



News from Lane County Audubon Society

From Our President



Breeding Season Begins in Winter

Audubon Phone – 541.485.BIRD Maeve Sowles

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Get *The Quail* electronically. Contact Tim Godsil at tgodsil@gmail.com eve Sowles 541-343-8664

president@laneaudubon.org

Te have been hearing owls in the evening at our property in the forested area southwest of Eugene. In all of the 22 years we have lived here, Great Horned Owls have nested nearby. Before sundown and into the evening, deep hoots echo through Fox Hollow; the deeper voice is the male and the higher pitched hoots are the larger female. Breeding season has already begun for this species, even though the landscape is wet and the



temperatures wintery. Those deep hoots are communicating territory claims as well as courtship and pair bonding—annual rituals for the pair that mates for life.

Great Horned Owls start nesting in January, raising their families in the depths of winter. Like other owls, they do not build their own nests, but take over the abandoned homes of other species, including squirrels, ravens, herons, and Redtailed Hawks. The female incubates the eggs while her mate brings her food. Within a month, up to five eggs will hatch. The owlets are closely guarded by their parents. Six weeks after hatching, the owlets begin to walk around the nest tree branches. In another three weeks, the young owls will already have learned to fly. The parents continue to feed and care for their offspring for several months, often as late as October. It is wise to stay away from young owls and their nests because Great Horned Owls are protective if they feel their family is threatened.

Owls are nocturnal predators, and Great Horned Owls feed on practically any living thing—fish, frogs, scorpions, squirrels, skunks, crows, ducks, and bats. They will even take down large raptors, including hawks, ospreys, and other owls. According

(continued on page 5)

Conservation Column



Oregon Audubon Council Establishes Goals

Debbie Schlenoff 541.685.0610 dschlenoff@msn.com

he Oregon Audubon Council (OAC) met in Sutherlin, Oregon, on November 7. In attendance were representatives from eight chapters around the state as well as regional representatives of National Audubon. The goals of the OAC meetings are to bring together state chapter members, discuss conservation issues of concern, and determine how we can best help make a difference. Although each chapter focuses on concerns as they come up throughout the year, conference participants identified priority issues that would benefit from a coordinated effort by multiple chapters. We've addressed many of these issues previously. The issues and our goals are outlined below. (For more information, please contact dschlenoff@msn.com).

Wetlands issues

- Klamath National Wildlife Refuges: Ensure that these important wildlife refuges on the Pacific Flyway receive adequate water in both the short and long term.
- Lake Abert (Oregon's only saltwater lake, an important stopover for migratory birds and part of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network): Engage with conservation partners to help determine the reasons the lake dried out and explore opportunities to restore it.
- Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (important stop along the Pacific Flyway and nesting habitat for various waterbirds): Work with partners to develop comprehensive plan for refuge.
- Misguided East Sand Island Program to control Doublecrested Cormorants: Continue work to oppose the massive slaughter of cormorants, especially after evidence emerged recently that the US Fish and Wildlife Service analysis indicated that this action would not, in fact, help the recovery of federally listed salmon.

Ocean protection

• Continue to establish regulations for protecting forage fish (an important food source for ocean-dependent birds) at both the state and federal level.

• Ensure adequate implementation of our marine reserve program. Continue to educate and involve citizens throughout the state.

Forest protection

- Ensure adequate protection for forests on federal, state, and private lands.
- Continue to protect habitat in the Elliott State Forest.
- Work with other conservation organizations to support strong forest protection policies at the federal level.

Grassland protection

 Identify best practices and collaborate with land users to protect this habitat, most of which has disappeared due to conversion for other land uses. Emphasis on habitat for declining species such as Vesper Sparrows and Streaked Horned Larks.

Species protection

- Greater Sage-Grouse: Ensure strong plan to protect and recover Greater Sage-Grouse in Oregon.
- Marbled Murrelet: Ensure continuing protection for the Marbled Murrelet inland and offshore in Oregon and ensure adequate protection for forests on federal, state, and private lands.

Reduction of avian hazards

 Develop a campaign in Oregon to ban use of lead shot, a major hazard to raptors. (California's ban goes into effect in 2019.)

Climate change

- Oppose fossil-fuel export facilities.
- Educate and engage for floodplain protections and other landscape resilience strategies.

