

**Bid Now! WCC's Online Auction Ends March 6** Page 5

Volume 81 Numbers 3&4

**Native Plant** Sale April 29-30 Page 5

Visit the Wild Okanogan! Page 6

**Spring and Summer Camp Registration Open Now!** 

**Backyard Habitat** 

**Expands to New** 

**Certification Program** 

**Clackamas County Cities** 

by Nikkie West, Backyard Habitat



oin the **Biggest**, **Baddest Birdathon** this side of the

Mississippi—you'll explore our region's birding hotspots

during migration, learn from expert birders, AND help

raise money to protect birds and habitat across Oregon!

instead of counting miles, we count birds! You can register

Now in its 37th year, Birdathon is like a walkathon, but

for one of our exciting guided teams, you can assemble

on your own—whichever way you choose, you'll get to

your own team of bird enthusiasts, or you can Birdathon

participate in your favorite pastime all while championing

the importance of protecting the wildlife and wild places

**COUNTING BIRDS BECAUSE** 

**BIRDS COUNT!** 

Birdathon 2017

Registration begins March 15th!

Then you'll invite friends, family, and colleagues to sponsor your Birdathon efforts with a donation or pledge. We have great prizes lined up to reward participants who see the most species, receive the most pledges, raise the most money, take the best photos, and more. Participants are asked to raise a minimum of \$35 in pledges unless otherwise indicated.

When you sign up for Portland Audubon's Birdathon, you become an integral part of our biggest fundraiser of the year, ensuring that our more than one hundred year legacy of protecting native birds, other wildlife, and their habitat continues long into the future.



Backyard Habitat Program participants proudly pose with certification plaque. Photo by Nikkie West

put our green thumbs back into the earth, the **Backyard Habitat Certification Program** is also gearing up to take its next big leap.

Thanks in large part to support from the Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation District and Metro regional government, new areas of Clackamas County are now able to participate in

signs of spring to come. As

and gardeners are itching to

our gardens eagerly wait,



this popular program. Beginning in March, properties (under one acre) in **Milwaukie**, **West Linn**, and the Oak Grove and Jennings Lodge area can receive our full suite of program services: from site assessments and high-quality technical assistance, staggering discounts on native plants, to eventually earning your very own Backyard Habitat Certification plaque.

Since 2009 the Backyard Habitat Certification Program, operated jointly with the Columbia Land Trust, is creating a region where people and wildlife thrive together. As a result, our region now boasts more than 3,700 backyard habitats—yards where program participants are controlling invasive weeds, planting native species, eliminating pesticide use, improving their onsite stormwater management, and stewarding wildlife. Cumulatively these yards span more than 875 acres and act as crucial networks of habitat connectivity across an increasingly urbanized landscape.

More than 75 new Clackamas County properties are already standing by on our waitlist, ready for their personalized habitat assessment. If you live in this new Clackamas County service area, join the momentum by enrolling today at backyardhabitats.org!

### **Birdathon 2017 Teams**

that you love.

Here's a partial list of Half-Day, Full-Day, and Gonzo Trips (2+ days). Visit audubonportland.org on March 15 for additional trips and more details.

### Half-Day Trips: NEW TRIP! Morning Doves: May I (Mon), 6:30-10:30am

Darlene Betat leads this sunrise morning walk through Cooper Mountain Nature Park's prairie and unique Oregon white oak woodlands. Birders of all levels are welcome. Take in the morning chorus as we seek migrant and nesting songbirds including warblers, Western Bluebird, Purple Finch, Western Tanager, and Lazuli Bunting.

### A Song in the Morning: May 3 (Wed), 7am-9am

Spend the morning with **Gerard Lillie**, Mt. Tabor's renowned birdsong expert, and work on an impressive list of residents and spring migrants by identifying their songs and calls! Join this special "Birdathon Edition" of Portland Audubon's spring series of Bird Song Walks.

### The Greater Pewees: May 6 (Sat), 7am-12pm

Sauvie Island is a unique landscape situated at the confluence of the Columbia and Willamette rivers. It is an important pit stop for migrating birds and an excellent place to be introduced to the world of birding. Join **Greg** Baker and PPS administrator and educator Ricky Allen on this trip that emphasizes developing new birding skills and sharpening your basic identification.

### Ducking Responsibility: May 6 (Sat), 8am-12pm

We head deep into the hidden waterways of the Columbia Slough, then walk trails into some lesser-known eastside wetlands and ponds. We'll follow "the road less traveled"! Birdathon Coordinator Mark Fitzsimons will lead you and your canoe or kayak on this birding and paddling adventure. A minimum of \$75 in pledges is requested.

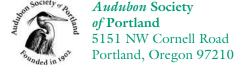
### **NEW TRIP! Cooper Mountain Chickadees:** May 20 (Sat), 8am-I lam

Join Molly Sultany, Hayley Crews, and Angela Calabrese, all avid birders and photographers, for a low-key morning walk birding among the wildflowers at the scenic 203-acre Cooper Mountain Nature Park in Beaverton. We will look for nesting songbirds, warblers, and raptors in the diverse habitats at the park: oak woodland, prairie, and coniferous forest.

### Millennial Falcons: May 21 (Sun), 8am-12pm

Calling all young adult birders, photographers, and nature lovers aged 21 to 35! Join avian enthusiasts **Robin** Juskowiak and Brandon Lampkin for a casual half day of birding at Fernhill Wetlands, a 700-acre birding hotspot in Forest Grove. All skill levels are welcome as we explore the restored wetlands for a wide variety of waterfowl, shorebirds, and raptors. Afterwards, join us for bird stories and brews at the nearby McMenamins Grand Lodge.

Continued on page 12



### Inside this issue

Page 2	From our Executive Director
Page 3	Nature Nights
	Bird Song Walks
Page 4 & 5	Conservation
	Wildlife Care Center
Page 6 & 7	Trips, Tours & Classes
Page 8	Field Notes & Tributes
Page 9	Nature Store
Page 10	Board of Directors Election
Page II	Staff Farewells
Page 12	Map/Hours/Business Alliance

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!

## From our Executive Director

### Where Do We Go From Here?

### by Nick Hardigg, Executive Director

This particular issue of the *Warbler* would be incomplete without reference to what's happening in Washington, DC. One challenge we face is that there is simply so much raining down on us now—denial of rights and science, scandal, "alternative facts," attacks on courts and public lands—that it's hard to maintain a sense of truth or balance. For those striving to conserve and protect our planet, this is a dizzying time. It's not always clear how we can have an impact, or where to focus our energies.

Fortunately, the opportunities to create real and lasting change at home are substantial, and provide hope during these times of uncertainty. In this issue of the Warbler, we'd like to highlight just a few ways acting locally has helped protect habitat right here in Oregon, showing that a passionate and empowered public can make a difference. On the front page, see how the Backyard Habitat Certification Program is expanding to new communities, building on its already impressive 3,700 households and more than 800 restored acres of habitat. At a statewide level, and thanks to your votes in November, the Oregon State University Extension Service is now creating the Outdoor School grant program for the largest outdoor education program in the United States, making funds for every child to attend Outdoor School. In Sandy, Oregon, we're expanding our Marmot Cabin education center, doubling our overnight capacity so that we may connect more communities with nature. Thanks to efforts like these, tomorrow's Oregonians will be increasingly inspired to protect our environment.

The California Condor is also poised to once again soar majestically over Oregon skies (p. 4), and with their reintroduction there will be added impetus and opportunity to remove poisonous lead shot from the



more kids who do this, the better - the future is for everyone." Nick with daughter at Raptor Road Trip.

natural environment. And at Malheur, collaborative efforts to restore the refuge and economy continue to advance thanks to a diverse group of stakeholders who've shown that we can bridge the urban/rural divide to create enduring solutions.

We hope you can find inspiration in the advances possible here at home. And from those opportunities, we encourage you to find your own focal points for action, where you can push for change, whether in your own backyard or at the

If you'd like to join our activist email list to receive alerts regarding how you can get involved in local issues, visit bit.ly/2b2myMf.

Nick Hardigg nhardigg@audubonportland.org



Friday afternoon Care Center crew revs up to go! Photo by Deanna Sawtelle.

### **April is National Volunteer Month!**

### And we wouldn't be Portland **Audubon without our volunteers!**

ur rich history as one of the most effective conservation organizations in the country is a history of the hearts, minds, and tenacity of volunteers. Founded in 1902 by a group of activists, Portland Audubon helped enact one of the first national and state laws protecting birds; advocated for the creation of Oregon's first national wildlife refuges at Klamath Basin, Three Arch Rocks, and Malheur; and planted our sanctuary on NW Cornell Road with the purchase of 12 acres of former dairy land in 1929.

Now with a staff of 35 and a membership of over 15,000, we continue to be powered by the hearts, minds, and hard work of volunteers as they administer medications to sick and injured animals in the Wildlife Care Center, ring up sales in the Nature Store, lead children and adults through our sanctuary, introduce visitors to our education birds, participate in citizen science projects, help homeowners create native habitat in their backyards, enter data in numerous databases, manage our most successful events, and provide vision and direction to the organization as board members—volunteers impact every facet of our work. In fact, in 2016, over 450 volunteers contributed 48,420 hours, providing the equivalent of \$1,009,557 in service, effectively increasing our staff by 23.3 FTE.

During this month of appreciation, we want to acknowledge our amazing volunteers, who give so much of themselves to protect the things we love here in Oregon. Thank you so much for all you do!

### **Nature Night Speakers Series 2017 Calendar**

### March

Backyard Habitats and the Ecology of their Impacts with Nikkie West and Andrew Gibbs Tuesday, March 14 • 7pm, Heron Hall Pre-Talk Seed Exchange 6-7pm, Heron Hall

### **April** Dynamic Geological History of Oregon,

with Scott Burns Tuesday, April II • 7pm, Montgomery Park Discount Hour 6-7pm, Rae's Lakeview Lounge

### May Songs, Brains, and Genes: The Fascinating Science of Birdsong with Claudio Mello Tuesday, May 9 • 7pm, Heron Hall

All Montgomery Park Nature Nights Hosted by SELCO Community Credit Union

### **NATURE NIGHTS**

The Second Tuesday of the month from September to May unless otherwise specified. To RSVP to any or all of our Nature Nights and receive quick entry, go to bit.ly/NATURENIGHTRSVP (case sensitive). If you have a suggestion for a Nature Night presentation or any feedback about a speaker, please contact Keia Booker at kbooker@audubonportland.org or 503-292-6855.

**Backyard Habitats and the Ecology** of their Impacts (with Pre-Talk Seed Exchange) with Nikkie West, Backyard Habitat Program Manager, and Andrew Gibbs, PhD candidate at Portland State University

Tuesday, March 14 7pm Heron Hall, 5151 NW Cornell Rd. (Seed Exchange 6–7pm)

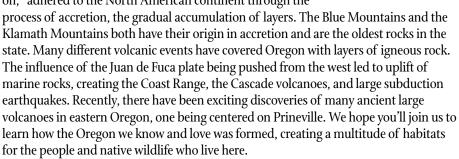
ver 200 species of birds use our urban area for all or part of the year. As they pass through on their migratory route, overwinter, or carry out their full life-cycle here, they visit our yards—for better or for worse. Our Backyard Habitat Certification **Program** provides technical assistance and incentives for residents who want to increase habitat at home and garden for wildlife. After nearly 10 years, how are the program's activities measuring up, and what are our aggregate impacts across the landscape? Are we truly supporting the birds in our backyards or creating ecological sinks? This presentation will ask the hard questions and explore the ecological nuance of these answers. It will also present preliminary findings from a multiyear study conducted by Portland State University, which aims to explore the impacts of local backyard habitats.

We will kick off this exciting program with a seed and hardwood cutting exchange. Seeds and hardwood cuttings of all shapes and sizes will be shared: veggies, natives, and wildlife-friendly ornamental plants (please bring viable seeds only, no invasive species). Come early with your bounty of sustainable seeds to share, or simply show up for the main presentation.

