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# The Quail

News from Lane County Audubon Society



## From Our President

Maeve Sowles, 541.343.8664, maeveanddick@q.com

## Summer Goals Include Montane Wildflowers & Coastal Shorebirds



Photo: Maeve Sowles

I have a couple of goals for mid-to-late summer this year. One is to get up to the higher mountain elevations to see the montane wildflowers on display July through August. It has been a few years since I made this trek, and I realize it is something I don't want to miss yet again. I have memories of hiking the trail at Iron Mountain when hillside rock gardens were ablaze with Indian paintbrush interspersed with bright yellow stonecrop. And

in the high meadows, enjoying a lush array of blooming flowers that changes weekly as the progression of flax, penstemon, yarrow, saxifrage, lupine, larkspur, beargrass, and others creates a stunning palette of colors. Trails at Mount Hood, Jefferson Park, and the Three Sisters areas can be bountiful with flowers, but also mosquitos. Identifying the wildflowers is made easier if you go to this website: [wildflowersearch.org](http://wildflowersearch.org) It was created by Steven Sullivan, brother of William (Bill) Sullivan, the hiking book author!!

Male Rufous Hummingbirds will move up to these higher elevations, where the flowers can provide them with a feast of nectar before they begin their southward migration. Other birds to look for in the high

mountains are Mountain Bluebird, Gray Jay, Clark's Nutcracker, Mountain Chickadee, Sooty Grouse, and Ruffed Grouse.

A second goal for this summer is to visit the coast in August to see migrating shorebirds. This southern migration occurs over a relatively long period of time. Generally, the adult males move through first, then females, then juveniles, and the movement lasts through October. The fall shorebird migration is more leisurely than spring migration and the birds might stay in an area for a time to feed and gain strength. It seems like a great chance to not only enjoy the ambiance of the Oregon coast, but also to hone my shorebird ID skills for not-often-seen birds like Golden Plover, Lesser Yellowlegs, Marbled Godwit, and any variety of sandpiper. I also enjoy seeing the easier to identify Black Oystercatcher, which I do not see unless I go looking for them on the beautiful Oregon coast!

I get busy in my day-to-day activities and don't always make time  
*continued on page 4*

Lane County Audubon Society

541.485.BIRD

[laneaudubon.org](http://laneaudubon.org)

P.O. Box 5086, Eugene, OR 97405

[facebook.com/Lane-County-Audubon-Society-330177413824/](https://www.facebook.com/Lane-County-Audubon-Society-330177413824/)



Conservation..... 2



Field Notes ..... 3



Peregrine Exhibit..... 5



Bird Walks ..... 8

## Conservation

Debbie Schlenoff, 541.685.0610, dschlenoff@msn.com

### Done Right, Farming Can Benefit Both Humans and Birds

**B**irds help farmers. They control pests, sow seeds, pollinate flowers, and fertilize soils. Unfortunately, the reverse is not true; common agricultural practices do not help birds. Often they have led to devastating bird population declines. The North American Breeding Bird Survey data shows that 74 percent of farmland-associated species decreased between 1966 and 2013. The size of the global human population is large and growing, with a concomitant increase in the numbers of mouths to feed. That means that large swaths of natural habitat are destroyed to make way for agriculture. The remaining patches of native habitat are small and isolated. In addition, the chemicals used to increase crop yields are either interfering with reproduction in birds or killing them outright. Luckily, bird-friendly farming practices do exist.

Growing and buying organic food reduces risks from the many toxins used in conventional farming. Not only do some of these pesticides harm the birds directly (pesticides such as neonicotinoids cause loss of body mass, neurological impairment, and reproductive failure), but they also decimate the insect food base of many birds. Ironically, the loss of birds and beneficial insects, in turn, increases the surplus of crop pests. Low-intensity farming, which utilizes less pesticides and allows for more natural habitat, provides many other benefits, such as soil conservation, improved water quality, and carbon storage.

