



# The Quails

October 2011

News from Lane County Audubon Society



## From Our President

### Fall's colors mark the arrival of many passing migrants and winter residents

Maeve Sowles 541.343.8664 [president@laneaudubon.org](mailto:president@laneaudubon.org)

Audubon Phone – 541.485.BIRD

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Much of the U.S. has been either dried by drought and burned by wild fires or deluged with river flooding due to last winter's high snow levels or tropical storms. This situation leaves me content to stay home this fall. The Pacific Northwest, on the other hand, has enjoyed a superb summer. The arrival of fall gives us a chance to head to the higher elevations to see the progression of fall colors in the leaves. Fall colors in Oregon are not as famous as those of the Northeast, but the stately backdrop of fir trees creates a contrast for the yellows and oranges of our deciduous canopy of ash, alder, oak, willow, and bigleaf maple. The understory of vine maple and poison oak gives splashes of reds.

Fall's transition into winter begins in the higher elevations, where the dropping temperatures not only change leaf color, but push mountain birds to the lower elevations. Obviously, some birds migrate south, but others move into lower altitudes like ours. This is true of Belted Kingfishers, Varied Thrushes, Northern Flickers, Pacific (Winter) Wrens, the two kinglet species, and Harlequin ducks (who return to coastal waters). We will also see the return of some of the northern breeding birds, such as Golden-crowned Sparrows, Fox Sparrows, many Ducks, shorebirds, and Bald Eagles who will remain in the Willamette Valley until next spring.

We can also look to the skies to watch for the southward migrating Sandhill Cranes and Canada Geese. Hearing the honking approach of a big flock of geese defines fall for me. If I am lucky enough to also hear Sandhill Cranes high overhead, I always stop to watch and listen to these majestic birds that are so big, yet so graceful and beautiful as well. Pausing to appreciate such passing moments of a flock overhead or of a hillside of colorful leaves gives me both pleasure and peace of mind—a rare experience.



## Aerial herbicide application: we all need to consider our neighbors

Debbie Schlenoff

541.685.0610

[dschlenoff@msn.com](mailto:dschlenoff@msn.com)

On a warm, late summer morning in September, the sound of a helicopter was heard in the rural Fox Hollow neighborhood. Giustina Land & Timber Company had hired the helicopter to spray herbicides on a recently cleared plot of 136 acres. As the private owners of the land, the timber company is within its right to log the land; they are in the business of cutting trees down for profit. Less clear is their right to use management practices that risk contaminating the land, air, and water around them. Chemical trespass is illegal.

There is a plethora of scientific documentation on the adverse effects of pesticides on fish, wildlife, and people. Fish, birds, and frogs exposed to these chemicals may succumb to the poison or become prone to disease and organ malfunction, feminization of males, and behavioral changes that reduce their abilities to survive and reproduce. New evidence links commonly used herbicides to a host of illnesses in people. Children, the elderly, people with compromised immune systems, and chemically-sensitive folks are most vulnerable. Aerial spraying of chemicals increases the risk of non-targeted exposure. Studies have shown that pesticides drift beyond the targeted areas and that drift from aerial applications increases in terrain that is hilly like the rural Fox Hollow neighborhood. Through drift and runoff, pesticides are often found miles away from the targeted area and end up in people's bodies as well as in their water, their soil, and their gardens.

Neighbors learned only that the company planned to spray at some point with a mix of potent herbicides. They joined together to send a letter to the timber company and asked them to take their neighbors into consideration and to open communication so they could discuss other methods of managing the land, including ways to reduce pesticide volume and utilize backpack spray application to reduce drift and risk of inadvertent exposure. Giustina did not respond



to this or to requests to notify neighbors of the time of spray so that they could choose to take their children, the elderly, and susceptible family members to an area where there was less risk of exposure. Many members of these 50 families tend organic gardens; some even provide organic produce to area restaurants. They are understandably concerned about their families, pets, livestock, and livelihoods.

It is unfortunately common that industries of various kinds are allowed to operate in a manner that may harm the environment and its inhabitants. It is important that human rights and the protection of the birds and animals who cannot speak for themselves be given due consideration. We share the watersheds and airsheds. Industry must be responsible for the consequences of their actions on people and the environment. They need to consider their neighbors.