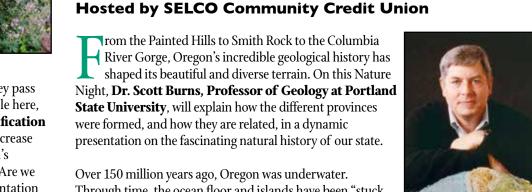
This program will be presented by **Backyard Habitat Program Manager Nikkie West**, and Portland State University PhD candidate Andrew Gibbs. Nikkie joined the staff at Portland Audubon in 2011 after nearly 10 years of coordinating community-based programs for Metro, the City of Milwaukie, and the Community Cycling Center—as well as NGOs in Honduras and India. Andrew is in the home stretch of achieving his PhD in Conservation Biology from PSU. His research consists of conducting bird point-counts and vegetation assessments in over 200 local backyard habitats, year-round, over the past three years.



Through time, the ocean floor and islands have been "stuck on," adhered to the North American continent through the



Named 2014 Outstanding Scientist by the Oregon Academy of Science, Scott Burns has been teaching geology for over 44 years! The last time he presented at Portland Audubon, many, unfortunately, had to be turned away. This Nature Night will be at Montgomery Park, a larger space that will allow all to attend. So come grab a seat and learn your rocks!



## Audubon Outings — Wild in the City and Beyond

Bring binoculars and dress for the weather — beginners welcome!

= Mostly weekday excursions

### March 4 (Sat), 7:30am-I lam **Sauvie Island**

Join **Tim Shelmerdine** for late winter birding on Sauvie Island. We will be observing waterfowl, raptors, and small passerines such as winter sparrows. Meet at 7:30am in the TriMet parking lot at the west end of the Sauvie Island bridge. Cars need an island parking pass from the Cracker Barrel store near the bridge—please have it by meeting time if you plan on driving. Dress for the weather. Call Tim at 971-221-2534 for more information. No need to call to sign up for this trip. Ending time is approximate.

### March 5 (Sun), 8am-I lam **Dawson Creek/Hillsboro Library**

Join Laura Whittemore to check out ducks, Acorn Woodpeckers, and more at this surprisingly active pond system in the middle of a corporate park. Improve your waterfowl ID skills on cooperative up-close ducks, but keep your eyes to the skies for hawks and eagles. Meet at the north end of the Hillsboro Main Library parking lot (2850 NE Brookwood Pkwy 97124). Questions: contact Laura at kingbird68@comcast.net or 503-407-6539.

### March 8 (Wed), 9am-I lam **Fernhill Wetlands**

Join **Richard Arnold** in Forest Grove at the Fernhill Wetlands. See all the changes that have been made at this wonderful location. Expect to see a variety of water birds, wintering passerines, and raptors. We will meet in the parking lot, next to the covered picnic area. Coming from the greater Portland area, it is a left-hand turn onto SE Fern Hill Rd. off Hwy 47 about 1/2 mile south of the junction with Hwy 8. Questions: call Richard at 603-801-9598

### March 23 (Thurs), 8am-10:30am Whitaker Ponds

Join Mary Ratcliff and Kathy van der Horst for a bird walk at Whitaker Ponds, a hidden urban oasis in NE Portland. We will explore the pond and surrounding forest looking for ducks, songbirds, eagles, and owls. Park inside gated area at the Ponds: 7040 NE 47th Ave. Questions: email Mary at mratclif@aracnet.com.

### March 25 (Sat), 8am-I lam **Powell Butte Nature Park**

Join **Ron Escano** for a walk exploring the unique habitats of Powell Butte. We will be looking for early spring vagrants like Say's phoebe and Townsend's solitaire. Meet at 8am at the parking lot at the top of the butte. The park entrance is

SE 162nd Ave off Powell Blvd. We should be done by 11:00. Bring binoculars, dress for the weather and beginners welcome. Signup required. Call Ron Escano (503-771-3454) to reserve a spot.

### April 14 (Fri), 7am-10am **Fernhill Wetlands**

Join **Stefan Schlick** for a morning at Fernhill Wetlands in Forest Grove. Meet at 7am at the  $\bar{\mbox{Fernhill}}$  Wetlands parking lot (1399 SW Fern Hill Road, 97117). Fern Hill Road is a left turn off Hwy 47 just south of Hwy 8 in Forest Grove. Dress for the weather. Questions: contact Stefan at greenfant@hotmail.com.

### April 15 (Sat), 8am-11am Vancouver Lake Park

Join **Ron Escano** at Vancouver Lake Park. Scope the lake for water birds then explore the riparian woodland for early spring migrants. Meet at 8am at parking lot in front of middle bathrooms and we should be done by 11am. Directions from I-5 north: take Exit 1-D (4th Plain Blvd), go west on 4th Plain through Vancouver onto SR-501 (Lower River Rd). After 3.5 miles on SR-501, continue straight for 0.6 miles to Vancouver Lake Park. Beginners welcome. **Signup** required. Call Ron Escano (503-771-3454) to reserve a spot.

### April 18 (Tue), 8am-12pm Sauvie Island (Rentenaar Road)

Join **Linda Magnuson** and **Dena Turner** for spring songbirds and raptors on Sauvie Island. Meet at 8am at the East Side Check Station parking lot on the corner of Reeder and Rentenaar Roads. We will walk Rentenaar Road and back (1.6 miles round trip). From the Sauvie Island bridge take Sauvie Island Rd. north 2 miles to the intersection with Reeder Rd. Turn right on Reeder and continue north 9 miles to the East Side Check Station and Rentenaar Rd. on the left. Allow 25 minutes to drive from the bridge to the check station. All cars need an island parking pass from the Cracker Barrel store near the bridge. Limited to 18 participants. Register at tinyurl.com/RentenaarRd4-18.

## April 19 (Wed), 7:30am-3pm Sauvie Island (Oak Island &

Join Karen Chaivoe and Mary Ratcliff to explore Oak Island and the Narrows to look for early migrants. Meet at the TriMet parking area at the west end of the Sauvie Island Bridge (not the Cracker Barrel lot) at 7:30 am to carpool. Be prepared to walk 3–4 miles on uneven terrain, have sunscreen, lunch, and water. Cars going to Oak Island/

Narrows need a Sauvie Island parking pass, available at the Cracker Barrel store near the bridge. For more information, contact Karen at kchaivoe@comcast.net or 503-241-4750. Limited to 15 participants. Register at tinyurl.com/ SauvieIsland-Apr19.

### April 20 (Thurs), 8:30am-I lam Steigerwald NWR

Join Barbara Allen and Diane Harris for a 2-mile walk to look for American Bittern, Purple Martin, and a variety of raptors and waterfowl. Meet in the refuge parking lot off SR-14 (about 3 miles east of Washougal, WA). Questions: email Barbara at barbaramaxzoe@yahoo.com.

### **April 26 (Wed) 8:30am-3pm** Tillamook

Meet Dick Demarest and Ken Chamberlain at 8:30am in the Safeway parking lot at 4th St. and Stillwell Ave. in Tillamook. We expect to bird from Barview Jetty to Bayocean Spit and will be looking for Wrentit, shorebirds, raptors, and early spring migrants. Bring lunch and dress for the weather. Questions: contact Dick Demarest (503-407-7912, rdd@demarests.com). **Limited to 16** participants. Register at tinyurl.com/Tillamook-Apr26

### April 30 (Sun), 8am-I lam Fernhill Wetlands

If you haven't visited Fernhill in a while, come see the changes! Join **Laura Whittemore** to explore the wetlands, ponds, and surrounding woodland for waterfowl, raptors, migrants, and more. Meet in Forest Grove at the Fernhill Wetlands parking lot (1399 SW Fern Hill Road, 97117). Fern Hill Road is a left turn off Hwy 47 just south of Hwy 8 in Forest Grove. Questions: contact Laura at kingbird68@ comcast.net or 503-407-6539.

### May 4 (Thurs) 7:15am-12:30pm and Sewage

Join Karen Chaivoe and Marilyn Abend to bird for early spring migrants in the Columbia County sloughs, and Port of St. Helens water treatment plant. Meet on Sauvie Island at the TriMet Park and Ride lot to form carpools. We will drive about 40 miles round trip. A \$3 parking fee is required for the Port of St. Helens. For questions or more information, contact Karen at kchaivoe@comcast.net or Marilyn at abendlaughter@gmail.com. Limited to 18 participants. Register at tinyurl.com/may4-col-slough



### **Bird Song Walks 2017**

### 7 a.m. Mon-Fri, various locations: FREE!

udubon Society of Portland is proud to sponsor the 2017 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. By starting with the earliest trips you can become familiar with the songs of the common resident species and then keep pace with the migrants as they arrive.

Bird Song Walks begin at 7 am and end at around 9am. No pre-registration required. Leave whenever you like. Bring 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.

### **Mondays** April 3, 10, 17, 24 and May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

### **Tryon Creek State Park** Leaders: Rick and Stephanie Wagner

11321 SW Terwilliger Blvd, Portland, OR 97219. Meet at the Nature Center. More at tryonfriends.org.

### **Tuesdays** April 4, 11, 18, 25 and May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

### Oaks Bottom Park Leader: Hailey Walls

Meet in Sellwood Park at the corner of SE 7th Ave & Sellwood Blvd in Portland, OR 97202. For more info about Oaks Bottom, visit portlandoregon.gov/parks.

### Wednesdays April 5, 12, 19, 26 and May 3, 10, 17, 24

### Mt. Tabor Park **Leaders: Gerard Lillie and Tom McNamara**

From SE Belmont, go south on SE 69th two short blocks, just into the park turn right and drive as far as possible to gate. Park along street. Mt. Tabor Park is closed to cars on Wednesdays, so be sure to use this entrance. [TriMet bus #15 stops at SE 69th & Yamhill]. Please be aware of bicyclists on Mt Tabor! Make room and share the road! More at portlandoregon.gov/parks.

### **Thursdays** April 6, 13, 20, 27

### **Pittock Mansion**

**Leader: Wink Gross** 

3229 NW Pittock Drive, Portland, OR 97210. Follow W Burnside about 1.2 miles west of NW 23rd and turn right onto Barnes Rd. Follow the wellmarked signs through the neighborhood for another 0.7 mile to the park, and meet at the Pittock parking lot. [TriMet bus #20 stop #687 at W Burnside and NW Barnes is closest stop.] More at pittockmansion.org.

### **Thursdays** April 6, 13, 20, 27

### **Jackson Bottom Wetlands Education Center**

**Leader: Steve Engel** 

Meet at the Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve Education Center (2600 SW Hillsboro Highway, Hillsboro, OR 97123). For more information, call 503-681-6283 or visit ci.hillsboro.or.us.

### **Thursdays** May 4, 11, 18, 25

### **Rood Bridge Park Leader: Steve Engel**

Meet at 4000 SE Rood Bridge Rd, Hillsboro, OR 97123. For more information, call 503-681-6283 or visit ci.hillsboro.or.us.

### **Fridays** April 7, 14, 21, 28 and May 5, 12, 19, 26

### Portland Audubon Sanctuary Leaders: Stefan Schlick, Dan van den Broek

Meet at the Portland Audubon Society at 5151 NW Cornell Rd, Portland, OR 97210. For more info, visit audubonportland.org/sanctuaries/visiting.

## Conservation

### **Get the Lead Out: Reintroduction** of the California Condor into Redwood National Park

by Mary Coolidge, BirdSafe Coordinator

lans are underway to reintroduce the largest landbird in North America-*Prey-go-neesh*, the California Condor—to the Bald Hills of Redwood National Park. The Yurok Tribe, together with the National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has spent nearly a decade spearheading the effort to return this culturally and ecologically significant species to the Yurok ancestral territory. The promise of this magnificent bird flying free in Oregon is thrilling, but are we adequately addressing the primary threat they will face once here?