Outdoor School

- In spring 2015, the Oregon Legislature passed the Outdoor School Bill, which establishes a commitment to provide outdoor education to Oregon's children. A coalition is working to facilitate the program and secure money to make it happen.
- Audubon's goal: Raise awareness and endorse the initiative to secure funding.

2015 Eugene Christmas Bird Count Set for Sunday, Jan. 3

Dick Lamster 541.343.8664 maeveanddick@q.com

his year marks the 74th Eugene Christmas Bird Count (ECBC) and the 116th National Audubon Society (NAS) Christmas Bird Count. The ECBC this year will be on Sunday, January 3, 2016. Our 15-mile diameter count circle is centered in the Danebo area of Eugene and is divided into 27 areas, each with a Team Leader. The Team Leaders organize the teams, lead the groups through the area during the count day, and then submit the results to the ECBC Steering Committee.

Count Coordinator

Dick Lamster is the Count Coordinator, and he will work with NAS on the administrative tasks of the count. He will also coordinate with the Team Leaders, handle publicity, cowrite the postcount narrative, and assign new participants to teams. If you want to participate this year and were not on a team last year or you want to change teams, call Dick at 541.343.8664. Otherwise, call your Team Leader from last year (although he or she might be calling you soon).

Birds

Dan Gleason (541.345.0450) will accept the bird checklists from the Team Leaders at the end of the count, hopefully at the chili feed. He will also review rare and unusual bird sightings and then submit all the results to NAS. Dan will also work with Dick to prepare the postcount narrative.

Feeder Watchers

If you cannot participate on a count team but would like to count the birds that visit your yard, please call Herb Wisner at 541.344.3634. Herb is in charge of the Feeder Watchers and will assist you in recording the birds you see and including them in the official count. He will send you a form to help you record birds, coordinate your sightings with the leader of the count area you live in so that birds are not reported twice, and submit your sightings to Dan to be included in the official results. Please call Herb by December 28 if you would like to be a Feeder Watcher.

Chili Feed

All Team Leaders and count participants are invited to gather after the count at the Eugene Garden Club at 1645 High Street for the traditional chili feed. Allison Mickel, assisted by Sandy Poinsett and Kathy Wilson, will once again provide her 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 door to the Garden Club will open around 3:30 p.m. so you can stop by as soon as you finish your count. The free chili feed will begin around 5:00 p.m. Lane County Audubon Society will furnish the chili along with salad, dinner rolls, chips, 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 provide, bring that too. I really encourage you to join us for this delicious ending to a long day.

Last Year's Results

Last year we had 146 birders in the field and 90 Feeder Watchers, for a total of 236 participants. The entire group identified 133 species on count day. This is about an average number for the ECBC. Our record, established in 2005, is 140 plus two more during count week.

We recorded 120,698 individual birds. This is a high number for our count, but does not surpass the record of 129,874 in 2000. You can view results of last year's ECBC, as well as all the other Christmas Bird Counts in North America, at www.christmasbirdcount.org. Our count code is OREU.

We hope you can join us for this year's ECBC. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, January 3!

Christmas Bird Count Opportunities in Oregon

In addition to the Eugene Christmas Bird Count, two other Christmas Bird Counts (CBC) are planned for Lane County. The Oakridge CBC will take place on Friday, December 18. Contact Joel Geier at joel.geier@peak.org for more information and to sign up. The Florence CBC is scheduled for Saturday, December 19. Contact Kit Larsen at kit@uoregon. edu to sign up.

The very first Reedsport CBC will take place on Wednesday, December 30. Contact Matt Hunter matthewghunter@gmail. com for more information. For a complete list of the over 40 CBCs in Oregon, visit www.orbirds.org/cbc.html.

Field Notes: October 2015



- Black-vented Shearwater
- Brown Booby

- Bobolink
- Palm Warbler

Tom and Allison Mickel

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iven that we were in South Africa for the month, we can't say what the local weather was like—it was mostly sunny and hot in South Africa! There were two firsts for the county during the month (Brown Booby and Black-vented Shearwater) and a number of other unusual species. Given the wandering chickadee species and the large numbers of finches, we may be heading into an interesting winter.