Taken by surprise this morning by the sound of that helicopter, I immediately took stock of where members of my own family were located. My elderly mother-in-law, my children, and our pets were all indoors. I want my own kids to be as free as possible from chemical contaminants no matter what their age. Still, I catch myself thinking that I don't need to be as concerned, that my kids are older now and less vulnerable, but I stop this line of thought immediately as the rotor sounds fade into the distance. I have neighbors with little kids whose bodies are still growing and developing at a faster pace. It's not okay for them to be exposed to these toxins. We all need to consider our neighbors.

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## South Lane County Bird Walk on Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>

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**R**ow River Nature Park's ponds and riparian habitat are the destination for the South Lane Bird Walk on October 1<sup>st</sup>. By invitation, the trip leader is Tom Mickel. Meet at 8:00 a.m. on Row River Road in Cottage Grove by the BMX tracks (south edge of the park). This is just beyond the Village Green Resort on the left side of the road. Call Barbara Butzer at 541.942.2401 for additional information.



Black-capped Chickadee—Cary Kerst

### You too can help with *The Quail!*

Lane Audubon is looking for a few volunteers to help with *The Quail*, the monthly newsletter of Lane County Audubon Society. Help us in a big way! Would either of these roles be a good fit for you?

**Quail Layout and Graphics** – Do you have document publishing experience and do you enjoy the creativity of layout and document design? Lane Audubon is looking for a skilled volunteer to produce the layout for *The Quail*. This volunteer receives edited Word documents and photos from the editor and arranges them in Adobe InDesign, adds graphics, and makes sure each issue looks fantastic. There are nine yearly issues of 10-14 pages each,

requiring approximately 6-12 hours per issue. Contact Rob Hoshaw at 541.731.9090 or rhoshaw@gmail.com.

**Distribute & deliver Quail in the community** – Our newsletter reaches a broad audience. Help us get printed newsletters out to the community by delivering them to the post office for delivery to our members. We are also looking for someone to distribute *The Quail* to high-visibility locations around the community in an effort to reach new members. Each of these tasks only require a few hours nine times per year, and it is a huge help! Contact Ron Renschler at 541.345.0834 or christyandron@qwest.net to find out more.



Red Crossbill female—Cary Kerst

Watch for *The Big Year* on the big screen this October. The film, starring Steve Martin and Owen Wilson, is based on the book *The Big Year: A Tale of Man, Nature and Fowl Obsession* by Mark Obmascik. The comedy is about three people with an obsession for bird watching.



**Discover what teachers in so many classrooms already know:  
*Audubon Adventures***

Joyce Trawle

541.515.6244

[jtrawle@comcast.net](mailto:jtrawle@comcast.net)

*Audubon Adventures* is an award-winning environmental education program about the natural world and how to protect it. This science-based program helps our students form positive attitudes about nature and supports teachers with instructional content aligned with national standards for social studies, civics, science, and language arts.

Designed for students in grades 3-6, *Audubon Adventures* materials are easy to use in any classroom. The content and activities allow teachers to successfully adapt the materials to students' different skills and learning styles. Lane County's children will be inspired by this year's new edition of "Feathers, Furs, Fins and You." Their adventure will include the following themes:

- "Pollinators," featuring hummingbirds and bees
- "Wild Alaska"
- "Rivers of Life"
- "Caring For Our Planet," a special "Action for Planet Earth" edition focusing on ways that young people can actively participate in Audubon

Teachers receiving *Audubon Adventures* materials receive several supplemental resources, including student handouts, posters, brochures, and a full color teacher's manual with articles and worksheets to share with students. A one-year membership to National Audubon Society and Lane County Audubon Society (LCAS) is also included.

Through the generous donations of LCAS members, the Lane Audubon's Adopt-a-Classroom Program makes this material available to local teachers at no cost to the school system. *Audubon Adventures* covers topics and themes that are important to Lane County Audubon Society's mission, and does so in a way that supports education and teachers.

If you would like to sponsor a classroom, please mail a tax-deductible donation of \$45, payable to: LCAS, *Audubon Adventures*, P.O. Box 5086, Eugene, OR 97405. You may request sponsorship of any of the schools and classes listed below or contact Joyce Trawle at [jtrawle@comcast.net](mailto:jtrawle@comcast.net) or 541.515.6244 if you have another school or classroom you'd like to nominate for sponsorship.

Thank you so much for your support!