California Condors. Photo by Bob Wick, BLM

Portland Audubon has a number of campaigns to address threats to bird populations across the landscape, including lead toxicity in wildlife. For a number of years, our Wildlife Care Center has been tracking lead levels in raptors, ravens, and Turkey Vultures—scavenging species that are poisoned by ingesting lead fragments when feeding on the remains of animals shot with lead ammunition. Lead toxicity is a preventable cause of morbidity, one that we addressed decades ago through bans on lead in paint and gasoline, but one that has not yet been addressed by a widely applied ban on lead ammunition, except for a phased ban in California in game hunting, and a federal ban in waterfowl hunting. The use of non-lead ammunition for hunting provides safe, lead-free meat for hunters and their families as well as safe food sources for scavenging wildlife. It also upholds a well-established hunting ethic that a bullet should only kill once.

On January 17, outgoing USFWS director Dan Ashe issued a long overdue order to phase out the use of lead ammunition by 2022 to the fullest extent practicable on national park land, wildlife refuges, and other land administered by USFWS. This order sent an important signal that USFWS recognizes that exposure to lead is poisonous to both fish and wildlife, and continues to be the limiting factor in multistate efforts to recover a self-sustaining population of California Condors. We remain hopeful that the current administration will not reverse this order. Plans by the Yurok Tribe, USFWS, and the NPS to release Condors into Northern California raises the specter of the lead hazard, given that lead has not yet been addressed outside of California. In returning Condors to the Pacific Northwest, which they have not inhabited for over 100 years, we must concurrently ensure that we are doing our due diligence to protect this iconic species. Portland Audubon supports outreach and education to promote the voluntary use of non-lead ammunition, but this program is not progressing quickly enough to safeguard Condors or other wildlife against deadly exposure to lead.

We are currently exploring the right path forward in this work. Portland Audubon strongly supports Condor reintroduction into Northern California, but we have concerns about plans to designate this PNW population as non-essential (10j), thus limiting protections, including from lead poisoning, normally provided by the Endangered Species Act. We want to see the government follow Dan Ashe's lead and take aggressive action to reduce the threat of lead shot to Condors and other wildlife.

The preliminary comment period for the environmental assessment on Condor reintroduction to the Bald Hills of Redwood National Park is now closed, but there will be another opportunity to comment when the NPS releases a draft assessment with their preferred alternative. If you want to stay informed about opportunities to weigh in on this plan, contact Stephanie Taylor, Conservation Field Organizer, at staylor@audubonportland.org. For more information on the proposed release facility and environmental assessment process, visit parkplanning.nps.gov/documentsList. cfm?projectID=66364

### **Upcoming Audubon Activist Opportunities**

Grassroots activism has always been at the core of our efforts to protect wildlife, wild places, and the health of our community. Your voice is more important than ever as we head toward critical environmental decisions at the local, state, and national levels.

For more information on any of these events or to RSVP, please contact **Stephanie Taylor**, Conservation Field Organizer, at staylor@audubonportland.org or 971-200-4681.

### **2017 Conservation Platform Presentation** Thursday, March 23, 6pm-8:30pm Location TBA—RSVP for details

If you are interested in volunteering with the Conservation Activist Team, attend this orientation to learn how to be a valuable member of this effort. The evening will include an overview of our conservation platform for 2017, presenting several key campaigns for the year, and will lay out upcoming advocacy training tracks, including education-based policy trainings and workshops to empower activists to strategically advocate for wildlife issues.

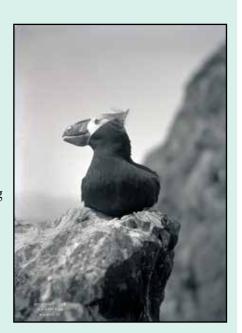
### **Cormorants on East Sand Island: Update and Next Steps** Friday, April 7, 6pm-8pm Portland Audubon's Heron Hall

The Army Corps of Engineers is set to restart its lethal-control management of Double-crested Cormorants on East Sand Island at the mouth of the Columbia River. Attend this meeting to learn about Audubon's litigation on the management plan, how larger environmental assessments on the larger Columbia River system could play into this management plan, and how you can advocate to stop the unnecessary killing of cormorants.



### **Revisiting Finley and Bohlman:** Two of Oregon's Greatest **Conservationists**

udubon Society of Portland is proud to **\\_** be partnering with the Oregon Historical Society to feature the work of two of our founding members: William L. Finley and Herman T. Bohlman. The work of Finley and Bohlman during the first four decades of the twentieth century, backed by the fledgling Oregon Audubon Society (later known as Audubon Society of Portland) would result in the protection of public lands across the Oregon landscape, including Klamath, Malheur, and Three Arch Rocks Wildlife Refuges, and the Wallowa,



Deschutes, Umpqua, Siskiyou, Fremont, Suislaw, Umatilla, and Rogue River National Forests. It would also result in the first laws to protect wild birds in Oregon.

Finley and Bohlman left behind an astounding legacy of natural history photography and writing, land protection, and grassroots advocacy. They stand next to other great early twentieth-century conservationists like John Muir and John Burroughs. Theodore Roosevelt would spent time with Muir, Burroughs, and Finley on his legendary Great Train Loop Tour in 1903, which would set the stage for arguably the most significant period of public land protection in US history.

More than 6,000 photographic images and 8,600 pages of documents by are being released online from the collections of the Oregon Historical Society and Oregon State University. The photography and manuscript collections by William L. Finley and Herman T. Bohlman represent nearly fifty years (1899–1946) of work to document and protect the diversity of birds and wildlife in Oregon.

In celebration of the project's completion, a five-stop speaking tour of Oregon is being planned for early May 2017, with lectures and guided wildlife refuge tours planned in Portland, Corvallis, Tillamook, Klamath Falls, and Burns. Dates and further details will be released soon.

Materials are being posted to OSU's Oregon Digital (oregondigital.org/sets/ **finley-bohlman**) as they become available.

Please check Portland Audubon (audubonportland. org) and Oregon Historical Society (**ohs.org**) for more

information about this effort and associated events and presentations.

This project is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the Oregon State Library.

## Portland Audubon is Hiring!

We are currently seeking applicants for multiple positions including:

- Director of Development
- Director of Education
- Summer Environmental Educators (multiple positions)

Learn how to apply on our website and join our flock! audubonportland.org/about/jobs



CBC Counters. Photo by Portland Audubon.

### 91st Annual Portland Christmas Bird Count a Grand Success!

by Candace Larson, CBC Compiler, and Joe Liebezeit, Avian Conservation Program Manager

n impressive **221 intrepid field birders and 128 feeder watchers** conquered the 91st annual Portland Christmas Bird Count on New Year's Eve, 2016. Abundant thanks go out to the outstanding team of volunteer Area Leaders including Colby Neuman, Dan Strong, Lynn Herring, and Lori Hennings. Portland Audubon staffer Joe Liebezeit rounded out the Area Leaders. Together they organized the hardy flock of field counters into 39 sectors, which covered the Portland CBC circle on a day by turns chilly, sunny, and snowy.

The Eagle Eye Award, given to the field counter who finds the most unusual bird, was won by **Philip Kline**, who scoured the area to find and photograph a **Bohemian Waxwing** in residential NE Portland. Philip and several others enjoyed good looks at this rare and attractive winter visitor, the sixth record in the 91 years of the Portland CBC. Congratulations, Philip! Other rare and exciting finds



Bohemian Waxwing. Photo by Scott Carpenter

included Burrowing Owl, American Bittern, Sora, Cinnamon Teal, Eared Grebe, and Black-throated Gray Warbler. Feeder watchers added Band-tailed Pigeon to the list, bringing our species total to 118, a nice showing for the day.

Several species were recorded at all-time highs, including Cackling Goose and Ring-necked Duck, Bald Eagle, Downy Woodpecker, American Crow, and Virginia Rail. Underrepresented species included Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Varied Thrush, and Pine Siskin. For a summary of the 91-year history of the count, including details of the last 10 years, go to audubonportland. org/local-birding/cbc/91.

The Portland CBC feeds into a data set that encompasses over 1,000 CBC count circles across North America and as far south as Brazil. At 117 years, the CBC is one of the longest running large-scale data sets in existence. Over 200 studies have been published using CBC data, and findings have been used to inform important management and conservation decisions that have helped protect birds across their flyways.

Thanks to all the field counters and feeder watchers for making this year's Portland CBC a resounding success. We look forward to seeing you again next year!

## Wildlife Care Center

## Bid on One-of-a-Kind Experiences to Benefit the Wildlife Care Center

rom Bald Eagles to songbirds to baby beavers, the Audubon Society of Portland's Wildlife Care Center takes in about 3,000 orphaned or injured native animals each year and works to rehabilitate them for release in the wild. To help pay for the cost of care for our wild neighbors and to educate thousands of members of the public about peacefully coexisting with wildlife, we are pleased to present our 7th annual Call of the Wild Auction filled with exciting experiences for the nature-loving adventurer in all of us! bit.ly/CALLOFTHEWILDAUCTION2017

View auction items and place your bids from February 12 through March 6.

Here are just a few of the unique experiences to bid on:

### Release a Raptor Back Into the Wild

Nearly 400 of the birds we rehabilitate each year are Birds of Prey. The ultimate goal of the WCC is to rehabilitate every raptor received and, when possible, to release it back to its natural habitat. Experience the joy of returning one of nature's most



Bald Eagle release. Photo by Chelsea Rutherford

magnificent creatures back to the wild!

### Breitenbush Hotsprings Getaway Braitenbush is a remote forest

Breitenbush is a remote forest retreat of timeless natural beauty, blessed with abundant hot springs, a glacier-fed river and surrounding mountains, where you will discover a vast and personal connection with the natural world in any season. Soak in the Meadow Pools lined in smooth river rocks or the four Spiral Hot Tubs of

varying temperature. Sleep in a cabin in the forest, and enjoy delicious vegetarian meals.

### Participants will:

- Receive a \$224 certificate that can be used mid-week toward a one night stay for 2 or a two night stay for 1
- Enjoy lodging in a cabin, 3 vegetarian meals and 24 hour access to soaking pools and sauna

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

Head condor keeper Kelli Walker will take you and your party on a fascinating tour that highlights the extensive effort that goes into the recovery of a species. You will see the condor facility's incubation room, camera set-up, rearing-by-puppet room and the condor barns.

This is an amazing opportunity - the Oregon Zoo's California condor breeding program is one of only four in the country!

Don't miss out! Bid heartily and help save wild animals at the Wildlife Care Center.



Photo © Portland Audubon

## 21st Annual Native Plant Sale!

n **Saturday and Sunday, April 29 and 30, 10am to 4pm both days**, the Audubon Society of Portland will host its **21st annual Native Plant Sale**. Expect the same great selection of plants and the same wonderful crew of volunteer botanists and assistants. As always, over 100 species of native trees, shrubs, herbaceous perennials, bulbs, grasses, and vines will be available for sale.

We strive to make our plant sale as user friendly and accessible as possible by providing a cadre of native-plant experts to help you select plants to best suit you and your property. Restoring native-plant communities on private land is key to maintaining healthy wildlife populations. Each plant makes a difference.

Longtime volunteer and Sanctuaries Committee member Gregg Everhart will once again provide her assiduously prepared shopping lists, providing a wealth of information on all the plants available: typical size, growing conditions, habitat value, and even the color of the flower and fruit type. You can use the list to find out what will grow in that moist, shady back corner, or which plants will attract butterflies and hummingbirds. Comprehensive information will be posted above the plants themselves, including photographs of the plant in bloom.

Your purchase at our 21st Annual Native Plant Sale directly benefits the Audubon Society of Portland's wildlife sanctuary trails and habitat restoration efforts. Our fundraising efforts this year will support projects to improve the trail system and ensure the sanctuaries remain enjoyable to school groups and visitors. Thank you for your contribution, both to Portland Audubon and to your own yard!



Photo by Deanna Sawtelle

## Volunteer of the Month: Jean Schoonover

by Deanna Sawtelle, Volunteer Manager

Portland Audubon's volunteers donated 48,420 hours to help us achieve our mission in 2016. That's the equivalent of 23.3 full-time employees and valued at over \$1 million! How do we know all that?

Because of an amazing volunteer, **Jean Schoonover**, who for ten years has come in weekly for three to four hours to enter everyone's hours into our system. Doing so has resulted in over 1,500 of her own volunteer hours! I would like to recognize Jean for her diligence and dedication to this task.