Several scientific reports have detailed the benefits of planting and maintaining wildflower strips, hedgerows, and other areas of native vegetation on farms. Even though a small area is taken out of crop production, the practice can actually increase crop yield. Plantings support pollinators such as native bees, beneficial insects, and birds. Native bees and some birds improve productivity through their pollination services. Beneficial insects and birds control crop pests. In one recent study, farm-edge habitat that contained native plants supported nearly three times as many bird species as those without, and importantly, reduced the abundance of the most significant insect pests by over 33 percent. Another study noted that planting wildflower strips adjacent to a crop field led to a 40 percent reduction in crop damage due to beetles and other pests.

Protecting riparian or streamside areas, as well as wetlands located on farms, also supports greater biodiversity. Rice farmers in California used to burn the straw residue post harvest. Now they flood their fields, creating temporary wetlands that support migratory and residential birds. It's another win-win situation. The presence of the birds increases the rate of straw decomposition and creates better planting conditions for the next season.

A 2019 long-term study in Costa Rica measured population declines in 69 out of 112 bird species. On



the positive side, coffee plantations that had modest tree cover hosted more types of birds. Farms with an average of about 13 percent tree cover hosted double the number of forest specialist birds compared with plantations with an average of 7 percent tree cover. Other studies have revealed the merits of agroforestry, or shade-grown crops, such as coffee and cocoa. One found 1,216 species of birds using agroforests compared to 303 species using conventional farms. Several surveys of agroforests have documented greater species richness and abundance of individuals, as well as reduced soil erosion, increased carbon sequestration, improved pollination, better pest control, and better connectivity for the many animals that live in forests.

Other sustainable practices include smart water and soil management (such as no-till farming), and moving away from planting mono-crop fields. Many programs, including the US Conservation Reserve Program, will pay landowners to convert highly erodible cropland into wildlife habitat, but the program is underfunded and limited. Stronger government policies in the United States and across the globe are needed to promote more environmentally friendly agricultural practices. Farming can be for the birds as well as the people!

## Field Notes: April/May 2019

Tom and Allison Mickel, 541.485.7112, tamickel@riouisa.com



Photo: Jarek Tuszynski, wiki commons

Rock Wren



Photo: Derek Bakken, wiki commons

Cattle Egret

## Rock Wren, Hooded Oriole, Cattle Egret, Gray Flycatcher

This was a spring of extremes—record rainfall in early April, followed by high temperatures and talk of drought in May! By the end of May the weather seemed more normal, so we'll see what the summer has to bring. The cool, wet weather at the start of the period seemed to slow migrants down. When the warmer weather came, all of the birds appeared to be in a hurry to get to their breeding grounds.

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

### WATERFOWL TO SHOREBIRDS

Greater White-fronted Goose	Apr 23	Eugene area	fide BN	Thousands migrating over in the morning
Harlequin Duck	Apr 10	Salmon Creek	MLS	Breeding in the area?
Black Swift (15)	May 21	South Beach	DF	Found annually along coast this time of year
Black Swift (1)	May 21	West Eugene	BC	Rare in the valley
Vaux's Swift	Apr 9	Alton Baker Park	TJ	A couple days earlier than normal
Vaux's Swift (55)	Apr 9	Agate Hall	BC	First entering the chimney to roost
Costa's Hummingbird	Apr 17	Creswell area	HL	Rare for Lane Co - less than 15 records
Calliope Hummingbird	Apr 10	Eugene area	BG, MN	First of large numbers seen this spring
American Avocet	Apr 29	Sutton Beach	DF	Rare on the coast
Black-bellied Plover (2)	Apr 15	Siltcoos River mouth	DF	The first of the season
Whimbrel (10)	Apr 14	SJSR	DF	The first of the season
Whimbrel (22)	Apr 25	Eugene airport area	JS	A very large flock for the valley
Marbled Godwit (4)	Apr 12	NJSR beach	NT	The first of the season
Ruddy Turnstone	May 7	SJSR	RR	Uncommon spring migrant
Red Knot	Apr 16	Sutton Beach	DF	The first of good numbers this spring
Pectoral Sandpiper	May 5	Stewart Road area	DJ	Rarely found in the spring
Western Sandpiper	Apr 12	Baker Beach	DF	The first of the season
Short-billed Dowitcher	Apr 5	Siltcoos River mouth	DF	The first of the season
Solitary Sandpiper	Apr 20	Fiddle Creek	DF	Uncommon along the coast, and early
Solitary Sandpiper (4)	Apr 26	Stewart Road area	JLi	Large number, but normal time and location
Wandering Tattler	May 7	SJSR	RR	Uncommon spring migrant
Wilson's Phalarope	May 5	Stewart Road area	JLi	Right on time
Red-necked Phalarope (3)	Apr 9	FRR - Royal Ave	SM	First of the season
Red-necked Phalarope (400)	May 7	SJSR	RR	A large number for any day