**Sponsored Classrooms for the 2011-2012 School Year**

| Grade      | School                      | Sponsor                            |
|------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 6.....     | Agnes Stewart Middle School | Susie & Steve Gordon               |
| 3.....     | Camas Ridge Elementary      | Doris Wimber                       |
| 4.....     | Riverbend Elementary        | Rob Castleberry & Joyce Thomas     |
| 4, 5 ..... | Walterville Elementary      | Susan Mincks & Wendell Anderson    |
| 5.....     | Thurston Elementary         | Quail Mailing Crew c/o Eva Schultz |
| 4, 5 ..... | Guy Lee Elementary          | Edrey Anker                        |
| 4, 5 ..... | Chavez Elementary           | Charlotte & Dave Bontrager         |
| 5.....     | Arts and Technology         | Margot Fetz                        |
| 2.....     | McCornack Elementary        | Anonymous                          |
| 6.....     | Applegate Elementary        | Betsy Parry                        |
| 4, 5 ..... | Spring Creek Elementary     | Susan McConnell                    |
| 3.....     | Veneta Elementary           | Marty Beyer & John Bugley          |

**Classrooms Awaiting Sponsors for the 2011-2012 School Year**

| Grade        | School                               |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| 5.....       | Riverbend Elementary (2 classes)     |
| 3.....       | Spring Creek Elementary (2 classes)  |
| 4, 5 .....   | Spring Creek Elementary              |
| 4.....       | Adams Elementary                     |
| 5.....       | Adams Elementary                     |
| 3.....       | Willagilespie Elementary (2 classes) |
| 3, 4 .....   | Walterville Elementary               |
| 3.....       | Veneta Elementary                    |
| 1, 2, 3..... | Family School                        |

**A message from Lane Audubon Board of Directors**

Maeve Sowles, President


541.343.8664


president@laneaudubon.org





We ask you to become a local member of Lane County Audubon Society and support our grassroots efforts in the local community. All of your local dues stay here to help us work on local education projects and conservation issues related to birds and their habitats. With your support, we will continue to do the things you expect from us. We welcome your suggestions—this is your Audubon!


**Lane County Audubon Society  
Membership Benefits**


 **The Quail**—  
9 issues/yr.

 **Field trips and  
bird walks**


 **Program  
meetings**

 **Educational  
publications**

 **Conservation issue  
representation**

 **Answers to  
questions—  
541.485.BIRD**

**Visit our web site:  
www.laneaudubon.org**



**Lane Audubon welcomes you—join or renew today!**

Lane County Audubon Society needs your local membership dues to keep our various programs alive! This means that your membership dues for National Audubon Society no longer support a membership in your local chapter. Become a member of Lane County Audubon Society today to help us continue our educational programs and our work in protecting birds, other wildlife, and their habitats in Lane County. We appreciate your support.

**Lane Audubon Membership Dues**

Individual \$20.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Students and Seniors (65 and over) \$15 .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Family \$25 .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Lifetime Membership \$400.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

I want to do more. Here's my tax deductible contribution for .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed (check payable to Lane County Audubon Society) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Current National Audubon member       Don't know

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you prefer to receive your newsletter by e-mail.

*Lane Audubon will not release your personal information to other organizations. We will use it only for Lane County Audubon Society communications.*

**Please contact me regarding**


Gift memberships

Volunteering for Lane Audubon activities

Lane Audubon's Living Legacy program

I'd like to receive e-mail alerts about conservation issues.

**Mail this form and your payment to:**  
Lane County Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 5086  
Eugene, OR 97405



## Check us out on Facebook

Lane Audubon is now on Facebook! Please join our page and stay informed about events, bird walks, news, and conservation issues. Share bird sightings, photos, links, events, nature news and stories.

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/Lane-County-Audubon-Society/330177413824>



### Deadlines:

November issue: October 1  
December/January issue:  
November 5

Submit material to  
Rob Hoshaw, editor  
rhoshaw@gmail.com

*The Quail* is the newsletter of Lane County Audubon Society, which is a chartered chapter of National Audubon Society. Nine issues are published per year (*May-June, July-Aug. and Dec.-Jan. are double issues*).

Local members of National Audubon Society receive a free subscription to *The Quail*, but are encouraged to voluntarily join Lane County Audubon Society (see pg. 5).

**Subscriptions:** Contact Tim Godsfil at 541.915.8852 or [tgodsil@gmail.com](mailto:tgodsil@gmail.com).

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## Electronic version of *The Quail* available!