What's truly amazing is that Jean does the volunteer timesheet data entry AFTER completing a full shift in the Wildlife Care Center. There she cares for the injured and orphaned wildlife currently at the center. During the busy spring and summer, none of the volunteers take a breather, and most go home after their shifts for a well-deserved break. Not Jean! She dutifully gathers the timesheet notebooks, logs onto the computer, and starts entering data.

Since starting her volunteer work at in 2007, Jean has given over 5,000 hours and taken on leadership roles with several special events like the WCC Open House and the Halloween Night Flight. Jean's creativity and enthusiasm have made every activity she touches more fun for other volunteers and for all our guests. For her efforts, Jean received the Mamie Campbell Award in 2010.

Thank you, Jean, from the bottom of our hearts, for everything you do for us!

## 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.

For registration questions:

Marissa Duncan, mduncan@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6131.

For more information about any of our trips:

Dan van den Broek at dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6105 or Stefan Schlick at sschlick@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6119.

### Okanogan June 16–21, 2017

oin Portland Audubon on this trip to the Okanogan of north central Washington. We'll be looking for summer specialties that are difficult to see in Oregon. Did you know that Claycolored Sparrow, American Redstart, and Least Flycatcher are relatively easy to find as breeders just to the north of us? We'll also look for more difficult to find boreal species such as Spruce Grouse, Boreal Chickadee, Pine Grosbeak, and



American Redstart. Photo by Dan Pancamo

**American Three-toed Woodpecker**, and hope that luck is with us.

Our five-night trip, led by Okanogan expert **Stefan Schlick**, will be based in Omak, in the Okanogan Valley. On day one, we'll stop en route in Brooks Memorial Park and Toppenish NWR and spend the night in Ellensburg, where we'll look for **Common Poorwills** in the nearby hills. We'll continue to Omak to explore the Okanogan Highlands, Sinlahekin Valley, and the high-elevation country of the Okanogan Cascades. Expect to find close to 150 species and enjoy the amazing scenery at this unique destination. Enjoy full days out in nature and be rewarded at the end of the day by an incomparable dinner at the Breadline Cafe in Omak.

**Leader: Stefan Schlick**, Portland Audubon Trip Leader **Fee**: \$1195\* members / \$1495\* non-members **Deposit**: \$600 required to secure your place

## Ashland to Klamath

### June 21-25, 2017

ake a five-day birding and natural history adventure with Portland Audubon through southwest Oregon! Ashland will be our base for two nights as we explore the Rogue Valley, home to rich avifauna including **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**, **Ash-throated Flycatcher**, and **Yellow-breasted Chat**. We'll visit a Klamath Bird



Yellow-breasted Chat. Photo by Portland Audubon

Observatory banding station for a unique opportunity to observe birds in the hand and see KBO field biologists in action! We'll then traverse forest and river edges looking out for **Williamson's Sapsucker** and **Oak Titmouse** as we work our way to Klamath Falls for two more days seeking summer specialties, including breeding shorebirds and waterfowl, and the elusive **Tricolored Blackbird**.

**Leaders: Candace Larson** and **Dan van den Broek**, Portland Audubon Trip Leaders **Fee:** \$1195\* members / \$1495\* non-members **Deposit:** \$600 required to secure your place

### Southeast Arizona August 12–20, 2017

Desert and the "Sky Islands" of Southeast Arizona, one of the birding capitals of the United States. Several major ecoregions converge here, and it offers a rich array of flora and fauna. In addition to birds, we'll be on the lookout for the fascinating mammals, reptiles, insects, and plants found here.



Montezuma Quail. Photo by Isaac Sanchez

Seasonal bird diversity will be at its highest in August, giving us opportunities for grassland sparrows such as **Botteri's**, **Cassin's**, and **Rufous-winged Sparrow**, the cryptic **Montezuma Quail** as well as resident desert species such as **Verdin**, **Curve-billed Thrasher**, **Cactus Wren**, and **Gambel's Quail**. The greatest diversity of hummingbirds in the United States is found here, and we may see up to 10 species, including the **Magnificent**, **Blue-throated**, and **Lucifer Hummingbirds**. We'll look for the **Elegant Trogon** at Cave Creek, **Violet-crowned Hummingbird** in Patagonia, **Varied Bunting** at Madera Canyon, and we should pick up a **Gray Hawk** en route.

**Leaders: Dr. Ivan Phillipsen** and **Stefan Schlick**, Portland Audubon Trip Leaders **Fee:** \$2395\* members / \$2695\* non-members

**Deposit**: \$1200 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.

## **Grays Harbor Bay Shorebirds September 8–10, 2017**

Join Portland Audubon on a trip to one of the West Coast's best birding hotspots, where you can expect to see a bevy of shorebirds, and even some seabirds. Early September is the perfect time to look for **Pacific Golden-Plover**, and even a **Bar-tailed Godwit** might turn up among the **Marbled Godwit** flocks in Westport. Many other shorebird species will be present during this peak shorebird migration time. Based in Ocean Shores, Washington, we will visit Bottle Beach, Westport harbor, Tokeland, Oyhut, and the Ocean Shores jetty.

**Leader: Stefan Schlick**, Portland Audubon Trip Leader **Fee:** \$395\* members / \$455\* non-members **Deposit:** \$200 required to secure your place

# Nature Illustration at Cape Perpetua September 8–10, 2017

ape Perpetua, Oregon's largest marine reserve, protects essential habitat for hundreds of species, including the federally threatened **Marbled Murrelet**, **Spotted Owl**, and **Silverspot Butterfly**. With sketchbooks in hand we'll observe, study, and document marine life,



Cape Perpetua. Photos by Zebith Thalden

coastal topography, and old growth forests. We'll start at Oregon State University, looking at the historic lineage of nature illustration, with access to the rare collections. Then it's on to Cape Perpetua to create quick sketches, long drawings, and take a short hike. On our final day, we'll travel to Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area to look for **Red Urchins**, **Tidepool Sculpins**, and **Iridescent Seaweed** in the tide pools, **Harbor Seals** on the islands and many seabirds, including **Common Murre** and **Black Oystercatcher**, nestled on the volcanic cliffs.

**Leader: Zebith Thalden**, Portland Audubon Trip Leader **Fee**: \$515\* members / \$615\* non-members **Deposit**: \$250 required to secure your place **Single supplement**: Please contact us to confirm availability.

## Sayulita: The Pacific Coast of Mexico

### **December I-II, 2017**

he tropical Sayulita Coast lies just north of Puerto Vallarta in western Mexico, and the area's forests, fields, coast, and mountains provide habitat for a wonderful diversity of birds. The area surrounding San Francisco (known locally as San Pancho) is home to resident species such as Palebilled Woodpecker, Rufous-bellied Chachalaca, Cinnamon Hummingbird, Orange-fronted Parakeet, Mexican Parrotlet, and Ivory-billed Woodcreeper.



Orange-fronted Parakeet.
Photo by Rodger Evans

With the Pacific Ocean at our back, we'll bird a pristine lagoon home to **Roseate Spoonbill**, **Bare-throated Tiger Heron**, **Northern Jacana**, and **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**. We'll spend

and **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**. We'll spend five nights in San Pancho, allowing us to comfortably explore the surrounding birding areas and return each evening to our delightful lodgings to recap the day. A boat trip through the mangrove-lined estuary at San Blas will give us opportunities to see **Common Black-Hawk**, **Snail Kite**, and **Laughing Falcon**. We wrap up our trip by heading inland to the historic village of San Sebastian del Oeste, founded in 1605. The oak and pine forests above San Sebastian will provide a completely different offering of birds, including **Magnificent Hummingbird**, **Crescent-chested Warbler**, **Slate-throated Redstart**, and **Red-headed Tanager**. In the morning, the beautiful song of the **Brown-backed Solitaire** will echo through the forest.

**Leader: Dr. Ivan Phillipsen**, Portland Audubon Trip Leader **Fee:** \$3350 members / \$3750 non-members **Deposit:** \$1600 required to secure your place

A portion of your fee is a tax-deductible donation to the Audubon Society of Portland.

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.

- I. Register and pay online: Visit class description at www.audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult and follow registration link.
- 2. Mail in your check: Make payable to Audubon Society of Portland. Include with payment: class name, your name(s) and, if this is your first class with us, your full contact information.
- 3. Register by phone: Call Marissa Duncan (971-222-6131) to pay over phone. We accept VISA, Master Card, and Discover.

Contact Marissa Duncan, Education Program Assistant, at mduncan@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6131.

Check our website for upcoming classes not listed here! audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult/classes

### **Bird Journals: Sketching and** painting birds simply for pleasure

Saturdays, I 0am-3pm: Class in Heron Hall Artist and author **Jude Siegel** provides simple approaches for creating a bird journal: learn to see, draw, add watercolor, and create surroundings. No art experience required, just enthusiasm! Each class has a specific focus and is complete in itself. You may take one or more. Supply list online. All classes will use watercolor, pen, pencil.

**Fee**: \$45 members / \$65 non-members for each class Limited to 16 participants per class.

**March 18**: Adding color: simple ways to suggest bird markings. **April 22**: Ways to suggest trees, water, rocks, skies. **May 20**: Sketching birds: form, pose, how to get it on paper.

### **Intermediate Birding: Stretch Your Wings in Bird ID!**

Mar II & 18 (Sat), 8am-12pm: Local Field Trips Mar 25 (Sat), 7am-5pm: Field Trip (transportation

Class is Full, but register for Wait list online as cancellations do occur!

### Lichens, Mosses, & Ferns

Mar 22 (Wed), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall Mar 25 (Sat), 8am-12pm: Local Field Trip

Oregon's forests are famous for lush layers of lichens, mosses, and ferns, which are diverse and abundant, and play crucial roles in forest ecosystems. **Dr. Ivan Phillipsen** will introduce you to local lichens and simple plants—you'll learn key differences and how to recognize common species.

**Class with Field Trips**, *limited to 14 participants*: \$50 members / \$65 non-members **Class-only Option:** \$14

### **Mammals of Oregon 2: Carnivores and Hoofed Mammals**

Mar 29 (Wed), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall Apr I (Sat), 8am-I2pm: Local Field Trip

In this class you'll learn about Oregon's cats, bears, canines, weasels, deer, sheep, and more. **Dr. Ivan Phillipsen** will introduce you to the habitats, behaviors, and identification of numerous species. The field trip will be to a local wildlife refuge or similar location, where mammals and their signs might be observed.

**Class with Field Trips**, *limited to 14 participants*: \$50 members / \$65 non-members Class-only Option: \$14

### Birding By Ear

**Laura Whittemore** will help you learn to identify birds by their songs! Three field trips provide repetition, repetition, repetition, the key to absorbing these sounds!

**Fee per session**: \$115 members / \$145 non-members. Each class limited to 14 participants.

### Birding By Ear - Resident Birds (Session A)

April 5 (Wed) and April 18 (Tue), 7pm-9pm: Classes in Heron Hall

Apr 8, 15, 22 (Sat), 7am-10am: Local Field Trips

Birding By Ear - Resident Birds (Session B)

April 6 and 20 (Thu), 7pm-9pm: Classes in Heron Hall

Apr 9, 16, 23 (Sun), 7am-10am: Local Field Trips Birding By Ear - Migrant Birds

May 10 and 24 (Wed), 7pm-9pm: Classes in Heron Hall May 13, 20, 27 (Sat), 7am-10am: Local Field Trips

**Birding By Ear - Nesting Birds** 

June I and I5 (Thu), 7pm-9pm: Classes in Heron Hall June 3, 10, 17 (Sat), 7am-10am: Local Field Trips

### Wild Chickens of the PNW

April 19 (Wed), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall April 22 (Sat), 8am-5pm: Local Field Trip

Several species of grouse, partridge, and quail occur in the Pacific Northwest. Some are difficult to see, but others can be easily be observed in the wild. Birding expert **Stefan Schlick** presents a species overview with how and where to find them. On the field trip into the Oregon Coast Range we will look for Sooty Grouse.