### GULLS TO SWALLOWS

Bonaparte's Gull (300)	May 7	Heceta Beach	RR	Large numbers migrating north
Glaucous Gull (photos)	Apr 25	North Lane coast	VB, et al	Getting late for this species
Black Tern	May 4	FRR	JG	Right on time
Forster's Tern	May 17	FRR	SH	They have bred in the past
Brant's Cormorant	Apr 25	Sea Lion Caves	LW	The first birds on the nesting cliffs
American White Pelican (16)	Apr 21	Springfield	CT	Flying over - headed to FRR?
Cattle Egret	Apr 23	FRR - Royal	NS	Rare in Lane Co, especially in the spring
Black-crowned Night-Heron	May 23	Alton Baker Park	EZ	Rarely found in the spring
Swainson's Hawk (photo)	May 2	West Eugene	MN	Rare in Lane Co, but normal time
Great Gray Owl (photo)	Apr 2	Jasper area	JR	They've been found in the area in the past
Merlin	Apr 16	Sutton Beach	DF	Following shorebirds north as usual
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Apr 26	Skinner Butte	RF, GM	A few days earlier than normal
Western Wood-Pewee	Apr 29	Skinner Butte	RR	A couple days earlier than normal
Willow Flycatcher	May 16	Coyote Creek area	RR	A couple days later than normal
Hammond's Flycatcher	Apr 15	Southeast Eugene	AM	About a week earlier than normal
Gray Flycatcher	Apr 30	Mt Pisgah	SH	Rare in Lane - large number found this spring

## GULLS TO SWALLOWS CONT.

Ash-throated Flycatcher	Apr 20	Skinner Butte	RF,DA	A couple weeks earlier than normal
Western Kingbird	Apr 7	Junction City area	BC	A little over a week earlier than normal
Loggerhead Shrike	Apr 28	Cantrell Road	SH	Rare in Lane Co, but normal time
Cassin's Vireo	Apr 13	Skinner Butte	SH	About a week later than normal
Purple Martin	Apr 6	FRR - Royal Ave	TJ	A few days earlier than normal
Bank Swallow	Apr 6	FRR - Fisher Butte	NS	Rarely found during the spring
Bank Swallow	May 12	Florence	DF	Rarely found during the spring

