



The Quail

February 2016

News from Lane County Audubon Society



From Our President

Curl Up with a Good Book

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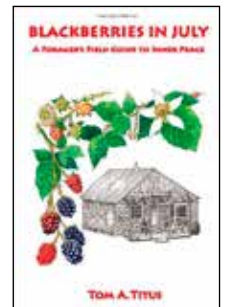
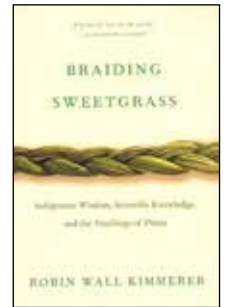
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I often ask friends what books they have enjoyed recently and would recommend to others. I'd like to share a few titles that I've heard about so you can put them on your winter reading list too!

Tom Titus from Eugene Natural History Society says he will always love *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants* by Robin Kimmerer. It is described as “remarkable environmental literature that captures the spirit of the human relationship with the natural world.” Another of Tom’s favorites is Evelyn Hess’s book, *Building a Better Nest: Living Lightly at Home and in the World*. This inspiring memoir by a local author reveals Hess’s honesty and clarity about the term *sustainability* and the meaning of relationships. The stories and experiences are fun, philosophical, and a pleasure to read. Tom also recommends the essays from the Long-Term Ecological Reflections Project on the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest website. Information about this Oregon-based project can be found at <http://andrewsforest.oregonstate.edu/lter/research/related/writers.cfm?topnav=167>. I should also mention that Tom Titus himself is a wonderful word artist, and his book *Blackberries in July: A Forager’s Field Guide to Inner Peace* brings the reader into Tom’s world with rich, colorful descriptions and heartfelt analyses of nature’s dramas.

(continued on page 9)



2015 Eugene Christmas Bird Count

Dick Lamster, Count Coordinator



The worst driving conditions in a long time greeted 117 dedicated bird-watchers as they set out for the 74th Eugene Christmas Bird Count (ECBC). This year the count was held on Sunday, January 3. Some participants were awakened at 3:00 a.m. by the sound of freezing rain on their roofs, and they started to worry about what they were about to face. At daybreak, however, they bundled up, drove (carefully!) to their count areas, and began looking for birds.

Several people who had planned on birding all day simply could not get out of their driveways or up steep hills because of the ice and snow. However, at least some members of each team managed to reach their count areas. Some of those who had to stay home participated in the count as Home Counters. We ended up with 33 fewer field counters than last year, but 18 more Home Counters.

The participants were grouped into 27 teams, each led by an expert birder. Combined, the teams walked 114 miles in 138 hours and drove 530.5 miles in 75 hours. Six teams went owling for seven and a half hours and covered 29 miles.

At the end of the day, 65 tired but happy birders came to the LCAS-sponsored Chili Feed to share stories about the birds they saw and to participate in the traditional countdown. For the past few years nearly 100 folks have attended the Chili Feed, but this year several went directly home after the count, before road conditions got worse. Allison Mickel prepared nine gallons of homemade vegetarian chili to share with everyone. The day of the Chili Feed, Sandy Poinsett, Kathy Wilson, and Bruce Wilson assisted Allison to make the entire event a big success. The Chili Feed was a fun way to end a great day of birding and contributing to the 116-year history of the National Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count.

I personally want to thank Allison and her crew for the Chili Feed, Dan Gleason for compiling the results, Herb Wisner for coordinating the Home Counters, and the 27 Team Leaders whose names appear below. Without the Team Leaders' hard work of assembling their teams, guiding them all day, and reporting the results, the ECBC would not be the great event it is. Ellen Cantor, Team Leader of Area 21, had the largest team with ten birders. Dave Bontrager in Area 14 had eight team

members, and Steve Gordon in Area 12A and Jim Maloney in Area 15 each had seven team members.

Be sure to mark Sunday, January 1, 2017 on your calendar for the 2016 ECBC. Please plan to join a team or be a Home Counter for a full, fun day of birding. Next year marks the 75th ECBC, and we are planning a few surprises to celebrate one of the oldest Christmas Bird Counts in the western part of the United States.

The results of this year's ECBC will be entered into the 116-year record of all the Christmas Bird Counts around the continent. These results are used by scientists and researchers for information about birdlife. The results of all the CBCs are on the National Audubon Society's website at www.christmasbirdcount.org. The code for the ECBC is OREU. An analysis of our count is in Dan Gleason's article in this newsletter.

Thanks again to all of you who participated and helped to make the 2015 ECBC one of the biggest and best in the country!