Help us save paper and postage! Lane County Audubon Society offers an electronic version of *The Quail*. It's easy to change your current membership to an electronic submission. Each month, LCAS will send a link to your email address that will take you to a pdf version of our newsletter. You'll receive the added benefit of viewing *The Quail's* photos in color, and families can sign up more than one email address to receive the newsletter under one membership. If at any time you decide you'd rather switch back to receiving your *Quail* in the mail, no problem! If you would like to begin receiving *The Quail* electronically or would like more information, please contact Tim Godsfil at [tgodsil@gmail.com](mailto:tgodsil@gmail.com).

### Lane Audubon Officers & Board Members

|           |                  |              |  |
|-----------|------------------|--------------|--|
| President | Maeve Sowles     | 541.343.8664 | <a href="mailto:president@laneaudubon.org">president@laneaudubon.org</a> |
| Treasurer | Ron Renschler    | 541.345.0834 | <a href="mailto:christyandron@qwest.net">christyandron@qwest.net</a>     |
| Members   | Debbie Schlenoff | 541.685.0610 | <a href="mailto:dschlenoff@msn.com">dschlenoff@msn.com</a>               |
|           | Herb Wisner      | 541.344.3634 | <a href="mailto:hrwisner@comcast.net">hrwisner@comcast.net</a>           |
|           | Kris Kirkeby     | 541.349.2439 | <a href="mailto:k2kirk@comcast.net">k2kirk@comcast.net</a>               |
|           | Jim Maloney      | 541.968.9429 | <a href="mailto:jimgmal@comcast.net">jimgmal@comcast.net</a>             |

### Lane Audubon Committee Chairs

|                               |                       |              |  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--|
| Audubon Phone                 | Dick Lamster          | 541.485.BIRD |  |
| Audubon Adventures            | Joyce Trawle          | 541.515.6244 | <a href="mailto:jtrawle@comcast.net">jtrawle@comcast.net</a>         |
| Audubon in the Schools (AITS) | Kris Kirkeby          | 541.349.2439 | <a href="mailto:k2kirk@comcast.net">k2kirk@comcast.net</a>           |
| AITS Scheduling               | Bonnie Lindberg       |              | <a href="mailto:aitslc@gmail.com">aitslc@gmail.com</a>               |
| Booth                         | Ron Renschler         | 541.345.0834 | <a href="mailto:christyandron@qwest.net">christyandron@qwest.net</a> |
| Conservation                  | Debbie Schlenoff      | 541.685.0610 | <a href="mailto:dschlenoff@msn.com">dschlenoff@msn.com</a>           |
| Education                     | Kris Kirkeby          | 541.349.2439 | <a href="mailto:k2kirk@comcast.net">k2kirk@comcast.net</a>           |
| Field Notes                   | Allison & Tom Mickel  | 541.485.7112 | <a href="mailto:tamickel@riouisa.com">tamickel@riouisa.com</a>       |
| Field Trips                   | Volunteer Opportunity |              |  |
| FRESH                         | Art Farley            | 541.683.1186 | <a href="mailto:art@cs.uoregon.edu">art@cs.uoregon.edu</a>           |
| Membership Data               | Tim Godsfil           | 541.915.8852 | <a href="mailto:tgodsil@gmail.com">tgodsil@gmail.com</a>             |
| Programs                      | Herb Wisner           | 541.344.3634 | <a href="mailto:hrwisner@comcast.net">hrwisner@comcast.net</a>       |
| Quail Editor                  | Rob Hoshaw            | 541.731.9090 | <a href="mailto:rhoshaw@gmail.com">rhoshaw@gmail.com</a>             |
| Quail Design & Layout         | Volunteer Opportunity |              |  |
| Recording Secretary           | Kathy Wilson          |              | <a href="mailto:kfred1953@yahoo.com">kfred1953@yahoo.com</a>         |
| Webmaster                     | Hugh Larkin           | 541.359.6473 | <a href="mailto:hdlarkin2@clearwire.net">hdlarkin2@clearwire.net</a> |

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## LCAS Booth celebrates the Eugene Celebration

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The weather was wonderful, the visitors were plentiful, and the Lane Audubon booth boasted a new educational display of bird nests that attracted much attention at the Eugene Celebration August 27-28. A special thank you goes to Kris Kirkeby, LCAS Education Chair, who generously gave her time in getting our new educational display cases completed in time for the event.

