaded on a truck for Portland.

Twelve years have passed, and I still find Portland’s nature, sense of community, and need for conservation more compelling than ever. In this issue of the Warbler, you’ll learn how your voice is needed now to restore the Willamette River from a century of toxic waste dumping, as well as to stop the senseless killing of thousands of songbirds. You can find our call for participants and donors for Birdathon, our largest fundraising event of the year. And you can take pride in our latest success—Portland Audubon’s instrumental role protecting critical floodplain habitat for birds through a successful lawsuit that could have ripple effects for birds and their habitat nationwide.

We hope the stories of the Warbler capture the vitality of your Portland Audubon community. Like an anniversary hike in the woods, its inspiration awaits us whenever we take part. If a Warbler article inspires you to engage further in the enjoyment and protection of nature, then it will have achieved its purpose. Enjoy the “tree breath” that we protect together.

There’s still time to sign!

Signature collection continues to qualify Outdoor School for All for the statewide ballot in November. Here’s volunteer Harriet Anderson handing in 50 signatures she collected. Learn more on our website, audubonportland.org.

30th Annual Great Blue Heron Week
June 1–June 12, 2016
By Mike Houck, Urban Naturalist

Anywho knows former Mayor Bud Clark will not be surprised that it was during his tenure (1985–1992) that Portland adopted the Great Blue Heron as its official bird. An avid canoeist and cyclist, Bud commuted to work by bicycle and still rides on our annual policy-maker bicycle ride at a spry 85 years young.

In the spring of 1866 Mayor Clark’s address at a West Coast gathering of fish and wildlife agencies was replete with references to his encounters with Great Blue Herons. His enthusiasm was clear as he waxed poetic about watching them glide by Portland’s downtown skyscrapers as they flew between their nesting colony on Ross Island and feeding grounds at Smith and Bybee Lakes.

This was clearly a great opportunity to further the cause of nature, sense of community, and need for conservation more compelling than ever. In this issue of the Warbler, you’ll learn how your voice is needed now to restore the Willamette River from a century of toxic waste dumping, as well as to stop the senseless killing of thousands of songbirds. You can find our call for participants and donors for Birdathon, our largest fundraising event of the year. And you can take pride in our latest success—Portland Audubon’s instrumental role protecting critical floodplain habitat for birds through a successful lawsuit that could have ripple effects for birds and their habitat nationwide.

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Bird Song Walks 2016
7 a.m. Mon–Fri, various locations: FREE!

Audubon Society of Portland is proud to sponsor the 2016 season of weekday-morning Bird Song Walks! From beginners to advanced birders, anyone who is fascinated by the sounds of birds should take advantage of these volunteer-guided walks to the metro area’s prime spring migration hotspots.

Bird Song Walks begin at 7 a.m. No pre-registration required. Leave whenever you like. Being binoculars and a field guide, and be sure to dress properly for the weather: Spring mornings can be surprisingly chilly.

Try taking the bus if available. Go to trimet.org or call 503-238-RIDE (7433) for route information. For natural history information, maps, and directions for these natural areas, see the latest edition of Wild in the City: Exploring the Intertwine, available at Portland Audubon’s Nature Store. Websites are provided here for each locale.

Continued on page 3
Bring binoculars and dress for the weather — beginners welcome!

May 1 (Sun), 7am–2pm
Northern Coast Range Sooty Grouse
Join Stefan Schlick for a Sooty Grouse search trip in the northern Coast Range beginning in Banks. We will also look for Rufous-sided Towhee, other resident, and newly arrived breeding species. Prepare for cool, possibly inclement weather and wear sturdy boots. We may be hiking steep trails for up to 1 mile. Limited to 12 participants. Registration required with Stefan at greenfinch@hotmail.com.

May 5 (Thurs), 7:30am–12:30pm
Cooper Mountain Sooty Grouse
Join Marilyn Abend, Karen Chavoe, and Dena Turner for birding in the Columbia County Slough and at several water treatment plants. We will look for spring migrants who are singing and settling into territories. Meet on Sauvie Island in the TriMet Park and Ride lot. Please plan to carpool and drive about 40 miles round trip. A $3 parking fee required for the Port of St. Helens. Limited to 18 participants. Registration required with Marilyn at abendlaugh@  gmail.com or Dena at denaturm62@gmail.com.

May 6 (Fri), 7am–9:30am
Cooper Mountain Nature Park
Join Sue Carr and Bonnie Denke to explore the park’s forest, oak woodland, and prairie to find songbirds in their best breeding plumage. Please note that some trails are steep. The park is at 18802 SW Kemmer Rd, Beaverton, or call Sue at 503-313-8086 for directions.

May 7 (Sat), 8am–1am
Larch Mountain
Join Tim Schelmerdiek as we explore montane habitats in eastern Multnomah County looking for such interesting species as Gray Jay, Hermit and other warblers, and listening for booming Sooty Grouse. We’ll meet at the Troutdale Outlet Mall at 8 am. Dress for weather, beginners welcome. Registration encouraged. Call Tim at 971-221-2534 with questions and to sign up.

May 7 (Sat), 8am–1am
Powell Butte Nature Park
Cooper Mountain Bird Treaty Centennial and enjoy a bird walk led by local naturalists Dena Turner and Mary Ratcliff. A USFWS staff person will join us and discuss the landmark Migratory Bird Treaty Center and Park. We will park the park’s unique habitats looking for migrants and resident birds alike. Meet at 8 am at the north parking lot (up SE 162nd from Powell Blvd). Bring binoculars and dress for weather.

Mondays May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Tryon Creek State Park
Leaders: Rick and Stephanie Wagner
11231 SW Terwilliger Blvd, Portland, OR 97219. Take the Terwilliger exit off I-5 and follow it west for 3 miles to the bridge toward Lewis and Clark Park. Keep on Terwilliger Blvd past the intersections with Taylors Ferry Rd and Boones Ferry Rd. At the intersections with Taylors Ferry Rd and Boones Ferry Rd. At the traffic circle, continue past the entrance to Lewis and Clark National Forest Center (2600 SW Hillsboro Hwy) about 1 mile south of Hillsboro on Rte 219. Questions: Dick at 503-407-7912.

May 12 (Thurs), 8am–10:30am
Tualatin River NWR
The seasonal trails have just opened, so it’s time to look for springtime birds on that part of the refuge. We’ll have a good chance to see shorebirds, waterfowl, raptors, and migrant songbirds. We will also view the resident Bald Eagles’ new nest to see if there are any eaglets. Meet leader Barbara Allen at the parking lot at the refuge’s Wildlife Center (9250 SW Pacific Hwy) overnight on Hwy 99W. Questions: Barbara at 970-209-9289.

May 18 (Wed), All-day Trip
White River Oak Woodlands and Rimrock Country
Interested in exploring the unique oak woodland and basalt rim rock country of North Central Oregon? This is your chance to see Lewis’s Woodpecker, Ash Throated Flycatcher, Lanius Bunting, Canyon Wren, and Golden Eagle. We will spend most of our time on the White River Wildlife Management Area around Tygh Valley (south of The Dalles). We will leave the Troutdale Outlet Mall parking lot at 7 am. Plan on an all-day adventure, not getting back to Troutdale until after 5 pm. Registration required. Call Ron Escano (503-771-3454) for details and to reserve on a spot this trip.

