



The

May/June 2012

# Quail

News from Lane County Audubon Society



Audubon

Audubon Phone – 541.485.BIRD

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## In Memoriam: Alice Dugan

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How do we find these special people who are so willing to give their time to the Lane County Audubon Society? When I interviewed Alice Dugan shortly before her death on March 15, 2012, she didn't remember the exact number of years she answered the Lane Audubon BIRD phone (541-485-BIRD) but estimated it was close to twenty. She passed the job along when she moved to her retirement apartment.

When I asked how she came to do this volunteer job she said she was home, she had the time, and she had the knowledge. She also noted that the endeavor had provided her with many hours of researching new information to be able to answer everyone's inquiries, and the effort had certainly enlarged her collection of bird books. She further commented, "I think my curiosity about things drove my willingness to contribute in this way too." As well as looking at birds, she said she'd always been fascinated by bird behavior. When I asked her about favorite birding trips she said she liked *any* area with lots of birds and despite herself, she couldn't stop thinking the next new sighting might add a new bird to her list.

Alice Dugan grew up on the banks of the Missouri River and credited her interest in birds to her father, who encouraged his children to learn the birds they saw on the waters, phone wires, and the area where her family lived. When she moved to the west coast she puzzled for a bit about the lower number of species here until she realized she had been lucky enough to grow up on the Central and Mississippi



*Alice Dugan stands near a friend's carving of her favorite bird, the Spotted Towhee.*

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## In Memoriam: Alice Dugan *(continued from page 1)*

Flyway, which flew many bird species past her doorway back in Nebraska.

Alice attended both the University of Colorado and the University of Nebraska. When she graduated she found there were no job openings in the area, so she and her brother loaded up a pickup truck with furniture and headed west. She found a job teaching music at Springfield Junior High School where she taught for many years. She was active all of her life loving and sharing her music knowledge.

She never took an ornithology class, but she felt that her constant search for new information was what made her so well suited to answering people's questions. Alice used to write articles about birds for the *Veneta West-Lane News* and the *Junction City Times*. For the past year she wrote a regular short column on birds for the *Churchill Chatter*, a newsletter for the Churchill Estate Retirement Community, where she had become their "bird lady," with residents coming to her with questions. She was one of those sharing types of people.

Alice believed the BIRD line and the knowledge she shared got a lot of people interested in birds and in the Audubon Society. Her never-failing kindness and enthusiastic manner surely helped!

During the interview she had her phone log booklet, and we went through some of the questions she received over the years. She got calls from children as well as adults. The most

common calls involved people describing birds they had seen, needing help to identify them.

Other frequent topics on the BIRD line included birdhouses, issues about birds and threats from other animals, and what to do after finding dead birds.

Alice loved the time of year when the Vaux's Swifts returned because she was able to listen to the joy people felt when they called to say they had viewed this gorgeous phenomenon. Alice was working the BIRD phone when the Agate chimney stood a chance of being demolished, a rather hectic time, I'm sure.

Someone once asked where to get a stuffed woodpecker. One of her favorites questions was why there were so many female gulls compared to males. Answer: "The Western Gull takes five years to get its breeding colors, so those brownish ones are young birds." What fun!

The list of questions and concerns went on and on: "I have a dead goldfish," "There's a white bird in my garage," "I have six books to give away," "I've been seeing a partial albino bird," "Why are there mobs of robins but none nesting?," ("Migration time,") and "Birds are pooping on my car" ("Move the car").

As I watched her scan the notes I felt very happy we had had this caring person as a resource for Lane Audubon. It is clear to me it gave her pleasure and she served all who contacted her very well.

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## From Our President

Maeve Sowles

541.343.8664

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

Lane Audubon has received over \$600 in donations as a memorial to Alice Dugan. Alice's commitment to education through her many community activities will be honored as these funds will be used for educational programs.