Six helpful booth staffers fielded questions and spread the word about LCAS at the event: Connie Berglund, Margot Fetz, Sally O'Donnell, Nancy Radius, Dave Stone, and Joyce Trawle. Thanks to all of them.

If you'd like to get involved in LCAS's booth outreach activities, we can always use additional volunteers. It's fun, and you can learn a lot about local birding and conservation activities in our area by participating. We'll have our booth at several events this fall and winter. Just phone Ron Renschler at 541.345.0834 or e-mail him at [christyandron@qwest.net](mailto:christyandron@qwest.net), and we'll get you started.



### Become a Lane Audubon volunteer!

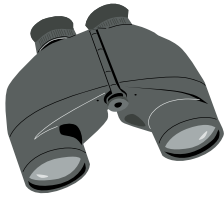


Bulllock's Oriole—Cary Kerst

**Booth Operations Coordinator:** If you enjoy coordinating events and working with people, Lane Audubon is looking for one or two people to adopt the booth operations, which occur about five times per year. This includes setting up and taking down the booth as well as coordinating the schedule of booth staffers. We will provide orientation and training for these volunteer opportunities. We're also always looking for people to staff booth events. Contact Ron Renschler at 541.345.0834 or [christyandron@qwest.net](mailto:christyandron@qwest.net).

**Publicity Volunteer:** Help us get public notices to various media services and spread the word about upcoming Program Meetings, bird walks, and other activities. We also need to make sure we are ahead of publication deadlines. Other goals include developing new contacts with media and keeping contacts and deadlines organized. Contact Maeve Sowles at 541.343.8664 or [president@laneaudubon.org](mailto:president@laneaudubon.org).

## Field Notes: August 2011



- Solitary Sandpipers at FRR
- White-throated Swifts drop in on LCAS bird walk
- Golden Eagle visits Crow area
- Rare Bank Swallow at Fisher Butte

Tom and Allison Mickel

541.485.7112

tamickel@rioussa.com

**A**ugust was warm and dry again this year, as is normal. The shorebird migration was phenomenal during August in the Royal Avenue and Fisher Butte units at Fern Ridge Reservoir—much like the fall of 2007! A special thanks goes to Wayne Morrow and his crew at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for keeping water levels adjusted during the migration period. The other big news for the month was the flock of White-throated Swifts flying overhead during a Lane Audubon field trip.

### WATERBIRDS

|  |         |          |           |  |
|--|---------|----------|-----------|--|
| <b>Greater White-fronted Goose</b> (3) | Aug. 31 | FRR      | LM,et.al. | First report for the fall migration            |
| <b>Northern Pintail</b>                | Aug. 24 | FRR      | LM,et.al. | First report of birds returning for the winter |
| <b>Black-crowned Night-Heron</b> (2)   | Aug. 17 | FRR – RA | JS        | Normally found in small numbers in the fall    |

### EAGLES TO AUKLETS

|                               |         |           |           |   |
|-------------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>Golden Eagle</b>           | Aug. 14 | Crow area | DI        | Rarely found in Lane Co., especially the Coast Range foothills                    |
| <b>Black-bellied Plover</b>   | Aug. 4  | FRR       | DH        | Normally found in small numbers during migration and the winter                   |
| <b>American Avocet</b>        | Aug. 21 | FRR       | RR        | Almost annual in Lane Co. during spring and fall                                  |
| <b>Solitary Sandpiper</b>     | Aug. 17 | FRR – FB  | LM,et.al. | Not normally found during fall migration  |
| <b>Solitary Sandpiper</b>     | Aug. 26 | FRR       | BMc       | We're not sure why so many were reported this fall!                               |
| <b>Solitary Sandpiper (2)</b> | Aug. 28 | FRR       | RL        |   |
| <b>Lesser Yellowlegs (28)</b> | Aug. 30 | FRR       | JW        | Very large numbers for Lane Co.   |
| <b>Long-billed Curlew</b>     | Aug. 6  | FRR       | LM,DA     | Rarely found in Lane Co.  |
| <b>Marbled Godwit (12)</b>    | Aug. 17 | FRR – RA  | JS        | A very large number for inland Lane Co.   |
| <b>Ruddy Turnstone (4)</b>    | Aug. 25 | SJSR      | JS        | Found in small numbers during fall migration                                      |
| <b>Baird's Sandpiper (2)</b>  | Aug. 23 | FRR – RA  | RR        | A few additional birds were reported later in the month.                          |
| <b>Pectoral Sandpiper</b>     | Aug. 17 | FRR – FB  | LM,et.al. | A normal fall migrant in small numbers  |
| <b>Stilt Sandpiper</b>        | Aug. 26 | FRR       | BMc       | About the tenth record for Lane Co.   |
| <b>Stilt Sandpiper (6)</b>    | Aug. 28 | FRR – RA  | A&TM      | A flock is unheard of in Oregon   |
| <b>Ruff</b>                   | Aug. 23 | FRR       | RR        | A rare, irregular migrant in Lane Co.   |
| <b>Ruff (2)</b>               | Aug. 28 | FRR – RA  | A&CH      | but the second time in 5 years that more than one has been found at this location |
| <b>Short-billed Dowitcher</b> | Aug.    | FRR       | m.ob.     | Large numbers for inland Lane Co. were found during the month                     |