**Class with Field Trips**, *limited to 14 participants*: \$70 members / \$85 non-members Class-only Option: \$14

### Lava Flows and Missoula Floods: Geology of the Columbia Gorge

April 26 (Wed), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall April 29 (Sat), 8am-4pm: Local Field Trip

The Columbia River Gorge has been shaped by lava flows, volcanoes, giant floods, and landslides over millions of years. Join **Dr. Ivan Phillipsen** to learn about the origins of the cliffs and waterfalls of this awe-inspiring region.

Class with Field Trip, limited to 12 participants: \$95 members / \$115 non-members (transportation provided) **Class-only Option:** \$14

### **Spring Shorebirds**

April 27 (Thu), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall April 29 (Sat), 8am-5pm: Field Trip to Oregon Coast

Spring shorebird migration is fast and furious—massive numbers of migrants pass through Oregon on their way to arctic nesting grounds. Local author John Rakestraw will teach you to recognize the common shorebirds by color, shape, and behavior. On Saturday we will travel to the coast to see these birds in person (transportation provided).

**Class with Field Trip**: \$95 members / \$115 non-members. Field Trip limited to 12 participants/van Class-Only Option: \$14

### **Warblers & Flycatchers**

May 4 (Thu), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall May 6 (Sat), 7:30am-I I:30am: Local Field Trip

Focus on two groups notorious for giving us stiff necks and bewildered stares: warblers and flycatchers. Local author and guide John Rakestraw will show you how to identify these birds by sight and sound, posture and performance. The field trip will visit a local migrant hotspot to solidify your new skills.

Class with Field Trip, limited to 14 participants: \$50 members / \$65 non-members **Class-only Option:** \$14

### Spring Break Camp 2017 at Portland Audubon is March 27-31

Registration for Spring & Summer camps begins January 26 at 9:00am. To register, go to audubonportland.org for online registration or to download a registration form. Call 971-222-6131 to save a place if you are mailing your form.

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

### MONDAY, MARCH 27 - FRIDAY, MARCH 31

Tails of the Forest:

Mammals (Mon), Raptors (Tues), Amphibians (Wed), Birds (Thur), Habitats (Fri) Ist grade

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.

Single days: \$65 member/ \$75 non-member All 5 days: \$240 member/ \$260 non-member Pick up/Drop off: Audubon House

### **MONDAY, MARCH 27**

### The Art of Invisibility 2nd-3rd grade

To ambush, to lie in wait, to surprise, and to hide in plain sight...These will be our goals as we use the Portland Audubon Sanctuary to focus on the skill of disappearing. We'll sneak through the woods trying to stay undetected, play games that will help us hone our skill, and follow maps that lead to delicious bounty. Come with us for a sneaky fun adventure in the art of camouflage. Fee: \$65 member / \$75 non-member Pick up/Drop off: Audubon House

### **Bullseve** 4th-8th grade

The bow is one of the oldest tools still used in its original form, and it dates back over 10,000 years. We'll begin to master the skills of shooting a bow and spend part of the day traveling the trails of Portland Audubon's own Wildlife Sanctuary. Learn proper form and technique for shooting a bow and arrow, a skill that will last you a lifetime.

Fee: \$70 member / \$80 non-member Pick up/Drop off: Upper MacLeay **Park** 

### **TUESDAY, MARCH 28** Salmon Search 2nd-3rd grade

Run with the salmon up the Columbia River Gorge on this exciting day of exploration and wildlife viewing. We'll hike behind a waterfall, visit a gigantic sturgeon, and watch Chinook salmon swim by through a special underwater window. Ospreys and Bald Eagles will also be searching for salmon, and we'll try to find them, too. Fee: \$70 member / \$80 non-member

Pick up/Drop off: Upper MacLeay

### **Wild Medicine**

4th-8th grade

Have you ever looked at vast greenery of the Pacific Northwest forest and wondered if the plants have stories? Spend a day exploring the Portland Audubon sanctuary learning and discovering the medicinal and edible plants that thrive here in Oregon. We will safely nibble edible forest greens, learn about the wild medicine that grows right here at our feet, and create our own medicinal salve from plantain leaves, which soothes bee stings, bug bites, poison oak rashes, and other skin irritations. Fee: \$70 member / \$80 non-member Pick up/Drop off: Audubon House

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

### Wild Art Adventure 2nd-3rd grade

Spend a day exploring the forest, pond, and trails surrounding Portland Audubon and let your creativity run wild! We will build natural sculptures and collect forest materials to craft fantastic art creations. Come join us while we paint, draw, construct, and adventure to our heart's content!

Fee: \$65 member / \$75 non-member Pick up/Drop off: Audubon House

### Map, Compass & Beyond 4th-8th grade

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. We will learn some tips and tricks on using your observation skills, awareness, and internal compass to help find your way. With treasure map in hand, your team will navigate to hidden treasures and clues on Portland's only extinct volcano.

Fee: \$70 member / \$80 non-member Pick up/Drop off: Upper MacLeay Park

### **THURSDAY, MARCH 30**

### Junior Wildlife Vet 101 2nd-3rd grade

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 Portland Audubon's Wildlife Care Center with wildlife rehabilitators and find out what this exciting job is all about.

Fee: \$65 member / \$75 non-member Pick up/Drop off: **Audubon House** 

### Surf's Up 4th-8th grade

Join Portland Audubon's Educators on this day-long exploration of the coast.We'll discover the awesome animals that live in tide pools, explore a few caves, learn some cool geology, and find time to build a sandcastle or two. We guarantee you'll learn more about the beach in one day than you thought possible, and you'll have a blast doing it! Note: the camp returns at 5:00pm.

Fee: \$70 member / \$80 non-member

Pick up/Drop off: Upper **MacLeay Park** 

### FRIDAY, MARCH 31

**Aquatic Art** 2nd-3rd grade What creatures live in your

local creeks and ponds? We'll look in Balch Creek and the pond in Portland Audubon's own Wildlife Sanctuary to find mayflies, trout, and maybe even a crayfish! Get to know the plants and animals that live in this watershed and turn your observations into imaginative paintings and clay sculptures. **Fee**: \$65 member /

\$75 non-member Pick up/Drop off: **Audubon House** 

### Junior Wildlife Vet 102 4th-8th grade

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 Portland Audubon's Wildlife Care Center with wildlife rehabilitators and find out what this exciting job is all about.

Fee: \$70 member / \$80 non-member

Pick up/Drop off: Upper **MacLeay Park** 

MARCH/APRIL 2017 www.audubonportland.org

## Field Notes

### by Harry Nehls

### **Wintering Horned Larks**

t one time **Horned Larks** were a fairly common permanent resident west of the Cascades. The birds preferred bare to sparsely vegetated ground, such as sandy beaches, plowed farm fields, and dirt roadside edges. As these habitats were reduced for other uses, lark populations decreased. Today the remaining birds are reduced to pockets along the lower Columbia River and the open mid-Willamette Valley meadowlands. Individuals and small numbers still occasionally occur elsewhere in winter and migration.

Horned Larks are seldom seen in the Portland area, but not long ago they were quite common. In Gabrielson and Jewett's 1929 *Birds of the Portland Area, Oregon* they wrote:

"A permanent resident, particularly abundant in the cultivated sections of the district in the vicinity Gresham. It is less common along the Columbia River bottoms, although at times in the winter it is found there in large numbers."

Horned Larks were last recorded on the Portland Christmas Counts in 1940. They have been very scarce since, but



Horned Lark. Photo by Hayley Crews

on February 3, 2000, a flock of 50 was observed at the Steigerwald NWR. It was the largest flock seen in the Portland area in years.

On January 20 this winter, Glenn Laubaugh, walking the Columbia River dike in the Steigerwald area, encountered a flock of about 35 Horned Larks scattered along the dike. In recent years a variable number of horned larks have been seen during the winter in the Broughton Beach area. These birds and those in Washington may be a local breeding population.

Apparently, small flocks still occur in the Portland area during the winter and in migration. They should be looked for along the Columbia River and elsewhere where suitable habitat is found. There have been no recent summer sightings or any indication of nesting birds in the Portland area.

## Sightings

December and January were cold and wet with plenty of snow and ice. This weather affects humans more than it does birds. A healthy bird with enough food can easily survive periods of snow, ice, and freezing temperatures. Prolonged snow and ice that covers the food supply, though, can be fatal.

On December 8 Aaron Beerman checked out the Milwaukie Waterfront Park and found a **Black-throated Gray Warbler** and a **Yellow Warbler**. Christopher and Adrian Hinkle and Em Scattaregia closely checked out the flock on December 10 and found 50 **Yellow-rumped**, 5 **Townsend's**, an **Orange-crowned**, a **Black-throated Gray** and a **Nashville Warbler**. Glen Taylor reported a **Palm Warbler** at the Tualatin NWR December 24.

A bright **Nashville Warbler** utilized Bonnie Comegys's northeast Portland suet feeder through the January snow and ice. Many warblers and small birds utilize suet feeders through the winter months. They are often lifesavers.

Mid-winter **Barn Swallows** appeared again this winter. Gerry Ellis saw one December 24 at Ridgefield NWR. One was seen on the December 31 Portland Christmas Count at Delta Park, and two were at Hagg Lake January 13.

It was a good winter for **Bohemian Waxwings** this year, with many moving through eastern Oregon and into California. One remained at Mt. Tabor Park through January. Lars Norgren found one in Sellwood January 10, and Jeff Gilligan spotted seven in northeast Portland January 11. All were buried in flocks of **Cedar Waxwings**.

Wintering waterfowl on Sauvie Island as usual attracted considerable attention. Philip Kline recorded 4,000 **Snow Geese** on the island December 7. Clay Crofton spotted a **Blue Snow Goose** in the flock December 17. Jeff Gilligan noted a flock of 490 **Sandhill Cranes** wintering on the island. There were several reports of cranes flying about the Willamette Valley this winter, probably from the Sauvie island flock.

On December 31 a hunter on Sauvie Island shot a bright male **Baikal Teal**. This would be the third Oregon record, all collected by hunters.



Black-throated Gray Warbler. Photo by Hayley Crews

Casey Storey reported a **Goshawk** in Forest Grove January 18. Will Risser found a **Ferruginous Hawk** on Sauvie Island December 25, Will also reported a **Golden Eagle** over Mt. Tabor January 28, possibly the same bird George Navoll found at Ridgefield NWR January 25.

Perhaps not a hawk, but **Northern Shrikes** were reported by Wink Gross on Sauvie Island December 7; Smith/Bybee Lakes by Andy Frank January 21; and by Bob Flores January 25 at Fruit Valley in Vancouver.

Philip Kline reported a **Harris's Sparrow** along Rentenaar Road on Sauvie Island December 7. Jack Hurt and Wink Gross found a **Clay-colored Sparrow** there December 1. Stefan Schlick found a **Swamp Sparrow** at Jackson Bottoms January 2.

Tom Love spotted the **Pelagic Cormorant** December 23 still hanging out on the Columbia River near the Portland Airport. Dave Irons and Shawneen Finnegan observed a **Glaucous Gull** at the Koll Wetlands January 8. Andy Frank found a **Redthroated Loon** on the Columbia Slough January 26.

On December 10 Lou Fredd reported a **Rusty Blackbird** at Nyberg Marsh in Tualatin. Mike and Heidi Grevstad observed a **Red-naped Sapsucker** in southeast Portland January 7. Debra McDonald saw one in southwest Portland January 12. A female **Cassin's Finch** visited Sandy Leaptrott's feeders in northeast Portland January 17.

Danne Johnson photographed an interesting bird January 17 at Woodland Bottoms. It was a typically plumaged **Great Blue Heron** except all the body feathers were dark glossy black.