Alice lived her life in a way that was an example to others, and she left her mark on many people. We thank both Alice and those who donated in her name; she inspired generosity and action in others.

Some of the comments accompanying donation checks tell this story:

*"It was my privilege to know Alice Dugan. She will be missed by many! She will be close in my thoughts now, as I watch birds in flight. How better to welcome the spring season?!"*

*"I am one of the many who will miss her!"*

*"An outstanding volunteer to Audubon and a dear friend."*

*"A vital part of Lane County Audubon and will be greatly missed."*



## The Goose Project That Didn't Lay the Golden Egg

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**T**he Goose Project, a logging project encompassing nearly 2,500 acres of national forest land in the McKenzie River Ranger District of the Willamette National Forest, merits closer examination. The area is rich in wildlife and recreational opportunities. Commercial thinning would include mature trees, trees in riparian zones near waterways, and trees in spotted owl habitat and would create “gaps” (small clear-cuts that leave only a few trees standing). The plan calls for the generation of 37.9 million board feet of timber, 451 acres of helicopter logging, 640 acres of skyline logging, and 1,009 acres of ground-based logging, as well as 8 miles of temporary road and 1 mile of new road construction. The Decision Notice was signed in September 2010. Two environmental organizations — Oregon Wild and Cascadia Wildlands — filed an appeal of the decision while supporting a Forest Service proposed alternative treatment that still allowed timber harvest but had less environmental impact. The appeal was denied and the Forest Service is proceeding with the plan.

Recent news coverage has highlighted the dismay of area residents over the lack of notice on the project among other concerns. We applaud the Forest Service for subsequently reaching out to community members and seeking ways to improve communication. However, we believe that the Forest Service should go further by requiring an independent environmental impact statement (EIS) of the Goose Project. An environmental assessment was performed by the Department of Agriculture prior to the decision. Some of the issues exposed in that internal review, as well as information from other sources, suggest that a more thorough EIS be conducted. Among the concerns that merit further study:

- Loss of habitat and ecological function over a wide-ranging area
- Risk of soil erosion, a worry to many residents who already deal with flooding due to reduced water retention

- Increase in road mileage that further fragments habitat and increases the introduction of invasive species. Some of these temporary roads would traverse intermittent streams, further reducing water quality.

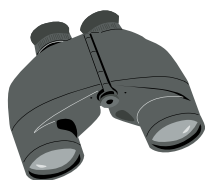
- A decrease in snags, considered critical for many species, and a decrease in large downed wood in streams, especially important for the formation of pools necessary for salmon spawning
- Lack of carbon release analysis or any other kind of investigation pertaining to the impact of the timber harvest on carbon emissions, carbon sequestration, and climate change



The project also impacts the federally listed Northern Spotted Owl. The agency's own internal review returned a determination of “*may affect, and is likely to adversely affect*” the endangered owl. Under the plan, 441 acres of spotted owl habitat are downgraded and 43 acres of spotted owl habitat are removed. And treatment occurs in almost 1,000 acres of suitable spotted owl habitat. The project will incidentally take (harm) three historic Northern Spotted Owl sites. The Northern Spotted Owl continues to decline and habitat suitable for nesting, roosting, feeding, and dispersal continue to be removed. Additionally, there is no analysis in the agency's assessment that addresses the effect of the habitat degradation on competition with the Barred Owl, which poses an additional threat to the recovery of the listed species. A 2004 status review panel concluded that “assessments of habitat within analysis core and home range circles that do

*(continued on page 5)*

## Field Notes: March 2012



- Turkey Vulture
- Rufous Hummingbird

- Tree Swallow
- Red Phalarope

Tom and Allison Mickel

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I'm not sure what you can say about March's weather – it was the most bizarre weather we've seen in almost sixty years of living here! We had snow twice during the month with 6-8" paralyzing Eugene on the spring equinox. The month also produced lots of rain with high winds mostly during the first part of the month. And there were even a few sunny, spring-like days sprinkled in to raise your hopes before the next blast of winter weather arrived. As for the birds, a few of the hardy migrants arrived as is normal, reminding us that spring migration is just around the corner.