Team Leaders by Area

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1: Ron Renchler | 11B: Dick Lamster |
| 2: Jim Carlson | 12A: Steve Gordon |
| 3A: Dan Heyerly | 13A: Charlie Thomas |
| 3B: Darryl Wisner | 13B: Holly Hartmann |
| 4: Rick Ahrens | 14: Dave Bontrager |
| 5A: Dan Gleason | 15: Jim Maloney |
| 5B: Diane Horgan | 16: Linda Gilbert |
| 6: Kit Larsen | 17: John Sullivan |
| 7: Roger Robb | 18: Caryn Stoess |
| 8: Davey Wendt | 19: Barbara Combs |
| 9: Tom Mickel | 20A: Brandon Green |
| 10A: Vjera Thompson | 20B: Bruce Newhouse |
| 10B: Marcia Maffei | 21: Ellen Cantor |
| 11A: David Novak | |



Dunlin spotted during the ECBC. Photo: Cary Kerst

2015 Eugene Christmas Bird Count Tally

January 3, 2016

130 species + 2 Count Week, 113,678 individuals

H = High, RH = Record High, L = Low, RL = Record Low, TRL = Ties Record Low, CW = Count Week

Species	Grand Total	Relative Status	Species	Grand Total	Relative Status
Greater White-fronted Goose.....	4.....	L	Western Gull.....	26.....	H
Snow Goose.....	1.....		California Gull.....	43.....	L
Cackling Goose.....	28,946.....		Herring Gull.....	1.....	
Canada Goose.....	7,569.....		Thayer's Gull.....	11.....	
Trumpeter Swan.....	3.....		Glaucous-winged Gull.....	153.....	
Tundra Swan.....	335.....		(Unidentified Gulls).....	129.....	
Wood Duck.....	85.....	H	Rock Pigeon.....	254.....	
Gadwall.....	181.....		Eurasian Collared-Dove.....	197.....	RH
Eurasian Wigeon.....	2.....		Mourning Dove.....	185.....	
American Wigeon.....	471.....		Barn Owl.....	6.....	
Mallard.....	1,912.....		Western Screech-Owl.....	3.....	
Northern Shoveler.....	121.....		Great Horned Owl.....	12.....	
Northern Pintail.....	543.....		Northern Pygmy-Owl.....	2.....	
Green-winged Teal.....	785.....		Barred Owl.....	1.....	
Canvasback.....	1.....	L	Short-eared Owl.....		CW
Ring-necked Duck.....	135.....		Northern Saw-whet Owl.....	5.....	
Greater Scaup.....	10.....		Anna's Hummingbird.....	221.....	RH
Lesser Scaup.....	80.....		Belted Kingfisher.....	20.....	
Bufflehead.....	145.....	H	Acorn Woodpecker.....	36.....	
Hooded Merganser.....	53.....	H	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (1st for Eugene CBC).....		CW
Common Merganser.....	67.....		Red-breasted Sapsucker.....	33.....	H
Ruddy Duck.....	70.....		Downy Woodpecker.....	94.....	H
California Quail.....	187.....	H	Hairy Woodpecker.....	8.....	
Ring-necked Pheasant.....	20.....		Northern Flicker.....	409.....	
Wild Turkey.....	477.....	RH	Pileated Woodpecker.....	4.....	
Pied-billed Grebe.....	68.....		Black Phoebe.....	4.....	
Western Grebe.....	6.....		Northern Shrike.....	4.....	
Double-crested Cormorant.....	212.....		Steller's Jay.....	314.....	
American White Pelican.....	7.....		Gray Jay.....	3.....	
Great Blue Heron.....	90.....		Western Scrub-Jay.....	692.....	
Great Egret.....	37.....		American Crow.....	1,374.....	
Turkey Vulture.....	9.....		Common Raven.....	101.....	H
White-tailed Kite.....	6.....		Black-capped Chickadee.....	663.....	
Bald Eagle.....	36.....		Mountain Chickadee.....	3.....	
Northern Harrier.....	51.....		Chestnut-backed Chickadee.....	189.....	H
Sharp-shinned Hawk.....	10.....		Bushtit.....	1,189.....	H
Cooper's Hawk.....	15.....	H	Red-breasted Nuthatch.....	72.....	
Red-shouldered Hawk.....	19.....	H	White-breasted Nuthatch.....	38.....	
Red-tailed Hawk.....	132.....		Brown Creeper.....	40.....	
Rough-legged Hawk.....	7.....		Bewick's Wren.....	59.....	
American Kestrel.....	94.....		Pacific Wren.....	36.....	
Merlin.....	12.....	H	Marsh Wren.....	7.....	
Peregrine Falcon.....	5.....		Golden-crowned Kinglet.....	333.....	
Prairie Falcon.....	1.....		Ruby-crowned Kinglet.....	238.....	
Virginia Rail.....	1.....		Wrentit.....	4.....	
American Coot.....	235.....		Western Bluebird.....	113.....	H
Killdeer.....	1,572.....		Hermit Thrush.....	13.....	
Spotted Sandpiper.....	3.....		American Robin.....	3,042.....	
Western Sandpiper.....	1.....	TRL	Hermit Thrush.....	511.....	H
Least Sandpiper.....	14.....	L	European Starling.....	46,970.....	H
Dunlin.....	358.....	L	American Pipit.....	272.....	H
Long-billed Dowitcher.....	25.....	L	Cedar Waxwing.....	23.....	L
Wilson's Snipe.....	113.....		Orange-crowned Warbler.....	3.....	
Mew Gull.....	34.....		Yellow-rumped Warbler.....	142.....	
Ring-billed Gull.....	195.....	H	Townsend's Warbler.....	68.....	