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

WATERBIRDS

Snow Goose	Oct 4	Siltcoos River mouth	DPe, KS	Seldom seen along the coast
Long-tailed Duck	Oct 22	FRR	JS	Rare for the valley
Barrow's Goldeneye (2)	Oct 25	Leaburg area	BP	Found in small numbers at this location during the winter
Eared Grebe (7)	Oct 9	Siuslaw River jetties	JS et al.	A large number for this location
Pink-footed Shearwater (40)	Oct 9	Siltcoos River mouth	JS et al.	A very large number from shore
Black-vented Shearwater	Oct 8	NJSR	DPe	The first of a number of observations of this species over the next couple weeks—a first for the county
Brown Booby	Oct 27	Heceta Head	M&MD	First documented record for the county
Brown Pelican (70)	Oct 18	Heceta Head	AC	Large numbers for so late

HAWKS to JAEGERS

White-tailed Kite	Oct 24	FRR	SH	Returning for the winter
Red-tailed Hawk (18)	Oct 8	south Eugene	DG	Circling over house—large number!
Sandhill Crane	Oct 14	Walterville	VB	A normal time for their southward migration
Marbled Godwit (3)	Oct 2	SJSR crab pier/dock	JS, RN	Getting late for this species
Baird's Sandpiper	Oct 2	Siltcoos River mouth	JS, RN	Getting late for this species
Heermann's Gull (70)	Oct 23	Tokatee Klootchman	TJ	Large numbers for so late
Pomarine Jaeger	Oct 15	NJSR	DPe	Not common from shore

OWLS to FINCHES

Barred Owl	Oct 26	Eugene near U of O	LM	Becoming more common around town
Vaux's Swift	Oct 8	River Road area	BC	Getting late for this species
Rufous Hummingbird	Oct	Eugene area	m.ob.	Three reports for the month—late for them
Tropical Kingbird	Oct 2	Siltcoos River mouth	JS	Almost annual along the coast in fall
Tropical Kingbird	Oct 4	Big Creek	AC, DPa	Second bird for this fall
Gray Jay (6)	Oct 11	Spencer Butte	EA	Occasionally found on the butte
Horned Lark	Oct 4	SJSR deflation plain	RR	Unusual along the coast
Mountain Chickadee	Oct 2	south Eugene	EC	The first of many reports for the month
Chestnut-backed Chickadee	Oct	Eugene/Springfield	m.ob.	Found in places they normally don't occur
Rock Wren	Oct 3	Proxy Falls	LG	Getting late for this species
House Wren	Oct 8	Cottage Grove area	TMo	A late report for this species
American Pipit (275)	Oct 24	Waite Pasture	AC	Large numbers
Lapland Longspur (15)	Oct 2	SJSR deflation plain	JS, RN	Most likely annual along the coast in fall
Orange-crowned Warbler	Oct 7	FRR - Zumwalt Park	LM et al.	The last report for the breeding season

Common Yellowthroat	Oct 9	Coburg	JC et.al.	The last report for the breeding season
Yellow Warbler	Oct 7	FRR - Zumwalt Park	LM et al.	The last report for the breeding season
Palm Warbler	Oct 4	SJSR deflation plain	RR	Found in small numbers most winters
Palm Warbler	Oct 4	Searose Village	AC, DPa	Second bird for this fall
Black-throated Gray Warbler	Oct 9	FRR - Perkins	JS, JL	The last report for the breeding season
Western Tanager	Oct 5	Old McKenzie Pass	LG	The last report for the breeding season
Bobolink	Oct 4	SJSR deflation plain	RR	Sixth record for Lane Co - half at this location
Pine Siskin	Oct	Eugene/Springfield	m.ob.	Large numbers have been reported at feeders
Evening Grosbeak	Oct	Eugene/Springfield	m.ob.	Large number reported this month

AC Alan Contreras, BC Barbara Combs, BP Bob Pickard, DG Dan Gleason, DPa Daniel Parsons, DPe Diane Pettey, EA Ed Alverson, EC Elizabeth Cookson, JC Jena Curtis, JL Joshua Little, JS John Sullivan, KS Kate Shapiro, LG Linda Gilbert, LM Larry McQueen, m.ob. many observers, M&MD MerryLyn & Mike Denny, RN Russ Namitz, RR Roger Robb, SH Sally Hill, TJ Tim Janzen, TMo Tori Morgan, VB Vickie Buck

Noah Strycker Breaks World Record

Noah Stryker, Eugene/Creswell native and local bird nerd, is nearing the end of his year-long birding adventure. During his international big year, he has recorded sightings of well over 5,000 bird species, breaking the world record for species seen in one year, which was 4,341. Noah has documented his trip in his blog, *Birding Without Borders*, hosted by National Audubon. Check it out at http://mag.audubon.org/articles/birds/welcome-birding-without-borders. His blog reflects the intellect, humor, creativity, curiosity, stamina, and deep love of nature that he brought to this project.