### Thank You to:

- Ainslie Farms for 200 rabbit kits for the Wildlife Care Center (WCC)
- April Brown for 1 Sibley Birds Coloring Field Journal for the Nature Store
- Jim Cruce for 8 4x6 photos, 51 8x10 photos, 23 11x14 photos and 4 16x20 photos
- Diane Dailey for 2 pairs of binoculars for the Education Department
- Janet Hargis for 1 binocular set by Bausch & Lomb for the Nature Store
- Catha Loomis for 10 bags of Hill's Science Diet Kitten Food for the Wildlife Care Center
- The Penk Family for 2 volumes of Shaw's Zoology for the Education Department

### Our Wish List

### For Administration:

AED (automated external defibrillator)
Auditory assistance devices
Binoculars
Scope and tripod

### 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. I 02, Mon-Fri, to arrange a time for delivery/pick-up.

## Audubon Society of Portland gratefully acknowledges these special gifts:

### In Memory

Eve Bachman Susan Bishop

Benjamin George Carruth

## Dan and Shelly Schaefer Eleanor Barbara

Cruickshank Jean Wyles & Stuart Sayewitz

Bertha Davis
Danny and Linda Clayto

Danny and Linda Clayton

Lana Golik

Randy Bossert

**Jason Hvam** Judith Hvam

Richard E. and Leta B. Markley Markley Family Trust

Great Aunt Winnie Miller Jeff Gfroerer

LeRoy Gilbert Moore
The Ferguson Family
Drusilla Hamilton
Craig Lundeberg
Jan Pailthorp
Nancy Pearson

Arne Naess The Oregon Deep Ecology Fund

Gordon Ranta Marcia Collis Melissa and Robert Good David Witter

### George and Marguerite

Rasmussen Linda Hoagland and Harvey Tucker Bridget O'Rourke

Raven Rink Bob and Deb Atiyeh Josh Rink

Great Grandma Mary Ellen Robedeau Jeff Gfroerer

Dorothy Sawtelle

Deanna Sawtelle Judith C. Wood

Millie Scott Amanda Legernes

**Dr. Deb Sheaffer**Elizabeth Crait
Dina Fragasso
Kathleen Ira

Sonja Lapinski Molly McAllister Portland Veterinary Medical

Association Meryl Redisch Devon Rehse Cecile Valastro

Ron Spencer Esther Spencer Norma Stubbs

### In Honor

Dorothy Aland Alan Locklear

Ann Bakkensen Michael Bakkensen

Kevin and Molly Bartel Bartel Contracting, Inc.

Bryan and Melissa Blumklotz Aryne Blumklotz

Zola Buhl Smith Carolyn Buhl

Carl and Tanya Cecka Leigh Cecka Michael Cecka

Aunt Sharon Draisin Leslie Bettencourt

**Greg Eby** Missy Eby and Family

**Jeralyn Fix** Michelle Donahoe

Truman William Grandey
Tom and Donna GrandeyModrell

Peter Gordon Haas Gayle Taylor

Margaret Hite Imran Mohamady

Frank and Nancy
Howarth

Bonnie and Frank Howarth

**Pam Joslin** Charles and Janie Snyder

David and Dolores
Judkins
Stephen Judkins

Kurt and Jane Lango Marshall Lango

> Judy Lee John Lee

Sally Loomis and James Davis Barbara Loomis Laurie McVay Savanna Bales Carol Rosset

Elisabeth Minthorn
David Minthorn

**Cathy Monnin** Martha and John Warden

> **Marcie Nufer** Elysabeth Hall

Angela Peyer, Jeff Becker, Rachel Peyer-Nelson, and Sarah Peyer-Nelson Monica McSparron

> **Ivan Phillipsen** Margaret Levine

Theresa Rarick Mark Rarick

Michele Ray Hayley Crews

Ginnie Ross Jeanne Beyer Deanna Sawtelle

Bob and Claudia Seelig Florence Seelig Karen Shawcross

Marcia Blomberg

**Ann Takamoto** Jeffrey Johansen

Robert Thinnes and Kay Hilt June Thinnes

Nikkie West and Michael Murphy Josette Lory Randy and Christine West

Donna Wiench and Mike Wills Margaret Wills

Bill and Deborah Wilbert Caitlin Wilbert

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

### **Members Receive a Discount** at the Nature Store!

udubon 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.

### **Manfrotto Tripod** Rebates



Manfrotto is offering an instant rebate on their popular 190XPRO3 aluminum tripod legs. The Pro series is an especially great choice for photographers as it offers Manfrotto's unique Q90 rotating center column, allowing you to quickly and easily move your camera between Portrait and Landscape modes. The instant rebate price of \$199.99 (regular price \$262) is available through March 31. The rebate is given at the time of purchase, so no need to send in any paperwork!

### And Add a New Spotting Scope to Enjoy Spring Migration

The Nature Store is excited to have three new scopes with the latest technology in our spring selection. All feature up-to-date helical focus rings in the center of the scope body, which offer large easy grips and smooth, sleek body designs. They all feature ED/HD lenses (Extra low-dispersion glass) for true color fidelity with highresolution integrity. And all are waterproof and fogproof.

The re-engineered **Vortex Razor** debuted last fall. While the original design had an exposed metal body, this new scope is comfortably clad in a full rubber armor, offering protection against bumps and scratches while adding comfort for the hands, especially on cold days. It features advanced wide-angle optical elements with a triplet apochromatic lens system that eliminates aberrations for distortion-free, flat field images. It comes in both 65mm and 85mm models.

The new **Zeiss Conquest Gavia**, like all Zeiss products, is beautifully designed and very functional. It features an 85mm



objective lens with a wide-angle 30-60 zoom range and an incredibly close focus distance of 10.8 ft., unique to scopes this size! Zeiss is also offering DSLR, iPhone 6/6s and Samsung Galaxy S6 edge/S6 options for digiscoping.

Nikon's new Monarch **Fieldscope** rounds out our

new selections. Available in both 60mm and 82mm models, it also offers a Field Flattener Lens System for precisely focused images all the way to the viewing edge. Plus, the Monarch's advanced apochromat system of ED glass and proprietary lens and prism coatings deliver sharp, clear, bright images any time of day in any type of weather. An optional wide-angle eyepiece is available as a separate purchase.

Check our scope price sheet on the web, stop by the store for a visit, or give these scopes a comparative test at our Spring Optics Fair on April 1 (see article this page).

# Audubon Societyof Portland

### The Best Nests!

repare for nesting birds with a sturdy, handcrafted nest box. Perfect for cavitydwelling songbirds, woodpeckers, even owls and wood ducks. We have boxes of all sizes to turn your backyard into a habitat for native birds. To do even more, offer natural alpaca fiber nesting material. Our alpaca fleece nesting balls come from alpacas in Rollins, Montana, and McMinnville, Oregon, and are perfect for backyard birders who don't have space to mount a nest box. Hang the nesting material and watch birds take choice pieces of fluff to line their nests.

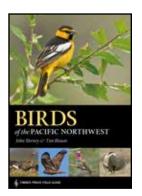


### **Two Great Nature Evenings Featuring New Timber Press Field Guides!**

his spring the Nature Store celebrates the release of two new titles in the **Timber Press Field Guides Series** from the team of John Shewey and Tim Blount in March, and Daniel Mathews in April. Over the past decade, books in this series have become essential resources for nature topics in the Pacific Northwest. In March and April, we'll feature the **backlist titles** in the series, covering insects, wildflowers, mushrooms, trees and shrubs, and wildlife at **20% off the list price!** Enhance your nature library by getting the complete set, and plan on attending two great evenings with expert Northwest authors and naturalists! Both events are **free** and start at **7:00pm in Heron Hall**. Contact the Nature Store at 503-292-9453 with questions, or if you would like to reserve a copy of any book from the series.

### Thursday, March 23 **John Shewey Presents** Birds of the Pacific Northwest

John Shewey will highlight the breadth of this beautiful new book by giving Portland Audubon a special program on Birding the Border Country: Lake, Harney, Washoe and Humboldt Counties.



Northwestern Nevada and adjacent Southeast Oregon—the border country—offer outstanding and largely unheralded birding opportunities. Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge (Oregon) and Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge (Nevada) alone offer excellent birdwatching, but these sprawling preserves barely scratch the surface of what this area offers. Within this vast desert landscape, littleknown gorges echo with the call of canyon wrens, sage grouse swarm to hidden water holes, marshes erupt with a cacophony of myriad water birds, sage thrashers sing throughout broad scrubland basins, and common

poorwills roost amid boulders and rugged rimrock-topped slopes guarding vast high-elevation plateaus.

Salem-based John Shewey is a longtime freelance writer and photographer, and coauthor of *Birds of the Pacific Northwest.* He has spent decades exploring the border country. At the very real risk of catching John's infectious enthusiasm, join him for this special presentation celebrating the diversity of the Northern Great Basin, and learn where, when, and how to explore this remarkable region. He will be available to sign books after his program.

### Thursday, April 13

### **Daniel Mathews Presents** Natural History of the **Pacific Northwest Mountains**

Portland resident Daniel Mathews has written several wonderful books on Pacific Northwest natural history topics, but is probably best known for the invaluable Cascade-Olympic Natural History. Out of print for many years, it now lives anew within this expanded



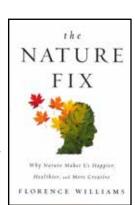
and revised edition. Lavishly illustrated with over 800 color photographs, as well as line drawings and maps, this essential trailside reference to the bioregion covers the Coastal and Cascade Mountain Ranges, the Olympic Mountains, and the Coast Mountains of southern British Columbia.

Mathews will give us an overview of a work that describes more than 950 species of plants, animals, and mushrooms. With a scientist's eye for detail and organization, and a novelist's ear for compelling stories of the region's plants, animals, and people, he brings the mountains alive. A book signing will follow.

### **Get your Nature Fix**

he Nature Store is delighted to announce the release of an important new book about the connections between nature and human health. Science writer Florence Williams' new book, The Nature Fix: Why Nature Makes Us Happier, Healthier, and More Creative, will be available at a special discounted price for Portland Audubon members. Published by W. W. Norton & Company at \$26.95 list price, our special member pricing is 20% off until March 31.

Exploring the connections between nature experiences and human well-being, Williams visits parks in Helsinki and forests in Korea. She studies the brainwaves of urban pedestrians in Edinburgh, and examines the healing effects of river rafting on PTSD-afflicted veterans in the American West. In prose that is by turns conversational and incisive, witty and reflective,

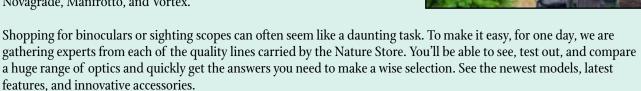


Williams introduces us to thoughtful characters, singular settings, and original experiments that she sometimes tries out on herself.

### **Nature Store Spring Optics Fair** Saturday, April I, I0am-4pm

with a special 2pm Digiscoping Workshop **Heron Hall at the Audubon Sanctuary** 

he Nature Store is hosting our second annual free Spring Optics Fair. Again we've invited representatives from all our optics lines to participate: Nikon, Swarovski, Carl Zeiss, Leupold, Opticron, Zen-ray, Novagrade, Manfrotto, and Vortex.



At 2pm we'll set up sighting scopes outdoors and try the new cell phone and camera digiscoping adapters for taking highly magnified pictures. Bring your own scope along and we'll find a compatible adapter! You can also digiscope with your binoculars, and those adapters start at only \$23 (\$20.70 for members). Learn more at the Spring Optics Fair!

### Audubon **Birding Book Club**

Wednesday, March 8, 7pm **Audubon Society of Portland** 

Join us for this month's book club discussion of *The* Last Flight of the Scarlet Macaw, by Bruce Barcott. Sign up for email updates, announcements, and birding walks with our group by contacting Molly at oregonbirder@yahoo.com.

## 2017 Board Elections

### **CANDIDATES FOR 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Audubon Society of Portland is a membership organization, and governed by a board that is elected by its membership. Members can vote for their preferred candidates by mailing us the completed ballot form (see below) or by submitting it in person at our Reception Desk during regular business hours until March 16th.

Statements from candidates are provided below (some edited for brevity). All candidates in this year's election are running unopposed. Write-in candidates are not permitted. All candidates were interviewed and thoroughly vetted by the Elections Subcommittee of the Board Affairs Committee. You may contact the Committee by calling our office or sending an email to info@audubonportland.org, with "Elections Subcommittee" in the subject heading.