2015 Eugene Christmas Bird Count Tally *continued*

Species	Grand Total	Relative Status	Species	Grand Total	Relative Status
Common Yellowthroat	1		Dark-eyed Junco	2,896	
Spotted Towhee	693	H	Red-winged Blackbird.....	1,321	
Chipping Sparrow.....	3		Western Meadowlark.....	88	
Savannah Sparrow.....	25		Brewer's Blackbird.....	835	
Fox Sparrow.....	318	H	Purple Finch.....	32	
Song Sparrow.....	784	H	House Finch.....	445	
Lincoln's Sparrow.....	18		Pine Siskin.....	211	
White-throated Sparrow.....	28	H	Lesser Goldfinch.....	122	H
Harris's Sparrow.....	1		American Goldfinch.....	131	
White-crowned Sparrow.....	426	H	Evening Grosbeak.....	9	L
Golden-crowned Sparrow.....	1,105	H	House Sparrow.....	348	

2015 Eugene Christmas Bird Count Tally

Dan Gleason, Count Compiler



The freezing, wet weather made for a rather miserable day for this year's Eugene Christmas Bird Count, but it didn't prevent most people from spending the day in the field looking for birds. The cold weather was probably responsible for the low numbers of some species reported by many people. During Count Day, 130 species were reported by the teams and Home Counters. Two additional species (Short-eared Owl and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker) were reported during Count Week for a total of 132 species and 113,678 individual birds. New for the Eugene count was a sighting of a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker during Count Week.

Record high numbers were reported for 3 species: Wild Turkey, Eurasian Collared-Dove, and Anna's Hummingbird. The number of Wild Turkeys and Eurasian Collared-Doves continues to increase each year. The Eurasian Collared-Doves are a species of some concern. In the Southwest, there is evidence that they have had a negative impact on White-winged Doves. Locally, I have had reports of people

seeing fewer Mourning Doves in their yards as the Eurasian Collared-Doves appeared and increased.

Despite the cold weather, only nine species were recorded in much lower numbers than normal, and 26 species were found in much higher numbers than average. Shorebirds accounted for many of the species with lower numbers. The cold, freezing weather this December may have played a role in that, causing feeding areas to be less accessible to shorebirds than was the case last year.

More than 100 Home Counters contributed their observations to the count. These numbers account for the majority of Anna's Hummingbirds that were seen and brings our total to a record 221. One unusual report (with photos) was of a Harris's Sparrow that visited someone's yard.

Despite the unpleasant weather, the final numbers confirm that it was a good count with a normal number of reported species. Thanks to everyone who helped with this year's ECBC, even when confronted with cold hands and feet!

Audubon in the Schools Needs You

Would you like to teach elementary school students about birds? The Audubon in the Schools program sends teams of volunteer instructors into the schools to teach third-, fourth-, and fifth-grade students both science and art using bird specimens, feathers, bones, and nests. No teaching experience

or artistic talent is required. All you need is an interest in teaching children and a few hours a month. You can check out the program by sitting in on a class. For more information, contact Caryn Stoess, Audubon in the Schools Coordinator, at 541.357.8739 or AITSEugene@gmail.com.

2015 Oakridge Christmas Bird Count

Joel Geier, Count Coordinator and Co-compiler, and Cheron Ferland, Count Co-compiler.

On Friday, December 18, 14 birders from Oakridge, Bend, Cottage Grove, Eugene, and Corvallis met at the Ridge Cafe in Oakridge for the annual Oakridge Christmas Bird Count. (The traditional meeting place, Lion Mountain Bakery, was gutted by a fire in early December.) Field teams encountered mostly fair birding conditions, except for a couple hours of rain during the middle of the day and fog at high elevations in one sector. Recent heavy rains had melted enough of the previous week's snowfall to allow access up to about 3,000 feet in some parts of the count circle. However, some routes were either still snowed in or blocked by slides or downed trees.

We found a total of 65 species on count day. A large owl sp. seen in conifer forest on Kwis Kwis Butte was most likely a Barred Owl, based on habitat and known occurrence. We found a Mountain Chickadee in a mixed feeding flock of kinglets—detected by hoarse calls and then identified by the white stripe above its eye as it fed in lichens on oak-tree twigs. We found both of the other chickadee species at the Elk Meadows golf course.

A Great Gray Owl that is known to be a resident on High Prairie was photographed one day before the start of Count Week, but was missed on count day. We were able to include it in the Count Week record because it was seen feeding on a vole on December 20.

New records were set for Common Loon (five on Hills Creek Reservoir) and American Coot (mainly on the old mill ponds). The conservative total of three Red-shouldered Hawks ties the previous record; this species now seems to be established in the Oakridge circle.

