



# The Quail

December 2008 - January 2009

NEWS FROM LANE COUNTY AUDUBON SOCIETY

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT



### Avian food, shelter helped by humans

Maeve Sowles

343-8664

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

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The shortest day of the year is December 21, and the birds that winter in Lane County are looking for food and shelter. Now that the rains have started, at our house we try to prevent moldy seed and the spread of disease by keeping our bird feeders clean. We also hang a suet feeder in the winter, since the insect population is low at this time of year and suet provides fat for birds that need an extra boost of energy. We keep a hummingbird feeder out for the Anna's Hummingbirds that occasionally visit, since this species now winters in the Willamette Valley. (The Rufous Hummingbirds have migrated, leaving in August or September regardless of whether we provide nectar for them.) We clean out our birdhouses in the fall so they can be used as night roosts. Downy Woodpeckers and occasionally a small group of Western Bluebirds will enter our bird boxes at dusk on a cold evening. This warm, dry spot can help them through a long winter night.

Birding in winter allows us good views of birds like kinglets and chickadees as they move from branch to branch in deciduous trees that have dropped their leaves. Occasionally a Ruby-crowned Kinglet will flash its red crown in a territorial display, drawing my eye to the otherwise drab bird. It looks as if a red light came on in the tree when the bird lifts its red crown feathers—quite a display for such a little male! Occasionally I see a Golden-crowned Kinglet outside my second-floor window and can gaze down on the bright stripes and vivid gold of its head. They are beautiful little birds, but not always easy to see as they forage in conifers.

Black-capped and Chestnut-backed Chickadees can be heard high in the trees along with the kinglets. I like to check the flock to see if a Mountain Chickadee has

*continues on page 2*



## THANK YOU, LANE AUDUBON MEMBERS!

Thanks to our wonderful members for responding to the request for donations in the November newsletter! We have been receiving donation checks and local member renewals. This will help us meet the budget needs for the many Lane Audubon activities we are planning. We appreciate our members support. The Lane Audubon Board sends each of you a heartfelt "Thank you!"

WWW.LANEAUDUBON.ORG

## 2008 EUGENE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

### Preparations underway for the 67<sup>th</sup> Eugene Christmas Bird Count; Sign up now: participate with a Count Team in the field or as a Feeder Watcher at home

Dick Lamster

343-8664



This year will be the 67th Eugene Christmas Bird Count (ECBC) and the 109th national Audubon Christmas Bird Count. Our Count this year will be on Sunday, January 4, 2009. Our 15-mile-diameter Count Circle is centered in the Danebo area and is divided into 26 areas, each with a Team Leader. The Team Leader organizes the Team, leads the group through the area on Count Day and then submits the results to the ECBC Committee.

Dick Lamster is the Count Coordinator this year (officially called the Count Compiler), and he will be working with national Audubon on the administrative tasks of the Count. He will also be coordinating with the Team Leaders, handling publicity, assembling packets and contributing to the post-Count narrative.

Barbara Gleason will be serving as our Volunteer Coordinator, so **if you would like to participate on one of the teams that search for birds on Count Day, please call Barbara at 345-0450 or 345-3974.** If you already have a Team from past Counts, free to call that leader directly. Barbara is also busy preparing a new Count Circle Map and Team Area Maps.


Dan Gleason (345-0450) will be accepting tallies from Team Leaders at the end of Count Day, reviewing rare and unusual bird sightings, and

working with Dick to prepare the post-Count narrative.

If you cannot participate on a Count team but would like to count the birds that visit your yard, please call Herb Wisner at 344-3634. Herb is in charge of the Feeder Watchers and will assist you in recording the birds you see and getting them included in the official count. **Please call Herb by December 27 if you would like to be a Feeder Watcher.**

All Team Leaders and Count Participants are invited to gather at the Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High Street, after the Count for the traditional Chili Feed. Allison Mickel will once again be making homemade vegetarian chili for this fun ending to a day full of birding. We will tally results and swap stories of the day's sightings. The doors to the Garden Club will open around 3:30 p.m. if you would like to stop by as soon as you finish your Count. The Chili Feed will start around 5:00 p.m. Lane Audubon will furnish the chili along with a salad, dinner rolls, coffee, tea and hot chocolate. Please bring a dessert to share with others plus your own table service including plate, bowl, cup and silverware. If you would like to drink something other than what we furnish, then please bring that also. I heartily encourage you to join us for this delicious ending to a long day.