Noah is a friend to many in the local community and is active in LCAS. He has led bird walks, presented at our Program Meetings, and has served as a Eugene Christmas Bird Count team leader. During his trip he has connected with birders around the globe, both directly while birding and through his blog.

We all look forward to seeing Noah's final species count, reading the book he plans to write, and hearing him speak about his truly great adventure. Congratulations, Noah!

From our President (continued from page 1)

to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology website, the birds "have the most diverse diet of all North American raptors."

There aren't many birds or mammals that prey on the Great Horned Owl, but it does have its threats—humans among them. Loss of habitat through urban sprawl decreases the owl's nesting and hunting territories. The use of insecticides and pesticides targeting insects and rodents can either harm the owls directly or harm owls by reducing their natural food supply.

Each year we look forward to the cool winter evenings' hooting serenade. If you are outdoors in the evening, listen for these magical sounds of nighttime winter wooing in the trees!

For more information, see the Cornell Lab of Ornithology website: www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/great_horned_owl/lifehistory/ac.

Support LCAS—It's Never Too Late!

If you haven't returned the donation envelope included in the November issue of *The Quail* or gone online to show your support for Lane County Audubon Society during our annual fund drive, you can still do so. Simply mail your tax-deductible gift to LCAS, PO Box 5086, Eugene, OR 97405. (Make checks payable to Lane County Audubon Society.) If you prefer to use your credit card through our online donation page, visit http://laneaudubon.org/support/donate to complete the transaction.

You can also join LCAS or renew your membership at any time by visiting our membership webpage at http://laneaudubon.org/support/join.

LCAS and all the birds in our county thank you in advance for your support!

LCAS Offers Rewarding Volunteer Opportunities!

Lane County Audubon Society is currently seeking volunteers for the following positions:

Audubon Adventures Coordinator

Audubon Adventures is National Audubon Society's (NAS) award-winning environmental education program. Audubon Adventures was designed by the environmental experts at NAS and boasts top-quality educational materials. Through our Adopt-a-Classroom Program, Lane County Audubon offers teachers in grades 3–5 an opportunity to participate at no cost to their schools.

LCAS is looking for someone who can link the participating teachers with the generous sponsors of this program. If you have a computer and a little time, this might be the volunteer opportunity you've been looking for! It takes flexibility, organization, and a sense of timing to make things work well for the teachers and sponsors.

Outreach to schools and sponsors begins in September. Orders for the kits are placed with NAS in October so that teachers receive their kits as soon as they are available for shipping. Maintaining contact with the teachers throughout the school year is crucial. You'll want to make sure they've received their kits, see if they need any additional help, and check in with them at the end of the school year.

Potential sponsors find out about teachers who would like to participate through *The Quail*, at program meetings, and through an annual mailing. Please contact Maeve Sowles (maeveanddick@q.com) if this rewarding position sounds interesting to you. We'll be happy to provide you with all the information and training you need to manage the program.

Audubon in the Schools Instructors

Do you like spending time with elementary school students? The Audubon in the Schools program sends teams of volunteer instructors into schools to teach third-, fourth-, and fifth-grade students both science and art using bird specimens, feathers, bones, and nests. No teaching experience or artistic talent is required. All you need is an interest in teaching children and a few hours a month. The next training session is in late January. For more information, contact Caryn Stoess, Audubon in the Schools Coordinator, at 541.357.8739 or AITSEugene@gmail.com.

LCAS Welcomes New Webmaster

Hilary Dearborn has volunteered to be our new webmaster! Hilary has on-the-job experience creating, maintaining, and updating websites with several different interfaces and web software.

Hilary enjoys hiking, easy mountain biking, and gardening. She loves birding around her home in Fall Creek and enjoys getting a chance twice a year to bird in New Jersey during family visits. She's happy to help LCAS and we're happy to have her in this important volunteer position. Welcome, Hilary!

Thank You, LCAS Volunteers

Many thanks to volunteers Flo Alvergue, Margot Fetz, Sally O'Donnell, and Dave Stone who braved the damp weather to staff the booth at the Mt. Pisgah Mushroom Festival on October 25. Despite the weather, the turnout was good and our volunteers did a great job of talking with festival attendees about birds and their habitats.

