



The

May-June 2016

# Quail

News from Lane County Audubon Society

## From Our President



## Celebrate Nature This Spring

Audubon Phone – 541.485.BIRD

Maeve Sowles

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Contact Tim Godsil at  
tgodsil@gmail.com

**A**s late spring and summer arrive, Celebrate Nature is on my calendar. This time of year I want to hang out in my garden and keep ears and eyes open for birds, butterflies, and any other life forms that present themselves. I do, of course, work in the garden and the exercise is good for me, plus we benefit from the fruits and veggies of our labor. I do hit "pause" whenever something new makes itself known to me, so I take breaks from the labor at regular intervals. Obviously the bird life is one of my great joys, but other animals are also unique and amazing in their own ways.



Our garden block wall and compost pile is home to Western Fence Lizards. They sun themselves and eat insects with vigor. They don't seem bothered by my activities and we watch each other. We also see Western Skinks, the small lizards with the blue tails, but they are less tolerant when I approach them. One of our raised garden boxes hosts a Northern Alligator Lizard that lingers in a morning sunny spot nearby. We have seen these lizards in other parts of the property, and they are avid bug eaters as well. We actually keep small rock piles near fence posts to provide habitat for the reptiles. They feed on many insects and invertebrates, and we are happy to have them in our small ecosystem.

One May day a few years ago, we came across a Western Pond Turtle traversing our hillside on a mowed path. We watched her make her way down the hill toward a small pool along Fox Hollow Creek. She had come from an adjoining property

*(continued on page 5)*



**“Hope is the thing with feathers, that perches in the soul.”**  
—Emily Dickinson

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Springtime brings birdsong and baby birds and feelings of exuberance. There was uplifting news this month out of Midway Island when it was announced that Wisdom, the world’s oldest Laysan Albatross on record and a symbol of hope for many people, has hatched yet another egg—likely her 40th baby! Her new chick is named Kukini, after the Hawaiian word for messenger. She and her mate have been observed this season preening one another, incubating the egg, and feeding the newly hatched chick. Albatross pairs form long-term monogamous bonds and work together to support and care for their offspring.

Wisdom was first banded by biologist Chandler Robbins in 1956; she was a mature adult bird at that time, meaning that she was at least 5 years old. The same man sighted the bird 46 years later and after examining her band, discovered that it was Wisdom still returning to the breeding grounds. Her return this year indicates that she has celebrated her 65th birthday (at least). At the age of 97, Chandler Robbins still returns to the island to see the birds he loves. The hatching grounds are in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, which also supports dolphins, sea turtles, and other seabirds. For pictures (albatross chicks are too cute for description) and more information, see [www.facebook.com/Papahanaumokuakea](http://www.facebook.com/Papahanaumokuakea).

Some of the major threats that caused a severe decline in albatross populations a century ago have been minimized. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act protected the birds from colossal slaughter, and the establishment of a protected zone provided restored and conserved breeding habitat. Since albatrosses spend the nonbreeding season airborne, Wisdom has likely flown over 3 million miles in her lifetime. That’s the equivalent of six trips to the moon and back—but her flight plan keeps her soaring over the ocean. Unfortunately, albatrosses and other animals that make a living in and over the ocean are still under threat. Bycatch from longline fishing and illegal driftnet operations kill thousands of birds annually. Garbage, especially plastic, kills countless seabirds, mammals, turtles, and other animals every year. Fisheries are being depleted

at alarming rates, affecting in turn all members of the food web.

These threats can be addressed. For example, seabird avoidance measures taken by longline fishing operations do reduce losses. People are switching from one-time-use water bottles to reusable ones. The United Nations has task forces working on marine biodiversity conservation that are addressing release of sewage, control of plastic waste, restoration of coastal ecosystems, and incentive-based fisheries management. And last year, a report in the journal *Science* noted that although marine species were declining in abundance, recovery for most was still within reach (McCauley et al., 2015).