Last year we had 118 Count Participants in the field plus 59 Feeder Watchers at home. The entire group identified 137 species and 108,865 individual birds. Results of last year's Eugene Count as well as the other Christmas Bird Counts in North America can be seen at: [www.audubon.org/bird/cbc](http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc). Our Count code is OREU.

We hope you can join us for this year's Eugene Christmas Bird Count. If you have questions, please call Dick at 343-8664 or any of the other committee members listed above. We are looking forward to seeing you on January 4! 

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

#### Quail Layout

**Description:** We are looking for a volunteer to do layout & graphics for *The Quail*. We provide the template (formatted with InDesign) and the text. Then, you add the graphics and do the layout.

**Qualifications:** Ability to manipulate graphics files; experience using InDesign


**Time commitment:** 5-8 hours per issue; 9 issues per year

**Contact:** Cynthia Stockwell, 345-9358 or [quail@clearwire.net](mailto:quail@clearwire.net)

#### *From Our President, continued from page 1*

wandered down from the Cascades. The winter flocks which move through the area gleaning insects are usually composed of mixed species. By foraging in a flock, these small birds can share sightings of both predators and food. They may also roost together

in cold weather to conserve body heat. As our winter deepens, these small birds have adapted to life out in the cold. Whereas we put on sweaters and turn up our thermostat, they depend on their instincts and intelligence for survival.

It is our responsibility to preserve habitat so birds' needs can be met. The New Year gives us a chance to resolve to help protect habitat and work toward a future that sustains wildlife on this one precious earth we share. 

## Oregon Audubon chapters prioritize goals, pledge greater coordination

Debbie Schlenoff

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Watching birds is entertaining, educational and connects us to the natural world we share. I would argue that it is healthy for us as well because, for the most part, it calms our nerves and lowers our blood pressure (okay, except maybe when you spot that rare Wood Sandpiper at Fern Ridge!). The honed observational skills of birders advances citizen scientist projects (e.g. the Christmas Bird Count), through which birders are able to track population trends throughout the world. This is a useful tool for people concerned about conservation since birds are often considered to be indicator species reflecting the health of the ecosystem of which they are a part. Birds are susceptible to environmental change, and by observing them, we can monitor the effects of threats such as habitat loss, habitat degradation, deforestation, climate change, chemical use, and water quality.

Bird lovers around the world are participating in conservation efforts to preserve habitat and wildlife. This month, Audubon members from around the state met to discuss conservation issues at the Oregon Audubon Council Conservation Meeting. It was motivating to sit in a room with other people who care deeply about the environment and work vigorously to protect habitat for birds and other wildlife. Members from various chapters discussed issues of importance and at the end of the day voted to focus on the following three priorities for state-wide joint conservation campaigns.

### Oregon Audubon Conservation Campaign Priorities for 2009

#### #1 Establish a system of Marine Reserves off the Oregon Coast

The waters off Oregon's coast provide nesting and breeding habitat for over a million seabirds and provide sustenance for many more millions of migratory marine birds. The successful recovery of at-risk species such as the Marbled Murrelet depends on a healthy coastal ecosystem.

#### #2 Protection of the remaining wildland forest habitats on public lands

The Oregon Audubon Council recognizes that biological diversity and long-term forest productivity are threatened due to the continuing destruction and degradation of wildland forest ecosystems, including old growth forests, roadless forests and wilderness areas. We must protect wildland forest species and habitats by defeating protection roll-backs in the BLM Western Oregon Plan Review (WOPR), Northern Spotted Owl Recovery Plan and attempts to de-list the Marbled Murrelet.

#### #3 Establish a statewide network and program of Important Bird Areas in each eco-region in Oregon

The Oregon Audubon Council recognizes the need to highlight Important Bird Areas (IBAs) as critical areas of important ecological significance for native birds and their habitats.

In addition, the chapters resolved to increase efforts at communication across the state so that we can pool our resources and deal more effectively with conservation concerns that arise throughout the year. We will work to keep our membership informed and to alert bird-lovers about ways that they can help. There are numerous opportunities for all of us to have our voices heard: contact legislators and other officials, provide public comment and write letters to the editors of local newspapers. I believe that input from the public really does influence decision making by our representatives and keeps them on their toes. Let government officials know that you recreate and bird-watch in the beautiful natural ecosystems around our state: the forests, coast, wetlands, waterways, sagebrush deserts, and mountain meadows. Let them know that you are concerned about the degradation of these natural habitats. Let businesses know that your tourist dollar is based on your ability to recreate in these areas. The connection between birders, birds and the environment is an important one. Keep watching birds whether that be out the window or out on the trail. And when you get a chance, bring friends and family members, especially the children, with you. It's contagious.