**Abbreviations:** Checkermallow Prairie – part of the West Eugene Wetlands (Checkermallow), Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River (SJSR)

### WATERBIRDS

Cinnamon Teal (7)	March 25	FRR – Fisher Butte	RR	A couple weeks later than normal.
Surf Scoter	March 14	Dexter Reservoir	DH	More commonly found inland during the fall migration – blown inland?
Black Scoter (3)	March 17	Tokatee	DF	Found in small numbers along the Lane coast.
American White Pelican (16)	March 25	FRR	RR	Their numbers are increasing for the summer.

### VULTURES to OWLS

Turkey Vulture (13)	March 10	Spencer Butte area	JH	First report away from their normal wintering area in the FRR area.
Bald Eagle	March 9	Skinner Butte	AP	Adult on the nest again this year.
Peregrine Falcon (pair)	March 9	Eugene downtown	JFA	Using one of the downtown building ledges.
Glaucous Gull	March 11	Florence	DF	First report for this winter.
Red Phalarope (3)	March 12	SJSR	RC,DW	High winds blew large numbers of migrating
Red Phalarope (lots)	March 15	Siltcoos River mouth	CB	birds onto the beach and sheltered bodies of
Red Phalarope (10)	March 17	Lily Lake	DF	water near the coast.
Snowy Owl	March 15	Siltcoos River mouth	JB	Is it the bird that was found during the first part of December 2011 and has wintered in the area away from where people normally get to?

### HUMMINGBIRDS to GROSBEAKS

Rufous Hummingbird	March 3	Lorane Highway	IB	A little over a week later than normal.
Say's Phoebe	March 29	Checkermallow	JN	About three weeks later than normal.
Northern Shrike	March 17	FRR – Royal Ave.	JS	One of a very few reports this winter.
Tree Swallow	March 5	Oakridge	MLS	First report for the year in the area.
Western Bluebird (4)	March 6	Deadwood Valley	KB	Not often seen in the valley.

<b>Townsend's Solitaire</b>	March 7	Eugene downtown	DH	Another report from the valley this winter.
<b>American Robin</b>	mid-March	Willamette Valley	m.ob.	They were quite numerous – snow in the hills plus migration.
<b>Northern Mockingbird</b>	March 12	Alvadore	DB	Continuing to winter in the area.
<b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b>	March 28	SE Eugene	TMi	About ten days later than normal.
<b>Yellow-rumped Warbler</b>	March 10	River Road area	TMe	A breeding plumage bird, which normally is a migrant.
<b>Western Tanager</b>	March 11	Eugene	RL	It's been wintering at his feeder.
<b>Evening Grosbeak (15)</b>	March 11	Springfield	CT	A couple weeks earlier than normal, but they do normally winter in east Springfield.

**JFA** JF Alberson, **IB** Isabella Barnes, **DB** Dave Brown, **JB** Janine Burgess, **CB** Cindy Burns, **KB** Kaki Burruss, **RC** Ron Carley, **DF** Daniel Farrar, **JH** Judie Hansen, **DH** Dan Heyerly, **JN** Janet Jaylor, **RL** Rob Lewis, **TMe** Thomas Meinzen, **TMi** Tom Mickel, **AP** Al Prigge, **RR** Roger Robb, **MLS** Mary Lee Sayre, **JS** John Sullivan, **CT** Colette Trotter, **DW** Dave Ward, **m.obs.** multiple observers.

### The Goose Project That Didn't Lay the Golden Egg (continued from page 3)

not take Barred Owl presence into account may overestimate the amount of habitat available to territorial Spotted Owls.”