Three female scaup on Hills Creek Reservoir were too distant to identify to species. An American Wigeon on the mill ponds was only the fifth record for this count. American Dippers were found in good numbers despite high flows on the rivers.



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2015 Florence Christmas Bird Count

Kit Larsen, Count Coordinator and Compiler

The 32nd Florence Christmas Bird Count was held on Saturday, December 19. The weather was mixed, with clear skies in some areas and rain—sometimes heavy—and even hail in other areas. Water levels were high because of abundant rain during the days leading up to the CBC.

A total of 35 people put in about 90 hours, walking 33 miles and driving 205 miles. We received nine Home Counter reports, representing about 20 hours of observations. The Home Counters turned in the only reports of Bullock's Oriole, Purple Finch, and American Goldfinch.

We found 131 species, which is a little above average for the Florence CBC. We saw some uncommon birds, including Northern Mockingbird (second sighting for the CBC), Bullock's Oriole (second sighting), Turkey Vulture (third sighting), Osprey (fourth sighting), Barred Owl (sixth sighting), Short-eared Owl (sixth sighting), Townsend's Solitaire (sixth sighting), Clark's Grebe (eighth sighting), Red-shouldered Hawk (eighth sighting), and Glaucous Gull (eighth sighting).

Some of the species that we usually find, but didn't see this year, include Tundra Swan, Black-bellied Plover, Dunlin, and American Dipper.

We counted unusually high numbers of Gray Jay (eight found, previous years' average is two), Red-shouldered Hawk (eight found, average one), American Pipit (100 found, average 20) and Anna's Hummingbird (40 found, average 19). Water birds were plentiful too, with Green-winged Teal (827 found, average 169), Ruddy Duck (136 found, average 33), Northern Pintail (170 found, average 84), Northern Shoveler (101 found, average 34), Ring-necked Duck (214 found, average 88), Common Merganser (122 found, average 49), and American Coot (302 found, average 92).

The following species were found in low numbers—less than half the previous years' average: American Wigeon, Surf Scoter, White-winged Scoter, Brandt's Cormorant, Killdeer, Surfbird, Mew Gull, Common Murre, Rock Pigeon, American Crow, Common Raven, European Starling, Yellow-rumped Warbler, and Red-winged Blackbird.

The number of Eurasian Collared Doves seems to have leveled off. We counted 99, which is a little below the high of the last few years.

Field Notes: November–December 2015



- Rock Sandpiper
- Snowy Owl
- Burrowing Owl
- Rufous Hummingbird
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
- American Tree Sparrow

Tom and Allison Mickel

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The weather for the period was relatively normal (wet and cool), with December being very wet! There weren't any really rare or totally out-of-place species during the period, but there were plenty of interesting sightings. With the start of the new year, most birds should be settled in for the rest of the winter, unless we get some really stormy or cold weather.

Abbreviations: Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), North Jetty of the Siuslaw River (NJSR), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River (SJSR)

WATERBIRDS

Snow Goose (11)	Dec 1	Fir Butte road	SM	Small numbers are found most winters
Ross's Goose	Dec 13	Greenhill & Milliron	A&DH	Very small numbers winter most years
Tundra Swan (2)	Nov 10	FRR	BC	First report for the winter season
Eurasian Wigeon	Nov 18	Delta Ponds	VB, SM	Normally found with large flock of Am Wigeon
Long-tailed Duck	Dec 25	Florence docks	DP	One winters most years
Common Goldeneye (5)	Dec 1	Willamette River	SG	Not a common location for this species
Common Merganser (106)	Nov 4	Dorena reservoir	TMo	A high number
Pacific Loon (2000)	Nov 2	north Lane Co coast	AC	Migration's in full swing!
Common Loon	Nov 1	Delta Ponds	PS	An unusual location for this species
Eared Grebe (3)	Nov 8	NJSR	AC, JS	Not always seen at this location
Pink-footed Shearwater (2)	Nov 6	Siltcoos River mouth	JS, JL	They've been more common this fall
Black-vented Shearwater	Nov 8	Tokatee Klootchman	AC, JS	The last report for this species
Leach's Storm-Petrel	Dec 11	Florence - Fred Meyer	DP	Blown inland after the storm
Double-crested Cormorant (118)	Nov 4	Dorena reservoir	TMo	A high number
American White Pelican (66)	Nov 4	Dorena reservoir	TMo	An unusual location for this species

