

The Quail

News from Lane County Audubon Society

Please consider receiving The Quail electronically



From Our Treasurer

Ron Renchler, 541.345.0834, christyandron2@gmail.com

Birding in All Its Forms



photo: Forest Tomlinson

Green Heron

The pleasure we take in birding has many forms: serious birdwatching, casual birding, reading books or watching videos about birds, listening to bird-related presentations and podcasts, helping others learn about our avian friends, conserving bird habitats, doing citizen science—the list goes on and on.

Lane County Audubon Society (LCAS) tries to address all these interests through our many programs: Bird Walks, Audubon Adventures, Audubon in the Schools, Program Meetings, Conservation Reports in *The Quail* newsletter, Christmas Bird Count, reviews of birding resources in *The Quail*—we try to keep every type of birding interest alive.

We're fortunate to live in a place where various outdoor locations offer great opportunities for birdwatching during the pandemic. In fact, in the past year we've been able to increase both the diversity of attendees on our walks and the number of walks we offer.

We're also fortunate to live in a time when technology allows us to present live-streamed Program Meetings. Although we all miss the socializing that takes place at our face-

to-face meetings, we're nevertheless able to offer the presentations in real time on our website and post them later for on-demand viewing.

We also know that our educational programs will continue to grow now that schools are returning to in-person classes.

There are many ways you can support all these activities: by consistently renewing your local membership in LCAS, by including us in your will, and by making an annual donation via PayPal or snail mail. We ask for donations only once each year, in the November *Quail*.

If you've recently renewed your local or national membership, or if you've recently donated to LCAS, we thank you. If you haven't yet renewed or made a tax-free donation, we hope you are able to continue your support by snail-mailing the envelope enclosed in the printed newsletter or by giving directly through our website at laneaudubon.org and choose the donate button on the upper right. Again, many thanks for supporting LCAS.

Lane County Audubon Society

541.485.BIRD

laneaudubon.org

P.O. Box 5086, Eugene, OR 97405

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



Conservation..... 2



Field Notes..... 3



Preventing Collisions .. 4

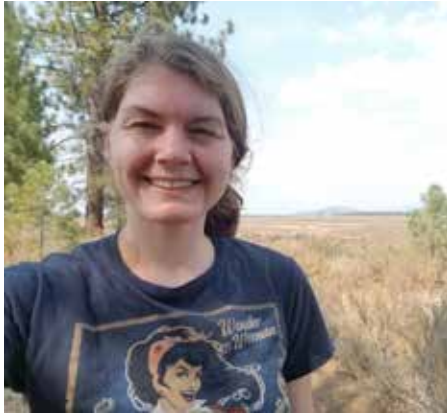


Program Meeting..... 5

Conservation

Debbie Schlenoff, 541.685.0610, dschlenoff@msn.com

Bird City



Hello Lane Audubon, my name is Katie McInnis and I am a new Lane Audubon volunteer. I am a veterinarian who works for the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council. I have been officially birding since 2016, but am still working my way up to being an intermediate birder. My favorite bird is the Brown Creeper. I live in north Eugene with my husband, son (4.5 yo), daughter (2.5 yo), and pets.

I'm here to tell you about the Bird City Americas program. Bird Cities is a program that was launched in Wisconsin in 2003. The goal was to help municipalities do their part to make their spaces more bird friendly. This is achieved by demonstrating fulfillment of requirements, generally categorized under (1) conserving and improving native habitat, (2) addressing population level threats (i.e. glass collisions, etc.), and (3) providing public education. Like the Tree and Bee City initiatives, this concept quickly became popular, as it improves not only the lives of birds, but also of citizens in the places that have adopted it. Beautification of local parks and

open spaces, increased revenue in the local economy, and giving extra backing to climate change initiatives are just a few of the benefits that Bird Cities enjoy. Additionally, the program brings public awareness to issues affecting avian conservation and gives a sense of pride and accomplishment to stakeholders, businesses, and citizens that participate in bird-friendly improvements.