## WRENS TO BUNTINGS

Rock Wren	May 8	Highway 99 area	JS	A spring "over-shoot" from central OR
House Wren	Apr 10	Alvadore	BB	About a week earlier than normal
Sedge Wren	May 5	Waite Ranch	DF	Seen again after more than a month unseen
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Apr 30	Mt Pisgah	SH	They have nested the last few years
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	May 7	Skinner Butte	JLi	Rare away from Mt Pisgah
Swainson's Thrush	May 2	Creswell	NS	Right on time
Lapland Longspur	May 4	Sea Rose Beach	SH,et al.	Rarely found in the spring
Clay-colored Sparrow (singing)	Apr 25	Florence	DF	A rare record - over wintered?
Lark Sparrow	May 16	Eugene	NC	Rare in Lane Co, but normal time
Grasshopper Sparrow	May 11	FRR	AS,EG	A couple days later than normal
White-throated Sparrow (5)	Apr 27	Skinner Butte	SG,CK	A large number away from feeders
Harris's Sparrow (photos)	May 11/12	Florence	BO,JLa	A very late sighting
Yellow-breasted Chat	May 4	Walterville reservoir	VB	Right on time
Yellow-headed Blackbird	Apr 1	Oakridge	MLS	An unusual location for this species
Hooded Oriole (photo)	Apr 20	London Springs	LA	Rare in Lane Co - less than 10 records
Bullock's Oriole	Apr 22	FRR - Perkins	SH	A couple days earlier than normal
Nashville Warbler	Apr 14	Skinner Butte	VB,MO	Right on time
MacGillivray's Warbler	Apr 17	FRR - Perkins	RH	A few days earlier than normal
Yellow Warbler	Apr 23	FRR - Royal	NS	A few days earlier than normal
Palm Warbler	Apr 26	West Lake	DF	An over-wintering bird
Black-throated Gray Warbler	Apr 13	Skinner Butte	VB	About a week later than normal
Hermit Warbler	Apr 22	Creswell area	NS	Right on time
Wilson's Warbler	Apr 14	Skinner Butte	VB,MO	A couple days later than normal
Western Tanager	Apr 3	River Road area	LMa	A very early record
Western Tanager	Apr 19	Skinner Butte	JS,et al.	A few days earlier than normal
Black-headed Grosbeak	Apr 20	Eugene	KL	A couple days earlier than normal
Lazuli Bunting	Apr 24	Skinner Butte	LG	A few days earlier than normal

AM Allison Mickel, AS Anne Sammis, BB Brian Brodenick, BC Barbara Combs, BG Brandon Green, BN Bruce Newhouse, BO Bonnie Olson, CK Cary Kerst, CT Cindy Tofflemoyer, DA Dennis Arendt, DF Daniel Farrar, DJ Dave Jones, EG Eric Gropp, EZ Elias Zuniga, GM Gerry Meenaghan, HL Hydrie Lown, JG Joshua Galpern, JLa Jaklyn Larsen, JLi Joshua Little, JR Jim Reed, JS John Sullivan, KL Kit Larsen, LA Laurie Anderson, LG Linda Gilbert, LMa Libbie Marshall, LW Lisa Wallace, MLS Mary Lee Sayre, MN Mark Nikas, MO Megan O'Neill, NC Nancy Clogston, NS Noah Strycker, NT Nikki Thomas, RF Rachael Frieze, RH Rebecca Hartman, RR Roger Robb, SG Steve Gordon, SH Sally Hill, SM Sylvia Maulding, TJ Tye Jeske, VB Vickie Buck. *Fide* references a sighting reported to the listed observer.

From Our President *cont. from page 1*

for some of the things that I enjoy most. A chance to hike and picnic at the mountains or on the coast would be a welcome change. Some of these outdoor experiences are so transient and special that if we do not seek them out, appreciate them during their short span of time, then we have to wait a full year for them to happen again. Who knows what can happen in a year's time? Life is short and time is precious.

## Audubon In the Schools: Year-end Summary Numbers

From the 2018 fall term through the 2019 spring term, our AITS team gave 44 presentations in 19 schools to a total of 1075 students. Volunteers donated 49 hours of their time to this satisfying and exciting effort. AITS core group of volunteer instructors were: Barb Pope, Kathy Wilson, Rose Britton, and Marty Merrill. Assistants involved were: Janet Barnes, Pam Sheridan, Larue Rodgers, Sue Markley, Laurie Costa, Jessica Lamotte, and Joe Britton.

Additionally, on May 22, Barb Pope, Rose Britton, and Marty Merrill taught a beginning birdwatching session at an Outdoor School to 35 students! An end of year review meeting was held on June 14<sup>th</sup>. We have high hopes we can continue the positive momentum into the next school year!

Each member of the AITS team deserves a **big thank you!**

## Program Meeting, Tuesday, May 28, 7:30 pm

Dennis Arendt, 541.221.3691, dennisarendt@gmail.com

### Fall Programs to Anticipate

Get ready. Mark your calendars for the autumn now. The Lane County Audubon Society will not have program meetings during the summer months. Regular LCAS programs will return in September, October and November on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

In September, **Tyler Hallman**, an ornithologist from Oregon State University, will tell us about the birds of the Willamette Valley. He has

been studying their historic range expansions and reductions. So, if you have ever wondered about birds new to your garden, you will have a chance to hear from a researcher and get your questions answered.