|                                  |         |               |           |   |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------------|-----------|---|
| <b>Wilson's Phalarope</b>        | Aug. 24 | FRR – RA      | LM,et.al. | Late report for the breeding season   |
| <b>Red-necked Phalarope (12)</b> | Aug. 18 | FRR           | BMc       | A normal time for their fall migration  |
| <b>Bonaparte's Gull</b>          | Aug. 6  | FRR           | LM,DA     | A spring and fall migrant   |
| <b>Black Tern (6)</b>            | Aug. 18 | FRR           | BMc       | Last report for the season  |
| <b>Common Tern (8)</b>           | Aug. 25 | SJSR          | JS        | Found in small numbers during migration   |
| <b>Cassin's Auklet</b>           | Aug. 6  | Siuslaw River | SB        | Found onboard the USACE dredge Yaquina at night and released the next morning near the mouth of the river |

## NIGHTHAWKS TO BLACKBIRDS

|                                  |         |                 |           |  |
|----------------------------------|---------|-----------------|-----------|--|
| <b>Common Nighthawk</b>          | Aug. 25 | West Eugene     | JS        | An area where they're normal with some regularity  |
| <b>White-throated Swift (30)</b> | Aug. 20 | Stewart Pond    | MS,DL     | 3 <sup>rd</sup> record for Lane Co. – seen & heard flying overhead on a LCAS field trip                              |
| <b>Williamson's Sapsucker</b>    | Aug. 23 | Horseshoe Lake  | NS        | Found in small numbers in the high Cascades  |
| <b>Western Wood-Pewee</b>        | Aug. 9  | ABP             | VT        | Numbers of singing/calling birds increased for a couple weeks at this time before decreasing at the end of the month |
| <b>Black Phoebe</b>              | Aug. 25 | Deadwood        | JS        | First report from the Lane Co. Coast Range.  |
| <b>Black Phoebe (2)</b>          | Aug. 26 | Siltcoos River  | DF        | Not a breeding location.   |
| <b>Common Raven (108)</b>        | Aug. 14 | FRR area        | MN        | Moving south in small groups all afternoon   |
| <b>Bank Swallow</b>              | Aug. 11 | FRR – RA        | A&TM      | Rare, but found in small numbers during fall migration   |
| <b>Cliff Swallow</b>             | Aug. 15 | ABP             | VT        | Last report from the area.   |
| <b>Barn Swallow</b>              | Aug. 31 | Churchill HS    | JN        | Last brood fledged from nest.  |
| <b>American Dipper (2)</b>       | Aug. 29 | Lake Cr "slide" | JS        | Not a known nesting location.  |
| <b>Wrentit</b>                   | Aug. 27 | Eugene – CH     | DG        | An unusual location for this species, but they tend to show up in strange places during the fall dispersal           |
| <b>Yellow Warbler</b>            | Aug. 25 | ABP             | VT        | A singing bird – last report for the breeding season   |
| <b>Grasshopper Sparrow</b>       | Aug. 17 | FRR – FB        | LM,et.al. | About as late as normally found  |
| <b>Lazuli Bunting</b>            | Aug. 10 | ABP             | VT        | Last report for the breeding season  |
| <b>Tricolored Blackbird</b>      | Aug. 4  | FRR             | DJ,RR     | About the 6 <sup>th</sup> record for Lane Co.  |
| <b>Yellow-headed Blackbird</b>   | Aug. 24 | FRR             | LM,et.al. | Last report for the breeding season  |

## Abbreviations

Alton Baker Park (**ABP**), Eugene - College Hill (**Eugene - CH**), Fern Ridge Reservoir (**FRR**), Fern Ridge Reservoir - Royal Ave (**FRR-RA**), Fern Ridge Reservoir - Fisher Butte (**FRR - FB**), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River (**SJSR**).