Thanks to Ron Renchler for leading a bird walk on the University of Oregon campus for a group of professional librarians who were attending the Pacific Rim Research Libraries Alliance Conference on October 19–21 in Eugene.

Thank you to Kris Kirkeby, Audubon in the Schools Creator!

In 2004, Kris Kirkeby created Audubon in the Schools, a unique program to teach art and science in classrooms using bird specimens, feathers, bones, and nests. Kris crafted the teaching modules, trained volunteers, networked with teachers, prepared and organized the bird specimens, bought art supplies, and ran the program for eight years before turning it over to new coordinators. Kris recently revised the Audubon in the Schools curriculum to update it for current student needs, classroom time limitations, and larger class sizes. Thousands of third, fourth, and fifth graders have benefitted from Kris's program, and we appreciate the time and energy she dedicated to updating the curriculum. Thank you, Kris!

Program Meeting: Tuesday, January 26

Birding at Malheur NWR with Tim Blount

im Blount, Executive Director of Friends of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, will give a photo-rich presentation on birding at Malheur NWR and the surrounding area. Malheur is known throughout the birding world as one of the top places to bird in North America. Tim will highlight the birds found there each season as well as the vagrants that somehow make their way to the migrant traps of Harney County. Tim will also speak about the efforts under way at Malheur to restore breeding habitat for waterfowl and waterbirds through the reduction of an out-of-control carp infestation. Members of Friends of Malheur NWR are actively participating in these efforts as well as other projects, including a project to preserve, replant, and proactively manage Malheur's aging trees.

Tim is a current board member of the Oregon Birding Association and serves as an alternate for the Oregon Bird Records Committee. He began birding at age nine in his home state of Nebraska and moved to Oregon when he was 15. Tim lives on the refuge with his dog and several Great Horned Owls in the trees that haven't met the pack rat under the house.

Note that there will be no Program Meeting in December. Please plan to participate in your local Christmas Bird Count instead!

January Program Meeting Birding at Malheur NWR with Tim Blount



Tuesday, January 26, 7:30 p.m. Eugene Garden Club 1645 High St., Eugene

Visit LCAS at the Good Earth Show on January 22-24

he Lane County Audubon Society booth will be part of the 11th Annual Good Earth Home, Garden & Living Show to be held on January 22–24 at the Convention Center at the Lane County Fairgrounds in Eugene.

The show is one of the most popular annual events promoting sustainability in Lane County. This year's show will feature more than 225 exhibits and 65 seminars covering the amazing variety of earth-friendly products and services in our area. The hours are 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is free with a canned food donation to benefit FOOD for Lane County. For more information, visit https://eugenehomeshow.com/our-shows/good-earth-home-garden-living-show/.

Several thousand visitors attend annually, and Lane Audubon will be on hand to let community members know about our education and conservation programs designed to raise

awareness about the importance of birds and the protection of their habitats. Our booth will feature lots of information on birds and birding, along with visual displays about our feathered friends.

This year, Kris Kirkeby, natural science illustrator and former LCAS Education Chair, will offer a workshop entitled "The Amazing World of Birds: Drawing and Coloring Their Feathers." This free hands-on seminar is scheduled for Sunday, January 24, at 11:30 a.m. Anyone interested in learning more about birds and bird biology is welcome to attend. No experience in drawing or art is necessary!

If you're interested in helping staff the LCAS booth during the show, contact Ron Renchler at 541.345.0834 or christyandron@qwest.net. It's a great opportunity to help LCAS spread the word about our organization. No experience is necessary; we'll match you up with an experienced booth staffer and help you have a great time.

Lane Audubon welcomes you—join or renew today!



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

for National Audubon Society no longer support a membership in your local chapter. Your local dues stay here to help us work on local education projects and conservation issues related to birds and their habitats. With your support, we will continue to do the things you expect from us. We welcome your suggestions—this is your Audubon! We appreciate your support. —Maeve Sowles, President

Lane County Audubon Society Membership Benefits

- The Quail—9 issues/yr.
- · Field trips and bird walks
- Program meetings
- · Educational publications
- Conservation issue representation
- Answers to questions: 541.485.BIRD

Visit www.laneaudubon.org



Deadlines:

February Issue: Jan. 2 March Issue: Jan. 30

Submit material to Paula Rich richpaula@hotmail.com

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

Local members of National Audubon Society receive a free subscription to *The Quail* but are encouraged to voluntarily join Lane County Audubon Society.