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## AUDUBON IN THE SCHOOLS

### Training opportunity for Audubon in the Schools

Kris Kirkeby

Audubon in the Schools Coordinator


349-2439

k2kirk@comcast.net



**A**udubon in the Schools still needs about two more new volunteers. You don't need to be an artist to learn the drawing techniques well enough to teach children. And you don't need to be a biologist or expert birder to learn the science well enough to teach children. We offer free training to give you the information and skills you need to be successful teaching our four lesson plans. We have a great time and so do the students!

We'll be holding a training soon, so if you are interested, or would like more information, please contact Kris Kirkeby right away at 349-2439 or k2kirk@comcast.net.

Audubon in the Schools brings lessons into classrooms combining bird biology and art methods in a one-hour session. Each lesson includes an ecosystem component, aligning the information with the state standards. We use a nice teaching collection of taxidermy birds, nests, feathers, bones, etc., and we teach kids to draw accurately in pencil and render colors in colored pencil. 

## AUDUBON ADVENTURES

### Audubon Adventures 2008-09 update


Debra Eichner

607-6123

aceichner@msn.com

**A**udubon Adventures is an award-winning curriculum published by national Audubon which supplies everything needed to deliver an enriched environmental science and language arts curriculum using nature-based learning. Lane Audubon members have made these curriculum kits available to teachers at no cost to the school system through the Adopt-A-Classroom program. Three new classrooms have been added since last month's *Quail*. Thank you to these sponsors!

We have 21 classrooms enrolled in the program at this point, and I am looking for five more classrooms to match sponsorship. If you know of a classroom teacher in the area who would be interested in receiving a kit, please let me know at aceichner@msn.com or 607-6123.

Thank you sponsors! 

#### THE AUDUBON ADVENTURES CLASSROOM RESOURCE KIT INCLUDES:

##### For the students:

- *Nature News for Kids*: 32 copies each of four issues

##### For the teacher:

- Classroom Resource Manual: a 64-page guide complete with background information on the four topics and themes, detailed lesson plans, tips for outdoor study, ideas for hands-on activities, research material, duplicating masters, links to relevant websites, glossaries, and more.
- Full-color posters and brochures and materials to create classroom displays
- Complementary membership to national Audubon and Lane Audubon with subscription to *Audubon* magazine and *The Quail* newsletter

#### THANK YOU SPONSORS!

SCHOOL	GRADE	SPONSOR
Edison Elementary	2	Ron Renschler
Awbrey Park Elementary	4	Jo and Peter Von Hippel
Awbrey Park Elementary	4	Ron and Mary Sherriffs

## A MESSAGE FROM LANE AUDUBON BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Maeve Sowles, President

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 AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



*The Quail* • **The Quail**  
9 issues/yr.



• **Field Trips &  
Bird Walks**



• **Program Meetings**

**NEW**



• **Educational  
Publications**



• **Conservation  
Issue  
Representation**



• **Answers to  
Questions:  
485-BIRD**

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

### JOIN OR RENEW TODAY:

### Lane Audubon Society welcomes you!

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 Audubon 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 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Student 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) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check here if you are a current national Audubon member    ☐ Don't know

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

*Lane Audubon will not release your personal information to other organizations. We will use it only for Lane Audubon 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 Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 5086  
Eugene, OR 97405

## VOLUNTEER WELCOME

### Phil Shepard

Thanks to Phil Shepard for volunteering to help us with Wings and Wine planning! Phil will be attending the steering committee meetings and will help us keep on track for the May 9, 2009 festival. Thank you, Phil!



*The Quail*

Deadlines:  
February issue: **December 8**

Submit material to:  
Cynthia Stockwell, editor,  
<quail@clearwire.net>

### THE QUAIL

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

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

**Subscriptions:** Contact Jim Blick at 683-4635 or [blick@toast.net](mailto:blick@toast.net).

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## VOLUNTEER THANK YOU

### Thanks, Lane Audubon Booth Volunteers at Mt. Pisgah

The weather was gorgeous, the crowds were large, and the volunteer spirit was abundant at the Mt. Pisgah Mushroom Show on October 26. We had lots of visitors at the Lane Audubon booth, and our group of volunteers did a fantastic job of welcoming them to the world of birdwatching.