The Bird Cities program in Wisconsin has won acclaim, and similar programs have been started in Texas, Colorado, and Indiana. This year the American Bird Conservancy (ABC) announced that it will be standardizing the program and collaborating with Environment for the Americas to make it more available and accessible. Although specific criteria from ABC are not yet available, there are many programs in Eugene that will make it an excellent candidate for the Bird Cities program.

We are fortunate to live in a place where the importance of native habitat and wildlife is appreciated, and many stakeholders are willing to work together toward common conservation goals. In the coming months we hope to engage with these groups for further collaboration, not only to achieve the Bird Cities designation, but also to plan and create further improvements. It's our hope that we can create a city that isn't just a Bird City, but a place where birds and humans can flourish together.

If you have any questions, ideas, or thoughts on collaboration please feel free to contact me at katminrin@gmail.com. — Katie McInnis

Thank You

One very BIG thank you to Hilary Dearborn for working hours and hours to populate the new web site with content prior to our launch of the site on October 1st. This would never have happened on time if it were not for Hilary's hard work and dedication. Great job, Hilary—we appreciate you!

Volunteer Needed: Administrative Assistant

Lane Audubon would like a volunteer who could serve as an administrative assistant for Board and Chapter responsibilities. Requisite skills include use of typical word processing, Excel spreadsheets, and PowerPoint. Since we do not have a physical office, working from a home computer would be required.

FMI: please contact Maeve Sowles at audubon@laneaudubon.org or 541.343.8664.



Photo: Dennis Arendt

Tree Swallow

Field Notes: September 2021

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

Horned Lark, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Caspian Tern, Parasitic Jaeger

Late in the month we finally got some rain! As you can see below, lots of summer breeders headed south during the month, and some of the wintering species started to arrive. More wintering species will be arriving in the next month or so, and the last of the summering species will be headed south.

Abbreviations:

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



Photo: Francesco Veronesi, wiki commons

Horned Lark, Sisters Oregon



Photo: William H. Majors, wiki commons

Chestnut-sided Warbler

WATERFOWL TO EGRETS

Snow Goose.....	Sept 11	FRR	AC	Very early for this species
Snow Goose (4).....	Sept 24	FRR	MC	Very early for this species
Greater White-fronted Goose.....	Sept 18	Eugene area	SMc	The second wave migrating south
Cackling Goose.....	Sept 19	River Rd area	MRu	First report for fall
Eurasian Wigeon.....	Sept 25	LCC	KT-J	Very early report!
Common Nighthawk.....	Sept 17	Delta Ponds	JW	Last report for the summer
Vaux's Swift (5600+).....	Sept 4	Agate Hall, UO	BC	A normal number for this time of year
American Avocet (2).....	Sept 2	Siltcoos River mouth	DF	Rare on the coast
American Golden-Plover.....	Sept 29	FRR	JS	Small numbers in the fall inland
Red Knot.....	Sept 13	Heceta Beach	KL	Small numbers found during fall migration
Ruddy Turnstone.....	Sept 23	NJSR	MC	Small numbers found during fall migration
Sanderling.....	Sept 9	FRR - Royal	RR	Uncommon inland
Solitary Sandpiper.....	Sept 6	FRR - South Marsh	JL	Unusual in the fall
Solitary Sandpiper.....	Sept 16	Garden Lake	NS	Unusual in the fall
Parasitic Jaeger.....	Sept 29	FRR	JS	Rare inland
Sabine's Gull.....	Sept 12	FRR	M. ob.	Rare inland
Caspian Tern.....	Sept 8	River Rd area	RH	An unusual location
Black Tern.....	Sept 2	FRR - Royal	JS	Very late report
Common Tern.....	Sept 9	FRR - Royal	RR	Normally found in small numbers in fall
Snowy Egret (2).....	Sept 12	FRR - Perkins Pen	JS	Becoming more common?