From McKenzie Bridge to Eugene and beyond, many of us share this watershed. Both residents and visitors who avail themselves of recreational opportunities in this beautiful area are concerned about the environmental impact of the Goose Project. They are requesting an independent EIS and consideration of an alternative that calls for less extensive timber harvest. Their voices should be heard. It is important to be fully informed; before responding, you can view the Forest Service analysis documents on the Willamette National Forest at <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php/?project=29829>. Additionally, District Ranger Terry Baker published a description of the project in the *Eugene Register-Guard* in March at <http://special.registerguard.com/web/opinion/27811252-47/project-goose-mckenzie-district-meeting.html.csp>.

Many people in the community have told me that they think weighing in on this matter will make a difference. If you want to add your voice, contact McKenzie District Ranger, Terry Baker, 541-822-3381 [terrybaker@fs.fed.us](mailto:terrybaker@fs.fed.us), or Willamette National Forest Supervisor Meg Mitchell, 541-225-6300, [mmitchell01@fs.fed.us](mailto:mmitchell01@fs.fed.us). Or sign an online petition at <http://signon.org/sign/save-mckenzie-bridge>.

## Audubon Adventures



*Audubon Adventures* helps 3rd through 6th graders form positive attitudes about nature and supports teachers with instructional content aligned with national standards for social studies, science, and language arts.

This year, our chapter has provided the program to over 40 classrooms in Lane County, something we should all be proud of. Here are our most recent sponsors:

Grade	Elementary School	Sponsor
4	Bohemia	Jo and Peter von Hippel
3	Adams (2 classes)	Marge Vinton
4	Pleasant Hill	Cheron Ferland
5	Pleasant Hill	Freeman Rowe
4	Bertha Holt	Susan Markley
3	Howard	Jo and Peter von Hippel
3	Edison	Julie Sasewich & David Sanchez
4	Edison	Twinkle Ann Morton
4	Howard (2 classes)	Michael Johns

We're looking forward to sponsoring classrooms in the 2012/2013 school year. Watch future issues of the *Quail* for more information.

—Joyce Trawle, 541.515.6244, [jtrawle@comcast.net](mailto:jtrawle@comcast.net)

### Check us out on Facebook

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

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



#### Deadlines:

July-August issue: June 2  
September issue: August 11

Submit material to  
Cheron Ferland  
[cheron.ferland@mac.com](mailto:cheron.ferland@mac.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](mailto:tgodsil@gmail.com).

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### Electronic version of *The Quail* available!

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

#### Lane Audubon Officers & Board Members

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#### Lane Audubon Committee Chairs

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AITS Scheduling	Bonnie Lindberg		<a href="mailto:aitslc@gmail.com">aitslc@gmail.com</a>
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Field Notes	Allison & Tom Mickel	541.485.7112	<a href="mailto:tamickel@rioua.com">tamickel@rioua.com</a>
Field Trips	Volunteer Opportunity		
FRESH	Art Farley	541.683.1186	<a href="mailto:art@cs.uoregon.edu">art@cs.uoregon.edu</a>
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Webmaster	Hugh Larkin	541.359.6473	<a href="mailto:hdlarkin2@clearwire.net">hdlarkin2@clearwire.net</a>

## A message from Lane Audubon Board of Directors

Maeve Sowles, President

541.343.8664

president@laneaudubon.org



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



### Lane County Audubon Society Membership Benefits



**The Quail—**  
9 issues/yr.



**Field trips and  
bird walks**



**Program  
meetings**



**Educational  
publications**



**Conservation issue  
representation**



**Answers to  
questions—  
541.485.BIRD**

**Visit our web site:  
[www.laneaudubon.org](http://www.laneaudubon.org)**

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

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

#### Lane Audubon Membership Dues

- ☐ Individual \$20.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Students and Seniors (65 and over) \$15 .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Family \$25 .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Lifetime Membership \$400.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I want to do more. Here's my tax deductible contribution for .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Total Enclosed (check payable to Lane County Audubon Society) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Current National Audubon member      ☐ Don't know

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

#### Please contact me regarding

- ☐ Gift memberships
- ☐ Volunteering for Lane Audubon activities
- ☐ Lane Audubon's Living Legacy program
- ☐ I'd like to receive e-mail alerts about conservation issues.