June 1 (Wed), All-day Trip
Pine Grove, Wasco County
Interested in exploring the unique habitats of western Wasco County? This is your chance to see Williamson’s Sapsucker, Hermit Warbler, four species of hummingbird, and much more. We will leave Clackamas Town Center parking lot off Sunnyside Road (off I-205) at 7 am. Plan on an all-day adventure, not getting back to Clackamas until after 6 pm. Registration required. Call Ron Escano (503-771-3454) for details and to reserve on a spot this trip.

June 1 (Wed), 7am–5pm
Conboy Lake NWR
Join Kathy van der Horst and Sue Carr to explore this diverse environment at the base of Mt. Adams, with a variety of birds from dry basalt Rimrock to Calliope Hummingbird. Meet at Lewis & Clark State Park to start the 75-mile scenic trip. Take Exit 18 off I-205, turn south and watch for park entrance. Bring lunch and dress for Glenwood, WA weather. Registration required. Call Ron Escano with questions.

June 5 (Sun), 7am–4pm
Lower Deschutes Butterfly Exploration
Learn the difference between swallowtails, whites, sulphurs, brussels, blues, hairstreaks, and skippers as we search for 15 or more species in the mountains, dry canyons, and riparian areas east of the Cascades along the lower Deschutes River. Dennis Deck and Dan van den Brook will help you find such species as Calaveras Gray Hairstreak, California Tortoiseshell, Mourning Cloak among others, while the insects are hill-topping, nectaring, and peddling. Limited to 16 participants. Registration required with Dan van den Brook at dvsrdvenbroek@audubonportland.org. More information, including carpooling, will be sent after you have registered.

June 7 (Fri), 8am–5pm
Mt. Hood Lakes
Join Kathy van der Horst and Karen Chavoe to search the beautiful slopes of Mt. Hood at Wildwood Wildlife Management Area, Trillium Lake, and Little Crater Lake Meadows. We depart at 8 am from the Olive Garden restaurant (8700 SE Sunnyside Rd, at the Clackamas Promenade). Bring lunch and insect repellant. Be prepared to share one $5 parking fee. Limited to 16 participants. Registration required with Kathy at kathyfrans@opusnet.com. Call her at 503-233-7419 with questions.

June 16 (Wed), 8am–11am
Powell Butte Nature Park
Join Ron Escano for a walk exploring the unique habitats of Powell Butte. We will be looking for breeding Landi Bunting and other open country species. Meet at 8 am at the parking lot at the top of the butte. The park’s entrance is on SE Powell Blvd at SE 40th Ave. Bring binoculars, dress for cool weather, and beginners welcome. Registration required. Call Ron Escano (503-771-3454) to reserve a spot.

June 17 (Fri), 7:30am–1:30pm
Clackamas River
Join Karen Chavoe and Mary Ratcliff to look for birds along the beautiful Clackamas River. We will meet in Estacada and carpool to two lovely spots to look for breeding birds that nest in the area. Meet in the parking lot at Mossy Rock gift shop at 8:30am (388 S Broadway St, Estacada). Questions: email Mary at mratclif@aracnet.com or Karen at kchavoe@comcast.net.

Mondays May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Tryon Creek State Park
Leaders: Rick and Stephanie Wagner
11231 SW Terwilliger Blvd, Portland, OR 97219. Take the Terwilliger exit off I-5 and follow it west for 3 miles to the bridge toward Lewis and Clark Park. Keep on Terwilliger Blvd past the intersections with Taylors Ferry Rd and Boones Ferry Rd. At the traffic circle, continue past the entrance to Lewis and Clark Northwest School of Law and follow the brown and white signs to Tryon Creek State Park. The park is approximately 1 mile a head on the right. Meet at the Nature Center. More at tryonfriends.org.

Tuesdays May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
Cooper Mountain Nature Park
Leader: Hailey Watts
Please be aware of a roadblock along Cooper Mountain that has steep terrain. Directions: From Highway 217, take the Scholls Ferry Rd exit and head west on Scholls Ferry past Murray Blvd. At 175th Ave, turn right and go north, uphill, about 1.8 miles and turn left on Kemmer Rd. The park entrance is on the south side of Kemmer. From the north (I-205 to I-20), turn south on 185th which will become Gassner Rd. Turn left on 190th Ave and left on Kemmer Rd. Cooper Mountain Nature Park is a partnership with Metro and Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District. More on Cooper Mountain programming at dpdpt.org.

Tuesdays May 17 and June 7
Leach Botanical Garden
Leader: Ron Escano
Meet in Leach Botanical Garden Admin Annex parking lot at 6:55 32nd Ave SE (NOT at the Garden Manor House). Go south on SE 122nd from Foster Rd for about a block and turn left into driveway of white building (looks like a house) just before 122nd veers right and down the hill. More at leachgarden.org.

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Audubon Outings – Wild in the City and Beyond
May 2016
www.audubonportland.org

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Audubon Lawsuit Delivers Significant New Protections for Oregon’s Floodplains

By Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

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Conservation
Wildlife Care Center

When Does a Young Animal Need Help?

By Lacy Campbell, Wildlife Care Center Operations Manager

One of the more common reasons we see young animals in the Wildlife Care Center isn’t because they are injured, it’s because they have been kidnapped by well-intentioned Good Samaritans. This mistake may mean the young animal can’t be reintroduced to the parent if they’ve been separated over 48 hours; the parent may get hurt if it speaks and flies/runs into traffic; or you might end up just taking the animal from Portland Audubon, three commissioners—Fritz, Fish, and Novick—have now signaled that they will not support this amendment, but it required a massive outsourcing of community opposition to get there.

In May and June, the city will take up consideration of the Central City Plan. This plan, developed by the Bureau of Planning and (not so) Sustainable Development, takes the city’s newfound fear of trees to a new level of absurdity. It provides exemptions for river industry from tree-planting requirements along the river based on unsubstantiated industry assertions that trees heighten the risk of terrorism. It also eliminates requirements to plant trees in all seven of the designated habitat-restoration sites found in the central city based on the Bureau’s belief that the public would prefer a barren, canopy-free environment when it enjoys the Willamette at riverside natural areas.

Sad, the list goes on. We have already called on you, our membership, to push back on several misguided tree initiatives. In the coming months it will continue to be critical that people in Portland speak out on behalf of our trees and let our political leaders know that we want strong policies to protect our urban canopy.

Tough Time to be a Tree in Portland

By Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

It should not be this difficult to protect a tree in a city as green as Portland.

Back in September of 2015, Mayor Charlie Hales dispatched his own chief of staff, Josh Alpert, to intervene when a developer threatened to cut down two giant Sequoias in the mayor’s home neighborhood of Eastmoreland. Eventually a combination of protesters and political pressure resulted in the developer agreeing to sell the properties to the local community for approximately $800,000. One of Portland’s wealthiest and most well-canopied neighborhoods was able to retain three stunning trees nestled among blocks already renowned for their trees and greenspaces. At the time, the mayor’s spokesperson refused to release details of the circumstances under which the mayor might intervene on behalf of trees—they did not want to encourage “copcat” situations.