Thanks to everyone: **Flo Alvergue, Pat Bitner, Yvonne Parkinson, Debbie Schlenoff, Dave Stone, and Susanne Twight-Alexander.**

There'll be more booth staffing opportunities in the coming months. If you're interested in helping to inform visitors about Lane Audubon when they stop by our booth at local festivals and events, contact Ron Renschler at [christyandron@qwest.net](mailto:christyandron@qwest.net) or 345-0834.

## LANE COUNTY AUDUBON OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

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	Debra Eichner	607-6123	<a href="mailto:aceichner@msn.com">aceichner@msn.com</a>

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## FIELD NOTES: OCTOBER 2008

### • Lapland Longspur sighted from the North Jetty • Tropical Kingbird found in Florence • Sandpiper symphony at Fern Ridge Reservoir

Tom & Allison Mickel

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tamickel@rio.com



After a bit of a wet start to the month, it turned into quite a nice Indian summer for the last three weeks. The Wood Sandpiper was seen until October 5, when the area closed because of the impending waterfowl hunting season. When the area opened again on October 11, it wasn't found. Most of the Neotropical migrants have left for the winter; the boreal breeders are starting to arrive for the winter in good numbers.

### WATERBIRDS

Snow Goose (2)	Oct. 28	Alton Baker Park	AM	Normally found in small numbers with flocks of Canada Geese
Blue-winged Teal	Oct. 4	South Jetty area	B&ZS	An occasional species on the coast
Eared Grebe	Oct. 12	Fern Ridge Reservoir	DI	An uncommon sighting at Fern Ridge Reservoir
Eared Grebe	Oct. 4	Siuslaw River	B&ZS	The first report for the winter season
Pink-footed Shearwater (5)	Oct. 4	Sea Lion Caves	DF	Not always seen from land
Pink-footed Shearwater (200+)	Oct. 4	North Jetty	M&MD	An amazing number to see in one day
Buller's Shearwater	Oct. 4	Sea Lion Caves	DF	Seldom seen from land
American White Pelican (20)	Oct. 26	Lookout Pt. Reservoir	A&TM	Not a normal location for this species

### VULTURES & RAPTORS

Turkey Vulture (2)	Oct. 12	Lily Lake	AC	A late report away from the Eugene area
Northern Goshawk	Oct. 4	Florence	M&MD	Not commonly found along the coast
Red-shouldered Hawk	Oct. 28	Triangle Lake	MRu	A species that has just shown up in the area in the last year

### SHOREBIRDS & GULLS

Marbled Godwit	Oct. 25	North Jetty	AC	A late report for this species
Baird's Sandpiper	Oct. 4	Fern Ridge Reservoir	WH	A late report for this species
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	Oct. 14	Fern Ridge Reservoir	Ma	A normal time for this rare migrant to arrive
Rock Sandpiper	Oct. 25	Bob Creek	AC	The first report of this occasional wintering species in a number of years
Stilt Sandpiper	Oct. 11	Fern Ridge Reservoir	AC	A late report for this species
Short-billed Dowitcher (16)	Oct. 5	Fern Ridge Reservoir	DI	Getting to be late for this species
Parasitic Jaeger (12)	Oct. 4	North Jetty	M&MD	An amazing number sighted in one day
Bonaparte's Gull	Oct. 10	Fern Ridge Reservoir	JS	The normal time for this species at FRR
Sabine's Gull	Oct. 4	Fern Ridge Reservoir	DI et al.	Getting to be late for this species

## FIELD NOTES: OCTOBER 2008, *continued*

### DOVES, OWLS & SWIFTS

Eurasian Collared-Dove (4)	mid-Oct.	Junction City	LL	New location for this rapidly expanding species
Eurasian Collared-Dove (11)	Oct.	Florence	B&ZS	Their numbers have increased from a total of three last winter!
Burrowing Owl	Oct. 23	Junction City	BC	The first report of this occasional wintering species in a number of years
Vaux's Swift (1000+)	Oct. 8	Skinner Butte	LM et al.	A large number for this late in the season