VULTURES to OWLS

Turkey Vulture	Nov 22	I-5 @ Coburg	BC	Rare away from FRR area in the winter
Turkey Vulture	Dec 19	Florence area	m.ob.	Rarely found on their CBC
Turkey Vulture	Dec 24	SE Eugene	JSn	Rare away from FRR area in the winter
Osprey	Nov 3	Mt Pisgah	TC	They winter along the local rivers most years
Osprey (3)	Nov 4	Dorena reservoir	TMo	A high number for so late in the year
Osprey (2)	Nov 16	Dorena reservoir	TMo	Maybe one decided to migrate south
Osprey	Dec 18	I-5 @ Coburg	DB	1 or 2 winter most years in the area
Osprey	Dec 19	Florence area	m.ob.	Rarely found on their CBC
Red-shouldered Hawk (17)	Nov 30	Eugene airport area	JL	A high number, but they're increasing yearly
Rough-legged Hawk	Nov 21	Meadowlark Prairie	VT	The first for the winter season
Prairie Falcon	Nov 30	Eugene airport area	JL	They winter most years in very small numbers
Sora (2)	Dec 6	FRR - Royal Ave	JDg, DH	An unusual winter species at this location
Virginia Rail	Dec 6	FRR - Royal Ave	JDg, DH	They winter in small numbers most years
Black-bellied Plover (100)	Nov 13	FRR	JL	They winter most years in varying numbers
Semipalmated Plover	Dec 25	Siltcoos River mouth	GR	Rarely winter in the county
Lesser Yellowlegs	Dec 25	FRR area	A&DH	Rarely found in the winter

Rock Sandpiper	Nov 26	SJSR	JL	Rare along the Lane Co coast
Red Phalarope	Dec 10	Siltcoos River mouth	GR	Found in good numbers after the storm
Red Phalarope	Dec 13	Delta & Goodpasture	SH	Blown inland during the storm
Black-legged Kittiwake (2)	Nov 26	SJSR	JL	First report for the winter season
Black-legged Kittiwake	Dec 14	Deadwood	B&KB	Blown inland with the storm
Heermann's Gull	Nov 6	Siltcoos River mouth	JS, JL	The last report for the year
Glaucous Gull	Dec 13	Junction City area	JS	Rarely winter in the valley
Ancient Murrelet (2)	Nov 6	Siltcoos River mouth	JS, JL	Always a nice bird to see from land
Cassin's Auklet	Dec 13	Siltcoos River mouth	GR	Most likely blown close to shore by the storm
Snowy Owl (possible)	Nov 8	Blachly area	SR	Barn Owls can look quite white at night
Snowy Owl	Dec 20	Deadwood area	B&KB	Seen about four times during the day
Burrowing Owl	Nov 26	SJSR	JS	Rarely found along the coast
Great Gray Owl	Dec 20	Creswell area	fide NS	Rarely found away from the high Cascades
Short-eared Owl	Nov 26	SJSR deflation plain	BB, LMy	They winter in small numbers at this location
Short-eared Owl	Dec 6	Meadowlark Prairie	BC	A normal wintering location

HUMMINGBIRDS to SPARROWS

Rufous Hummingbird	Nov 2	Cottage Grove area	TMo	There have been reports the last few years
Rufous Hummingbird	Dec 13	Valley River area	SH	
Say's Phoebe	Nov 23	EWEB - Roosevelt	VB	Rarely found this time of year
Northern Shrike (imm)	Nov 8	SJSR	AC, JS	First report for the winter season
Northern Shrike	Nov 18	FRR - E Coyote	SH	First report for the valley this winter
Northern Shrike	Dec 26	Alton Baker Park	RR	An unusual location for this species
Gray Jay	Nov 5	Lorane Highway area	KW	A species that isn't normally reported from this
Gray Jay (4-6)	Nov 22	Lorane Highway area	RF	area—lack of observers
Horned Lark	Dec 4	Siltcoos River mouth	GR	Rarely found along the coast
Mountain Chickadee	Nov 1	SW Eugene	AC	This species has made a mini-invasion into the
Mountain Chickadee	Nov 4	SE Eugene	LMf	valley this fall/winter
Mountain Chickadee	Nov 11	Island Park area	LM, et al.	Some are still being seen
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Nov 11	Island Park area	LM, et al.	A rare species in Lane Co, especially in winter
Wrentit	Dec 18	Oakridge area	fide JG	Not often found on their CBC
Townsend's Solitaire	Dec 19	Florence area	fide KL	Rare on their CBC
Northern Mockingbird	Nov 21	SJSR area	LG	They're normally found in small numbers most winters
Northern Mockingbird	Dec 18	SJSR area	JS	Still being seen in the area
Snow Bunting	Nov 25	Siltcoos River mouth	GR	Rare, but most common along the coast
Orange-crowned Warbler	Nov 2	Waite Pasture	AC	They normally winter in small numbers
Common Yellowthroat	Nov 2	Waite Pasture	AC	They winter over some years
Common Yellowthroat	Dec 5	Meadowlark Prairie	VT	They winter over some years
American Tree Sparrow	Nov 21	FRR - Royal Ave	AS	Rare, but this is the time they are found
Chipping Sparrow	Nov 1	Washington St, Eugene	CWS	Later than normal
Vesper Sparrow (2+)	Nov 21	Ricketts Rd	JDr	A rare wintering species
Swamp Sparrow	Dec 4	Baker Beach Road	DS	Unusual, but good habitat for them to winter over in