It has been downhill ever since, with the sound of chainsaws never far in the distance. The City has been fighting a steady stream of bad tree proposals emerging from City Hall and city bureaus ever since. It has been literally a full-time job heading off the next proverbial chainsaw massacre. Watch out for falling trees, particularly if you live in one of Portland’s lower-income neighborhoods.

Just a few examples: The Eastmoreland Sequoia situation woke Portland up to the fact that our big trees have very little protection. The City responded to public outrage by initiating a process to establish interim protections for big trees until a full review of the City’s tree-protection code can be initiated, possibly years in the future. In a process so convoluted that even the Planning and Sustainability Commission complained in its official comments, two different bureaus brought forward interim tree-protection proposals, and the City Council added a third. A confused public tried to testify on a continually moving target, and just when things seemed like they might turn out all right, the Council adopted a last-minute amendment that exempted affordable housing developers from the strongest interim protections. Then the Council took a bad situation and made it even worse by amending the amendment to exempt affordable housing developers from even demonstrating that cutting of large trees could not be avoided. The City’s new policy regarding trees in its poorest, most tree-deficient neighborhoods—those in dire need of big trees to protect vulnerable situations—instead, they waived those protections. They could have stepped in and used the City’s tree fund to mitigate for trees lost in development situations. They did not even consider that suggestion. Instead, they set up a two-tiered system: wealthy neighborhoods with lots of big trees can rest assured that their trees will receive the strongest protections, but low-income neighborhoods with very few big trees now have far weaker protections.

It gets worse: In February, the City issued a programmatic permit to the Port of Portland to cut trees not only on its own property, but which also accidentally allowed the Port to cut trees on other people’s property. The blanket permit waived many of the safeguards currently in code. Audubon paid a $100 appeal fee and challenged the permit. To the City’s credit, it recognized the permit was woefully defective, withdrew it, and refunded our filing fee.

In March, Portland Parks and Recreation proposed a budget that reduced longstanding funding for Friends of Portland Trees to plant trees, and cut funding for inoculations to protect the City’s Dutch Elms from Dutch Elm disease—a decision that will result in the death of 3,500 of the City’s largest and most beautiful trees in three to five years. Under pressure from Portland Audubon, the city indicated that the Dutch Elm cuts are unlikely to happen; no firm commitment has been made. In April, the mayor and two commissioners added a last-minute amendment to the Comp Plan to convert 57 acres of wildlife habitat at Broadmoor Golf Course for industrial use. This site includes dozens of giant trees. Again under pressure from Portland Audubon, three commissioners—Fritz, Fish, and Novick—have now signaled that they will not support this amendment, but it required a massive outsourcing of community opposition to get there.

By Lacy Campbell, Wildlife Care Center Operations Manager

One of the more common reasons we see young animals in the Wildlife Care Center isn’t because they are injured, it’s because they have been kidnapped by well-intentioned Good Samaritans. This mistake may mean the young animal can’t be reintroduced to the parent if they’ve been separated over 48 hours; the parent may get hurt if it speaks and flies/runs into traffic; or you might end up just taking the animal...
Educational Trips

These trips are popular. We recommend that you book early. Trip deposit required to secure your place on the trip.
To register, visit our website at audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult and follow the registration link

UGANDA  ...THE PEARL OF AFRICA
February 25–March 10, 2017

Join us on this 14-day tour of one of the most environmentally rich and diverse countries in Africa. We will start on the equator, Uganda is truly a tropical nation, possessing a moist climate and lush, verdant forests abounding with life. Located between the rainforests of West Africa, the savannahs of East Africa, and the arid desert of the north, Uganda is in a transitional zone, and as such, its avian diversity is greatly enhanced.

With over 1,000 species of birds, a full 10% of which are regionally endemic, Uganda is sure to thrill both the novice and advanced birder alike. We’ll fly into Entebbe then head for the southwestern region of the country, where wetlands are plentiful, and our chances are good of seeing such birds as the Great Blue Turaco, Pink-backed Pelican and the highly coveted Shoebill. We’ll bird Lake Mubiru by boat in hopes of spotting the African Finfoot, the Red-faced Barbet and the massive Black-bellied Bustard. Over the next several days we’ll bird Mubwindi Swamp, where we will bird for birdwatchers around the world. We’ll keep an eye out for the Bar-tailed Trogon, the Blue-bearded Mannikin, a myriad of warblers, and if lucky, the Pink-footed Puff-thigh.

Though birds will be a large focus, our trip to Africa will yield sightings of many mammals as well, including Zebra, Giraffe, Elephant and possibly even Lion and the elusive Leopard. Uganda is also home to less than 10 species of primates, and we will spend time searching for these amazing animals. The Olive Baboon, Vervet Monkey and the Blue Monkey are sure to make their presence known, and we will do our best to find the beautiful Black and White Colobus Monkey. Finally, no trip is complete without searching for Great Apes, and we will traverse the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest in hopes of locating a troop of wild Chimpanzees, and of course, the rare, large, Mountain Gorilla. Please contact Steve Robertson at srobertson@audubonportland.org or 971.222.6118 if you are interested in participating or have further questions.

Leader: Steve Robertson, Education Director
Fee: $6055 members / $6055 non-members
Deposit: $1800 required to secure your place

BHUTAN
February 23–March 10, 2017

Join Portland Audubon on this journey of a lifetime to the fabled “Land of the Thunder Dragon”. We will explore the country’s sub-tropical forests and its high mountain passes of the Himalayas in search of iconic birds such as Blythill. Black necked Crane, and Beautiful Nuthatch. We will visit a reserve where we have a chance to see the national mammal of Bhutan, the Takin, a strange, almost mythological beast that looks to be part goat and part bison. Finally, no trip to Bhutan would be complete without a trek to the incredible Tiger’s Nest, a sacred monastery built on the side of a sheer cliff, offering breathtaking views over the valley such as Aztec Thrush, Black Bunting, Pheasant Cuckoo and Black-cockaded Woodpeckers. While birded Masakumi, and the fascinating Oiibird may be found. Trinidad also hosts nesting Leatherback Sea Turtles, and this trip is timed for the peak season of nesting. After six nights we’ll travel to Tobago, known for its truly Caribbean, laid back vibe. We’ll bird the hills and coast, then have time to swim and relax on the beach. Contact Steve Robertson at srobertson@audubonportland.org or 971.222.6118 for more information.

Leader: Van den Broek, Trip Leader & Educator, and local guides
Fee: $5255 members / $5255 non-members
Deposit: $2000 required to secure your place

Trinidad & Tobago
April 28–May 8, 2017

With a lush, tropical climate, the twin island country of Trinidad & Tobago boasts the greatest avian diversity of any island country in the Caribbean—over 400 species, including Scarlet Dis, Red-breasted Blackbird, and Blue-crowned Motmot. We will spend three nights at Asa Wright Nature Centre, whose Chestnut-colored Woodpeckers, White-throated Mannikins, and the fascinating Oiibird may be found. Trinidad also hosts nesting Leatherback Sea Turtles, and this trip is timed for the peak season of nesting. After six nights we’ll travel to Tobago, known for its truly Caribbean, laid back vibe. We’ll bird the hills and coast, then have time to swim and relax on the beach. Contact Steve Robertson at srobertson@audubonportland.org or 971.222.6118 for more information.