#### Mail this form and your payment to:

Lane County Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 5086  
Eugene, OR 97405



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# Seventh Annual Fern Ridge Wings and Wine Festival on Saturday, May 12, 2012

A celebration of International Migratory Bird Day, the festival includes family-friendly bird and nature walks, educational talks, children's activities, kayak and canoe birding tours, wine tasting, music and more.

- Birding and Educational Events at Perkins Peninsula Park – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Bird Viewing at various Fern Ridge Lake Locations – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Wine Festival at Domaine Meriwether, Veneta, Oregon – Noon to 8:00 p.m.

In the morning join the festival at Perkins Peninsula Park near Fern Ridge Reservoir for a voyaging canoe tour on the lake, Native American storytelling, kid-friendly bird walk, bat talk, educational booths and more. Birding and wildflower events will run throughout the morning and afternoon at a variety of locations around Fern Ridge, and most activities are free. Birding leaders are John Sullivan, Laura Johnson, Tom and Allison Mickel, Dave Bontrager, Glenn Johnson, and others.

In the afternoon at Domaine Meriwether, from noon to 5:00 p.m., enjoy food, wine, music and more. The “Wineries without Walls” will have wine tastings from regional wineries without traditional tasting rooms. Continue into the evening with wine tastings by Domaine Meriwether from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. while listening to featured musical act “Coupe DeVille.” Entrance to the wine event costs \$10 per adult and includes a souvenir wine glass and two complimentary tastes. For adults without glasses it costs \$5. Children are free.

For more information and to see the schedule visit: [www.wingsandwinefestival.com](http://www.wingsandwinefestival.com) or [www.laneaudubon.org](http://www.laneaudubon.org)

The festival is presented by the City of Veneta, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Travel Lane County, Domaine Meriwether, Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce, Lane County Audubon Society, South Willamette Wineries Association, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, City of Eugene Outdoor Program and many volunteers.

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## Volunteer with Lane Audubon!

Lane County Audubon Society is an all-volunteer organization, and our members are very proud of the energy and diversity of talents volunteers bring—we couldn't do it without them! Volunteering with Lane Audubon is a great way to meet new people, give back to the community, and best of all, have fun! Currently, we are looking for volunteers to fill the following roles, but please feel welcome to contact us if you'd like to help in another capacity.

**Bird Walk Coordinator:** Lane Audubon is looking for a volunteer to plan the monthly third Saturday Bird Walks. This is a fun opportunity to meet and learn from birding experts; best of all, you get to pick the location and be out birding! Lane Audubon has all the dates set, a network of

willing field trip leaders, and a list of past birding locations to choose from. Your responsibility would include deciding on a location, contacting field trip leaders, e-mailing the field trip publicity, and meeting the birding group on the day of the walk to get things started. Contact Maeve Sowles, 541.343.8664, [president@laneaudubon.org](mailto:president@laneaudubon.org).

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



7TH ANNUAL FERN RIDGE  
**WINGS &  
WINE  
FESTIVAL**  
MAY 12, 2012

*Celebrating International Migratory Bird Day*

**Domaine Meriwether Winery  
and Perkins Peninsula Park,  
Fern Ridge Lake, Veneta, Oregon**

Nature Walks & Birding Stations, Sailing, Kayak, & Canoe Tours  
Children's Activities, Live Music, Wine Tasting with Artisan Wineries

The City of Veneta, Domaine Meriwether, Lane County Audubon Society, Travel Lane County, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lane County Parks  
Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce, South Willamette Wineries Association, and City of Eugene Outdoor Program

**WingsandWineFestival.com**

AMERICAN FARM  
FRESH Sanipac EDU **LANE ELECTRIC**  
Electric & Mechanical Contractors, Inc.