In October, **Joe Moll**, the executive director of the McKenzie River Trust, will be back with another amazing presentation. This time he will tell us about grizzly bears on the northern Japanese island of

Hokkaido. One is super large and the other super small, on the same island... mysterious??? Joe is an excellent speaker and this is one program you do not want to miss.

Coming back for an encore program in November will be that bird researcher, artist and actor, **Ram Papish**. Last year he took us to a remote volcanic Aleutian Island where “beach masters” (male walrus) and puffins live together. After Ram and his team of researchers left, the island exploded, leaving a crater where his camp had been. He has not decided where he will take us this year, but it will surely be a great adventure.

—Dennis Arendt

### Thank You, Booth Volunteers!

LCAS booth volunteers answered the call once again at the Mt. Pisgah Wildflower and Music Festival on May 19 and at the opening of an exhibit on Peregrine Falcons at the University of Oregon’s Museum of Natural and Cultural History (MNCH) on June 1 and 2.



Photo: Ron Renschler

*LCAS Booth Volunteer Connie Berglund at the Mt. Pisgah Wildflower Festival, May 19*

Volunteers at the Wildflower Festival included Connie Berglund, Hilary Dearborn, Ron Renschler, and Susanne Twilight-Alexander. Each year, the festival attracts hundreds of people who view specimens of more than 300 wildflower species that grace the landscape in Oregon throughout the year. Other attractions at the festival include a selection of native plants for purchase, local food vendors, and musical entertainment throughout the day.

The MNCH exhibit, entitled “Peregrine Falcon: From Endangered Species to Urban Bird,” is a touring exhibit from the Bell Museum of Natural History at the University of Minnesota. The exhibit runs through September 29, 2019. At its table on the weekend celebrating the opening of the exhibit, LCAS offered displays of bird nests and eggs, along with an assortment of bird-related handouts and other material. Dolly Marshall,



Photo: Kathy Wilson

*Museum opening of Peregrine exhibit*

Janie Thomas, Nancy Radius, Ron Renschler, Debbie Schlenoff, and Maeve Sowles staffed the table during the weekend.

The opening weekend of the Peregrine exhibit at MNCH also featured volunteers from LCAS’s Audubon in the Schools program. They offered a variety of hands-on, bird-related kids’ activities to the younger crowd attending the exhibit opening. Special thanks go to Rose Britton, Jessica Lamotte, and Kathy Wilson for their help in organizing and offering this LCAS educational outreach opportunity to museum-goers.

—Ron Renschler

# Lane County Audubon Society



*The Quail* is the newsletter of Lane County Audubon Society, a chartered chapter of National Audubon Society. Local members of National Audubon Society receive a free subscription to *The Quail* but are encouraged to voluntarily join Lane County Audubon Society.

### The Quail Subscriptions

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

### The Quail Upcoming Content Deadlines

September issue: August 3

October issue: September 1 (a bit early)

Submit material to Karen Irmscher at [quailkaren1@gmail.com](mailto:quailkaren1@gmail.com)

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## Lane County Audubon Society 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 fully cover the costs of 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 Audubon 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
- Website: [laneaudubon.org](http://laneaudubon.org)

### Lane County Audubon Society Yearly Membership

- 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 [laneaudubon.org/support/join](http://laneaudubon.org/support/join)

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Gift memberships  Lane Audubon's Living Legacy program

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I would prefer to receive the e-Quail newsletter by e-mail.

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

I would like to volunteer for Lane County Audubon activities.