A&DH Anne & Dan Heyerly, AC Alan Contreras, AS Andrew Schopieray, B&KB Billy & Kaki Burruss, BB Bill Bradford, BC Barbara Combs, CWS Catlin Wells Salerno, DB Dave Budeau, DH Dave Hicks, DP Diane Pettey, DS Douglas Stotz, GR Glenn Reubon, JDg Joni Dawning, JDr Jim Destaebler, JG Joel Geier, JL Joshua Little, JS John Sullivan, JSn Julia Siporin, KL Kit Larsen, KW Karen Warren, LG Linda Gilbert, LM Larry McQueen, LMf Lori Markoff, LMy Lora Minty, m.ob. many observers, NS Noah Strycker, PS Priscilla Sokolowski, RF Rachael Friese, RR Roger Robb, SG Steve Gordon, SH Sally Hill, SM Sylvia Maulding, SR Sam Reaves, TC Thomas Cable, TMo Tori Morgan, VB Vickie Buck, VT Vjera Thompson. Fide indicates a sighting that was reported to the listed observer.

Audubon Adventures Educates Lane County Students

Audubon Adventures is coming to a school near you! The new materials will be available as printed newsletters with exciting online components. This year, the award-winning environmental program focuses on protecting Earth's natural resources. The topics are:

- *Why and how to protect habitats that are home to all living things*
- *Sources of, challenges to, and how to preserve essential clean water resources*
- *Different forms and sources of energy and their pros and cons*

This very popular initiative is funded by the generous donations of LCAS members through our Adopt-a-Classroom program. We are pleased to provide a full set of Audubon Adventures materials to each student in sponsored classrooms, at no cost to the schools. Teachers in Audubon Adventures classrooms receive several supplemental resources online and a year's membership to National Audubon Society and Lane County Audubon Society.

If you would like to sponsor a classroom, please mail a tax-deductible donation of \$45, payable to LCAS, to Audubon Adventures, PO Box 5086, Eugene, OR 97405. You can also donate online through the LCAS website: www.laneaudubon.org/education/audubon-adventures.

Please contact Joyce Trawle at jtrawle@comcast.net or 541.515.6244 if you have any questions.



Thank you to all our classroom sponsors for their generous support!

Sponsored Classrooms for 2015–2016

Grade	School	Sponsor
2	Adams Elementary	Charlie Quinn
6	Arts & Technology Academy	Anne Bonine
3	Awbrey Park Elementary	Eva Schultz
4, 5	Centennial Elementary	Charlotte and Dave Bontrager
3	Centennial Elementary	Rob Castleberry and Joyce Thomas
3	Centennial Elementary	Peter and Jo von Hippel
3	Centennial Elementary	John Levy & Janie Thomas
1, 2, 3	Family School	Flo Alvergue
3 (ESL)	Fern Ridge School District	Mary Beth Crawford
3	Gilham Elementary	Charles and Reida Kimmel
3	Gilham Elementary	Robin Gage
3	Gilham Elementary	Beth Bridges
3	Gilham Elementary	Russell and Christine Sampley
4	Gilham Elementary	Betsy Parry
3	Howard Elementary	Gaylene Carpenter
4, 5	King's Valley Charter School	Herb Wisner
4, 5	London School	Edrey Anker
3	Maple Elementary	Marge Vinton
3	McKenzie Elementary	Sara Brownmiller and Milo Mecham
3	McKenzie Elementary	Sara Brownmiller and Milo Mecham
5	Pleasant Hill Elementary	Karen Svenson
1, 2, 3	Ridgeline Montessori	Susan Mincks & Wendell Anderson
3	Ridgeview Elementary	Julie Sasewich and David Sanchez
3	Ridgeview Elementary	Charlotte and Dave Bontrager
2	Riverbend Elementary	Valerie and Dan Close
5	Riverbend Elementary	Margot Fetz
5	Riverbend Elementary	Camilla Pratt
3	Siuslaw Elementary	Rita Babauta Kiley
3, 4	Veneta Elementary	Mika Singer
4	Veneta Elementary	Mika Singer
4	Veneta Elementary	Doris Wimber
3	Walterville Elementary	Camilla Pratt
5	Willagillespie Community School	Linda Howard
4	Yolanda Elementary	Susan McConnell

Audubon Adventures Seeks Coordinator

LCAS is looking for someone who can link the Audubon Adventures teachers with our generous sponsors. If you have a computer and a little time, this might be the volunteer opportunity you've been looking for! It takes flexibility,

organization, and a sense of timing to make things work well for the teachers and sponsors. Please contact Maeve Sowles (maeveanddick@q.com) if this rewarding position sounds interesting to you.