OWLS TO BUNTINGS

Short-eared Owl.....	Sept 4	FRR	N&RA	Very early report
Olive-sided Flycatcher.....	Sept 1	Dorris Ranch	CH	Last report for the summer
Willow Flycatcher.....	Sept 19	Baker Beach	JG	Last report for the summer
Hammond's Flycatcher.....	Sept 21	Scott Lake	AC	Last report for the summer
Dusky Flycatcher.....	Sept 4	Mt. Pisgah	RW,et al	Last report for the summer
Pacific-slope Flycatcher.....	Sept 20	Oakridge	SH	Last report for the summer
Say's Phoebe.....	Sept 16	Sher Khan Rd	NS	Normal time for fall birds
Cassin's Vireo.....	Sept 20	River Rd area	BC	Last report for the summer
Warbling Vireo.....	Sept 21	River Rd area	BC	Last report for the summer

continued on page 7

Preventing Window and Building Collisions: Mt. Pisgah Arboretum

Birds face a myriad of threats as they go about their daily lives. In addition to the natural causes of death like disease and predation, there are a host of causes that are human influenced. Habitat loss, cats, pesticide use, and collisions with buildings/windows are among the top factors. One of the most recent estimates of bird fatalities caused by collisions with buildings/windows in the United States is based on an analysis of 23 studies prepared by researchers at the Migratory Bird Center of the Smithsonian and the US Fish & Wildlife Service: bioone.org/journals/the-condor/volume-116/issue-1/CONDOR-13-090.1/Birdbuilding-collisions-in-the-United-States-Estimates-of-annual/10.1650/CONDOR-13-090.1.full. They estimate that between 365 million and 988 million birds (median = 599 million) are killed annually by building collisions in the U.S. Most of those fatalities happen at homes and buildings shorter than four stories tall. Even glass walkways and bus-stop shelters cause bird collisions. Most of those collision fatalities are related to windows and not to the building structures themselves.

So why do birds fly into windows? Again, researchers point out that birds, like people, do not “see” glass. But unlike birds, people learn over time from experience and other visual cues that what we perceive is either a reflection of the scene behind us or that the glass is a barrier to what is seen behind it. Birds see reflections in glass as open space or habitat and fly directly into it.

Portland Audubon estimates that 54 to 76 percent of those collisions are fatal: audubonportland.org/our-work/rehabilitate-wildlife/being-a-good-wildlife-neighbor/birds-and-windows/.

Most of us have had bird collisions at our homes. They often go unnoticed. Unless we find a bird on the ground, hear an ominous thud from a window, or see a feather powder smudge mark on our window, we are unaware of the collision.

We can make our homes and buildings safer for birds. The American Bird Conservancy has created a comprehensive website with information on how to reduce bird-window collisions and what kinds of products are available to accomplish that task: abcbirds.org/glass-collisions/.

A Case Study: Mount Pisgah Arboretum

Mount Pisgah Arboretum is a 209-acre nature education facility where visitors can explore the ecology of the southern Willamette Valley. One of the well-known structures at the Arboretum is the White-Oak Pavilion. It is used during various nature-related festivals and training activities, as well as being a popular venue for weddings and memorial services.

The current building replaced an old Quonset-hut-type structure in 2005. Designed by Fred Tepfer, John Reynolds, and Richard Shields, with input from Arboretum staff and members, it was intended to be visually and physically open to the natural surroundings. The expansive window areas, while visually



Photo: Jim Maloney

Connor Reinecke attaching cords to upper windows.



Photo: Jim Maloney

Bryan Ribelin staining the wood strips with cords attached.

connecting with the surroundings, can and have proven fatal to many birds over the years.

In the past, Arboretum staff made efforts to reduce the number of collisions by applying ultraviolet reflecting stickers to the outside of the windows, with mixed success.