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

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

## Community Calendar and Events

A service to Lane County Audubon Society members

7/6

### Cascades Raptor Center

Saturday, July 6, 11 am - 3 pm

*Family Nature Discovery Day: All About Owls*

Families are invited to see live owls, dissect owl pellets, and create pine cone owls! Cascades Raptor Center, 32275 Fox Hollow Road, Eugene \$2 activity fee plus general admission

FMI: [CascadesRaptorCenter.org](http://CascadesRaptorCenter.org) or 541.485.1320

7/13

### Grassroots Garden

Saturday, July 13, 10 am - 11 am

*Pollinator Walk*

Master Gardeners and others will lead participants through Grassroots Garden, where they see which plants native bees favor, and learn how to attract them to their gardens. Adults and children ages 6 and older are welcome. Free. Space is limited so please email Sara if you plan to attend. Grassroots Garden, 1465 Coburg Rd. Eugene.

FMI: Sara van Dyck, [svandyck301@gmail.com](mailto:svandyck301@gmail.com)

7/13

### Mt Pisgah Arboretum

Saturday, July 13, 11 am - 1 pm

*Butterflies and Dragonflies Walk*

Join nature guide Dave Hagen on this gentle meadow walk, where families can discover a diversity of butterflies and dragonflies. Nets and bug boxes are provided to offer a closer look. Co-sponsored by the North American Butterfly Association-Oregon Chapter. Meet at the Visitor Center. Don't forget your parking pass. \$8 per family, \$5 individual, members free.

FMI: [mtpisgaharboretum.org](http://mtpisgaharboretum.org) or 541.741.4110

7/14

Sunday, July 14, 8 am - 11 am

*Bird Walk*

Join Julia Siporin and Joni Dawning for their monthly bird walk intended for people with all levels of birding experience. They'll use vocalizations, habitat, and behavior clues to ID summer breeders and year-round residents. Please bring binoculars. Option to continue the walk until noon. Rain or shine. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center. Don't forget your parking pass. \$5, members free.

7/20

### Nearby Nature

Saturday, July 20, 1 pm - 3 pm

*Citizen Science Saturday: Butterflies & Beyond*

Join in citizen science investigations, including data collection, observations, photography, and more. The focus will be meadow insect life! Events open to all, but targeted to adults. Members free, non-members \$5.

Pre-register at [541.687.9699](http://541.687.9699) or [campscui.active.com/orgs/NearbyNature](http://campscui.active.com/orgs/NearbyNature)

7/27

### Mt Pisgah Arboretum

Saturday, July 27, 10 am - noon

*Medicinal Herbs Walk*

Join herbalist Sue Sierralupe on a short stroll along the Arboretum's river path, identifying local species, and discussing the medicinal properties of plants. Senior-friendly terrain, with no elevation gain and resting spots included. Rain or shine. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center. Don't forget your parking pass. \$5, members free.

FMI: [mtpisgaharboretum.org](http://mtpisgaharboretum.org) or 541.741.4110

8/3

Saturday, August 3, 10 am - noon

*Northwest Trees Walk*

Join Rich Kelly, retired forester with the Bureau of Land Management, for a guided walk on trees and forest ecology. Learn to identify 12 common trees (using foliage, cones/seeds, wood, and bark) and go on a hike at the Arboretum to observe and discuss important ecological relationships of trees growing in communities. Rain or shine. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center. Don't forget your parking pass. \$5, members free.

8/3

### Cascades Raptor Center

Saturday, August 3, 11 am - 3 pm

*Family Nature Discovery Day: Wildlife Play Hospital*

Gives kids the opportunity to be wildlife rehabilitators for the day! Rescue, rehabilitate, and release an injured stuffed animal. Cascades Raptor Center, 32275 Fox Hollow Road, Eugene. \$2 activity fee plus general admission.

FMI: [CascadesRaptorCenter.org](http://CascadesRaptorCenter.org) or 541.485.1320

8/11

### Mt Pisgah Arboretum

Sunday, August 11, 8 am - 11 am

*Bird Walk*

Join Julia Siporin and Joni Dawning for their monthly bird walk intended for people with all levels of birding experience. They'll use vocalizations, habitat, and behavior clues to ID summer breeders and year-round residents. Please bring binoculars. Option to continue the walk until noon for those who are interested. Rain or shine. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center. Don't forget your parking pass. \$5, members free.