Less clear is how to deal with what may be the biggest threat of all to marine life—namely, climate change. Ocean warming, ocean acidification, and ocean deoxygenation are stressors with profound impacts. Among the repercussions: coral bleaching; difficulty building shells for corals and mollusks such as oysters and mussels; diminishing sensory abilities and behavioral responses (for example, fish cease responding to chemical alarm signals that would promote safety in the presence of predators); reduced plankton abundance affecting the entire food web; reduced availability of fish for seabirds due to changes in upwellings and nutrient distribution in the ocean; and, ironically, a reduction in the ability of the ocean to act as a carbon sink, which helps mitigate the effects of climate change.

This March, the United States and Canada released a joint statement on efforts to address climate change ([www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/03/10/us-canada-joint-statement-climate-energy-and-arctic-leadership](http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/03/10/us-canada-joint-statement-climate-energy-and-arctic-leadership)). Ocean science communities in the United States and Europe called

*(continued on page 7)*

## Field Notes: March 2016



- **Black-necked Stilt**
- **Western Sandpiper**

- **Palm Warbler**
- **Red Crossbill**

*Tom and Allison Mickel*

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**M**arch was a rather wet month, but there was some nice warm weather at the end! More of the early migrants were starting to show up, and some of the wintering species were leaving, as is normal for this time of year.

Abbreviations: Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), Oregon Birds Record Committee (OBRC), North Jetty of the Siuslaw River (NJSR)

### WATERBIRDS

“goose” flocks	March 6	Eugene	DH	A number of large high-flying flocks headed nw - could've been Greater White-fronted, but it seems early
<b>Greater White-fronted Geese</b>	March 14	Eugene	SMc	High flock headed NW
<b>Tundra Swan</b> (6)	March 5	FRR	RT	The last report for the winter season
<b>Cinnamon Teal</b>	March 31	FRR	SH	Quite late arrival!
<b>Common Goldeneye</b>	March 20	FRR	JS	Not common at this location
<b>Red-necked Grebe</b>	March 31	Old town Florence	LG	Nice breeding plumage

### RAPTORS to TERNS

<b>Rough-legged Hawk</b> (2)	March 20	FRR	JS	Good numbers still around
<b>Northern Goshawk</b> (2)	March 31	Gold Lake	RN	They're residents in the Cascades
<b>Prairie Falcon</b>	March 6	Camas Swale	RR	They winter in small numbers
<b>Sandhill Crane</b> (5)	March 23	Mt. Pisgah	BU	Later than normal
<b>Sandhill Crane</b> (4)	March 31	FRR	SMa	Later than normal
<b>Black-necked Stilt</b>	March 20	FRR	JS	Almost a month earlier than normal
<b>Western Sandpiper</b>	March 18	FRR	VB	Rare wintering species
<b>Caspian Tern</b>	March 31	NJSR	LG,DP	Normal arrival time

### HUMMINGBIRDS to FINCHES

<b>Calliope Hummingbird</b>	March 31	SW of Eugene	MS	First report for the spring & earlier than normal
<b>Say's Phoebe</b>	March 18	Upper Camp Creek Rd	BC	A good year for this species
<b>Cliff Swallow</b>	March 23	FRR	SH	Right on time!
<b>Barn Swallow</b>	March 5	FRR	RT	About three weeks earlier than normal
<b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b> (15)	March 19	Skinner Butte	SH	Good numbers started showing up - right on time
<b>Common Yellowthroat</b>	March 27	FRR	LG	Right on time!
<b>Palm Warbler</b>	March 11	Delta Ponds	DSu	Rare in the county this time of year
<b>Brown-headed Cowbird</b>	March 20	Stewart Rd	BC	A couple weeks earlier than normal
<b>Red Crossbill</b> (12+)	March 30	Florence area	JD	At his feeder

BC Barbara Combs, BU Becky Uhler, DH Dan Heyerly, DP Diane Pettey, DSu Don Sutherland, JD Joe Decker, JS John Sullivan, LG Linda Gilbert, MS Maeve Sowles, RN Russ Namitz, RR Roger Robb, RT Ryan Treves, SH Sally Hill, SMa Sylvia Maulding, SMc Steve McDonald, VB Vickie Buck



**Like us on Facebook!** [www.facebook.com/pages/Lane-County-AudubonSociety/330177413824?ref=hl](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Lane-County-AudubonSociety/330177413824?ref=hl)

## Gabon: Africa's Eden with Bob Fleming and Jim Regali

Judy Brown

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**G**ABON, straddling the equator on the western coast of Africa, is part of the Congo Rainforest Biome. With some 80% of the nation covered in forest, Gabon was thrust into an enviable position in African conservation when in 2002 president Bongo inaugurated 13 national parks.