### PASSERINES

Rufous Hummingbird	Oct. 25	N Eugene	BG	A very late report for this species
Tropical Kingbird	Oct. 22	Florence	B&ZS	Typical time for this rare post breeding migrant to show up—almost always along the coast
Northern Shrike (2)	Oct. 18	South Jetty, Siuslaw R.	AC,HR	The first report for the winter season
Horned Lark	Oct. 4	Fern Ridge Reservoir	DI, JS	A species not often found at this location
Violet-green Swallow (250+)	Oct. 5	Fern Ridge Reservoir	A&TM	After not having any for a couple weeks, there were large numbers
Barn Swallow	Oct. 4	Fern Ridge Reservoir	LN	The last report for the summer season
Mountain Chickadee (12+)	Oct. 26	The Twins	A&TM	Always a good location for this species
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Oct. 6	Eugene	EC	The first report for the winter season
Hermit Thrush	Oct. 15	Florence	B&ZS	The first report for the winter season
Varied Thrush	Oct. 9	Coburg Hills	TM	They seemed to be everywhere today compared to very few the week before
Orange-crowned Warbler	Oct. 25	Stonefield Beach	AC	Getting to be late for this species that winters some years
Yellow Warbler	Oct. 7	Florence	DI,DP	The last report for the summer season
Black-throated Gray Warbler (5)	Oct. 8	Skinner Butte	LM et al.	The last report for the summer season
Wilson's Warbler	Oct. 19	Eugene	AC	The last report for the summer season
Western Tanager	Oct. 6	Eugene	DH	A late report for this species
Chipping Sparrow (2)	Oct. 19	Eugene	DI	A late report for this species
White-throated Sparrow	Oct. 12	Eugene	DS	First report for the winter season
Lapland Longspur (7)	Oct. 4	North Jetty	M&MD	A normal time for this species to arrive/migrate through
Lapland Longspur	Oct. 27	North Jetty	B&ZS	
Black-headed Grosbeak	Oct. 3	Eugene	PS	Last report for the summer season

### Abbreviations:

North Jetty North Jetty of the Siuslaw River

### Locations:

Bob Creek (northern Lane County coast)

### Thank you, contributors!

BC Bruce Campbell, EC Ellen Cantor, AC Alan Contreras, M&MD MerryLynn & Mike Denny, DF Daniel Farrar, BG Brandon Green, DH Dan Heyerly, WH Wayne Hoffman, DI Dave Irons, LL Lisa Logsdon, Ma Maitreya, LM Larry McQueen, A&TM Allison & Tom Mickel, LN Lars Norgren, DP Diane Pettey, HR Holly Reinhard, MRu Mark Rudolph, DS Don Schrouder, PS Paul Sherrell, B&ZS Bill & Zanah Stotz, JS John Sullivan





## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

### Willamette Valley Birding Trail organizers seek “ground-truth” editors

If you’ve been looking for an excuse to go birding, this could be it!

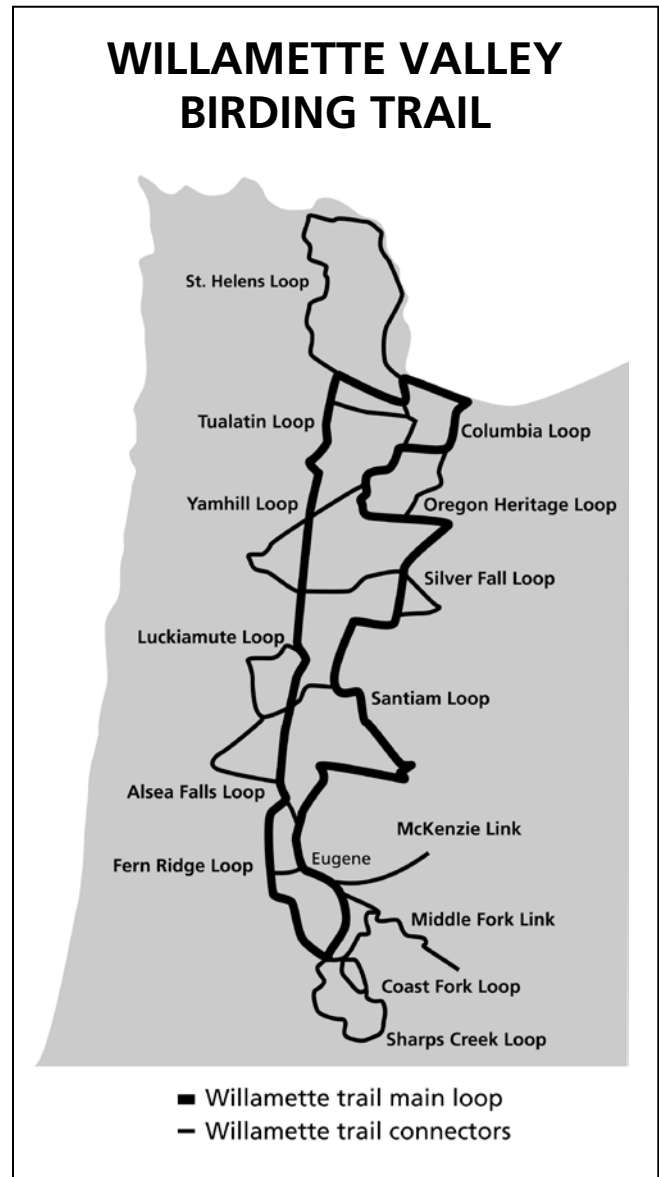
Volunteers are needed to “ground-truth” information about birding sites that have been nominated for the Willamette Valley Birding Trail. This is the fifth of nine planned regional Oregon Birding Trails (see [www.oregonbirdingtrails.org](http://www.oregonbirdingtrails.org) for a map of the other trails), and the first one that will feature bicycling routes as well as auto tour routes.