MAPS Bird-Banding Station and Spotted Owls

John DeLuca, wildlife biologist with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), will give a two-part presentation about bird conservation on the Eugene District of the BLM. The first part of the presentation will focus on a Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) bird-banding station that will begin operation this spring (a great volunteer opportunity for local birders and bird enthusiasts!). The second part of the presentation will focus on Spotted Owl ecology and conservation on the Eugene District.

**February Program Meeting
MAPS Bird-Banding
Station and Spotted Owls**



**Tuesday, February 23, 7:30 p.m.
Eugene Garden Club
1645 High St., Eugene**

Welcome, Judy!

We welcome new volunteer Judy Brown in the role of Program Coordinator! Before Judy moved to Eugene about a year ago, she was active in the Cape Arago Audubon Society and had helped with the Oregon Shorebird Festival. She says she looks forward to helping engage speakers for our popular Program Meetings. Welcome, Judy! We are happy to have your help!

Experience Malheur National Wildlife Refuge with LCAS!

Join LCAS on a field trip to Oregon's bird-watching mecca, Malheur NWR. The refuge is a crucial stop along the Pacific Flyway and offers resting, breeding, and nesting habitat for hundreds of species of migratory birds as well as other wildlife.

We'll be visiting from April 15 to 18. We plan to drive to Malheur on Friday, spend two days birding, and drive back Monday. Of course, you can stay longer if you wish. Although every year is different, in April you're likely to see Sandhill Cranes, huge flocks of Ross's Geese, and several species of raptors. The big mystery is always which uncommon birds will be around. We'll stay at the Malheur Field Station, bird one morning with Duncan Evered (codirector of the field station), and bird at other times in small groups or individually. The

refuge is large enough that we can bird a different area each day, although you don't have to go on every birding expedition! If you like, you can stay in to read or nap.

Perhaps you want to scout for scenic panoramas or explore the interesting plants and rocks.

This trip is open to birders of all levels. Space is limited, so sign up soon if you're interested. See the LCAS website for detailed information and the registration form. For more information, contact Charlotte Maloney (charm71@comcast.net or 514.953.0148) or Caryn Stoess (carynbirds@gmail.com or 541.357.8739).



From our President (continued from page 1)

LCAS Board member Jim Maloney suggests *Made for Each Other: A Symbiosis of Birds and Pines* by Ronald Lanner. Reviewers say "this beautifully illustrated and gracefully written work illuminates the phenomenon of co-evolution, describing how some trees and birds are made for each other."

Anne Bonine, Lane Audubon volunteer, recommends *H Is for Hawk* by Helen Macdonald and *Wild Within: How Rescuing*

Owls Inspired a Family by Melissa Hart, a Eugene woman who volunteers at Cascades Raptor Center.

To check out reviews for other bird books, see the National Audubon recommendations for "The 12 Best Bird Books of 2015" at www.audubon.org/news/the-12-best-bird-books-2015.

Happy winter reading—I hope you find time to enjoy some good books!

Lane Audubon welcomes you—join or renew today!



We ask you to become a local member of Lane County Audubon Society and support our grassroots efforts in the local community. Your membership dues

for National Audubon Society no longer support a membership in your local chapter. 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! We appreciate your support. —*Maeve Sowles, President*

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 www.laneaudubon.org

Deadlines:

March Issue: January 30

April issue: March 5

Submit material to
Paula Rich
richpaula@hotmail.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.

Subscriptions: Contact Tim Godsil at 541.915.8852 or tgodsil@gmail.com.

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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)\$ _____

To pay by PayPal, go to www.laneaudubon.org/support/join

- 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

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Community Calendar, Events, and Opportunities

A service to Lane Audubon members

North American Butterfly Association

Monday, February 8, 7:30 p.m.
(refreshments at 7:00 p.m.)

Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High St.,
Eugene

*Butterflies and More: A Year in the Life
of a Self-Employed Entomologist with
Dana Ross*

Dana Ross is a Corvallis entomologist and lifelong butterfly enthusiast. He's been studying Oregon insects—butterflies and moths in particular—since 1981. Dana will talk about his studies in the Willamette Valley, Klamath Marsh National Wildlife Refuge, Sand Creek, Oregon Caves National Monument, and Crater Lake National Park.

Free. FMI: 541.344.7630

Winter Wings Festival

February 11–14, Klamath Falls, OR

Winter Wings offers a huge assortment of birding and nature-related activities for all ages and skill levels. Be sure to enter the photography contest!

FMI: www.winterwingsfest.org,
877.541.BIRD

Great Backyard Bird Count

February 12–15

The 19th annual GBBC takes place this month. Find out how to participate in this online citizen-science project by visiting the official website at <http://gbbc.birdcount.org/>.

Southern Willamette Ornithological Club

Eugene Birders Night

Monday, February 15, 7:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend these free monthly meetings. After initial introductions, attendees share recent sightings and discuss birding-connected topics. A bird-centric presentation (specifics pending!) will follow the discussion. Look for details in OBOL the week before the February meeting.

Meet at the McNail-Riley house, 601 West 13th Avenue, Eugene (NW corner of 13th and Jefferson). The parking area, located immediately west of the house, can be accessed from Jefferson via the driveway located just north of the house.