In July 2015 Jim Regali and Bob Fleming journeyed with eight others to Lope and Loango National Parks in search of West African specialties including Forest Elephants, Red River Hogs, Black-headed Bee-eaters, Vegetarian Vultures (Palm Nut Vultures), and Slender-billed Crocodiles.

With so much of the country in forest, the variety of habitats in Gabon is limited, but there is the Atlantic seaboard as well as rolling grasslands towards the eastern interior (Lope National Park is a good example) and, in the extreme south, the Bateke Plateau savanna rises near the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The bird list for Gabon numbers about 450 species and consists mostly of residents. Other species are those that move around within Africa as well as winter visitors, escapees from the Palearctic cold. Some species are rare and very localized (Rosy Bee-eaters and the African River Martins) while others are wide ranging (Pied Kingfishers also occurs in Asia). Interestingly, certain birds considered rather rare in other parts of Africa, including the Palm Nut Vulture and the Giant Kingfisher, were surprisingly common along riverbanks in Loango National Park.

The mammal list for Gabon is extensive and the Loango National Park area has been described as Africa's Eden. It certainly is Eden for Forest Elephants, a species with rather straight, yellowish tusks and with only four toes per foot (Savanna Elephants boast five). Portions of the park are seasonally flooded, thus supporting splendid swaths of papyrus and grasses on which the elephants feed.

On the other hand, the bushmeat trade still occurs in much of the country—mostly affecting animals outside the parks—and while hunting is gradually diminishing, large mammals (especially monkeys and apes) are so shy as to rarely afford a glimpse. However, in the two parks that Jim and Bob visited, the Forest Elephants and Red River Hogs were not unduly alarmed by the human presence. This was a good sign.

Over the past decades, Bob and Jim have visited various parts of Africa, and on May 24 they'll present a natural history overview of one of Africa's most amazing countries.

Reminder—there's no program meeting in June. Happy birding!

**May Program Meeting  
Gabon: African's Eden  
with Bob Fleming and Jim Regali**



Slender-snouted Crocodile, a species found only in the Congo Rainforest Biome of Central and West Africa.

**Tuesday, May 24, 7:30 p.m.  
Eugene Garden Club  
1645 High St., Eugene**

# LCAS Welcomes New Audubon Adventures Coordinator

We are delighted to welcome Rachael Friese as Audubon Adventures Coordinator. Rachael says, “I’m looking forward to promoting environmental education by connecting teachers with the Audubon Adventures curriculum. My own daughters love the printed publications that include science content about birds and wildlife and their habitats, as well as fun activities. Audubon Adventures is a great way to get kids interested in nature and wildlife.”

“Thank you to Joyce Trawle for her time as Audubon Adventures Coordinator and for giving me this opportunity!

I would also like to thank all of our generous sponsors for helping us to provide these materials to our local teachers.”

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](http://www.laneaudubon.org/education/audubon-adventures).

For more information, contact Rachael Friese at [audadventures@gmail.com](mailto:audadventures@gmail.com).

## 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

## From our President (continued from page 1)

that has a small watercourse and seemed to know exactly where she wanted to end up. We assumed she had made the trip before—an annual trek to her summer pool.

Last month, we found a Pacific Giant Salamander near this same creek. It was an impressive nine inches long, and it was out in the open, which we thought unusual. We soon realized it was dying, although we don’t know why. We hope it had been able to reproduce abundantly during its life. We have often seen the smaller Rough Skinned Newts in the early spring too.

We’ve found three species of snake at our place: Rubber Boa (which feeds on lizards), Garter (eats slugs), and Gopher Snakes are around. Any summer day we walk the property we find Garter Snakes, and my husband is careful to avoid them when he mows. Good thing we are retired now, as our work efficiency drops with so many animals to watch! And finally, bird sightings—it is amazing how many times I have seen a Red-tailed Hawk carrying a dangling snake up to feed the nestlings on a summer afternoon. This is, of course, all part of the natural balance of things. We are happy to be able to enjoy them all and celebrate nature at this beautiful time of year!