## Program Meeting: Tuesday, May 22

# Ten Years of Recording Birdsong in Oregon and Beyond

Herb Wisner

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Since moving to Oregon in 2001 Arch McCallum has crisscrossed the state in an attempt to record the songs of every species (and many extra subspecies) of land bird that breeds here. He didn't get all of them, but he did see every corner of this incredible state, and brought back a lot of recordings. In this nontechnical program designed for your listening pleasure, he'll share long cuts of Veeries from the Wallowas, Sage Thrashers on Battle Mountain, titmice at Adel, other titmice at Ashland, two species of White-breasted Nuthatch in the Klamath Basin, White-crowned Sparrows from the coast, Lincoln's Sparrows from the Cascades, Sooty Grouse on Marys Peak, grebes and curlews at Malheur, and more.

Please join us at our monthly program meeting for a presentation by Arch McCallum Tuesday night, May 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High Street, Eugene.

### May Program Meeting Ten Years of Recording Birdsong in Oregon and Beyond

by Arch McCallum



Tuesday, May 22, 7:30 p.m.  
Eugene Garden Club  
1645 High St., Eugene

## Community Calendar, Events and Opportunities

*A service to Lane Audubon members*

### Celebrate the Ridgeline — Second Annual Ridgeline Trail Day

Celebrate our local habitat

May 5, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Saturday)

Free. Ridgeline Trail, Eugene.

FMI: [http://web.me.com/artfarley47/RidgelineFriends/Ridgeline\\_Day\\_2012.html](http://web.me.com/artfarley47/RidgelineFriends/Ridgeline_Day_2012.html)

### Birds of the Willamette National Forest — Guided Hike

Led by Forest Service Wildlife Biologist, Cheron Ferland

May 11, 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (Friday)

Middle Fork Ranger District Office, U.S. Forest Service, Westfir

Free. Registration Required,

FMI: 541.782.2283; [clferland@fs.fed.us](mailto:clferland@fs.fed.us)

### Mount Pisgah Arboretum's 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wildflower and Music Festival

May 20, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Sunday)

Mt. Pisgah Arboretum, Eugene. FMI: 541.747.3817; [www.MountPisgahArboretum.org](http://www.MountPisgahArboretum.org); [mtpisgah@efn.org](mailto:mtpisgah@efn.org)

### Native Plant Society of Oregon — Emerald Chapter Meeting

Rhoda Love — "A Botanical Life"

May 21, 7:30 p.m. (Monday)

EWEB Training Room, 500 E. 4th Ave., Eugene.

FMI: 541-345-5531

### Cascade Raptor Center Family Nature Discovery Day

May 27, 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Sunday)

Cascade Raptor Center, Eugene

"Birds in Springtime" – nest building and egg decorating. For children 4-11 accompanied by an adult.

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

### Woodpecker Weekend

East Cascades Audubon Society, Sisters

June 14-17, FMI: <http://ecaudubon.org/woodpeckers>

### Cascade Raptor Center Greeters Needed

Cascade Raptor Center, Eugene

Like helping people and introducing them to the birds? Come be a Greeter for Cascades Raptor Center! If you would be willing to take a 4 hr shift once a week to assist in CRC's gift shop and visitor center, please contact Louise at 541-485-1320 or [Louise@eRaptors.org](mailto:Louise@eRaptors.org)

# When Women Were Birds — Fifty-four Variations on Voice



**T**erry Tempest Williams, author, conservationist, and activist, will speak on her latest book – *When Women Were Birds* – at the University of Oregon, Columbia Room 150, on June 19, at 7:30 pm. Her writing is rooted in the American West and ranges from issues of ecology and wilderness preservation, to women’s health, to exploring our relationship to culture and nature. Williams is the award-winning author of fourteen books, including *Leap*, *An Unspoken Hunger*, *Refuge*, and, most recently, *Finding Beauty in a Broken World*. She divides her time between Castle Valley, Utah, and Moose, Wyoming.