Leader: Steve Robertson, Education Director
Fee: $3265 members / $3265 non-members
Deposit: $1800 required to secure your place

SOUTHWEST OREGON: ROGUE RIVER & SISKIYOU MOUNTAINS
June 2–5, 2016

This trip explores the natural history of the beautiful Rogue River watershed and the Siskiyou Mountains. The Rogue and its tributaries cut through the forested canyons of southwestern Oregon, providing glimpses into the region’s geologic history. Farther south, the Siskiyou Mountains straddle the Oregon-California border, marking a transition between ecoregions to the north and south. On short hikes and easy walks we’ll focus on trees, wildflowers, reptiles and amphibians, butterflies and other insects, and geology. And as always, we’ll watch for birds! Contact Eric Scheuering at escheuering@audubonportland.org or 971.222.6119 for more information.

Leader: Dr. Ivan Phillippsen, Portland Audubon Trip Leader
Fee: $555 members / $555 non-members
Deposit: $300 required to secure your place

Steens Mountain & Alvord Desert
October 5–9, 2016

Steens Mountain is one of Oregon’s most spectacular natural areas. Rising to almost 10,000 feet high in the southeastern corner of the state, this massive fault block presides over alkalai desert, oceans of sagebrush, and the wildlife-rich marshlands of the Malheur basin. From our base in Frenchglen we’ll explore this diverse landscape as we venture around all sides and on the top of the mountain itself. On past trips we’ve seen approximately 80 species of birds including Townsend’s Solitaire, Mountain Bluebird, American Pipit, Horned Lark, Golden Eagle, and Prairie Falcon. We’ll visit the Alvord Desert and venture out to Borax Lake, home of the unique and endangered Borax Lake Chub. Contact Eric Scheuering at escheuering@audubonportland.org or 971.222.6119 for more information.

Leaders: Patty Newland & Candace Larson, Portland Audubon Trip Leaders
Fee: $845 members / $1045 non-members
Deposit: $400 required to secure your place

OAXACA, MEXICO
December 9–18, 2016

Oaxaca straddles the biological border separating the ranges of northern temperate and tropical birds and as a result is home to over 600 species! In addition to its rich bird life, Oaxaca is renowned for its colorful markets, vibrant native cultures, and its relaxed, friendly atmosphere.

Our trip begins in Oaxaca City, located in a large inter-mountain valley at five-thousand feet elevation; a climate friendly atmosphere. Of the 150+ birds we hope to see. But this is more than just a birding trip. We will explore the jungles, wetlands, and dry scrublands of this unique region in search of the 150+ birds we hope to see. But this is more than just a birding trip. We will spend three days and two nights on the Great Barrier Reef, on a certified, live-aboard dive boat. We’ll see one trip with two nights in the beautiful city of Sydney. This trip is designed to thrill the avid birder and novice alike. Tasmania Pre-trip November 5–12. Please contact Steve Robertson at 971.222.6118 or srobertson@audubonportland.org if you have questions or would like to sign up.

Leaders: Steve Robertson, Education Director, and local guides
Fee: $1385* member / $1485* non-member
$1905* member / $2005* non-member (Tasmania pre-trip)
Deposit: $2400 required to secure your place ($1800 additional for pre-trip)

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

A portion of your fee is a tax-deductible donation to the Audubon Society of Portland. View more International and Domestic trips at www.audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult. Portland Audubon’s International Tours now include a Carbon Offset contribution that will go directly for the stewardship of our 150-acre Forest Park Nature Sanctuary. A flat fee of $50 per person will be added to 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.
**Adult Classes**

**How to Register**

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.
2. Call Marissa Duncan via phone or email to be put on the roster. Class with limited enrollment, wait for confirmation and then.
3. 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.
4. 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 or 971-222-6131.

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**Birding By Ear**

Laura Whittemore will help you learn to identify birds by their songs! There's no time like now to begin developing this very enjoyable and important bird watching skill. Three field trips provide the opportunity for repetition; repetition; repetition!

**Fee per session:** $100 members / $130 non-members

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**Birding By Ear – Migrant Birds**

May 1 (Sat), 7pm–9pm: Classes in Heron Hall

May 14, 21, 28 (Sat), 7am–10am: Local Field Trips

**Birding By Ear – Nesting Birds**

June 1 and 15 (Wed), 7pm–9pm: Classes in Heron Hall

June 4, 11, 18 (Sat), 7am–10am: Local Field Trips

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**Warblers & Flycatchers**

May 6 (Fri), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall

May 7 (Sat), 7am–11am: Local Field Trip

This class will focus on two groups notorious for giving birdwatchers a stiff neck and a bewildered stare: warblers and flycatchers. Local author and guide John Rakestaw will show you how to identify these birds by sight and sound as well as posture and performance. The field trip will visit a local migrant hotspot to solidify your new skills.

Class with Field Trip FULL WITH WAITLIST

Class-only Option: $14

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**Nature Journaling: Add Birds to Your Pages!**

May 21 (Sat), 10am–3pm: Class in Heron Hall

Explore ways to add birds to your nature journal with Jude Siegel. Easy ways to see and get the essence of that bird! A combination of drawing techniques, simple watercolor, and writing, plus other fun ways to create a unique and interesting journal page! Add to your birding experience with a handmade record of your love of birds! No art skills required. Just enthusiasm and willingness.

Fee: $45 members / $65 non-members

Limited to 16 participants.

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Fee: $45 members / $65 non-members

Limited to 16 participants.

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**Summer Camp 2016** at the Audubon Society of Portland

To register, go to [audubonportland.org](http://audubonportland.org) for online registration or to download a registration form. Call 971-222-6120 to save a place if you are mailing your form.

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### Grades 6th–8th

**Destination: Redwoods**

**Week 6: July 24–29 (Overnight Sun–Fri)**

Hidden coves and mysterious forests await as we explore the lesser-known shores of Southern Oregon and the awesome stands of Giant Redwoods in California's Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park. Campers on this unforgettable six-day camping adventure led by experienced Naturalists will travel to California to experience the magnificence of the huge Redwoods and investigate the unique ecosystems of this ancient forest.

Fee: $430 members / $450 non-members

Trip Leader: Laura Newton, Naturalist-Educator

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**Wild in the City**

**July 5–8**

Drawing from the pages of *Wild in the City: A Guide to Portland's Natural Areas*, we will explore unique and surprising places in one of the nation's most livable cities. We will navigate the city in search of urban greenspaces and wildlife. This camper-directed week is sure to amaze and inspire even the most savvy of urban naturalist travelers.

Fee: $295 members / $315 non-members

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**Let's Go Birding**

**July 11–15**

Learn how to identify and appreciate the wonderful, colorful birds that call Portland home. Spend time learning how to use binoculars to search out our feathered friends, and build your own bird feeder to take home and attract them to your own yard. Take time with your new flock to create various art projects to complement your new bird knowledge!