### **OFFICERS**

### Dan Rohlf, President (Officer for reelection)

Dan is on the environmental law faculty at Lewis and Clark Law School, where he teaches Wildlife Law and other classes. He also works on wildlife conservation cases as an attorney with the law school's domestic environmental law clinic, and has represented Portland Audubon in several matters. Dan has been a member of the Board of Directors since 2010 and was a Portland Audubon supporter and volunteer before that date. One of his favorite pastimes is watching birds that visit his home and office feeders. "I spend as much time in the Oregon outdoors as possible," Dan said, "and I think Portland Audubon is one of the state's most effective conservation organizations."

### Sandy Mico, Co-Vice President (Officer for election)

Sandy's professional background is in wealth management. She retired as the President of West Coast Trust, where she was responsible for investment management, trust, estate planning, and brokerage services. Sandy and her husband are avid birders who joined Portland Audubon several years ago and have participated in many of its guided tours and classes. She has served on boards of public and nonprofit organizations for many years and has consulted with boards on investment policies and strategic growth initiatives. Sandy serves on Portland Audubon's Education, Investment, and Executive Committees. "I am passionate about birds and believe that a strong Portland Audubon is critical to their long-term welfare."

### Patrick Slabe, Co-Vice President (Officer for election)

Prior to retiring in October 2016, Patrick was employed at its inception by New Seasons Market. As Operations Director he has had decades of experience in retail business management, and he has incorporated programs that helped meet that company's sustainability and safety goals. A long- time supporter of conservation, he is an avid

birder. Patrick joined the board in October 2014, and he currently chairs the Sanctuaries Committee. "There is much more to be done to protect and to improve our natural environment. I am impressed with Portland Audubon's accomplishments over the past one hundred years, and I wish to devote more of my service to that cause."

### Russell Jones, Treasurer (Officer for reelection)

Russ spent his career in finance and accounting. Prior to his retirement, he was the Senior Vice President & CFO of Western Family Foods. His background includes public accounting, financial management consulting, and corporate financial management experience. Russ has served on the boards of a number of Portland area nonprofit organizations, all of which worked on behalf of youth or the environment. He has been a member of the Board since 2015 and currently chairs the Finance Committee and Investment Committee. "I developed a deeper appreciation for green space and conservation through my experience on the Portland Parks Foundation Board. I have great respect for Portland Audubon's conservation and education efforts and would like to assist in those efforts."

### Jay Withgott, Secretary (Officer for reelection)

An author of three leading college and high-school environmental science textbooks, member of the Oregon Bird Records Committee, and a former director of Western Field Ornithologists, Jay also helps to lead the Wild Turkeys Birdathon Team and has co-led one Portland Audubon ecotour. A lifelong birder, Jay brings writing skills, communications and media experience, and field-trip leading abilities. "I strongly believe in the organization's mission, values, and activities. Portland Audubon is, quite simply, an organization in which I feel at home. Moreover, it's one that is vitally important, fulfilling many essential roles in our community."

## **2017 Board of Directors Election Ballot**

If you are a current Audubon Society of Portland member, you are eligible to vote for our officers and directors. Individual Members are entitled to one vote per candidate. Those with a Family Membership or higher level are entitled to two votes for each of the candidates. You must sign your ballot for it to be counted. Write-in votes will be disregarded.

**Vote by Mail:** Members may vote by mail, but we must receive your ballot **by 6:30 pm on March 16, 2017.** Please mail to:

Board Nominations Committee 5151 NW Cornell Rd Portland, OR 97210

### Officers:

(I-year term.All positions running unopposed.)

President: □□□ Dan Rohlf

Co-Vice President: □□□ Sandy Mico

Co-Vice President: □□□ Patrick Slabe

Secretary: □ □ Jay Withgott
Treasurer: □ □ Russ Jones

### Directors:

(3-year term.All positions running unopposed. Vote for as many candidates as you wish.)

☐ ☐ Mark Greenfield (election)

☐ ☐ Merril Keane (election to 2nd consecutive term)

 $\square$  Ruth Morton (election to 2nd consecutive term)

☐ ☐ Judith Ramaley (election)

Your Name (please print):

Your Signature:

Membership Level:

Individual (entitled to one vote per candidate)

☐ Family or higher (entitled to two votes per candidate)

### **DIRECTORS** (non-officer members of the board)

### Mark Greenfield

### (Candidate for election, after interim term)

A former Board President, Mark has returned to the Board after 24 years, bringing historical perspective and his skills as a retired land-use lawyer. Creator and co-leader of the Lagerhead Shrikes Birdathon team, Mark has volunteered for the Birdathon and Wild Arts Festival almost annually for about 30 years. He is Chair of the Development Committee and has hosted the Legacy Circle gathering at his home for the last several years. Mark served on the search committee to select a new Executive Director for Portland Audubon, and he was a co-leader on Audubon's birding trip to North Carolina in 2016. "The Portland Audubon community is like family to me. I truly enjoy the company of people who care so much about native birds and other wildlife and their habitats."

### Merril Keane (Candidate for reelection)

Merril is a business attorney with the law firm of Miller Nash Graham & Dunn LLP, whose practice covers general business transactions, international business and trade, and compensation matters. As a lawyer, Merril frequently works with nonprofit organizations and is well acquainted with their unique issues. Merril enjoys birding (especially in her backyard) and Portland's natural areas. A Portland native, she has benefited from Portland Audubon's work since childhood. "Portland Audubon helped shape my appreciation for our birds and wildlife, and I am committed to doing my best to further the organization's mission and impact within the community."

### **Ruth Morton (Candidate for reelection)**

Ruth came to appreciate birds after listening to bird song recordings in her third-grade classroom. Now an enthusiastic birder, she appreciates the value and importance of Audubon programs that bring people together with nature. "I am committed to support Portland Audubon in engaging people from all walks to enjoy and protect the natural world." Ruth holds a PhD in Community and Human Resources and recently retired from a career in organizational development and adult learning. During her career she served on several nonprofit and professional boards, and was president of two Portland-area boards. In addition to currently serving on the Portland Audubon board, Ruth volunteers as a trip leader for the Sierra Club national and international outings program. She and her husband, Hal Busch, have participated in numerous Audubon field trips, classes and ecotours, raised funds through Birdathon, and are members of the Portland Audubon Legacy Circle.

### Judith Ramaley (Candidate for election, after interim term)

Dr. Judith A. Ramaley is President Emerita and Distinguished Professor of Public Service at Portland State University in the Mark O. Hatfield School of Government and President Emerita of Winona State University. From 2005 to 2012, she served as President of Winona State University (WSU) in Minnesota and Professor of Biology. From 2001 to 2004, she was Assistant Director of the Education and Human Resources Directorate (EHR) at The National Science Foundation (NSF). During her NSF service, she held a presidential professorship in biomedical sciences at the University of Maine and was a Fellow of the Margaret Chase Smith Center for Public Policy. She served as a Visiting Senior Scientist at the National Academy of Sciences in 2005. Dr. Ramaley was President of The University of Vermont (UVM) and Professor of Biology from 1997 to 2001. She was President and Professor of Biology at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon for seven years from 1990-1997.

Dr. Ramaley holds an appointment as a Senior Scholar with the Association of American Colleges and Universities

and a consultant for the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AASCU). She is also a member of the Board of Second Nature, an organization committed to creating a healthy, just, and sustainable society through the transformation of higher education and a member of the Board of Campus Compact of Oregon and Portland Audubon Society. She has worked with preK-12/higher education collaborations for many years and has a special interest in civic and community engagement. She serves as an advisor to several projects that focus on improvements in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education and a quality education for all students.

### \$40,000 Challenge Match Achieved!

e wish to recognize the many donors who answered our call for



Virginia Rail and her baby. Photo by Scott Carpenter.

who answered our call for a year-end challenge match by increasing their annual giving to a leadership level of \$1,000 or more. Your generosity increased leadership giving by \$45,347 and qualified us for a challenge match of \$40,000 from an anonymous board member. That's \$95,000 in increased funds raised. The campaign also allowed us to welcome 12 new donors to the leadership giving level—a 10% increase. The ability of our Portland Audubon community to join together and rise up during a time of national challenge is nothing short of remarkable. Thank you!

—Nick Hardigg

### Joy of Giving

### by Donna Wiench, Interim Development Director

### "Nature is my church. It always has been."

-Diane Field, Portland Audubon member

Diane Field grew up wandering the hills near her southern California home. An artist and gardener, Diane learned to love nature early, and when it comes to birding, her husband, Dick Williams says, "I learned from Diane. She has the eye."

Today Dick and Diane are working to restore a 60-acre parcel west of Portland. The natural world is deeply significant for both, and their connection to Portland Audubon gives the couple a way to help protect what is most valuable. "Audubon is our local guardian, and nature is extremely important. I feel fortunate to have an organization here where I live that has that same focus," Diane said.

By supporting Portland Audubon financially, Diane says they are able to be more engaged. "Giving makes us feel part of Audubon—that we're helping. We think about the future, children and grandchildren, and what's important for them."

For Dick, impact is an important criterion for giving. "We support Portland Audubon because it doesn't just work behind the scenes like a lot of environmental groups. Audubon also publicly advocates for what is best for birds and animals. Issues need to be addressed, not just by Portland Audubon, but by the public as a whole."

Diane and Dick say they appreciate the work Audubon does



to communicate with members through the *Warbler*, as well as email newsletters. "That helps us stay informed and be better citizens," Diane said.

### Ann Takamoto Migrates to NAYA, Leaves a Lasting Impact for the Planet

### by Ali Berman, Communications Manager

Thether at a new member reception, the annual Birdathon banquet, the Wild Arts Festival, or a hearing at City Hall, it's likely that you've met Ann Takamoto, the powerhouse Development Director who worked tirelessly to raise funds to protect native birds, other wildlife, and their habitat right here in Oregon.

And if you spent time at the sanctuary as a volunteer or staff member, you could always count on her orange Prius being the first car in the parking lot, learning about her early morning Sauvie Island birding expeditions and horseback riding adventures, or hearing her and Avian Conservation Program Manager Joe Liebezeit playing music together during lunch—a favorite being "I'm a Believer" by the Monkees. (Ann has the voice of a Western Meadowlark and is dynamite on the accordion!)

During Ann's nine and a half years at Portland Audubon, our Development Department reached a new level of professionalism, achieving much with limited resources. Thanks to her leadership, our membership doubled to nearly 16,000 members, the Legacy Circle—donors who have named Portland Audubon in their wills—grew tenfold, and major fundraising campaigns including Birdathon and the Wild Arts Festival, as well as appeals, achieved consistent double-digit annual growth!

The Development Department fuels the whole organization. Only through its success can we achieve our mission to inspire people to love and protect nature. Ann and her department's hard work helped power Portland Audubon for almost a decade, seeing us through countless conservation successes like helping to establish the first marine reserves in Oregon, improving the Willamette Superfund Cleanup Plan, establishing new protections for forage fish to help millions of seabirds, and educating more than tens of thousands of children in environmental education.

Those of us who know Ann know that her work went far beyond fundraising. And we're not just talking about overseeing the Warbler and her frequent graphic design work. Through her passion and enormous heart, she helped build the community we are all a part of today. Whether you're a Birdathoner, volunteer, member, donor, activist, or community scientist, Ann's leadership has helped bring us together to protect this planet and its inhabitants. Ann knew that if we are going to be successful, we need voices from all communities to stand up for the rights of others, and that to be an environmental activist also means to stand for environmental justice. As a founding member of the Diversity Team, Ann assisted in drafting our Unified Diversity Strategy, and we will always be grateful for her leadership to help create a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive community.



It's always hard to see such an important member of our flock migrate, but we couldn't be more excited for her as she starts her new adventure at NAYA, the Native American Youth and Family Center, as their Development Director. We know firsthand what a valuable resource they will have in Ann, and that she will continue to make the world a better place.

We miss Ann and wish her well in her new position.