# Screening Vent Pipes Saves Wildlife

Cheron Ferland, Wildlife Biologist, US Forest Service



It was several years ago that I first heard about a particular wildlife conflict—one which I assumed occurred infrequently. I saw a photo of a Saw-whet Owl standing in the bottom of a recreation toilet—yep, down in the nasty slurry. By recreation toilet, I mean the ones that you find in national forest and national park trailheads

and campgrounds. Somehow that owl was rescued from the unsavory environment. I have retrieved many distressed raptors in my day, but thankfully have never had to execute that type of retrieval. At the time, my impression of the situation was that it was probably very unusual and unlikely. Then I heard about a Barn Owl showing up in another recreation toilet, and a duck in another. And then I read an article called Bird Death Pipes by California Audubon that documented the deaths of 200 birds that were found in one 6” wide x 10’ tall pipe! LCAS President Maeve Sowles highlighted this very issue in her From Our President column in the April 2012 issue of The Quail.

So as I thought about it more, I realized that wildlife—not just birds, but also reptiles, amphibians, and small mammals—view hollow pipes as potential nesting sites or sources of refuge. They are often curious or seeking shelter or nest sites, and once they enter an open pipe, it is often impossible for them to get out. This phenomenon has now been documented as occurring in all sorts of open pipes, from small mining claim markers to larger pipes like those on recreation toilets. The US Fish and Wildlife Service has created an informational pamphlet and recommends either capping, filling, or removing pipes on the landscape (see [www.fws.gov/cno/conservation/MigratoryBirds/DeathByPipes-final.pdf](http://www.fws.gov/cno/conservation/MigratoryBirds/DeathByPipes-final.pdf)).

The US Forest Service has made screening recreation toilet vent pipes a Best Management Practice (BMP). BMPs are

essentially mitigation measures to protect resources. The Willamette National Forest has begun a campaign to screen all of our toilet vent pipes. We’ve also had help from partners like LCAS and the Greater Oakridge Area Trails Stewards (GOATS). LCAS artist Bryan Ribelin designed a wonderful poster that we will install in our recreation toilets to increase awareness of this issue. To date, we have screened 30 pipes. The Willamette National Forest has an estimated 200 recreation toilets, and we hope to have 100% screening within the next few years.

## Protecting Wildlife



Willamette National Forest

### Screening Toilet Vent-Pipes

Animals, particularly birds, are naturally curious and toilet vent-pipes are an attractant as potential nest sites or areas of refuge. Once inside they may become trapped and die. To safeguard wildlife from this potentially life-threatening hazard, the Forest Service is partnering with local organizations to screen off these pipes.



Participating Partners:



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## Conservation Column *(continued from page 2)*

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on the United Nations and research funders to incorporate the importance of the ocean into research and planning strategy ([www.marineboard.eu/ocean-climate-nexus/sites/marineboard.eu.ocean-climate-nexus/files/public/The%20Ocean-Climate%20Nexus\\_Consensus%20Statement.pdf](http://www.marineboard.eu/ocean-climate-nexus/sites/marineboard.eu.ocean-climate-nexus/files/public/The%20Ocean-Climate%20Nexus_Consensus%20Statement.pdf)). The Global Ocean Forum, an international nonprofit that has organized leaders from 110 countries to promote a healthy-ocean global agenda, confers in May 2016. A high-level United Nations conference addressing the oceans is in the works. In this season of renewal, perhaps we can hope that policy makers will have the wisdom to enact meaningful conservation measures.

Reference: McCauley, D. J., Pinsky, M. L., Palumbi, S. R., Estes, J. A., Joyce, F. H., & Warner, R. R. (2015). Marine defaunation: Animal loss in the global ocean. *Science* 347:6219.

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## Volunteer Opportunity Available: *The Quail Editor*

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Lane Audubon is looking for someone special to gather and edit content for *The Quail* newsletter. There are nine issues per year. Editor responsibilities include setting submission deadlines and communicating with contributors; collecting, organizing, editing, and proofreading submissions; selecting photos for print; and communicating with the layout person and printer.