Fee: $285 members / $315 non-members

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**Portland Arthur Academy**

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**The World of Birds 2016**

The World of Birds is back! Audubon Society of Portland’s comprehensive program is for birders who want to increase their ID skills and their knowledge about birds. With new subjects offered each season, you can learn about taxonomy, migration, breeding behavior, avian physiology, feathers, plumage, and more over the course of a year. Take your skills and knowledge to the next level!

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**Introduction to the World of Birds**

**Classes:**

**7/14 (Thurs), 19 (Tues), 6/30 (Wed), 8:30 pm – 10:30 pm**

Field Trips:

**7/10, 17, 24 (Sun). Trips are two half-day and one full-day, destinations and carpooling TBA.**

Learn some of the fundamentals of birding from the field guide to field craft. We will explore a holistic approach to bird identification and help you to build observation skills and get the most from your field experience.

Fee: $160

Limited to 16 participants.

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**Ocean Shores, Washington**

**Aug 17 (Wed), 6:30pm–8:30 pm**

Field Trips:

**Aug 19–21 (Overnight, Fri–Sun)**

Join us on this trip to one of the West Coast’s birding hotspots, where you can expect to see a levy of shorebirds and seabirds. A two-hour class on some of the species we hope to encounter will prepare you to get the most out of the adventure.

Fee: $330, includes transportation and lodging

Limited to 16 participants.

Register online at [audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult](http://audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult) or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org.
The Barred Owl’s Expanding Range

Originally, the range of the owl was completely east of the Rocky Mountains. In August 1943 one was seen in northern British Columbia. During the summer of 1946 a pair nested in central British Columbia. By 1966 the species had reached the British Columbia coast. Since 1971 it has rapidly increased throughout the province.

The first Washington state record was on October 2, 1965, from Pend Oreille County in the northeastern corner of the state. Another was found October 15, 1968, near Spokane. Since 1973 there has been a steady increase throughout the state. The first Washington nesting record was in 1974.

The first Oregon records were during the summer of 1974 when nesting pairs were found near Troy and Pendleton, both in the northeastern corner of the state. Since 1975 they have moved into all parts of the state, reaching just north of the California border near Klamath Falls by 1981.

Field Notes

by Harry Nehls

Birds extend their breeding ranges usually because acceptable habitat is open and available, and internal pressure from high population levels encourage individuals to move away from established population centers. One recent example has been the continuing range expansion of the Barred Owl.

On October 18, 1995, a Barred Owl spent the day sitting in a tree in front of the Multnomah County Central Library in downtown Portland. It appeared to be interested in the gathering crowd as the crowd was in it. The species has been regularly reported in the Portland Metro area each year since. On September 18, 1998, Jeff Gilligan observed a family group in the residential Laurelhurst neighborhood of northeast Portland.

Barred Owls can be aggressive compared to the other owl species that live in the Portland area. Occasionally they will dive at and even strike humans who wander into their nesting territory. The arrival of Barred Owls has also been controversial due to their impact on federally threatened Northern Spotted Owls and the Fish and Wildlife Service’s experimental program to control Barred Owls in some areas of the Spotted Owl range. Additional information about Barred Owls and Audubon’s position on the federal control program can be found on our website.

Sightings

Migrant Tree Swallows began arriving in the Portland area February 9. Randy Hill reported 200 at Ridgefield NWR February 17. Nick Mrvels spotted a Violet-Green Swallow among a flock at the Sandy River Delta February 21. Two were at Steigerwald NWR February 20. The main movement arrived a few days later. Randy Hill saw an early Barn Swallow at Steigerwald NWR February 20. The main movement of warblers was observed during late March along with some Rough-Winged Swallows. Wink Gross and Mark Greenfield found a group of Purple Martins on Oak Island on Sauvie Island March 28. Craig Turner reported a Vaux’s Swift April 3 among a swallow swarm over the Koll Center Wetlands in Beaverton.

There were no major movements of warblers until the last week of March when there was an increase in Yellow-Rumped Warblers along with many Orange-Crowned Warblers. On March 27 David Lantz reported a good number of Orange-Crowns on Cooper Mountain. On March 23 Doug Craig saw an early Black-Throated Gray Warbler at the Tualatin NWR. Common Yellowthroats arrived in all areas around March 25.

Dottie Belknap and Dwight Porter reported an early movement of Sandhill Cranes over southwest Portland February 21. Chris Bennett noted 40 over Westmoreland February 24. Randy Hill reported 500 toward Sauvie Island. Randy Hill reported that a group of 40 Trumpeter Swans wintered on the Carty Unit of Ridgefield NWR this year. They were apparently the source of those seen on Sauvie Island from time to time.

A Ross’s Gull remained at Meldrum Bar Park in Gladstone through early February for many to see. On February 26 Brad Bogin saw one on Sauvie Island. Beverley Hallberg spotted a distinctive Tufted Duck among a scap flock on the Columbia River off the Sandy River Delta April 1. Gerry Ellis saw a White-Winged Scoter arriving from sprees February 3 through April 12.

Randy Hill reported an early Caspian Tern at Ridgefield NWR April 1 and an elusive Burrowing Owl at Steigerwald NWR in late March. On March 19 Kathy van der Horst reported the first occupied Great-tintinned Owl nest of the season on Sauvie Island. Up to four Mountain Bluebirds were reported this spring at Powell Butte Park in Gresham. A few Western Bluebirds were also in the area.

Two Say’s Phoebes were observed at Powell Butte Park during late March, suggesting possible nesting. Two Black Phoebes on Sauvie Island April 2 also suggested nesting.

On February 10 Erica Edwards photographed a bright Hooded Oriole at her southwest Portland feeders. On February 16 Sarah Perley spotted a Sylvia Maddox spotted a female Tricolored Blackbird near the Multnomah County Jail in downtown Portland. David Irons found a Rusty Blackbird among a flock at Woodland, Washington, February 25.

Volunteer of the Month:

Kristin Jamerson

by Ian Abraham

Born in Maryland and raised in rural Illinois, Kristin Jamerson has become one of Portland Audubon’s most dedicated volunteers. Not only has Kristin been an integral part of the Education Department’s Sanctuary Tour program, leading tours for grades 2-5, she has given time to Audubon’s Sanctuaries Department, taking advantage of volunteer opportunities that take her outside.

In her first year of volunteering, Kristin accrued over 111 volunteer hours participating in programs like Raptor Road Trip, the Backyard Habitat Program, Swift Watch, and the Wild Arts Festival.

After living in Seattle for 20 years and raising her daughter, Kristin moved to Portland and has become a real asset to our Sanctuary Tour program. Her enthusiasm for guiding students through our wildlife sanctuary is contagious. Her dedication not only comes from her life experience as a life-long learner and binder of 20 plus years, but from the joy that she draws from “working with Audubon staff who are passionate and dedicated about their work.”

Kristin’s commitment to our Sanctuaries Department is evident in her time spent each Wednesday with staff on trail maintenance, heading gravel, English ivy removal, and reclaiming the amphitheater for school programs.