Over the years visitors and staff continued to make note of the occasional discovery of birds around the outside of the building. Interest was building to address the problem in

continued on page 7

LCAS Program Meeting Tuesday, November 23, 7:00 pm, Zoom only

Dennis Arendt, 541.221.3691, dennisarendt@gmail.com



The November Program meeting will be Zoom only. Check the LCAS website and/or Facebook page for the up-to-date Zoom link.

You Can Help Stop Poaching

Some popular birding areas such as Fern Ridge allow hunting in autumn. For information on area regulations at Fern Ridge (for instance, which areas are open to hunting and when), see: eregulations.com/oregon/hunting/game-bird/state-wildlife-area-regulations.

Poaching and illegal hunting harm wildlife populations and steal natural resources from all Oregonians. The “Stop Poaching” campaign brings together ODFW, Oregon State Police (OSP) Fish and Wildlife Division, plus hunting, fishing and conservation groups, and others to combat the lawless taking of fish, wildlife and birds, and the destruction of fish and wildlife habitat. OSP Troopers rely on the public to report poaching and other suspicious activity. Suspicious activity includes killing birds other than waterfowl or upland game birds, especially birds of prey and most songbirds.

If you suspect poaching, or see something suspicious, call the Turn in Poachers (TiP) Line at 800.452.7888. Or by email TIP@osp.oregon.gov.

amazonsmile

**Give to LCAS
When You Shop Online**

Go to smile.amazon.com and select Lane County Audubon Society

The Bear Necessities



Ram Papish

All you need for a great wildlife adventure: a congregation of hungry brown bears. At Katmai Park and Preserve’s famous Brooks Camp, bears gather in summer to feast on an abundance of spawning salmon. But what happens if the fish don’t show up?

For over 20 field seasons, Ram Papish worked as a wildlife biologist studying birds and other wildlife, primarily in Alaska. His illustrations appear in many books and publications. Ram regularly presents on science and nature topics at bird festivals, local bird clubs, and in public schools. He combines his background in art, science and public speaking to engage and educate the public on environmental topics.

Ram grew up in Eugene and now lives in Toledo, Oregon, on six wooded acres with his fabulous wife Dawn Harris, eight bird feeders, eighteen nest boxes, eighteen chickens, eighteen

rescued parrots, and one Chia pet. Since 2009, he has concentrated on pursuing a career as a wildlife illustrator.



Photo: Ram Papish

Wet grizzly shopping for dinner.



Photo: Ram Papish

Darker grizzly searching the rapids.



Photo: Ram Papish

Mama grizzly and cubs, keeping an eye on each other.

Lane County Audubon Society



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

The Quail Subscriptions

Contact Tim Godsfil at 541.915.8852 or tgodsfil@gmail.com

The Quail Upcoming Content Deadlines

December/January issue: November 1
February issue: January 1

Submit material to Karen Irmscher at quailkaren1@gmail.com

Nine issues published per year (Feb., Mar., Apr., May-June, July-Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., and Dec.-Jan.)

Printed on postconsumer waste paper.
Layout by Kerry Lutz.

©2021 Lane County Audubon Society. All rights reserved.

Lane County Audubon Society Officers & Board Members

President	Maeve Sowles.....541.343.8664..... maeveanddick@q.com
Treasurer	Ron Renchler.....541.345.0834..... christyandron2@gmail.com
Members	Debbie Schlenoff.....541.685.0610..... dschlenoff@msn.com
	Ramiro Aragon..... aragon.nw@gmail.com
	Rachael Friese..... audadventures@gmail.com
	Rebecca Waterman.....541.653.3354..... fieldtrips@laneaudubon.org
	Herb Wisner (Emeritus) ... 541.344.3634 hrwisner@comcast.net