This is an exciting opportunity to take responsibility for a newsletter that reaches nearly 1,500 members across Lane County! For more information, call Maeve at 541.343.864 or email [president@laneaudubon.org](mailto:president@laneaudubon.org).

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## Lane County Audubon Society Board Election Notice

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Lane County Audubon Society Board elections will be held at the May 24 Program Meeting. The following candidates are running for the Board: Jim Maloney, Ron Renchler, Debbie Schlenoff, Maeve Sowles, Caryn Stoess, and Herb Wisner.

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## Volunteers for Restoration Monitoring Wanted

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ODFW and the City of Eugene are seeking volunteers to assist with breeding-bird surveys and grassland-bird monitoring on restoration projects south of Fern Ridge Reservoir, specifically along Nielson and Cantrell Roads. Ideal volunteers should have significant bird identification experience, both by sight and call, with grassland birds, waterfowl, and other associated species found in the Willamette Valley. We also want general observations by birders to provide usage information about the sites.

Links to information and maps of the monitoring sites are on the LCAS website: [www.laneaudubon.org/node/556](http://www.laneaudubon.org/node/556).

Surveys will begin in April and continue through June. If you're interested, please contact Chris Vogel at 541.935.2591 or [christopher.m.vogel@state.or.us](mailto:christopher.m.vogel@state.or.us). Call soon to get on the schedule!

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## Wishes from Herb

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To all the LCAS members who wished me a happy birthday at the March meeting and especially to Maeve for her kind (and, I think, a little exaggerated) words, I would wish you all equally long lives and enjoyment of the great outdoors. I wasn't responsible for the cake, but relished eating it.  
—Herb Wisner



The Skinner Butte resident Bald Eagles are raising chicks again this year! Thanks to Caryn Kerst for the photo.

## 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](http://www.laneaudubon.org)

### Deadlines:

July-Aug. issue: June 4  
September Issue: Aug. 6

Submit material to  
Ron Renchler  
[christyandron@qwest.net](mailto:christyandron@qwest.net)



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

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Layout by Kerry Lutz



### 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](http://www.laneaudubon.org/support/join)

- Current National Audubon member  Don't know

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- 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

### Lane Audubon Officers & Board Members

President.....Maeve Sowles..... 541.343.8664 ..... [president@laneaudubon.org](mailto:president@laneaudubon.org)  
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### Lane Audubon Committee Chairs

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## Community Calendar, Events, and Opportunities

*A service to Lane Audubon members*

### **The Museum of Natural & Cultural History at the University of Oregon**

Saturday, May 21,

1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

*Exhibit opening: The Owl and the Woodpecker—Photographs by Paul Bannick*

1680 E. 15th Avenue, Eugene

Bring your family to the opening celebration as the museum, Cascades Raptor Center, and Lane County Audubon Society present an afternoon of bird-inspired fun!

Explore the new exhibit.

Meet a special feathered guest.

Learn about local birds and birding.

Enjoy crafts, snacks, and more.

Cost: \$5 general admission; free for MNCH members

FMI: <http://tinyurl.com/gn7rsj5>

### **Willamette Resources and Educational Network (WREN)**

Tuesday, May 10, 9:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

751 S. Danebo Avenue

*Special Soil Program: Eight Thousand Years of Dirt: From Mt. Mazama to Our Wetlands*

BLM geomorphologist Karn Baitis will present her recent research that explains Mt. Mazama's footprints on wetlands and solves a geologic mystery. Participants should bring a picnic lunch, water, and wear sturdy shoes. This event is free to the public, but space is limited, so contact WREN to reserve a place (541.338.7047 or [info@wewetlands.org](mailto:info@wewetlands.org)).

Ask WREN about their Wetland Wanders and Family Exploration Days!

### **Global Big Day**

Saturday, May 14

How many birds can eBirders find in a day? There are many ways to get involved with Global Big Day. At its simplest, you can just go birding and submit an

eBird list from that day. Learn more at <http://ebird.org/content/ebird/news/savethedategbd2016/> and <http://ebird.org/globalbigday/>.

### **Mount Pisgah Arboretum**

Sunday, May 15, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

*Wildflower Festival*

This popular annual festival features hundreds of local wildflower species on display, live music, nature walks, a plant sale, food booths, and local arts and craft vendors.