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

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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.	***************************************				
☐ Current National Audubon member	☐ Don't know				
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Please contact me regarding	Mail this form and your				
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☐ Volunteering for Lane Audubon activities	Lane County Audubon Society				
☐ Lane Audubon's Living Legacy program	P.O. Box 5086				
☐ I'd like to receive e-mail alerts about conservation issues.	Eugene, OR 97405				

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Community Calendar, Events, and Opportunities

A service to Lane Audubon members

North American Butterfly Association

Monday, December 14, 7:30 p.m. Eugene Garden Club. 1645 High St., Eugene

Seminar: Butterflies of South Texas— America's Butterfly Hotspot by Rick Ahrens

Join local naturalist Rick Ahrens for a lively and informative presentation on butterflies, birds, and other interesting inhabitants of the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

Free. FMI: 541.344.7630

Mount Pisgah Arboretum

Sunday, December 20, 8:30 a.m.–11:00 a.m. Winter Bird Walk

Join Nature Guides Chris Roth and Julia Siporin for a bird walk for people with any level of birding experience, beginner to advanced. Please bring binoculars. Rain or shine.

\$5, members free. Meet at the Arboretum Visitors Center. FMI: 541.747.1504, www.MountPishagArboretum.org

Southern Willamette Ornithological Club

Eugene Birders Night

Monday, December 21, 7:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend these free monthly meetings. After initial introductions, attendees share recent sightings and discuss birding-connected topics. In honor of the holiday season, everyone is invited to bring treats (savory or sweet finger food) if they would like. Photography buffs are invited to share their bird photos. Bring your images on a thumbdrive or on your laptop. A projector, screen, and laptop will be provided.

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

Free. FMI: ellencantor@gmail.com

Eugene Natural History Society Program

Friday, January 15, 7:30 p.m.

Room 100, Willamette Hall, University of Oregon Anthropology of Pacific Herring with Madonna Moss Madonna Moss is an anthropological archaeologist and a professor at UO.

Over the last century, Pacific herring, a forage fish of tremendous cultural, economic, and ecological importance, has declined in abundance over much of its range. While modern herring populations can be erratic and exhibit catastrophic declines, the archaeological record indicates a pattern of consistent abundance, providing an example of long-term sustainability and resilience in a fishery known for its modern variability.

Free. FMI: David Wagner 541.344.3327

Willamette Valley Bird Symposium Saturday, January 30

Oregon State University Alumni Center The symposium is a day-long event bringing together professionals, students, and amateurs from the Willamette Valley to celebrate birds. This 2nd annual event will feature a keynote lecture, research presentations, demonstrations of avian research techniques, and a live raptor display from the Chintimini Wildlife Center. See http://bit.ly/1Lu4x1Z for a recap of last year's symposium.

FMI: jim.rivers@oregonstate.edu



"Owls" Presentation on Dec 11

Eugene Natural History Society and Lane County Audubon Society are cosponsoring "Owls," a presentation by Paul Bannick on Friday, December 11. Paul is an accomplished public speaker with many keynotes to his credit. His programs combine breathtaking photos, compelling audio, and an engaging style that keeps audiences entertained. Paul contributed the stunning images for Journey with the Owls by David Evers and Kate Taylor, published last summer. The book is available at www .briwildfeathers.org/product-p /owl.htm.

The lecture, which is free of charge and open to the public, will be at 7:30 p.m. in Room 100, Willamette Hall, on the University of Oregon campus. For more information, contact David Wagner at 541.344.3327.



January Program Meeting Birding at Malheur NWR with Tim Blount



Tuesday, January 26, 7:30 p.m. Eugene Garden Club 1645 High St., Eugene



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Bird Walks and Events



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Sunday, January 3

2015 EUGENE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Sunday, January 3, is the date for this annual event. See the article on page 3 for all the details. For more information, contact the Count Coordinator, Dick Lamster, at 541.343.8664.

Saturday, January 16

THIRD SATURDAY BIRD WALK

Site and leader to be determined

There will be no Third Saturday Bird Walk in December, because folks will be preparing for the annual Christmas Bird Count.

The Third Saturday Bird Walk on January 16 will be determined by interesting bird sightings posted to OBOL and other pertinent information available before the day of the walk. We will post the location on the LCAS Facebook page (www.facebook.com/pages/Lane-County-Audubon-Society/330177413824?ref=hl) and on the website (www.laneaudubon.org).

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

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



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