Thank you, Kristin, for all of the hours you have given Portland Audubon and for your enduring positive attitude and cheerful smile!

Thank You to:

• Barran Liebman LLP for legal services
• Cameron Winery for two cases of Willamette Valley Chardonnay for member events
• Jen Cruce for 28 framed professional wildlife photographs of various sizes
• Ann Littlewood for 36 native plants for the Sanctuary
• Jim Cruce for 28 framed professional wildlife photographs

Our Wish List

For Conservation:

Recreational Vehicle or Travel Camper in good condition for field work
Small motor boat and trailer
4x4 foot exterior grade plywood
Pruning saws
Work gloves

For Sanctuary:

Loppers
Pruning saws
For Wildlife Care Center:

Science Diet Kitten Growth Bleach
Dish Drying Detergent
Work gloves
Exam gloves (latex or latex-free)

For Forage-Fish habitat:

Bleach
Dish Drying Detergent

If you can donate these items, please contact Audubon Society of Portland at 503-292-6855 ext.102, Mon-Fri, to arrange a time for delivery/pick-up.
The spring migration season has brought a great flock of new bird books into the Nature Store. We’re featuring some particularly noteworthy titles here, but please drop by the store to see the full assortment. We’re also happy to take your phone orders, so give us a call at (503) 292-9453 if you have questions or would like a book mailed to you. Your member discount applies to any of the list prices shown below.

The long-awaited second edition of David Sibley’s Eastern and Western regional guides are now available. With fully up-to-date taxonomic information and range maps, and Sibley’s famously detailed illustrations, these are essential for the birder’s library. The list price for either guide is $39.95.

It’s back! The Backyard Birdsong Guide: Western North America by Donald Kroodsma (Cornell Labs, $34.95) is now back in print. This wildly popular title was unavailable for several years, so we’re delighted to again have stock on hand. The book combines a push-button sound unit with illustrations and test descriptions of over 70 species of favorite birds of the western region. A version for the eastern United States is also available.

British ornithologist Tim Birkhead describes The Most Perfect Thing Inside (and Outside) of a Bird’s Egg (Bloomsbury, $27.00), looking at fascinating aspects of bird reproduction. His previous work, Bird Sex, was a popular title in the Nature Store. Prominent birding authors Julie Zickefoose and Bernd Heinrich both have new works describing the fascinating lives of common birds. Zickefoose captures the development cycle of nestlings in Baby Birds: An Artist.

Science writer Jennifer Ackerman looks at the unique nature of bird intelligence in The Genius of Birds (Penguin Press, $28.00), bringing many scientists’ recent research on physiology and behavior into a compelling narrative about how birds perceive the world. Pete Dunne’s latest collection of essays is called Bird Droppings: Writings About Watching Birds and Bird Watchers (Stackpole Books, $16.95). Consisting of 33 brief pieces, many of them humorous, Dunne sums up both the joys and frustrations of bird watching. You and your favorite birding friends may well recognize these situations.

Hi is for Hawk, by Helen Macdonald (Grove Press, $16.00), is now available in paperback. A bestseller in hardcover, it was named one of the 10 Best Books of 2015 by The New York Times.

We are blessed with wonderful woodpecker habitat here in the Northwest, especially in Central Oregon, where Bend resident Stephen Shunk is an expert on these iconic woodland birds. His new book, Peterson Reference Guide to Woodpeckers of North America (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $35.00) is a complete guide to North America’s 23 species, with extensive photographs and illustrations to accompany Shunk’s text.

Rite in the Rain Birder’s Journal

Rite in the Rain is the original waterproof, field-tested journal from Tacoma, Washington. The 4¾” x 7½” Birder’s Journal is designed specifically with birders in mind, with a handy anatomical reference on the front inside cover and unique page layout to accommodate trip notes and sketches. In addition, the Nature Store carries Rite in The Rain field notebooks, memo pads, and waterproof pens.

Nesting Materials

No nest is complete without the appropriate nesting materials. Many species, including chickadees and nuthatches, prefer a layer of wood shavings on the bottom of their nest box. We carry wood shavings that have been screened of fine dust and are naturally soft and absorbent. Most birds are bedding opportunists and will collect a variety of soft fibrous materials to line their nests. Our Hummer Helper and Birdie Bedding Buddies are made from natural, untreated fibers, including alpaca hair, beloved by hummingbirds, finches, bushtits, and more. Even if you don’t have space for a nest box, you can still witness bird activity by hanging one of these within sight during nesting season.

In the Department of Archaic Technology, we chanced upon a small stash of Familiar Bird Songs of the Northwest. James Davis’s cassette produced by Portland Audubon last century. There is nothing else like this valuable local resource, so if you still have a cassette player, consider picking one up for the very reasonable price of $5.00, while supplies last.

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, in our Nature Store, or send us this handy form.

As a special topic, on June 4 we’ll participate in Great Blue Heron Week with the fun wetlands tale of One Hungry Heron by Carolyn Beck and Karen Parkau. Come help celebrate Portland’s official city bird with kid-appropriate activities! Do the Heron-stick dance!

The Portland Audubon Nature Store will participate in the national celebration of Children’s Book Week with an afternoon of nature storytelling and activities on Saturday, May 7 from 12:30 to 2:00, as well as specials on featured children’s books throughout the week. We’re still planning the festivities, so check with the Nature Store at (503)292-9453 for more details!

We’ll have additional storyline events scheduled for the first and third Saturday of each month. These free Saturday storyline programs will be available for families with small children through the summer. Come visit us on May 7, May 21, and June 18. We feature fun, nature-based children’s stories and activities for children ages 4-8. Crafts and hands-on nature activities will complement the story; plus there may be a visit from one of our resident education birds!

Nature Store Highlights

Nature Store Celebrates Children’s Book Week, May 2–8, 2016, and Beyond!

www.audubonportland.org

May/June 2016
Great Blue Heron Week
continued from page 2

Wednesday, June 1
7pm–8pm: Birding the Willamette Greenway at South Waterfront
Meet Mike Houck for an evening heron watch along the temporary greenway trail at South Waterfront. Bring your binoculars and spotting scopes and dress for the weather. Meet on the greenway trail on the Willamette River side of the Morrison bridge, anytime between 7pm and 8pm. Mike will set up his scope. Take the Portland streetscar, bike, or drive to SW Moody and SW Curry Street and walk to the eastern end of SW Curry and onto the temporary greenway in front of the Morrison condominiums.

Sunday, June 5
8am–11am: Birds of Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge
Meet Mike Houck in the parking lot at the north end of Sellwood Park, SE Sellwood Boulevard and SE 7th Avenue at 8am sharp. Bring your binoculars and, if you have one, a spotting scope.

Wednesday, June 8
8am–9:30am: Birding the Willamette Greenway at South Waterfront
Meet Wednesday, June 1, for location details.