The Willamette Valley Birding Trail will highlight birding spots in the Willamette Valley, inland Coast Range, and Cascades foothills portions of Lane County, as well as the lower valley counties, all the way north to the Columbia River. The aim is to increase sustainable ecotourism in our region, and to promote the public understanding of the importance of bird habitat for local communities.

Last year birders nominated more than 120 sites for the trail, including many sites in Lane County. As part of trail guide development, we need someone to visit each of these sites to ensure accuracy of directions, information about facilities, etc. If you pick one or more sites to visit, you’ll be provided with a printout of the information that we have collected, and detailed instructions on what to check during your site visit(s). Compensation for mileage is available, or if you prefer, a receipt for mileage which counts as a donation to a nonprofit organization.

Please contact Joel Geier at [joel.wvbirdingtrail@peak.org](mailto:joel.wvbirdingtrail@peak.org) or 745-5821 for more information on how to volunteer.

Sharps Creek Loop  
 Clearwater Park  
 Cottage Grove Reservoir  
 Coyote Creek  
 Delta Ponds/East Bank Bike Path  
 Dexter Reservoir  
 Dorena Reservoir  
 Dorris Ranch Living History Farm  
 East Regional Park  
 Eastgate Woodlands/West D Street Greenway  
 Elijah Bristow Park  
 Fall Creek  
 Jasper Meadows (Springfield)  
 Kirk Park/Dam Top (Fern Ridge)  
 Meadowlark Prairie - Checkermallow Access  
 Meadowlark Prairie - Greenhill Overlook  
 Mount Pisgah Arboretum



Oakridge/Westfir trails & Buckhead site  
 Perkins Peninsula (Fern Ridge)  
 Ridgeline Trail & Cascades Raptor Center  
 Royal Avenue (Fern Ridge)  
 Secret House Winery  
 Skinner Butte  
 Stewart Pond  
 Walterville Reservoir & Canal Birding Trail  
 Willamette Heights Overlook (Springfield)

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR, EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

*A service to Lane County Audubon members*

### GLORIOUS MEXICAN BUTTERFLIES; NEW NABA BUTTERFLY PARK IN THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY

#### NORTH AMERICAN BUTTERFLY ASSOCIATION (NABA)

Talk by Jeffrey Glassberg, founder of NABA and author of 11 books.

**Monday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m.**

*EWEB Training Center, 500 East 4th Ave., Eugene*



### EUGENE BIRDER'S NIGHT

An informal gathering of birders sharing Lane County sightings. All levels of birding experience welcome.

**Monday Dec. 8, 7 p.m.**

*EWEB Training Center; 500 E. 4th Ave.; FMI: Tom Mickel at 485-7112*

### WETLAND WANDER ON THE TSANCHIIFIN TRAIL

#### WREN (WILLAMETTE EDUCATION RESOURCES NETWORK)

Wetland Wanders are casual walks through various West Eugene Wetlands sites.