## Thank you, contributors!

**DA** Dennis Arendt, **SB** Steve Burock, **DF** Daniel Farrar, **DG** Dan Gleason, **DH** Dan Heyerly, **A&CH** Adrian & Christopher Hinkle, **DI** Dave Irons, **DJ** Dave Jones, **DL** Dick Lamster, **RL** Rie Luft, **BMc** Barry McKenzie, **LM** Larry McQueen, **A&TM** Allison & Tom Mickel, **JN** Janet Naylor, **MN** Mark Nikas, **RR** Roger Robb, **MS** Maeve Sowles, **NS** Noah Strycker, **JS** John Sullivan, **VT** Vjera Thompson, **JW** Jay Withgott.

## Community Calendar, Events and Opportunities

A service to Lane Audubon members

### Moths of the Ecuadorian Cloud Forest

North American Butterfly Association

Dr. Bitty Roy, University of Oregon Professor of Ecology, Evolution, and Systemic Botany, will speak about the incredible diversity of cloud forest moths and the ecosystem of which they are a part. The moths are astonishing, with several species reaching wingspans exceeding five inches. There will be tiger moths and silk moths that clearly exhibit mimicry or crypsis.

**Monday, October 3, Refreshments at 7:00 p.m., Presentation at 7:30 p.m.**

*Free. Location: EWEB Training Center at 500 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. FMI: david.hagen@clearwire.net.*

### Save the Date! Highway 126: Fern Ridge Corridor Plan

Oregon Dept. of Transportation

ODOT invites you to participate in developing the Highway 126: Fern Ridge Corridor Plan, which will evaluate and identify improvements to the safety and function of Highway 126 between Veneta and Eugene. At the meeting, ODOT will share what we have learned so far, and the project team will ask for your help to get all the options on the table.

**Thursday, October 6, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

*Refreshments provided. Please RSVP to [info@highway126.org](mailto:info@highway126.org). FMI: 345.5091. Full project description available at <http://highway126.org/>.*

### Family Exploration Day at Meadowlark Prairie

Willamette Resources & Education Network (WREN)

Join WREN for a day of unstructured play in the West Eugene Wetlands. WREN will provide backpacks, bug nets, field guides, magnifiers, and binoculars. Please bring water and a snack and wear sturdy shoes and long pants.

**Saturday, October 8, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

*Free. Meet at Meadowlark Prairie Overlook located on Greenhill Road just south of Royal Ave. FMI: 541.338.7047 or [info@wewetlands.org](mailto:info@wewetlands.org)*

### WREN Wander

Willamette Resources & Education Network (WREN)

Take a casual walk through the dynamic site of the West Eugene Wetlands. Please bring water, wear sturdy shoes and long pants. WREN will provide binoculars.

**Tuesday, October 11, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.**

*Free. Meet at the Stewart Pond Parking Area located on Stewart Road, east of the intersection with Bertelsen. FMI: 541.338.7047 or [info@wewetlands.org](mailto:info@wewetlands.org)*

### For the Love of Mushrooms, a Weekend Foray

Oakridge Hostel

Activities include lectures on mushroom ecology and sustainable harvesting practices, expert guided forays in the forests surrounding Oakridge, and a demonstration by a local chef on the culinary uses and preparation of mushrooms.

**October 14, 15, and 16**

*Oakridge Hostel, 48175 East First St, Oakridge. FMI: 541.782.4000, [info@oakridgehostel.com](mailto:info@oakridgehostel.com), or [www.oakridgehostel.com/events/mushroom-foray](http://www.oakridgehostel.com/events/mushroom-foray).*

### Mushroom Mimicry in Orchids

Eugene Natural History Society

Get ready for youthful enthusiasm involved in some pretty fascinating research, both in Ecuador and on the UO campus, when Tobias Policha describes how the Dracula orchid, and perhaps other orchids, have adapted to their environment by mimicking small native mushrooms in order to attract some pollinators.