Lane County Audubon Society Committee Chairs

Audubon Phone.....	Dick Lamster.....	541.485.BIRD
Audubon Adventures.....	Cecelia Hagen.....	audadv@laneaudubon.org
Audubon in the Schools.....	Barb Pope.....	aitsbirds@gmail.com
Booth.....	Ron Renchler.....	541.345.0834 christyandron2@gmail.com
Conservation.....	Debbie Schlenoff.....	541.685.0610..... dschlenoff@msn.com
Education.....	Volunteer Opportunity	
Field Notes.....	Allison & Tom Mickel.....	541.485.7112 tamickel@riouisa.com
Field Trips.....	Rebecca Waterman.....	541.653.3354 fieldtrips@laneaudubon.org
FRESH.....	Art Farley.....	541.683.1186 art@cs.uoregon.edu
Membership Data.....	Tim Godsfil.....	541.915.8852..... tgodsfil@gmail.com
Program Coordinator.....	Dennis Arendt.....	541.221.3691..... dennisarendt@gmail.com
Quail Editor.....	Karen Irmscher.....	quailkaren1@gmail.com
Recording Secretary.....	Kathy Wilson.....	kfred1953@yahoo.com
Webmaster.....	Hilary Dearborn.....	hcdearborn@gmail.com

Lane County Audubon Society Welcomes You—Join or Renew Today!

We ask you to become a local member of Lane County Audubon Society and support our grassroots efforts in the local community. Your membership dues for National Audubon Society no longer fully cover the costs of a membership in your local chapter. Your local dues stay here to help us work on local education projects and conservation issues related to birds and their habitats. With your support, we will continue to do the things you expect from us. We welcome your suggestions—this is your Audubon! We appreciate your support. — *Maeve Sowles, President*

Lane Audubon Membership Benefits

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

Lane County Audubon Society Yearly Membership

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

To pay by PayPal, go to laneaudubon.org/support/join

I am a Current National Audubon member Don't know

Please contact me regarding

Gift memberships Lane Audubon's Living Legacy program

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

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

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

I would like to volunteer for Lane County Audubon activities.

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

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

Field Notes *continued from page 3*

Horned Lark.....	Sept 13	Mt Pisgah	JH.....	An unusual location
Barn Swallow (many 1000s).....	Sept 13	FRR	AC, VT	Roosting for the night in shoreline vegetation
House Wren	Sept 11	River Rd area.....	RH	Last report for the summer
Lapland Longspur.....	Sept 17	SJSR deflation plain	JS	Very early report
Chipping Sparrow	Sept 16	Garden Lake.....	NS	Last report for the summer
Lincoln's Sparrow	Sept 6	River Rd area.....	RH	First report for fall in the valley
White-throated Sparrow	Sept 12	Muriel O. Ponsler.....	MP	First report for the fall
Yellow-headed Blackbird.....	Sept 12	FRR - Royal	RH	Last report for the summer
MacGillivray's Warbler	Sept 19	FRR & Baker Beach	JG.....	Last reports for the summer
Chestnut-sided Warbler.....	Sept 8	Florence	DF.....	Fifth record for Lane County
Black-headed Grosbeak.....	Sept 15	Creswell area.....	NS.....	Last report for the summer
Lazuli Bunting.....	Sept 12	Alton Baker Park.....	RR.....	Last report for the summer

AC Alan Contreras, BC Barbara Combs, CH Chris Hobbs, DF Daniel Farrar, JG Johua Galpern, JH Jennifer Hayes, JL Joshua Little, JS John Sullivan, JW Jeff Wald, KL Kit Larsen, KT-J Kellum Tate-Jones, MC Matt Cahill, MP Magnus Persmark, MRu Mark Rudolph, N&RA Nathan & Ramiro Aragon, NS Noah Strycker, RH Rich Hoyer, RR Roger Robb, RW Rebecca Waterman, SH Sally Hill, SMc Steve McDonald, VT Vjera Thompson M.ob signifies many observers.