Suggested donation \$8, members free

FMI: 541.747.1504,

[www.MountPisgahArboretum.org](http://www.MountPisgahArboretum.org)

### **Eugene Birders Night**

Monday, May 16, 7:00 p.m.

Monday, June 20, 7:00 p.m.

The May meeting features Anne and Dan Heyerly, who will present Birds and More of Madagascar. In June, John and Laura Sullivan present Birds and More of Tanzania.

Everyone is welcome to attend these monthly meetings. 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 immediately north of the house.

Free. FMI: [ellencantor@gmail.com](mailto:ellencantor@gmail.com)

### **Mountain Bird Festival**

May 20–22, Ashland, OR

This event is hosted by the Klamath Bird Observatory in partnership with several Ashland-area organizations. Participate in guided bird walks, attend keynote presentations, a fine-art auction, cocktail parties, and enjoy live music, local foods, and a feel-good community atmosphere. Registration required.

FMI: [www.klamathbird.org](http://www.klamathbird.org),

541.201.0866

### **Mt. Pisgah Arboretum**

Sunday, May 22, 8:00 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

*Late Spring 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 spring and year-round residents. Option to continue the walk until noon for those who are interested. Please bring binoculars. Rain or shine.

\$5, members free. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center.

FMI: 541.747.1504,

see [www.MountPisgahArboretum.org](http://www.MountPisgahArboretum.org) for more information about this and other activities

### **Cascades Raptor Center**

Last Sunday of each month, May through September, 12:00 p.m.–4:00 pm.

Family Nature Discovery Days

Each Discovery Day features a different theme and activities for families with children ages 4–11.

May 29: Birds in Springtime. Discover the wonder of birds in springtime and participate in an afternoon of nest building and egg decorating.

June 26: The Art of Nature. Create natural art using objects from nature—shells, rocks, acorns, leaves, and more!

Regular admission fees plus \$2 activity fee if participating

FMI: 541.485.1320, [www.eraptors.org](http://www.eraptors.org),

[www.CascadesRaptorCenter.org](http://www.CascadesRaptorCenter.org)

### **Wings Across the Big Sky Festival**

June 3–5, Missoula, MT

Choose from more than 20 field trips to a variety of habitats, including wetlands, uplands, mountain forests, sagebrush shrub-steppe, and large rivers. Postfestival day-long field trips for serious birders are also available.

FMI: <http://mtaudubon.org/birding/montana-bird-festival/>

**May Program Meeting**  
**Gabon: African's Eden**  
**with Bob Fleming**  
**and Jim Regali**




**Tuesday, May 24, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Eugene Garden Club**  
**1645 High St., Eugene**



**NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
**LANE COUNTY CHAPTER**

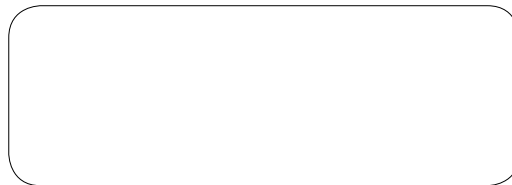
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## Bird Walks and Events

*Jim Maloney*

541.968.9249

*jimgmal@comcast.com*

**Saturday,**  
**May 21**

### **THIRD SATURDAY BIRD WALK**

Skinner Butte, led by Jim Regali

Expert birder Jim Regali will lead the monthly bird walk on Saturday, May 21, to Skinner Butte. 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. You may also meet the group in the parking lot at the top of Skinner Butte at about 8:20 a.m. Parking space is limited at Skinner Butte.

All ages and skill levels are welcome. 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](mailto:jimgmal@comcast.net).

**Saturday,**  
**June 18**

### **THIRD SATURDAY BIRD WALK**

Site to be determined, led by Dave Bontrager

The Third Saturday Bird Walk on June 18 will be determined by interesting bird sightings posted to OBOL and other pertinent information available before the day of the walk. It's sure to be a good walk, since Dave Bontrager is leading. We will post the location on the LCAS Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/pages/Lane-County-Audubon-Society/330177413824?ref=hl](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Lane-County-Audubon-Society/330177413824?ref=hl)) and on the website ([www.laneaudubon.org](http://www.laneaudubon.org)).