**Friday, October 21, 7:30 p.m.**

*Free. Location: Willamette Hall Room 100, University of Oregon Campus.*

### 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Nearby Nature Haunted Hike!

Nearby Nature

Join us for an evening of night creature fun and discovery. Go on a pumpkin-lit hike through Alton Baker Park and meet our costumed night critters—Bat, Owl, Raccoon, Frog, Moth, Beaver, and Spider! Back at the picnic shelter, enjoy creepy crafts, munch on tricky treats, and check out a great raffle.

**Saturday, October 22, 5:30 - 9:00 p.m.**

*Fee: free for members, \$5/non-members. Pre-registration required. Rain or shine. FMI: 541.687.9699.*



Cardinal Meadowhawk—Cary Kerst

## “Birding in Colombia”

Herb Wisner

541.344.3644

hrwisner@comcast.net

Last year, world traveler and avid birder Jim Regali took us to the “luxurious hothouse” of the lush rainforest of Borneo. On October 25, Jim returns to show slides of his latest adventure. In March 2011, Jim, along with Dennis Arendt, Kit Larsen, and Roger Robb, enjoyed a birding adventure to northern Colombia. The variety of habitat, including the Caribbean Coast, the Guajira Desert scrub, and especially the Santa Marta massif, enabled the group to record many of the bird endemics known from this area. Join in experiencing this beautiful, bird-rich area of Colombia.



Santa Marta mountains

### October Program Meeting “Birding in Colombia”

by Jim Regali

Tuesday, October 25, 7:30 p.m.



Eugene Garden Club  
1645 High St., Eugene

### Upcoming Program Meetings

November: “Birds, Bats, and Wind  
Energy—An Unnatural History”  
by Jim Maloney

## ***Dragonflies and Damselflies of Oregon: book available at November 22 Program Meeting!***

The August Dragonfly walk, led by Cary Kerst, had 18 attendees which was described by Cary as the most enthusiastic group he ever led! They visited Grimes/Sandpiper Pond. They met at 10:00 a.m., and since they were enjoying themselves so much they didn’t end the walk until 1:30 p.m. People were enjoying Cary’s expert touch and vivid descriptions of the many species

they found that day. In case you are thinking of getting a copy of the new book, *Dragonflies and Damselflies of Oregon* Cary Kerst and Steve Gordon will be selling and signing copies before the Lane Audubon Program on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Plan to come early to get your copy. They are donating \$5 to Lane Audubon for each book they sell then!



## Bird Walks and Events

Maeve Sowles

541.343.8664

[president@laneaudubon.org](mailto:president@laneaudubon.org)

### Bird Walk Coordinator needed

Lane Audubon is looking for a volunteer to plan the monthly third Saturday Bird Walks. This is a fun opportunity to meet and learn from birding experts; best of all, you get to pick the location and be out birding! Lane Audubon has all the dates set, a network of willing field trip leaders, and a list of past birding locations to choose from. Your responsibility would include deciding on a location, contacting field trip leaders, emailing the field trip publicity, and meeting the birding group on the day of the walk to get things started. Contact Maeve Sowles at 541.343.8664 or [president@laneaudubon.org](mailto:president@laneaudubon.org).

**SATURDAY  
October 15**

### Third Saturday Bird Walks

#### Eugene's "birdiest" cemeteries

In the spirit of Halloween, we will visit some of Eugene's "birdiest" cemeteries. We will look for wintering passerines and perhaps some lingering migrants.

Bird Walk leader TBA (check the Lane Audubon website for announcements, [www.laneaudubon.org](http://www.laneaudubon.org)). We will meet at the South Eugene High School parking lot (corner of 19th and Patterson) for carpooling at 8:00 a.m. and plan to return by noon. All birders are welcome. A \$3 donation is suggested. Please remember not to leave valuables in your car as a precaution.

#### Follow the Vaux's Swifts!

Want to follow the Vaux's swift reports from throughout the West? Go to the web site, West Coast Swifts at [www.westcoastswifts.org](http://www.westcoastswifts.org).

**Program Meeting  
"Birding in Colombia"**  
by *Jim Regali*

**Tuesday, October 25  
7:30 p.m.**



**Eugene Garden Club  
1645 High St., Eugene**

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY  
LANE COUNTY CHAPTER




*The Quail*

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