**Tuesday, Dec. 9, 9-10 a.m.**

*WREN will provide binoculars. FMI: Holly McRae at 683-6494 or hmcrae@wewetlands.org*

### THINKING INSIDE THE BOX: BIRD NESTS

#### THE EUGENE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Lecture by Dick Lamster, past president, Lane County Audubon Society

**Friday, Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m.**

*Room 100, Willamette Hall, UO campus*



### THE STORY BEHIND OUR SEASONS AND CELEBRATIONS

#### WREN (WILLAMETTE EDUCATION RESOURCES NETWORK)

Join naturalist Rick Ahrens for this adult presentation to learn more about the origin of some of our seasonal celebrations.

**Thursday, Dec. 18, 7-8 p.m.**

*Meet at the West Eugene Wetland Yurt, 751 S. Danebo Ave. Suggested donation: \$4; FMI: Holly McRae at hmcrae@wewetlands.org or 683-6494*



### WINTER NATURE CRAFTS FOR KIDS

#### MT. PISGAH ARBORETUM

Come along with the kids to this annual crafts extravaganza with Mount Pisgah Arboretum staff and nature guides! Get messy and merry with holiday cards, acorn dolls, pinecone reindeer, ornaments and more, all with an outdoorsy theme.

**Sunday, Dec. 7, 1-3 p.m.**

*Eugene Garden Club (1645 High St., Eugene); location subject to change: please RSVP by calling 747-1504 before Saturday. \$5 per kid, grownups free with child.* ⓘ

## West Eugene Wetlands Bird Classes

*Courses taught by Dave Bontrager in collaboration with WREN (the Willamette Resources and Educational Network)*

From Stewart Pond to Meadowlark Prairie, west Eugene's wetlands support a variety of terrestrial and aquatic birds, and they hold even greater promise for the future as ongoing restoration continues to move the area closer to its former natural condition.

This series of three courses will explore the seasonal changes in the birds of the wetlands focusing on the identification of both terrestrial and wetland birds. While roaming the wetlands we'll talk about bird migration, habitat selection, food habits, and general behavior.

Each course begins with a classroom session followed by three field trips. Classroom meetings will take place at the west Eugene wetlands headquarters on Danebo Street.

These courses are designed for beginners through those with intermediate identification skills and general knowledge of birds.

#### Winter Birds of the West Eugene Wetlands

Classroom Meeting: Wednesday evening, Jan. 21, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Field Trips: Sunday mornings, Jan. 25, Feb. 8 & Feb. 22, 8:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Fee: \$35

#### Spring Migration in the West Eugene Wetlands

Classroom Meeting: Wednesday evening, April 22, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Field Trips: Sunday mornings, April 26, May 3 & May 17, 8:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Class Fee: \$35

#### Breeding Birds of the West Eugene Wetlands

Classroom Meeting: Wednesday evening, May 27, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Field Trips: Sunday mornings, June 7, June 14 & June 28, 8:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Class Fee: \$35

#### CLASS PACKAGES

Take any two courses for \$55. Take all three courses for \$85 (Pre-payment, please!)

#### TO REGISTER

To reserve a place, call Dave at 937-3970 or e-mail him at [dbontra243@aol.com](mailto:dbontra243@aol.com). ⓘ

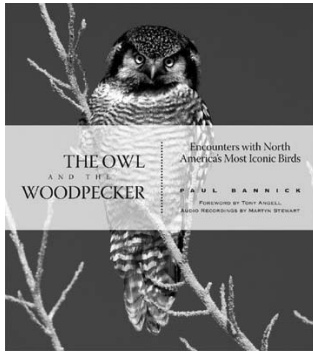
## PROGRAM MEETING: JANUARY 27

### The Owl and The Woodpecker: Encounters with North America's Most Iconic Birds by Paul Bannick

Herb Wisner

344-3634

hrwisner@comcast.net



Our January Program Meeting will feature a ward-winning photographer-naturalist Paul Bannick. Paul will take you on a visual journey of several key North American habitats (with a NW focus) through the needs of many of North America's owl and woodpecker species. This stunning photographic study will be accompanied by field stories

and rich natural history derived from thousands of hours in the field. His talk will look at the way owls and woodpeckers define and enrich their habitat and how their life-histories are intertwined.

After the meeting, Paul will be signing and have available for sale his recently published book, *The Owl and the Woodpecker*.