Twenty years ago, Terry Tempest Williams published her iconic book *Refuge*, a juxtaposition of natural history and haunting, personal tragedy. Written just five years after her mother’s death from ovarian cancer, it was partly about the flooding of Great Salt Lake, which in turned flooded a bird refuge. In large part, however, it was about the death of seven women in her family from cancer (there had been nine mastectomies, as well). The cancer was linked to exposure to the fallout of atomic bomb tests in the 1950s. It’s often placed in the company of classics such as Rachel Carson’s *Silent Spring* and Marilynne Robinson’s *Mother Country*.

Before her death, Williams’s mother gave Terry her journals. Later, when Williams went to read them, longing to hear her mother’s voice again, she found each one was blank. Through

*When Women Were Birds*, Williams meditates on why her mother might have left the journals unfilled. What did that signify to her mother? What was her mother telling her?

“But what I realize ... is that I will never be able to say what is in my heart, because words fail us, because it is in our nature to protect, because there are times when what is public and what is private must be discerned. There is comfort in keeping what is sacred inside us not as a secret, but as a prayer.”

In fifty-four chapters that unfold like a series of yoga poses, each with its own logic and beauty, Williams creates a lyrical and caring meditation on voice and the strength found in silences. Williams says that she wrote *Refuge* from the point of view of a daughter; she wrote *When Women Were Birds* from the point of view of a woman. It is the book, she says, she was meant to write.

*I hear my mother’s voice.*

*In the emptiness of this beloved landscape that has embraced me all my life, I hold my mother’s journals as another paradox, journals without words that create a narrative of the imagination.*

*My mother’s gift is the Mystery.*

*Each day I begin with the empty page.*

Another feature of the event will be that Terry’s husband, Brooke Williams, will have information about the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and both of them will speak about the work done by that organization.

This book-reading event is being cosponsored by Lane County Audubon Society, Eugene Natural History Society, Museum of Natural and Cultural History, UO Environmental Studies, and the UO Bookstore.

## Bird Walks and Events



Maeve Sowles

541.343.8664

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

### Bird Walk Coordinator needed

Lane Audubon is looking for a volunteer to plan the monthly third Saturday Bird Walks. See page 8 for more information.

**SATURDAY**  
**May 19**

### THIRD SATURDAY BIRD WALK

Jim Regali will lead us on a trip to Buford Park. We will meet at the South Eugene High School parking lot (corner of 19th and Patterson) for carpooling at 8:00 am. Please remember not to leave valuables in your car as a precaution. A \$3 donation is suggested. A parking fee of \$2 per vehicle will be required for parking at Buford Park.

**SATURDAY**  
**June 9**

### NEST BOX VIEWING WITH DICK AND MAEVE

Dick Lamster and Maeve Sowles will lead a tour of the 45 nest boxes on their 10 acres SW of Eugene from 9:00 am to noon. You will see nest boxes (hopefully) inhabited by Western bluebirds, Violet-green swallows, Tree swallows, and Chickadees. They will talk about box design, placement, and other ideas to optimize rural habitat. Space will be limited so call to reserve a spot and get directions: 541-343-8664.

**TBA**

### OREGON COUNTRY FAIRGROUND BIRDS

In June we hope to visit the Oregon Country Fair site with biologist Glenn Johnson to look at areas not typically active with people, but hopefully active with birds. Check the web site (<http://www.laneaudubon.org/index.htm>) for more information. Date and time to be determined.

**May Program Meeting**  
**Ten Years of**  
**Recording Birdsong**  
**in Oregon and**  
**Beyond**  
**by Arch McCallum**



**Tuesday, May 22, 7:30**  
**p.m.**  
**Eugene Garden Club**  
**1645 High St., Eugene**

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY  
LANE COUNTY CHAPTER




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