Free. FMI: ellencantor@gmail.com

Mt. Pisgah Arboretum

Sunday, February 21, 8:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m.

Late Winter Bird Walk

Join Nature Guides Chris Roth and Julia Siporin for another monthly bird walk intended for people with all levels of birding experience. Use vocalizations, habitat, and behavior clues for identification of the Arboretum's winter and year-round residents. Option to continue the walk until noon for those who are interested. Please bring binoculars. Rain or shine.

Saturday, February 27, 10:00 a.m.–
12:00 p.m.

Lichens Walk

Join Botanist Daphne Stone on an easy stroll through the Arboretum exploring lichens, their habitats, and ecology. This walk is appropriate for both children and adults. Rain or shine.

\$5, Members free. All Arboretum events begin at the Arboretum Visitor Center.

FMI: 541.747.1504,
www.MountPisgahArboretum.org

Harney County Migratory Bird Festival

April 8–10, Burns, OR

Spend an amazing weekend witnessing the spectacular spring migration in the Harney Basin of Southeast Oregon. View thousands of migratory birds as they rest and feed in the wide-open spaces of Oregon's high desert.

FMI: www.migratorybirdfestival.com,
855.438.8625



Olympic Peninsula
2016 BirdFest
Come bird with us!
April 15-17, 2016
For more information:
www.olympicbirdfest.org
info@olympicbirdfest.org
or 360-681-4076



How many birds
will you find?
19th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count
February 12–15, 2016

Join in! Count birds in your backyard, local park, or wherever you spot a bird, and submit your observations online.
birdcount.org

With special thanks to:
Photo: Nick Saunders/GBBC

Audubon | The Oregon Audubon Society | The Cornell Lab of Ornithology | Sponsored in part by: [Logo]



SAVE THE DATE: FEBRUARY 11–14, 2016

KLAMATH BASIN
WINTER WINGS FESTIVAL
FEATURING:
JAMES CURRIE
STEPHEN JOHNSON

LEARN MORE >

Join us for the 37th annual Winter Wings Festival at Oregon Institute of Technology in beautiful Klamath Falls, Oregon

For registration details visit WinterWingsFest.org.
Registration opens in December.

THE 2016 PROGRAM INCLUDES:
New photography and birding field trips, workshops, and mini sessions for all skill levels. Old favorites, too!

CONTACT US:
Klamath Basin Audubon Society
PHONE: (877) 541-BIRD (2479)
EMAIL: info@winterwingsfest.org

Special thanks to Fisher Nicholson Realty, proud sponsor of the 2016 Festival. This project was partially funded by the Klamath County transient room tax program.

**February
Program Meeting**

**MAPS Bird-Banding
Station and
Spotted Owls**




**Tuesday, February 23,
7:30 p.m.
Eugene Garden Club
1645 High St., Eugene**



**NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
LANE COUNTY CHAPTER**

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Bird Walks and Events



**Saturday,
February 20**

Jim Maloney

541.968.9249

jimgmal@comcast.com

THIRD SATURDAY BIRD WALK

Site and leader to be determined

The Third Saturday Bird Walk on February 20 will be determined by interesting bird sightings posted to OBOL and other pertinent information available before the day of the walk. We will post the location on the LCAS Facebook page (www.facebook.com/pages/Lane-County-Audubon-Society/330177413824?ref=hl) and on the website (www.laneaudubon.org).

All ages and skill levels are welcome. To carpool, meet at 8:00 a.m. at the South Eugene High School parking lot (corner of 19th and Patterson). We plan to return by noon. Remember that it's not a good idea to leave valuables or your vehicle registration in your car if you leave it at the lot. A \$3 donation is appreciated to help support Lane County Audubon's activities.

For more information, contact Jim Maloney at 541.968.9249 or jimgmal@comcast.net.

Thank You, LCAS Volunteers!

Nine intrepid volunteers participated in the Bike Path Cleanup on Saturday, November 14. The east section was closed for EMX construction, so the volunteers cleaned up the west section very quickly! We thank Ruth Simon, Roger Galka, John Lemay, Milo Meacham, Sarah Brownmiller, Nancy Raymond, Karen Svenson, Elaine Sedlack, and Caryn Stoess for their hard work. And thanks to Kat Beal for organizing the event. Great work, everyone!

We also want to thank Anne Bonine, who for the past three years has delivered *The Quail* newsletter to the post office.

Anne says she enjoys receiving *The Quail* in her mail, so she wanted to help others get their mailed newsletters too! She plans to spend some time exploring the wonders of Oregon and other places. Happy travels, Anne!

Kathy Danz is another dedicated behind-the-scenes volunteer. For the past four years, she has helped to send thank-you postcards to new and renewing members. Kathy is retiring from this activity to make time for some new outlets. We really appreciate her consistent help and pleasant attitude over this time. Thank you to YOU, Kathy!