Saturday, June 11
8am–11am: Herons of Rock Creek Greenway
Join Mike Houck on a hike along Hillside’s Rock Creek Greenway and explore the wetlands and riparian habitat at the Norm Thompson corporate headquarters on Rock Creek. Norm Thompson is located at 3188 NW Alcock Drive. Take Hwy 26 west to NW Cornell Road, head west on NW Cornell to NW Evergreen Parkway, turn right (west) onto Evergreen Parkway west to NW Aloclek Drive. Turn left (north) onto NW Aloclek Drive. Turn into the driveway and proceed east through the parking lot and you will see 3188 on the side of the building. Meet Mike Houck promptly at 8am at the entrance to Norm Thompson’s offices.

Sunday, June 12
9:30–10pm: Paddling Ross Island
Enjoy a morning on the Willamette River at the annual Ross Island Regatta! We’ll paddle through the no-wake zone on the Holgate Channel and Ross Island lagoon, around Ross Island, and back to Wallawalla Park. We’ll watch the Bald Eagle nest and heron nesting colony on Ross Island, listen for birds, and look for river otter. Meet no later than 9am at Willamette Park boat ramp to unload your canoe or kayak and get into the water by launch time. The boat ramp is located at SW Macadam and Nebraska St. and has metered parking.

If you are renting a canoe or kayak, make sure you leave plenty of time to get your craft and be in the water ready to paddle at 9:30am sharp. Rentals: Alder Creek Kayak, 503-285-1819, aldercre.com. Portland Kayak Company, 503-459-4695, portlandkayak.com.

Showcase Your Outdoor Cat Enclosure in the 4th Annual Catio Tour
In partnership with the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon (FCCO), we’re accepting submissions for this year’s Catio Tour, September 11, which will feature functional to fabulous outdoor cat enclosures. Be sure to submit your catio to be part of this popular event!

The tour seeks to inspire cat owners to build or buy an outdoor cat enclosure so their felines can safely exercise and bask in the sun. Backyard enclosures keep cats away from outdoor dangers and protect wildlife from cat predation.

Visit feralcats.com/catio-host by June 10 to submit your catio for consideration.

SAVE THE DATE!
2016 Wilds Arts Festival
November 19 and 20
Yes, we’re already wild about Wild Arts! Planning for our 36th Annual Wild Arts Festival is well underway—the jury process of this year’s artists is halfway complete (we’ll announce artists in July), and the Rock Fair committee has begun reaching out to authors to participate. Of course we hope that all local artists (professional or amateur!) are planning to participate in this year’s 6th Project—always one of the most popular parts of the Festival—and that all art- and nature-lovers out there will consider volunteering, donating to the Silent Auction, or sponsoring the Festival as one of our “40 Friends” at the $250 level. Learn more at WildArtsFestival.org, and stay tuned for further developments in the coming month.

Audubon Summer Camp: Creating Connection
Continued from cover
merely a few drops of water can destroy the greatest human machine. They would laugh at the tale of the Titanic, for many humans could not survive the frigid waters Orcas call home. After hearing the story of humans, many would perhaps pity the landlubbers for their ignorance and inaccessibility of the great waters, and would gawk in disbelief if I told them of my experience in the sea (which I previously believed to be a lie). Although the orca-ears would certainly ridicule the flaws of men, they would still revere, because they themselves had had pitiful experiences on solid ground, for as many human families had lost members to sea leading vessels, as had Orca pods incorrectly reading sonar and attempting to catch prey on land. They would certainly not laugh at the tale of the practices of humanity today—pollution, coral bleaching, poaching, and urbanization. The story of sliced seas, stripped ecosystems, and acidic waters would immensely spell danger and worry across their minds as all hope would seem lost. “But do not fear,” I would explain. “We then tell the tale of conservation, the tale of beached whales rescued, that of ‘hays being cleaned of litter, and those of constructed wildlife refuges. I would tell of the crowd of activists ready to bring the world to a better future, one step at a time. This is the hope of the main tale, and I would tell them of the cattails, that tale that all Orca kind would pass on for generations.

Audubon members enjoy a 10% discount off regular prices!
Zeiss Optics Outdoor Family Days Promotion!
Zeiss Optics is offering exciting mail-in rebates from April 1 through May 30 on many of their binoculars and nature observation binoculars. When you purchase a pair of Zeiss Terra ED or Conquest HD binoculars, you’ll receive a $50 prepaid Visa Gift Card. The Terras are available in compact 8x25 and 10x25 models with fix-focal lenses (making them small enough to tuck into your pocket) as well as mid-size and full-size models. All have ED, extra-low dispersion glass, and are waterproof and fog-proof. Zeiss Conquests are a step up in quality, with European manufacturing and a 5-year No Fault Warranty. They are available in both mid-sized (32mm) and full-sized (42mm) models.

Purchase Zeiss Victory SF binoculars, and receive a free pair of 8x42 Terra ED binoculars. What a great opportunity to get Zeiss binos for yourself and another for a gift (perhaps for Mother’s Day or Father’s Day?). Check our website (bit.ly/1WljhkJ) for models and prices, then hurry in to the Nature Store to claim your rebate!
Why is Audubon Society of Portland important to you? We love the big vision. Portland Audubon is effective statewide and it has what it takes to work with the local populace—big vision always comes down to individual action on the ground. We like the way it is involved in the political and regulatory picture, mobilizes members, and works to educate the public.

What is it about birds? If there’s anything we’ve learned in 40 years of environmentalism, it’s how interlinked everything is. Birds are right in the middle of the web of life, in every kind of habitat, in every ecosystem. We like birds, but beyond that, they’re a great way to approach a complicated, sprawling problem; they’re indicative of the health of the whole ecosystem.

Thinking about buying or leasing a new vehicle? Help Audubon Society of Portland at the same time! Toyota of Portland’s Driving Communities Program

A desire to give back and a love of Oregon, drove Jade Wolff, consultant, and Ishaway Ray, digital marketing manager, to create Toyota of Portland’s fabulous new Driving Communities Program. By creating long-term, mutually beneficial relationships to drive dollars back to the community in which they live and work, Jade and Ishaway want Toyota of Portland to be the best place to buy a great vehicle AND support causes Oregonians care about.

People will buy cars from us, and we can distribute money from their purchases. What I like about this program is that customers don’t have to pay extra to participate—Toyota of Portland will donate a portion of the profits and help Portland Audubon raise awareness for wildlife and habitats,” says Ishaway.

Jade offers, “As a birder and former environmental educator, partnering with Portland Audubon was an easy choice. I know what a great organization it is and I believe in the work they do, and their members care about the things I care about.”

General Manager Mike Kuhn, who has supported many great causes through his dealership’s efforts, shares, “The Driving Communities Program has the potential to create a lot of much-needed resources for Audubon Society of Portland and ultimately the community.”

The Importance of Estate Planning

Estate planning will help you achieve your personal and family goals now and after you are gone. Estate planning ensures that your wealth and property go where you want them to go, providing for others according to your values. Every adult should have a will. If no will is present, state law will dictate how your assets are distributed.

The Audubon Society of Portland Legacy Circle

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

For over 114 years, the work of Portland Audubon members has resulted in the abundance of parks, forests, and other natural areas we enjoy now. Over the years we have seen how important a bequest can be. Literally thousands of native birds and wildlife have benefited from estate gifts, providing us with strategic resources for education programs, for renovating and enhancing our wildlife sanctuary, and for funding our conservation work and Wildlife Care Center. Your legacy gift will help us serve Oregon into the next 114 years.