"*The Owl and the Woodpecker* is a monumental work of photojournalism by one of North America's top wildlife photographers. The images you'll encounter in this book are the result of an encyclopedic knowledge of birds and their habitats, an intense love of nature, and endless patience. For anyone who appreciates wild things and wild places, each of Bannick's stunning photographs is worth ten thousand words."

—Ted Williams, Editor-at-Large, *Audubon* magazine



## PROGRAM MEETING

### The Owl and The Woodpecker: Encounters with North America's Most Iconic Birds by Paul Bannick



TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

7:30 P.M.

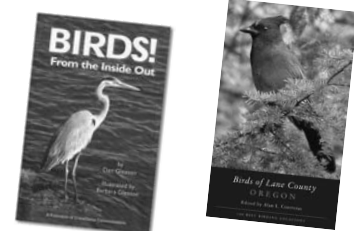
Eugene Garden Club  
1645 High Street, Eugene

## Holiday gift ideas from Lane Audubon

If you know someone who would appreciate a bird-related gift for the holidays, consider giving a gift from Lane Audubon. Gift memberships to Lane Audubon (\$20; see page 5) are a great way to introduce newcomers to the local birding community and keep them posted on local birding events. Giving someone a Lane Audubon logo t-shirt (\$15) or our own local swift event t-shirt (\$15) is a great way to say "Happy Holidays."

We also have two excellent book titles available: *Birds of Lane County* (a guide to the best birding areas in the county and the birds you'll find there) for \$20, or *Birds from the Inside Out*, by Dan and Barbara Gleason, which covers bird biology, for \$18.

Your purchase of gifts from Lane Audubon helps us continue our educational activities in the community.



Contact Ron Renschler at christyandron@qwest.net or 345-0834, to order any of these gifts. Delivery of the gifts to your home can be arranged.





## BIRD WALKS AND EVENTS

**Monthly Bird Walk:** Our monthly bird walks are usually held on the third Saturday of the month, but we often have additional walks or special trips. With knowledgeable leaders and many pairs of eyes to help spot birds, our trips are a great way to increase your birding skills while learning about Lane County birds and their habitats. All birders are welcome, from novice to expert. A \$3 donation is suggested.

Dael Parsons

338-0313

daelparsons@comcast.net

**SUNDAY  
JANUARY 4**

### EUGENE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

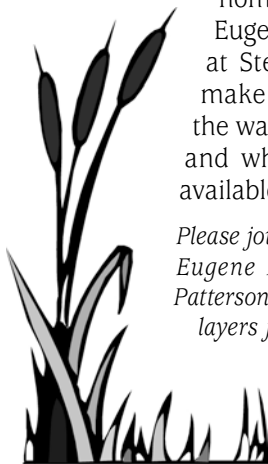
Please join us for the 67th Eugene Christmas Bird Count. See page 2 for details.

**SATURDAY  
JANUARY 17**

### THIRD SATURDAY BIRD WALK

#### WEST EUGENE WETLANDS

It's hard to know what the weather will bring in January, so we will stay close to home and enjoy our West Eugene Wetlands. Starting at Stewart Ponds, we will make a tour and see how the water levels are this year and which bird species are available for viewing.



*Please join us to car pool at South Eugene High School, 19th and Patterson St., at 8:00 a.m.. Dress in layers for the weath; bring your binoculars and your sense of adventure. We will return to our starting point by about noon. 1*

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

#### Bird Walks Coordinator

**Description:** The Bird Walks Coordinator is responsible for setting up our Third Saturday Bird Walks: contacting field trip leaders, e-mailing the publicity, and meeting the group on the day of the Walk to get things rolling. It is, perhaps, the most fun job available, if you want to be out birding, meeting new people and learning from our bird walk leaders. This position is suitable for one person to fill or for a job-sharing arrangement between two people.

**Qualifications:** Any level of birding skills (beginner to expert); e-mail capability; ability to plan events in advance. We provide a list of bird walk leaders to contact.

**Time commitment:** 1-2 hours per month, plus attending the Bird Walk on the Third Saturday of the month.

**Contact:** Maeve Sowles at 343-8664 or president@laneaudubon.org.

### PROGRAM MEETING

**The Owl and The  
Woodpecker:  
Encounters with  
North America's Most  
Iconic Birds**

*by Paul Bannick*



**Tuesday, January 27  
7:30 P.M.  
Eugene Garden Club  
1645 High Street, Eugene**




**NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY  
LANE COUNTY CHAPTER**

*The  
Quail*

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