Preventing Window and Building Collisions: Mt. Pisgah Arboretum *continued from page 4*

a more substantial and effective way. In August, Lane County Audubon reached out to Arboretum staff with an offer to assist in the design and implementation of a retrofit bird collision deterrent system to reduce the number of fatalities.

After consultation and discussion of alternative approaches, Arboretum staff decided on an adaptation of an approach utilizing nylon cords attached to the tops and bottoms of the windows on the exterior. The intent was to have a system that was relatively inexpensive, easy to repair, easy to remove and replace, and visually acceptable.

In September, with the approval of executive director Brad van Appel, Arboretum staff members Connor Reinecke and Patrick Wegner, along with Lane County Audubon volunteers Bryan Ribelin and Jim Maloney, began the fabrication and installation of the system. Beginning on the ground level, the system was installed on the 36 rectangular windows that were easily reachable before moving on to the more challenging upper windows.

In all, 48 windows received the application of the deterrent system, consisting of Velcro-attached wooden strips at the top and bottom, to which were stapled .25-inch nylon cords. Approximately 400 linear feet of stained oak wood strips and some 2,300 feet of nylon cord were used.

The visual impact to the architecture of the pavilion seems minimal and, viewed from the inside, the black cords at 3.5-inch spacing do not dramatically affect the outward views. During installation, a number of visitors stopped by and commented on how little they detracted from the building, if at all. While visually giving birds a cue that there is an obstruction, the dark oak wood and vertical nature of the cording is in accordance with the building's architectural style.

Arboretum staff and visitors will continue to monitor for bird fatalities, for how well the system stands up to weather, and how easy it is to repair, but for now there is optimism that collisions will be diminished significantly.

—Jim Maloney



Photo: Jim Maloney

Inside view of a typical lower level window with deterrents in place.



Photo: Jim Maloney

A gable end of the pavilion with deterrents in place.



Check your mailing label. Has
your *Quail* subscription expired?
See page 6 to renew!



LCAS Bird Walks & Events

Rebecca Waterman, 541.653.3354, fieldtrips@laneaudubon.org

Masks and distancing may still be required throughout walks, depending on evolving COVID-safety guidelines.

First Saturday Bird Walk, November 6

Our First Saturday Bird Walks, created in celebration of the Lane Audubon Inclusivity and Diversity Statement, are reserved for women, BIPOC, and members of the LGBTQIA+ community. Birders of all levels and backgrounds are welcome to join, particularly those who may have felt intimidated at the thought of birding alone or on other guided walks. November's 1st Saturday walk leader will be Rebecca Waterman.

Third Saturday Bird Walk, November 20

Our Third Saturday Bird Walk continues to be open to all participants. LCAS Board Member Rachael Friese will lead November's walk at Green Island.

Bird Sits

Rebecca also has plans in the works to start a regularly scheduled Birding Sit (an hour or so) for birders who have mobility challenges. If you're interested, or know someone who might be, email Bex. Times will be based on the availability of interested participants.

Participation continues to be limited due to the ongoing pandemic, so please email Bex at rebecca.waterman@gmail.com to sign up for any of these walks or the Sit.

2021 Eugene Christmas Bird Count—Save the Date

Our 80th Christmas Bird Count will be on Sunday, January 2, 2022, which is our normal date during the three-week Count Period. Unfortunately, we will still be under COVID restrictions, and thus there will be no Chili Feed and the 27 Teams in the field will need to practice social distancing.

All previous ECBC participants are encouraged to do it again this year, and new birders are always welcomed. We will find a team for anyone who wants to look for birds on January 2nd. We also encourage people who prefer to be Home Counters and observe the birds in their yards. They will also report their sightings to us at the end of the day.

Complete details will be in the December *Quail* and posted on the LCAS website. Please feel free to contact the Count Coordinator Dick Lamster at maeveanddick@q.com or call him at 541.343.8664 if you have questions.

—Dick Lamster