We would be glad to discuss your giving options with you in confidence and with no obligation. Contact Ann Takamoto, Development Director, at 971-222-6117.

Welcome Our New Development Assistant, Avery Hurst

If you call with questions about our Warbler delivery, or membership renewals, you may very well get on the line with our new Development Assistant, Avery Hurst. Avery joined Portland Audubon’s development team following a move from her hometown of Chicago, Illinois, where she had worked for the Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance, in both the Development and Programs & Interpretation Departments, for five years. There, she advocated for the Conservatory’s historical and unique tropical plant collection by immigrating herself in nonprofit fundraising, membership engagement, environmental education and programming, and community outreach. Prior to the Conservatory, she worked for the Chicago Park District’s Culture, Arts, and Nature department, leading summer camping programs around and outside the city for seven years. Avery holds a BS in Recreation Management and Tourism from the University of Vermont, with a minor in Spanish.

Avery enjoys travel and learning about different cultures, wildlife, and their habitats. She spent a semester studying ecotourism and natural history in Costa Rica, and followed her undergraduate studies with eight months backpacking across South America. In the past year, she has traveled around Southeast Asia eating, photographing, and scuba diving, and toured the southern United States camping and couch-surfing. She is very happy to settle in Portland with her partner and indoor cat, finding spare time to bike, swim, hike, play soccer, garden, and adopt the fastest growing outdoor sport as her newest pastime—birding. We are so happy to have Avery on our team!”

Audubon Society of Portland gratefully acknowledges these special gifts:

In Memory

Sara W. Baker
Theresa Baker Family

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Apel & Bruce DeBoist

Donald Chase
Borraine & Maxine Schumacher

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Deanna Sawtelle & Lily Candy Plant

Avery Hurst
Claire Stringer

Steve Robertson, Micah Meskal, Joe Liebert & Jay Wittgott
Jean Baerther-Brown

You can honor a special person with a gift to Audubon Society of Portland. Your gift will help fund future of inspiring people to love and protect nature. You can make an Honor or Memorial gift online at www.audubonportland.org or by calling 971-222-6130. A simplfied card acknowledging your thoughtful gift will be sent to the honoree or family.
Birdathon 2016—Counting 36 Years Strong!

If you wish your hours spent birding could help save the lives of birds? Then join us for Birdathon! It’s like a walk-a-thon, but so much more. Friends, family members, and coworkers pledge money for you to find and count birds…something you’ll likely be doing anyway this spring. Register today and know that every bird you spot will raise funds for their protection!

We’d love to see each and every Audubon Society of Portland member participate—join a team, make a pledge to a friend or relative, or simply make a Birdathon donation. Together we all count to protect birds and wildlife across Oregon.

Donate online at Birdathon.audubonportland.org, or use the pledge envelope included in this Warbler. Join a team—there are birding trips for any level of birder. See the great trips with available space below, find out how to create your own team—or just fly solo! Follow the links at Birdathon.audubonportland.org.

Half-Day Trips
NEW TEAM! The Fledge
Saturday, April 23, 9am–Noon
Fledging birders and their families bird with Xander Patterson, Greg Baker, Tim Grimes.

NEW TEAM! Greater Peewees
Sunday, April 24, 9am–12:30pm
For new birders seeking to develop field skills with Sauvie Island expert Greg Baker.

The Great Big Sit
Sunday, April 24, 9am–Noon
The perfect Birdathon experience for beginning birders with Phyllis Wolfe, Dena Turner, and Diane Stone.

A Song in the Morning
Wednesday, May 4, 6:50am–9am
Birding by Ear on Mt. Tabor with Gerard Lillie.

Whittmore’s Whatzits
Sunday, May 8, 8am–1pm
Steigerwald Lake NWR with Laura Whittmore and Mark Hitzsizens.

Millennial Falcons
Saturday, May 14, 8am–12pm
A trip for birders 30 and under, with Laura Newton, and Barb Grover.

NEW TEAM! Ducking Responsibility
Sunday, May 15, 8am–12:30pm
A paddling adventure via your canoe or kayak led by Mark Hitzsizens, Audubon’s Birdathon Coordinator.

NEW TEAM! Pintails to Pinots Sunday, May 15, 8am–1pm
From Tualatin’s NWRI’s wetlands to Vista Hills Winery and a tasting, with Patty Newland.

The Bountifulowis
Sunday, May 22, 9:45am–1pm
Attention birding foodies! A back-stage (or should we say—farm?) pass to a premier organic farm, Our Table Cooperative, with Barb Grover.

Jackson Bottom Ramblers
Saturday, June 4, 7am–Noon
Birding with former Audubon staffer Steve Engel at this Important Bird Area.

NEW TEAM! Weekday Warblers
Thursday, May 12, 8:30am–10:30am
Sometimes birding can’t wait for the weekend! Journey to the north coast with John Rakestraw, author of Birding Oregon.

The Joy of Birding
Saturday, May 14, 6:30am–9:30pm
A trip to the central coast for both beginners and experienced birders, with Paul Sullivan.

Soggy Bottom Birders
Friday, May 20, 7am–9pm
An exclusive birding tour of wetlands with Jan Abraham, Tim Donner, and Laura Newton.

NEW TEAM! Owl Be Darned & Hailey Walls
Saturday, May 21, 6:30am–6:30pm
Steve Robertson and Hailey Walls bird from the city to the sea.

Gonzo Trips
The Wild Turkeys
Friday, May 13–Sunday, May 15
Return to Malheur NWR with Mike Houck, Ron Carley, and other notorious birders for the ultimate gonzo trip.

NEW TRIP! Put An Owl On It! – A Blue Mountain Adventure
Saturday, June 4–Sunday, June 5
A trek in search of owls and other breeding birds of the forest with Scott Carpenter, Joe Liebertz, and Rhett Wilkins.

NEW TEAM! Owi Be Darned
Saturday, May 28–Sunday May 29
A "Sisterhood of Birding" experience in the Cascades with Raven Maniacs.

A “Sisterhood of Birding” experience in the Cascades with Raven Maniacs.

NEW TEAM! Pines, Please, and Dead End
Friday, May 30, 9am–5pm
A trip to the PNW’s most remote forest with former Audubon staffer Hailey Walls.

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

Thank you to our sponsors:

Jackson Bottom Ramblers. Photo by Kathleen Killkeny Moon

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Audubon Society of Portland

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Phyllis Wolfe
Audubon Society of Portland

WILDLIFE CARE CENTER

9am to 5pm every day

503-292-0394

NATURE STORE

10am to 6pm, Mon.–Sat.
10am to 5pm on Sunday

503-292-0453

www.audubonportland.org

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503-292-0394

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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.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

503-292-0394

9am to 5pm, Mon.–Fri.

SANCTUARY

Dawn to dusk every day

The Audubon Society of Portland is a member of EarthShare of Oregon. For more information, contact EarthShare of Oregon at 503-223-9013 or on the web at www.earthsquare-oregon.org.