## **Steve Robertson—A Legacy of Environmental Education**

### by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

ince our inception in 1902, Portland Audubon has built its conservation efforts on a foundation of environmental education. This approach recognizes that we will be successful in protecting nature only if we build a movement that understands, appreciates and loves the natural world.

We have been blessed with a long line of amazing environmental educators. Portland Audubon's founder, William Finley, advocated for Oregon's first wildlife refuges and wildlife laws with an educational condor on his arm. Steve Robertson, who devoted nearly two decades to building and expanding our environmental education programs was a worthy custodian of that legacy.

Part Indiana Jones, part science professor and part Pied Piper, Steve brought an unbridled enthusiasm and energy to his work here. More than anybody I have worked with during my time at Audubon, it was always clear that Steve loved his job, whether he was taking kids into the sanctuary to explore the pond or taking adults halfway around the world to explore the Great Barrier Reef.

Steve's impact on Portland Audubon's programs is remarkable. Under his tenure, we have provided tens of thousands of children with environmental education programs and field trips. He built a national and international trip program that rivals elite ecotours and helps subsidize our programs for underserved communities. Countless environmental educators got their start under Steve's tutelage.

Steve camping with Duncan, 8, and Sydney, 5.

Steve recognized early on that our programs needed to be more equitable and do a better job of reaching underserved communities. He started programs such as Audubon Nature Team, Explorador, and TALON to address this need. Today equity has become a priority for the community at large, but Steve was talking about it twenty years ago when he first walked through our doors.

In an increasingly specialized field, Steve can do it all. He has an encyclopedic knowledge of the Pacific Northwest as well as global flora and fauna. He is a frontline guy who is most happy turning over rocks looking for critters with kids but who also meticulously develops complex trips and programs and manages the juggernaut that is Portland Audubon Education.

Steve is the guy who always has an interesting story to tell, whether it is the lion that prowled around the tent on the last trip to Africa or his decades-long obsession with proving that the Tasmanian tiger still exists. I will miss standing behind the education building with him while he smoked his pipe (only out of sight of kids) and discussed faraway places that he had been or wanted to go, and sitting in his office surrounded by his collection of animal skulls discussing ideas for new programs. I knew that at some point he was likely to pause and gesture toward a skull: "So what kind of animal do you think that is?"

Steve made Portland Audubon's conservation mission more effective as he built a foundation of environmental literacy



in our community. I can't count the number of times we were advocating on a controversial issue, when somebody would come up to us and say "I may disagree with you on this issue, but I love your organization." Invariably it was because they or their kids or their grandkids had had a life-changing experience in one of Steve's programs. Those experiences are bridges, and those bridges build trust and understanding and appreciation—elements that allow us to find common ground and make change.

Steve announced at the end of 2016 that he is stepping back from his role as Education Director at Portland Audubon. It is time for him to pursue other challenges, spend more time with his young family and his dad. However, he is not going away altogether and will continue to manage our international trips and other special projects. We thank Steve for his profound impact on Portland Audubon and our community. In an organization whose history is populated with amazing naturalists and advocates, Steve, with his two decades of service, will undoubtedly remain among its luminaries.

www.audubonportland.org MARCH/APRIL 2017

### Counting Birds Because Birds Count!

### Continued from page I

### Great Big Sit: Date TBD, 8am-Noon

The perfect Birdathon experience for beginners! Give your legs a rest and spend a leisurely morning in your lawn chair at Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden. Relax as birding experts help you identify the birds that come to you. 35–50 species frequent this idyllic setting!

### **Jackson Bottom Ramblers:**

### Date TBD, 7am-Noon

Join **Steve Engel**, Hillsboro's Nature Program Supervisor and former Portland Audubon staffer, for a morning at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, an Important Bird Area (IBA). Over 200 species of birds have been identified here, with over 150 expected annually. Bird its quiet, open waters, rolling meadows, and upland ash and fir woodlands. Watch for nesting eagle activity, and see what's happening at the heron rookery.

### **Full-Day Trips:**

### Clackamas Creepers: May 6 (Sat), 8am-3pm

Bird Clackamas County with Portland Audubon Educator and birding expert **Dan van den Broek**. Check out some of the best Willamette floodplain wetlands for Cinnamon Teal, oak woodlands for migrating warblers and flycatchers, and the Cascade foothills for bluebird and solitaire. A minimum of \$50 in pledges is requested.

### Whittemore's Whatzits: May 7 (Sun), 7am-5pm

Portland Audubon Instructor Laura Whittemore and Birdathon Coordinator Mark Fitzsimons team up again to offer an all-day van trip around the mid-Willamette Valley, including stops at Ankeny NWR, Baskett Slough NWR, and Minto-Brown Island Park. Let's see what awaits us as we search high and low for residents and migrants! Great trip for improving your field skills! Transportation provided. A minimum of \$75 in pledges is requested.

### Soggy Bottom Birders: May 19 (Fri), 9am-4pm Join Portland Audubon Education staffers Ian Abraham,

Tim Donner, Laura Newton, and Marissa Duncan for an exclusive tour of Greater Columbia River Basin wetlands. Stop at Smith and Bybee Lakes and Ridgefield NWR. An ideal trip for people of all ages who appreciate birding in a relaxed and fun atmosphere. Transportation provided. A minimum of \$50 in pledges is requested.

### Crow-Magnons: May 21 (Sun), 6am-9pm

Explore the diverse habitats of **Wasco County** with **Stefan** Schlick, interim Portland Audubon Adult Education Program Manager. Search the Deschutes River for Yellowbreasted Chat, Bullock's Oriole, and Ash-throated Flycatcher, then explore the pine-oak savanna near Wamic for Lewis's Woodpecker, Gray Flycatcher, and Tricolored Blackbird. Add montane species on the loop back to Portland through Pine Grove and Camas Prairie and you have an amazing trip! Carpooling. A minimum of \$50 in pledges is requested.

### Mult Madness: Date TBD, 6am-7pm

Wink Gross and Andy Frank lead a tour of birding hotspots in Multnomah County. Begin at Vanport Wetlands, then catch migrants at Mt Tabor. Seek pygmyowl and solitaire at Larch Mountain, travel all the way to Eagle Creek for dipper, goldeneye, and possibly Harlequin Duck, finish up at Sauvie Island. Expect 95 to 110 species. This is an intensive trip with a lot of fast-paced walking.

of Portland

Inspiring people to love and protect nature since 1902

and protection of native birds and other wildlife and their habitats. We focus on our local community and the Pacific Northwest.

### The Murre the Merrier: Date TBD, 7am-8pm [Wait List only]

Sarah Swanson and Max Smith,

authors of Must-See Birds of the Pacific Northwest, lead this day-long trip beginning in Portland then heading to the coast. A minimum of \$50 in pledges is requested.

### Red-breasted Winesuckers: Date TBD, 8am-6pm

(Open to Wildlife Care Center Volunteers only.) Join Lacy **Campbell** for a full day of fun and birding. Start the day with backyard bird watching and a light breakfast, then carpool to the coast.

### **Washington County Worm Eaters:** Date TBD, (all day)

Join Portland Audubon's own Joe Liebezeit, and Carol **Murdock** of Clean Water Services on an all-day exploration of Washington County's birding gems. We will listen and look for rails at Fernhill Wetlands and learn about the work Portland Audubon is doing to understand how birds are responding to the recent wetland restoration effort at that site, explore the variety of bird life at Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge including returning migratory songbirds like Bullock's Orioles as well view other songbirds, waterfowl, and raptors. If time allows we will explore Killin Wetlands and other hotspots for more marsh birds like the American Bittern. A minimum of \$200 in pledges is requested.

### Gonzo Trips: 2+ days

### Lagerhead Shrikes: April 28-30 (Fri-Sun) [Wait List only]

Dan van den Broek and Mark Greenfield guide this 3-day trip to Medford, Klamath Falls, and the Bend/Sisters area. Our focus is on quality, not quantity, but we expect to see 100–150 species. Transportation and lodging provided. A minimum of \$600 in pledges is required.

### Wild Turkeys: May 5-7 (Fri-Sun)

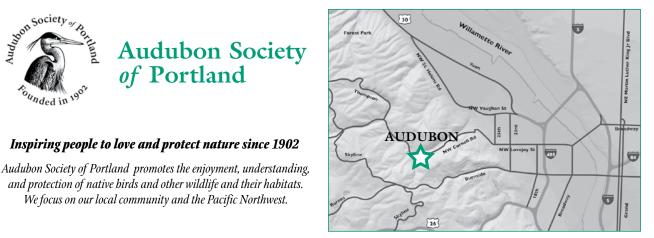
Join Mike Houck, Ron Carley, and other notorious birders for the ultimate gonzo Birdathon. A once-in-alifetime, desert-to-coast, mountains-to-valleys birding experience takes you from Summer Lake to Fort Rock, and the La Pine/Sunriver area for the night, then on to Florence, Yachats, and finally Newport. Transportation and lodging provided. A minimum of \$700 in pledges is required.

### Cream of the Crop: May 6-7 (Sat-Sun)

Join Mariha Kuechmann and Nancy Johnson for this 1½-day bird quest through the Willamette Valley and out to the coast. Explore at least 10 great birding locations including Killin, Jackson Bottom, and Fernhill Wetlands; and Bayocean and Fenk Roads in Tillamook. We hope to see 100+ species! Stay overnight for rest and revelry in the town of Neskowin. Breakfast and lodging provided. A minimum of \$300 in pledges is required.

### Roadrunners: May 20-21 (Sat-Sun)

Our bicycle Birdathon team is back! Join Nikkie West, Backyard Habitat Program Manager, and **Tim Donner**, Environmental Educator, on a birding-by-bike mini-tour. This excursion begins and ends at Columbia Wastewater Treatment Plant and is supported by awesome Splendid Cycles cargo bikes! Birding stops include the Columbia



## **ADMINISTRATION OFFICES**

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

### **SANCTUARIES**

EarthShare<sup>®</sup>

Dawn to dusk every day

### WILDLIFE CARE CENTER

503-292-0304 9am to 5pm every day

### RARE BIRD ALERT

503-292-6855 www.audubonportland.org

### **NATURE STORE**

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

### INTERPRETIVE

**CENTER & LIBRARY** Same hours as store

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.



Lagerhead Shrikes

Slough, Smith and Bybee Lakes, Kelley Point Park, and Sauvie Island, providing many opportunities to spot birds in various habitats. (There is also a Saturday-only option) A minimum of \$75 in pledges is required.

### Owl Be Darned: May 27-28 (Sat-Sun) [Wait List only]

Join Hailey Walls, Oregon Zoo Educator, Kayla McCurry, and Christine Jervis for a 2-day trip geared toward women birders. We will head down to Ashland on Friday and start Birdathon looking for Southern Oregon specialties, including an attempt to find a Great Gray Owl as we cross the mountains to the east side. We will visit Klamath Marsh and Summer Lake before camping for the night at Cabin Lake. Sunday we visit Fort Rock for thrashers and other sagebrush species, and head home that evening, looking for woodpeckers on our way north. A minimum of \$200 in pledges is requested.

**More trips will be available on our website**, where you can also find out how to create your own team—or just fly solo! To register and for more information, visit audubonportland.org.

Thanks to everyone's efforts, Birdathon raised over \$181,000 last year. We hope you'll help make Birdathon 2017 another fundraising success as we keep growing and more folks get out there and COUNT because BIRDS COUNT!

Questions? Contact Mark Fitzsimons, Birdathon Coordinator, at mark.birdathon@gmail.com.

### **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 971-222-6116.







antler gallery & store Backyard Birdshop Bob's Red Mill Cameron Winery David Evans and Associates Elk Cove Vineyard Ferguson Wellman Capital Management **Grow Construction** LANE Realty Works McCoy Foat & Company PC, Miller Nash Graham & Dunn

LLP

Miller Paint Morel Ink **NW Natural** Portland Audubon Nature Store Portland General Electric Sauvie Island Coffee Company SELCO Community Credit Union Scott Edwards Architecture Vernier Software & Technology Urban Asset Advisors Washman LLC