FMI: [mtpisgaharboretum.org](http://mtpisgaharboretum.org) or 541.741.4110

8/11

### Nearby Nature

August 11, 10 am - noon

*Nature Quest: Bugs by the Billions*

Go on a creepy-crawly bug safari in meadows of Alton Baker Park! Use butterfly nets, magnifiers, bug barns, and more to catch and learn about all sorts of cool critters. Members free, non-members \$5.

FMI or pre-register: [campscui.active.com/orgs/NearbyNature](http://campscui.active.com/orgs/NearbyNature) or 541.687.9699

8/17

August 17, 1 pm - 3 pm

*Citizen Science Saturday: Garden Pollinators, Pests & Pathogens*

Join us for citizen science investigations, including data collection, observations, photography, and more. This month we will focus on garden pollinators, pests and pathogens! Events open to all, but targeted to adults. Members free, non-members \$5.

FMI or pre-register: [541.687.9699](http://541.687.9699) or [campscui.active.com/orgs/NearbyNature](http://campscui.active.com/orgs/NearbyNature).



Photo: Debbie Schlenker

*LCAS Program meetings often come with homemade cupcakes*



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## LCAS Bird Walks & Events

Rebecca Waterman, 541.653.3354, [fieldtrips@laneaudubon.org](mailto:fieldtrips@laneaudubon.org)

### Third Saturday Bird Walks

#### Saturday, July 20

Summer walks are not always walks! In July, Dick Lamster and Maeve Sowles will lead a bird-watching-by-canoe/kayak trip to Fern Ridge Lake. You will need to furnish your own canoe or kayak and lifejackets (required). Each craft ten feet or longer will need an Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Permit. See [boatoregon.com](http://boatoregon.com) for details. Bring binoculars, if you have them. To reserve a spot on this trip and/or to get more information, call Dick at 541.343.8664. If you do not have a canoe or kayak, call anyway because other participants may have extra space in their craft. Last year we identified 44 species of birds and have seen more than 50 species in some years. This is a unique way to get closer to birds for easier identification.

#### Saturday, August 17, 8:30 am

In another departure from the norm, we will head to the coast. Daniel Farrar will lead a walk in Florence from 8:30 to 11:30. People who want to stay longer can. We plan to meet up with him on the road to the South Jetty, where you pull in to buy parking passes. Carpooling to get there is preferred. For those who wish to carpool, we will leave at 7 a.m. from the South Eugene High School parking lot, corner of 19th and Patterson.

*All ages and skill levels are welcome. Bring binoculars, if you have them. 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. The Florence-area meet-up site is subject to change, depending on weather and rare bird sightings. Up-to date information will be posted on the LCAS Facebook page: [facebook.com/pages/Lane-County-Audubon-Society/330177413824](https://facebook.com/pages/Lane-County-Audubon-Society/330177413824), and on the website: [laneaudubon.org](http://laneaudubon.org). Or email Rebecca: [fieldtrips@laneaudubon.org](mailto:fieldtrips@laneaudubon.org).*

### Swift Event recap and thanks to volunteers...

Lane Audubon held the annual spring Vaux's Swift event on April 19th at the UO's Agate Hall chimney. More than 100 people attended and watched about 540 swifts enter the chimney. Unfortunately it started raining about the time we all showed up! We cannot predict the weather when we make plans to watch birds, but at least the people and the birds showed up.

Thanks to our volunteers who helped answer questions and showed their enthusiasm for this fun event: Ron Renchler, Debbie Schlenoff, Rachael Friese, Hilary Dearborn, Dick Lamster, and Maeve Sowles

**Thanks too, to Dick Lamster** for his presentation, "Thinking Inside the Box: Cavity Nesting Birds," at the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council's Science Pub event on April 23rd in Cottage Grove. Ninety people were there! He provided trivia questions to get the crowd's attention, passed out LCAS handouts, and answered many questions after the talk. Thanks to Dick for his outreach efforts on behalf of Lane Audubon!